

# THE STANDARD

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## GAGGING THE PRESS.

Archbishop Corrigan Sends a Threatening Letter to the Catholic "Herald."

The following interesting and characteristic document by a strange series of accidents, unnecessary to describe, came into our hands. Its publication will surprise no one more than the gentlemen to whom it is addressed. We do not feel bound by the obligation of secrecy which the writer seeks to impose on those gentlemen. We sincerely hope that he will not excommunicate the editor and the proprietor of the Catholic Herald for our publication of the letter, and we hardly think he will deem it worth his while to excommunicate us:

432 MADISON AVENUE,  
NEW YORK, April 13, 1887.

To the Editor and Proprietor of the Catholic Herald:

GENTLEMEN—By this note, which is entirely private and not to be published, I wish to call your attention to the fact that the third plenary council of Baltimore, following the leadership of Pope Leo XIII, has pointed out the duties of the Catholic press, and denounced the abuses of which journals styling themselves Catholic are sometimes guilty. "That paper alone," says the council (decree No. 238), "is to be regarded as Catholic that is prepared to submit in all things to ecclesiastical authority." Later on it warns all Catholic writers against presuming to attack publicly the manner in which a bishop rules his diocese, affirming that those who so presume, as well as their approvers and abettors, are not only guilty of very grievous scandals, but deserve, moreover, to be dealt with by canonical censures.

For some time past the utterances of the Catholic Herald have been shockingly scandalous. As this newspaper is published in this diocese, I hereby warn you that if you continue in this course of conduct it will be at your peril. I am, gentlemen,

Yours truly,

M. A. CORRIGAN,  
Archbishop of New York.

## THE SHOEMAKER'S FIELD.

In the days when New York was regarded as a walled city and its whole population was crowded on the southern point of Manhattan island, certain sanitary reformers objected to the continuance within the city limits of the tan pits maintained by a number of shoemakers in the old swamp, which then lay on both sides of what is now Broad street. The result was that the shoemakers were driven to seek a new location beyond the city walls, and in a marshy valley along Maiden's path, now known as Maiden lane, they obtained some sixteen acres of land, on which they established tan pits, it being the custom at that time for cordwainers or shoemakers to tan their own leather. It appears that the original owners of the land were Conrad Ten Eyck, Jacob Abrahams, John Harpending (or Harberdinck) and Carsten Lueresen. There is some confusion as to these names in the early annals, for at the time of the division of the property in 1696 it appears that the owners were John Harberdinck, Heitje Clopper (described as the widow of one of the original grantees), Charles Lodwick (described as a merchant who had in the year 1694 bought the interest of Hendrick Ten Eyck), Abraham Santvoort (apparently the same man called Jacob Abrahams in the earlier account) and Carsten Lueresen.

In 1696 a deed of partition, accompanied by a map, was made and filed, by which it appeared that John Harberdinck (so he signed his name to his will), became the owner of certain lots indicated by shading on the accompanying reproduction of the old map, and also of all the lots on Broadway not included in the shading, now the property of various individuals. This John Harberdinck, or Harpendinck, who was also called John Harpending, speaks of himself in his will as a cordwainer and also as a merchant. He is described as "an aged, excellent and influential member of the church, who frequently officiated as elder and deacon." He was married in this city in 1667, shortly after the transfer of the colony from the Dutch to the English, and he died in 1722 at an advanced age, leaving no children. By a will dated April 22, 1722, John Harberdinck, after giving a number of specific legacies to certain relatives of his own in Holland and also to certain relatives and connections in this country, made the following bequest:

"I, the said John Harberdinck, do hereby give, devise and bequeath unto the said minister, elders and deacons of the Reformed Protestant Dutch church of the city of New York, and their successors forever all that my testator's right, fifth interest and property to an equal fifth part, share and proportion of all that tract or parcel of land situate, lying and being upon Manhattan island, within the city of New York, called or known by the name of Shoemaker's field, or lane, on the north-east side of Maiden lane or path which leads into a certain street called Queen's street; the which said tract or parcel of land contains, by estimation, about sixteen acres, and by mutual consent, agreement and approbation of all the proprietors or part owners therein concerned some years past was surveyed and laid out into one hundred and sixty-four lots, with convenient streets and lanes to accommodate the same, as may fully and amply appear by a certain instrument of inclosure . . . by which . . . it is declared that John Harberdinck's property share in the said one hundred and sixty-four lots shall be and consist in five and thirty lots, . . . together with four other lots or pieces of ground more out of the five lots mentioned," lying on Broad-

way. All of this property, owned by him at

that time, indicated on the accompanying map by shaded lines, he devised to the ministers, elders and deacons of the church, and to their successors forever, "immediately after the death and decease of my wife, Mayken Harberdinck, and only for the proper use, benefit and behoof, and for the payment and satisfying of the yearly stipend, salary and maintenance of the respective minister or ministers which from time to time and at all times hereafter shall be duly and legally called to the ministry of said church, and to no other use whatsoever. . . . Provided always that it shall not be within the power of the said lawful ministers, elders and deacons, . . . nor in the power of any other person or persons whatsoever hereafter, to make sale, dispose or alienate any part of the said lands and premises, nor any of the profits, benefits, revenues or advantages arising out of the same to any other use or uses whatsoever, but that the same shall be forever and remain to the only proper use, benefit and behoof as above is recited, declared and expressed."

The property thus bequeathed is, as a glance at the map will show, in the very heart of the business portion of lower New York, and it has been the source of the magnificent revenue of the Collegiate Dutch church, the history of which was given in last week's STANDARD. A liberal construction of the terms of the will would appear to forbid any application of the funds derived from the estate to any other purpose than the payment of ministers' salaries, and were the fund thus applied the revenue now probably would be sufficient to provide for the support of a hundred Christian ministers in as many parts of the city.

The Reformed Protestant Dutch church of the city of New York was incorporated by letters patent under the great seal of the colony of New York, May 11, 1696, by which the church was then erected and certain lands were granted and confirmed to the corporation, and it was authorized to purchase and hold other lands not exceeding a yearly value of \$200. More than half a century ago it became evident to the casual observer that the church was deriving a revenue vastly beyond \$200 a year from its property on the old shoemaker's field, and one Van Kleeck, a descendant of one of the residuary legatees under John Harberdinck's will, came forward to question the right of the church to its rich heritage. He demanded that it should be compelled to declare the title by which it claimed to hold these lands, and that it should make an exhibit of its accounts so as to show the sources and extent of its income. The applicant showed that after his bequest to the church John Harberdinck gave the remainder of his estate to his wife, Mayken Harberdinck, for her life, and after her, to various parties, one-fourth of it going to the children of Baltus Van Kleeck, through whom the plaintiff claimed. He further claimed that even if the land described in the deed of partition was legally the property of the church that a certain undivided piece of land between Fulton and John, Nassau and William streets, marked in the map as a vacant lot and declared in the said deed to be still held by the original owners in common, was not included in the bequest to the church.

The case was vigorously contested by able lawyers on both sides, and it reached the court of appeals in 1838. Van Kleeck declared his belief that the lands held by the church at the filing of his affidavit yielded a yearly income of \$30,000, and he complained that the officers of the corporation had refused to be sworn. The church apparently made no attempt to defend its legal title to the land in question on any other ground than that of possession. It simply denied that Van Kleeck

had any claim to it under the will, and insisted that he could not compel the church corporation to make any disclosure of its title or render any statement of its affairs. The question practically narrowed itself down to this: Admitting that the church has no legal right to these lands, to whom do they fall, the residuary legatee or the heir at law? This was the question argued before the court of appeals, and the final decision of the majority was that the residuary legatees had no claim whatever to the property under the will, and that, therefore, Van Kleeck had no standing in court and was not entitled to compel any disclosure on the part of the trustees.

Chief Justice Nelson read the opinion, and he said: "It is admitted, for the purpose of this decision, that the devise to the church is void, that body being incapable, as the law stood at the time, of taking or holding real property by devise. The question is, 'Does the property go to the residuary devisees?' The decision of the court was that, on the contrary, the testator especially excluded them from the property devised, and that the only claimant entitled to dispute the title of the church is the heir at law. Justice Cowan, in a dissenting opinion, said: 'Were it necessary to consider the question in respect to the exception of bodies corporate in the statute of devises of Henry VIII the point would not be so clear. This country was, except in the greater amount of unseated land, as much open to the evil of corporate perpetuities, especially those of ecclesiastical concoction, as the country from which we immediately derive our blood, our habits, our laws and our religion. The church has in all ages had agents whose mistaken zeal was ready to turn the dying fears of testators to the purposes of pious testamentary donations. The question, therefore, lay between depriving it of corporate powers altogether or restricting its power of taking by devise, and the latter was adopted. It is a policy, in fact, to this day common both to the English statutes and to our own.'"

The statute of devises of Henry VIII alluded to by Justice Cowan is claimed by some to be a part of the law of the land in this country, because it was in force at the time of our separation from England and has never been specifically repealed. It was only one of many statutes enacted from time to time in England to guard against the very abuse referred to by Justice Cowan. Such a devise of land to any body politic, ecclesiastical or lay, was forbidden by statute of Edward I, and the lord of the fee was authorized to take possession of such lands, and in his default it was enacted that such lands should go to the king. In the course of time this provision was extended to all lands purchased for the use of guilds, fraternities and so on. When testamentary power over freehold lands was granted during the reign of Henry VIII, bodies politic and corporate were especially excluded from the benefit of the statute. It is greatly to be regretted that a similar jealousy against surrendering the control of land to an undying corporation in perpetuity has not characterized legislation and legal rulings in the United States. It may, however, turn out in the end that such abuses have grown up, particularly in this city, will serve a useful purpose of recalling to men's minds the ancient doctrine and usage which makes the sovereign—that is, in this country, the people—sole owner of the soil. When such a principle comes to be recognized we shall have an end of the doctrine of adverse possession by which the Dutch Reformed and Trinity churches claim and exercise the power to levy enormous taxes for corporate benefit on the land of this island. Then, in the case of a void bequest, like that of John Harberdinck, to a corporation forbidden by law to

receive such a bequest, where no man having any legal right as a tenant appears, the paramount lords of the soil, the people, will be awarded the land, the right to possess which is in dispute.

The Reformed Protestant Dutch church of New York possesses a fifth of the old shoemaker's field by a title that cannot be defended on moral grounds. It puts the revenue from that property, as has been shown in a previous paper, to no public use. It uses its funds to pay aristocratic preachers for ministering in costly churches, built from the revenue of the estate, to rich and fashionable congregations abundantly supplied with churches for themselves and to pay for such preaching as suits them. The exact income thus derived and spent it is not possible to state. That it is very great is however beyond dispute. Estimates as to the income derived by the church from the shoemaker's field property vary from \$125,000 to \$150,000 a year. In a few instances we have definite facts. The lot having a twenty foot front on Broadway and running one hundred and sixty-two feet ten inches along John street, and indicated on the map, is in some respects undesirable, because the straightening of John street since the original plot was made has greatly narrowed its Broadway front. On May 1, 1886, this lot was leased to Austin Corbin for twenty-one years at \$18,000, it being a part of the bargain that Mr. Corbin should within three years erect thereon a brick and stone building to cost at least \$200,000. At the end of the twenty-one years, according to the lease, the annual rental value of the ground and the value of the building are to be fixed by arbitrators, and the church may choose whether it will buy the building at the appraised value or renew the lease at the rent thus fixed.

Another lot at Broadway and Fulton street, now occupied by the Evening Post building, was leased to William E. Fleming, George Roll, John Belger and Charles L. Fleming in May, 1865, for twenty-one years at \$19,000 a year on condition that the tenants should erect a building thereon worth at least \$50,000. Between the lot thus leased and Fulton street there was a strip four feet eleven inches in width, running the whole length of the lot. Fleming and others transferred their lease to William Cullen Bryant and Isaac Henderson on Feb. 27, 1873, and Mr. Bryant transferred his interest to Mr. Henderson on the first of May following. Henderson had, in some way, acquired possession of the narrow strip on Fulton street, and he sold it to the church for \$120,000, and the church thereupon leased the whole lot thus enlarged to Henderson for sixty-three years from May 1, 1874, at \$31,000 a year for the first twenty-one years, \$35,000 a year for the second twenty-one years, and at not less than \$35,000 a year for the third twenty-one years. Mr. Henderson thereupon built the present Evening Post building on the lot. Adding to this \$31,000 the \$18,000 paid by Austin Corbin, it appears that the church receives \$49,000 a year in ground rent from its two Broadway lots. It is difficult to estimate its exact receipts from the remaining lots. Four and a half lots appearing on the original plan have since been subdivided into ten lots, yielding the estate \$14,000 a year, which would be at the rate of \$3,111 for each of the original lots. A lot on William street having a front of 40 feet and a depth of 96 feet, which rented in 1845 for \$1,080, was leased again last May for \$1,900. A lot fronting on John street 25 feet, leased in 1865 for \$700, was again leased last year at \$1,100 a year. This is one of the smallest lots on the tract, and doubtless represents the minimum rent. It would be a moderate estimate to put the average rent of each lot at \$3,000 a year, or \$70,000 for the

whole 35. Adding to this the \$49,000 received for the two Broadway lots, we have a total income for the church of \$119,000 a year from the fifth part of the old swamp granted to the five shoemakers for their tan vats. This calculation leaves out the interest of the church in what was formerly the undivided vacant lot shown on the map, which is now thickly built up. Allowing but \$8,000 for this, the annual income is brought up to \$127,000 a year.

This, however, is not the whole revenue of the corporation. The lot on which the old postoffice stood was not a part of the Harberdinck bequest and it was alienable. The church sold it to the federal government for \$200,000. It probably sold the site of the old Garden street church and invested the money. The consistory purchased the site of the Lafayette street church when land was cheap in that neighborhood, and now that building has been torn down to make way for a large building for manufacturing purposes on its site which has already been rented in advance of its erection at \$12,500 a year. This shows that the income of the estate is growing more rapidly than the consistory can spend it, so that, if no change be made, it will fifty years hence be another one of the rich corporations authorized by absurd laws to levy an enormous land tax on the business people of New York to raise funds for no useful purpose whatever.

But old John Harberdinck only bequeathed a fifth part of the shoemakers' field to the Dutch church. The other four-fifths of the property passed to private persons, whose heirs or assigns have from that time to the present derived proportionately as great an income from the estate as has the Dutch church. Leaving the Broadway property out of the calculation we find that the church is drawing at least \$73,000 a year in ground rent from its other lots. The total rent then obtained by all the owners from that portion of the old field is \$365,000 a year. That is to say, a number of land owners are permitted by law to levy a tax of \$1,000 a day on the limited number of people doing business on that small spot.

But though recent maps leave out the Broadway lots in indicating the Shoemaker's field, there appears to be no reason for doing so. Broadway is given in the old maps as the western boundary of the tract. The original deed of partition, as recorded in the register's office, distinctly mentions all of the Broadway lots as included in the sixteen acres and assigns them to John Harberdinck. They extended along Broadway from Maiden lane a sufficient distance beyond Fulton street to include the Knox building. The two lots bequeathed to the church do not include a tenth part of the Broadway front. The remainder of it, though now owned by various individuals, must be taken into account in making any estimate of the appreciation of this property in value. The tenth part owned by the church we have found is rented for \$49,000 a year. It is a moderate estimate to put down all of these lots as yielding a ground rent of ten times that, or \$490,000. Add to this the \$365,000 annual rent for property off of Broadway, and we have a total rental of \$855,000 a year derived from this old field. To this must be added the taxes paid by tenants, which, as the buildings are included in the valuation, must yield nearly half as much more. It thus appears that private parties and the city together can obtain over a million dollars a year for permitting a comparatively small number of people to use for business purposes sixteen acres of this island between Ann street and Maiden lane.

The fact that the buildings are included in the present assessment does not militate against this statement, for recent sales have shown that the assessment does not cover

more than half of the value of both building and land at auction sale, and the land is almost invariably worth more than the building. Mr. Corbin agrees, for instance, to put up a building to cost \$200,000 on the lot at Broadway and John street. The interest on this at six per cent is \$12,000, while he contracts to pay \$18,000 a year rent, supposable five per cent on the value of the land. It is entirely safe, then, to assume that the present assessment on houses and lots does not reach an amount equal to the selling value of the land alone.

Taking the revenues of the Randall farm as a basis for calculation, it was recently shown that by a tax levied exclusively on land values the municipality of New York could easily raise a revenue of \$100,000,000 a year without increasing the burden now laid upon the people, by rents paid to private owners and taxes directly or indirectly paid to the city. Randall's farm embraced twenty-one acres, thus covering the one hundred and eighty-sixth part of this island below Forty-second street, a portion of the city which at the time of the last census still held two-thirds of our whole population. The shoemaker's field, which is easily capable of bearing a tax of \$1,000,000 a year on land values, contains but sixteen acres, or the two hundred and fortieth part of the territory below Forty-second street. Taking it as a basis it would appear that a revenue of \$240,000,000 annually could be obtained. Such a calculation would, however, be misleading, for unquestionably the rental value of this land is above the average for the territory named. These figures, nevertheless, go to show the moderation of the calculations based on actual results in a portion of the city occupied for both business and residential purposes, and where neither stores nor residences yield rents so high as are paid in other parts of the city.

Neither of the estates described in these articles was selected on account of any special knowledge of its revenues. It is unquestionably the design of all those who control such pieces of property to conceal the facts concerning them. The Sailors' Snug Harbor is compelled by law to make some kind of a report to the city. The one it makes is blind and confusing enough, but it suffices to give at least a basis for calculating annual rents and for making a safe estimate of the steady and enormous increase in land values. In the case of the shoemaker's field the results are even more startling. Less than two centuries ago this property was a vacant swamp outside the city limits, to be had almost for the asking; fifty years ago it was a prize well worth struggling for in the courts; to-day it is yielding in ground rent and taxes a sum amounting to a million dollars a year. Let us suppose for a moment that the city had retained in its possession this and the adjacent property. Such a course would not have prevented its improvement. That fifth part of the property conveyed to the Collegiate church by John Harberdinck's invalid will is as thoroughly improved as the portions divided up among individuals. At least one contract to erect a building costing \$200,000 on one of these lots has been made by a shrewd business man within a few years. The conditions arising from practical public ownership would have given a more secure tenure than the twenty-one years' lease taken by Austin Corbin for the lot at the corner of Broadway and John street. In the other case the builder would have had a guarantee of perpetual possession, provided he continued to pay a tax no greater than that he will pay to the Collegiate church and the city combined. The municipality would have had, however, the benefit of the vast sums now paid to private individuals for the privilege of occupying this ground. It could, without encountering any enormous expense, have widened John, Fulton, Nassau, Ann and other streets. It could have covered these and all other streets with perfect pavements, erected public buildings wherever they were needed, instead of paying heavy rents to individuals as it now does, and such a great public improvement as the Brooklyn bridge could have been readily built out of the annual surplus without placing a mortgage on the industry and enterprise of the future in the shape of a public debt.

It must be plain to the dullest comprehension that all of this would have been easily possible had the citizens asserted the doctrine of the land for the people while the municipality was still possessed of vast tracts of common land on this island. The past is irrevocable, but the future is in our own hands. The increase in land values continues at an accelerated pace, and it will be vastly greater during the coming century than it has been during the past two hundred years. The question is, shall this generation go on repeating the blunders of the past, or will it, even at this late day, secure to the people the values that their mere presence on this island creates. This is the issue of present politics that dwarfs all others into insignificance, and no one who comprehends all that such a change assures can have any hesitation in giving his best energies to assist in bringing it about. Happily the workmen, whose wits have never been befogged by a false system of political economy, who have personally experienced the abomination of overcrowding, while they see thousands of acres lying unused and vacant within the city limits, have found and declared the truth; but the reform that they purpose will not benefit only those technically called workmen. Every renter in this city has an equal interest in bringing about a change that will multiply homes, cheapen the rent of dwellings, promote building and other industries, and which, though it may not lower the ground rents of business places, will divert those rents from private pockets to the municipal treasury to be used in works of public utility for the common benefit. Let the retail storekeepers, especially, think what it would mean to them to have established a system that would set an army of men to work in building up the waste places of New York, and thus give an impulse to every trade in the city.



## GOING INTO BUSINESS.

## HOW THE APOTHECARIES OF NEW YORK ARE SITUATED.

**Some Interesting Facts From a Veteran Observer in the Business—What Retailers Say—What Can Be Expected For the Average Druggist's Clerk.**

A member of THE STANDARD staff lately obtained the following interview with a gentleman whose relations with the drug trade of New York enable him to speak as an authority.

**Reporter**—Would you please give me a general description of the druggists' business in this city to-day as compared with what it was, say, half a century ago, or before the changes took place in the trade and business of the country, which have marked the last twenty-five years especially?

**Druggist**—I have known the city but thirty-eight years, and can state my experience for that time only.

**R**—How many retail drug stores are there in the city?

**D**—I should say between 700 and 800. Let me see; here is the business directory—120 names to a page—five pages and a half of druggists' names—600 in the directory. Thirty years ago there were about 400. The increase has been about the same as the increase in population; a little larger, I should say.

**R**—Has competition remained about the same?

**D**—Competition is felt much worse, especially in the last ten years. A great deal of it is caused by the large general stores opening fancy goods counters and taking the sales from druggists. As a matter of fact, that feature dates from the day when Macy & Co. put Cashmere bouquets soap on sale at a cut-rate price.

**R**—Are sales also affected by the druggists who advertise low rates?

**D**—There are in the trade what we call "cutters." The majority of such dealers are, in my opinion, not equal in character as business men to the others. They are, of course, financially a detriment to the rest.

**R**—As to rents?

**D**—Rents increase more rapidly than business. Rents are short from one to five years, the latter term being the exception.

**R**—Are there openings offering for young clerks to begin business for themselves?

**D**—Business openings for men having the capital and competent to manage places for themselves are very few.

**R**—What is the range of salaries?

**D**—They rarely, very rarely, exceed \$1,200 a year. They may average \$800—that is, for graduates of a college of pharmacy. According to law, a pharmacy clerk must have four years' experience, and of course must be a man of some education.

**R**—Do manufacturers and wholesale dealers own retail stores?

**D**—They do not, as a rule, start them as an enterprise. Retailers occasionally fall so deeply into debt to those supplying them with goods that a mortgage is taken on the store. When this occurs it is usually in the case of a beginner whose sales have not been profitable enough to enable him to meet his notes.

**R**—What capital is required to set up a drug business?

**D**—To stock a store, pay for the fixtures and wait a reasonable time for business to come to a new stand a druggist must command from \$5,000 to \$8,000. Thirty years ago one-half was sufficient. The opening for druggists is generally in a newly built locality.

