

Old Glory.*

BY JAMES G. CLARK.

Thou art Freedom's child, Old Glory,
Born of Freedom's high desire,
Nursed amid the battle's ire,
Tried by thunderbolt and fire,
On the field and on the tide
Where our heroes side by side,
Followed thee and fought and died
Gazing on thy stars, Old Glory.

We will stand by thee, Old Glory,
On the lands and on the waves,
For our babes and for our graves,
Though we stand or fall as slaves;
For thy stars are not to blame
For the treason, fraud, and shame
That pollute thy holy name
In our halls of state, Old Glory.

Knaves have stolen thee Old Glory,
For their Babylonian bowers;
From their festal walls and towers
Droops the flag that once was ours;
O'er their crimes thy beauty trails,
And the old-time answer fails
When from chain-gangs, courts, and
jails
Men appeal to thee, Old Glory.

Be our shield once more Old Glory!
Lo! the world in travail pain
Turns and pleads to thee in vain
While through plundered vale and
plain,
Stripped and bruised by licensed
thieves,
Starving, begging for her sheaves,
Outcast Labor tramps and grieves,
With no help from thee, Old Glory.

We will rescue thee, Old Glory!
Bloodless may the process be.
Peaceful as the yearning sea
Anchored to the windless lee,—
But if peace cannot prevail,
Welcome tidal wave and gale,
Welcome lightning flame and hail
Till thy very stars turn pale
In the grander light, Old Glory.

If it must be so, Old Glory—
If blind error smite with force
Truth and justice at their source,
Suns and planets in their course—
Let the earthquake lift the deep,
Let the wild floods wake from sleep,
Let the crouching Terrors leap,
And where God's own toilers reap
We will carry thee, Old Glory.

*Dedicated to Eugene V. Debs and his fellow prisoners.

To the Public and Friends of Labor: Greeting:

Kansas City, Kansas,
June 24, 1896.

In this age of combination of moneyed men into gigantic industrial enterprises for gain, the wage-workers have learned to combine for mutual protection; not to grow rich, for under existing laws and conditions that is simply impossible, but for the purpose of keeping as far as may be from starvation. Ever since the workingmen have begun to organize they have encountered the active opposition of the employing class, and hundreds of men and women have been discharged for no other reason than that they belonged to labor organizations.

About the 17th of May, 1895, there was organized in Kansas City, Kansas, Anchor Federal Labor Union No. 6540. The membership is largely composed of men and women belonging to that class of labor commonly known as unskilled. This union grew with re-

markable rapidity, and it now numbers nearly, if not quite, a membership of seventeen hundred.

On or about the 6th day of May, 1896, the Firemen employed at Armour's Packing House in Kansas City, Kansas, asked for an eight hour day and that they receive 25 cents per hour for their labor. This request was refused by the Armour Packing Corporation. The Firemen refused to work any longer. Their action was endorsed by Anchor Federal Labor Union.

The Armour Packing Company at once began a wholesale discharge and lock-out of the members of Anchor Federal Labor Union. This just and humane company applied for, and was granted by Judges Foster and Phillipps, an injunction to prevent a boycott being placed upon the products by the labor organizations.

Our most patient effort has been unsuccessful in getting our people who were discharged because they belonged to Anchor Federal Labor Union restored to their places.

The Armour Company, through its officers, have informed us that they will never take back the watchmen and firemen and others who have been discharged because of their connection with the Union.

We claim that the Armour corporation is the enemy of organized labor and that it is trying to disorganize and break up Anchor Federal Labor Union.

Men and women were told that if they would leave their union they could have steady employment; when they refused to leave the union they were discharged.

Mr. Tourtelotte, Superintendent of the Armour Company, told us that the men and women of Anchor Federal Labor Union who had been discharged needed punishing for the way they had acted.

Think of this, Americans! This hireling of the money power arrogates to himself the prerogative of punishing honest men and women because they will not submit to become complete slaves. We are quite sure that any fair-minded person will admit that the Armour corporation is pursuing a particularly virulent course toward the members of Anchor Federal Labor Union.

Americans, countrymen! The courts have ordered that we cannot declare a boycott against this greedy and unfair monopoly, known as the Armour Packing Company. Still we have given you a plain statement of the trouble and we ex-

pect you to act as your sense of justice and right shall dictate.

The only weapon that we have at the present time is that of the boycott, and we deny the right of any court to deprive us the use of that weapon, because no one has the right to take from us the means of self preservation.

Anchor Federal Labor Union, at a regular meeting held June 13, 1896, adopted the following:

Whereas, The Armour Packing company has discharged certain foremen and watchmen and others because they belong to this union; and

Whereas, This corporation declares that said foremen and watchmen will never be re-employed by said corporation; and

Whereas, This action by said company is a continuous boycott; be it therefore

Resolved, that we treat the Armour Packing corporation accordingly, and we hereby ask the American people to help us in this matter.

The action of Anchor Federal Labor Union has been endorsed by the Trades Assembly of Kansas City, Kansas.

Those who desire to help us will know what to do, without any further advice from us. We don't ask you to throw the "tea" overboard, like our forefathers did; but there are others than the Armour Company offering to sell you meat, lard, etc., and, no doubt, of just as good, if not better quality. "He who would be free must strike the blow."

The firemen went back to work with the understanding that they should have an eight hour day, and that all of the members of Anchor Federal Labor Union should be reinstated; this has not been done, and all of the Union Firemen have again left the employ of the Armour Packing Company and are now "out."

When the Armour Packing Company has done the fair thing by members of our unions we will take great pleasure in informing the public of that fact.

Signed,
 CHARLES W. MARSH,
 PAUL THIELAN,
 WM. H. GRAY,
 WALTER MARTIN,
 JOHN DALY. } Committee of
 Anchor Labor
 Union No.
 6540.
 BENTON HARTFORD,
 EDW. MCSPARREN,
 ROBERT SCOTT,
 JOHN MCCORMICK,
 THOS. MCKRIETT,
 WM. CAROON,
 JAMES BAILEY,
 [SEAL.] } Committee
 of Firemen's
 Union
 No. 6406.