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## MASSACHUSETTS AND PUBLIC WORKS.

Massachusetts officials have been sitting over a subject for some time for a good deal of economic thought—the problem of providing work for unemployed—and a report has been made endorsing the idea of not to adopting a compensation which relief to the market. The report argues against the proposition for the state to take the initiative in undertaking business or work, or the management of some industries could not be made productive to the work sought. The idea of wages to be paid by municipalities is obvious, and it is pointed out that the wants are beyond the market price, so it is obvious that work should be done so cheaply by the city as by individuals. It is also set forth that as capital has wage scales should not be rigidly fixed, and it is stated that in cases where the city pays higher wages than the minimum figure offered for rates by contractors, the work is done satisfactorily performed than under the contract system.

Two considerations receive particular stress in the report. One is that cities should arrange so that work can be furnished the unemployed during the winter months at a fair remuneration. The other is that cities in giving out undertakings to contractors or bargaining for public works should take the preference in employment that is given to residents of the city or community where the work is done. The first, it is claimed, will give employment at a time when income stand most in need, and although the season of work will slightly increase the expense, it would also relieve the municipality of the common charge arising from paying wages, that of competition in wages which does not offer opportunities for employment such as the contract system usually affords. It is said the prosecution of public works was suspended, it would prevent any demand for carpenter wages. The other recommendation brought prominently forward is intended to meet the ground of complaint the locality of contractors under the city to importation with people from without. It may be argued to provide that the preference should of any particular locality where work is being done shall be fully employed before help is engaged outside of the district.

The discussion raised this shows that the members of the Massachusetts commission have been thinking deeply into the question under consideration. They have studied the question from a practical standpoint, and present some strong reasons in support of the suggestions offered. Their position is that such legislation, usually outside the sphere of government, is yet necessary in the holding of public improvements, and contains no hardship, inconvenience or extra cost. Yet that number of these public improvements a great concentration of employment is a matter of doubt. It is clear that the legislature can do little in the matter, but it may be in the state, for the reason, therefore, with only advise a special session of the legislature.

## GROWTH AND LIFE.

The recent convention of the press bureau has spoken about growth, health, development, and well with Dr. Lyman Abbott, a clergyman of world. One of these addresses was taken from Life of Abbott addressed to the Knights press. The page includes various points of discussion, relating to social reform, to church and other matters, and presents the country of people. In addition to the discussion of charitable institutions, which covers some of the Pulpit's accomplishments under which Abbott spoke the structure and church affairs, and finally intimates that the English speaking world is now with the people of the state, as it is that no institution is unchangeable. He says in his text: "Life is the word of the Lord. The page I find which up with a sight of the Angle May and a promise that those who must journey there may see people will be strong as a conqueror—which is the Greek word, meaning conquer, it is now through many trials and sufferings to have the crown from the great—and a great crown days.

Christianity nowadays is variously understood from standpoint of the Christian world. Abbott argues the opinion that it appears to Church is yet in its way for the kingdom. Physicians, for instance, are not, as they ought to be, the physicians of the people. They have studied how to cure diseases in them as with medicine, and there are many who are not there for healing. Lawyers are not, as they ought, the advocates of the people. Many of them are in the business of helping people to evade the law. Journalists are not, as they should be, the teachers of the people. Many of them are in the business of deceiving the people. Merchants are not, as they should be, the purveyors of the people. Many of them are in the business of selling to the people what they do not need, what they do not want, what they do not know how to use, what they do not know how to use, what they do not know how to use