

a large hand-book. The bulk of the savings bank deposits is the money of the workpeople.

Never was there such opportunity for individual ambition. The little mill-boy of 1812, as might be expected, became, in after years, the *entrepreneur*, and later on the capitalist. Invention has opened avenues for latent talent. Ability is sought everywhere, and wherever found is exalted and rewarded.

In briefly summarizing the inferences of our observation of the industrial situation, we note, first: If the workingman will go forward, in the future, he will steer his course by the great beacon light of Sunday and what Sunday stands for. It means more than words can utter to the brawn and sinew of our land. And next to this is the force of popular opinion. Turn on the light! Every facility is afforded. We have a National Department of Labour doing conscientious, scientific work, besides commissions in a number of the States. All the newspapers will help. Real progress has been made in relation to child employment, but more is needed. The doctrine of *Laissez-faire* is unjustifiable here. In the fourth and central place, affecting the great body of employers and employed, is the reduction of the hours of labour. No one would think to-day of going back to the old *régime*. Shall we go forward? It is probable a nine-hour bill will be introduced into the Senate of Massachusetts this year, with a fair prospect that it may become law. The situation is favourable. A great many see the advantages at this time. A mill-owner said a few days ago: "A nine-hour law would add ten per cent. to the value of my property." The arguments are well known, and experience seems to sustain them. It has made possible our fifth position—a higher standard of living. The distribution and consumption of wealth is essential to industrial progress. Higher wages are alike beneficent to all, giving a market to the producer and means to purchase to the consumer. The elevation of the masses has economic as well as humane warrant. Experiments in modification make slow progress. Higher wages, however, should gradually prevail. It seems hardly necessary to note that invention furnishes a means of advancement. It has often been blindly resisted by labour, and it is hard to see that a machine that throws ninety out of a hundred workmen out of employment is a blessing to the ninety. But it has come to bear our burdens and to make possible the higher standard of living and the leisure of short hours. Finally, there is opportunity for individual advancement—room at the top, and widening room all the way up. Men do not rise as formerly by treading others down, but every young man who is lifted up draws many with him—family and friends, often a whole community.—*Christian Union*