

ests is in the city of Baltimore, where it is most expensive to live, and we feel that without some increase of our privileges, so as to give us more time to do extra work, for which, of course, we receive extra pay, that we cannot support our families and educate our children as our pride would prompt us to do. We want to be useful citizens, and we want to discharge our social duties fully to society, as well as to ourselves. We cannot rear and educate our children as we would like to do it, unless we can get more money for our honest labor; and this is the only lawful way, perhaps, in which we can call upon you to assist us in it. The bone and muscle of a people are, at all times, invaluable to a State, and no people can be overworked without showing it in their physiognomy and in their general structure. Whatever frees, while it beautifies and adorns the human body, should, in the habits of a people, become their rule. But whatever frees them the most should also become their religion. It is then, without irreverence, almost a religion with us to demand from our employers, from time to time, and to solicit from the Legislature, protection, in those matters which so nearly concern our lives, our happiness; and our healths, of course. For it is wilful, sinful, outrageous devastation of the soul itself—it is an absolute breaking down of the human spirit—for a man to work too long from day to day in the familiar and, to him, monotonous round in which he has to move, in a business which, perhaps, does not present to his mind one new feature, and which has in it no relief. These things are wearing to the soul itself. Added to this constant round of labor, the laboring man has his financial cares also, as well as the man of millions. It will thus be seen by your Honorable Body that the task of the laboring man's life is not a light one, and that he should be protected from the encroaching exactions of Capital. So we say that these efforts with us for our families, and the respectability in which we may bring our children up—our boys to be honorable and intelligent members of society, and our daughters to be pure and virtuous Christian women, themselves, in turn, the mothers of like children, under the law—we say that to do these things, and to protect our wives and our daughters from the criminally vitiating influences of poverty, and to secure our own health and our manhood at the same time, becomes, with us, a sacred, religious duty, and that we owe these efforts to ourselves and our families. And, without troubling your Body with a longer memorial, we hope that you will, at once, see the necessity for this law, and will, at once, enact it. Capital, itself, will profit by it, because it will secure to its enterprises a much higher degree of fidelity