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BALLOT REFORM. No humbug envelope system; but the real Australian system, the first requisite of which is the exclusive use at elections of official ballots furnished by a state and prepared and cast by the voter in compulsory secrecy.

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THE STANDARD FOR 1891.

In accordance with the announcement made by Henry George in last week's issue, I shall, on January 1, become editor and proprietor of THE STANDARD. I shall at once change its form and increase the number of its pages, and I shall endeavor to otherwise improve the paper by carrying out plans that experience has suggested to me during the year or more that I have practically been its editor.

Of course THE STANDARD will continue to be the organ and exponent of the single tax. It will give the news of the movement and keep a sharp lookout for everything related to it. On the other hand, it will be a weekly review of public affairs and an exponent of current thought on social and economic problems from the standpoint of "The New Political Economy."

In order that this may be accomplished, and, in fact, in order that anything worth doing may be done, the paper must pay its way, and it cannot be profitably produced at the present price. The existing subscription price might have proven satisfactory if it were not for the fact that the readers of the paper distinctly prefer to buy it at the news-stands instead of subscribing directly for it. More than half of the edition is thus disposed of, and that portion of the circulation has never yielded any profit worth considering.

This could not be otherwise. The mere cost of handling and distributing the paper in this way absorbs a large proportion of the money received for it, leaving a narrow margin of profit to publisher, news company and newsdealer. Hereafter, then, the price of THE STANDARD per single copy will be TEN CENTS. This change necessitates an increase in the subscription price to THREE DOLLARS A YEAR, since newsdealers will not consent to handle a paper which is mailed to subscribers at about five cents a copy and offered on the stands at twice that price.

This change will not take effect, however, until January 1, 1891, and until that date subscriptions will be received at the old rate of \$2.50 per year or \$1.25 for six months, in advance. As I am forced to increase the subscription price because of the necessary change in the price of single copies, I shall be glad to have as many of the old readers of the paper as possible take advantage of this offer. Make all checks payable to THE STANDARD.

I fully anticipate that the action thus announced will call forth much criticism, and in some cases work hardship. It cannot be helped, however. If the single tax men of America wish an organ and exponent of their principles maintained on the high level on which THE STANDARD has been conducted, they must make such an organ not only self-sustaining, but sufficiently profitable to enable its editor to command the services of a wider circle of writers, and thus, through its general merit, reach a larger constituency. I believe that our friends are ready, even at some sacrifice, to sustain such an effort, now that the responsibility is on them. I promise them, if they do so, to give to the paper new attractions from week to week, and thus assure it a more general circulation that will greatly broaden its influence in propaganda work.

I have had several offers of money to "help the paper." I do not desire that kind of help. Let these kind friends subscribe for the paper for themselves and others. Such help counts both for the paper and the cause.

W. T. CHANDLER.

EDITORIAL.

What is that story of the Presbyterian elder's charge against some one or other of "trying to rob us of our hope of infant damnation?" I only remember it vaguely, but am reminded of it by the receipt of a letter from Mr. H. E. Smith of Bristol, England, who tells me that he heartily appreciates the valuable services I have rendered to the world, but adds: "I am constantly made sad when I come across any reference of yours to the Malthusian law of population."

A dispatch dated Chicago, November 20, and stating that Dr. McGlynn is to be reinstated in the Catholic church, has been going the rounds of the press. Incidentally this dispatch states that "the George doctrines have been declared heretical by the church since Dr. McGlynn's excommunication." One of our STANDARD correspondents, "Uncle Tom" of Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, writes to ask if this is true, saying that he never heard of it before. It is not true. He is not the only one who never heard of it before. I am certain that the most eminent of all English-speaking Catholics, Cardinal Manning, had never heard of it up to August last, and save from Chicago no one else has heard of it since. But the Catholic church is not in the habit of hiding its light under a bushel, and when she declares any doctrine heretical, she is not likely to announce it to the world in an anonymous dispatch from Chicago.

Charles F. Reid of Kansas City writes to ask the exact meaning of the last clause in the single tax platform adopted at the New York conference, saying that some of the Kansas City single tax men object to "the government managing the railroads, i. e., operating them." Here is the clause:

With respect to monopolies other than the monopoly of land, we hold that where free competition becomes impossible, as in telegraphs, railroads, water and gas supplies, etc., such business becomes a proper social function, which should be controlled and managed by and for the whole people concerned, through their proper government, local, state or national, as may be.

The meaning of this clause is, I think, clear. It is, that while in businesses where free competition is possible, the government ought to keep its hands off and leave them to individual action, unfettered by any interference or regulation, save, of course, what may be necessary for public health or safety, there are certain other businesses, monopolies in their nature, which cannot, with due regard to the equal rights of all citizens, be left to individual action, which, therefore, fall within the proper governmental sphere, as distinguished from the individual sphere, and which ought to be adjusted under governmental authority in such way as shall give the whole people equal opportunities and advantages.

I do not know now, any more than I did when, as chairman of the committee, I drafted that clause of the platform, how to put this idea more clearly in the same space. It is the intention of the platform to assert the general principle that where free competition fails to give equal opportunities to citizens government should step in to secure this equality; not to lay down any hard and fast line as to how this should be done. "Controlled and managed" is a general term which expresses power, but does not define means.

It includes government operation, but does not exclude any other way of controlling and managing. And this is as far as we ought to go in any general assertion of principle, or as we could obtain anything like unanimity in going. Nor are there, I think, many of us who would not, even in a mere expression of individual opinion, hesitate to prescribe any one way in which governments should control and manage such businesses as in this clause are spoken of. For instance, it seems to me that the government should operate telegraphs, in conjunction with the postal service, which it is already operating; that the city governments should operate water works, and probably in most cases gas and electric works. But there may be cases in which it might be more advantageous to contract, as some of the western towns have done, for such service, or to let a franchise for a term of years to such parties as will contract to serve consumers at the lowest rate. So, while I think the cities should operate the street car lines, running them without charge, on the principle of elevators in public buildings, I would in the case of the larger railroads prefer, if that be practicable, which it seems reasonable to think is, that the government should only maintain the roadways and perhaps furnish the motive power, letting those who chose to do so run cars under proper regulations and at fixed tolls. It is only the principle I feel sure of—that businesses in which competition is impossible, and which thus necessarily involve monopoly, should be under public control and management. The methods of applying this principle can best be determined by circumstances, and by fuller discussion and experience. It is this principle, and only this, that is expressed in the last clause of the single tax platform.

I spoke some weeks ago of a little book of poems by A. Werner, author of "The King of the Silver City," published in London by T. Fisher Unwin, that had come to me from there. Of the quality of these poems the readers of THE STANDARD can judge by several of them that have been reprinted in its columns.

I wrote at that time to Mr. Werner, thanking him for his book, expressing my sense of its quality, and thanking him for the appreciation and sympathy of one of the poems it contained, a farewell to me on leaving England in 1884. In reply comes a note, inclosing a photograph of a young lady whom I recognize as having met in London. And the signature is Alice Werner.

I apologize to the sex for my hasty conclusion that the author of such poems as "In a Theater," and "The Battlefield by Silenus," must be Alfred or Abraham rather than Alice.

HENRY GEORGE.

For the first time in his life Henry George is confined to his bed by illness. On last Friday night he was attacked by nervous prostration, and for a day or so was quite ill. He is now much better, with every prospect of a speedy recovery. His physician, however, insists that he shall absolutely abstain from all work for some weeks and avoid severe exertion for a longer period. Mr. George agrees with this view, and has in consequence cancelled a number of lecture engagements. This is the work that Mr. George finds most wearing. He returned from his recent trip to the southwest

complaining of a greater weariness than he had ever before experienced. It is this kind of effort that he must refrain from while he is recovering his strength.

We hope that Mr. George will be able to contribute something to the next issue of THE STANDARD, as it was his intention to write quite freely for the remaining issues of the present year. The matter printed above was sent in before he was taken ill.

The Farmers' alliance in session at Ocala, Fla., did not care to commit itself to any third party movement, but a lot of Kansas men appear to have committed a very considerable number of the delegates to an effort to form a national party on the lines of the St. Louis platform. The singular thing is that the farmers in session at Ocala, though looking toward alliance with the Knights of Labor and workingmen in general, do not seem to have had any friends who were able to advise them that A. Gallahue, "fraternal delegate from the Workingmen's reform league of New York city," and W. A. A. Carsey of Washington, D. C., from "the American anti-monopoly league," who were invited to address the convention, are a pair of rascally strikers who represent nothing on earth except their own appetite for corruption funds. They have been exposed again and again and repudiated by every labor organization that really has any membership in the city of New York. How such fellows can fool men who ought to know them is a mystery.

One of the most important things done by the alliance was its denunciation of the force bill. An effort to rescind the resolution made on Monday was defeated. From the latest reports it seems likely that some countenance will be given to the third party movement by the determination to send delegates to a political conference called by the Knights of Labor, to meet in Washington in February. The delegates are to be authorized to attend for consultation only, but that will help the projectors of the scheme.

A determined effort was made to get rid of the foolish plank in the old platform demanding governmental loans on farm products, and at one time this effort seemed likely to be successful, but it failed in the end, and the platform, as finally adopted, was as follows:

We demand the abolition of national banks. We demand that the government shall establish sub-treasuries or depositories in the several states which shall loan money direct to the people at a low rate of interest, not to exceed two per cent per annum on non-perishable farm products, and also upon real estate with proper limitations upon the quantity of land and amount of money. We demand that the amount of the circulating medium be speedily increased to not less than \$50 per capita.

We demand that congress shall pass such laws as shall effectually prevent the dealing in "futures" on all agricultural and mechanical productions, preserving a stringent system of procedure in trials, such as shall secure prompt conviction and the imposition of such penalties as shall secure the most perfect compliance with the law.

We condemn the silver bill recently passed by congress, and demand in lieu thereof the free and unlimited coinage of silver.

We demand the passage of laws prohibiting the alien ownership of land, and that congress take prompt action to devise some plan to obtain all lands now owned by aliens and foreign syndicates, and that all lands now held by railroad and other corporations in excess of such as are actually used and needed by them be reclaimed by the government and held for actual settlers only.

Believing in the doctrine of equal rights to all, and special privileges to none, we demand that our national legislation shall be so framed in the future as not to build up one industry at the expense of another, and we further demand a removal of the existing heavy tariff tax from the necessities of life that the poor of our land must have. We further demand a just and equitable system of graduated tax on incomes. We believe that the money of the country should be kept as much as possible in the hands of the people, and hence we demand that all national and state revenues shall be limited to the

necessary expenses of the government economically and honestly administered.

We demand the most rigid, honest and just state and national governmental control and supervision of the means of public communication and transportation, and if this control and supervision does not remove the abuses now existing we demand government ownership of such means of communication and transportation.

We think that this platform demonstrates that the gathering was not dominated by any political party. The demand for a reduction of tariff taxation is one that will be joined in by any body of men not carefully selected from a single faction of the republican party. The demand for an income tax shows that the alliances are also looking toward tariff abolition. If opposition to the existing tariff and to the pending force bill constitutes a gathering a democratic body, then three-fourths of the American people are democrats, and for all practical purposes there is but one party in the country. The first plank of the platform, however, shows that the alliance is, in economic ideas, something apart from all other existing bodies and likely to go it alone in any political effort it may make for the accomplishment of its ultimate purposes.