**R**—How many profits does a consumer pay?

**D**—Three. The manufacturer's, the wholesale dealer's and the retailer's.

**R**—Do the wholesale houses increase in number?

**D**—No.

**R**—What proportion of retail druggists own the buildings in which they have their stores?

**D**—Very few, I should say. But that is partly owing to the fact that the capital can be better utilized in business than in real estate.

This ended the interview. Several retail druggists substantiated most of the statements and opinions of the gentleman as given above, dwelling especially on the facts relating to competition, and rent. One of them took up the question of a druggist placing his capital in a drug store rather than in real estate. That, he said, could be readily explained. As a matter of fact, but few retail druggists had capital sufficient to become investors in real estate. The capital going into a store was in general partly a man's own, partly borrowed money, and partly goods held on commission or on credit from wholesale houses.

Besides, investing in a retail store, a working druggist employed himself as well as the capital he handled. There was bitter complaint, he knew, among many retail druggists at the increase of rent made by their landlords in proportion to their ability to pay it. The druggist took the risks, did the work, exercised his ingenuity in drumming up a custom, and then delivered over to his landlord a large percentage of the profits of it all. There was a popular notion that the profits in the apothecary's trade were enormous. He heard it said lately that they were five hundred per cent—a cent's worth of salt or flour selling at five cents. How much was there, he would ask, in fancy goods and soaps, since such articles were sold at a shade above wholesale prices at the great stores. How much on postage stamps and many of the trifles that women buy? On subscription sales, should not a man who has spent years in obtaining the knowledge of preparing prescriptions, and paid for his tuition, receive compensation for this time and money? He put up a prescription and charged, say, fifty cents for it. The materials cost, say, twelve cents. And the wise observer standing on the wayside would say he had made several hundred per cent. On the corner across the street was a man behind a bar selling whisky. What cost at wholesale ten cents that man sold for fifty, and the time and money he put into his education were very little indeed. The druggist's five hundred per cent came seldom; the liquor dealer's was with nearly every sale. But the liquor dealer's landlord found a way to reduce his income, and other nearby liquor dealers reduced the number of his customers. The same circumstances, he observed, affected the occupation of selling in whatever line it might be. New dealers push in and cut business to pieces, and landlords increase the rents.

And so, reader, we have obtained some knowledge of the conditions that environ the drug business. We have seen that the retailing community is hampered by excessive competition, exorbitant rent and adventurous "cutters." His clerks are bound to keep up the appearances that manifest themselves in "respectable" clothes and clean boarding houses on incomes only a trifle above that of the driver of a street car. The best of clerks, with a little capital, hesitates before going into business for himself. Neither dealer nor clerk can see a much improved condition ahead of him as a reward for long hours, obliging manners to customers, a college education, and a constant study of public wants.

Well, what is the point to be made? Where shall we stop in our inferences? Shall we end with this? "The drug business is a poor one."

for a clerk and not a very good one for an ambitious man with some capital, and to solve to flow away in our minds this result of our examination, so that we may advise people to try rather some other occupation? And shall we also hug once more the precious old platitudes which tell us that every imaginable business has its sunny side, and that all conditions in life have their tribulations? Or shall we go on and accept the profoundly scientific facts that out of every one hundred business men ninety-six are sure to fail some time, that the returns to capital and labor must on the average be about the same among purveyors of drugs as in other professions, or men would not become druggists, and that nowhere in the world are people better off than in America?

It might be comically illogical to suggest that the labor question had any connection with the profession of the pharmacist. It might be ludicrous to attempt to prove that land monopoly and the small incomes of the proprietors of drug stores had any relation. We must be careful lest our conclusions are carried too far.

## THE VIEWS OF A MAN OF WEALTH.

## He Speaks of the Dark Prospects for Poor Young Men.

A gentleman who stands at the head of a large manufacturing business spent an hour the other day in giving his views on the social question to a STANDARD writer. He said, by way of introduction, that he began life poor, had worked hard and had accumulated wealth. When he started in business the old methods prevailed. The railroad system of the country was far from complete, and the manufacturers sold their goods in smaller areas than they do now. Combinations of manufacturers were unknown. There was competition, but it was not felt with a tenth part of the force that it is now. The country was being developed rapidly, business was taking on new forms, and the demand for capital and enterprise was felt in nearly every community. He himself had come to New York at an opportune time, he had found an opening in business, and later, believing that he saw necessity for a change in the methods of carrying on the line of manufacture and selling in which he was engaged, he made a venture and reaped great success. While he could safely claim some of the qualities necessary to a business man—such as close attention to his affairs, moderation in living expenses and the like—he would not assume that he had powers not possessed by many young men in business to-day. Nor would he presume upon his own success to lecture the youth of this generation as to what course they should follow in order to imitate his success. He knew well enough that conditions had changed. To-day no man could set up in the business in which he, the speaker, was engaged without investing a fortune in it and being prepared to encounter a systematic opposition by those already in it. The mechanic working at a shop in the shops must remain there, the rare accident of fortune excepted. The farmer must expect to be a clerk, only a few gradations of promotion being open to him. Employees of any class were paid wages or salaries adjusted by the competition of the wage market. This was not enough; it was not what the world could yield in the way of a living, and it would not satisfy men as citizens of a republic and as intelligent men living in an age like the present. There would be demands upon the laborer, the employee, the clerk, the would-be statesman who were trying to make it seem that conditions as they are right and just and changeless. The labor unions and the new political party were feeling their way to new and better conditions, and they were right in doing so. He knew men in the circle of his acquaintance who felt as he did. He saw many bright young men about him, and he often wondered what was to become of them. He could not see anything in the future for them further than possible upward large firms or corporations, and such positions merely afforded a life of toil without, generally, the hope of a competence. A return to the day of little stores and factories was as impossible as a return to the time when there were no pools of manufacturers. The age of monopoly in many forms is here and the question is who shall be the monopolists, a few capitalists or all the people? The great concerns like the Standard Oil company could sell their products at lower prices than the markets had ever before quoted, but low prices were not the only point in which the public was interested. Doubtless, as consumers of manufactured goods, people are now better off than they were a generation ago, but opportunities for work are far less and prospects for a successful career in business are worse. The speaker said that he had viewed co-operation as the remedy to a better state of things, but as time passed on and brought its testimony in relation to a solution of the great problem he was inclined to look upon Henry George's plan favorably. From time to time he saw its applications in a new light, and he was watching the progress of the land doctrines with a lively interest. The Standard Oil company, he regarded as the leading paper of its kind in the country, and he saw that the new political forces were clustering about the banner that is upheld by the men demanding equal rights in the bounties of nature.

## FROM A MAN WHO THINKS.

## He Does Not Believe Everything the Daily Newspapers Tell Him.

CHICAGO, Ill., April 6.—In a recent article on "Georgism in Chicago," the Tribune again displayed its utter ignorance of the subject it attempts to discuss. It is only necessary to point out one or two of its inconsistencies. For instance, it says that "persons having no property pay no taxes." Does not every man and woman in the United States pay taxes, and heavy taxes, too, on all they eat, drink, wear and use? Again, it speaks of the "government landlord" as being no better for the tenant than the private landlord. Is there no difference in paying one's rent into a fund of which he, with his wife and children, are joint owners, and paying rent to a private individual who pockets it all?

The second closes with these words: "But as the land owners and lot owners and their sons are men who can fight and shoot, and who possess the overwhelming physical force of the nation, it would be difficult to imagine anything more chimerical than the conquest of the country by the disciples of Georgism."

Ha! ha! The landlords talking of "fighting" and "shooting." Pretty good evidence, wouldn't you say, that the Tribune's pen is wagging mightily before those "lighters" and "shooters."

CHARLES W. PHILLIPS.

## It is the Situation Which has Changed.

San Francisco Call.

The value of land, like everything else, is what people will give for it. Seven or eight years ago, when the immigration was light and speculators had bought more land than they could pay for, the supply was in excess of the demand, and excellent land was offered at \$20 and even \$10 an acre, without takers. This same land is now held at \$50 and \$75 an acre, and finds buyers at the price. The land is the same as it ever was; it is the situation which has changed.

## And You'll Find He is Practically Right, Too.

New York Insurance.

We have read Mr. George's books, and every week read his paper, with great interest and with deep earnestness. He is inspired by his deep earnestness. His honesty, his boldness and his great ability. Moreover, we are inclined to think him theoretically right.

## LIFE IN FRANCE.

## VARIOUS PHASES OF THE SOCIAL CONDITION.

**The Outcome of Protection. The Distribution of Food to the Working Classes. The Position of the French Bar.**

SPECIAL TO THE STANDARD.

BORDEAUX, April 9.—France is passing through a very severe period of commercial depression, and among our politicians the cry for "fair trade" is often heard. The ribbon trade of St. Etienne, which until quite recently seemed to be saved from the ravages of commercial depression, now finds itself cruelly hit, and the factories of that town are issuing less than half their usual output. This state of things is in part brought about by the severe competition of other nations, and in part by the arbitrary dictates of prevailing fashions. Until plain colors came into vogue, the ribbons of St. Etienne had almost a monopoly in the markets of the world. This is now changed, as the manufacturers of Switzerland and Germany have commenced to introduce a large proportion of cotton among the costlier tissues, and the ribbons when made up appear almost as good as those of St. Etienne, the consequence being that France is undersold even in her own markets. The merchants of St. Etienne are at their wits' end, for the protective duty on cotton entering this country is sufficiently heavy to practically prohibit its use; indeed, ribbons partly composed of that commodity cost an enormous price, and the French manufacturer is not to be entirely ruined, say the manufacturers, "the duty on cotton must be greatly reduced, if not abolished altogether, when it is imported for the manufacture of ribbons."

The outlook for this important branch of trade is extremely serious, and the manufacturers find that it is as difficult a proceeding to change the law as to alter the fashions.

A short time ago a committee (acting under the auspices of Dr. Richard D. Webb) was formed in England to find out the best method to be adopted in the preparation and distribution of cheap foods for the people. The object was a most righteous one, and merited every success. It is stated in the report of the committee of workmen who have specially studied the question that any new scheme should include the establishment of public kitchens and depots at which meals could be eaten, and at which they could be supplied to workshops, factories and private houses. In point of fact, the recommendations simply name a system of dealing with the feeding of the masses that is commonly adopted in this city. At most of the large wine cellars and factories of Bordeaux there is an immense open fireplace erected, and the employers of labor give directions for a big fire to be lighted some time before the hour for breakfast and dinner, under the pretext of warming the place to cook the meals. This is a great boon to those who reside at a distance from their place of labor, as it enables them to have a good hot dinner for the mere trouble of cooking it, and renders it unnecessary that the drinking saloon should be resorted to. Now, whatever other shortcomings the French *ouvrier* possesses, he is not a drunkard, and consequently, instead of spending his hard-earned wages on a totally unnecessary supply of beer and other alcoholic liquors, he generally provides himself with a satisfying and varied meal. The kitchens and depots that, according to Dr. Richardson's committee, ought to be public institutions, aided, it is to be presumed, by voluntary or forced contributions, are here made into successful private business speculations, and the people who undertake seriously the trade of providing meals for the workers are content to make a few shillings a substantial living, and in course of time a respectable sum to retire on. This seems to be what is wanted in England.

Wishing to see for myself the style of living that exists among the poorest French workmen, I donned an old suit, neglected to shave myself and to wash my face, and sauntered toward the docks. I passed a good many inferior eating-places, where the words of *On se trouve à manger* indicated that good dinners were to be obtained, until at last, finding a shabby restaurant that seemed to be pretty full of dockyard laborers, I entered. There were no table-cloths, and the list of dishes to be obtained was chalked on a blackboard against the wall, the prices being noted against each dish. There were, at least, from twelve to sixteen different dishes of food to choose from, all at a very low price, and a very satisfactory dinner at a cheap price, and as it was my intention simply to partake of the same viands that my neighbors ordered, the bill of fare may be taken as fairly representing the ordinary dinner of the French workman. By dint of repeated hard knocks on the table the attention of the overworked waiter was called, and he threw down a knife, spoon and fork. The spoon and fork were of Britannia metal. The meal consisted of a very large piece of bread, two cents; a plate of red haricot beans (far more than I could eat), cost two cents; half a plate of roast veal (the quantity being ample for an ordinary man), cost four cents; a plate of rice, one cent; and half a bottle of *vin ordinaire*, cost four cents; so that it will be seen a very fair dinner was provided for fifteen cents, with half a bottle of wine included. The French cheap restaurant is a most convenient place, and small families find it more convenient to procure their daily meals from these sources than to have the cooking done at home.

Although the scale of lawyers' retaining fees is distinctly reasonable, and the general question of remuneration such as to give little ground for complaint from suitors in French courts of law, a Parisian journal has recently criticized the high retainings that are still in vogue in connection with the admission of new members to the French bar—regulations which have the tendency of deterring many able men from entering the profession, who might otherwise become some of its most brilliant ornaments. In England the heavy expenses, social and official, with which the earlier portions of a barrister's career are environed practically prevent men of small means from undertaking that particular calling; but in France the obstacles in the way are of an entirely different character. The French bar is spoken of in the series of articles referred to as "a truly archaic institution, possessing a code of administrative anomalies that have survived all the reforms carried out in France since the revolution." Before access to the bar can be obtained in a *bona fide* manner, the manual of the candidate shall have been already inscribed upon the list of *avocats*, and even all those who have passed all the necessary examinations, and obtained the degrees that are required before the profession of an *avocat* can be exercised, must be officially received by the bar council, a despotic body, whose decisions cannot be appealed against. It is maintained that many of the decisions are glaringly unjust, being dictated by purely personal considerations. This absurd regulation often causes great discontent, and many capable and learned men desert the legal profession on the very threshold of their admittance to the Palais de Justice, imagining that they have a grudge against society, when society has had nothing whatever to do with the decrees that have intercepted their legal career. Foreigners, indeed, most of all things here—are singled out for especially hard treatment. In those cases where a foreigner has to plead a case against a Frenchman, he is unable to place his case in the hands of a member of the bar who happens to

belong to his own nationality; he is rigidly shut out from employing foreigners; and however much his cause might benefit from the employment of a special pleader having a large technical knowledge of the question in dispute, he is absolutely forbidden to give a brief to any but a Frenchman. The natural result is that all foreigners who have settled in France are kept out of the profession, and the bar is consequently a body of correspondance has passed on the subject, and it has been suggested (the suggestion having received influential support) that, in the case of a committee of examiners, duly appointed by the government, having granted a certificate of their ability to speak French fluently, foreigners, otherwise well qualified, should not be shut out from undertaking the profession of a lawyer. There is not much likelihood, however, that the legal authorities will voluntarily resign or diminish the judicial powers they at present possess.

ARNOLD DICKSON.

## FATHER HIGGINS' LECTURE.

Dr. McFlynn Good-Humoredly Demolishes His Reverend Cincinnati Critic.

Cincinnati Telegram, April 14.

A short time before Dr. McFlynn's departure a *Telegram* representative asked him what he thought of Father Higgins' lecture. Dr. McFlynn replied promptly:

"Father Higgins is evidently a gentleman of learning and culture, and no doubt every way a very estimable clergyman, but it is perfectly clear that his judgment of this question has been badly warped by prejudice."

"I should be very sorry to be guilty of charging him with willful, conscious, malicious, but it certainly does seem to me that his whole argument would indicate that it was the production of a man who had started out with a foregone conclusion, and then sought eagerly all manner of arguments, good, bad and indifferent, rather than make inquiry as a seeker after truth for its own sake alone, without any prejudice whatever, with the single resolve to follow it whithersoever it should lead him."

"I was forcibly reminded while listening to the lecture, which I thought it would be able to make in a preface to one of the later editions of his great work, namely, that he had failed as yet to see any argument alleged against the book that had not already been fully answered in the book itself."

"I may without indiscretion be permitted to say that an estimable gentleman of the city has told me that an exceptionally intelligent Catholic lady who had read Mr. George's works, and could see for herself no escape from the force of his reasoning, and yet thought that while so many good and supposed-to-be learned men were opposing his conclusions there must be strong and valid arguments against them, went eagerly to hear Father Higgins give, I suppose, the very same lecture; and after hearing his arguments surrendered herself entirely to the conclusions of Mr. George."

"I have heard it seriously proposed by some of our friends this morning that it would be a good thing if the Henry George club of this city would publish Father Higgins' lecture as a tract in the work of propaganda."

"Father Higgins more than once sneered at the rhetoric of Mr. George, at his glittering phrases, and said and implied that Mr. George is carried away by his fancy, and that his rhetoric was exceedingly sophistical. I would say, with all courtesy, that this description, which is given with no less justice to Father Higgins himself, and that a careful, honest, dispassionate perusal of Mr. George's works will show that he is an ardent worshiper of the truth, and is willing to follow it, no matter at what sacrifices of prejudice or previous conviction, and no matter at what inconvenience to himself."

"A notable and lamentable omission of Father Higgins' argument was the omission to discuss the question of the unearned increment." He simply dismissed it with a sneer. He said nothing of what is so large a part of the whole question, namely: The enormous value that comes to land, particularly in great cities when it ceases to be thought of as having any agricultural value."

"It was a strange waiving of a great part of the issue to confine himself as he did to the mere question of agricultural lands. The whole of his argument, as far as it had any value, simply went to prove what Mr. George had asserted, and proved far more ably and eloquently, namely, that a man has a right to his improvements and to whatsoever he produces by his own industry."

"It was a falsehood to say or imply that Mr. George would deprive the farmer of a perfect equivalent or compensation for any loss he might suffer by the sale of his land. Mr. George, as much as Father Higgins, is an advocate of undisturbed possession of portions of land by individuals, and it was the leading fallacy of Father Higgins throughout that he failed to distinguish between the two utterly distinct things—possession and ownership."

"Father Higgins found indefensible title to land in the fact that a man had sowed a crop or dug a drain. What a pity that he didn't tell us something of the title that, as he implied, was thereby created to the whole ground underlying the surface, down to the very center, including all that it may contain in the shape of coal, marble, gold, silver and natural gas."

"It was fortunate, for the sake of truth and justice, that Father Higgins gave copious extracts from the works of Mr. George himself. If his lecture shall be published as he gave it, we shall have the comfort of knowing that whatever poison it contains will carry with it the antidote."

## MINNEAPOLIS ORGANIZING.

A Good of Good Men Are Pushing the Cause of Work and Expect to Make a Formidable Party.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., April 13.—A number of men who are zealous in the cause of appropriating land values for public purposes held another meeting here last night and much earnestness was displayed. We went into organization and elected officers, and have formulated plans for organization in all the wards and precincts in the city. Earnest men are busy circulating the platform for signatures and collecting residents of the precincts together to form separate clubs, from which are to be elected representatives to a central committee. As we have no elections near at hand we have little opposition from the established parties. The interior of the state is ready for the harvest, too, and we expect to do efficient work.

## Five-sixths of Us Are Poets.

PHILADELPHIA, April 16.—If one-sixth of the people of this country own all the land of the country, and, if furthermore, they have a perfect right to do as they please with it, either let it stand idle a season or two or cultivate it according as whim or caprice might dictate, then we, the five-sixths, are entirely in the landowners' grasp and at their mercy and must be a surplus population. These land-owning fellows must have been lucky in being born in the year one and having the first grab. We, the landless majority, are a submissive lot, no more so much as owning a share of the ground we stand upon. It's a ludicrous position, is it not?

JOS. BEAUMONT.

## A Word From Miss Helen Taylor.

LONDON, Eng.—THE STANDARD is regularly received and as regularly read. I was particularly pleased to see a sensible article on the Mormons and on the United States government attack on them.

HELEN TAYLOR.

## RAPID TRANSIT.

## THE RESULT OF THE THOUGHTLESS GRANTING OF FRANCHISES.

How the Elevated Roads Have Driven Up Rents in Harlem—Single Lots Held at \$25,000 to \$75,000—A Poor Man's Village Transformed into a Rich Man's City—What the Future Holds in Store.

New York Star, April 17.

The rapid growth of Harlem in population, buildings, wealth and influence during the past few years is simply wonderful, even in this country where cities have sprung up like mushrooms, in a night, and where the wilderness has suddenly been replaced by teeming communities. Less than a quarter of a century ago Harlem was an humble suburban village with miles of desert country intervening between it and the city of New York, then an insignificant town when compared with the present magnificent metropolis of the western hemisphere.

The village of Harlem proper then extended from about 118th street to the 142d, and from Second to Fourth avenues. On some of the cross streets further to the west were many pretty cottages and some more pretentious dwellings. The few thousand inhabitants required but two polling places for election purposes, and their modest wants were supplied by a single dry goods store and a few other tradesmen. The people formed a law-abiding, church-going community in the main, and were justly proud of their pleasant village, albeit it had but few brick houses, and yet not a single brownstone front nor a plate glass shop window in any of its stores.

The value of real estate was absurdly low as compared with the prices that now prevail. Cottages on the cross streets could be bought for \$1,000 and upward, and a whole block on Third avenue could be purchased for half the money that is now demanded for a single lot. Rents were correspondingly low. A neat cottage could be had for just \$12 a month, and it was a fine house indeed that rented for more than \$400 a year. The rent paid for the large store and dwelling on the southwest corner of 125th street and Fourth avenue in 1863 would not commence to pay the tax bill of last year, and the annual rent now paid for certain other houses would have purchased them a quarter of a century ago.

After the close of the war there was quite a boom in building in Harlem. Land was much sought after for building and speculative purposes, and prices went up with a rush. The period from 1865 to 1875 may be designated as the era of the "skin builders," as they were called, and most of the houses built at that time were very faulty in construction. Nevertheless they sold rapidly and at high prices. The panic that followed Black Friday had most disastrous results in Harlem. The "skin builders" had just sold their houses, and the speculators who had bought them were ruined. The price of real estate fell off one-half, and a general lethargy took the place of the activity that had prevailed.

Harlem was a dull place until the elevated railroad went into operation in 1878. Then the attention of capitalists and those seeking homes was attracted to it, and the price of real estate began to advance. Then began the transformation scene which in a few brief years has changed the quiet suburban village into a thriving business mart, has increased the population of the place more than tenfold and has covered a vast territory with pleasant homes. When the builders commenced their operations in 1879 attention was first paid to the vacant plots in the more settled portions of the place, but it was not long before the larger extent of territory to the westward of Fourth avenue and the recently filled in swamps and water courses of south Harlem were invaded. The demand was so sudden and so great that the price of eligible lots doubled at once, and they have been advancing steadily ever since. The demand for houses was so great as to stimulate building operations on a large scale, and hundreds of houses were soon in course of construction. The enormous advance in the prices of lots made it impossible to construct a house that could be rented for a moderate price, and flats were constructed to meet the demand. These were soon built in great numbers and of every class, from the palatial apartment house, with every known appliance for comfort and convenience, to the more humble tenement house. The demand for houses at moderate prices for permanent investment by people who desired to make Harlem their home was such as to exceed the possible supply. The many three-story brownstone houses of west Harlem were the result of this demand.

