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## The Future is Bright (September 2, 1899)

Those who read aright the signs of the times are not discouraged because of delays in accomplishment of great undertakings in matters pertaining to human advancement. A great wrong, however remote its antiquity, cannot survive the ceaseless attacks of the right. Truth, justice, and right, since the time when the morning and the evening announced one day complete in the building of the universe, have formed a holy alliance, and the compact is as vital today as when humanity began, and in no voice of nature, from the rippling laughter of brooks to the thunderings of cataracts, from the melodies of birds to the music of the spheres, from the lullaby accents of the zephyr to the wrathful tones of the tornado, has there ever been recorded a sound in justification of error.

It is only as men reckon time that the advance of truth appears tardy. The sublimating process by which the nations of the earth, with grand acclaim, are to acknowledge and practice right and justice, are apparently slow in their operation, but the work is going steadily forward. There has been no century that the life of some man did not witness its beginning and close — hence, the lives of four men have encompassed all the years since Columbus discovered a new world, and the lives of 19 men since the day that Christ was born.

Such reflections may serve to inculcate lessons of patience and give assurance that in due time the right is to be enthroned, that ignorance and superstition are to disappear, and that men, everywhere, disenthralled and emancipated, are to be crowned sovereigns by inherent and, therefore, divine right.

Intellectual development — mind culture — which enables the masses to grasp ideas possessed by lifting power, is one of the signs which betoken the triumph of the right, the coming day when Truth will be coronated the presiding genius, the controlling and governing power of the world.

What are the signs to those who look abroad for indications which presage man's emancipation from capitalization? Do men now, as in the faraway past, accept the lash uncomplainingly? Do they crawl with their faces in the dust as in the days of the Pharaohs? Do they now regard their

oppressors as divinities ordained of heaven to rule? The answer comes back like an electric flash from its cloud — No! The sublime truth that all men are created equal is germinating in millions of brains and its vitalizing roots are taking strong hold upon heart and soul. It is irrigated with blood and tears, but it is growing. Men are feeling its power. They are looking up and they are demanding emancipation, enfranchisement, citizenship. Rulers are seeking to perpetuate the bondage of the working class but the decree of socialism has gone forth and kings and thrones and crowns and scepters of every form are to disappear. The ruling class is to give place to the ruling mass, and the acknowledgement of the sovereignty of all will be the sublimest triumph in human history.

In the grand march of socialism there are indications of triumphs in the near future which refresh like the shower and cheer like the sunshine. In the Social Democratic Party a vast body of practical men and women are laboring for practical results and, inspired by courage, born of perfect faith in their cause, they are moving forward to certain and glorious victory.

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