

## CHAPTER II.

### *CAPITAL AND LABOR—ITS SOLUTION.*

#### **The Nationalization of Every Industry—No Personal Ownership—No Private Speculation—The Rich and the Poor Alike Benefited.**

To attempt a solution of a question of such wide-spread and very far-reaching importance would seem like presumption, seeing it has been the burning issue of centuries, and is only intensified at the present time by the very conditions which gave it an existence at first.

#### **The Question Easy of Settlement.**

To settle a wrong, in such a manner that it may "stay settled," the cause must first be found, and then removed; and that this may and should be done, in regard to the Capital and Labor Question, we think the following plan will amply prove:

There have been many plans suggested to remedy the existing evils, and in the main they have been steps in the right direction; but they have not gone far enough to grapple with and remove the cause of the existing difficulties, and hence have failed of remedying the wrong at which they were aimed. Some, for example, have suggested a Single Tax on Land Values, while others think the Nationalization of the Land and House Property, Railways, etc., would cure the evil. These all are good, and point more or less in the right direction, but do not go far enough to remove the cause.

All the plans suggested by previous writers, so far as we are aware, fail to deal with *personal ownership* and *private speculation* in all and every department of industry. Personal ownership and private speculation, in trade and commerce, is the foundation rock upon which the very meanest and most cruel kind of selfishness exist and thrive.

To say that selfishness is the cause of all human troubles and woes, is to declare what every person, with anything like a fair experience, knows to be true. Then, to remove selfishness means that the cause which produces it must be removed; this being done with the cause, the effect will disappear.

It is scarcely necessary to refer to the existing *no plan* of trade, to prove that selfishness is the most prominent feature to be seen anywhere among business people.

It will produce no "shock" to the nerves of the reader to say that every kind of deception and abuse, such as lying, cheating, stealing, and sometimes even murder indirectly, and too frequently directly, have been practised and committed in order that the business in hand may be made to succeed. Such conditions must necessarily remain while the cause of