

Unionism is not Socialism. The two things are perfectly distinct, though apt to be found together as elements of the general ferment and alike significant of the growing disposition of the wage-earner to use his political power for the purpose of transferring wealth from the hands of the present possessors into his own. Socialism if it prevailed would put an end to Trade Unions.

Socialism is a natural growth; and, so far as it has abstained from revolutionary methods or incitements to violence, may have been not only deserving of sympathy but useful as a stimulant to us all. There has been a succession of Utopian visions from Plato to Sir Thomas More, and from Sir Thomas More to Bulwer and Bellamy. We have had socialistic experiments. Those set on foot or originated by the excellent Robert Owen failed mainly, it seems, through the disintegrating action of the family on the community. Celibate communities under a religious dictator, such as the Oneida Community, had a transitory success in their peculiar way, but taught us nothing. There has been a variety of so-