

SOME GREETINGS.

At the meeting in South Place Chapel, on Saturday, March 16th, in Celebration of the Anniversary of the Commune of Paris, the following interesting messages and letters were read from various bodies and comrades in this country and on the Continent:—

DUBLIN SOCIALIST CLUB.

"Irish comrades join in honouring the memory of the martyred dead, and in working for the realisation of the ideals of 1789 and 1871. Vive la Commune!"

SOCIALIST LEAGUE, GLASGOW.

"Greetings! Hurrah for the Revolution! The red flag will yet wave over Edinburgh Castle, and the march of the workers be heard on the mountains of Lochaber!"

SOCIALIST LEAGUE, NORWICH.

"Revolutionary greetings! We trust you are having a successful meeting, and are certain that the worker's emancipation is near at hand. Vive la Revolution Sociale!"

MANCHESTER INTERNATIONAL WORKMEN'S SOCIETY.

"Greetings from Manchester International Workmen's Society. Vive la Commune! Vive la Revolution Sociale!"

THE LEAGUE OF POPULAR INSTRUCTION, VERVIERS, BELGIUM.

"The League of Popular Instruction fully sympathises with you in your Celebration of the Anniversary of the Paris Commune! Please accept the most cordial expression of our sympathy and international solidarity.

"By order of the League, "PIERRE FLUSE."

THE SOCIAL DEMOCRACY OF DENMARK.

"Fraternal greetings from the Danish Socialists to the English worker's meeting to celebrate the Anniversary of the Commune of Paris. The heroic fight of the Commune has awakened the oppressed to a consciousness of their rights. A cheer for Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity.

"The General Council of the Danish Social Democracy,  
"KNUDSEN, HÖRDUM, HOLM, WUNBLAD, MEYER, HOLDT, MÖLLER,  
"OLSEN, ANDERSEN, HURUP, JENSEN, and BERG."

THE SOCIALISTS OF HOLLAND.

"We are with you in celebrating the Anniversary of the Commune of Paris. The Socialists of the whole world are united on the 18th of March; then it is the memory of a triumph. Alas! it endured too short a time! But the blood of our martyrs was and is the seed of the church of the future, wherein there is a place for every one at the dinner of life. The past may tell us how to hold our own triumphantly, after having broken the chains of the slavery which Capitalism has caused.

"One for all and all for one, that shall be our sign, the sign of triumph. This century must not disappear before this triumph is obtained. When every one does his duty we must gain. Therefore, we shall not end our efforts before the aim is achieved for which our French brothers died in 1871—the Emancipation of Labour! Vive la Commune! Vive la République Internationale et Socialiste!  
"In the name of your Dutch comrades,  
"F. DOMELA NIEUWENHUIS."

THE CENTRAL REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE OF PARIS.

"In my own name and in that of the Central Revolutionary Committee, I send you the expression of our fraternal solidarity, on the occasion of this grand anniversary of the 18th of March, when you are celebrating in unison with us the first victory of the Parisian revolutionary proletariat,—so short a victory and so soon followed by its heroic defeat!—and when we pledge ourselves to avenge that defeat by the next victory of the international revolutionary proletariat.

"In England, as in France, as in all countries where the sufferings of the oppressed excite the popular wrath, where Socialist action and Socialist propaganda are making a breach in the power and privileges of the capitalist class, everywhere in fact where the oppressed, the miserable, and the discontented struggle for their emancipation, for political freedom, and social equality, the Commune erelong shall have its revenge and the Revolution its triumph.

"To you all, friends and Socialists of England, and to you all, who in this struggle against reaction and capitalism, against all bourgeois parties, never yielding, never giving in, are decided to march on without rest or truce until our victory is gained, to you all, in my friends and in my own name, Salut et fraternité!  
"ED. VAILLANT,"

(Ex-Member of the Commune.)

THE POLISH SOCIALISTS OF THE SOCIETY "SOLIDARNOŚĆ," AND THE PAPERS 'WALKI KLAS' (THE CLASS WAR), AND 'PRZESDŚWIT' (DAWN).

"On this day of glorious commemoration, we join with you in celebrating that memorable event, the Proclamation of the Commune.

"When, after a dreadful war, the people of Paris raised the standard of social readjustment, they proved themselves the indomitable champions of International Revolution; and the fall of the Commune became a disaster for the entire world.

"Nowadays, when the revolutionary party has reformed its battalions in France, when, thanks to your valiant efforts, Socialism rapidly develops itself all over England, and that even among us, in the Slavonic countries, the struggle for emancipation becomes more and more ardent, we may hope that a new Commune shall no longer be beaten by Reaction. On the contrary, upheld by the combined efforts of all peoples, it will be the prologue of the decisive emancipation of the proletariat.

"Vive la République Universelle! Vive la Revolution Sociale!  
"For the Polish Socialists,  
"STEPHAN LEONOWICZ."

THE PARISIAN AGGLOMERATION OF THE FRENCH SOCIALISTS, AND THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS.

"We shall celebrate at the very same hour as you the International Commemoration of the Paris Commune, which shone out on the proletariat of all the world as the sun of hope.

"We send our fraternal greetings to the brave comrades who, taking again in their hands the glorious Chartist movement, struggle with so much energy, and with so much perseverance prepare the proletariat of England for the coming 18th of March of the International Revolution.

"We invite you at the same time to take part in the International Congress which the Socialist Revolutionary Party and the *Chambres Syndicales of France* are preparing for the 14th of July next.

"Vive la Révolution Internationale!"

PAUL LAFARGUE.

THE POLISH SOCIALISTS OF THE GROUP "POBUDKA."

"Citizens,—We join heartily with you in your demonstration to celebrate the anniversary of the Paris Commune.

