

that would elevate wealth above industry or the professional man above the working man; we recognize no distinction of society except those based on manhood and worth, usefulness and good order, and no superiority except that granted by the Great Architect of our existence. And let me here express our sympathy for the street-car men in the battle for their rights, which is of the most vital importance to all organized labor in more than one respect, and I hope they, as well as all others, may be successful when the principles of justice and equality and the dignity of labor are involved.

GEORGE R. CUSHING,
President of Bricklayer and Masons' Union.

The foregoing contains several points which at once commend themselves to the intelligent and unprejudiced reader. The writer, in vindicating the course of the bricklayers' union, with which he is immediately connected, sustains correct principles. (1) He puts in a plea for arbitration. (2) He does not favor strikes unless perhaps it be after the resources of arbitration are exhausted. (3) He believes in giving due notice of demands made by the employes to prevent public injury. (4) He recognizes the necessity of keeping the good-will of the public, whose sentiment must never be confounded with the unreasoning expression of the rabble, or the designing manifestations of political demagogues. (5) He is not in favor of class distinctions on the basis of wealth.

The correctness of each of these positions is beyond question. A recourse to arbitration, means the application of reason in the solution of a problem. Coercion of every kind is war, although it may be bloodless, and is only justifiable when intelligent and pacific methods fail. A prevalent resort to force in social disputes will sap the foundations of society and lead to chaos. Hence the aversion to ill-considered strikes, which, according to the history of our times, have wrought incalculable hardship upon those who have engaged in them.

The ideas of Mr. Cushing with regard to class distinctions are commendable. The man of wealth who wears a stiff neck and lifts his nose high in the air when he has occasion to address a workman is an object of pity, and an honest laborer has no reason to envy him. He proclaims the emptiness of his own crawlum by showing a higher appreciation for property than for manhood. He is only less contemptible than he who, sycophantically toadies to the holder of wealth because of his possessions

instead of appreciating him for his worth. A greater insult could scarcely be offered to a sensible rich man than to admire him for his money.

But there are others who, on the other hand, are equally despicable—the class who for ulterior political purposes hypocritically give expression to the most extravagant manifestations of alleged sympathy for the working classes, because they want to use them. The working-men should beware of those who have in the past taken every occasion to slander and insult them, and now, because they think they can manipulate them for the attainment of political ends, pretend they are overflowing with sympathy for them. Sources which have been throwing mud at a certain class of men, depicting them as unfit for the situations they held, are now pretending to be their warmest friends. The spectacle inspires the onlooker with ineffable disgust. Let the working men beware of political demagogues, who imagine they can use them to further their schemes.

AN INTERMINABLE MUDDLE.

THE proceedings of Saturday, Sept. 20, associated with the alleged inquiry into the conduct and accounts of ex-receiver Dyer, a report of which appears in this issue, are suggestive of the interminably mixed character of the whole business.

The Utah Supreme Court confers upon Commissioner Stone full power to send for persons and papers, and rule upon the admissibility of evidence. One of the parties to the hearing, who might be termed the defendant, calls as a witness in his behalf the Chief Justice of the court which created the subsidiary tribunal before which the proceedings were being had. That Chief Justice was at one time an attorney in the case. He refuses to testify, but upon just what legal grounds he can maintain his refusal is not quite clear, unless he relies upon the statutory provision which exempts an attorney from the ordeals of the witness stand.

The anomalies that have arisen in this case are remarkable. First, the case itself is an anomaly, under American institutions; second, the chief constabulary officer of the government was made receiver with the government as plaintiff; third, the chief legal representative of the government for this

Territory became counsel for the receiver; fourth, an attorney who once headed a determined attack upon the receiver, now sits as presiding judge of the court which is to pass upon the receiver's doings; fifth, that the receiver, who is virtually a defendant in a proceeding believed to have been primarily instituted by that presiding judge, calls upon the latter to testify in his behalf, and the latter refuses, under circumstances which enable him to defy the usual compulsory methods of judicial tribunals. The whole case, with its various features, constitutes a remarkable mass of complications.

THE "MORMON" PERPLEXITY.

THE annexed article appears as an editorial in the St. Louis *Ulobe-Democrat* of September 19th:

"The report of the Utah Commission for the past year resembles all preceding ones in the important respect that it urges the necessity of more stringent legislation to solve the Mormon problem. Congress has been passing laws for that purpose from time to time for many years, and still the perplexity remains. Mormonism seems to be practically just as strong as it ever was. The successive blows inflicted upon it have done it some harm, doubtless, but in each instance it has recovered and gone on growing. There are more Mormons in Utah now than ever, and they keep coming from different quarters, principally beyond the Atlantic, the same as if nothing had been done by the Government to suppress the monstrous iniquity which has so long made Utah a national reproach. The Mormon Church maintains its absolute power over its members, both spiritually and temporally; the edicts of the priesthood are implicitly obeyed, and there are no signs of that revolt against ecclesiastical tyranny which has so often been predicted. After all the penalties that have been provided for those who indulge in a plurality of wives, the commission declares that polygamy continues to be practiced; and the opinion is added, curiously enough, that the only real hope of abating the evil lies in the possible renunciation of the doctrine as a part of the Mormon creed.

"It is astonishing, to say the least, that no way can be found to deal effectively with this great wrong. The power of the government is practically unlimited in the case, and public sentiment is decidedly inimical to Mormon interests of every kind. This implies that the task should be an easy one, but somehow it is not. Some of the legislation upon the subject has been very drastic, and the courts have enforced it with reasonable rigor, and yet the much-desired consummation does not come to pass. There is something lacking somewhere, it is easy to understand; but it is not so easy to say what or where the trouble is. Most likely, however, the chief mistake has been in not directly and thoroughly taking away the occupation of the priesthood. The leaders of the Church are its chief strength. They rule as so many autocrats, acknowledging no sense of duty except their own inclinations, and recog-