

# PREFACE

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"UNITY IS STRENGTH."

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**T**HE Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners has for its primary object the raising of the status of the artisans engaged in these trades, and generally to improve the conditions under which they shall labour.

Trade unions are acknowledged now by most employers of labor, writers on political economy, and the general public as important and essential factors in the industrial life of a community. The experience of the past has proved that the best security which can be furnished for the rule of reason in trade negotiations, and the due observance of covenants entered into for regulating conditions of employment, is a well-conducted union of workmen, strong in numbers.

The march of invention and machinery, with the growing fluctuations in employment, demand that labour should solidly unite for its mutual protection and support. Every workman in a given occupation has an interest in common with those similarly engaged in forming regulations by which that particular industry should be governed. It is necessary, moreover, in order to continue progress