Meantime the tenements for the poorer classes, great four and five-story structures with accommodations for sixteen to twenty families, were building on the waste places in south Harlem. These houses, often built by the block, now cover the section below 110th street almost solidly, and have made south Harlem distinctly the home of the laboring class. The Third avenue elevated railroad divides Harlem, as far as the advance in the price of real estate and the character of building improvements are concerned, into two distinct sections. The eastern section has felt the boom to a certain extent, but where prices have doubled on the east side they have quadrupled and even quintupled on the west side, and where one dollar has been expended on improvements in the east, ten dollars have been spent on the west. The eastern section has been given over to houses and flats for people of moderate means, and some day will be absorbed by the demands of commerce and manufactures.

The western section of Harlem, extending from Fourth avenue to Eighth avenue, and from 110th street to 153d street, may be styled the "fairly elegant" district, as there are here nothing but first-class dwellings, all well and expensively built, and some of them fine specimens of architecture. Brown stone is the prevailing material and simplicity is the general rule, but here and there are innovations in the way of tile and terra cotta, and there are numerous specimens of elaborate architecture of a striking character. In the district there are very few vacant lots, and they are destined soon to be occupied by first-class houses, as the price of the land is so high that it will not pay to erect any other class of buildings upon it. The apartment houses in the district are, many of them, very extensive and elegant in their appointments. Among them may be mentioned the "Dalkith," a magnificent seven-story structure at the northeast corner of Madison avenue and 121st street. The "Astor," on 125th street, between Fifth and Sixth avenues, is a seven-story building, with twenty-eight apartments. The building is the tallest in Harlem, being over 100 feet high. Wright's flats on Sixth avenue and 127th street are elegant buildings, and the apartments command very high rents. On 110th street are the "Belvedere," a handsome single flat near Pleasant avenue the "Congress," the "Pleasantville," and Miller's handsome new flats near Second avenue. These flats have a broad court between them and are especially attractive.

Of private houses the most conspicuous is the elegant gothic residence of Lucien C. Warner, on the northwest corner of 127th street and Fifth avenue. This building, constructed of brick and brown stone, is a most beautiful architectural specimen, and its appointments are elegant throughout. The residence of Jordan L. Mott, corner of 130th street and Fifth avenue, is a magnificent pile of brick, and is one of the most spacious and elegant mansions in the city. It was erected by the late R. B. Connolly for a residence, but was never occupied by him. The large and

stately brownstone mansion on the northeast corner of 126th street and Fifth avenue, built by Henry W. Genet, and owned and occupied by McLoughlin, the song publisher, is one of the most striking private residences in the city. The granite mansion on the corner of 119th street and Sixth avenue is a beautiful building. It is one of the most elegant residences in the city, and is admired by all who see it. The Sherwood residence, on the corner of Sixth avenue and 118th street, is a very large, substantial building of simple but elegant construction, and very costly in all its appointments. Besides these splendid specimens of domestic architecture there are rows upon rows of first-class houses of every style, all built of the best material and supplied with all the improvements known to the latest development of science and art.

Harlem is especially favored with fine churches, all of them, however, of comparatively recent construction. The finest is the Reformed church, Sixth avenue and 122d street, constructed of Ohio stone in pure gothic style at a cost of \$150,000. The Pilgrim church, corner of Madison avenue and 121st street, is a large and beautiful structure, built of brown stone and having a tall steeple. St. James' Methodist Episcopal church, 126th street and Madison avenue, is a fine Episcopal, 127th street and Fourth avenue. Holy Trinity, Fifth avenue and 125th street, and Trinity Methodist Episcopal, 118th street, are fine edifices.

There are some elegant business structures in Harlem. First among these is the large and imposing iron fireproof building on the corner of Third avenue and 121st street. This structure is 85x100 feet in extent and three stories high, and cost \$200,000 cash for the foundation. The brick building on the corner of 122d street and Third avenue, recently erected by Alexander Bros., is a conspicuous feature. Other fine stores are those of Mrs. Torrey, Third avenue and 119th street; Lynch's glass front building, Third avenue, near 110th street, and the Horton building, Nos. 108 and 110 East 125th street. Louis Rangier is building a magnificent store at Third avenue and 125th street, which will be the largest structure of any kind in Harlem.

The values placed upon real estate in Harlem are fully commensurate with the growth and importance of the place. Lots on Third avenue are held at \$25,000 to \$75,000, the latter being the offering price for the best corners. Freeborn, who owns the house and lot No. 226 Third avenue, near 122d street, has refused an offer of \$55,000, and the house is comparatively valueless. Naus Bros. recently paid \$50,000 cash for the four-story house No. 229 Third avenue, and similar prices have been paid for other pieces of property. Lots on 125th street are held at \$25,000. On the Sixth and Seventh avenue boulevard lots are held at \$10,000 to \$12,000, and on the cross streets in the gilt-edged district are valued at \$8,000 to \$12,000. The price demanded for houses varies with the location. East of Third avenue a comfortable home can be purchased for \$5,000 to \$15,000, while on the west side the prices run from \$15,000 to \$50,000, and even \$75,000, which is asked for some of the elegant houses recently constructed.

The boom in real estate is not yet over if the predictions of certain heavy operators prove correct. They say that in less than five years the cheapest lot on upper Third avenue will be worth \$50,000, and that the value of all property in Harlem will advance fifty per cent in that time.

## WHY AUSTRALIAN LANDS LIE FALLOW.



## QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

## The Cause of Poverty.

NEW YORK, April 2.—The following question has been asked me, with the request that I be sent to THE STANDARD for answer: Please state briefly the reasons for thinking that private ownership of land is the efficient cause of the poverty which exists in the United States.

Whether or not a brief answer to this question will be sufficient depends upon the questioner's familiarity with elementary principles. Let him carefully read chapter 2, book 5 of "Progress and Poverty."

The man who has only his labor to depend upon must seek an opportunity to work. In doing this he competes with a vast number of other men who have only their labor to depend upon and with machines that in large part do the work of men. If natural opportunities to work increased with increase of labor, this competition would be, in a measure, free; but the ownership of land, by limiting natural opportunities to work, gives to him who controls an opportunity an advantage over him who seeks one. The inevitable result is a downward tendency of wages, with its correlative, an upward tendency of land values. Upon the point to which these corresponding tendencies have at a given time advanced depends the degree of poverty. In the United States poverty has not yet reached the lowest degree; but it has advanced toward it with the increase of land values, and wherever land values are highest poverty is deepest.

If land values were taxed so that no one could benefit by merely holding land, not only would the public enjoy the benefit of land values, but all land having no value for use (of which there is an abundance, since most vacant land values are speculative) would be free. This would offer an outlet for labor, and regulate competition for opportunities to work. Then involuntary poverty would be impossible.

## Farm Mortgages.

COSWAT, Kan.—If a man works and saves \$500 and lends it to a farmer on a mortgage on the farmer's land, how will the owner of the mortgage be affected if the principles of the land and labor party are carried out?

T. HICK.

If the principles of the land and labor party were carried out suddenly and completely, that is, if taxes were shifted to land values and at once increased so as to absorb the entire value, the mortgagee would lose all his security, except the improvements. But the objects of this party will be gradually accomplished. One tax after another will be shifted from private property to land values, until land values bear all taxes, and then taxes will be increased gradually until they absorb all land values. This process will press land values downward much as a gradual exodus of population would, and all losses, those of mortgagees as well as those of mortgagors, will be spread over a considerable period of time. No one would suffer anything like the loss that so many small owners now suffer in every real estate panic.

## Abolish Interest.

NEW YORK, Feb. 14.—If, as you claim, "Every man has an exclusive right to what is produced by his own labor," then it follows that no man has a right to what is not produced by his labor. Users base their right to exact interest on the ground that the money they lend contributes toward production. But labor produces everything, and as the right of property is determined by actual labor, capital being merely the result of labor, it has no right to share in what it produces. It was the perception of this truth which led Christ to drive the money lenders out of the temple of Jerusalem, and inspired the words spoken by Antonio, the merchant of Venice, to the usurer Shylock, "If thou wilt lend this money, lend it not as to thy friend, for when did friendship take a breed of barren metal of his friend?" With such authorities as Christ and Shakespeare to support my claims it is hardly necessary to further elucidate. But the point I wish to make is this, Abolish interest, and capital will be forced into legitimate channels of trade, and the army of the unemployed will be considerably reduced.

H. L. P.

Every man has an exclusive right to what his labor produces, and it follows, as you say, that no man has a right to what is not produced by his labor. But it does not follow that no man has a right to what is produced by the product of his labor. If a man domesticates a pair of pigeons, they are his property because, economically, he has produced them. But they in course of time will produce other pigeons, and these are his as well as the parent pair. They are the product of a product. If a man plow a field and sow it with grain, the field will at once have a certain value over the mere land value; but in a few months, without any more labor, the same field will have a still greater value. This additional value is the product of a product, and the secondary product belongs to the sower as well as the primary one. The secondary product is interest, and if you abolish it—or, rather, if you change its ownership, for you can no more abolish interest than you can abolish comets—you abolish property in a labor product. It is quite true that barren metal, by which you mean money, does not breed; but money is a representative of all such forms of capital as pigeons, cattle and fields of planted grain, which do breed. If I lend you a calf for three years, you do not make me good at the end of that time by returning me a calf; you must give me a cow. Equally, if I lend you the value of a calf in money, you do not make me good by returning the value of a calf. If you give me back no more than I lent, you do not abolish interest; you simply appropriate it.

That men are forced to pay usury is quite true. But that is not interest on capital; it is the price of a monopoly. Debts being payable only with a certain medium, which is limited below the amount required, it commands a premium in certain cases. This premium is usury. The money changers whom Christ drove out of the temple supplied the only kind of money receivable at the temple, and by cornering the supply were able to charge exorbitant rates for it. That was not interest.

The more thought you give to this subject the clearer it will appear that the monopoly of land values is the keystone to the whole arch of usury. Knock that out and freedom of contract will secure to everyone who works full wages for his labor, and to everyone who has capital full interest on it and no more, whether he uses or lends it. Such interest can harm no one. It is a product of capital and would not exist but for the capital, and it diminishes no one's wages.

It is not lack of capital that drives men into the army of the unemployed, for men

can make capital, but lack of land, which no man can make. Lack of ships will not prevent men crossing the ocean so long as trees are to be had; but if you put a prohibitory price on trees men must either swim or stay ashore.

## The Earning Point.

The Volks-zeitung, commenting on our answers to questions it propounded, asks what we mean by the "earning point" of wages.

The expression was used in two sentences. In one we said, "Wages will increase (the competition for workers continuing) until they reach the point of earnings;" and in the other, "Independence would tend to keep the supply of wage laborers below the demand, and consequently to sustain wages at the earning point."

The earning point of wages can neither be expressed in figures nor marked on a diagram. It is the point at which that part of the product that is due to the laborer as such, and which is denominated "wages," is separated from that which is due to the element of time in the use of capital, denominated "interest," plus that which is due to superior natural or social advantages, denominated "rent."

In primitive production, where there is no exchange and all land is free, the earning point of wages is the entire product. Though capital may be used, yet, as there is no exchange, there is no object in differentiating wages and interest. Nevertheless interest exists in theory even then.

When exchange becomes a factor in production, interest must be recognized as an element in distribution. A man, by planting a field with maize, may, with no further labor, but with mere lapse of time, have a field of ripened corn. If instead of doing this he supplies his community with boats, he must, in exchange for boats, be able to get as much standing corn as, with the same labor in the same period of time he could get by planting maize. In either case he gets something more than wages. If it would take the same labor to make a boat as to plant the field, he would exchange the boat for a newly planted field; and then the boat or the field, one equaling the other, would be his wages. But, by way of rough calculation, if the ripened corn would exchange for two boats, any one who had borrowed his boat and kept it during the time the corn was growing, must return, not one boat but two. If the borrower would not do that, the boatmaker "would find it more profitable to plant corn than to lend boats, and any one who needed a boat immediately and had not a newly planted field to exchange for it, would be compelled to postpone using a boat until he could either make one or plant a field to exchange for one. The second boat paid for the use of the first, like the difference in value between the newly planted and the ripened field of corn, would be interest on capital. In all these circumstances, the earning point of wages for the laborer supposed remains the newly planted field or one boat.

But as population increased and exchange developed, some part of the earth's surface would be more desirable than other parts. For agricultural and mining purposes this greater desirability would depend in part upon fertility and in part upon location; for exchange purposes it would depend wholly upon location. When all the best parts were occupied, population would be forced upon the less desirable land, and the more desirable would have a value. People would pay something out of their products for the privilege of using the better instead of the poorer opportunity. That payment would be rent. If land was privately owned it would go to the owner; if owned in common, to the community. In either case it would be paid out of wages and interest, for both wages and interest would be, in proportion to production, less than before. In these circumstances the earning point of wages determined by rent, deducting interest from the remainder. Rent would be fixed by the difference in value between the best and the poorer land; and the relation between wages and interest by the average power of increase which attaches to capital from its use in reproductive modes, as explained in chapter 5, book 3 of "Progress and Poverty."

Now, land being privately owned and demand for it obviously increasing, land speculators discount the future by taking up land in advance of demand for use. This puts a price on all natural opportunities and makes every bargain for laborers one-sided. The laborer, unable to buy land, has no recourse but to compete with fellow laborers for the privilege of working for an employer or to mortgage future labor to a landlord for the right to work for himself. In that situation wages fall below the earning point. If land values were taxed so that it would be unprofitable to own land except for use, speculation would be destroyed and unused land would be free. This, by providing a ready outlet for labor, would, under the operation of the law of supply and demand, bring wages back to the earning point. The class of laborers that produce directly from the soil would not work for an employer for less than they could earn on the nearest free land, which in that case would not be far away, and their wages being the base of the wages pyramid, would, on being thus increased, increase wages in all branches of industry.

## An Illustration Wanted.

READING, Pa., April 11.—I am a firm believer in the theory that land values belong, of right, to all people. But when I talk on the subject to people who have never studied political economy, they frequently say that if a tax were imposed upon land values and all other taxes were renounced, the landlord would charge the tenant enough additional rent to reimburse him for the extra land tax. Your answer to this will probably be that a tax on land values cannot be added to rent, because rent is the difference between what can be made from any rentable piece of land and what can be made from the least productive land in use. Now, this answer does not appear to be conclusive to those who have no acquaintance with political economy. Can you furnish me with a clear illustration which I can use to show those who are not accustomed to exact reasoning and logical thought, that it will be impossible for landlords to shift the proposed land tax to the shoulders of their tenants?

WALTER C. YEAGER.

The mistake your friends make is in supposing that the cupidity of a landlord is the sole measure of rent. Tell them to think a little, and they will realize that what a landlord takes is not the full amount he would like to exact, but as nearly as possible what a tenant will consent to pay sooner than remove to a more inconvenient place or go out of business. There

are men who own mineral lands and rent the privilege of mining. The measure of their rent is the amount which will leave the mining capitalist just profit enough to induce him to continue in the business of mining. If these profits rise, the rent is advanced; if they fall, he either gets a reduction of rent or stops mining. You can see at once that no matter how much of this rent might be taken in tax, the mine owner could get nothing more out of the mine worker.

If you want an illustration here is one: John Smith goes to the North and South railway company, tells them that he wants to set up a sawmill at one of their stations, and wants to know what rate they will charge for bringing his lumber to market. They say ten dollars a thousand. Smith says, "That's too much; it won't leave me any profit. You must charge less or I won't put up the mill. I can't afford to pay more than six dollars." "All right," replies the railway, "we'll carry your lumber for six dollars." The state then taxes the railway one dollar on each thousand feet of lumber carried. The railway can't shift this tax onto John Smith by charging him seven dollars instead of six dollars, for if it did John Smith would cease to earn interest on his capital and would either move his sawmill elsewhere or sell it for what it would bring.

Taxes on monopolies are always paid by the monopolist, because he is already getting from the consumer every cent on competition are paid by the consumer, because the effect of competition is to reduce prices as to leave a margin between what the consumer actually does pay and what he can afford to pay, and this margin is the limit of the tax that can be collected from him.

There is just enough truth in the idea that landlords can shift taxes to their tenants to mislead unless you explain one thing. A tax on real estate has a tendency to shift, in part. This, as you understand, is because part of it falls upon the improvements, which are products, and must be paid by the tenant—the consumer—or house building will be discouraged; but the part that falls on the value of the land is a tax on monopoly, and is borne by the owner. He cannot shift that.

## Regulation of Values.

BROOKLYN, April 5.—As by the adoption of your principles the comparative value of one piece of land to another would no longer be determined by individual freedom of exchange in conjunction with the laws of individual supply and demand, how do you propose to regulate the amount of the tax on each occupant? FREDERICK W. CROOK.

The adoption of our principles of taxation would not interfere with the determination of land values by freedom of exchange. It would have no other effect, in this respect, than to destroy speculative values. Real estate would have a market value, but unused land would not. Real estate values are in part improvement values and in part land values; therefore the market value of any piece of real estate, minus the value of the improvement, would be the value of the land. Upon the latter value the tax would be laid.

## A Mechanic's Question.

ALBANY, April 3.—I am a mechanic in the iron trade, earning in this country \$8 per day. When working in England at the same trade I only received \$1.50. In other parts of Europe in the same trade the pay is less. Suppose, now, laws were passed making trade absolutely free with other countries, what would prevent my wages and those situated like me from going down to European prices? E. A. N.

Nothing but what prevents them now. It is not the protective tariff that makes your wages better than those of European mechanics, if they are better; it is because they are not, all things considered, enough better than in England to tempt English mechanics in the iron trade to make a journey across the ocean and compete for your job in sufficient numbers to bring down your wages. A tariff on foreign workmen would have a tendency to give you higher pay for what you do, but a tariff on foreign goods only has a tendency to make you pay more for what you consume. It would be no less difficult for foreign workmen to come here if the tariff were abolished than it is now; therefore competition for work in your trade would be no keener and your wages no lower. But it would be less expensive for foreign goods to come here, and therefore the cost of your living would be less. Read chapters 19, 23 and 24 of "Protection or Free Trade?"

## Protection—Money.

ALBANY, N. Y.—(1) If under our present land system the protective tariff was abolished, would not the condition of the working classes be worse? (2) How is money first brought into circulation? LOUIS MEYER.

(1) No. Read chapters 19, 23 and 24 of "Protection or Free Trade?" (2) Some of it, after being stamped by government on its own material, is paid out in satisfaction of government obligations, while some of it after being stamped on material belonging to individuals is returned to the owners of the material.

## The Incidence of Taxation.

KEARNEY, Neb.—I am studying land reform and hoping for its success, but I am not fully convinced that the remedy advocated in THE STANDARD is the true one. I am greatly puzzled with certain questions relating, first, to political economy, and second, to the details of the remedy and its effects. At present I would like to present some of the former. It is evident that our tariff and internal revenue duties are ultimately paid by the consumer. (1) Are taxes on manufacturing establishments paid by consumers of the goods and services produced, or is the general able to shift any burden placed upon it to the shoulders of those who consume wealth? (2) Can a tax on land values be likewise shifted from the farmer to the consumer of farm products? (3) Is a man who lends money on real estate a capitalist? (4) Yes; and also interest on the taxes.

(1) Yes; and also interest on the taxes.

(2) No; nor from the owner of any kind of land to the consumer of the products of that land.

(3) In his relations as a mere lender of capital, he is a capitalist; in his relations as a lender on real estate, he is an owner of real estate, and therefore a capitalist to the extent of his lien on the land.

## Question of a Knight of Labor.

St. Louis, Mo., April 3.—As I understand the George Land theories, under his system of taxation the value of land will not increase except with increase of population or transfer of population from one locality to another, or

by reason of the discovery of valuable mines or deposits. I quote from "Progress and Poverty," chapter 2, page 176: "The coal and iron beds of Wyoming and Montana, which to-day are valueless, will, in fifty years from now, be worth millions on millions, simply because, in the meantime, population will have greatly increased."

Suppose that in a farming community there has been no increase of population, no increased increment. A wishes to cultivate, in addition to what he already has, ten acres of land which adjoins his farm and is being used by B. C. also wishes to take this same ten acres to his farm. The land of B has been improved by his exertion, making it more valuable than it was. Does not the land, or farm, become more valuable by reason of A and C desiring it than it was before A improved it? If A or C were to pay a little more taxes than B is paying for the use of the ten acres, how will B be remunerated for the improvements that he has placed on the land? K. PERRY ALEXANDER.

You have in mind evidently the idea of government leasing, a system which is not contemplated by Henry George's plan of land value taxation. Under his plan if A wanted B's ten acres he would try to buy it of him, improvements and all; and C, also wanting it, would do the same. B would sell to the one who came to his terms. If that were the only transaction, land values in that community would not be materially affected; but if there were several transactions like it, or if that transaction influenced the selling price of neighboring farms, so that farms were held, after deducting value of improvements, at a higher price than before, there would be an additional unearned increment, and the land value tax in that neighborhood would rise accordingly. If B could not afford to hold his land after its value increased, he would sell the land and improvements together to some one who could, and either buy land and improvements elsewhere, though not necessarily far away, or take up vacant land, also near at hand, and improve it. In no case would he lose his improvements, because the value of his land would always be determined by the difference between the value of the improvements and the selling value of the farm. If the selling value of the farm, minus the value of the improvements, was less than his basis of taxation that would show conclusively that his tax was too high and he would be entitled to a reduction. In special instances a man might temporarily be taxed somewhat too much or too little, but in general the land value tax would operate automatically so as to justly distinguish communal from individual values; and even in special instances inequalities would be less in degree and fewer in number than now, while the remedy would be speedier and more exact.

## QUEEN VICTORIA'S JUBILEE.

Some of the Methods by Which Money Is Being Raised—Hateful Jubilee Begging.

The young and skilled workers can earn from twelve to twenty cents, but of the latter there are few. In many visits among these poor people I learned something of the system which permits a country to possess a picturesque peasantry. In families numbering ten and twelve members, not one is an idler. From the grandmother of eighty to a child of seven, each must contribute to the common stock of money.

The mother, with her grown daughters, works in the fields during the early morning hours—from 4 o'clock to 10—the rest of the day being given to household work and lace making, or some other money giving labor. One of the chief industries of the village is covering buttons with a network of crochet. Seven to ten cents may be earned in this way in a day.

In friendly chat the women gave details of their every day life, with none of the pride which conceals poverty and hardship among the poor of our own land. The first meal of the day is a bit of dry bread.

"What! no coffee?" I exclaimed.

A desirous laugh went round the little group near me.