No one can read the proceedings without coming to the conclusion that the delegates constitute a body of honest men, many of them not lacking in ability, but most of them manifestly lacking in experience and in economic knowledge. There are doubtless among them some petty politicians of the baser sort, and not a few men with latent or partly developed political ambitions and a keen eye for profitable alliances. Of course this is unavoidable. Every new movement must pass through this stage, and it is equally inevitable that it shall attract to it a number of disreputable people, who will make trouble before they leave it. Taken as a whole, however, the Farmers' alliance, like the old greenback movement, is a sincere protest by honest and earnest men against real wrongs, the cause of which they fail to understand and the remedy for which they cannot see.

Monday's papers contained an account of the discovery of a conspiracy in which one Rittenhouse, private secretary to Colonel Polk, president of the Farmers' alliance, took part in the interest of Mr. Blaine. It seems the notorious "Colonel" Dick Hinton, who, as usual, is holding an office, was a go-between in this matter. The Herald treats the affair as one of some importance, and then furnishes the following counterbalancing information, which we imagine will be as surprising to our friends in Missouri as it is in this office:

Now the hands of the democratic manipulators appear. President Polk, in order to strengthen his position, I am told, made an alliance with Mr. Hall of Missouri, an ardent free trader, and Henry George, democrat, who is said to have aspirations to be governor of Missouri and ultimately democratic candidate for vice-president. The demand said to have been made by Hall as the price of his support is that President Polk should favor the surrender of the sub-treasury scheme, or at least remain neutral in the fight over that measure.

The idea of the democrats and Mr. Hall is asserted in the convention by some of the shrewdest political managers in the country. It is to amend the St. Louis programme and the measures demanded under it that the next democratic national convention will have no difficulty in swallowing it whole.

This is information of the sort that the old-fashioned country newspapers headed "Important, if true." It is certainly a much more sensible programme than that of the third party men.

No matter what is going on the single tax crops out; and sometimes in the most amusing way. At the colored Farmers alliance meeting Superintendent Humphrey, who is really the master mind of the movement, and a white man, took oc-

casional to declare his adhesion to the single tax doctrine in a remarkably explicit and forcible statement of our principles. He said:

God has given this earth in usufruct to all the living. Men have as much right to monopolize the air we breathe and the sunshine that warms us as the land that by God's ordination feeds our families. I take this occasion distinctly to affirm that land is not the property, never can be property. A man may live on it and his improvements are his. The land belongs to the sovereign people. In view of these indisputable truths we recommend to our people the principles of the single tax party. If the land carried all the taxes necessary to support the government it would not be held by speculators as it is now, and would soon become abundant and cheap. There are already millions of our people, both colored and white, who favor this single tax plank, and we recommend it to you as its enactment into law would place homes within reach of all the people.

The St. Louis Republic prints the report of an interview between an Ohio newspaper man and Mr. Cleveland, which the latter is reported as saying:

It seems to me Ohio is in the best of hands. Certainly there has been a wonderful change of sentiment there on the tariff question within the last few years. It is only two or three years since, for local reasons, the Ohio democrats were excessively timorous on the subject of tariff reform. Why, you placed men of the most extreme views on your tickets this year. Tom Johnson made a straightout free trade campaign. I remember he told me he did not call it a tariff reform, but anti protection. Yet he made large gains in the Cleveland district, formerly represented by a high-tariff democrat. Oh, you are setting a very lively precedent in Ohio.

The New York Sun is thrown into a new attack of rabies by reading this, but to the men who know what they are working for and who are real democrats, and not resurrected old whigs, Mr. Cleveland's utterances will be eminently satisfactory.

Mr. Edward H. Ammidown, one time president of the American protective league and a fierce advocate of the policy of protection, was the principal stockholder of the Rittenhouse manufacturing company, which was recently engaged in the manufacture of blankets and other woollen goods at Passaic, N. J. Mr. Ammidown's company has received the fullest measure of protection that even its president could think of asking for. The price of raw wool has been sent up, and the price of blankets has followed it. The result is that the people are taking Jay Gould's advice and getting along with one blanket where they might otherwise have used two, and the Rittenhouse manufacturing company has met with a disastrous failure. The most that can now be hoped for, according to an interview with the assignee, is that it will be able to pay its debts and leave nothing to its stockholders. An impertinent reporter asked Mr. Ammidown whether his views on the tariff on woollens had undergone a change. Mr. Ammidown said that his advocacy of the high tariff had been for mixed motives, and though he had once advocated a high tariff he did not care to talk about the subject at present. Mr. Ammidown will be likely to pass out of this condition into a readiness to talk about the subject on the free trade side.

The condensation of the recent annual report of the tariff reform committee of the Reform club, printed elsewhere, fully confirms what was said editorially of the work of this club in the last issue of THE STANDARD. The organization is a comparatively young one, but it has displayed a vigor and intelligence entirely unusual in propaganda work, and it has accomplished results that reflect the highest honor upon it.

The people's party of Kansas, commonly called the Farmers' alliance party, in its platform declares that every person born into the world is entitled equally with all others to a place to live and earn

a living, and that any system of government which does not maintain and protect this inalienable right should be changed or abolished; all of which is sound doctrine, but the people's party unfortunately devoted all of its attention to other matters, and made no attempt to find a way for enforcing the declaration just quoted.

The democratic party of Mesa county, Colorado, seems to know what democracy means. It denounces the tariff as a tax, demands absolute reform of corruption in the management of Colorado's state business, and in regard to taxation in general makes the following most significant declaration:

We demand that all taxes upon industry or any of its products—whether national, state or local—be gradually simplified and removed, until only a tax upon land according to its value, remains; thereby securing both a just and wise tax system, and equal natural opportunities to all.

The Masonic Review for November contains an article by Cliff S. Walker which is a satisfactory reply to the nonsense concerning the single tax contributed to a previous number of that magazine by Mr. Telford Groesbeck. The editor of the magazine comments on Mr. Walker's article and displays, in doing so, such absolute ignorance of the whole social problem that it would be a waste of time for any one to discuss such questions with him. For instance, he rebukes Mr. Groesbeck for admitting that the fate of laborers is a hard one in this country, and declares that if the workingmen of America are so "unskilled and inefficient that the ignorant millions of less favored countries" can come to our shores, successfully compete with them and reduce their wages, that they would have a "justifiable excuse for even an anarchical socialism more sweeping in its radicalism than the wildest impossibilities of Herr Most." The editor does not believe that the American laborer is in a bad way and dogmatically declares that the tendency here is to "lessen the productive power of ground rents" and increase the rate of wages with an accompaniment of decreasing hours of labor. We take it for granted that the editor of the Masonic Review believes this, but the fact that he does believe it is absolutely convincing evidence that he does not know a single thing about the subject he is discussing. If, as is to be reasonably assumed, he is an intelligent man, some of his friends ought to induce him to read something if he is to continue in the business of writing.

The letter from Japan by Rev. Charles E. Garst is not only interesting in itself, but the statement to which it is a reply admirably illustrates the style of "argument" to which many men who oppose the single tax, without understanding it, are prone. Such people have declared again and again that not only Japan, but China, has the single tax, whereas, instead, the latter has a land tax which is practically a rack rent on tenants proportioned to the labor that they apply to land. Mr. Garst shows that this is likewise true of Japan, and that the government itself actually plays the part of the dog-in-the-manger, holding vast tracts of land out of use and taxing its people severely on the products of their labor, gathered from such land as they are permitted to cultivate or otherwise use. Such a land tax as this is not merely not the single tax, but it is further removed from that system than any other that could easily be invented. A tax on land values is a vastly different thing from a tax on land, and when this fact is finally driven into the heads of the so-called political economists, debate with them will be more useful than it appears to

have been at the late Saratoga conference.

The article by Daniel Cavanagh printed in last week's STANDARD ended with some verses that should have been inclosed in quotation marks. Mr. Cavanagh writes us to call attention to this omission and to say that the author of the verses was the late John Boyle O'Reilly.

The Philadelphia Press has suddenly veered round and declared for a convention in Pennsylvania in order that the constitution may be so amended as to permit of the passage of an Australian ballot law. The Press says there are some other constitutional changes that are desirable. This excites the suspicion of Mr. A. G. Beecher, editor of the New Crusade, at Warren, Pa. Mr. Beecher wants the constitution amended so as to permit the passage of the Australian ballot law, but he declares that the greater part of that constitution is highly satisfactory to the people of Pennsylvania, and that what is needed is not amendment, but the enforcement of existing provisions. This, however, he declares, is not likely to come about until rings and bosses are banished, and he is hopeful that the day is not far distant when this will be done in Pennsylvania. Mr. Beecher is a good single tax man, and therefore accustomed to hope for the good time coming, but such faith as this is of the quality that few moderns attain to and was described of old as that which removes mountains.

The international copyright bill was passed by the house of representatives last Wednesday by a vote of 139 to 95. The bill is by no means an ideal measure, and contains within it dishonest concessions to the protective idea, but it is the first great step toward honesty in dealing with authors, both at home and abroad, and its passage may be accepted as an indication that ethical considerations are beginning to have some potency in legislation at Washington.

At a recent meeting of the Baptist preachers in Baltimore there was a considerable discussion on the subject of the taxation of church property. Several of the speakers took strong ground against the exemption of churches, and one of them, the Rev. Dr. F. M. Ellis, expressed the opinion that too much exemption of church property might lead to a possible union of state and church.

THE FORCE BILL.

The progress of the force bill in the senate has thus far not been such as to encourage its advocates to hope that it can be disposed of before the holiday recess. Senator Hoar of Massachusetts has taken charge of the measure and on Monday he had the audacity to ask for unanimous consent to put it to an immediate vote. Mr. Hoar has, in his management of this bill, shown a disposition to assume a somewhat dictatorial attitude. Speaker Reed's tactics seem to have inspired a number of weaker men to essay the role of czar, but it certainly must be amusing to witness such an attempt on the part of the queer and fretful little scold from Massachusetts. One can imagine Senator Hoar varying his minatory tactics by pouting, crying or even making faces at his opponents, but the thought of him as a commanding personage, bullying the senate, only fails of being supremely ludicrous because no mind can really entertain it.

One effect of a discourtesy by Senator Hoar was to give Senator Gorman an opportunity to appear in the unaccustomed role of a patriot scornfully rising above the baser considerations that influence mere partisans. We must say that Mr. Gorman did it well. He literally

roasted the Massachusetts senator, and put him before the country as a man willing to sacrifice the most important matters affecting the welfare of the people, and of the business world in particular, to a narrow, bitter and senseless partianship which is incapable of being taught by the march of events and unable to understand the tremendous rebuke administered to it by the people in the last election. If Mr. Gorman understands the lesson that the last election taught concerning protection as clearly as he does that it taught concerning sectionalism, his really remarkable abilities as a politician may henceforth be utilized in the interests of statesmanship.

