

CHAPTER VIII

IN THE DEPTHS

The Last Stand of the Toilers—Unreachable Poverty—
Uncharitable "Organisation"—Martyrs to Mammon—
Gruesome Government Report on Starvation—
The Workhouse "System."

We have among us "the curse of work"—sweating;—and the "curse of no work"—unemployment. It is difficult to say which is the more miserable state of the two. In the one case, human beings—men, women, little children—are driven to seek their daily bread, not only by the sweat of their brows, but by the pouring out of their very life blood. Among those industrial slaves who toil under the terrible curse of work, are victims who remain at their hopeless tasks until, like the poor "Warehouse Martyr" of Poplar, death brings emancipation. Among those who face the miseries of the "curse of no work" we have thousands of good, honest, sober, industrious, skilful, provident, enterprising men; absolutely unable to find any sort