"Coffee? No, indeed."

"But after this early morsel you have a good dinner at noon?"

"Yes; we have soup, bread and vegetables." But note the soup, which is made from the water in which the vegetables have been boiled. Cabbage, carrots, potatoes, beans, and cold scraps left from meals are boiled together. To these is added a slice of "lard," as it is called, meaning salt pork. This scrap of pork is hardly sufficient to give one mouthful to each one at table. The vegetables are all removed from the soup pot and eaten separately. The soup is well seasoned, and is not unpalatable, however lacking in nutritive quality. Supper is a second edition of the dinner.

"But," said I, "you have milk and eggs, for I see cows and hens?"

"Yes; but they will bring money and we cannot eat what will bring money for clothing and to keep us in winter."

"Do you not have meat sometimes?"

"Jamais, jamais de la viande!" was the clear answer.

But in other talks with the better class of villagers I learned that on great festive days they went to the extent of buying a pound of two of mutton or veal. The luxuries of sugar, butter, cheese, coffee, etc., are too rare to be counted among the food of the poorer people. Chicory and roasted beans furnish a substitute for coffee. In each town there are fields or narrow strips of land that are leased by the town to men who cannot own a bit of garden; and here are grown the vegetables which form so important a part of the food.

A second field is sometimes leased for growing grains. The vineyards of this region are few and of scanty luxuriance, and little wine is consumed by the poor people. A large brewery furnishes beer at three cents a liter (two quarts). I was surprised to learn that in many parts of France, especially in Normandy, large quantities of a thin cider are made, which the peasants drink with a dilution of one-half water. This very mild beverage supercedes the use of wine among the poorer peasants. In the whole village of Vitteuil, with 1,500 inhabitants, not a single wine shop is to be found, spirits and wine being sold only at the hotels or at the village cafe, a very ancient stone structure where the dining room walls are completely covered with growing ivy, lending a fresh, summer-like appearance to this house of the local bourgeois.

In this room I read the quatrains below, which is cut in a stone of the wall over the date 1663:

Les amys de ce temps  
Descombent les moulins;  
Faut qu'on leur en donne  
Pour en trouver un bon.  
A Chance for a Beginning.

NEW YORK, April 9.—The United States has the opportunity to try on a grand scale the plan of making the land the common property of the community in the cases of the Indian territory and Alaska. To allow settlers to take up for use the land in either of those territories would be a benefit to the inhabitants already there, and would go far to settle finally the Indian question. Let no land ever be sold by the United States government in either of those territories, but let anybody occupy the land and pay its rental value.

## LIFE IN A FRENCH VILLAGE.

Children Earning Two Cents a Day—Mothers and Daughters Working in the Fields—Milk and Eggs to be Sold, Not Eaten.

FRANÇOIS M. LACROIX in the Christian Union.

... Strolling one morning toward the village, I entered it by an outlying street. Alas for my long treasured belief in a romantic peasant village! It was shattered at the first touch. The street was lined with low huts built of coarse stones roughly plastered in the manner usual everywhere in France. Wide open doors and windows showed gloomy depths of squalor, poverty and discomfort that struck me with the force of a sudden blow. The street was encumbered with rubbish, while directly in front of many houses masses of manure piled in huge square heaps in all stages of decay confronted the eye. On these heaps, under the very windows of the family rooms, great troops of hens and chickens were plying an unceasing industry of picking up an honest living. These pestilential mounds were numerous enough to make the air intolerable; but I went on, hoping to come upon some traces of that homely beauty seen in the work of painters who find never-ending subjects in peasant life and have created for us its ideal charm. "C'est humain, beings be born, live their lives, and die in the midst of such foulness?" was my first thought. What becomes of the theory of disease, especially typhoid, induced by decaying matter, in the face of this evidence to the contrary? For in this village, and many others since visited, the people wear a look of health, and very aged women seem especially numerous. The old allusion to the rustic who has never been out of sight of the paternal dunghill acquires true force after one tour through a French village. At every other door women and children were seated at hock-making, their fingers flying among the bobbins with incredibly swift movement. The simple peasant dress and white cap of every woman and little girl alike bears the likeness to those figuring with much effect at fancy dress balls and church fairs, but is as yet far enough from the fashions of Paris to lend a certain quaintness to their appearance. For a moment these white-capped lace-makers restored my ideal of a happy, picturesque peasantry; the absence of which in our own land has deeply afflicted at least one American novelist. I stopped to watch the fingers weaving subtleties of linen threads so deftly as to make the work seem an instinctive sleight-of-hand rather than a simple domestic art, and fell into a little talk with the workers. A little girl of eight years was making a lace known as torchon. As I looked at her tiny fingers a woman came up and spoke sharply to the child for letting the pillow-shaped frame, used in lace-weaving, slip a little out of her lap. A smart rap on the ear, with the words, "C'est pas bête," roused her sympathy. I asked how much this child could earn. "If she works well the whole day she can gain two cents," was the reply. An old woman, who said she was over eighty years of age, with dim eyes and skin shriveled to an incredibly creased and leathery substance, said that her sole means of living was lace making, by which she could make six cents a day.

"And what food can you buy for so little?" I asked.

"Bread, and some kinds of vegetables," said the poor old creature.

The young and skilled workers can earn from twelve to twenty cents, but of the latter there are few. In many visits among these poor people I learned something of the system which permits a country to possess a picturesque peasantry. In families numbering ten and twelve members, not one is an idler. From the grandmother of eighty to a child of seven, each must contribute to the common stock of money.

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NEW YORK, April 9.—The United States has the opportunity to try on a grand scale the plan of making the land the common property of the community in the cases of the Indian territory and Alaska. To allow settlers to take up for use the land in either of those territories would be a benefit to the inhabitants already there, and would go far to settle finally the Indian question. Let no land ever be sold by the United States government in either of those territories, but let anybody occupy the land and pay its rental value.

at once shorn of its apparent high significance, though not of its importance in the eyes of the family. The house was one of the usual stone and coarse mortar kind, but larger than common, and the family numbered twelve members, from a mothered grandmother of eighty to a child of seven years. It was a beehive without a drone.

Several grown daughters were seamstresses, making fine shirts, dresses, etc., for the people of the village, and were skilled operators on their American sewing machine. These young girls, comely, finely shaped, and one of them possessed of real beauty, were not above the field work to which they had been trained; and from 4 o'clock to 9 in the morning they took their allotted tasks in the fields, the property of their father. After 9 o'clock the sewing began for the day's work. The father, a fine specimen of health and vigor, seemed to possess a versatility in uniting several industries more rarely met in his class in France than with us, where jacks-of-all-trades flourish abundantly. He had been to the Paris exposition universelle, and there had seen the wonders of American agricultural machines, which he had at once introduced among the farmers of the district; himself becoming agent for several famous mowers, reapers and other machines. I saw him all over the village, with the work shop and cow house, pigsty, grain and hay racks all under one roof. The unpicturesque partition wall of the sty adjoined the room of the grandmother—a fact of which one was forcibly made aware by the odors of that room, which was otherwise of exceptional cleanliness, and filled with fine old furniture black with the constant polishings of a century. In the kitchen stood an oak dresser of huge dimensions, displaying the gayly painted household furniture of sixty years ago, with not a piece lacking or one defaced by neglect. A large, red-cushioned, cane-bottomed chair, worthy of all praise, and a pair of imitation by reckless housekeepers of our day. The pride of the whole family was a son who had gone to Paris and become a soldier of the republic. The last letter from this son was produced and handed to me to read. It was truly a cleverly written letter; the orthography perfectly finished and flowing; wholly unlike the unformed hand of an uneducated youth, and full of humorous sallies, directed in turn to each member of the household. In the last page of the letter the young soldier alluded to some event about to occur, working up the point dramatically in a strong way; on the next page or two there was a new date, and the announcement that, whereas yesterday the writer of the first page was a simple soldier of the lowest grade in the service, he, their son, was to-day a "sous-officier," which is the first step in promotion. He then hinted that he should expect nothing less than the slaughter of the fatted calf in his honor. I had already seen the fatted calf. This was a yearling, and of goodly size. The joy of the people at this little good fortune in their soldier was without bounds. From thenceforth his letters were sent to me to peruse, in the full belief that my interest in the youth was second only to theirs. The fatted calf was metaphorically killed, that is, sold, and a due portion of the money sent to the soldier boy, who acknowledged his receipt of the "morsel of veal," as he called it, in a bright and merry letter, which Claire brought to the hotel for my reading.

Every family fête day was the occasion of a feast, with little gifts and much sentiment. Claire, my little seamstress, was assistant in the village school where orphans were taught and cared for tenderly by several good sisters of charity. Claire's two younger sisters were pupils also in the same school; and after school hours all had their task of button crochet or needle work to be done before rest or play



# THE STANDARD.

HENRY GEORGE, Editor and Proprietor.

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## MR. PARNELL AND THE PHOENIX PARK ASSASSINATIONS.

There can be no doubt that in the letter it has printed as showing Mr. Parnell's condonation of the assassination of Cavendish and Burke the London Times has been deceived by a forgery of the same kind as that of the Morley letter which created so much excitement here toward the close of the Garfield-Hancock campaign. It has fallen readily into the trap because the notion that the Irish parliamentary leaders really sympathize with all Irish "outrages" is firmly rooted in the minds of the class of Englishmen which the Times represents. Yet for all its prejudices the Times is conducted on honorable principles, and will satisfy its traditions if it does not do what it can to expose the forgery as soon as it shall be convinced that it has been imposed upon.

Mr. Parnell is not only too cautious a man to write such a letter, but there is nothing in his career that, outside of that class of Englishmen to whose anti-Irish prejudices nothing is incredible, would give color to the idea that he sympathized with assassination. And I have personal reasons for believing that, excluding the relatives of the murdered officials, there was no man in the three kingdoms more deeply shocked and horrified by these assassinations than Mr. Parnell. It so happened that it was through me that the first intelligence of these assassinations reached him, and I had an opportunity of seeing him under conditions in which only the most consummate actor could have concealed his real feelings.

I was at that time on the other side of the Atlantic as correspondent of the Irish World, and receiving a cable dispatch from Patrick Ford asking me to meet Davitt immediately on his release. I went from Dublin to London, and in company with Mr. Sexton and some others of the Irish party met Davitt, who was escorted from Portland prison by Messrs. Parnell and Dillon, at the railway station. It was nearly 11 o'clock when I said good night to Mr. Davitt and the little party that had assembled to greet him at the Westminster hotel, and went to the house of the friend in South Kensington with whom I was staying. It may seem strange to an American, but though Cavendish and Burke had been there nearly three hours dead, and Dublin was convulsed with excitement, the general public of London, and even men so vitally interested as the Irish leaders, knew nothing of what had occurred. The London newspapers publish no Sunday editions. On Saturday nights their offices are deserted, and there is no machinery for getting out extras with unexpected news, no matter what its importance, and if telegrams had been sent to the Irish members they were probably delayed by the postoffice department. But early in the extremely early English summer morning, when the great city is sound asleep than in any other part of the day, I was aroused by a telegraph messenger bringing me a private dispatch from Dr. Kelly, then of Rutland square, Dublin, but now of Lexington avenue, New York, apprising me of the tragedy. I immediately made what haste I could (for at that hour no public conveyance was to be had), to the Westminster hotel, and waking Davitt up, showed him the telegram. Springing up with intense emotion he at once sent for Messrs. Dillon and Parnell. All three, as well as other members of the Irish party who were subsequently sent for, were deeply pained and grieved at the news. Davitt seemed so much "cut up" by it that I really felt for him, but the man who seemed stirred the most was Parnell—ordinarily the most undemonstrative of human beings—and on the first impulse he talked of immediately resigning and leaving public life forever. There could be no question of the real feelings of these men, and especially of Mr. Parnell. It is not that there was any personal sympathy with Burke, who had made himself thoroughly hated by patriotic Irishmen, but there was personal sympathy with Lord Cavendish, who had just arrived in Ireland and had done nothing to offend Irish sentiment. His appointment, moreover, to take the place of the justly hated Forster, accompanied as it was with the release of the Irish members from Kilmainham and of Davitt from Portland, was deemed the holding out of the olive branch by the Gladstone government—the dawn for Ireland of a better day. And to this the knives that flashed in Phoenix Park gave terrible answer. At a single unexpected blow Parnell's plans were shattered. To him it was not merely two high officials who were stabbed to death in Phoenix Park, but a great policy and a high hope.

I had at that time good opportunities for judging of Irish feeling, and I feel confident that the unanimous expression of

horror and regret which the Phoenix park assassinations provoked in Ireland, as well as from Irishmen in other parts of the world, was thoroughly genuine. Had these assassinations happened a week or two earlier, had it been Forster and Burke that were slain, instead of Cavendish and Burke, it would have been different; but to the Irish people these assassinations, happening as they did, seemed like the slaughter of the bearer of a flag of truce—the slaying of the messenger of good tidings.

Had Mr. Gladstone been wise enough and strong enough to trust this feeling; had he refused to hold the Irish people responsible for what was not their act, and gone on in generous confidence with that policy of substituting conciliation for coercion, toward which he had made the first steps, years of bitterness might have been saved. But he was not wise enough or strong enough to resist the frantic English demand for repressive measures. The old, dreary round of coercion was entered upon again, and the sentiment of grief and abhorrence which had swept over Ireland with the news of the Phoenix park assassinations was quickly forgotten in intensified hatred of English oppression.

The Irish were right in using their strength to bring back the tories into power. No tory government could have gone to the same lengths in attempting to coerce Ireland as did Mr. Gladstone and his liberals. For to tory coercion there is the opposition of the English liberals, but to liberal coercion there was none—or, rather, there was but little, for to the honor of such men as Joseph Cowen and the little knot of English democrats, it should always be remembered that they stood as firmly against liberal coercion as against tory coercion. But the personal weight of Mr. Gladstone, the unquestioning confidence which he has inspired among the great body of British liberals, gave overwhelming support to any measure of coercion that he proposed.

Five years ago, when all the wonderful talents and peerless influence of the great English leader were being prostituted to trample down the rightful aspirations of the Irish people, it seemed to me that Mr. Gladstone had lived too long for his future fame, and that if his public career had closed in the victory that followed his magnificent Midlothian campaign his life would have gone down to posterity unsullied by a closing chapter such as that which tarnishes the fame of Burke. But through this chapter Mr. Gladstone has lived, and the good work he is now doing may blot out the memory of it. From the Irish point of view, Saul of Tarsus has become Paul the Apostle. The man who, a little while ago, was endeavoring to govern Ireland by Russian methods, and was sending Irish patriots to jail without trial, and even without specific accusation, is now leading the fight for Irish rights. And in this he is doing more than any other living man could have done, what is, of all things, most to be desired both for Great Britain and for Ireland—he is making a junction between the democracies of the two countries. That at last the great masses of Englishmen begin to see that the cause of Irish liberty is indeed their cause; that at last patriotic Irishmen begin to realize that their struggle is not in reality with the English people, but with a class dominance that oppresses both, is the greatest thing that could have happened for the future, of both Ireland and of Great Britain.

The moment the Irish political question is settled, if only temporarily, that moment the land question will flame up, not in Ireland alone, but in Great Britain as well. This is the bottom of the whole controversy, the objective point of the whole struggle. The long course of English misgovernment of Ireland which is now nearing its end in the triumph of the Irish people, has had for its object the maintenance of that system of slavery which, by making the land of a country the property of a class, enables that class to live in idleness at the expense of the producers of wealth. And the revolt of the Irish people is a social as well as a political revolt. It can stop short of nothing save the restitution of the land of Ireland to the whole Irish people—the recognition in a form adapted to modern civilization of the ancient Irish principle that assured to every citizen a foothold in his native land. Mere political independence will not satisfy Irish grievances. It can do nothing to eradicate poverty, to prevent starvation, to make life easier for the masses of the Irish people. But it will clear the way for the great measure that can accomplish all of these things. And in the struggle for this, Irishmen, Englishmen, Scotchmen and Welshmen will stand together.

HENRY GEORGE.

## THE KNIGHTS AND POLITICS.

The Journal of United Labor, the official organ of the executive board of the Knights of Labor, in an article in its last number, entitled "Has It Come to Stay?" recognizes the significance of recent local elections as showing the break-up of old political parties, and declares it to be evident that, properly organized and wisely led, the labor party will be irresistible; but adds that unless it strives toward the attainment of some living ideas its success can at best be but temporary.

This is true. Yet the Journal seems hardly to realize how necessary it is that the ideas should give rise to the party rather than that the party should select the ideas, since it goes on to declare that "Knights of Labor need not go away from home to get issues to advocate. They have a declaration of principles, any one of which carried out would materially advance the welfare of the human family." It then enumerates those sections of the Knights of Labor platform which demand: (1) the reservation of public land; for actual settlers and the taxing of lands held for speculative purposes; (2) a graduated income tax; (3) the doing away with banks of

issue, and (4) state ownership of railroads, telegraphs and the like.

It would be well for the Knights of Labor in their assemblies to discuss these propositions with a view to political action, and we are glad to see the official journal thus directing attention to them. But the Knights of Labor cannot of themselves make a successful party, nor is it necessary that they should try, since any general measures that would promote their interests as citizens must also commend themselves to other citizens. The formative idea of the Knights of Labor is wider than that of simple trade unionism, in that it aims at uniting all classes of workers, and recognizes the importance of acting upon the general conditions of society. If the order has largely become a congeries of trades unions, sometimes at war with other trades unions, it is because this idea of acting upon general conditions has found no definite expression. But as soon as it does, then the action to carry it out must, of course, pass into the field of open political organization.

What the Knights of Labor, as all other workmen, ought to set themselves to discover is what large measure of legislation they really need. Hitherto what strength of the order has not been devoted to mere trades unionism—to conferences, arbitrations, strikes and boycotts—has been frittered away in demands for such comparatively trivial measures of legislation as the doing away with convict competition, the establishment of bureaus of statistics, the inspection of factories, etc., etc., which, whether good or bad in themselves, can "go nowhere" to the settlement of the great labor question. What is needed to form a rallying point in politics is not a number of little propositions, but one great fundamental principle, so radical and inclusive in its nature that it will carry the little propositions with it or dispense with the need for them.

The change in general conditions which it is most important to the Knights of Labor and all other organized workmen to bring about is that which will make the opportunities for employment abundant, and, consequently, wages high. This, also, is to the interest of unorganized labor, and even to that of the "rat" and the "scab." And no matter how much the employer or the capitalist, driven, as is generally the case, by as keen a competition as exists among workmen, may in his individual dealings desire to lower wages, yet he too wants general conditions in which there shall be abundant opportunity for employment and high wages, for these mean "good times," with business brisk and profitable.

Thus, when it comes to affecting general conditions through political action, the larger interests of all producers—of all who by any exertion of muscle or brain take part in the complex processes by which the wants of society are satisfied—become identical; and there is no reason why those who aim at carrying certain measures should not welcome to their side, without other distinction, all who are in favor of those measures. This, moreover, is the condition of success.

The root of all labor troubles, the cause of that intense competition for employment which tends to sink wages to the point of a bare living, and of the banding of men together to resist it, is plainly the difficulty that those who have nothing but their labor to sell find in getting employment for it. As is shown more elaborately in a chapter from "Social Problems," reprinted in another column, the cause of this difficulty of finding employment lies in the monopolization of land—the natural means and indispensable condition for the employment of labor.

Of this the masses throughout the United States are widely conscious, and are becoming every day more conscious, and it is already clear that the land question will be the next real political issue. That the Journal sees this is evident from the prominence which it gives it in its suggestion of "issues."

But the land plank of the Knights of Labor platform is inadequate. It represents the first vague perception that the ills of which labor is conscious are to be found in our treatment of land, rather than any definite idea of how land is to be opened to labor. It reads:

That the public lands, the heritage of the people, be reserved for actual settlers—not another acre for railroads or speculators; and that all lands now held for speculative purposes be taxed to their full value.

Considering that our public domain is all but gone, the first part of this plank proposes what would be only a locking of the stable door after the horse had been stolen, even if all experience did not show that it is in practice impossible to prevent speculators from getting possession of land so long as they find great profits in it. The second part is of more importance. To tax lands held for speculation even as heavily as lands in use, would at present throw open considerable quantities of land. But it would not prevent speculation, since speculators could in many cases pay that tax and still profit by the enormous increase in land values which comes with rapidly increasing population.

And even if it be intended to tax land held for speculative purposes up to its full value, so as to prevent the holding of land unused, this could not be a final settlement of the question nor a restoration to the people of their heritage. It would still leave to individuals and corporations the enormous incomes drawn from land which is not held for speculation, but put to use. And as population increased and land values augmented, while more and more land was held for other than speculative purposes, labor would find itself in as bad a condition as ever. There is in Ireland, for example, little or no land held for speculative purposes. Moreover, there is an indefiniteness about such a proposition that would prevent any law based on it from being carried out. How is it to be determined whether land is being held for speculative purposes or not? Any pretense

of use or occupancy—a few cattle, a little scratching of soil, a bit of a shanty—would be sufficient to give excuse for evasion.

The only way to really prevent speculation in land is to tax land values, irrespective of improvements, and to tax them so heavily as to take the full rental value for public use. In this way not only would speculation in land be made unprofitable, but the enormous values which the growth of society gives to land held for other than speculative purposes could be taken for the use of the whole people. And the fight might as well be made from the beginning upon this proposition as upon anything which merely squints at it. If to do so would be to excite more opposition, so also would it be to arouse stronger support.

No one understands all this better than the keen and progressive minds in the ranks of the knights themselves.

It is in the assemblies of the Knights of Labor and in the Central labor unions that workmen have found opportunities for the discussion of social questions and the necessary foundation for beginning political action, as the working farmers are beginning to find in their wheels, granges and alliances. But as we said last week, the impulse as it spreads must bring into cohesion men of all vocations, and weld them into a party which will probably take for itself some name less subject to narrow interpretations than that of labor party—a party which it is already clear will have for its definite purpose the assurance to all the people of their natural and equal rights.

In the mean time we are glad to see the organ of the knights urging the discussion of principles, which is, after all, the great means of promoting intelligent political action.

## THE LESSON OF THE ELEVATED ROADS.

The history, printed in another column, of the marvelous development of land values in Harlem under the stimulus of the present imperfect rapid transit system, is one which well illustrates the manner in which, under existing social conditions, every improved process of production tends to the exclusive enrichment of a single privileged class. Magnificent as has been the spoil which the elevated roads have garnered for their promoters and stockholders, it falls short by scores of millions of dollars of the immense wealth which the silent inexorable working of economic law has poured into the laps of the fortunate owners of Harlem lands. The poor man's village has been transformed into the rich man's suburb; the lofty flat house has replaced the modest cottage; the rental of \$12 a month has swelled to one of \$1,500 a year; a limited number of speculators have become millionaires, and the men of moderate means, who fondly dreamed that rapid transit would open up to them a region of comfortable low priced homes, have had a rude awakening.

