

by advocates of modern Socialism, whose activity just now outside the Church, though not outside Christianity, is being carried on at a wonderful rate of progress by means of socialistic clubs, lectures, periodicals, pamphlets, etc.

VIII. Our Lord and Society.

Let us examine now the Socialist's position with regard to Christ and Christianity, and see if the statement made about isolated texts can be substantiated. How did Christ come into the world? This is a kind of pivotal question with which one may begin. God the Son became Man is the Christian belief. He could have come in any class He chose, and His own people expected Him to come as a great Prince. Had He come in that way, had He been born to the world's purple, to inherit all the power of an Oriental potentate, all the pomp and luxury which are so characteristically Eastern, influential men of His own nation would have welcomed Him. But He was born in a stable. As a Man, He was a laborer, an artizan, a workman. He worked at a trade until He was thirty, and then choosing for companions a few other working men, He tramped about the country as One who had not where to lay His head, doing innumerable works of mercy besides preaching spiritual regeneration. He blessed the poor, condemned the thoughtless and idle rich, denounced the proud teachers and leaders of the national religion, and,