

## THE NEW SLAVERY.

With fingers weary and worn,  
With eyelids heavy and red,  
A woman sat in unwomanly rags  
Plying her needle and thread—  
Stitch! Stitch! Stitch!  
In poverty, hunger and dirt,  
And still with a voice of dolorous pitch—  
Would that its tone could reach the rich!—  
She sang this "Song of the Shirt."

When Hood wrote this song of toil and misery the possibilities of steam were but vaguely comprehended, the force of electricity unknown, the sewing machine but the dream of the inventive brain, and the foundations of our present industrial system had not then been molded into visible form. Since then, what changes have been wrought by the genius of man! The mighty forces of nature have been harnessed, time and distance annihilated, the hidden treasures of earth and heaven discovered, national barriers broken down by commerce and all the races of the human family have been brought into a field of production which yields material wealth so vast that the brain of the beholder fails in its efforts to grasp its immensity. Poverty has ever kept pace with "progress," and millions of toilers now sing "with voice of dolorous pitch":

Work! Work! Work!  
My labor never flags,  
Ah! what are its wages—a bed of straw,  
A crust of bread—and rags,  
A shattered roof and this naked floor—  
A table, a broken chair,  
And a wall so blank my shadow I thank  
For sometimes falling there.

With the sewing machine came the sweater, a human parasite, a creature which the great manufacturers use to increase the profits of business by the violation of all the laws of God and man.

With the sweater came the "sweating system," an outgrowth of the factory system of production—a system of labor so inhuman that a nation was moved to its abolition. This will illustrate its character: In the shirt factory of Messrs. Pillie, at Londonderry, Ireland, one thousand operatives work in the factory itself, in which is done such parts of the manufacture as require expensive appliances. Outside the factory an army of 9,000 persons are at work under the control of "sweaters" to do other parts of the work with needle and sewing machine. The "sweater" takes from the factory quantities of material and partly prepared goods, which he contracts to finish at a price far below what it would cost if done in the factory itself. The employment of this army of outside workers requires no investment of capital, there is no expense for maintenance or supervision, and all responsibility is avoided. It may be forced to activity which exhausts life itself, or be left to starve in idleness, whichever may be the more profitable for the manufacturer.

The physical, mental and moral conditions of these workers are matters which neither interest nor concern their employers, who indignantly denies all connection and responsibility. They know only the "sweater." This useful cormorant takes the material from the factory into the chambers, garrets, hovels, basements and sheds which serve as the homes of poverty, and there, robbed of space, light, air, cleanliness and proper nourishment, the workers are crowded together with their needles and sewing machines. Men, women and children and even infancy and tottering old age work, when work is to be done, from dawn till midnight—

Sewing at once with a double thread  
A shroud as well as a shirt.

The "sweating system" is not confined to shirt making but includes all branches of the manufacture of wearing apparel; straw hats, ladies' hats, caps, tailoring, millinery, dressmaking, corsets, gloves, shoemaking, and num-

berless other branches of manufacture. Professor Huxley states that with each respiration by a healthy average person 25 cubic inches of air is consumed; 20 respirations are made each minute; the air inhaled each 24 hours by each individual is 720,000 cubic inches, or 416 cubic feet. Air once breathed no longer serves for the same process until purified in the great workshop of nature. A healthy man gives out 1,300 cubic inches of carbonic acid (a deadly gas) per hour; every man requires 800 cubic feet of air space. In the English barracks the regulation air space is from 500 to 600 cubic feet, in military hospitals 1,200 cubic feet, but in the "sweating" dens there is no space for air.

The English Government, forced to officially investigate the "sweating system," published reports, which contain the following statements:

The workrooms are generally living rooms; the chimneys stopped up to keep out the draughts, the workers are kept warm by their own animal heat. In these overcrowded dens the vitiation of the air is extreme, to which must be added the injurious effects of drains, closets, decomposing substances and other filth; the air space in many cases being 12½, 17, 18½ and below 22 cubic feet for each person. The smaller of these numbers, says one of the royal commissioners, Mr. White, represents less space than the half of what a child would occupy if packed in a box measuring three feet in each direction. Thus do children from even two years till the age of twelve and fourteen years enjoy life. The horrors of the "sweating system" revealed by this government inquiry aided very materially in causing the passage of the factory acts. The requirements of one of the provisions alone of these acts, that there must be 500 cubic feet of air space for each worker, would, if enforced, completely destroy this inhuman system, but the manufacturers, ever callous to human suffering, urged on by insatiable greed for wealth, with the "sweater's" aid violate all laws, to reap some unholy profits from the "sweating system."

