

the argument bears on the question of wages. Corners, which are seldom successful, can hardly affect that question. We do not hear that the wages of the Standard Oil Company are particularly low. The larger the business is, the more moderate will be the rate of profit required to pay the capitalist his due. The higher consequently will be the wage which he can afford to give.

There is nothing strange or invidious in treating labour as a commodity, the value, and consequently the wages, of which must be regulated by the market. This is the case with all labour, that of the statesman, the man of science, the writer, as well as that of the artisan; though the statesman, the man of science, and the writer may draw their wages in a different form. The right of an artisan to a living wage cannot be asserted unless value in labour can be given for the wage. Nor can the right to employment be asserted when no employment offers, in the case of an artisan any more than in that of a lawyer for whom there are no clients or a physician for whom there are no patients. Another market must be sought. This is the common lot.