So will it ever be as long as men consent to surrender to a favored few the privilege of monopoly in land. Let a road be constructed to-morrow which shall whirl its passengers to the upper end of Westchester county within thirty minutes, and the chief effect would be seen in a portentous rise in Westchester building lots. Let a new industry be introduced, employing thousands of laborers and clerks, and within a limited time rents would be higher and wages as low as ever. For the one thing in which absolute monopoly is possible is land, and the man who can forbid his fellows to work or live upon the special spot where alone working and living are possible to them, can and will extract from them the uttermost farthing that they can pay and still continue to live and work.

THAT was a strange spectacle, the fining of forty odd business men at the bar of a criminal court in this city for selling oleomargarine, which is pronounced by leading chemists to be healthy food. This was the culmination of a long conflict between two classes of tradesmen, butter dealers and oleomargarine dealers. A law prohibiting the coloring of oleomargarine so as to resemble butter was procured by the butter dealers. In some states they required it to be colored pink and in others green. How effective to destroy the oleomargarine trade such laws must be any one can realize by imagining the butter dish on his table to contain a pink, green or white substance. The New York law was contested and sustained, with the result of bringing to the criminal bar a large number of men whose offense was that their manufacture was a competitor of factory butter, and to destroy great values invested in oleomargarine establishments. Oleomargarine cannot compete with good dairy butter. It is an inferior article. But it can and did compete with factory butter, some of the grades of which are not only inferior to oleomargarine, but positively unhealthy; hence the laws against it. It is noticeable that none of the persistent sticklers for "vested interests" have anything to say for "vested interests" in the oleomargarine business which have been so ruthlessly destroyed. It makes a great difference, it seems, whether "vested interests" are in a legitimate business or a monopoly.

THERE was more than he intended in Assemblyman Crosby's objection to the labor holiday bill that labor ought to have no holiday until it is free. With the bigotry and ignorance that characterize his class, he intended to sneer at labor organizations, which, in imitation of stock exchanges, medical societies, lawyers' trade unions, and so on, undertake to regulate the supply and price of labor by association; but his words apply with greater force a thousand fold to the power over labor of his own class. By the appropriation of land values to their own use a portion of the community holds the rest in bondage, since man without land is as helpless as a fish in the air. So long as that condition

continues labor cannot be free, and, if the Crosbys are to have their way, never will be.

READERS of recent articles in THE STANDARD relative to business men will see that the labor question is of interest to them as well as to the class denominated workmen. The labor question is a question of wages and interest against rent, of work against monopoly. The income of the average business man is in part wages and in part interest. In the matter of wages he is interested equally with the man he hires; in the matter of interest he is still further interested, for interest falls as wages do. As with the man he hires, rent is his enemy, not only to the extent of the rent he pays, but to the extent that increasing rent diminishes opportunities for business and restricts the purchasing power of his customers. Every business man will recognize this truth, that the business man who has not some special advantage over business men in general is in a bad way. He is all the time under the harrow, and liable at any time to descend from employer to employee, as so many have before him. What does he propose to do about it?

THE story of life in Dakota, as given in the columns of THE STANDARD this week, sheds a strong light upon the processes of wealth-getting in vogue in our western empire. There, as here, fortune comes to him who has the wit and foresight to seize upon the natural sources of production, and hold them until a gathering population shall compete for the privilege of using them.

A REV. DR. STUFFENS telegraphs from Rome to the Catholic News that the pope has decided not to abolish the Knights of Labor; but that "if the Knights identify themselves with theories now being disseminated by certain agitators this decision in their favor will be revoked"—probably by the Rev. Dr. Stiffins.

THE New York Tribune is approving the theory of evolution by developing a rudimentary mind under the influence of the environment. In a half sensible kind of a way the Tribune is actually beginning to think.

"Land is high," remarks the Tribune, speaking of this city, "and the tendency is to make it higher." And then the thought process begins. The Tribune sees a vast multitude of citizens eager for the privilege of using land; it sees a limited number of persons preventing them from doing so; it sees land values soaring skyward; and combining these inductions into a theory or argument it delivers itself of the opinion that if land owners aren't pretty careful they will make New Yorkers tired of trying to live in New York and thus cause land values to take a drop again for want of competition. Here is what it says:

If this market is to be sustained, more respect must be paid by landlords to the fact that not every resident of New-York is a millionaire. The number of persons who can afford to pay rentals of over \$1,200 is comparatively small. . . . Unless something is done to provide homes for tenants who can pay from \$600 to \$1,000 rent within an hour's reach of their place of business, the rental estate market, in the opinion of prudent and observant men, is likely to take a precipitate fall that will be very injurious to New York. The date of this misfortune is being hurried by labor troubles. These have recently been so general that builders are becoming discouraged, and they burden the situation with a problem that does not admit a ready solution. . . . So much depends, in a business sense, upon keeping the real estate market firm, moderate and active that every taxpayer should feel a keen interest in averting the dangers to it that arise from foolish speculation and in supporting all those municipal improvements likely to strengthen it.

As the Tribune's rudimentary mind develops into a true thinking apparatus it will discover that the reason for the progression of a horse and cart is not because of the cart pushing the horse. Simultaneously it will learn that builders are not discouraged because of labor troubles, but that labor troubles arise because building and other productive operations are discouraged. As the process of evolution advances, and its power of observing and co-ordinating phenomena increases, it will observe that builders can't build without land to build on, and that the reason they can't get land to build on is because of that very "firmness" of the real estate market that it is so anxious to see maintained. And then it will begin to ask indignantly by what right a few individuals presume to deprive their fellow men of that equal right of access to the raw material of nature without which capital and labor are as powerless as a lever without a fulcrum.

THE Mail and Express lately quoted with approval a suggestion by Dr. L. L. Seaman, a gentleman who has devoted much time and thought to penal questions, "that the male convicts in the penitentiary should be brought over to New York in gangs and set to work on city improvements. 'Why,' says Dr. Seaman, 'should not the gangs of brawny stonecutters and metal workers, who deplete the public treasury with their sterile toil on the Island, take in hand the construction of the great system of docks and quays which one day is to engirdle the entire water front of the city? Is there nothing to engage the latent energies of these costly excrecences of our civilization in the projected opening of the Harlem river as the great commercial enterprise of the future? There are quarries of building stone all about us waiting for the drill and blast and tool man. Absolutely cut loose from the octopus of political maladministration, what hinders the gradual development of a water front under the regulated labor of convicts, which shall provide for the inflowing commerce of both hemispheres?'

What, indeed? There is, as Dr. Seaman says, no lack of the natural elements of production in and around this city, and no lack of demand for the completed products. There are not only quarries of building stone "waiting for the drill and blast and tool man," and a vast river front lacking development, but there are also a few building lots (say one-half the total area of the city, or thereabouts) waiting for the

stone and other materials to be used on them. There is not only a mighty commerce demanding an improved water front, but also a mighty population demanding houses to live in. There are rapid transit roads to be built, bridges to be erected, gas mains and electric wires to be laid—and dozens of things to be done. Why should not our convicts be "cut loose from the octopus of political maladministration," and set to work at all this? The sure way to get work would then be to become a convict; workmen would compete among themselves for the privilege of conviction; and the souls of the Mail and Express and Dr. Seaman would be made glad within them by an unmistakable improvement in the character, conduct and conversation of the convict class, which would be a great blessing and an irrefutable evidence of the superiority of the system.

Of course there is an alternative. Matters might be so arranged that men should have the privilege of going to work at the stone quarries and the water front and the vacant lots and all the rest of it, without going through the primal formality of conviction. But neither the Mail and Express nor Dr. Seaman are at all likely to accept this alternative, for the simple reason that along with the decrease in the number of convicts there would come a decrease in the incomes of not a few "Christian" churches and of a great many of our best families.

ARCHBISHOP CORRIGAN is rapidly growing worse. The priests of the diocese are being bulldozed to sign an amended excommunication of "His Grace," and a number of German monks have been inveigled and coerced into signing another similar paper in English, a language which to most of them is as a foreign tongue.

We print these documents in another column, where will also be found a threatening letter addressed by the archbishop to the editor and the proprietor of the Catholic Herald, in which they are warned of peril from his ecclesiastical thunders if they continue to criticise his course. No wonder that "His Grace" was emphatic even to underscoring that his threat should be considered private and not to be published. Only one thing is wanting to make the archiepiscopal epistle perfect in its way, and that is a postscript—BURN THIS LETTER.

Since the editor of the Catholic Examiner has been temerarious enough to say in his last issue that we have too many popes in this country, surely some too too unutterably awful thing must speedily happen to him.

THE attention of our friends is called to the list of land and labor tracts printed in our advertising columns. They put within the reach of all an efficient means of attracting attention to the greatest reforms.

## MEN AND WOMEN.

\*Elder F. W. Evans of the Shaker settlement at New Lebanon, N. Y., is a staunch advocate of the common rights to land. He says that the claim to property in land is "a doctrine of devils; upon it Babylon stands." He quotes Jefferson: "Land belongs to man only in usufruct;" and says that "when this primal truth shall be universally recognized, the whole landed system of the world shall be abolished."

Rev. Charles P. McCarthy of this city visited Mauch Chunk, Pa., at the close of last week and made several stirring speeches in behalf of appropriating land values for public purposes. One meeting was restricted to the general public, another was restricted to Knights of Labor, and another to miners, each of which meetings was largely attended and a lively interest was awakened in the land question.

James J. Fay of Rutland, Vt., an enthusiastic advocate of the principle of "the land for the people," and for some time master workman of the Knights of Labor, has been elected president of his village against a candidate receiving the combined support of the republican and democratic machines.

An Utterance of Cardinal Gibbons. In the full report of Cardinal Gibbons' report to the holy see on the subject of the Knights of Labor appears a paragraph not hitherto published in any English translation of the report. Speaking of the injury likely to be inflicted on the church by a determination to array her forces in opposition to popular rights, the cardinal refers for illustration to the case of Dr. McElhinn, and says:

"We have lately seen the sorrowful and menacing confusion which was caused by the condemnation inflicted, for the maintenance of discipline, by an archbishop upon a single priest; a condemnation which the archbishop believed to be just and necessary, but which struck a priest who was regarded as a friend of the people. Now, the consequences to the interests of the church from the condemnation of a single priest were so deplorable because that priest was regarded as the friend of the people, what will not be the consequences to fear from a condemnation which shall strike directly at the people themselves in the exercise of what they believe to be their legitimate rights?"

What Happened at a Meeting of the Republican County Committee.

Daily Paper.  
Grimes—What did you say?  
Redmond—Didn't you hear me?  
Grimes—Who's a liar?  
Redmond—You are.  
Grimes—You are a — liar!  
Redmond—You are a — liar!  
Grimes (raising his list)—Ah!  
Redmond (raising his list)—Let's see you!  
Grimes—Don't you call me a liar?  
Redmond—Don't you call me a liar?  
Grimes—Now, Redmond.  
Redmond—Grimes, what's the matter with you anyhow?  
Grimes—That's all right.  
Redmond—All right.

Several members of the Union league, who were looking on expecting a knock-out, were disappointed.

## A New Labor Paper.

Mr. J. N. Bogert, an indefatigable gatherer of local labor news, has begun the publication of the Local, a weekly newspaper which is intended to give the social news of the labor movement in New York. The columns of the opening number teem with pleasant chat about people and events. Mr. Bogert has a large acquaintance with the race workers of New York, and is well qualified to carry his venture to a success.



## THE WEEK.

The scheme for an elevated railway in Broadway has fallen through, and some other system of rapid transit, probably of the elevated type, will have the preference. It is a fact worth noting that in considering this question the legislature has simply endeavored to learn what would best suit the real estate owners of Broadway and other streets, and has ignored the interests of the immense landless class of citizens, for whose benefit streets are supposed to be maintained and rapid transit systems organized.

The New York state senate has finally passed the bill requiring savings banks to publish the names of depositors who have had \$100 or more to their credit for twenty years, but have not in the meantime been heard from. The benefits which will accrue from such a law are too evident to require demonstration. The opponents of the measure have contented themselves with uttering a few generalities about inquisitorial legislation, and the hardships that might be inflicted on the many people who are trying to save money without the knowledge of dissolute relatives by making deposits at intervals of twenty years. The real reason for the opposition to the bill was that it would diminish the profits of the stockholders in savings banks by forcing them to surrender a lot of money that doesn't belong to them.

Mr. Beckman, the president of the board of aldermen, has been considering the tenement house problem. "It is an open secret," says Mr. Beckman, "that tenements and rookeries have been erected in portions of the city which should have been kept exempt from buildings. In these houses people swarm like ants. The air is fetid, noxious, and the death rate is enormous. The children grow up weak and sickly, making puny men and women. It is proposed to tear down these rookeries, map out a fair area of land in those portions of the city most densely crowded, and construct small parks. These miniature parks shall have fountains, and be veritable playgrounds for the young. Now the little ones have no place in which to play, nor their parents a spot where they can enjoy a refreshing breathing spell." And with this humane purpose in view Mr. Beckman asks the legislature to appoint a board for the laying out of parks with authority to spend one million of dollars yearly.

Mr. Beckman means well, but he doesn't grasp all the elements of the problem he is trying to solve. He doesn't understand the tenement houses by choice; they do it because poverty compels them to; and the tenement houses are built in "parts of the city which should have been exempt from buildings," because landlords can make more money by putting them there. If Mr. Beckman really wants to give the tenement house dwellers the benefit of a park let him spend a million a year in destroying the beauty of Central park—choke up its lakes, deface its statuary, pull down its trees, ruin its drainage, withdraw its policemen—make its neighborhood generally distasteful to the "better classes," and he will be gratified by seeing tenement houses rise in its vicinity by scores. As for his proposed new parks, their only effect will be to raise nearby rents; and the prettier they are the higher the rents will rise. That Mr. Beckman sees this in a confused, puzzle-headed way is evident from his proposal that his new board shall have the power of "adjudging what proportion of the expenses incurred shall be assessed upon property holders who may be directly benefited by the erection of such parks."

Many months ago the legislature of this state enacted that after a certain date no more telegraph poles should be erected in this city, and appointed a subway commission to see that the existing wires were taken down and properly buried. The wires haven't been buried yet to any extent, but the subway commission lives and draws its salary, asserting its usefulness in giving ground for the erection of "temporary" poles and the stringing of new wires thereon. There is a deal of difference between making a law and enforcing it.

The Woodlawn cemetery company bought 600 acres of land in Westchester county from various parties for \$1,000,000. Under the laws of New York has held its property free from even the moderate taxation imposed on other landowners. The company has sold the fee simple of fifty acres for \$1,450,000, has received \$1,162,023 for burial lots, and remains possessed of land now valued at something like \$20,000,000. These facts appear from a report of the cemetery company, made in obedience to a senate resolution. Comment is scarcely necessary.

The legislature of Illinois is still groping in economic darkness. Not content with endeavoring to change the mode of a rack-renting foreign born landlord by the simple process of forcing him to become an American citizen, it is now trying to minimize the greed for wealth by limiting the amount which any person may take by descent or will. Fifteen hundred acres of land, or \$500,000 in money, to a surviving wife, husband, child or corporation is to be the limit of bequest hereafter, and the state is to be the universal residuary legatee.

The value of special legislation of this sort is not to be measured by the number of laws it shows, at least, that the people of Illinois are aware of something wrong in their social system.

A good deal of platitudes is being printed about the unfortunate Boston women who allowed themselves to be persuaded into depositing their money in the hands of a "woman banker," by promises of interest at the rate of ninety or one hundred per cent. Comparisons are made between Mrs. Howe and Mr. Ferdinand Ward; and the moral pointed in both cases is that the desire for wealth has somehow a stupefying influence, making its victims blind to obvious facts and inferences. Any sane man or woman, it is said, might have known that neither Ferdinand Ward nor Mrs. Howe could honestly earn the extravagant profits they promised; ergo, to invest money with either of them showed a species of insanity on the part of the investors.

This is a kind of argument that, starting from correct premises, reaches a false and illogical conclusion. The business men who trusted their money with Ward were sane enough and shrewd enough. Their only mistake was that they assumed Ward to be one kind of a swindler instead of another. They imagined him to have special facilities for cheating the United States government, and invested their money on the faith that he would exercise them; whereas the only facilities Ward possessed were facilities for making his dupes believe that he was going to steal for their benefit. It is just barely possible that Mrs. Howe's victims were not essentially fools, but only unlicky people who applied perfectly trustworthy business principles to a case which those principles accidentally failed to fit.

With the laudable object of giving the working people of this country more to do, our legislators long since decided that whereas a man by making a pair of shoes could earn enough to buy a yard of cloth, he should thereafter be compelled to make two pairs, the labor on one pair going to pay for the cloth and that on the other to support the various contractors, agents, high officials and other non-producers, without whom the best government on earth would dissolve into anarchy. Incidentally it was provided that if the cloth were here then the labor on the extra pair of shoes should not be deducted to the support of the contractors, etc.,

but should be appropriated by the men who hired the men, women and children who made the cloth. This system, humorously called "protection to American labor," has been in operation for a good many years, with the gratifying result of making American citizens perform an immense number of extra days' work, under penalty of having no cloth to cover themselves with.

But the system has received a shock; not a death blow by any means, but a shock. A cunning detective, sent abroad by the authorities to look into things in general, reports that the unprincipled foreigners who hire the pauper labor of Europe to make cloth for them are actually descending to the meanness of lying, and backing up their lies with false oaths. They are sending cloth here that should properly sell for the labor of four pairs of shoes, and telling a confiding United States government that it's only worth the labor on two pairs. So says Special Treasury Agent L. M. Montgomery in a recent report from Aix-la-Chapelle, in Germany. And the consequences are direful. The American workman is getting his cloth without doing quite as many days' work for it as he ought to do. The men who hire American men, women and children to make cloth for them are not getting quite so much for the cloth as they would like to, and the contractors and other governmental necessities are left a little, just a very little, short. Altogether a very sad condition of affairs.

Really it is astonishing how ready men are to lie when they can make money by it—in Europe.

On Saturday last eight English women arrived at Boston from England under contract to work in a Providence mill. The collector made a pretence of enforcing the law against the importation of contract labor, but finally allowed the women to land, the employer explaining that they were skilled in a special kind of work which nobody in this country could do.

Protection for people who live by other people's work is one thing, and protection for people who live by working themselves is quite another. It would be rather difficult to import cases of fabrics duty free on the ground that they were better made and finished than domestic goods.

Years and years ago a Mexican official, probably now dead, gone and forgotten, wrote his name and stuck some wax on a piece of paper or parchment certifying that thereafter, as long as grass should grow and water run, Charles Beaubien and Guadalupe Miranda, their heirs or assigns, should have dominion over 2,680 square miles of territory, with full authority to say who should live and work there, and on what terms they should enjoy those privileges. And on Monday last the supreme court of the United States decided that the names being properly written, the wax duly stamped and all other accessories in order, the assignees of Beaubien and Miranda, to wit: The Maxwell land grant company, the Denver and Rio Grande railway company, the Pueblo and Arkansas Valley railroad company and the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe company shall have dominion accordingly, with the right to levy such taxes as they please on the inhabitants of those parts of Colorado and New Mexico comprised within the limits of the 2,680 square miles aforesaid.

Go west, young man, go west!

Those wicked Irish members are making lots of trouble for the British house of commons, and latterly they have developed a remarkable facility of turning to account the very means hitherto deemed most efficacious for their suppression. A certain Colonel Sanderson having remarked in the course of debate that the home rule Irish members had associated themselves with murderers, and declining to withdraw the statement, Mr. Healy explicitly denounced him as a liar, whereon Mr. Healy was "named" by the speaker and put out. The colonel started anew with his speech, when another Irishman—Mr. Sexton this time—arose and stated his opinion that the colonel was a liar, emphasizing the assertion with a promise to thrash the colonel "when he caught him outside." It was evident that every member of the Irish party intended to follow suit; and sooner than be called a liar eighty odd times in succession, with a looming possibility of receiving eighty odd separate thrashings in the near future, the gallant colonel confessed his falsehood by withdrawing the offensive observation.

But parliament will pass the coercion bill all the same.

Briefly stated, the Irish coercion bill is an enactment that any Irishman who fails to pay his rent promptly, or otherwise displeases his landlord or his landlord's agent, shall be sentenced to imprisonment at hard labor for six months. And this sentence is to be imposed, not after due trial and proving of the facts before a jury, but at the discretion of a magistrate, generally a landlord himself and always a sympathizer with landlords.

The outbreak of indignation with which the action of the British government has been greeted in this country is creditable to human nature, and shows that American citizens, of whatever descent, have, at bottom, a deep seated hatred of tyranny and injustice. Whether it is altogether consistent or not is another question, and a question worth considering.

Right here in New York city there are tens of thousands of tenants, rack-rented to the limits of human endurance, and beyond it. Suppose that these tenants, organizing together, should unanimously refuse to pay their rents. Suppose that they should resist dispossession warrants by barricading their doors, by pulling down staircases, by hustling and impeding the officers of the law; suppose that they should boycott every man or woman who consented to pay any rent, refusing to speak with them, to work for them, to buy from them, to ride with them in public conveyances, to have anything whatever to do with them; suppose that the clergy of New York should support them in this sort of conduct. Would the Kellys and the Haverlys and the Colmans be found running on their side, applauding them, addressing meetings on their behalf, providing funds for their support? Would the press of the country be unanimous in approval? If they would, all right, and the sooner the rack-rented tenants of America open the ball the better. But on the whole we incline to think that the only result of such a movement would be an overcrowding of the penitentiary and workhouses and a series of newspaper editorials denouncing anarchical ideas and counseling the tenants to move on a couple of thousand miles or so—there's plenty of room for them out west.

After all, there is a great deal of human nature in humanity. We all have a keen perception of the mote in the eye of Russia; the American appreciates the horrible evils of English landlordism in Ireland, and the Englishman is not slow to retort on us with a *tu quoque*; it's the next house that is cursed with malaria and mosquitoes; and to say that anything is wrong right here and now is a crime against civilization. All things considered, the rack-rented tenantry of New York had better wait awhile.

## Should the Labor Party Exist?

The literary society of the Young Men's Christian association will meet the Lyceum Society of Philadelphia in Association hall, corner of Fourth avenue and Twenty-third street, on Tuesday evening, April 20, to discuss the question as to whether "the existence of a distinctive labor party be of benefit to the country?" Supreme Court Justice John R. Brady will decide the debate. The discussion is expected to be spirited.

