

ganized by the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, through his personal ministration and authority and is the exact counterpart of the early Christian Church. For these reasons we answer the question under discussion by saying that this is the only true Church of Christ on earth and we know that what we say is true.

POSSIBILITIES OF THE LABOR AND CAPITAL STRUGGLE.

THE Tennessee trouble has temporarily collapsed. It will, however, in the nature of things, be renewed in the future. The continued existence of the cause of the difficulty will revive it.

The reason for the sudden suspension of hostile activity on the part of the miners is the same as that which led to a similar result in the operations of the Cœur d'Alene and Homestead strikers. It is this:

It is almost impossible for an organized mob, no matter how large, to stand before disciplined troops in battle. The fighters on the side of labor are thoroughly organized for conflicts or struggles from which violence is excluded, but they are not marshalled for physical offensive and defensive purposes. As a consequence the contests in which the workmen engage with capital are unequal. The workers are at a disadvantage. It is impossible for them to gain the victory until relative conditions are changed.

This view is easily supported. If organized labor succeeds in its struggle with organized capital, this result can only be achieved, if attainable at all, by the use of force. Without it success is an "invisible quantity" so far as associated labor is concerned. The reasons are obvious:

(1) The forces of labor are divided. The non-union element is sufficiently strong to throw the balance of power to the side of capital. So soon as a strike is on capital appeals, and never in vain, to non-union labor; the places of the striking men are filled, and unless union labor resort to violence the struggle is ended, with victory on the banners of the employers. (2) In the event of the strikers—now in the "school of despair"—declining to give up the struggle at this point, they must have recourse to violence. The application of this forcible means must necessarily be futile, because here again they are at a disadvantage. They cannot operate the conflict on this "plan of campaign" without breaking the laws. This situation brings to the aid of the employers the forces of the government. The result is inevitable; united labor, having no military organization, must be defeated. There is only a remote basis for hope in any other direction aside from military organization. This lies in making a strike cover so much ground and so many avenues of business as to render it impracticable to find non-unionists enough to supplant the workmen engaged in the struggle. Such a conflict, however, even if it were conducted without violence, would be revolutionary and disastrous to the national commonwealth.

In observing the social commotion in progress, it is impossible for the fact

to escape notice that wherever organized labor learns by experience its weakness, in comparison with the strength of those whom it regards as its opponents, it sets to work to remedy the deficiency. This leads to a vital, nay startling question: Will it resort to military means to overcome the reasons for its defeat when, in its struggle, it is subjected to the law of force.

It would be folly to answer this interrogatory with an unqualified negative. The strong probabilities are in favor of a future realization of an actual affirmative to this important question. It is not in the nature of things for the great masses of the workingmen of the country to succumb in any struggle, social or otherwise, without exhausting every resource within their reach. If this view be correct, then they will have recourse to military organization and discipline.

We ask those who do not agree with the idea that this result is probable, to observe that the symptoms of such a step have already appeared. We have but to refer, on this point, to the resolution lately adopted by the Council of the Federated Trades of the State of Massachusetts. It recommends all union men to refrain from enlisting in the National Guard and that those now associated with that body withdraw from it. The purpose of this is plain; it is to weaken the military and thus deprecate its effectiveness when directed against united labor. The step would not to any extent accomplish the object, but it is the intent of the measure that we are now referring to. But there has been an actual step taken in the matter of establishing a military organization in connection with organized labor. It is a singular fact that this was done under the auspices of official authority of the State of Illinois. Only a few weeks since, shortly after the Homestead outbreak, it was announced in the press dispatches that the Carpenters' Union, at Chicago, had obtained a license from the Secretary of the State giving permission to organize and equip a military force. Its object was stated to be to repel any armed aggressive force that might enter the State of Illinois. Fifteen hundred men were enrolled at once, and it was expected that the number would soon be doubled. This has probably been done ere this. They were to be armed with Winchester rifles and to engage in regular drill exercises.

If such an organization is possible within the lines of one labor union it is equally so with others. If such a step were to become general, united labor would soon have under its auspices a mighty disciplined army. The dangerous consequences of a situation of this nature would be overwhelming. The possibilities of gigantic civil strife ensuing from the labor and capital question would be enormous. Yet who is prepared to say that such a condition of things is not liable, in the very nature of current questions and events, to arise?

IS IT RETALIATION?

PUBLIC bodies look very small when they act from pettishness and do anything for spite. We do not accuse the County Court of such paltriness, but a good many people think that the stop-

page of the sprinkling carts on certain streets and of all work except that done by poll tax, smacks very strongly of such a spirit. To suffocate people with dust because they would not vote a lot of money into its hands, is a poor way for the County Court to show its resentment at the failure of the bonds election, if that is what they mean by it. It will not add to the popularity of the selectmen nor will it stimulate the public to reverse their verdict.

We suggest that when the question of bonding the county is again agitated, the notice of the election be made more general. It should be published in the newspapers, and it should contain specific announcements as to the qualifications of voters. A great many people stayed away from the polls who had the right to vote as the statute stands, but who supposed they were disqualified by act of Congress, or by local election laws. The power of the County Court to manage the election and appoint the election officers was also a matter of doubt, and it ought to have been determined satisfactorily.

We do not think the County Court or any of its members have just cause to feel disgruntled because the taxpayers did not vote for the bonds. The fault, if any, rests with their own party adherents, who, if they had been so disposed, could have carried the election. It is evident that the majority of them did not vote at all. But it was their right to vote or not as they chose, and to stop sprinkling the streets is a childish sort of retaliation or miserable sort of economy.

According to the report of the County Clerk the amount of revenue which will accrue to the county, after the territorial and school taxes are deducted from the total of \$425,457.68, will be \$96,776.38. If out of nearly one hundred thousand dollars nothing can be spared for sprinkling streets which ought to be attended to, and for road work which is needed to be done, it seems to us that it is very poor management.

We do not wish to find fault with the County Court unnecessarily. Public men seldom give public satisfaction, and the criticism that is so freely bestowed upon them is, no doubt, often very provoking. But in this instance it really looks as though there was occasion for complaint, and we hope the county authorities will reconsider the matter to which we have drawn attention.

A REVIVAL.

THE periodical falsehood about a "Mormon" exodus to Mexico has again started on its rounds. It is an epidemic. Usually it breaks out in some metropolitan journal, and is then caught up by the country papers and has its run till exhausted. This time it seems to have started where it commonly ends. Rural publications are announcing that five hundred "Mormon" families are preparing to leave Utah for Mexico as soon as the crops are harvested. There is no more truth in the rumor than there was in former canards of the same sort. The harvest of anti-"Mormon" lies is never entirely reaped, or the seeds of the old stories ripen before the parent crop is all cut. The "Mormons" have less cause than ever to want to leave Utah.