

In the wants of the human race this law finds its origin. When the labour law was promulgated at first there was nothing said about a territorial landocracy, or a class of men that we know by the name of "Aristocracy." The civilization of universal labour, wherein each worker received the full benefit of his toil, or work, was just and righteous, and must have produced plenty, and contentment, and happiness to all.

This was a state of civilization in which neither of the extremes that we call riches and poverty had any existence. Under it there were neither paupers, poor laws, nor poor law bastiles; nor yet was there a pampered, privileged, idle, luxurious and good-for-nothing rich class, such as we have in our rotten, unnatural and fictitious modern civilization.

In our attempt to describe the conditions of labour and modern civilization as they at present exist, we shall in no wise be afraid to designate things by their right names.

There is nothing more palpable than this: that labour is the foundation and superstructure of all wealth. It is equally plain that, on the principles of justice and equity, the worker—whether of brain or muscle, or both combined—is entitled to the full fruition of his labour. But what do we find? We find that the results of labour or production, except an infinitesimal portion, is not distributed to the worker—to him that produces—but that it inures to the benefit and aggrandizement of a few. Hence we have riches and poverty. Society, as it at present exists, is very fitly described as a race, or scramble,

"Of every one for himself,  
And the devil take the hindmost."

In the struggle, every kindly and noble sentiment of the brotherhood of man is lost sight of; every sentiment of honour, and every principle of truth and justice is ignored. In this miserable scramble, recourse is had to lying, cheating, defrauding, adulterating, manipulating, circumventing, perjury, and every species of low cunning—everything, in fact, that debases manhood and withers the soul. A sordid, vulgar and villainous greed and selfishness absorbs every attribute of manhood; man ceases to be man, and he becomes a——What? a mere grub-worm or devil fish?

Is this an overdrawn picture of the conditions of labour and our modern civilization? If it is not, is it any wonder that we are in heart and soul Mammon worshippers? Is it any wonder that the pure system of morals that the Founder of Christianity taught is mocked and scoffed at?

The sublime doctrine of "Do unto others as ye would that others should do unto you," is condemned as impracticable, and held of no