As was to be expected, the great speech against the bill was made by Senator Gray, who demonstrated that it is inimical to the right of local self-government, violative in many different ways of all of the traditions of English liberty, an open defiance of the expressed will of the American people and a dangerous device, constructed by desperate partisans who are ready to sacrifice the general welfare to their own narrow and selfish purposes.

No one can predict with certainty the final fate of the bill, but its chances of passage are probably diminished not merely by the denunciation of the Farmers' alliance, but by the public announcement that its defeat will be taken by Mr. Harrison as a signal for his own retirement as a candidate for re-nomination. The temptation to the republicans offered by this declaration must be one hard to resist. The success thus far achieved by the democrats in delaying all progress appears to indicate with reasonable certainty that the bill will be pending when congress re-assembles after the holidays. If such is the case the majority must then make their choice between abandoning it or failing to pass the appropriation bills. Such failure would necessitate the calling together of the new democratic congress in March instead of leaving it to assemble at the regular time, in the following December. It seems highly improbable that the republicans in either house can desire such a result.

SINGLE TAX AND BUILDING ASSOCIATIONS

The following brief editorial recently appeared in Building and Realty, a fortnightly paper, which is the official journal of the state organization of Michigan building and loan associations:

The single tax idea is steadily commending itself to earnest thinking men. It is a rank injustice that a man should hold property vacant, with nominal taxes, and gain the increment of value produced by the improvements made by his neighbors, who pay taxes upon those improvements. The bed rock of taxation is this; no tax on the products of labor. This principle is world-wide. It applies with equal force to the town, the state, the nation, the world. By its adoption labor would receive a healthy stimulus, and would create wealth as never before. Throughout the world the burdens of taxation have fallen upon labor, and in all forms of indirect taxation the burden falls with almost equal weight upon all, regardless of their circumstances. But place this burden upon land values only and at once the basis of taxation becomes absolutely equitable, land speculation becomes unprofitable, and the inducements to labor to place improvements upon the land and to advance to its more general ownership are vastly multiplied.

This article shows a perfectly clear understanding of the basic principles of the single tax, and we are particularly glad to find it in a journal of this kind. Building and loan associations owe their existence to the desire of men to own their own homes. If all of the money borrowed through such agencies could be devoted to actual building without the diversion of any of it to the purchase of land, the associations would accomplish their purpose much more rapidly and easily. It is true that the hope of a rise in land values may influence some of those who now seek to obtain homes in this way, but a great majority of people earn,

ing small salaries or wages could easily be shown that it would be greatly to their advantage to pay ground rent to the state, and thus escape all other taxation. The building loan associations ought to become agencies for the promulgation of single tax ideas.

TAXATION IN IOWA.

The extended extracts from a forthcoming report on taxation in the state of Iowa, furnished to us by John Haggerty of Burlington, and reprinted elsewhere, are laid before THE STANDARD'S readers with a view to suggesting methods of investigation. The public interest in the subject of taxation is becoming so general that official investigations, such as that under review, can more easily be set on foot than ever before. Wherever made they are sure to show the imperfections and inequalities of the existing system.

Take this Iowa report, for instance. It becomes clear, first of all, that there is nothing like a uniform rate of assessment, even among the cities and counties of one state. Secondly, it is made apparent that an attempt to assess personal property is a failure and the results unequal, and third, that by reason of a custom among assessors, unwarranted by law, expensive real estate is assessed at proportionately a lower rate than the homes of the poor. It will also be seen that many of those making these reports do not really know anything about their own business, because it is impossible that some of the answers made should be true, in view of the general testimony to the contrary by the great majority of assessors.

When we come to remedies we see how much at sea are the men who recognize the evils of the existing system. All of the suggestions are as to more searching inquisition by assessors, more rigid and rock-ribbed oaths, and more determined enforcement of laws which those concerned admit have not been enforced, and practically cannot be enforced. The simple system of the single tax evidently has not dawned on any of the Iowa assessors.

PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION.

The system of proportional representation, probably first elaborated by Mr. Hare, is an effort to approximate more closely to just representation than is possible under existing systems. One of the objections to it, which has some force with all who desire effective legislation, but much greater force with politicians, is that it would practically endanger party government by dividing legislative bodies into groups rather than parties. There are advantages in this, but there are also disadvantages, and no existing legislature representing strong partisan feeling is likely to take steps toward the establishment of the proportional scheme in the choice of its own members.

Mr. Stoughton Cooley, in an article printed elsewhere, recommends the application of the proportional system to the election of congressmen and suggests the possibility of applying it to the country at large, or, if state lines are still regarded, the grouping of small states so as to permit the working of the system without the disfranchisement of so large a number of remainders as would take place under the application of the rule to a state that only had one or two congressmen.

There are many reasons why it would be unwise to obliterate state lines, but without discussing such reasons it is sufficient to say that the proposal would require, if carried out, an amendment to the federal constitution, and it is highly unlikely that the requisite number of states would consent to such a change.

There is, however, no reason why it should not be carried out in states so large as New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio,

Illinois and many others, by direct state action. Congress has never attempted to draw the lines that divide congressional districts in the several states. All that that body does is to assign to each state the number of members to which it is entitled, leaving the state to provide for the manner of their election. Sometimes this necessitates the election of all congressmen for the state on one ticket by the vote of the whole people. It is for the state, therefore, to settle the method of electing members to which it is entitled, and we know of no constitutional or other serious obstacle to the application of the proportional system to the election of congressmen in any large state. Furthermore, the difficulty first suggested would not arise in this case, since it is for the state legislature to settle the method of electing congressmen, and the selfish considerations that might prevent members from applying the system to the choice of legislators would not weigh with them in the passage of the law regulating the manner of electing congressmen.

There can be no question that such a system applied to the larger states would result in the choice of much abler members of the house of representatives, while it would, of course, incidentally accomplish another most desirable result by putting an end to the possibility of gerrymandering, that is, of so arranging the districts as to give the majority party a much larger number of congressmen than its vote properly entitles it to.

THE IRISH SITUATION.

The situation of Irish affairs has improved during the past week simply because the inevitable has happened. Parnell continued his arrogant over-riding of the wishes of the majority of his colleagues, and, finally, after the tactics of delay had been exhausted, he was guilty of the indecency of refusing to entertain a motion for his own deposition, holding on to the chair in order that he might make this monstrous ruling. The majority of the Irish members of parliament thereupon withdrew and Parnell is small enough to think that he can convince the world that he thereby put the majority in the position of irregulars and seceders.

This last performance is on a par with all of his other recent acts, and he has demonstrated to every person, not controlled by the blindest partianship in his own behalf, that he is an unscrupulous politician who will unhesitatingly sacrifice the cause he professes to represent to his own personal interests. Nearly every man of ability in the Irish party is against him, but a number of the more bitter and vindictive members, and especially those who have no other means of support than the parliamentary fund controlled by Mr. Parnell, are his blind adherents, and they propose to go before the Irish people and ask them to stultify themselves in order to vindicate the man who has betrayed their cause.

The American envoys, as they are called, have, with a single exception, taken sides against Parnell, but they have seen clearly enough that, so long as the division brought about by his conduct exists, it will be useless for them to continue their appeals to Americans to aid the Irish cause, since there is likely to be the same division here that Mr. Parnell has brought about in Ireland. They will, therefore, await developments, and there is some talk of their sailing for Europe, Messrs. O'Brien and Dillon going to Paris and the others going home to take part in the contest that will now be transferred to Irish soil. Under Justin McCarthy's leadership the bulk of the Irish party will appeal against Parnell to the people of Ireland. Their appeal ought to be successful, and it will

be if the Irish people do not seize an opportunity to convince mankind that they are less fitted for self-government than the liberals of the whole world have been disposed to assert. Curiously enough the first fight between the factions will take place in Kilkenny.

OUR OWN IRELAND

The condition of affairs in Ireland in the face of a threatened famine is undeniably serious, and the possibility of suffering appeals strongly to the sympathies of humane people throughout the world. There is danger, however, that anything that is done by way of charity will merely enable the rapacious landlords, who have taken away the substance of the Irish people, to continue their exactions and make them more profitable. The people who appeal for aid for the Irish peasants are bound to bear this fact in mind, and unless they do so their appeals will be less effective than they would otherwise be. The explanation of the situation arouses a general feeling of indignation against Irish landlords, and has some effect in inducing those who would otherwise be indifferent to give some thought to the subject of landlordism.

But while American sympathy goes out towards Irishmen, there are thousands of our people who seem entirely oblivious of the fact that the institution of landlordism has the same tendency in this country, and that from time to time it produces similar results. There is no reason to doubt that if the people of Dakota could have retained the products of their own labor for their own use that, taking the state as a whole, the crop would have been sufficient to have avoided the destitution with which a considerable portion of its people are now threatened. But between paying interest on mortgages, direct local taxes and burdensome tariff taxes, so large a proportion of the earnings of these people has been taken from them that many are now facing the danger of a terrible death by starvation and freezing.

Of course, this will be denied by the interested and rapacious land sharks, but we know W. E. Brokaw, not merely as a man of veracity, but as a man not given to exaggeration. His perfectly plain statement of the facts should outweigh a thousand protests from state officials and real estate agents, and it reveals a condition of affairs that is quite as threatening as any that can possibly exist in Ireland or elsewhere. Men, women and children are likely to starve and freeze to death in South Dakota whenever the snowfall blockades the roads of that state. This is horrible, but it is far more horrible to remember that it was the ruthless rapacity of land monopolizers that drove these people to Dakota in the first place, and which has stripped them bare even in that last refuge from landlordism. It is well to sympathize with Ireland, but it is equally important to have some regard for the results of landlordism in the United States.

GOVERNOR TILLMAN'S ADDRESS.

It is difficult to gather from the public reports any clear understanding of the effects of the political revolution that has taken place in South Carolina. It appears, however, from several indications, that if the state were settled wholly by white men that the revolution which resulted in Tillman's election as governor, and which is likely to result in the defeat of Wade Hampton for re-election to the United States senate, might be accounted a democratic revolt against the aristocratic tendencies that have hitherto been uppermost in the management of South Carolina politics. One very significant evidence of this is found in the declaration that the only ladies present at the

inaugural ceremonies last Thursday came from the interior of the state and that there is a disposition among society people in Columbia to ignore the members of the new administration. This is funny, but we shall probably never have an end of it till the southern man puts on a stiff hat and cuts his hair.

On the other hand, it is very difficult to reconcile some of Governor Tillman's utterances in his inaugural address with any kind of democracy whatever. Of course he declared for the supremacy of the white over the negroes in political matters, but this is not inconsistent in the southern states with the thorough belief in equality between white men. Governor Tillman, however, talks in a strangely feudal strain when he declares that the negro is beginning to think for himself, and to realize at last "that his best friends and safest advisers are the white men who own the land and give him employment."

How readily the wage fund theory and the other antiquated notions of the political economy that is passing away lend themselves to the use of those who instinctively defend the right of some men to take to themselves, without compensation, the fruits of the labors of other men, and how instinctively a man advocating such an idea sees that he who owns the land practically owns the men who live upon the land!

