

LABOR'S FUNCTION

Old Man Aesop Had The Union Idea.

THE FABLES of Aesop, which you read as a boy, are full of arguments for the cause of Trades Unionism. What could present the strength of United Labor better than the old story of the Faggots?

That ancient Philosopher, Aesop, related the tale of a father who wished to impress on his son's mind the force of that time-honored axiom, "In Union there is Strength." The father invited his son to break a single Faggot, then another, followed by several more singly, which the son did quite easily. Tying the Faggots into a bundle, the father then invited his son to break the Faggots thus assembled. The son exerted his strength upon the bound bundle of Faggots, but in vain. United they were unbreakable.

So again in the modern case of Labor. The Fathers of Organized Labor invite the Sons of Industry to bind together the principles of Organized Labor. Brotherhood, Square Dealing, Integrity, Confidence, Thrift, Good Citizenship, Decent Wages, Civilized Hours, Sanitary Working Conditions, Protection of Minors, Political Independence, Free Speech, 100 Per Cent. Canadianism, Democracy and Collective Bargaining, are bound together by the Golden Cord of Co-operation into the United Policy of Organized Labor. Thus gathered together, with a guarantee of Justice for all classes and favors to none, the United Principles of Trades Unionism give not only strength to Labor but Strength to the Nation.

So it would seem, judging by his Trades Union wisdom, that Old Man Aesop was the Samuel Gompers of his Day.

