

broke when He saw that it could not be done because men's hearts were hardened.

"And then he showed me the political economy of the New Testament—and especially of the Sermon on the Mount, the Golden Rule, and the commandment of the law of love—in the abandonment of property rights, in so far as human need required such abandonment. He showed me that the early Christians were communists, that 'not one of them said that aught of the things which he possessed was his own'; that they lived, these early churches, all over the world, as little knots of brethren who shared all things, in a struggle to realize the law of love; and that, even in that fearful age, none wanted—showing, that before paganism captured the church, the political economy of Jesus was the conqueror of poverty.

"I am telling you these things because I want you to know that this brother lying here was to me—as he has been to so many of you—a sweet influence, in this time of iron and steel and brass—bringing faith in fraternity back into life. And so I tell you that I was troubled at the communism of Jesus, thinking of the every-day truth of the text of Paul, *If any man will not work, neither shall he eat*; until this dead brother showed me 'the perfect law' of which James speaks, the law of liberty; and those other utterances, *Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free*, and Jesus' answer to the old, old questions, What shall we eat, or What shall we drink? or Wherewithal shall we be clothed? in these words of vast economic meaning, *Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.*