The economic student who understands that the factory system of production is not restricted to England, but that it is universal throughout the civilized world, expects to find wherever the system prevails the same causes producing the same results. But what can the liberty-loving and patriotic American say when the fact is forced upon his attention that the English "sweating system" is in full operation in this World's Fair city; that its victims are helpless creatures, entitled to the fullest protection of the law, which, instead of being to them a shield, serves to hide those who grow rich upon their misery; that here in this Garden City of the Great West the "sweater" is king over the greater part of the 13,000 persons employed in the clothing trade and that from filthy dens, such as compelled the British Government to pass laws for their destruction, come great quantities of wearing apparel scattering the deadly germs of disease far and wide!—Rights of Labor.

### CARLYLE'S MESSAGE TO HIS AGE.

The philosophy of competition, or supply and demand, was incessantly denounced by Carlyle as Mammon worship, as "devil take the hindmost," as "pure egotism," "the shabbiest gospel that had been taught among men." He declared that in the long run no society could flourish, or even permanently cohere, if the only relation between man and man was a mere money tie. He maintained that what he called the condition of England question, or, in other words, the great mass of struggling, anarchical poverty that was growing up in the chief centres of population, was a question which imperiously demanded the most strenuous

Government intervention—which was, in fact, far more important than any of the purely political questions. The whole system of factory legislation, the whole system of legislation about working men's dwellings, which has taken place in this century, has been a realization of the ideas of Carlyle. When Carlyle first wrote, it was the received opinion that the education of the people was a matter in which the Government should in no degree interfere, and that it ought to be left to individuals, or churches, or societies. In his work on Chartism, which was published as early as 1834, Carlyle argued that the "universal education of the people" was an indispensable duty of the Government. It was not until about twenty years ago that this duty was fully recognized in England. In the same work he maintained that State-aided, State-organized, State-directed emigration must one day be undertaken on a large scale, as the only efficient agent in coping with the great masses of growing pauperism. In his "Past and Present," which was published in 1843, he threw out another idea which has proved very prolific, and which is probably destined to become still more so. It is that it may become both possible and needful for the master worker "to grant his workers permanent interest in his enterprise and theirs."

### SCRAPS FOR CIGARMAKERS

#### REVENUE.

The revenue accrued during the month of October, 1891, on cigars amounted to \$54,850.52.

The amount of tobacco and cigars entered into the Dominion of Canada during the month ending October 31, was 15,209 lbs., representing in value \$20,160, and upon which duty was collected to the amount of \$19,489.35.

#### THE FACTORY ACT.

The Factory Inspector having the charge of cigar factories should compel a strict observance of the clause in the act which requires proper sanitary arrangements in factories where male and female workers are employed. I heard lately of a shop where men and women have to use the same closets. This should be promptly stopped and the manufacturer compelled to provide suitable accommodation for both sexes. If the law in this respect is allowed to be ignored it were better that the money expended on factory inspection should be applied to something else, say establishing free libraries throughout the Province.

#### PRESENTATION.

Fifteen cents was the amount collected in one factory this week from the journeymen cigarmakers by one of the old employees for the purpose of buying a present for the foreman. It is to be regretted that even such a small sum was given by men, more especially union men, for any such person.

#### WHAT UNION MEN SHOULD CONSIDER FOR 1892.

The consolidation of both unions, which means unity of action and ultimate success. A more thorough system of agitating the Blue Label.

The amendment of the present law regarding the manufacturing of cigars, removing the present objectionable clauses which prevent the manufacture and sale of cigars on the same floor.

A more active part in all matters pertaining to our trade, and a better attendance at all meetings, which would be a proof of sincerity in the cause of unionism.