This, however, seems to be, with Governor Tillman, a mere habit of thought, projected from the days before the war, because he clearly sees the injustice of the system of land appropriation that has brought about landlordism and recommends the legislature to break up the monopoly of the men who have seized the phosphate beds in the navigable rivers in the state, to open that industry to all comers who will pay the state a royalty of two dollars a ton on all the phosphate mined. This is a denial of the extreme demands of landlordism and a partial and blundering application of the single tax. We presume the true explanation of the conflicting passages in the governor's address is to be found in the fact that he is largely controlled by inherited prejudice, and, at the same time, open to new ideas, the exact bearing of which he does not fully understand. This is certainly a much better condition of mind than the stagnation which has hitherto characterized South Carolina politics.

DESTITUTION IN DAKOTA.

Redfield, S. D., Nov. 29, 1890.—While sitting in the office of Judge Howe today quite a number of farmers came in at various times and talked over the situation with the judge. Among them was a widow woman. She said she had eight children and that all the fuel she had was about enough cow chips to last a week. A snow storm would make her "chips" worthless for fuel. The only way she could get fuel would be to sell her seed wheat and buy coal, and she hated to do that.

The other farmers were from different parts of Spink county and there was no difference of opinion as to the seriousness of the situation. Many families have left and others are leaving. Many more would go if they had any way of going, but they have remained so long they are too poor to get out. Occasionally a whole family drives out in a buggy, taking all they possess in the buggy. I am told that ninety per cent of the real estate of this county is mortgaged for all it is worth, and that nearly all the chattels are mortgaged, so that, as one said, "A man cannot kill a hen for his sick wife without violating the law" in some cases. Hundreds of families in this county have not provisions to last them over a week or two. They have money, nothing to sell and no credit. There is very little fuel in the towns. The railroad companies' bins are only part full and the dealers

have very little on hand. There is scarcely any straw or hay to burn as the drought left no crops, thousands of acres never being cut this year.

Last year the destitution was bad. Women and children had scarcely enough to cover themselves, let alone to keep them warm. But kind hearted people wrote to their friends in the east and obtained old clothing, fuel and provisions which enabled the people to exist through the open winter which we fortunately had. The letters and statements of these people were contradicted by our state immigration commissioner and state officials, and by South Dakota papers generally. These people who wrote to their friends for aid were denounced as defamers of the fair fame of South Dakota; they were condemned as politicians seeking by these means to gain votes. And such of them as ran for office on the independent ticket this fall were defeated, with the exception of Judge Howe. The men who sent out the reports of prosperity of immense crops, and who have been elected to office, go quietly about their business as though everything was in the most prosperous condition here. On the other hand, the men and women who obtained help last year have been repudiated and are discouraged.

Here is the condition that confronts the people of Spink county. There is, in all probability, not enough fuel now in the county to last the people one month. Some who are able to buy coal have been unable to get cars. No effort seems to have been made to do anything. Winter is at hand. Having had two fairly open winters and but little snow for several seasons, we are apt to have a repetition of the cold winters. Should it be such a one as that of ten years ago, the roads would be blockaded for months. It is liable to set in any day now. Should it do so, and it is altogether probable, and the roads be blocked, the result is terrible to contemplate. They are dependent upon the railroads for food, fuel and clothing, especially fuel.

If a blockade should occur before supplies are laid in, and there seems to be little effort to get any, it would be but a few weeks before the towns would be overrun with mobs of starving, freezing people, with whom it would be useless to reason. It would not take long then for the supplies laid in by a few for their own use to vanish, and if the blockade continued long there would scarce be any one left in the county by spring to tell the tale.

Do not think this is all "theory." It is a condition that confronts the people of this county. It is not only a possible thing, but something that these farmers I heard talking fear. Those who would help can't, and those who could do not. In the face of the lying official statistics sent out by our real estate boom agent, the immigration commissioner, regarding the yield of wheat, potatoes, etc., in this and similar counties, it is useless for those who were helped last year, and for which help they have been branded by the papers as traducers and defamers, to appeal again for aid. Their letters are met in the east by long counter statements of the prosperity of South Dakota and those who would be glad to give refrain.

While at the alliance convention at Mitchell Mr. Ashby, the alliance satte lecturer of Iowa, told the farmers that the people of Iowa were ready and willing to send aid, but that as soon as they began to make preparations to do so, in response to personal appeals of private letters, statements would appear in their papers from prominent people in South Dakota denying destitution and telling of the large crops. Also intimations that those who talked of destitution were doing so to profit by the cupidity of benevolent people in other states. Mr. Ashby told them that if they expected to make their appeals for aid effective they must find some way of stopping the mouths of the real estate boomers and the immigration bureau.

The condition described above is what I have learned regarding Spink county. I understand that several counties ad-

joining, especially west and north, are in a similar condition. The more eastern and southeastern part of the state is not in this condition, but I heard it stated at the alliance convention that there was not a county in the state (east of the Missouri river) in which there were not some who needed help. The immediate cause is the drought, but the extortions of railroads and money loaners lies back of that. What little wheat was raised had to be shipped out to pay interest and debts. Their condition and its cause is simply a repetition of the Irish famines.

W. E. BROKAW.

PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION.

During the last three or four years the single tax advocates throughout the country have labored diligently in the interests of the Australian ballot. Their success is attested by the number of states that have adopted the secret ballot, the disposition on the part of the others to follow suit, and the generally favorable impression made upon the minds of the people. But the ballot is only part of the machinery by means of which representation is secured. So long as we have before us such examples as the congressional delegation from Minnesota, where the republicans polled less than three-fifths of the votes and have five congressmen, while the democrats polled two-fifths and have none, we can see how necessary are other reforms beside the ballot.

Since we have now brought the secret ballot to the point where it can travel upon its own merits, may we not profitably transfer some of the force which we are expending upon it to the perfecting of the system of representation. This need not detract from our efforts for the single tax any more than did the pressing of the secret ballot, but, on the contrary, may gather adherents, as did the other movement.

The system of all others which can justly lay claims to perfection is that known as proportional representation, or the selection of representatives by quotas. There is, however, another system which embraces enough of the elements of proportional representation to cause confusion in the minds of those not perfectly familiar with both—I refer to that of Charles Frederick Adams of Washington, whose pamphlet has recently appeared in this locality, and whose system was set forth in THE STANDARD'S Washington letter some months ago. Mr. Adams's plan may be stated briefly thus: Let the whole country be considered as a stock company, in which each voter holds one share. There being no state or district lines, the stockholder gives his proxy or vote to any one whom he wishes to be a director or congressman. If the membership be limited to 300, "the assembly would consist of such of the proxies named, to the number of 300 or less, as should respectively have been appointed by more principals than any other proxies not included in the number; and in the legislative action of the body (as distinguished from its internal practice) each such admitted proxy would cast one vote for every principal or constituent." In other words, the directors would vote the stock held by them in proxies. It is also proposed by Mr. Adams that instead of fixed election days the polls shall remain open all the time, so that the citizen may change his proxy when he wishes.

This scheme is certainly very ingenious, and might possibly prove to be an improvement over the present unrepresentative system, but there are on its face some grave defects.

If the votes were at all evenly distributed among candidates, there would be as many unrepresented voters as at present, since all those cast for the unsuccessful candidates would be lost. If they were not so distributed to that extent, would congress cease to be a deliberative body? When Jay Gould enters a directors' meeting, holding a majority of the shares of stock, it is not in any sense a deliberative body. He is the directors' meeting, the secretary records his acts, the other members are but

spectators. That the proxy system applied to politics would come to such a pass we cannot doubt. Most men are hero worshipers; they will follow anywhere and at any cost a successful leader. Were such a system in vogue now, it is safe to say that ninety-nine percent of the republican votes would be divided between Mr. Reed and Mr. Blaine, and one of these would soon give way to the machinations of the other. Instead of appealing to the intelligence of the house the advocate of a measure would address himself to the member, or members, holding a majority of the proxies.

As for the continual election feature, that would require nearly as much book-keeping as Bellamy's ideal nonsense. Record would have to be kept of all the new voters, and of those dying; all accounts of unsuccessful candidates would have to be carried, for the proxies of any one might at any day exceed the number held by a congressman, who would thereupon have to make way for the new man.

The real proportional system, that of electing members by quotas, as discovered by Hare and Andrae, secures the end sought by Mr. Adams, while it is free from the grave defects of his plan. It is based upon the principle that where a representative body consists of 100 members every 100th part of the constituents is entitled to one representative. Thus if 100 members are to be chosen by 100,000 voters, every 1,000 should have one representative, 2,000 two, 10,000 ten, and so on. If the republicans polled 36,000 votes, the democrats 40,000, the prohibitionists 20,000 and the single taxers 4,000, the assembly would be made up of thirty-six republicans, forty democrats, twenty prohibitionists and four single tax men.

In practical operation the plan would work thus: Each party, or set of voters, nominates as many candidates as it desires, or feels that it can elect. When the votes are counted the total number cast is divided by the number of members to be chosen, which gives the quota or number necessary to elect one member. The respective party votes are then divided by the quotas and the members apportioned among them. In making up his ballot the voter numbers his candidates in the order of his preference so that when the members for his party are selected those standing highest will be selected. If the voter neglects to so number them the candidates may be selected in the order in which they appear on the ballot.

This system is applicable to any branch of government where there are several members to be chosen, whether it be a city council, state legislature or national congress. But wherever applied the present districts must be abolished. If the element of local representation be clung to the congressmen may be chosen by states, though even then small states, or those having a small population, should be grouped into districts large enough to reduce the element of waste in unfilled quotas to the minimum. This, however, is a matter of detail. Under this system the representation will always be in exact proportion to the votes cast. Were it now in vogue we might have a dozen single tax men and a hundred free traders in congress instead of halting, shifting, dodging democrats.

STOUGHTON COOLEY.

THE FIRST STEP.

In propagating the single tax system the best course to pursue is that which leads up to it by comparatively slow and easy stages. To start with the bold, naked proposition that all taxes should be raised from land values is calculated to immediately excite the bitter opposition of many people who might, by a different process of reasoning, be led up to the adoption of the very theory we are trying to popularize.

First, convince a man who really wants the truth that the tariff is a tax, an unjust tax, and consequently a wicked violation of human rights; convince him that all taxation of personal property and the products of industry is unjust, and im-

mediately the question comes up, How else can the necessary revenue be raised? Then is the time to present the single tax system, pure and simple.