## THE WEEK IN WALL STREET.

Slight as it was the \$375,000 increase in reserve last week showed that the long expected return of money to eastern financial centers is about to set in. The actual increase in currency was \$2,000,000, but the perceptible decrease in specie, resulting from the heavy customs requirements, brought the net increase down to \$375,000. With increased funds, on which to speculate, and the lower interest rates consequent, may be expected greater activity in the market and probable higher prices. This case in the monetary situation, the still favorable reports of railroad earnings and the efforts of large holders to keep the upward ball in motion are the principal reasons given by the commission houses for their advice to customers to purchase with every drop of a point or two.

The upward tendency has met and will continue to meet with set backs, as with every advance, the cliques will sell large blocks of stocks. Reading has been the leader in the market and has acted as a pivot point for the rest of the market. The combination of the Pennsylvania, the Lehigh Valley, the Reading and Jersey Central. These four roads are together powerful enough to control the anthracite coal trade of the country, and thus to increase their incomes from this traffic. President Corbin of the Reading has estimated that one dollar per ton can be saved in marketing anthracite. This, on 34,000,000 tons, is a tremendous item, and when to this decrease in the cost of mining and marketing coal is added the increase of fifty cents per ton to the consumer, we begin to understand why all the coal stocks have been strong at advances, and why Reading, the largest coal road in the country, is the strongest of all. Then, again, the close alliance or rather the identity of control, between Reading and Jersey Central is said to have thrown in the hands of the former the control of the river front on the Jersey shore. Mr. Corbin is pursuing a peace policy with the Pennsylvania company, the result of which is that Mr. Garrett of the Baltimore and Ohio says that he is not going to compete with these roads for an entrance into New York, but that, if necessary, he will build a line across New Jersey and find an entrance of his own. This effectively disposes of the great Baltimore and Ohio deal that was agitating the street a few weeks ago, and puts Mr. Garrett where he was previous to the reported combination with Richmond Terminal and Reading. This new-born harmony between the Pennsylvania and Reading will lead to greater economy in the operation of both roads, and great changes in management always follow his election to the presidency of a railroad. Instead of starting their passenger trains from the same cities at the same time and running a neck and neck race to their destination the Pennsylvania and the Reading trains are to alternate and divide the traffic. This will serve to reduce the number of passenger trains on each road without lessening the income of either. The Reading has notified the lessees of its collieries that they can load in Pennsylvania cars for shipment over the Pennsylvania lines. The permission is a practical annulment of the clause in these leases requiring all shipments to be made over the Reading road.

The interstate commerce law has given strength to both Pacific Mail and Canadian Pacific stocks. It was supposed that the fourth section would throw a heavy traffic of Pacific coast products over these outside routes, but the wool growers of California and producers and business men of that section generally are clamoring for its temporary suspension, and as the suspension has been granted, and great changes in management always follow his election to the presidency of a railroad. Instead of starting their passenger trains from the same cities at the same time and running a neck and neck race to their destination the Pennsylvania and the Reading trains are to alternate and divide the traffic. This will serve to reduce the number of passenger trains on each road without lessening the income of either. The Reading has notified the lessees of its collieries that they can load in Pennsylvania cars for shipment over the Pennsylvania lines. The permission is a practical annulment of the clause in these leases requiring all shipments to be made over the Reading road.

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Should the commission hold the transcontinental roads to its requirements the earnings of the outside lines would increase and their stock would advance; but should it determine to temporarily suspend its operation in favor of these roads, their stocks would advance while the others would decline. Again, a railroad whose traffic is injured by the law may petition the court for a receiver, and while in bankruptcy it will thus earn more money than if kept out of the hands of the court. It has long been suspected that some of our federal judges are owned, body and soul, by the corporations, and it is a very easy thing to change a president or general manager of a railroad into a receiver and in this way allow the road to defy the law. Beyond this is a suspicion that the tariff articles previously carried on by the different pools, at the expense of the railroads, can now be made just as well by the commission at the expense of the government. Whichever way it may turn the railroads are likely to come out ahead. The "clauses which favor their interests they will be likely to enforce, and those that are against them will make so obnoxious to the traveling and shipping public that the people will ask for their repeal. At any rate, they can follow their old method in many instances until complaint is made by the government, and then the country may discover that the regulation of the tariff of 140,000 miles of railroad is too big a job for a commission to undertake. But the law is a step in the right direction, and may lead to the people later on to assume full control.

The struggle for the control of Broadway has shown that a majority of the property owners are opposed to an elevated road, and that a great portion of this opposition can be enlisted in favor of the elevated scheme as being the lesser of two evils. They feel that they feel certain they are bound to endure Manhattan elevated stock has been in demand because it is believed the new rapid transit system will eventually come under the control of Gould and Field.

The Montague street (Brooklyn) cable company are to pay \$10,000 a year to Mr. Pierpont for the privilege of passing over about two blocks of that street. This is a glaring instance of a tax on capital, levied for the benefit of a private person. Mr. Pierpont loses nothing if his property is injured, and does he contribute anything in exchange for this tremendous tax, yet the company must pay him every year the equivalent of 236,000 fares for his consent to pass through a street that has been used for twenty years as a public highway.

Reports of fortunes being made in western land speculation still come in. Kansas City business sites are selling for \$6,000 a front foot, while the real estate boomer seems to be at work in every town and city from the Mississippi to the Pacific coast. The New York *Daily Commercial Advertiser*, a paper devoted to trade interests, gives, in a recent edition, a scathing rebuke to these land speculators, and blames them for disturbing the distribution of wealth and crippling trade by raising the price of land so high that business cannot be transacted profitably.

The grocery and dry goods trades are reported dull, while iron production is very unsteady. The iron men seem to think the interstate commerce act is the cause, and not the increased price of coal on one hand and a decreased demand resulting from land speculation on the other.

Government bonds, though rather dull, are very firm, and with renewed activity will go higher. Already printed interviews with prominent legislators show that the opposition to have the government buy its own bonds in open market, by means of that institution that only organized effort can procure. Y. Y. Z.

## DR. M'GLYNN.

THOUGHTFUL CATHOLICS STEADILY RAL-  
LYING TO HIS SUPPORT.A Diamond-Studded Chalice for Dr. Curran  
—The Brooklyn Meeting—St. Stephen's Parishioners Will Stand by the Soggarth Aroon.

Among the events of the week marking the drift of public opinion on the persecution of the priestly sympathizers with Dr. McGlynn was the presentation to Dr. Curran, by the teachers and ex-teachers of St. Stephen's church, of a beautiful golden chalice, set with rubies and diamonds. The presentation took place at the house of Miss Byrne, 665 Second avenue, Mr. James O'Reilly accompanying the gift with a brief address.

Dr. Curran, in his response, reaffirmed his opinion that Dr. McGlynn had made no mistake in his theology, and insisted that he himself had been guilty of no contumacy in supporting him. He took his stand by Dr. McGlynn, knowing full well that he would never wrongfully oppose any proper authority. "Dr. McGlynn," said Dr. Curran, "is suffering now, but the time will come when he will be more sanctified than ever."

## THE BROOKLYN MEETING.

Repudiating Any Action Which Looks to  
Interference in Politics.

THURSDAY, April 14.—Odd Fellows' hall, Brooklyn, was packed by the Catholic men and women who sympathized with Dr. McGlynn in the outrage which had been perpetrated upon him by the archbishop of New York and the castle Catholic end of the priesthood of his diocese. Among those present were: John J. Clancy, ex-member of the board of education; John J. Rafferty, S. P. Ellisworth, P. F. Delaney, John McMackin of this city; James Rordan, Michael J. Kelly, George Smith, George McVeey, secretary of the workmen's state assembly; Richard F. Caffrey, John J. Bealin, James P. Archibald, Richard Hourigan, Thomas S. Delaney, Patrick Fagan, Thomas P. Gill, James J. Gahan, M. O'Connell and Bernard McQuade. The temper of the meeting was unmistakable, as will be seen by the following resolutions, which were adopted with a cheer that almost shook off the roof of the building:

"Resolved, In mass meeting assembled, that we uphold the land doctrine of the party of the people, and insist that its introduction into the laws of our country will do more to abolish poverty and its favorite child, vice, from our land than any of the alleged principles that are now being urged by the office seeking politicians and political paupers and thieves of the two old parties.

"Resolved, That we affirm, not only the entire morality of the doctrine, but also its absolute antagonism to immorality and vice.

"Resolved, That we deny emphatically the right of any foreign tribunal in church or state to interfere directly or indirectly with the policies of this country.

"Resolved, That we approve of the manner in which the parishioners of St. Stephen's church have expressed their opposition to, and condemnation of, the action of the archbishop of New York by refusing to contribute out of their hard earnings money to the support of men who are, perhaps thoughtlessly or ignorantly, opposed to a man who has done more to elevate and improve the condition of his fellow men than the archbishop and all his kindred will ever be able to do unless they regret their errors, and undo the evil they have done.

"Resolved, That we urge the consideration of the plan adopted by the parishioners of St. Stephen's upon the attention of the parishioners of all the churches of the diocese of New York, to the end that the men now in authority may be forced, through their pockets, to give that thought to the needs of the toilers and producers which they have heretofore shamelessly neglected to do.

"Resolved, That we uphold and indorse the action of Dr. McGlynn and tender him our thanks, our affection, our love, for his courageous action in proving true to his convictions in the face of vindictive opposition from the wealthy and powerful.

"Resolved, That the chairman of this meeting be directed to appoint a committee of the citizens of this district to wait upon the bishop of the city of Brooklyn and the archbishop of New York to explain the land doctrines to those gentlemen and request them to think on the subject prayerfully, to the end that when they have arrived at a knowledge of the truth, Rev. Dr. McGlynn may be honorably reinstated in his position as the pastor of St. Stephen's."

James P. Archibald began with a glowing panegyric to Dr. McGlynn, and in the course of his address fired ringing shots at "the O'Donoghue," "Bully" Donnelly, "Tammany" Preston and Archbishop Corrigan. He said in conclusion that if the Lord did not punish Preston in this world he would not forget to do so in the next.

James J. Gahan, after paying a glowing tribute to Father Malone, the patriot who ran up the American flag in times of war, said that the meeting, properly understood, was an anti-Corbin meeting. He claimed the same as they do in Ireland, and that is the land for the people. When the archbishop made the charges against the doctor he put forward as his chief defense that he, the son of Irish parents, had come out and identified himself with a movement to give back the land to the people of Ireland. That was his first offense. The man who hailed Dr. McGlynn over the coals was a man trained in the school of reaction. This man acted in obedience to an English clique which had established itself in Rome. It was through this clique that Simon was elevated to position, and acting under their instructions he issued the celebrated circular letter to all the priests in Ireland, commanding them no longer to take part in the agitation of the land for the people. This was the man who now was persecuting the doctor. There were 15,000 capitalists in Brooklyn receiving yearly rent amounting to \$4,000,000. If this money, instead of going into the pockets of those land owners, were put into a common fund for keeping the houses of Brooklyn in a proper condition, would it not be clear that the whole expenses of the city would be much less and that the people would be relieved from further taxation? He warned any foreign power, especially Rome, not to interfere in American politics.

Mr. John McMackin was next introduced. He said that if there was any departure from true theology it was the archbishop who was guilty. He characterized him as "this little archbishop whose head is so narrow." Mr. McMackin severely arraigned the politicians who are at the bottom of the scheme, and paid his respects to Preston, Donnelly & Co.

The other speakers were Richard McCaffrey of Greenpoint, John J. Bealin and Dr. Coughlin.

## AMONG THE "REBELS."

Dr. McGlynn's Parishioners Will Stand or  
Fall with the "Soggarth Aroon."

FRIDAY EVENING, April 15.—After spending holy week in a properly devotional manner, the rebellious parishioners of St. Stephen's appeared again in full force at International hall, Twenty-seventh street. The proceedings were, as usual, opened by Mr. Feeny, who said that the editors of the monopolistic press

—lost to all sense of duty to their Maker, forgetting the season of prayer—had taken advantage of the fact that Dr. McGlynn's parishioners had not met on Good Friday, to parade in their venal sheets that the parishioners had concluded to hold no more meetings; that the threat of excommunication by the archbishop had had its effect; that the committee of thirty-five were quarreling; that Dr. McGlynn had been deserted. All this, Mr. Feeny declared, was false, and came with bad grace from a press that had for the last four months well nigh boycotted all mention of these meetings. The parishioners of St. Stephen's had made a note of the unjust treatment of Dr. McGlynn and his friends by the "dishonest, unreliable" press of New York city. The parishioners were going to hold meetings every Friday, excepting holy days, until the soggarth aroon again appeared before the altar of St. Stephen's and from there blessed them.

The following resolutions, denouncing the action of the archbishop in sending Father Curran to retirement during the last ten days of Lent, were read and adopted:

"Resolved, That we, in mass meeting assembled, indorse the action of the Rev. Dr. Curran and tender him our congratulations for the manly stand he has taken, and ask him in God's name to continue in the same Christian course.

"Resolved, That we condemn the action of Archbishop Corrigan in this respect as unbefitting a Christian minister, whose duty it is to inculcate the Christian doctrine and Christian practices; and be it furthermore

"Resolved, That we denounce the infamous circular calling on the priests of this diocese asking them to subscribe their names, and, therefore, manifest their belief that the statement in that document set forth, that the Rev. Dr. McGlynn is vain and vindictive, as a breach of the command of God—which says: 'Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor'; and, furthermore, we hold up to the public gaze the Rev. Monsignor Preston, Fathers Lynch and Edwards, the clerical body guard of the archbishop and the arch enemies of our beloved pastor, Rev. Edward McGlynn, and recommend them to the prayerful consideration of the faithful."

Dr. Henry Curran gave notice that in spite of the reports of the press to the contrary the meetings of St. Stephen's parishioners would be continued. Dr. McGlynn would never go to Rome as a suspended priest. Speaking of the secret circular which had been sent around among the pastors for signatures, and which had proved a boomerang for the archbishop, the appearance of one name had surprised him, that of Father Kelly, whom Dr. McGlynn had befriended on more than one occasion.

Speeches were made by Messrs. Moran, McMackin, Stearns and Bealin. The audience found vent for its feeling in frequent applause, some of the points eliciting enthusiasm being as follows: "A number of politicians have undoubtedly got into the confidence of some of the heads of the church."

"Events are occurring throughout the country which will show those men that they have made a mistake in striking down one of the friends of the poor."

"When they (the hierarchy) resolved among themselves to decapitate this honored pastor they thought that, as before, the breaking down of a man as a devoted priest would be looked upon as final, but they have made a mistake."

"The doctor was tried, but it was in the gambling dens by men who had piled up enormous wealth which they took from the poor."

"Dr. McGlynn was not invited to go to Rome, but he was told to publicly admit that he had sinned and then go to Rome as a criminal."

"The archbishop asserted that the theory was condemned by the church. A bishop in another country preface his pastoral with the remark that he had no right to talk to them on the subject, but said substantially that the land belonged to the people. Questions of land were never made questions of theology."

"Those who have signed this document know that it is a lie, and they should be suspended."

"The priest who, after signing the circular, would say mass commits a sacrilege."

"An archbishop who has an income of \$40,000 a year can keep the church for a few years. Continue doing as you have done and stand by Doctor McGlynn. Remember a priest he is, and a priest he always will be."

Mr. Feeny closed the meeting at half-past 10 o'clock. The parishioners will henceforth meet weekly on Friday in the same hall.

Father Maguire and Other Germans Ad-  
dress the Archbishop.

This is published in the New York papers as having been presented to Archbishop Corrigan on Sunday last:

MOST REVEREND SIR: Last Saturday a liberal Catholic (he calls himself O'Donoghue) made the assertion in one of the leading morning papers that an attempt was made on the part of authority to coerce the priests of New York to sign an address to your grace wherein we assure you of our loyalty and obedience, and disapprove of the action for the Rev. Dr. McGlynn in the Henry George revolutionary movement.

Now, we declare said assertion entirely false. We, the German priests of New York city who have signed the document, were informed that we were perfectly at liberty to sign or refuse our signatures. We put our names to the address freely and without compulsion or coercion. Several of our number have not as yet been requested to sign, but they are anxious to have an opportunity to do so. If we had been requested by any one to sign an address indorsing the Henry George land confiscation or robber theory, we would have refused our signatures firmly and emphatically.

We have been taught from childhood that the church of Christ is a perfectly organized society, wherein the bishop of Rome is the supreme teacher and judge in matters of faith and regulation of morality. The bishops are teachers and judges in their respective territory. All the faithful, priests as well as laity, are obliged to respect and obey their bishop, but they have the liberty to appeal from their decision to Rome. When Rome has spoken bishops and people submit.

"Roma locuta causa finita." What would intelligent men say if a contestant in a lawsuit should insult the judge and jury and appeal from them to the spectators in the court room for a final decision?

The Catholic church is the militant church in the spiritual order, her commander in chief is the pope, her division generals are the bishops, her officers the clergy. The church is constantly engaged in wars against the devil and the false maxims and principles of the infidel world. Now, if at the time of war a subordinate officer should disobey his general, and by eloquent appeals seduce the soldiers into insubordination, what would be done with this rebellious officer? If a general in battle should disobey the positive commands of the general in chief, what would be his punishment? A good Catholic will obey his pastors, a good priest will obey his commander, the bishop, and all will obey the commander in chief, the holy father, in matters of faith and morality.

For the last six months the Catholic clergy of New York have been persistently misrepresented by certain parties as if they were followers of Henry George and sympathizers of the Rev. Dr. McGlynn in his defiant attitude to civil and ecclesiastical laws and constitutional enactments. We have borne these misrepresentations patiently in the hope that Dr. McGlynn and his followers might have time to reflect and retract their revolutionary doctrine. But when the public papers represent these men in their insubordination to legitimate authority as the representatives and champions of the Catholic priests of New York, and when our silence would be taken as

acquiescence, patience ceases to be a virtue, and we are forced by our convictions and the loyalty and obedience we owe the church into a solemn protest against these accusations.

We, the undersigned, have no sympathy with revolutionary or communist doctrines, we cannot approve of the actions of men who endeavor to destroy the respect and obedience due to law and legitimate authority, be the same civil or ecclesiastical.

Assuring your grace of our deep felt sympathy in your present fight for law, authority and justice, we are your obedient sons in Christ.

This address is signed by the Rev. John Maguire, the Rev. John Daily and some fifty other "German priests."

The Archbishop's Last Effort to Get Him-  
self Indorsed.

New York Tribune.

The recent attempt to coerce the Catholic clergy of this diocese into signing a condemnation of Dr. McGlynn has proved a failure. The terms in which Dr. McGlynn, his numerous friends of the clergy, and the parishioners of St. Stephen's church were alluded to were too odious and the glare of publicity too strong for the project. Now the archbishop's friends have rewritten the document, omitting Dr. McGlynn's name, and have mailed it to such priests as they think can be depended on to sign it. This was sent out, accompanied by a letter signed by Father Lynch as "secretary," last Tuesday or Wednesday. The real purpose of the document is disclosed by the frank statement, made by Father Lynch himself to several of the clergy, that "it was for use at Rome against the efforts of Cardinal Gibbons and Bishop Keane."

MOST REVEREND ARCHBISHOP: We, the priests of the archdiocese of New York, come before you to express our sincere attachment to you and our unfeigned and cheerful loyalty to your authority. We recognize in you our ecclesiastical superior, who, being in full communion with the head of the Catholic church, the successor of St. Peter, lawfully rule, teach and judge this portion of the flock of Christ—the archdiocese of New York.

"Conformably to the exhortation of St. Paul, we look up to you as our 'prelate who speaks to us the word of God, whose faith we follow.' And, pondering the grave injunction of the same apostle, 'Obey your prelates and be subject to them, for they watch as being to render an account of your souls, that they may do this with joy and not with grief; for this is not expedient for you.' Hebrews, xiii, 17. We desire also on this occasion to record our emphatic disapproval and reprobation of the act of disobedience and disloyalty to your authority of which a certain member of our body has made himself guilty—an act of disloyalty aggravated by his subsequent course.

We have been patiently hoping and praying that our dear brother would change his mind and return to his father's house. But observing that our charitable silence is construed into acquiescence in and approval of disobedience and that it causes some surprise both here and abroad—learning, moreover, that it is publicly asserted that he is believed to uphold the cause of the clergy in general, we feel it our duty to make this solemn declaration to you, that the clergy of the archdiocese of New York utterly condemn all disobedience to lawfully constituted authority, especially to the authority of the church, and can have no sympathy with the efforts of those who in any way set that authority aside. Our motto shall always be, 'An obedient man shall speak of victory.' Proverbs, xxi, 28."

Dr. McGlynn's Case From an English Point  
of View.

BIRMINGHAM, England, April 6.—THE STANDARD has pleased me very much, and, as for the McGlynn episode, you are making history. For many years past my respect and esteem for the Irish and English Catholic priests has steadily increased, and, Protestant as I am, I have come to the conclusion that they are more truly the followers of Christ in their intimate connection with the sorrows and joys of the "common people" and their deep helpful sympathy with the sufferings of the poor,



**And So Do Other Landlords.**  
London Democrat.  
An Irish landlord does not hesitate to exact rents which can only be paid by poor servant girls sending portions of their hard earned



## The Kingdom Come.

O God, and still Thy children suffer want!  
O God, and still Thy children seek from day to day  
For work in vain, and babies cry for bread,  
And heartless mothers with dry eyes look on,  
Too sad to weep, too hopeless far to pray,  
As happy Christians do, "Thy Kingdom  
Come."

Thy Kingdom Come. How often has the  
prayer  
Gone up to Thee since Christ, the poor man's  
friend.  
First told His humble followers how to pray.  
From million homes the prayer goes up to-day  
To Thee, and still no answer dost Thou send,  
Or so it seems, for want and crime are here.

And yet, O Father, wherefore the delay?  
Whose fault that want and crime walk  
Hand in hand?  
Whose fault but ours for wealth enough is here.  
But selfish greed, and Ignorance, and Fear,  
A band of triple tyrants, rule the land  
And thwart the prayer they offer day by day.

O God! I see a home—a million homes  
So poor and comfortless, bare even to fears:  
No paint, nor carpet on the hard, rough  
floor;  
Some chairs, a table, bed and stove, no more;  
And they have lived in such a home for  
years,  
And still the prayer goes up, "Thy Kingdom  
Come."

And hard the father toils through long, long  
hours:  
The mother drudges, and the children, too,  
Must work to eke out the poor meager fare.  
No chance for knowledge to gain entrance  
there;  
No chance the gentler virtues there to woo,  
But chance enough for all the evil powers.

And when the father drinks—the children  
swear,  
Or steal, or worse—and bitterness and hate  
Fills every heart where should be only love—  
With cold philosophy free thinkers prove  
"That law that millions doom to such a fate;  
'Tis God, the Christian says," then wherefore  
care?

