

THE PARIS COMMUNE.

BROTHER WORKINGMEN,—Just fifteen years ago Paris was plunged in the deepest grief. The Government had caused 35,000 of the citizens to be murdered in cold blood, and for what crime? Because the people of Paris hated despotism. They had tolerated the Third Empire for twenty years, and when it had fallen in the defeat at Sedan, they exulted in having, even at the price of overwhelming disaster, established their Republic—that is, the Government of the People by the People, with "Liberty, Equality and Fraternity" for its motto, and for its object the well-being and security of all. But the mass of the People did not understand how easy it was to deceive them by putting before them a mere change in the form of Government as the ultimate aim of their efforts.

The People of Paris were, however, quickly undeceived. The enemies of freedom of every party joined hands for the restoration of the monarchy. Against them rose all the citizens on March 18th, 1871, and the greatest revolution of modern times began. For three months the Commune of Paris, the Government of the Workers, held the force of the Versailles Monarchists at bay.

Then for the first time the workers proclaimed as their programme the conversion of the instruments of labour into collective property, to be used for the common good, so that those who toil shall receive the fruit of their labour without being robbed by those who live upon the labour of others. After three months of titanic struggle and superhuman efforts, the Commune fell, and its enemies celebrated their victory by the massacre of 35,000 victims.

From that time onwards the glad tidings of Socialism has spread far and wide, and every year its supporters meet in the cemetery of Père la Chaise to commemorate the death of the men and women who fought and fell in defence of the Commune.

We desire also to meet that we may not only do honor to the heroes, but learn a lesson from their life and from their death. It cannot be merely a question of names and signs for which men will fight and die as these have done. Come, then, and help us to find, if it was not something desirable, real and living, towards which they strove, and to see, if it may not be that we also shall find it worth while to work and fight even as they—

"For the Freedom of the People
And the Brotherhood of Man!"

Socialists and the Commune!

THE
ANNUAL CELEBRATION
OF THE
COMMUNE OF PARIS

WILL BE HELD AT
SOUTH PLACE CHAPEL, Finsbury,
(close to Moorgate Street Station)

ON
THURSDAY, MARCH 18th, at 8 p.m.,

when Speeches will be delivered in several Languages by Representatives of the following Societies:—

Socialist League. Social Democratic Federation.
International Working Men's Clubs.
Cercle Révolutionnaire Français.
International Working Men's Educational Club.
Deutscher City Club. Communistischer Verein.
And several others.

Music & Singing by the International Choirs.

Doors open at 7.30. Admission Free!

Wage Workers of the World, Unite!

Office DEPOT.