

wages or hours but some question of management, such as a discharge, maximum of work allowed to a hustling workman, number of apprentices, introduction of a new machine, or the admission of a man not recognized by the Union. That is scores of thousands have been obliged to suffer all the miseries and privations of the great strikes, and the employers have suffered incalculable losses, only because questions of tenure, methods or control were not always adjusted to the entire satisfaction of the great labor leaders, who in fact had little or no right to interfere in them.

Take the great steel strike of last July. Here the demand was 'that the non-union mills should be coercively unionized'. Now, professedly, coercion is the very thing against which labor organizations have struggled for nearly a century, and it is most right they should, because the principle is false and pernicious; but in this strike it was very evident that the contest never had the real approval of even a considerable portion of the men who were actually leading it. The great mills at Joliet, Mich., and those at Milwaukee were with difficulty practically forced to join the movement. But what a state of things is this? Here we have a double coercion;—an executive committee using coercion as a means of forcing non-union men to forfeit their rightful liberty.

And how do strikes stand the economic test? I shall speak from the authority and observation of J. S. Nicholson, Prof. of Political Economy at the University of Edinburgh. Having personally visited the scene of a recent collier strike, he said two features constantly forced themselves upon him,—one, the great numbers of policemen and soldiers, and the other, men going around with various kinds of money boxes. The military were keeping order, the colliers were asking support for the strikers and both seemed sick of their tasks; and no wonder, for, using proper names, it was coercion on one side and pauperism on the other. Where laws are maintained by military force, and able-bodied men apply to public charity for their necessities, it needs no showing that something is wrong. When we but recall such examples as the Homestead strike in which several bloody fights took place between the