



All literary communications should be addressed to the Editors of the COMMONWEAL, 13 Farringdon Road, E.C. They must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication.

Rejected MSS. can only be returned if a stamped directed envelope is forwarded with them.

All business communications to be addressed to the Manager of the COMMONWEAL, 13 Farringdon Road, E.C. Business communications must NOT be sent to the Editors. All remittances should be made in Postal Orders or halfpenny stamps.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE following leaflets have been issued by the League:—No. 1. "Why be Transported?" No. 2. "Down with the Socialists!" No. 3. "To the Radicals"; No. 4. "The Cause of Prostitution"; No. 5. "The Worker's Claims and 'Public Opinion'"; No. 6. "Tram-car Slavery: an Address to Tram-car Men and the Working Class in general." Copies sent to anyone on receipt of stamp for postage, and supplied for distribution at 2s. per 1,000.

NOTICE TO ALL SOCIALISTIC NEWSPAPERS.—The *Commonweal* will be regularly sent to all Socialistic Contemporaries throughout the world, and it is hoped that they on their side will regularly provide the Socialist League with their papers as they may appear.

J. BROADHOUSE.—Most unfortunately your letter has only just reached our hands as we go to press. Its consideration must be deferred until next number.

LIVERPOOL.—Anyone willing to form a Labour Emancipation League here is asked to communicate with Fred Willis, 49 Wood Street.

BEKANNTMACHUNG!—Genosse Theodor hält jeden Donnerstag abend einen Coursus für Elementar Unterricht in der englischen Sprache, woran alle Genossen welche derselben noch nicht mächtig sind, theil zunehmen eingeladen werden. Näheres beim Secretär, 13 Farringdon Road, E. C.

RECEIVED—England: Anarchist—Worker's Friend—Daylight (Norwich)—Christian Socialist—Church Reformer—National Review—Republican—Journal of Vigilance Association—Justice—To-Day. Belgium: Ni Dieu ni Maître—L'Insurgé. France: Cri du Peuple (daily)—La Revue Socialiste—La Question Sociale (Paris)—Le Socialiste (Paris). Greece: Harden (Athens). Germany: Neue Zeit (Stuttgart). Italy: La Question Social (Turin)—Il Paria (Ancona). Morocco: Almoghreb Al-aksa (Tangiers). New Zealand: Watchman. Portugal: O Campino—Voz do Operario—O Protesto Operario (Lisbon). Roumania: Drepturile Omului (daily, Bucharest). Serbia: Tchas (Belgrade). Spain: El Angel del Hogar—Revista Social (Barcelona)—Bandera Social (Madrid). Switzerland: Sozial Demokrat. U. S. A.: (New York): N. Y. Volkszeitung—Der Sozialist—Freiheit—Progress—John Swinton's Paper—Spread the Light. (Boston): Liberty—Woman's Journal—Index. Denver (Col.) Labor Inquirer—Chicago (Ill.) Alarm—Detroit (Mich.) Labor Leaf—Princeton (Mass.) Word—Cleveland (O.) Carpenter—Brattleboro (Vt.) Woman's Magazine; National Bulletin—San Francisco (Cal.) Chronicle—Stockton (Cal.) Mail—Petersburg (Ill.) Voice of Labor—New Haven (Conn.) Workmen's Advocate—St. Louis (Mo.) Die Parole—Kansas (Mo.) Sun—Pittsburg (Pa.) Labor Herald—Paterson (N. J.) Labor Standard—Baltimore (Md.) Labor Free Press—Valley Falls (Kan.) Lucifer.

SINCE last acknowledgment books for the library have been received from Lawie (Carlisle) and Lane.

Notice to Members.

Library and Reading Room.—All papers received by the Secretary have been sorted and filed and are at the disposal of members. The librarians, Nicoll and May Morris, attend on Mondays and Fridays from 7 to 9 p.m. for the purpose of exchanging books.

Choir.—The choir meet for practice every Friday evening at 8 o'clock.

Standing Committees.—Meet on Wednesdays at 7.30 p.m.

General Meeting.—On fourth Monday of the month at 8.30 p.m. Council meets an hour earlier.

Discussion Class.—This class, for members only, meets at Farringdon Hall every Sunday morning at 11.

SUBSCRIPTIONS will be received at the office of the *Commonweal* for the under-mentioned papers, or intending subscribers may remit direct:—The *Altruist*, a monthly paper, devoted to common property, united labour, mutual assistance and equal rights to all. 50 cents a year. A Longley, editor, 712 Chestnut Street, St. Louis, Mo., U.S.A.—The *Carpenter*, published monthly by the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, of America. Fifty cents a year post paid. P. J. McGuire, Lock Box 180, Cleveland, Ohio.—*John Swinton's Paper*. One dollar a year; three cents a copy. 21 Park Row, New York.—The *Labor Enquirer*, Official Organ of the Trades Assembly. Two dollars per year. J. R. Buchanan, editor. 368 Larimer Street, Denver, Colo., U.S.A.—The *Alarm*, a Socialistic weekly, published by the Working People's International Association. One dol. fifty cents per year; five cents per copy. Theodore Fricke, 107 Fifth Avenue, Chicago, Ill., U.S.A.—The *Labor Leaf*, published weekly by J. R. Burton, 50 Larned Street, West, Detroit, Mich., U.S.A. 50 cents a year.—*The Monthly Review*. Devoted to discussion of political, social, and general subjects. S. Hayes, 15 George's Place, North, Dublin. 1s. 6d. per year.—*Le Socialiste*. 17 Rue de Croissant, Paris. 5 francs per year.