Or wherefore vex and sadden all our years  
In feeling all the woes of wretched men  
Whom God has doomed to toil, and want,  
and sin,  
That the elect, the wealthy few, may win  
Leisure for wisdom, virtue, joy, and then,  
At last, a place where comes not death or  
tears?

We do not like to hear of poverty,  
That hot bed of disease, and sin, and crime.  
We preach that thrift and virtue is its dower.  
With ease, we see not. Have we lost the  
power?  
Has self and greed, then, made us deaf and  
blind?  
And made our worship worse than blasphemy?

We quote, "Ye always with you have the  
poor."  
And make a prophecy of what was meant  
But as a statement of the facts that then  
Existed. But a time in vain seek, when  
The Christ or prophet in God's Bible lent  
His voice to justify so crust a state.

Let us not dare to pray—giving the while  
A paltry sum, degrading charity,  
To those our ignorance or greed has robbed  
Of justice, the divine inheritance,  
And whom their slaves when God has  
made them free.

Let us not dare to pray "Thy Kingdom come!"  
Let us not dare, till we have done our part!  
With voice or pen or freeman's vote to win  
Them justice and to blot this deadly stain  
From off our souls. Nor ignorant remain  
Of all their wrongs, for ignorance is sin.  
—Let us not dare to harden still the heart.

For God is just. He will avenge the wrong  
Done to his children by their brothers here.  
The silent, voiceless agony ascends  
From prisoned souls to Him in heaven, and  
New strength to outraged laws divine.  
Then fear eternal justice, sure, and swift and  
strong.

—MRS. ELIZABETH JOHNSON.  
Fiction, Oct., April 13, 1887.

## MR. VAN GRIP'S FORTUNE.

In 1840 Mr. Van Grip purchased from  
the Van Snort estate a lot of land fronting  
on Broadway, below Fulton street, for  
\$25,000. An old building stood on the lot  
at that time, and Mr. Van Grip had it  
torn down and a new building erected in  
its stead. The new building cost \$100,000  
and created no little stir and gossip in  
New York in those days. Besides giving  
a minute description of it in their news  
columns, the *Bleed and Blade* treated  
the subject editorially and in glowing terms  
praised the enterprise and public spirit of  
Mr. Van Grip, and wound up with a wish  
that New York were blessed with more  
men like him. Enterprise and public spirit  
were not Mr. Van Grip's only virtues. He  
was a religious, God-fearing gentleman, a  
loving husband, a good father, a thorough  
business man who was not too proud to  
look after his own affairs, which he always  
kept in the straightest order, keeping ac-  
curate accounts of all his transactions so  
that at any moment he could tell exactly  
how he stood with respect to any  
particular one of them; in short, he was a  
model man—a man to be looked up to and  
copied.

Years rolled by, bringing poverty, hunger  
and rags to many and riches, plenty and  
fine linen to a few. The civil war broke  
out, and thousands of hot-headed patriots  
left home and kindred to sacrifice their  
lives on the altar of freedom. Hitherto it  
had been a cast iron rule with Mr. Van  
Grip to personally represent himself on all  
occasions where matters of any moment  
were at issue, but in this case he was sat-  
isfied to appear by proxy. So he hired an  
agent to represent him at the "front," and  
remained at home himself to look after the  
interests of society and to see that the  
business of the metropolis was carried on  
in a shipshape manner. The public weal  
demanded this, and, as Mr. Van Grip was  
a heavy taxpayer, the city could not very  
well spare him. He was one of her repre-  
sentative men.

In 1886 Mr. Van Grip died, in the lan-  
guage of the eminent divines who officiated  
at the funeral services, "universally re-  
gretted," and was peacefully laid to rest in  
the family plot, where a handsome marble  
shaft records his many virtues for the ed-  
ification of future generations.

Early in 1887 the lot of land and the  
building (now an old one) on Broadway  
were sold in partition proceedings for the  
sum of \$250,000. I have in-  
cidentally remarked above that Mr. Van  
Grip kept accurate accounts of all his  
transactions, and I here take the liberty of  
glancing at the accounts relative to this  
particular one, not to satisfy any morbid  
curiosity, but simply with a view of learn-  
ing a lesson from the enterprise and public  
spirit of this exemplary gentleman.

The account is written in a neat hand,  
every "T" is dotted and every "F" is crossed,

and it is most beautifully ruled off in red  
ink. On the debit side are entered pay-  
ments for taxes, water rates, insurance,  
repairs, etc., and interest at the legal rate on  
the \$125,000 invested; and on the credit  
side appear the amounts of rent received.  
For the first three years (1841-3) the debit  
and credit sides of the accounts exactly  
balance. During the following seven  
years (1844-50) the credits exceed the debits  
by \$5,500; from 1851 to 1860 the excess of  
credits over debits is \$11,000; from 1861 to  
1870 this excess amounts to \$12,500; from  
1871 to 1880 the excess amounts up to \$14,-  
000; and from 1881 to 1886, inclusive, it is  
\$8,000; the grand total of excess of rents  
over and above payments for taxes, insur-  
ance, water rates, repairs, etc., and the  
amounts which Mr. Van Grip allowed him-  
self for interest on the principal sum in-  
vested during the forty-six years being  
\$51,000.

Now let us work out two little problems,  
one in subtraction and the other in addi-  
tion. From the price at which the property  
was sold in 1887, namely, \$250,000, deduct  
the cost price, namely, \$125,000, and there  
remains \$125,000, to which add  
\$51,000, and we find that the net profit on  
this little transaction was \$76,000. Of  
course, I have not taken into consideration  
interest on the surplus of receipts over dis-  
bursements which accrued annually from  
1844 to 1886, and of which surplus Mr. Van  
Grip was sufficiently enterprising and pub-  
lic spirited to take appropriate advantage.

Two hundred and seventy-six thousand  
dollars! Phew! To think of it makes my  
head swim. What genius! What enter-  
prise! What public spirit! Compare this  
with the puny efforts of twenty pigmy con-  
temporaries of Mr. Van Grip. Those  
twenty clouds of humanity started in the  
race with him. They drugged and delved  
for twenty years (1840-60), and as the result  
of their drugging and delving averaged  
\$25 a year per man, they all earning dur-  
ing the twenty years \$210,000, which these  
good-for-nothing fellows squandered as fast  
as they earned it. The war broke out and  
the whole twenty marched off to the  
"front," from which six of them returned  
alive to resume their drugging and delving.  
For the next twenty-two years (1865-86) the  
total amount earned by those six nobodies  
was \$66,000, or \$5500 yearly a man. This  
they likewise spent as fast as they earned  
it, in riotous living and panpining of the  
flesh. And then those six nobodies died  
and were buried out of sight and into their  
miserable graves, whereon not as much as  
a wooden stake is placed to remind the  
passer by that such pigmies lived.

Here we have the bright example of one  
enterprising, public spirited gentleman,  
earning and saving on one of his transac-  
tions as much as twenty nobodies earned  
and squandered. Just think of it!

We have said one of his transactions,  
for this was only one of a number of like  
ones in which Mr. Van Grip had been en-  
gaged during those forty-six years. When  
that worthy gentleman died his estate was  
found to be worth over \$2,000,000—"all in  
ready," as the lawyers expressed it. Any  
reader of THE STANDARD, if he wishes to  
form a fair estimate of the enterprise and  
public spirit of this great man, can do so,  
approximately at least, by working out a  
little problem in the rule of three. For in-  
stance, suppose the earnings of Mr. Van  
Grip over and above those of ordinary men  
for those forty-six years to form a like pro-  
portion of the \$2,000,000 to that which  
they actually did of the \$51,000, we can  
find out in a jiffy how much his entire  
earnings during that period amount to.

Let us see:

\$51,000 : 2,000,000 :: 276,000.

Multiply our second term by our third  
and divide the product by our first. There  
you are, sir, \$1,777,142.85; that is the  
amount of Mr. Van Grip's extra earnings  
during the forty-six years.

Again, if it takes twenty nobodies under  
certain circumstances and conditions forty-  
six years to earn \$276,000, how many no-  
bodies, working under similar circum-  
stances and conditions and for a similar  
period, will it take to earn \$1,777,142.85?

276,000 : 1,777,142.85 :: 20.

Multiply our second term by our third  
and divide the product by our first. An-  
swer 114 78857-276000 nobodies. A frac-  
tion of a nobody does not amount to much,  
so we will discard the fraction and call it  
114.

Gracious, goodness me, what an enter-  
prising, public spirited man Mr. Van Grip  
was!

It warms the cockles of my heart to  
contemplate him. Just think of it. He  
earned and saved more than 114 of the  
ordinary run of men earned and squan-  
dered.

Pondering over these figures an idea  
occurred to me, and as I am not one of those  
who keep their light under a bushel, I give  
it to the readers of THE STANDARD. It is  
this: The sole object of life nowadays is  
money. Granted. There are over 50,000,-  
000 human beings in these United States  
at the present writing. Now, suppose that  
one-fifth of these are able-bodied men  
(which they are not, but we will suppose  
so), engaged in a terribly earnest pursuit  
of that object, and suppose again that in  
every 115 of these 10,000,000 there is one  
Mr. Van Grip and 114 incapable nobodies.  
Now let us figure out that and see what it  
comes to:

115 : 10,000,000 :: 1.

Proceed as we have done above and we  
find that there are 86,956 12-23 Mr. Van  
Grips and 9,913,043 11-23 incapable nobodies  
who are unwilling or unable to accomplish  
anything toward the object referred to—  
money.

Now I have come to the idea. Listen:  
Let those 9,913,043 11-23 incapable no-  
bodies be quietly choked, or burned, or per-  
haps, it would be cheaper to dump them into  
the sea, and then after that has been done  
let us strangle all the nobody infants as  
fast as they appear and save and carefully  
raise the Van Grip infants; if—but, hang  
it, here comes this terrible "if!" How are  
we to recognize the Van Grip infants?

There's the rub. Perhaps some reader of  
THE STANDARD may devise a mode of ob-  
viating this little difficulty.

Some men are curious animals. I related  
the facts above written to my friend Pete  
Drudger, and instead of appreciating the  
enterprise and public spirit of Mr. Van  
Grip as they deserve, he metaphorically  
tore that respectable gentleman's memory  
to tatters, said he never did an honest day's  
work in his life, said he was nothing but a  
bloated spider who lay idly in his hole, and  
watched an opportunity to prey upon the  
poor nobodies, said that the \$1,557,142.85 of  
poor nobodies to the 114 nobodies 12 1/2  
times, then branched off into some nonsense about  
"unearned increment," or some such stuff,  
and finally wound up by calling me a fool,  
and said that if my "idiotic ideas" about

burning, choking and drowning could, by  
any possible means, be carried into execu-  
tion, I should be the first victim, as he had  
never known a more incapable nobody  
than I am; whereupon I left him. There  
is no use in trying to reason with such  
men.

OWEN FITZSIMONS.

## WEALTH WITHOUT WORK.

Seizing What God Meant for All Men's Use  
and Growing Rich by Selling It.

The career of the Willets brothers smacks  
of the romantic. For years they followed the  
lumber business in Allegheny county, New  
York, clearing a tract of land left them by  
their father, one of the pioneers of that sec-  
tion. In 1870 they were worth perhaps \$50,-  
000 apiece and 2,000 acres of fallow land. The  
developments of the Allegheny field showed  
that the land was in the heart of the belt. Re-  
fusing all offers to lease they developed in  
person what proved a genuine gold mine.  
Charles Young, who had formerly been in  
their employ and had purchased a portion of  
their land and turned farmer, was also sur-  
prised to find himself a rich man. Not con-  
tent with their first success all three have  
been working up developments ever since,  
and have been uniformly successful, ranking  
among the several times millionaires of oildom.

At the same time that Isaac Willets pur-  
chased the Muncie farm John McKeown pur-  
chased the farm of the Muncie heirs directly  
north. The venture has proved a most for-  
tunate one, and Mr. McKeown's income there-  
from now amounts to nearly \$2,000 a day. The  
career of this gentleman has been even more  
varied and romantic than that of the Willets  
brothers. Less than twenty-five years ago  
he landed at Castle garden, an Irish im-  
migrant, with scarcely a dollar in his pocket.  
He tried his hands at various things, but  
finally drifted into the oil regions and became  
a driller. His first ventures on his own ac-  
count were failures, and on several occasions  
he saw his all swept into the hands of the  
sheriff. But after each reverse he went to  
work with renewed energy to recover what  
he had lost, and when the Bradford field was  
opened his fortunes changed. He was early  
in the field, and secured some choice leases.  
He sold one, and with the proceeds developed  
the remainder. A year later he was a mil-  
lionaire, and his wealth was constantly in-  
creasing. He was a man of great energy and  
his life has been a life of constant activity.  
He has been a leader in the develop-  
ment of every new field, and his losing  
ventures have been few and far between.  
To-day he has millions invested in bonds,  
owns one of the most extensive ranches in  
Colorado and is rated by the trade as the  
largest single oil producer in the world.

Captain J. Vandegrift of the Standard  
oil company leased the Barre farm, south  
of the Smith, and struck a series of gushers  
that added materially to his immense wealth.  
He disposed of his interest in the Barre only  
to develop the Taylorstown pool, where he  
now has a fortune in prospect. South  
of the Barre farm lies the three-acre lot,  
the property of a man named Stewart, who  
gained a living by the manufacture and sale  
of a salve warranted to cure all ills. Two  
years ago Stewart's lot and house would have  
sold for less than \$500. In March of last year  
he leased the lot, only large enough for one  
well, to Joseph Craig for one-fourth royalty.  
The result was a well that for weeks did over  
two thousand barrels a day and is still a  
strong producer. Stewart has purchased a  
farm and permanently retired from the salve  
trade. Craig's interest in the Washington  
field has cleared \$200,000. Feeble  
adjoining the Stewart lot was another, still  
smaller, the property of "Mammy" Miller, an  
aged colored woman. This was leased by a  
couple of Washington merchants with com-  
fortable bank accounts, who drilled a well  
that for months had a daily production of  
over one thousand barrels. Its owners have  
more than trebled their investment and  
"Mammy" Miller is the most popular mem-  
ber of her race in Washington county. F. B.  
Hallam and J. N. Edgerly, two young busi-  
ness men of Washington, leased the Davis  
farm on the north side of the city, but for  
some unknown reason destroyed the lease.  
Davis then leased it to the Union oil company.  
The farm is now valued at \$400,000 and the  
original lessees have sued Davis for \$100,000  
damages and the recovery of their rights.

R. H. Thayer went a mile in advance of  
developments in a southwestern direction, and  
struck three or four good wells and one  
gusher that, for a time, netted him an income  
of \$2,000 a day. Pat Galligan, an old-timer,  
who drilled the Smith well, leased and de-  
veloped the Taylor farm, and is growing rich.  
The Washington natural gas company, a local  
organization, has cleared \$200,000. Foster  
& Emerson, who joint possessions fifteen years  
ago would not have amounted to \$1,000, but  
who have since made millions by their opera-  
tions in natural gas, leased the Manifold farm,  
to the west of the Smith. Their first well,  
for a time, gave them a monthly income  
of \$30,000, and their subsequent ventures have  
repeated, in varying degree, this initial suc-  
cess.

Propagating the Faith in England.  
The English land restoration league, which,  
as the title indicates, advocates the restora-  
tion of the land of England to the whole  
people of England, is busily propagating the  
faith by means of lectures and the distribution  
of tracts. The following is taken from one  
of their tracts:

Organizer of co-operative guild—Well what  
can you do?  
Blacksmith—I can make springs and axles  
for carriages, and shoe your horses.

Organizer—Come in, Mr. Blacksmith.  
Mason—I can build your barns, bridges,  
houses and stables.

Organizer—Very well, come in; we cannot  
do without you.

Shoemaker—I can make boots and shoes for  
you.

Organizer—We must have you, Mr. Shoemaker.

(In turn all the trades and professions  
applied, till at last a landlord came who  
wanted to become a member.)

Organizer—And what are you?  
Landlord—I am a landlord.

Organizer—What do you do for a livelihood?  
Landlord—Oh, I take toll of all of you. The  
laborer pays me for the right to dig, the miner  
for the right to burrow in the earth, and the  
bricklayer for permission to build a house.

Organizer—But what can you do?  
Landlord—I can make your laws, and when  
I have made them I can administer them. If  
a man snarls a hare I give him six months; if  
he shoots a snipe I give him three. I can drive  
men to desperation, and to the uttermost part  
of the earth. I can prevent the erection of  
cottages, or the building of a Methodist  
chapel. I can look on and take the larger  
share of the prosperity of the farmer, the  
shopkeeper and the manufacturer.

Organizer—And what else can you do?  
Landlord—I can bring the 11-23 hairs of the  
aged to the grave with sorrow; I can break  
the heart of the wife and blast the prospects  
of men of talent and enterprise.

Organizer—Is that all you can do?  
Landlord—Good heavens! is not that  
enough?

Of Course He Must Be Crazy.  
George Francis Train to Evening Star reporter.

"Omaha? Yes, I saw that was the place  
for a city of millions. I jumped ashore and  
found a hat lying in the road. Nothing else  
there. Now there is a city. I owned half of  
it once. You know how people live? Ten  
out of every hundred had ninety-nine cents,  
saw if I held that land I would be one of  
ten. I didn't want to swim with ninety men  
on my back. I said, 'Take your city; I don't  
want it,' and left them to do as they pleased.  
Now I sit here, and it costs me only a dollar  
a day to live."

## UNEMPLOYED LABOR.

From "Social Problems," Chapter XIII.

Consider this terrible phenomenon, the  
tramp—an appearance more menacing to the  
public than that of hostile armies and fleets  
bent on destruction. What is the tramp? In  
the beginning, he is a man able to work, and  
willing to work, for the satisfaction of his  
needs; but who, not finding opportunity to  
work where he is, starts out in quest of it;  
who, failing in this search, is, in a later stage,  
driven by those imperative needs to beg or to  
steal, and so, losing self-respect, loses all that  
animates and elevates and stimulates a man  
to struggle and to labor; becomes a vagabond  
and an outcast—a poisonous parasite, avenging  
on society the wrong that he keenly, but  
vaguely, feels has been done him by society.

Yet the tramp, known as he is now from the  
Atlantic to the Pacific, is only a part of the  
phenomenon. Behind him, though not obtru-  
sive, save in what we call "hard times," there  
is, even in what we now consider normal  
times, a great mass of unemployed labor  
which is unable, unwilling, or not yet forced  
to tramp, but which leans to the tramp the  
same reason that the summer's part of an  
iceberg shows above the surface.

The difficulty which so many men who  
would gladly work to satisfy their needs find  
in obtaining opportunity to do so, is so com-  
mon as to occasion no surprise; nor, save  
when it becomes particularly intensified, to  
arouse any inquiry. We are used to it that,  
although we all know that work is in itself  
desirable, and that there never yet was a  
human being who wanted work for the sake  
of work, we have got into the habit of think-  
ing and talking as though work were in itself  
a bore. So deeply is this idea implanted in  
the common mind that we maintain a policy  
based on the notion that the more work we do  
for foreign nations and the less we allow them  
to do for us, the better off we shall be; and in  
public and in private we hear men lauded and  
enterprises advocated because they "furnish  
employment," while there are many who,  
with more or less definiteness, hold the idea  
that labor saving inventions have operated  
injuriously by lessening the amount of work  
to be done.

Manifestly, there is not an end, but a means;  
manifestly, there can be no real scarcity of  
work, which is but the means of satisfying man-  
kind, until human wants are satisfied.

How, then, shall we explain the obvious facts  
that lead men to think and speak as though  
work were in itself desirable?  
When we consider that labor is the pro-  
ducer of all wealth, the creator of all values,  
it is not strange that labor should experience  
difficulty in finding employment? The ex-  
change for commodities of that which gives  
value to all commodities ought to be the most  
certain and easy of exchanges. One wishing  
to exchange labor for food or clothing, or  
any of the manifold things which labor pro-  
duces, is like one wishing to exchange gold  
for coin, cotton for cloth, or wheat for  
flour. Nay, this is hardly a parallel; for, as  
the terms upon which the exchange of labor  
for commodities takes place are usually that  
the labor is first rendered, the man who offers  
labor in exchange generally proposes to  
produce and render value before value is  
returned to him.

This being the case, why is not the com-  
petition of employers to obtain workmen as  
great as the competition of workmen to find  
employment? Why is it that we do not con-  
sider the man who does work as the obliging  
party rather than the man who, as we say,  
furnishes work?

So it necessarily would be, if in saying that  
labor is the producer of wealth, we stated  
the whole case. But labor is only the pro-  
ducer of wealth in the sense of being the  
active factor of production. For the produc-  
tion of wealth labor must have access to pre-  
existing substance and natural forces. Man  
has no power to bring something out of noth-  
ing. He cannot create an atom of matter or  
initiate the slightest motion. Vast as are his  
powers of modifying matter and utilizing  
force, they are merely powers of adapting,  
changing, recombining, what previously ex-  
ists. The substance of the land with which I  
write these lines, as the paper on which I  
write, has previously formed the substance of  
other men and other animals, of plants, soils,  
atmospheres, probably of other worlds, and  
other systems. And so of the force which  
impels my pen. All we know of it is that it  
has acted and reacted through what seem to  
us eternal circles, and appears to reach this  
planet from the sun. The destruction of mat-  
ter and motion, as the creation of matter and  
motion, are to us unthinkable.

In the human being, in some mysterious way  
which neither the researches of physiologists  
nor the speculations of philosophers enable us  
to comprehend, conscious, planning intelli-  
gence comes in control of a limited time  
and to a limited extent, of the matter and  
motion contained in the human frame. The  
power of contracting and expanding human  
muscles is the initial force with which the  
human mind acts upon the material world. By  
the use of this power other powers are uti-  
lized, and the forms and relations of matter  
are changed in accordance with human de-  
sire. But how great soever be the power of  
affecting and using external nature which  
human intelligence thus obtains—and how great  
this may be—we are only beginning now to re-  
alize it is still only the power of affecting and  
using what previously exists. Without access  
to external nature, without the power of avail-  
ing himself of her substance and forces, man  
is not merely powerless to produce anything,  
he ceases to exist in the material world. He  
himself, in physical body at least, is but a  
changing form of matter, a passing mode of  
motion, that must be continually drawn from  
the reservoirs of external nature.

Without either of the three elements, land,  
air and water, man could not exist; but he  
is peculiarly a land animal, living on its surface  
and drawing from it his supplies. Though he  
is able to navigate the ocean, and may some  
day be able to navigate the air, he can only  
do so by availing himself of nature's gifts  
from land. Land is to him the great store-  
house of materials and reservoir of forces  
upon which he must draw for his needs. And  
as wealth consists of materials and products  
of nature which have been secured or mod-  
ified by human exertion so as to fit them for  
the satisfaction of human desires (D), labor is  
the active factor in the production of wealth,  
but land is the passive factor, without which  
labor can neither produce nor exist.

