## 26 CHRISTIANITY AND SOCIALISM

quicker 'discern the real trend of things than man of those of former times; and these conditions of revolution are suggested by such expressions as "the strife of Capital and Labor," "the inequitable distribution of wealth," "Socialism," "industrial strikes," etc.

## THE ORIGIN OF THE PRESENT ECONOMIC CONDITIONS.

In endeavoring to get an adequate view of the present situation we must first note the fact that conditions in the modern industrial world have been revolutionized by the use of machinery propelled by steam and electricity. Before the steam engine eame, manufactured wares were produced by men who were masters of some trade or handieraft, who used but few tools or implements and employed a few travellers to sell their products, and who had a sufficiency of the good things of life, but could never expect to be millionaires. Seventy-two per cent. of the population of England lived in the country or in villages, and only twentyeight per cent. in the cities and towns, and while there was poverty, slum conditions as they