AN APPEAL FOR THE CHILDREN.

It has been decided by the Council of the Socialist League that the beautiful old Pagan Festival that celebrated the death of darkness and new birth of light, is a very fit one for little Socialists to keep. We, too, want "little children to come unto us," and so we are going to give them a "Tree," a good romp, tea and cake, on Saturday, December 26th (Boxing Day), at our Hall, 13 Farringdon Road. Will friends help in the way of simple presents for the tree, and money to get the tree and the food? Any who are willing to help either with subscriptions, or work (or both) may write to Mrs. Wardle, 9 Charlotte Street, Bedford Square; May Morris, Kelmocott House, Hammersmith; Mrs. Lane, 38 Ainslie Street, Bethnal Green Junction, E.; or to myself, 55 Great Russell Street, W.C.

ELEANOR MARX-AVELING.

TO OUR READERS.

THE *Commonweal* has now been in existence for eleven months and the editors think that at the end of this first volume they have some reason to congratulate the Socialist League on the support which its organ has received, and on the progress which it has made in the teeth of more difficulties than usually beset a young paper.

The editors with, they believe, the general assent of the League, have done their best to keep up the literary and educational quality of the journal, but within those lines have always been anxious to get as much variety as possible. They are glad to think that it is attracting young writers, and hope that this will go on growing, especially as all available talent will be needed when the paper takes its weekly form.

The editors appeal to those outside the Socialist party to subscribe to and read a paper which is the recognised organ of a school of thought and politics which they have no right to be indifferent to if they have any claim to be interested in the progress of humanity or the expression of free opinion; however small our beginning may be, they may be assured that it is the cloud no bigger than a man's hand which is destined to spread over the whole sky.

This number concludes Vol. I. of the *Commonweal*. It is thought best to make our first volume of 11 numbers, that subsequent volumes may run with the year. An Index for 1885 will be given away with each number of the January 1886 issue. Covers for binding the 1885 *Commonweal* can be obtained at the office, price 2s.

WILLIAM MORRIS.
EDWARD AVELING.

FREILIGRATH'S "FREE PRESS."

(Translated by J. L. JOYNES.)

FIRMLY to his fellow-workers, "Mates," the master-printer said,
"Lo, to meet to-morrow's signal, nothing need we now but lead—
What, while here the type is handy! March to-morrow in your sets,
But to-night for ammunition melt your metal alphabets!

"Melting-pots are here in plenty, stoves replenished, coals renewed;
Locked are all the doors that no one may be able to intrude.
Come and set to work at once; let each man do his best to-night,
That our freedom's manifesto may be brought at last to light."

Straight he throws a case of letters in the furnace at his feet;
Bubble "diamond" and "long primer," melted in the fervent heat;
Bubble "Romans" in the brazier, here "italics," there "brevier,"
Sturdy type that needs no more the Censor of the Press to fear.

Poured into the moulds for bullets hisses high the metal then—
Through the livelong autumn night are working twenty honest men;
Deep they breathe among the cinders, melt, and rake, and stir about,
Till to smooth and heavy bullets all the type is melted out.

Packed away in bags and baskets lies the stock upon the ground,
Ready to be used at dawn, and hot and scalding handed round:
Sooth, a stirring morning journal! Ne'er have critics seen before
Such a stern and bold defiance pass the poor old office door.

Lo, the master folds his hands, and knits his brow, and speaks again:
"That it must be force and warfare causes all true workers pain.
Yet, since nothing else is left—no other means—no other way,
Only in the shape of bullets can our type be free to-day.

"True it is that Force shall fail, that Truth shall crowned and conquering
smile;

But they trod her underfoot, and flung her into durance vile.
Well, so be it! Down the musket let the ramrod drive ye in,
E'en with that composing-ruler ready still to fight and win!

"Fiercely fly against their forces; pierce their frowning castle walls;
Sing a stinging song of freedom, hurtling through their high-built halls;
Smite the slaves, and slay the hirelings; give an honest ounce of lead
To the fool who drew the wrath of *this* free press upon his head!

"Homeward to the true free press returning after strife and strain,
Soon from corpse and wreck and ruin we will dig ye out again;
Shape ye into sharp-cut letters, be ye ne'er so smooth and round—
Ha! a knock upon the door! and hark! I hear the trumpet sound!

"There a shot!—And there another!—'Tis the signal!—Tramp of feet,
Shock and sound of hoofs and horses wake and shake the sleeping street!
Here the bullets! there the muskets! Quick we go! The noise is near!—
Hark! the rattle of the volley! Revolution's self is here.

LESSONS IN SOCIALISM.

VII.—CONSTANT AND VARIABLE CAPITAL. RATE OF SURPLUS VALUE.

THUS far, in our analysis of Marx' "Das Kapital," we have tried to make clear the meaning of the following fundamental terms: commodity—a product of human labour not to be consumed by the actual producer; use-value—that property of a body that satisfies a human want; exchange-value—the proportion in which a use-value exchanges with other use-values; value—the human labour embodied in any commodity. We have further studied the various formula for exchange of equivalents, and the important formula $M-C-M'$, for capitalistic circulation. We have seen that $M' = M + \Delta M$, and that ΔM , or the excess of returning M' over advanced M , is surplus-value. Labour-power has been defined as the sum of human faculties that put into action can produce use-values; labour, as the realisation of labour-