All this is so obvious that it may seem like  
wasting space to state it. Yet, in this ob-  
vious fact lies the explanation of that enigma  
that so many seem a hopeless puzzle—the  
labor question. What is inexplicable, if we  
lose sight of man's absolute and constant de-  
pendence upon land, is clear when we recog-  
nize it.

Let us suppose, as well as we can, human  
society in a world as near as possible like our  
own, with one essential difference. Let us  
suppose this imaginary world and its in-  
habitants so constructed that men could sup-  
ply themselves in air, and could from the  
material of the air produce by their labor  
what they needed for nourishment and use.  
I do not mean to suppose a state of things  
in which men could float around like birds  
in the air or fish in the ocean, but mean  
displaying the prime necessities of animal life  
from what they could pick up. I am merely  
trying to suppose a state of things in which  
men as they are were relieved of absolute de-  
pendence upon land for a standing place and  
food.

(However great be its utility, nothing can  
be created as wealth unless it requires labor for its  
production; nor however much labor has been required for  
its production, can anything retain the character of  
wealth longer than it can gratify desire.)

reservoir of material and forces. We will  
suppose labor to be as necessary as with us,  
human desires to be as boundless as with us,  
the cumulative power of labor to give to cap-  
ital as much advantage as with us, and the  
division of labor to have gone as far as with  
us—the only difference being (the idea of)  
claiming the air as private property not hav-  
ing been thought of; that no human creature  
could be compelled to make terms with an-  
other in order to get a resting place, and to  
obtain access to the materials and forces with-  
out which labor cannot produce. In such a  
state of things, no matter how minute had  
become the division of labor, no matter how  
great had become the accumulation of capital,  
or how far labor saving inventions had been  
carried, there could never be anything that  
seemed like an excess of the supply of labor  
over the demand for labor; there could never  
be any difficulty in finding employment; and  
the spectacle of willing men, having in their  
own brains and muscles the power of supply-  
ing the needs of themselves and their fam-  
ilies, yet compelled to beg for work or for  
alms, could never be witnessed. It being in  
the power of every one able to labor to apply  
his labor directly to the satisfaction of his  
needs without asking leave of any one else,  
that cut throat competition, in which men  
who must find employment or starve are  
forced to bid against each other, could never  
arise.

Variations there might be in the demand for  
particular commodities or services, which  
would produce variations in the demand for  
labor in different occupations, and cause  
wages in those occupations to somewhat rise  
above or fall below the general level, but the  
ability of labor to employ itself, the freedom  
of indefinite expansion in the primary occu-  
pations, would allow labor to accommodate it-  
self to these variations, not merely without  
loss or suffering, but so easily that they would  
be scarcely noticed. For occupations shade  
into one another by imperceptible degrees, no  
matter how minute the division of labor—or,  
rather, the more minute the division of labor,  
the more insensible the gradation—so that  
there are in each occupation enough who  
could easily pass to other occupations, to  
readily allow of such contractions and ex-  
pansions as might be a state of freedom occur-  
ing. The possibility of indefinite expansion in  
the primary occupations, the ability of every one  
to make a living by resort to them, would pro-  
duce elasticity throughout the whole indus-  
trial system.

Under such conditions capital could not op-  
press labor. At present, in any dispute be-  
tween capital and labor, capital enjoys the  
enormous advantage of being better able to  
wait. Capital wastes when not employed;  
but labor starves. Where, however, labor  
could always employ itself, the disadvantage  
in any conflict would be on the side of capital,  
while that surplus of unemployed labor which  
capital is unable to make such advantages  
bargains with labor would not exist. The  
man who wanted to get others to work for  
him would not find men crowding for em-  
ployment, but finding all labor already em-  
ployed, would have to offer higher wages, in order  
to tempt them into his employment, than the  
men he wanted could make for themselves.  
The competition would be that of employers  
to obtain workmen, rather than that of work-  
men to get employment, and thus the ad-  
vantages which the accumulation of capital  
gives in the production of wealth would (save  
enough to secure the accumulation and em-  
ployment of capital) go ultimately to labor.  
In a state of things, instead of thinking  
that the man who employed another was do-  
ing him a favor, we would rather look upon  
the man who went to work for another as the  
obliging party.

To suppose that under such conditions there  
could be such inequality in the distribution  
of wealth as we now see, would require a  
more violent presumption than we have made  
in supposing air, instead of land, to be the  
element from which wealth is chiefly derived.  
But supposing existing inequalities to be trans-  
lated into such a state, it is evident that large  
fortunes could avail little and continue but a  
short time. Where there is always labor  
seeking employment on any terms where the  
masses can earn only a bare living, and dismissal  
from employment means anxiety and priva-  
tion, and even beggary or starvation, these  
large fortunes have monstrous power. But in  
a condition of things where there was no un-  
employed labor, where every one could make  
a living for himself and family without fear  
or favor, what could a hundred or five hun-  
dred millions avail in the way of enabling its  
possessor to extort or tyrannize?

The upper millstone alone cannot grind.  
That it may do so the nether millstone as well  
is needed. No amount of force will break an  
eggshell if exerted on one side alone. So cap-  
ital could not squeeze labor as long as labor  
was free to natural opportunities; and in a  
world where these natural materials and op-  
portunities were as free to all as is the air to us,  
there could be no difficulty in finding employ-  
ment, no willing hands conjoined with hungry  
stomachs, no tendency of wages toward the  
minimum on which the worker could barely  
live. In such a world we would no more  
think of thanking anybody for furnishing us  
employment than we here think of thanking  
anybody for furnishing us with appetites.



## THE UNITED LABOR PARTY.

## Activity and Energy in the Work of Organization.

THURSDAY, April 14.—The Fifth district club had an entertainment at their hall, corner Spring and Clarke streets, the piece de resistance being a lecture on "Living Issues," by Professor H. Spencer. The following ladies and gentlemen among others, were present, Mr. Edward A. Brown, Thomas Hillman, the Misses Schenck, Mrs. L. Hawkins, Frank P. Cassidy, Miss Nora O'Reilly and Mr. Skelley. A business meeting will take place on Thursday, the 21st inst.

The Seventh met at their hall, South Fifth avenue and West Fourth street. Two deaths of members of the club were reported—Erasmus Doolittle, the vice chairman, and Michael J. Kelly, a member of the executive committee. About thirty new members signed the rolls, and the same number were proposed for membership. A member reported that the system of nominating candidates for office proposed by the Seventh district had been adopted by the Ninth, and resolutions complimentary to Wall Whitman, the poet, were adopted. The hypercritics took up the most of the session.

The Eighth district turned from the dull routine of daily life and labor politics for one night to take part in the pleasures of the dance at Wallhalla hall. The married men brought their wives and children, and the young men brought their sweethearts. A speech was interspersed during the evening, which was listened to with patience, but when dancing was resumed the young folks seemed to enjoy it much more after the somewhat long rest secured them by the efforts of the speaker. Last election day this district made a good record from Stanton street to Grand; but below the latter street is a snag that can only be got over by financial means. However, the members hope one of these days to overcome that difficulty legitimately. The political club is offered by Harry E. Richardson, president, Charles E. Freeman, vice chairman, M. Blasko, recording secretary; Sam Laver, financial secretary; Sam Majower, treasurer; J. Waldron, sergeant at arms. The following were the officers in charge of the hall: Floor manager, Charles Barnat; assistant floor manager, P. McMahon; door committee, Harry Meisel (chairman), Charles Freutel, Emil Biehl, Sam Laver, William Stein; reception committee, Harry Richardson (chairman), Sam Blum, Adolf Tabinowski, Joseph Frank, William Zick, Morris Lewis, H. Cotton, John Blum, S. Cohen; arrangement committee, M. Blasko (chairman), S. Majower, S. Faber, Fred. Lesher, Wm. Fisher, Henry Bord, Chas. Rajewski.

The regular meeting of the Seventeenth district was held at 747 Ninth avenue, with James Magee in the chair. The committee in charge of the recent McGlynn mass meeting reported. Resolutions were adopted condemning Senator Plunkitt for his opposition to various labor measures.

The men of the Eighteenth were in high feather. They met for the first time in their permanent headquarters, 161 East Thirty-second street, near Third avenue, second floor. These rooms will be open every evening, except Sunday, in future, for the entertainment of members of the club and their friends. The painted members of the club are going to paint and fresco the interior of the rooms, and other members are going to carpet and furnish them up. After these things are done Secretary Carson says the club will have what he calls a "blow out," to which all friends will be invited, provided they wear clackhammers and gloves. The reports from the election districts showed that all were thoroughly organized. This district will be carried by the United Labor party next November. John McMackin was chosen to represent the district in the executive committee of the county in place of Philip Kelly, resigned.

The Twenty-third district class on political economy met at 187 Third avenue. The subject was "Comparison of socialism with the theories of Henry George." There was considerable debate, and the vote taken at the close showed that the audience considered the theories of Henry George the most scientific as well as the most practical.

The Nineteenth district club elected officers as follows: W. B. O'Meara, chairman; first vice-chairman, William Anderson; second vice-chairman, William Ryan; recording secretary, Charles H. Mitchell; corresponding secretary, Charles Fring; financial secretary, Julius Schluter; treasurer, John McKimney; trustees, George Ashton Black, S. Warner and Patrick Dempsey. The permanent headquarters of the club are at Donbert's hall, corner St. Nicholas and Eighth avenues.

FRIDAY, April 15.—The committee on calling a state convention met at Room 28, Cooper union; present, Jeremiah Murphy, Augustus A. Levey, Matthew Barr, Henry Enrich, John McMackin and William McCabe. The sub-committee appointed at the previous meeting to prepare a circular letter to send out, reported progress.

The Second district club met at 22 New Bowers. Routine business was done only. SATURDAY, April 16.—The Fourth district club met at 68 East Broadway, and completed all arrangements for their entertainment at the Windsor theatre.

The Sixteenth district club held a special meeting to complete arrangements for the Dr. McGlynn mass meeting, which will be held at Clarendon hall, West-church street, May 4. Stands will be placed in Thirteenth street for speakers to address the overflow.

The citizens of the Fourteenth in sympathy with the object of the meeting will join in with the Sixteenth, as there is no hall in the former district to hold a mass meeting. A number of enthusiastic believers in the doctrine of the common right to land met in Thayer's hall, Bedford and Fulton avenues, Brooklyn, to consider means of spreading the doctrine of land reform. George Klingler called the meeting to order, and V. A. Wildes was chosen chairman. A temporary organization was formed, and speeches were made by James P. Kohler and several other gentlemen. Another meeting will take place on Saturday, April 30, when a permanent organization will be formed, to be known as a "Land and labor club."

SUNDAY, April 17.—Henry George lectured at the Windsor theatre for the benefit of the Fourth assembly district club of the United Labor party. A report of the lecture has been given by the daily press.

MONDAY, April 18.—The committee appointed to arrange for a state convention met at room 28, Cooper Union. The general committee of Kings county sent a sub-committee to assist in the work inaugurated by their New York brethren. A circular letter was prepared and agreed to, which will be given to the public by the end of the week.

The Twentieth district club met at 1063 Second avenue and transacted routine business. J. H. Koenig was elected recording secretary. Next Monday Mr. Corson will deliver a lecture on "Industry vs. Monopoly."

The Twenty-second held a special meeting at Moore's hall, 142 Second avenue. The delegates to the general committee were instructed to insist upon the executive committee making full reports of their proceedings to the general body in executive session. The club is organizing the election districts.

The Twenty-third district club (English branch) held their usual weekly meeting. A committee was appointed to commence the work of organizing the election districts. A special call for next Monday's meeting will be sent out, so as to hasten the work of election district organization.

The entertainment and hall of the Twenty-first assembly district was held at Adelphi

hall. Everything passed off pleasantly. The officers of the club are: William Cummings, chairman; John J. Francis, vice chairman; John J. O'Brien, recording secretary; John Kelly, financial secretary; Richard J. Hill, treasurer; Joseph J. Donnelly, sergeant at arms. TUESDAY, April 19.—The Third district club met at their headquarters, 42 Great Jones street. The attendance was fair, and but little beyond routine business transacted. The club is proceeding with election district organization.

The Washington association (shoemakers) gave an entertainment and ball at Turn hall, Fourth street, for the benefit of those members of the organization now on strike. The entertainment, taken as a whole, was very good. The features were John Williams, bone solo, and Campbell's Irish impersonations. At 12 o'clock the floor was cleared and dancing began. The attendance was very large.

WEDNESDAY, April 20.—The Sixth assembly district held an agitation mass meeting at 412 Grand street, which was largely attended. James Corson presided. The speakers were the Twenty-first, Dr. Coughlin, of the Fourth and William McCabe, of the Fourteenth. A feature of the addresses were that no attempt was made to make points in the usual spread eagle campaign style. The arguments were philosophical, and appealed to the citizens' love for their families and humanity. "The politicians cannot understand," said Dr. Coughlin, "how it is, when no election is at hand, that men will come together at meetings to discuss political matters. These politicians know, perhaps, that this is a social as well as a political movement—that principles, not boudie, are discussed. As the days go by the political labor movement seems to become more intense. We are gaining strength every day. With organization we will sweep this county in the next election." The speeches were respectfully listened to, and the verdict of the meeting was that it was a success, and would do a great deal to strengthen the United Labor party in the Sixth district. Two gentlemen present announced that they had voted for Hewitt in the last election, but now that the truth had burst upon them through reading THE STANDARD they would, if forgiven for the grievous sin they committed last November, do for the club any hard work they might be asked to do in the interest of the United Labor party.

The meetings for the coming week are: Thursday, April 21—Fifth, Warren hall; Eighteenth, 161 East Thirty-second street; Twenty-third (structure), 187 Third avenue; Friday, April 22—Eight, 133 Forsyth; Ninth, lecture by Erasmus Potter at Cooper Union; Saturday, April 23—Fourth, 68 East Broadway; Second, 22 New Bowers; Roslyn benevolent association (ball and entertainment), Harmony hall, Essex street. Monday, April 25—Twentieth, 1058 Second avenue; Twenty-third, 187 Third avenue. Tuesday, April 26—Third, 42 Great Jones street. Wednesday, April 27—Sixth, 412 Grand street.

Secretary Barnes of the central committee, 28 Cooper Union, sends us the following brief extracts from recent correspondence:

W. H. Van Ornum, Chicago, Ill.—We propose as a means of spreading the doctrine of a single tax on land values to organize land and labor libraries and to form classes in political economy for the discussion of the subject in all its bearings. We propose that these libraries shall contain all of Mr. George's works, and we can also have large quantities of tracts. We shall send them to those wishing to purchase, loan them to those who do not, and distribute the tracts gratuitously. We hope to arrange with small shop keepers to take charge of and be responsible for these libraries. We think they will not only be self-supporting, but that we can add to the number of them all over the city. I do not see why this library plan could not be worked to advantage all over the state, even in the country school districts. We are going to discuss "Progress and Poverty" chapter by chapter.

John J. Bealin writes from Port Jervis, under date of April 19: "I was in Middletown last night. The men at the head of the movement there are of the right sort and most earnest land reformers. The Rev. Mr. Winchester is heart and soul in our movement. I find men everywhere warmly in favor of the proposed state convention."

J. F. Busche, Jr., Worcester's Advocate, New Haven, Conn.—Great preparations are being made for Dr. McGlynn's lecture on the 6th of May. He will have a great audience, great in numbers and great in intelligence.

P. V. Jones, Lakeland, Fla.—I think that every man who comprehends the virtue of the proposed land tax owes it to his fellowmen to do all he can to propagate this doctrine. I shall try to form a club in this county.

V. A. Wilder, chairman general committee United Labor party, Kings county.—The two cities are but one in sentiment in this great movement. The success we have achieved in Brooklyn was stimulated by the magnificent work in New York, and in turn the results of our work will cheer the men of New York to renewed efforts. As to the state convention, the organization in Brooklyn is very much in favor of it. I have declared plainly where I stand on the land question, and we are in complete sympathy with you.

The central committee has appointed Warren Worth Bailey of the Vincennes News, who has been for years devoted to land reform, to be state organizer for Indiana. Mr. Bailey has already begun the publication of a land and labor library of his own.

Chairman McMackin and Mr. John J. Bealin are again absent on an organizing tour through New York state. Dr. McGlynn will deliver his lecture on "The Cross of a New Crusade" in the Academy of Music, Brooklyn, on Wednesday evening, April 27, under the auspices of the United Labor party of Kings county. Other immediate engagements are in the Academy of Music, Philadelphia, on Wednesday, May 4; at Carroll's Opera house, New Haven, for the town committee of the labor party, on Friday, May 6; and in Boston on May 8, where he will speak for the United Irish societies.

## A UNITARIAN CLERGYMAN JOINS THE RANKS.

Rev. John B. Barnhill Expresses Strong Sentiment in Favor of the Doctrine that God Made the Land for All His Creatures.

MEADVILLE, Pa., April 16.—Anxious to enroll myself under the banner of the "new crusade," I take great pleasure in assuring you of the strong and general sympathy enlisted for your views and proposed methods of social amelioration in the Unitarian theological school located at this place, and of which I am a member. We all recognize that the advocacy of those principles is the cause of that enthusiasm for humanity and for humanity's future which was the essence of Christ's spirit, and must be made the essence of Christianity and its teachings.

JOHN B. BARNHILL.

Correspondence. Austin Dimmitt of Clinton, Mo., says he has long noticed the inequalities in the distribution of wealth and recognizes in the agitation of the land question a means toward the end of assuring to every man the result of his labor. "The whole disorder," says he, "is a moral question founded on the eternal principle of right between man and man." The disregard of this principle is the prime cause of all social disorders.

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## WHY ENGLISHMEN EMIGRATE.

The Causes That Operate to Drive Them Out of England—Plenty of Room at Home if They Could Only Use It.

Is there any need of emigration?—or have we in reality any surplus population? What the rich are accustomed to call surplus population are people who are unable to find work. There never was a greater fallacy put forth than this. Every man carries about with him the capital, in the shape of bone, sinew and intelligence, that will support himself and a wife and family if needful. It is not his fault that that capital cannot find a productive outlet. There are millions of acres of land lying waste in what is called our over-peopled country—millions of tons of coal and iron stone reposing in the bowels of the earth in a waste, and in the country labor enough and money enough to procure bread enough and to spare for, not only our thirty-six millions of population, but also for thirty times six millions, if only it were properly applied and distributed. But how is this to be effected without revolution? Very easily. The landlords, for example, receive each year about ten million pounds for what is called royalty on minerals. They have no more right to this money than the people of Flintshire. Let them have be passed that this money shall henceforth go to the state. The ten millions would pay a ninth of our national taxation. Again, the Church of England alone, not to speak of the Church of Scotland, has property valued at £200,000,000, the proceeds of which, estimated at about £11,000,000 annually, are devoted exclusively to the maintenance of an idle and useless priesthood. This property is the property of the people, and ought to be taken possession of by them. Once more, the unequal increment in both town and country, which is swallowed up annually by the aristocracy, amounts to hundreds of millions. They toil not, neither do they spin, for a single penny of it, and have, therefore, no moral right to it. It belongs to the people, and ought of right to be enjoyed by the people. Herein lies the only true remedy for poverty, and for what is called surplus population. Colonial conferences, bills for state-aided emigration, Manxian house schemes, dwellings of the poor commissioners, etc., are mere makeshifts, or at most stop gaps. There is no need for emigration. What is wanted is migration and proper distribution of national wealth and of nature's resources. Parliament, in a word, could, in a single sitting, remedy the ills from which the poor are suffering; but it will not—and why? Simply because its actions are controlled by the aristocracy and the wealthy.

## WISE AUSTRALIA!

She Owns Her Railways, and Means to Use Her Irrigation Works as Well.

Adelaide, South Australia, Register. There is a strong feeling that a vigorous policy of irrigation is essential for South Australia, and that the future policy in this respect should be definitely settled. The conclusion is forced upon us that South Australia should deal with this question from a national point of view. This is the policy which we desire to recommend for consideration: That all headworks for irrigation should be, like the railways, national property. Who would advocate at the present day the sale of the railways to foreign capitalists? By such an act the colony might free itself from its indebtedness. But it is doing so in its very bright light into the hands of strangers, and fasten upon itself all the abuses with which the monopoly-ridden people of England and America are struggling in vain. The railways are national property—heavily mortgaged, no doubt, but still the property of the people, and managed by their representatives. In fact, what the colony requires is an irrigation policy very nearly analogous to that which has directed its construction of railways. South Australia need have no fear of borrowing for the purpose of constructing headworks for irrigation. Such works, which exist in many places, are undoubtedly to be reckoned among the most profitable on the face of the globe; and there is not the slightest reason to believe that in this country the conditions are reversed.

## TO LET.

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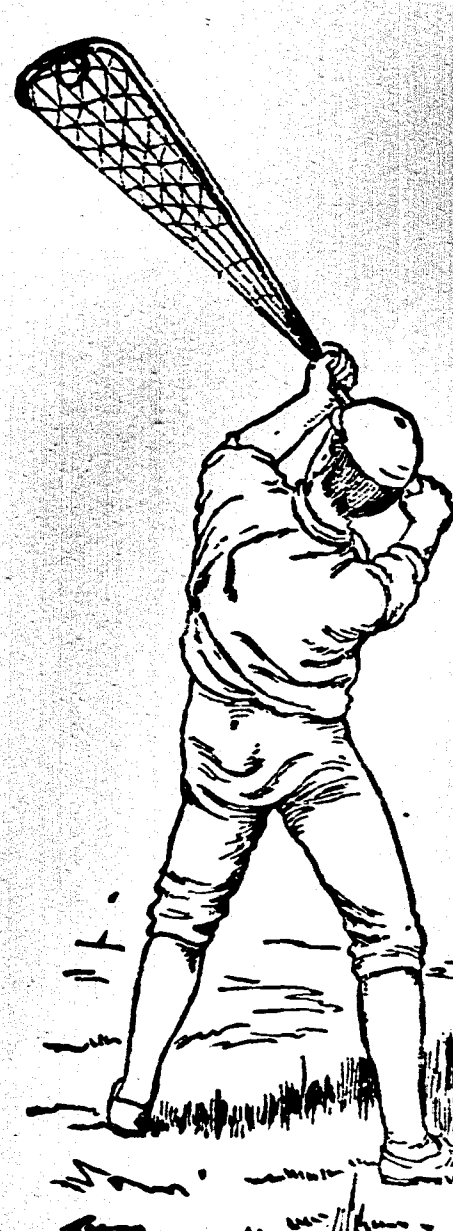
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