

nearer view of the enjoyment of wealth given them through the increase of their intelligence and information is an ingredient in the present discontent. The perception of the evil may be clearer and keener, yet the grievance itself may be, and surely is, in this case, less.

It ill becomes those who are living in the enjoyment of opulence to preach prudence and self-denial to those who are not. The grinding monotony of factory work, making of the worker a mere part of the machine, with its unlovely surroundings, inevitably disposes to expenditure on sensual pleasures and excitements. But there is little doubt that wages might be practically increased in many cases by thrift and judicious expenditure on the part of the earner. When we are told of miners paying extravagant prices for rare viands, or of a multitude of artisans going hundreds of miles to see a football match, we allow for the natural craving on the part of men bound to a rough trade like mining for the gratification of the appetite, and of men bound to a dull and monotonous trade for excitement. But neither class is laying up ease and comfort for old age.