To demand a fuller recognition of the Union, which is the only means of protection against imposition.

The necessity of having the representative of the International Cigarmakers' Union suggest, adopt or bring about some practical means whereby the cigarmakers in Canada would derive some benefit from his office. Being, as he is, the representative of the cigarmakers in Canada, some practical work is expected from him, outside of answering appeals, issuing post cards and blue labels.

"SCRAPS."

### A PERFECT ARTICLE!

**COOK'S FRIEND**  
BAKING POWDER.

Only the purest Grape Cream Tartar and Finest Recrystallized Bicarbonate of Soda are employed in its preparation.

Thousands are using the Cook's Friend. Just the Thing for your Christmas Baking.

All the best Grocers sell it.

McLaren's Cook's Friend the only Genuine.

## JOHN MURPHY & CO.'S ADVERTISEMENT.

### Big Sale of Mantles

#### THE WORLD'S OLD HEART

Seems to grow younger each year for a time with the approach of Christmas. The spirit of the child rules the season. Even the grave face of business relaxes, and becomes a little less rigid. And Fun and Frolic for the nonce pluck the gray beard of wisdom. It is needless to tender the advice,

#### REMEMBER THE CHILDREN!

Every one does! The trying question is how most effectually to do it. The market-place is filled with a myriad voices, each landing its own particular wares. But after all, a boy's delight is perhaps never greater than when he dons a new suit of clothes. Human nature—even adolescent human nature—has an instinctive appreciation of the significance of dress. And as the Scotch say,

#### OBSERVE THE THRIFT

of the thing, ladies! The boy would require the "rig" anyhow, and the best way for mothers to save money and to make the heart of young Hopeful rejoice, is to call round and select something from our immense stock at bargain prices. JOHN MURPHY & CO.

#### CHRISTMAS PRESENTS FOR BOYS.

A BOY'S TWEED SUIT, in the latest style and size, from \$1.20 to \$9.00.

A BOY'S VELVET SUIT, with Tinsel or White Braid, from \$3.65 to \$10.00.

A BOY'S SAILOR SUIT, any size. Price from 75c to \$5.00.

BOYS' OVERCOATS in Tweed and Frieze, sizes from 22 to 36. Prices from \$1.25 up to \$8.75.

#### USEFUL CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

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A full assortment of Children's Dresses in all the latest styles and in all prices, from 80c up to \$15.00.

##### CLOAKS FOR CHILDREN.

Just put to stock a large assortment. Prices from \$2.10 to \$10.25.

#### CHRISTMAS BARGAINS.

##### HALF PRICE!

Ladies' Cotton Underwear

##### LADIES' JERSEYS,

COLORED, PLAIN AND BRAIDED.

\$2.00 ..... for ..... \$1.00  
2.50 ..... for ..... 1.25  
3.00 ..... for ..... 1.50

##### WIDOWS' CAPS.

30c ..... for ..... 15c  
40c ..... for ..... 20c  
60c ..... for ..... 30c  
85c ..... for ..... 43c  
\$1 ..... for ..... 50c  
etc., etc., etc.

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1781, 1783

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Misses, Girls and Children's Boots in great variety of Style and Price.

The above goods have only to be seen to be appreciated and they cannot be matched elsewhere for quality and cheapness.

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FOR  
SOCIETIES,  
LODGES,  
ASSEMBLIES

AT  
REASONABLE PRICES.



## TO YOUNG LADIES.

Pray take our advice and DO NOT send that YOUNG MAN of YOURS a carpet slipper holder, or worse still, one of those AWFUL plush shaving cases as a Xmas Token of your undying love, for he has already received at least half a dozen of both from HIS OTHER BEST GIRL, and that may be the reason why he forsook her.

Show him that YOU can better appreciate his tastes and requirements by giving him something that will be of some use to him.

A GOOD PAIR OF WARM GLOVES,  
A COMFORTABLE SILK MUFFLER,  
A ½ DOZ. NICE STYLISH TIES

will give him an idea of the COMFORT in store for HIM later on. Call on US and we will do our best to help YOU to please HIM. We know all about it for we have BEEN THERE ourselves.

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