

millions to which these troubles apparently are unknown, whose labour is steady and reliable. The influence may not be directly felt, though China and Japan are gaining a footing on the western coast of America. But it is pretty sure to work round. Besides, capital has wings. Nor will mechanical invention sleep.

Desire of shorter hours of work is natural on the part of the artisan and would not be less natural in other callings, which also feel fatigue. Nor is it at all unlikely that in callings which tax the strength, the work of eight hours may be worth as much as that of ten. Improvement in this line has been already made. Every man may shorten his hours of work if he thinks fit; but no man can expect or in the end will have power to draw pay for work which is not done. In lands where socialism prevails Unions seem inclined to vote themselves more and more freedom from work and leisure for sport at the expense of what is called "the State"; that is practically the tax-payer or the class of tax-payers which has most money and fewest votes. It is impossible that to progress in this direction there should not