And in this connection I wish to add a few words to what I have previously written on the subject of taxing personal property. The more an unprejudiced thinker investigates this system of legalized robbery, the more outrageous it appears. Between the collection of a fine imposed upon a man for producing or owning something useful, and the collection of a man's pocket-book and jewelry by a professional highway robber, there is not the slightest difference, except that the one is sanctioned by law while the other is prohibited. From a moral point of view both processes are wicked, cruel robbery. Not a single valid excuse can be offered for personal property tax robbery, any more than for the crime of the highwayman or for piracy on the high seas. The system of taxation that imposes fines on a person for everything he owns, whether he buys it or directly produces it; a system that ties a millstone to the neck of industry, discourages honest effort, encourages poverty, offers a premium for perjury, and punishes a man in the name of a poll tax, for the crime of having an earthly existence; such a system is unworthy of a civilized country. Indeed, its existence is calculated to raise a doubt as to whether this nation is really civilized or yet in a condition of semi-barbarism. On the proposition as to the moral right of the state to take from one of its citizens any portion of what he has earned, or what is the product of any one's individual effort, I challenge the world for affirmative proof. I deny the proposition most emphatically, and call for the foundation on which such a monstrous assumption rests. The popular and about the only excuse for it is the supposed "necessity" of thus raising revenue to support the government. But the single tax system demonstrates, by undeniable facts and statistics, that no such necessity exists. Neither the federal government nor any state or municipal government needs to raise revenue by taxing a man's body, his business or the fruits of his labor; nor by that deep-laid scheme of robbery sweetly called a protective tariff. All needful revenue can and should be raised by taxing land values. Under this beneficent system the community takes nothing from a man that he rightfully owns. It takes only what the community created, and what therefore belongs to the community. Whatever burden it imposes on a man as a land owner is more than balanced by what is sacred to him as a producer and a consumer. How sublimely just is such a system of taxation! How it commends itself to the good sense and humane impulses of every candid person who is not selfishly interested in opposing it. But before we can get the masses to see it in its true light we must help them to realize the infernal injustice that systematically robs them, under the forms of law, by taxing the legitimate fruits of industry.

RALPH E. HOYT.

Los Angeles, Cal.

JAPAN'S LAND TAX.

Dr. Rathgen is quoted as saying that nearly all the tax of Japan is raised on land values, and it is thought from this statement the single tax idea came from Japan, and that this empire is proof positive that the single tax theory is wrong. Let us examine the matter briefly.

The statistics show that about eighty-five per cent of the taxes of this country for the year 1875 were on land, but not as understood by the single taxer, because only a little over one-tenth of the land is in use. Most of it is in rice fields, and it is taxed, not at its value in its natural state, but as it is improved.

The application of the single tax to Japan would put the eight-tenths of unused land to the best use, but now it is simply held as government land. It can be bought, but the price is too high, and will be highly taxed if improved.

Again, the tax on city property is ab-

surdly low. I rented a house and put up a shed for my cow. The tax collector came around and said the taxes would have to be raised as the land had changed from garden to building location. In consequence I had to take the shed down and put it up in a different place. These laws discourage improvements.

When the system of government was changed from the feudal to the present style the people bought the land, and the barons and soldier class were pensioned; hence, the taxes are enormously high. This is a gross violation of the single tax idea. Japan is a little smaller than the single state of California, but supports an army and navy, a royal family with innumerable satraps, etc.

The protection theory was carried to its logical extreme. Sea going ships were burned and none were allowed to go to or come from foreign countries. The consequence is the people are taxed nearly into their graves. Still the country is largely a howling wilderness.

This country needs the single tax for its regeneration. I preach the gospel, but when people are hungry all the time it is difficult for them to listen. Their thoughts run to what in Japanese would be called "heso moto no shian," which means, "the thoughts cluster at the base of the naval." They have the home market, but all are poor together, and it is of no use to them. The minds of its people are darkened by idolatry, and the poor farmer is ground into the dirt. He cannot eat the eggs his one or two hens lay; he can scarcely eat any of the rice he raises; he knows less than the ass or he would kick. Tell us not that Japan has the single tax. She taxes industry; she had protection for hundreds of years, and she is to-day, with many unused natural resources, the poorest of nations.

The single tax, as the New York Times says, rests on irrefragable logic. It brings one great branch of learning into harmony with the Sermon on the Mount. It is as much a moral and religious question as the freeing of the slaves was, or as the temperance question to-day is. To resist it is, to my mind, to resist an ordinance of God. Yet people do not study. If they would study "Progress and Poverty" they would get a clear view of the doctrine. Happy will be the day for the farmer when the single tax goes into effect.

Japan is not under the single tax. I could write more about the labor problem in this country, but I desist. The wild land of this empire is of great value. It would be better to let the people use it than to leave it to the fox and the wolf, would it not?

CHAS. E. GARST.

Shonai, Japan, Nov. 1, 1890.

PROHIBITION AND BALLOT REFORM.

The recent elections have proved that ballot reform has come to this country to stay. In every state in which a new ballot reform law was tried, it showed a marked improvement over the old way of voting, and the nearer the law approached to the perfect secrecy of the Australian system the more pronounced was its success.

We have heard much of "the point of least resistance," and of attaining our object, whatever it may be, much sooner if we will only "work along the line of least resistance." Can anyone show a better line to work on just now than ballot reform? Henry George saw this line, and everywhere the single tax men have been foremost in working for a free and honest ballot. Why cannot other reformers, also, see that their cause will be best and soonest forwarded if they throw their whole strength now into the work of getting the Australian system of voting as the law in every state in the Union.

Prohibitionists should make a special note of this. If they ever succeed it must be because the majority of the people want their reform, and will vote for it. The secret ballot is the only possible way to get at the real will of the people; when each man votes according to his own judgment, untrammelled by any outside pressure, then, and not until then,

can we find out exactly what the people want. For then they will think for themselves, as was proved in the recent election under the new law in Indiana. "For the first time in years the people used more judgment and less of political prejudice and passion."

Cannot the prohibition party use a little of this judgment in their own interest, and, laying aside the prohibition question for a time, work and vote for ballot reform? The reform is bound to come, and when the people feel the active good resulting from it they will be apt to remember the men who worked to free them. By their present methods of working the prohibitionists simply throw away their votes, doing no good; and doing more or less harm in so far as their votes are taken from any right measure that one of the two great parties is trying to obtain. Under the old way of voting the success of a party depended much on the amount of money that could be obtained for use in "election expenses," and prohibitionists are well aware that the liquor interest can always find money to help their candidates. Under the Australian system of voting, the success of a party depends on the will of the people, the poorest candidate has an even chance with the richest. Cannot the prohibition party see that in earnest work now for ballot reform lies their only possible chance for future success? As the advocates of female suffrage prohibitionists have an interest in ballot reform, as the Australian system removes at once many of the objections to women's voting. The corruption and bribery that have stained elections hitherto, the disorder and crowding at the polls are all done away with, and a woman would be subjected to no more annoyance while voting than she is when she goes to a bank or any other quiet place of business.

If the Women's Christian temperance union could see this and work for ballot reform as earnestly as they have worked for prohibition their long desired ballot would be in their hands much sooner than they can obtain it by their present methods of working.

Whatever our ultimate aim may be, whatever reform we advocate, if it depends for its success on the vote of the people, then ballot reform is at present the "point of least resistance," for a free and honest ballot should be the desire of every true American.

C. ESTELA BACHMAN.

Mauch Chunk, Pa., Dec. 5, 1890.

OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 8.—The silver coinage sentiment is again growing so strong that it seems that something must be done this session. With the elections bill, the copyright bill, the ship subsidy bill and the appropriation bills to pass, it was thought the majority party would have about all they could manage in the thirteen weeks of this session, but the western men have presented a number of free coinage silver bills and demand attention. The republicans in the senate threaten, if this is not included in the programme, to covenant with the democrats, and, on condition of abandoning the elections bill, to get their support for a free coinage measure. Those who control the making of the senate programme do not seem ready to give the time necessary to the passage of this additional measure, even if they are not opposed to it in principle, and, on the other hand, the silver advocates can by no means be sure that a free coinage bill, forced by a compact with the democrats through the senate, would not meet with the successful resistance of Speaker Reed and the majority he is able to control in the house. It is thought that he can defeat a free coinage bill now just as he did when the senate passed such a bill last session, and this causes the republican senators to pause. Senator Teller of Colorado, however, declares that the senate will undoubtedly pass a free coinage bill this session.

Though there is much difference as to details in the various free coinage bills presented, none of them provide for a

coin to contain more silver than the present standard dollar, which is not worth a dollar as measured by gold, but less than 80 cents. They are based on the belief that to restore silver to the equal privileges it had with gold before the seventies, to admit it to free coinage just as the other metal is admitted, will so greatly increase its demand as to restore it to its old par value with gold, making the present standard silver dollar of 412½ grains, nine-tenths fine, equal in value to the standard gold dollar of 258-10 grains, nine-tenths fine.

It is asserted on the other hand that silver has grown more plentiful in the world since this ratio between the metals was established, and that with these proportions it cannot come to a par with gold; and those who believe this point as an evidence to the low price of silver prevailing under the new silver law enacted in the last session, by which \$2,500,000 worth of silver is purchased every month, which they aver is practically the whole silver output of this country. If now, they ask, under this law, after speculation has subsided, the price of silver is so low, how can free coinage materially appreciate it? Much of this sentiment for free coinage, they observe, comes from men who are interested in silver mines and who are only too anxious to have the government not buy silver bullion and coin it, as under the present law, but put its seal on and make passable, each for a dollar, pieces of silver which they will supply, and which as metal are worth much less.

More than this, the west has been sending up a cry for "more money," "cheaper money" to enable the large debtor class to ease itself of its burdens. Now, an increase in its volume means a proportionate depreciation in its value, so that these advocates of the free coinage of silver have an end in view, as the term "cheaper money" indicates, which, instead of bringing silver to par, would debase it and make the present disparity between the two metals still greater.

Senator Teller of Colorado proposes to coin a dollar which shall contain less silver than the present depreciated standard dollar. His bill deliberately purposes a standard silver dollar of 400 grains as against 412½, the present dollar.

Mr. Frank of Missouri (republican) has introduced into the house a bill for the appointment of a commission of five persons to hold office for six years, not more than three of whom shall be of the same political party, whose duty it shall be to ascertain the differences in prices of commodities in this country from prices abroad, as affected by changes in the tariff laws of the United States, and to carry its examination back, if need be, twenty-five years. The commission is to make a particular examination into the effect of a tariff upon the price of agricultural productions in this country, and "in respect to employment and the payment of remunerative wages," in comparison with employment and wages in other countries. For the purpose of such investigations the commission shall establish its permanent headquarters at Washington, but it may visit any part of the United States and invite testimony, and may delegate one of its number to visit foreign countries.

Provisions similar to the foregoing were offered last session in an amendment by Senator Plumb of Kansas to the tariff bill, but they were rejected, and there is no prospect that they will be accepted now.

Senator Stanford's bill entitled "A bill to provide for making loans by the government and securing the same by liens upon land," which was last session reported adversely from committee, and its indefinite postponement ordered, has been reintroduced, in a somewhat different form. It is now called "a bill to provide the government with means sufficient to supply the national want of a sound circulating medium." The bill authorizes the issue of \$100,000,000 in treasury notes, to be loaned at 2 per cent interest to owners of unencumbered agricultural lands, the loans not to exceed one-half

the value of the land nor to extend beyond twenty years.

