

that he might use the prestige it would give him to move the nations to heal that open sore of the world. Such men do inherit the earth, but they sacrifice it for the sake of the Kingdom of Heaven, which becomes their permanent possession. They are Christ's jewels of priceless value, the glory of humanity, the hope of the world. And over the graves of those who suffer for righteousness' sake and after the night of sorrow that intervenes, the dawn of a better day will soon appear.

V.—CHRIST'S TEACHING ON THE SUBJECT OF WEALTH.

To the subject of wealth and its distribution men's minds are turning in increasing numbers, and with increasing earnestness. The place held by the struggle for religious and civil liberty in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries is occupied now by the strife between labor and capital, and all its associated questions. As has been said, our powers for the production of wealth have developed more rapidly than our arrangements for its fair distribution, and while our riches have enormously increased, the proportion of the poor is unreasonably great. How, then, is this to be remedied? Men's minds are searching everywhere for an answer to the question. Innumerable volumes on social themes flood the book market. Christianity is being judged anew by its ability to solve the new problems that the fortunes of the war present.

The Church cannot but be interested in a question so intimately connected with man's welfare. Besides, the spirit Christ inspired and the principles He enunciated afford the only solution for those problems that concern the dealings of man with man.

1. *Christ does not condemn wealth in itself.* It has often been supposed that He did. Many believers have often sacrificed their possessions, holding that one could not be a Christian and be rich. But such an one must leave many of the facts of the evangelic record out of account. Christ gave Zacchæus, the rich publican, as warm a welcome as He gave Bartimæus, the blind beggar. Joseph of Arimathea, Nicodemus, and the women who ministered to Christ, rendered