

The greater peril arises from the professional agitator—the political socialist, or rather anarchist—the man who is against the Government, whatever it is. Under a despotism like that of Russia, or an oppressive military bureaucracy like that of Germany, the existence of socialism and communism is a natural result. But under free institutions like those of Great Britain, there are no wrongs that cannot be better redressed without their aid than with it. Indeed, most of these agitators are foreigners who have no stake in the country, who have nothing to lose by a social revolution, and think they have much to gain through the opportunities for pillage and plunder it would bring. With these ringleaders in revolt and fomenters of sedition who incited the London mob to violence and robbery, those in authority should rigorously deal. For their hapless dupes and victims the greatest charity and forbearance should be exercised.

Another symptom of social unrest is the prevalence of strikes and labour troubles in the Old World and the New. A strike, even when successful in its object, is always an unhappy means of accomplishing that object. It causes a feeling of estrangement and irritation between those whose interests are identical and whose prosperity must be mutual.

It has been shown that the losses through strikes in Great Britain during the last ten years have far more than counterbalanced any advantages they may have brought to the strikers.\* Often the trades' union becomes an instrument of tyranny even to its members—demanding for the careless and indifferent workman the same wages as are paid the skilful and industrious one—which is a manifest in-

justice to the latter. It is greatly to be desired that some board of arbitration should be organized before which all labour disputes should be adjusted without the irritation and bitterness and mutual loss to employer and employed caused by strikes.

The introduction of the principle of co-operation, as in the great works of Sir Titus Salt, and the *Bon Marche*, at Paris, is probably the best way of overcoming the supposed conflict between capital and labour, by giving each labourer a strong personal interest in the prosperity of the whole. Unquestionably the rights of labour and responsibility of capital are being more and more recognized every day. Never were workmen, on the whole, so well paid, clothed and fed and housed as to-day. Never were there brought within their reach so many of the comforts of life and the privileges of a higher civilization. And under the beneficent teachings of our holy religion these results shall more and more prevail.

It will doubtless be observed that by printing Dr. Laing's important article in smaller, but still clear and distinct type, by printing the Serial Story "solid," and by the use of separate pages for some of our cuts, a considerable increase of matter is compressed into these pages. We will endeavour by this kind of compression to make the MAGAZINE more valuable to its readers than ever before. We are happy to say that subscriptions continue to come in more rapidly than any previous year. The large edition of our Premium Book is completely exhausted and another has been sent to press. Our friends who have not received their premiums will be supplied as soon as it is possible to have them printed and bound.

We beg to call attention to the interesting statistics of our Church, page 278, kindly prepared by the Rev. Dr. Stone. They will be found a gratifying statement, and are presented in a convenient form for future reference.

\*In a recent number of *The Week* Professor Goldwin Smith asserts that "against the gains due to combination is to be set the loss of wages by strikes, which in England amounted in ten years to nearly one hundred and thirty-five millions of dollars, while the loss of profits to the masters amounted only to twenty-one millions."