Henry Cabot Lodge's bill to "regulate immigration" might better have been entitled "a bill to prohibit immigration," for it does more than prohibit the entrance of "any person who is insane, an idiot, a pauper or liable to become a public charge; who has been legally convicted of a felony or other infamous crime or misdemeanor involving moral turpitude; or who is a polygamist, anarchist or nihilist; or who is hostile to the form of government or constitution of the United States, or is afflicted with any loathsome contagious disease," or who might be classed as "contract labor." For it also forbids the admittance of any alien without a certificate from a consul or diplomatic representative of the United States, showing that the holder is a person "of good character and reputation," is "self-supporting," and, if he or she has a dependent family, is capable of "supporting such family;" that the holder, "if over twelve years of age, can both read and write his or her native language, and can read the constitution of the United States, either in English or in the native language of the said holder of such certificate;" and that the holder is "physically and mentally sound, in good health, and free from disease or deformity as certified by a physician." Application for such a certificate must be made "at least three months prior to embarkation."

It is evident from the presentation of such a measure raising such wide and insurmountable barriers against immigration that the United States, with its millions and millions of acres of rich land lying vacant, and with enough monopolized natural resources to supply the wants of the whole world, has, in the mind of Mr. Lodge, ceased to be what our fathers hoped in establishing this republic to make it—a refuge for the poorest and the most lowly who would work for a living, and what Washington fondly called "the new land of promise."

HENRY GEORGE, JR.

OUR LITTLE ROMAN.

JAMES MILNE BARRY, MARCH 29, 1890
Aunt Frances (Mrs. Milne).

I see him in his scarlet cloak,
Our darling, beautiful patrician!
Sure never Roman prouder wore
The toga of his young ambition.
And never Roman looked or spoke
With more imperial, instant sway,
Than when—his dimpled arm outstretched—
He gave the mandate firm: "Go 'way!"

But oh, the soft, the melting tone,
When spent the storm of baby ire,
And all transfigured in their tears,
Those flashing orbs forgot their fire!
"My mamma!" ne'er the culprit fay
Confession more bewitching made!
Nor absolution quicker won
For every precept disobeyed.

And "G'an'ma! make!" Who could resist
That irresistible petition?
That comradeship of innocence
To which all else must yield submission
Aye, "Ope de doo!" and let him in!
"G'an'ma!" will not her pet deny:
Oh, "Roguey-poguey!" What a game
To make the breathless moments fly.

"Goo'-night!" sweet pet! The day is done—
The all too short and busy day!
And all that bright activity
Must Nature's gracious call obey.
Up reach fair arms and rose-bud mouth
For good-night kiss to each and all;
And "Mamma—work!" is now, at last,
His sweet, beseeching, drowsy call.

Oh, Baby dear! we may not watch
Thy infant loveliness again.
Far, far on boyhood's road thy steps
Will urge their way to paths of men.
But be it late, or be it soon—
Whatever day our tryst befall—
"Goo'-by!" My darling! in the care
Of God, who careth for us all.

WHAT NONSENSE!

Boston Globe.
What nonsense for the protectionist organs to attempt to explain away the rise in carpets as being due to normal causes, when it is quiet undeniable that the duty on carpet wool was increased from 27 to 32 per cent by the McKinley bill and that all carpet wool is imported. Tariff superstition dies hard, but the people are not fools.

AN OPEN CONFESSIO IS GOOD FOR THE SOUL.

Buffalo Express (rep).
It is not good politics for republican journals to attribute the panic to the recent democratic victory. It will not pay, because the claim is untrue.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

The Chicago Tribune, which is a republican advocate from way back, has been making a careful estimate of the increased cost of clothing for one year through the McKinley bill to the people of the United States. "It will be from \$100,000,000 to \$120,000,000, or nearly \$2 per head, or \$10 per family, in the whole Union; although in the northern states, with their cold weather and long winters, the extra cost will average fully \$15 per family. This advance must come as soon as the surplus stocks of woolen now on hand are cleared off." Then the Tribune asks: "Does any one think that the people, who have just shown by their votes how they dislike the prospect of higher prices, will be any better tempered when the higher prices have been actually fastened on them?"

Mr. E. Q. Norton of Mobile, Ala., in a note to THE STANDARD says that there is a growing demand for good white help in the south, and this is especially true as to women for household work. Mr. Norton says he could at once send two or three gardeners to places where they would receive \$16 a month and board. The trouble with this is that gardeners obtain much better wages than this in the north, and even when out of work they do not care to permanently fix themselves where low wages prevail, and thus miss better chances that might open to them.

It is said that there is a feeling of regret in Washington among democratic congressmen over the defeat of Mr. McKinley, on the ground that he alone of all the republicans stood up for fair play for the democratic minority. It is pleasant to hear that, as a rule, Mr. McKinley was in favor of fair play; but it must be admitted that his tariff bill was anything but fair; in fact it was "way off." However, we bear him no "mallets," as Mrs. Gamp was wont to say. Mr. McKinley can go back to congress next time, if he wants to. All he will have to do will be to revise his opinions on the question of the tariff—reverse them, in fact—and go before the people of his district on a free trade platform. He will be a winner, and the aching void in the democratic congressional breast will be filled.

The New York Metropolis is dipping into the rent question in a mild sort of way, and it does not go to Ireland for illustrations of the injustice of existing methods, but says that "there are more evictions in this city and Brooklyn, in any one month, than there are in the whole of Ireland for a year." The Metropolis points out that we now maintain eleven civil district courts at an average expense of \$25,000 a year each, exclusive of the marshals' fees. There are thirty-seven of these marshals. They each have one or more deputies—which constitute "a hundred or more greedy, unsympathetic money seekers." The marshals and deputies receive no salary—they live on their fees, and "they find their chief occupation and source of revenue in the multitude of dispossession cases which are brought before their respective courts. In fact, these marshals make themselves runners for the court, to bring in this class of business, on which they thrive so well."

Continuing, the Metropolis says:

The cause of this plethora of prosecutions against tenants is not to be found in the inability of tenants to pay their rents, nor yet in their indisposition to do so. It is simply in the wrong system in vogue, and which has the recognition of the law. The laboring man is required to work a week—very often two weeks or a month—before he receives his pay, and is thankful to get it then. He is compelled to trust his wealthy employer until the end of the stipulated time before he can demand or receive a dollar of his earnings. But the wealthy landlord will not provide shelter for this honest and industrious laborer, even for a single night, until the rent has been paid. Nor is that the worst of it. While recent laws guarantee to most workmen payment at the end of each week of toil, the unfeeling landlord requires a full month's rent in advance before he will permit his miserable tenement to be occu-

pied. Now, see how this works. The laborer is required to work from one to two weeks to earn money enough to pay one month's rent. Having secured his tenement at this great cost, he must support his family for the entire month on the wages he may earn during the last two or two and a half weeks of the month. As a result, when the second month's rent becomes due, at the end of the first month's occupancy, he is unable to pay it, and dispossess proceedings are begun against him at once.

If it were not for these delinquent cases, says the Metropolis, not more than five of these courts would be necessary or could find employment. But, as is usual with a good many papers who are seeking a method for "ameliorating" the condition of the poor, the Metropolis proposes as a remedy that existing laws be "amended so as to compel landlords to receive their rent in weekly installments," which is very much like proposing to put two tails on a horse. What is really wanted in the matter of legislation—and we hope the Metropolis will receive the suggestion in the same spirit in which it deals with this subject—is a law that will lessen the power of landlords over their tenants, a law, in brief, that will clip their wings. Suppose the Metropolis tries to think out what would be the effect on the civil district courts, the marshals and their deputies and the landlords if an amendment to our laws could be passed which would revise our system of taxation to the point of shifting all taxes on to land values. Our opinion is—but let the Metropolis find the answer.

The St. Louis Republic gives a tip that can be used by the democrats, if they desire to avail themselves of republican methods, to secure a majority in the United States senate. When Texas was admitted into the Union it was given the right, at its own discretion, to divide itself into five states, each of which would, of course, have two United States senators. Inasmuch as there are 234,000 democrats to 88,000 republicans, no gerrymander is required to guarantee that every one of these senators would be a democrat.

Major McKinley told a Washington correspondent the other day that he had a "good deal of admiration for Governor Hill," and intimated that he would like to see him nominated for the presidency by the democrats. The major would be delighted, no doubt—as delighted as that faithful "old democrat" or "republican recluse" at the corner of Park row and Frankfort street. But the democrats will make their own nomination in '92, regardless of Major McKinley, C. A. Dana or other republicans.

Here are two paragraphs that are interesting reading when brought into juxtaposition:

Nearly all the democratic papers now virtually admit that the McKinley price scare was a democratic trick to influence the election.—[Rochester Democrat (rep).]

Imported and domestic cigars. To day, on account of the "McKinley tariff bill," the leading cigar manufacturers advance their prices on cigars from \$5 to \$10 per 1,000. Imported cigars from \$20 to \$30 per 1,000. Our cigars will be sold at the old prices until our present stock is exhausted. We reserve the right to restrict the quantities to each person.—[Advertisement in Portland, Me., Press, the leading republican paper in Congressman Reed's district.]

J. M. Wilson of Cochran, Pa., asks what under the single tax would be the tax on a lot worth about \$50. It is impossible to answer the question but quite likely that, under the single tax, a lot now valued at only \$50 would almost escape taxation entirely. The answer would depend on what the demands for land made the privilege of occupying such a lot worth at the time.

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat, a republican paper, has proposed a most luminous scheme that will, it thinks, take our governor clear to the head of the democratic national ticket in 1892. The scheme is this: Let "the republicans carry New York state in 1891." Then, don't you see, the democrats will be compelled, "in order to regain the empire state, to put the state's favorite son, David B. Hill, at the

head of the national ticket in 1892." Great head! But the Globe-Democrat stops here, and we are left in a wilderness of doubt as to what will follow. We can get an idea, though, and it is this: The republican party would snuff the democratic presidential candidate under. No; the democrats of this state will not take our republican friend's advice. They have a candidate, and he is a winner. He will be nominated in 1892. Let Mr. Hill make a note of this.

It is not improbable that the next Indiana legislature will amend the law which requires the reappraisal of real estate in Indianapolis every six years. Under the law the reappraisal cannot be made until 1892, but prominent public officials say that realty values have increased so much in the past few years that it is unjust to the body of tax payers to permit the values of four years ago to stand as they are any longer. The city auditor goes so far as to say that the growth of the city of Indianapolis and the increase in its population has been so great that large blocks of land pay taxes on less than one-fifth of their present value. The most of the land in the heart of the city on which there is nothing but one story blocks belongs to people who live elsewhere and to corporations. They are holding the property simply with a view to speculation and consequently they do not feel like making any material improvements. To secure these improvements the best way, says the auditor, is to raise the value of land, and that is what he thinks the next legislature will do. Many of the local real estate men are in favor of the reappraisal. We respectfully suggest, if the Indiana legislature does order the reappraisal, that that state will have made a long step in the direction of the single tax.

It is stated that William Waldorf Astor, a prominent New York republican, and representative of the Astor millions, will soon settle in London and astonish the world as a grand entertainer, having leased the celebrated Lansdowne house in the most aristocratic portion of that city. This sort of snobbery, says the Jackson, Mich., Patriot, is getting to be quite the thing for American "proud flesh," of both sexes—wealthy females by marrying debauched titles, and rich males, of the Astor and Carnegie type, by investing in baronial castles and extravagant entertainments. It takes large sums from the earnings of labor in this country to do these things, but so long as our people are willing to be taxed for such purposes it is foolish to find fault with these imitators of an accidental landed aristocracy.

