

in full. Lassalle has said that "society consists of 96 proletaires and four capitalists," a sharp saying which points out the alarming disproportion and deep cleavage between the capitalist and the laboring classes.

Against this condition of things

LABOR RISES IN REVOLT.

The workingman has discovered that unchecked capital has employed labor under cruel conditions, has overworked and underpaid it. The Sermon on the Mount has been eclipsed by the balance-sheet; profits have been supreme, and industries are fast becoming the heaven of Mammon and the hell of toil. That the laborer has been cheated out of a just share of remuneration for his toil is a conviction which has taken a deep hold upon both him and his friends. To nine out of ten of the working men the remedy for this injustice is a very simple one. But in this they are mistaken. Their proposal means that greedy masters must be contented with smaller profits, and that fewer great fortunes must be made at the toilers' expense. That labor is often exorbitant in its demands, and tyrannical in its methods, and that it often uses strong language and is often astray as to facts, cannot be denied. By these

grave mistakes it is alienating some of its best friends. But it must not be forgotten that the working man is uneducated, that he has suffered much and long from injustice, that the Church has not taken any very special interest in his social betterment, and that a number of unprincipled agitators have stepped in and promised him all manner of impossible blessings. In his desperation he has followed without asking any nice questions. Should he not, on these accounts, be the object of our pity, rather than the butt of our scorn? If we are so much wiser than he is, should we not guide him to calm and thoughtful methods, and save him from his self-elected, but unscrupulous friends? A keen sense of injustice has an awful tendency to wring from overworked and exhausted crowds, a loud and bitter cry; and if this be unheeded, what wonder if now and again that cry maddens into extravagance?

One mistake which labor makes is in throwing all the blame of its misery and poverty upon the capitalist. Especially is this the case with respect to the individual capitalist. He is often as helpless against the influences which surround him, as a straw upon the rushing torrent. As an illustration:—A mill-owner employs