"To the same extent that the proclamation of the Commune has been the dawning hope for the bettering of the lot of humanity, so much also its fall has been felt as the greatest misfortune that has happened up to the present time.

"The defeat of the Commune in the humiliating treaty of Frankfurt, the enslavement of Alsace and Lorraine for long years to come, the germ of international hatred which paralyses our propaganda for the universal solidarity of all workers; in the disastrous bourgeois republic of France, and the growth of German despotism; it has caused the armed peace, the expenses of which fall on the masses of starving proletarians; and more than all that, it has been followed by the monstrous Franco-Russian alliance, the degradation of all Republican ideals.

"Comrades, Europe makes great strides towards the Revolution. Following the example of their predecessors who struggled for the social and political development of all countries, who fought and perished for the Commune, the Polish revolutionaries will be always found on the spot where the blood of the oppressed flows, shed by the fratricide hand of tyranny. Vive la Revolution Sociale! Vive la Fraternité des peuples! and greetings to all comrades.

"POLANOWSKI."

THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST SOCIETIES OF GHENT, BELGIUM.

"Dear Comrades,—I have been asked to write you a few lines to be read at your manifestation in honour of the Commune of Paris, which I undertake to do, though I feel that I have not the talent necessary for so great a task.

"Can one imagine any nobler tribute to the Commune of Paris than the imposing spectacle of these popular demonstrations which are held at this time throughout the whole world in honour of the Commune? Do not they clearly show that Paris, whilst fighting for its own emancipation, for its right of self-government in reactionary France, was working at the same time for the emancipation of the workers of the whole world?

"On the 18th March we celebrate the glorious event of the proclamation of the Commune with enthusiasm and with hope in the future; and during the bloody week of May we shall shed tears of rage and sorrow over the massacre of so many thousands of victims, over the infamous deeds of the reactionaries.

"We have lived, fought, and suffered with Paris, as to-day we join the fight of the great city and hope with her hopes. But do not, comrades, let to-day's fête make us forget the duties of to-morrow. The union of the forces of Labour should be the rallying cry to attain not only the autonomy of a single city, but the triumph of the Proletariat and the reign of Equality.

"To work, comrades! Do not let the 18th March be only the anniversary of the Commune, but a festival in which the people fraternise, preparing themselves to rally round the same flag and to fight for the same principles.—Fraternal greetings,  
E. ANSELE."

FROM WILLIAM MORRIS.

"Hammersmith, March 16th, 1889, 3 p.m.

"To the Chairman of the Meeting, Commune Celebration.

"Dear Comrade,—I find, to my extreme vexation and disappointment, that I am unable to leave the house this afternoon, being still lame with rheumatism and gout. I should be obliged if you would excuse me to the assembled comrades.

"I need hardly say that I wish the greatest success to the meeting. The efforts of Socialist propaganda during the last few years have had their effect, which is obvious not only in the organisations of men and women definitely professing Socialism, but also on the whole of society: so that it cannot be doubted that there are vast numbers of persons who are preparing for Socialism, and who at the next crisis will be forced into our ranks. Meantime, in this country at least the masters of society are showing their uneasiness in other ways than the familiar one of mere brutal repression, though they are ready for as much of that as they may think necessary. Many schemes are on foot for removing the discontent which our masters are beginning to feel as a burden on them and a threat also; between the preaching of thrift to day-labourers, and the making the world happy by the aggregation of all fiscal burdens into the single tax; from the Charity Organisation Society to Mr. Henry George,—there are many and many idiotic evasions on foot; all of which have for their basis the improvement of the condition of the poor, at their own expense, for the peace and happiness of their masters.

"While the middle classes are beginning to admit the horror of the miserable life of poverty, they refuse to admit the idiocy of the system that causes it. Make the working classes happy—well and good! But are we to pay for it? Now it seems to me that the Commune of Paris was prepared to answer this question with a simple Yes, and that that is the reason why to-day we once more celebrate their defeat as the herald of the victory which is to be, and as a preparation for it. If there were any amongst the defenders of the Commune who did not understand that its ultimate aim, its reason for existence, was the abolition of class society, its enemies at least understood it well—and wrote their endorsement in the blood of 30,000 men slain after their foul and useless victory.

"I say this is why we celebrate year by year the heroic attempt of the Commune of Paris to lay the foundations of a new society. It is because we are engaged in the same struggle; and it is our special business amidst all the chatter and self-gratulation caused by the kind of schemes I have mentioned, to point out to the workers now awakening to a consciousness of their position that masters and slaves cannot be friends, that of necessity what one gains the other loses; that the only ground on which the workers can meet their masters is that on which the latter shall cast down their privilege of mastership; and that no master-class can be persuaded into this, but must be forced into it, either by the threat of force, or, if it must be, by its action; finally, that the workers must prepare this force by learning to understand their position, and by organising themselves into an irresistible power. This every Socialist must do his utmost to forward conscientiously, or he need hardly call himself a Socialist, since he really falls back into the ranks of those who have not learned the principles of action as he has, and who, being ignorant, can only wait for the impulsion of that force, which it is the Socialists' business to help to fashion for the realisation of the Society of Equality.

"With fraternal greetings to all comrades, and with expression of satisfaction that the S. D. F. and the S. L. are again holding this important celebration in common, I am yours,  
WILLIAM MORRIS.

Inspector Forster's anxiety to guard South Place Chapel during the Commune Celebration, on Saturday, with a strong force of his biggest boys in blue, has been a godsend to the illegal robbers, who managed two or three very successful hauls in the neighbourhood of Long Lane and Queen's Square. Needless to say, no one has been caught.—F. K.