The assessor of taxes at Vineland, N. J., and probably the appraisers, have looked into the single tax question just a little, so that the results of their investigations are beginning to show themselves. One of the large land holders of the town objected to having his taxes raised from \$25 to \$50 on brush lots and wild land. In a meeting before the commissioners of appeal the lawyer retained by the land holder made a presentation of the case, but it soon appeared that the advanced land values of neighboring properties had naturally reflected upon the lots in question, and that there was no reason why such advance in valuation should not appear upon the books. It was soon evident that the case in this respect was as flat as some of the lots in contention. Both gentlemen, land holder and lawyer, then gave up the main part of the claim, but thought that a reduction should be made on the low, flat lots in the northwestern district. A neighboring property holder, however, claimed that he had always paid taxes on his wild lots on a basis of \$50 valuation, and a single taxer made a stirring speech on the injustice of holding lots at high figures and profiting on the improvements of individuals who buy and build a home, and the speech seemed to have the desired effect, especially since it was backed up by a little incident of rather an amusing nature. The gentleman who had lodged the

complaint said, during his remarks, that his property could not be sold for double the valuation; but he would not agree to take \$25,000 for the bunch of lots valued by the assessor at \$12,500, when he was told that the money would be paid in less than twelve hours if he would only say the word. It leaked out afterward that a party of moneyed men, who knew that the complaint was to be made, and who suspected that some such argument would be used, had prepared their funds to buy some cheap lots. But the scheme fell through, and the original holder still owns the lots and pays the taxes.

It is a favorite climax with republicans, when arguing with opponents on the tariff question and finding themselves beaten, to charge tariff reductionists or free traders with being foreigners. We cited a case of this sort a week or two ago, and here is a second one. E. O. Thompson is a well known dealer in clothing, with places of business in Boston, Philadelphia and this city. He has always been a republican, but he does not believe in the McKinley tariff bill, and a short time since he used a column of one of our newspapers to say so. The editor of the Buffalo Commercial saw the advertisement, jumped to a conclusion and said in his paper that Mr. Thompson "is an Englishman bred and born to the very backbone; English in his ways and in his goods, which he imports from the old country." It was a good opportunity to "strike a blow at England," and the Commercial man used it; and it seems to have been a pity for Mr. Thompson to spoil it, which he did in a letter to the Buffalo Courier, as follows:

I can furnish vouchers which trace my ancestry for seven generations, both on my father's and mother's sides, as American born. My mother's father was a revolutionary soldier, who helped to whip the British, and drew his pension for many years for doing it.

The midwifery dispensary, at 312 Broome street, is doing a work of great importance in a portion of the city where a charity of this kind is much needed. There is no direction in which, so long as existing conditions continue, genuine charity can do so much to alleviate suffering as it can in reducing the terrible hardships under which the wives, not merely of the poor but of fairly well-to-do workingmen, bring forth their children. We are glad to see that the more fortunately situated women have interested themselves in this matter sufficiently to give an amateur theatrical entertainment in behalf of the dispensary at the Berkeley lyceum last night. The event was a strictly fashionable one, but if the eclat thus given it materialized in dollars and cents no one need object. The treasurer of the dispensary is Dr. Samuel W. Lambert, 2 East Thirty-seventh street.

The New York Herald is becoming elephantinely humorous. It has nominated Charles A. Dana for United States senator.

SOWING AND REAPING.

Sow with a generous hand,
Pause not for toil or pain;
Weary not through the heat of summer,
Weary not through the cold spring rain;
But wait till the autumn comes
For the sheaves of golden grain.

Scatter the seed and fear not,
A table will be spread;
What matters if you are too weary
To eat your hard-earned bread?
Sow while the earth is broken,
For the hungry must be fed.

Sow while the seeds are lying
In the warm earth's bosom deep,
And your warm tears fall upon it—
They will stir in their quiet sleep,
And the green blades rise the quicker,
Perchance for the tears you weep.

Then sow—for the hours are fleeting,
And the seed must fall to-day;
And care not what hands shall reap it,
Or if you have passed away
Before the waving corn fields
Shall gladden the sunny day.

Sow; and look onward, upward,
Where the starry light appears—
Where, in spite of the coward's doubting,
Or your own heart's trembling fears,
You shall reap in joy the harvest
You have sown to-day in tears.

ADELAIDE PROCTOR.

PERSONAL.

Professor Hamlin Garland has been invited to become the editor of the single tax department of Living Issues, a publication shortly to be inaugurated in Boston. The professor has been lecturing during the past week in Rochester, Buffalo, Cleveland and Chicago.

E. L. Ryder of Sing Sing writes to Louis F. Post that he has been invited to respond to the toast of "Tariff reform" at the Westchester democratic banquet, which is to be held at Lyric hall, New York city, on December 9. Mr. Ryder says: "The gentleman who extended to me the invitation knows that I am a single taxer. As a consistent member of the Manhattan single tax club, you can fancy what kind of a tariff speech I shall make to the Westchester democrats."

J. B. Sargent, the well known free trade manufacturer of Connecticut, was, on December 1, elected mayor of New Haven, defeating his republican opponent, by 187 votes. The mayor of New Haven during the past year is a republican.

Dr. Henry S. Chase of St. Louis has been invited by the editor of the St. Louis Dry Goods Reporter to write six letters for that paper on "city taxation." The first letter has already appeared, and points out how the land owners of St. Louis have robbed the business and laboring men out of \$250,000,000 in the last fifty years.

J. B. Sharpe has an able article on "The beauties of the single tax" in the Pittsburgh Post of December 6.

DEATH OF EVERETT GLACKIN.

A POWERFUL AND INFLUENTIAL ADVOCATE OF LABOR PASSES AWAY.

It is with profound sorrow that THE STANDARD announces to its readers the death of Everett Glackin. He died at his home, 1254 Herkimer street, Brooklyn, at half-past 8 o'clock last Monday morning, of Bright's disease of the kidneys. He had been for a long time a patient at St. Luke's hospital, under treatment for the ailment that caused his death.

Everett Glackin was one of the best known members of Typographical union No. 6, of which he had been an active member for many years. He was twice elected its president—in 1886 and 1887—and served as its secretary from January 1, 1889, to July 1, 1890. He declined to run for a second term. After the close of his term he went to work in Harper's, until compelled by sickness to go to the hospital. Less than a month ago he was pronounced by the hospital physicians well enough to be taken to his home.

Mr. Glackin had been for a number of years a student of the labor problem. The mayoralty campaign of 1886 found him in the ranks of those who advocated Mr. George's candidacy. In 1887 he stumped the state for Mr. George, who was a candidate for secretary of state. What gave Mr. Glackin great prominence was an address on "What we Want," delivered by him at the Academy of Music. In his death the labor movement has lost one of its most effective and influential leaders. The funeral will take place from his late residence on Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Friends are invited to attend.

MONOPOLIZING THE LAND.

Chicago Herald.

The land question in its various phases promises to become the leading issue in politics in other countries, as well as in Ireland, at no distant day. The connection between land distribution and prosperity is strikingly shown in the case of England and France. In the former, the laws of primogeniture and entail combine to continue a landed class who monopolize the soil; in the latter, estates are divided equally among the children, thus tending to small holdings and peasant proprietorship. As a result, chiefly, of these systems we find in England vast estates on which their owners live in princely manner surrounded by everything conducive to pleasure and dignified ease, while thousands and hundreds of thousands of acres are devoted to parks and hunting grounds, from which the tillers of the soil have gradually been driven to swell the increasing number of the landless, with the result, according to John Morley's estimate, that forty-five per cent of the inhabitants of England who reach the age of sixty years become paupers. In France, on the contrary, where a different system prevails, the savings of the peasants constitute the wealth of the nation, as strikingly shown in the unparalleled rapidity of France's recovery from the Franco-Prussian war.

In Scotland the same process of monopolizing the land is going on as in England, and the gift of princely domains to railroads and the purchases of syndicates in the United States tend in the same direction. One syndicate of northern capitalists owns a tract of land in southwestern Louisiana, 100 miles in length and 25 miles in breadth, or 1,500,000 acres of land, while nearly 19,000,000 acres of the public domain were disposed of last year to settlers, corporations and syndicates. In America, however, there is likely to be land enough for all for many years to come. The thing to be guarded against is the monopolizing of the land by syndicates and corporations and the formation of vast private estates of land, and on this subject the American people cannot exercise too great caution.

Notwithstanding Malthusian bogies, there

has always been land enough in the world to support its population, and there is little doubt but there always will be enough if a proper system of land ownership and land tilling is adopted. That a limit should be set to individual proprietorship in land has been clearly enough demonstrated in England, France, Scotland, and especially Ireland. In the latter country alien landlordism conspires with the land-monopolizing English tendency to produce a state of affairs that can eventually have but one result—the withdrawal of English landlords and the occupation of the soil by Irishmen as their natural birthright. In no other country of the world is the abuse of the principle of land monopoly so fully exhibited as in Ireland. The county of Mayo, for example, in the northwestern part of the province of Connaught, has an area of 177,933 acres, with a soil well adapted to pasturage and farming, while its landlocked harbors and bays offer every facility for commerce, yet under the system under which Ireland has almost literally starved for centuries the people are to-day in a state of abject poverty. In Connemara Lord Sigo has an estate of 40,000 acres, purchased at much less than its value, while Mr. Mitchell Henry, at Kylemore, has another vast estate of 17,000 acres, purchased at £1 per acre, on which he has erected a baronial granite castle and rents the reclaimed land at twenty shillings an acre.

These are but single instances, and hundreds of others might be given in Ireland, Scotland and England, and even in America, of the way in which the people are being robbed of their inheritance. But the day of the land grabber is drawing to a close. The size of these mortgages on future generations will before long be reduced in amount and determined by law. Land monopoly is the worst of all monopolies in thickly settled countries. America should provide in time suitable legislation on the subject. Ireland, unfortunately, has no remedy for her wrongs but constitutional redress or revolution. Whether England will force her to choose the latter remains to be seen.

DAWN.

A. Werner in "A Time and Times."

It comes—it looms up in the darkness—

Something—I hardly know

Of a word, or a name to name it—

But I feel it must be so;

For a time of choice is coming

For weal or for woe.

The pulses of a nation,

Beating in fever and pain;

The fever of woe and want—

The fever of greed and gain—

And the stars are reeling in heaven—

And the great sea moans for her slain.

In the stillness of my life,

I hear the tramp afar

Of the armies marching,

Under the morning star,

To the Amageddon battle,

Where the eagles are.

The days lie dark before me—

I know not what shall be,

But at midnight or at day dawn,

When the call comes unto me,

I am ready to rise and follow—

To the death-agony.

O, my people, my brothers!

God grant me to be true—

Ever true to His highest truth!

No great thing can I do;

But, firm as a faithful heart may love,

Ever I stand by you.

