

THE STRIKERS.

"It is better to starve than live on the terms you give us. Our lives, the lives of our wives and children, we set against your gains."

[From Bellamy's "Equality," sent postpaid for \$1.25.]

Presently, as we were crossing Boston common, absorbed in conversation, a shadow fell athwart the way, and looking up, I saw towering above us a sculptured group of heroic size. "Who are these?" I exclaimed. "You ought to know if any one," said the doctor, "they are cotemporaries of yours, who were making a good deal of disturbance in your day."

those faces. Has the sculptor idealized them? Are they the faces of philosophers? Do they not bear out your statement that the strikers like the workmen generally were as a rule ignorant, narrow-minded men, with no grasp of large questions, and incapable of so great an idea as the overthrow of an immemorial economic order? It is quite true that until some years after you fell asleep they did not realize that their quarrel was with private capitalism and not with individual capitalists.

away forever with the ideal of manhood which he illustrated. But that group yonder stands for a type of self-devotion that appeals to us profoundly. "Those men risked their lives when they flung down the tools of their trade, as truly as any soldier going into battle, and took odds as desperate, and not only for themselves, but for their families, which no grateful country would care for in case of casualty to them. The soldier went forth cheered with music, and supported by the enthusiasm of the country, but these others were covered with ignominy and public contempt, and their failures and defeats were hailed with general acclamation. And yet they sought not the lives of others, but only that they might barely live; and though they had first thought of the welfare of themselves and those nearest them, yet not the less were they fighting the fight of humanity and posterity in striking in the only way they could, and while yet no one else dared strike at all, against the economic system that had the world by the throat, and would never relax its grip by dint of soft words, or anything less than disabling blows.

WITH THE CHAFF BLOWN OUT.

Lucy Pierce, a Chicago stenographer out of work and not knowing how to live without work, committed suicide by taking morphine. At Scranton, Pa., where until recently 150 wagons were employed in the milk business, only 35 are used today. A combine did it. Now that the country is to have more battleships, the steel men have succeeded in effecting a combine with a capital stock of \$200,000,000.

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FALSE TIDINGS.

(Written for the Herald.) "Ho, happy news! For Peace is now descending. Myrtle-crowned Peace, with olive bough in hand!" "Lies and fools! Know ye not, war unending. War, cruel war, is raging in the land?" "Ho, happy news! No battle, fierce and frantic. Dyes the sea waves with fratricidal strife!" "Fools! From the Golden Gate to the Atlantic Brother with brother struggles for his life."

ORGANIZED LABOR.

The attitude of the Social Democratic party toward organized labor and trades unionism is defined in the following resolutions, adopted June 11, 1898. These resolutions represent the unanimous sentiment of the party: "Whereas, We hold the trade union movement to be indispensable to the working people under the prevailing industrial conditions in their struggle for the improvement of their conditions, as well as for the final abolition of the wage system; we further recognize the urgent need of thorough organization among the workers; therefore be it Resolved, That we commend an honest co-operation to that end by the members of the Social Democratic Party of America, by becoming members of the unions in their respective trades or callings, or of the Federal Labor Unions, and strive to organize all such trades as have heretofore not been organized and assist the organization of labor in every way possible: "Resolved, That in order to more effectively resist the encroachments upon labor we advise organized labor to combine into national and international unions, pledging ourselves to extend to them all possible assistance to accomplish this end.

zation, and educating the public to demonstrate in a practical way its sympathy and assistance to the cause of labor; and we therefore indorse all the labels of the bona fide trades unions, earnestly recommending to the membership of the Social Democratic Party of America to patronize only such concerns selling products bearing the same. "Resolved, That we condemn the attempt to disrupt the labor movement by organizing rival unions to the bona fide trades unions. "Resolved, That we encourage the movement of organized labor for the establishment of a legal eight-hour workday and the Saturday half holiday. "Resolved, That we condemn the modern white slavery of the sweating system."

THE MAN OF BLOOD AND IRON.

After all real happiness only comes from moral achievements. No other sort of success leaves a sweet taste in the mouth. So it was with Bismarck. Great as were his achievements they were not in the interests of the people taken as a whole—indeed, they represented heartless crushings of the people, a ruthless stamping out of their rights as component parts of their country. That the man's life was an unhappy one, in spite of his rich surroundings, was only natural. "I have seldom been a happy man," he said. "If I reckon up the rare minutes of real happiness in my life I do not believe they would make twenty-four hours in all. In my political life I never had time to have the feeling of happiness. But in my private life there have been moments of happiness. I remember, for instance, a really happy moment in my life, and that was when I shot my first hare." On another occasion he said: "Nobody loves me for what I have done. I have never made anybody happy, not myself, nor my family, nor anybody else. But how many have I made unhappy! But for me three great wars would not have been fought; eighty thousand men would not have perished. Parents, brothers, sisters, and widows would not be bereaved and plunged into mourning. . . . That matter, however, I have settled with God. But I have had little or no joy from all my achievements; nothing but vexation, care, and trouble." No other condition of mind was possible to the conqueror of France, the man who, when complained to that the Germans were firing on the sick and blind of the Blind Institute could have the brutality to say: "I do not know what you find in that. You do far worse; you shoot at our men who are in sound and vigorous health." The man who, when told that among the French prisoners taken at Le Bourget were a number of Francs-tireurs—only so in name, since the "Francs-tireurs de la Presse" wore uniform—roared in disgust: "That they should ever take Francs-tireurs prisoners! They ought to have them shot down by files!" The savage who, informed of the masses of conscript prisoners taken in one of Prince Frederick Charles' battles on the Loire, exclaimed: "Prisoners! more prisoners! What the devil do we want with prisoners? Why don't they make a battue of them?" One is not surprised therefore to hear such a man give utterance to such a sentiment as this: "Universal suffrage is the government of a house by its nursery."