



THESE ARE THE "UNSATISFACTORY ECONOMIC CONDITIONS."

"Your committee has recently considered the fact that even in Chistian lands distress and destitution prevail to a large extent in the large centres of population. This destitution and distress seem to be increasing rather than diminishing. While we admit that these things are largely due to the prevalence of indolence, improvidence, and especially intemperance, we think that they are naturally the result of *unsatisfactory economic conditions*."

[Report of General Committee on Social Conditions, Methodist General Conference.]

"UNSATISFACTORY ECONOMIC CONDITIONS."

TO this, as the fundamental cause, may be referred the spectacle of poverty and distress which presents itself in all our populous centres, according to the committee of the Methodist Conference. The adjective is certainly mild enough. To the man willing to work but denied the privilege, who sees his wife and children starving before his eyes, the economic conditions must be, to say the least, unsatisfactory. But what are these conditions? The committee did not venture to go into particulars. This is a pity, because it is eminently desirable that they should be exposed, to the end that they may be altered. To GRIP they seem clear enough. They are the conditions which would prevail in the domain of fishes, if the sharks held possession of the water and insisted on the smaller fish basking on the beach. This would be quite unsatisfactory to the latter. It is not less absurd and fatal when the land animal called Man owns the earth and has the right to keep his fellow land-animals off. Because land is as essential to human beings as water is to fishes.

IN THE VALLEY.

"AND yet I suppose a literary life has its drawbacks, too," she said. It was at a reception, and she was in conversation with a distinguished author.

"Yes, it has its moments of flatness, as for example when one sits with a lot of copy-paper before him, a full equipment of writing material, a nice, quiet room, apart from all possible interruption, and there sits, and sits and continues to sit, laboring in vain to find some topic to write upon! The literary life seems a hollow mockery at such times."

MOST'S DRAMA.

A DESPATCH to the papers of last Monday says—"Johann Most and his band of anarchist actors were not permitted to produce the play 'Die Weber' in Newark last night."

This is another interference with the liberty of the subject, and goes to show that the United States is no longer the home of the free. The performance of Mr. Most's drama was prohibited either because it was believed to be a work calculated to incite the spectators to unlawful acts, or through the influence of rival authors who fear to stand comparison with Mr. Most as a dramatist. The latter is the probable explanation. Instead of the tame business of leaps-for-life, rescues from burning buildings, etc., etc., every act in 'Die Weber' probably concludes with a genuine dynamite explosion in which real supers are torn into real pieces, and as a grand finale the tyrant, Law, is extinguished in a blaze of blue fire. Professional jealousy may prevent this drama from being performed, but we feel sure the general public would like to have it put on the stage, on condition that John Most would play the part of Weber and really "Die."

WAT Tyler's rebellion was no circumstance to the one that Sir Henry Tyler had to face at the meeting of G.T.R. Shareholders.

WHY couldn't arrangements be made to tie up the Canadian Senate, United States Senate and House of Lords in one bundle, and make a single job of the abolition?