Yours—and I see God's angel

Coming along the sky

With the garments rolled in blood,

And the steadfast eye—

And some say her name is Love,

And some, Liberty.

She comes—who will know her coming?

Or be ready her step to greet,

When she comes with the blood on her brow

And the dust about her feet?

Who will bravely drink of the bitter

Without a hope of the sweet?

Let us be true—heart loyal—

Ready what time she calls!

Justice and truth are met

To cast down the age built walls.

Happy shall be the victors that day,

And blessed he who falls!

THE WOMEN DID IT.

New York Post.

What to do about the women is now the great problem before the republican managers. It will be remembered that Speaker Reed has declared his belief that "the most important factor in the result of this election was the women of the country. It is the women who do the shopping, who keep the run of prices, who have the keenest sense for increased cost. They heard in every store the clerks behind the counters explain how this article or that could not be sold hereafter at the former price because of the McKinley bill; they went home and told their husbands and fathers, and their stories had a tremendous effect at the ballot box." The trouble for the republican managers is that the women will continue to do the shopping, to keep the run of prices, and to tell their husbands and fathers when they read such advertisements as this in a good republican newspaper like the Worcester, Mass., Spy:

"A lady who wishes to buy a black dress now, will do no better than to choose silk-warp Henriettas; and now is a better time to buy than a month hence, when our next importation arrives, bringing with it higher prices, from tariff causes."

THE CONFERENCE PICTURE.

No. 12 in the conference photograph, "E. O'Rourke, Ohio," should be E. O'Rourke, New York.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

A GOOD SUGGESTION.

To the Editor of The Standard—Sir: I suggest the placing of a complete set of Mr. George's works in the various Normal schools throughout the west and south. The students at these schools are mostly the sons of farmers or mechanics who attend them for the purpose of equipping themselves for the vocation of teachers, or to obtain a higher education than can be obtained at the country schools. It is obvious that wherever a convert can be made among them we can place an apostle in a small town or a country school district among the class of people hardest to reach. I can only, from memory, instance the location of three—those at Lebanon and Oberlin, Ohio, and Valparaiso, Ind. J. H. MARSH.

Providence, R. I.

A TRUE INCIDENT.

To the Editor of The Standard—Sir: Upon a hill top in a beautiful southern country was a small cabin belonging to an old negro, Cato Potts. Cato was by no means a model man. But what could be expected of him? All his days had been passed in ignorance and poverty. His little strip of land was poor; often he and his children had not enough to eat. It seemed that all of life's sweets had been denied him.

The sun was at its height one warm day in August, when it became evident that something unusual was taking place in the cabin. Two of Cato's children were seen running excitedly in different directions while the younger ones sat in awe-stricken silence under the trees. The near approach of that dread messenger which sooner or later will come to us all was the cause of the excitement. Upon the tumbledown bedstead in the only sleeping room that the cabin afforded lay Cato's daughter, "sick unto death." Cato, conscious of his ill treatment of this child of his, was weeping a few repentant tears by the bedside.

The sufferer was murmuring half to herself, "It's goin' to heaven. It's goin' to be with de white angels an' all de good folks. It's goin' to see de Lord Jesus on His throne. Folks is neva hungry up there. Dey neva know what 'tis to be cold an' to have no place to go to. There all de folks has a plenty—a plenty. Oat it'll be so nice to have a plenty—a plenty."

A kind neighbor, for whom one of the children had gone, came in and did what she could for the dying woman. Having finished her ministrations, she prepared to leave. "Goodby, Miss Alice, I'll neva see you 'gain till we meet in heaven," were the parting words of the poor negress.

A few hours later the voice was silenced forever—the spirit had fled.

In a country that stretches from ocean to ocean, a country of infinite wealth, of infinite resources; in a country that claims to be free, a country that calls all men equal, is it not a shame that human beings should long for death in order to gain a loaf of bread, a garment to cover them, and a shelter from the storm? M. M.

Philadelphia, Pa.

NOT OPPOSED TO WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

To the Editor of The Standard—Sir: I have read with deep interest the discussion in THE STANDARD of woman's place in the single tax movement; especially the spirited articles of Miss Sarah Millin Gay, the last one of which contains this sentence: "But women have not the ballot, and the majority of single tax men don't care that they should."

Now, this is a very serious arraignment of the majority of single tax men; and for the good of the cause I hope that the writer is mistaken. But the charge is made, and it becomes the duty of every single tax man who is not guilty to say so.

This is my apology for asking for space in THE STANDARD to plead not guilty.

No movement can succeed that is not founded on correct principles. Ours is not the cause of a band of landless discontents, denouncing private property in land because we have none, and are envious of those who have. We denounce it because it is unjust. We introuch ourselves behind the doctrine that all men are created equal, and are endowed with equal natural rights. The term "men," of course, being used in its generic sense; otherwise the declaration would amount to nothing.

Now, if we proclaim the equal right of all persons to the land, and then deny to some persons other rights clearly included in the declaration, we place ourselves in the position of a selfish, unreasonable rabble, clamoring for an advantage to ourselves, while altogether indifferent to the principle upon which our claim is based.

When I hear men opposing the right of

women to equal opportunities, I cannot help thinking that they fear female competition. Perhaps it would be humiliating to be outdone by the women. Nevertheless, it is unmanly, it is cowardly to oppose their enfranchisement for that reason. We must stand by our principles. No matter what our ideas of propriety may be, if the women wish to come into our clubs, if they wish to go to the polls and cast their ballots, they have a moral right to do both.

I never favored the plan of separate organizations for women. I would have preferred that they join the clubs already organized, as some of them had done before; but on the principle that they knew their own business best, I kept mum.

Brooklyn, Dec. 5. WM. F. WITHERS.

WOMEN AND THE FRANCHISE.

To the Editor of The Standard—Sir: For one single tax man and for myself I wish to protest against Miss Gay's assumption that, as she stated in THE STANDARD of the 3d, we "don't care that women should have the ballot."

For every single tax man whom Miss Gay may name who "cares for none of these things" I will find her two who do.

We cannot all work at the same thing nor the same reform. Each must do what his opportunities and his abilities allow for that which he regards as most important.

For my part, I have seldom met a single taxer who did not heartily sympathize with the fight for the real and entire equal rights of women. Many of us believe in dress reform, temperance reform, prison reform. Probably Miss Gay believes in them all.

I believe in all these things and help them where I can, but it is impossible to work at the greater and the smaller, too.

We want the help of the women's rights party and regard it as of great importance, and they want ours.

If we think that particular injustice and special evil will be best remedied by inaugurating general justice and universal good, we must be pardoned for the time for missing their point in our larger aims.

I am heartily in sympathy with Miss Gay for the ballot for women, and am sure that if THE STANDARD will give her address, she will find abundant expressions of sympathy and support from single tax men and single tax women. BOLTON HALL.

New York city.

SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS.

To the Editor of The Standard—Sir: It has been fully shown, I think, that we are not near enough to the full single tax to have any fear of injustice to land owners from special assessments on and according to the value of land; but I wish to refer now to some other objections to special assessments.

Mr. Forsyth says he "cannot see what land values have to do with improvements," and proves he cannot by claiming, in effect, that the same public improvements increase the value of land of low value more than that of land of higher value. On this point I submit some propositions:

1. While public improvements are expected to and do benefit all the individuals in the community, adding to their wealth producing capacity, safety, health, convenience, etc., all of these benefits are reflected back in the increased value of land ultimately following the improvement.

2. Adding the same advantage or improvement to different pieces of land or location of equal value previously will increase the value of each piece to the same amount.

3. Adding the same advantage or improvement to different pieces of land of different values previously will increase the values of the pieces, not to the same amount, but to an amount proportioned to their previous values.

4. The benefit to any given piece of land will be found in the fourth term of a proportion of which the first term is the market value of the piece of land, the second the combined value of all the land to be benefited by the improvement, and the third term the entire cost of the whole improvement.

5. The tax on each piece of land should exactly equal the benefit to each piece of land.

To illustrate: A city in which the land which will be benefited by the improvement is worth \$20,000,000; water works, costing \$1,000,000, are to be established by special assessments on land values. In such a case the benefit to and tax on a lot worth, say, \$1,000, would be ascertained as follows:

\$1,000:\$21,000,000=\$1,000,000:\$21,000,000

The tax would be \$50 on the assumption that this lot would be increased in value \$50. I am aware this is not the method used in special assessments, at least not in Illinois, where the usual mode is to assess according to the "front foot," which Dr. Hill states has

been a method in Baltimore and which method he properly condemns. It is outrageously unjust and often means the practical confiscation of the lots of the lower value. A tax on land according to area is necessarily a tax on labor. But in my judgment the above propositions embody the just method of special assessment. If these propositions are not valid I shall be obliged to any one for showing the error.

Dr. Hill makes some other objections to which I desire to allude.

In declaring the system to be the cause of great corruption and favoritism in Baltimore, is he quite sure that special assessments are really the cause of these evils? In our annual assessments we see gross undervaluation of vacant land; is the present slight tax on land values the cause of the evil? Not at all. These evils are due to the same causes which produce them in other affairs; special assessments do not any more than any other matters necessarily involve these evils.

I cannot agree with his view that the system of special assessments stirs up unnecessary enemies to the single tax. It ought not, for it attacks the same interests. It does not, for we see the same class oppose both. In Quincy I know the agitation has helped the single tax materially.

Dr. Hill thinks the whole community should pay for public improvements. If the payment is to be made out of the community's fund—land values—then the community should pay for them. This would result from special assessments on and according to land values only. The land owners simply advance in a "jump" sum what they will get back in rental for or use of their land; the non-land owners paying their share in the increase in land rent. To tax personal property and improvements, however, as well as land values, would make the landless pay doubly for the improvement; that is, they would not only pay annually the increase in land rent, but a higher price for commodities, buildings, etc., resulting from the tax on these products of labor.

The truth is that under special assessments on and according to land values (not on "real estate" as is sometimes the case) public improvements really take from the people not one cent which is justly their individual property, but the cost falls where it belongs—on ground rents.

Besides the unjust method of levying special assessments according to area is another often seen (especially in paving) the making of but a small area of the improvement at one time, instead of assessing the whole improved district at once. This narrow, halting method is strictly in the interest of the more valuable land, which is doubtless the reason for it. Assess and pave one block in the heart of the city, and though you tax according to land values, the value of the land is so high, and there is so little difference in the values, that the public spirited (?) owners seldom complain. But when the progress reaches land worth less than the tax the great injustice is seen—by others if not the valuable land owners, who may cry out at the "obstructionists to improvements." It is not improvements, but robbery, these poor land owners object to. Where a city requires an improvement the correct way is to assess all the land at once, according to land values; then do the work of improvement as may be convenient. This equalizes the tax according to benefits.

Quincy, Ill.

C. F. PERRY.

MAKING FUN OF THE OLD SINNER.

THE NEW YORK HERALD'S GREAT JOKE—REPUBLICANS AND HILL AND PROTECTION DEMOCRATS THINK WELL OF DANA FOR UNITED STATES SENATOR—TARIFF REFORM DEMOCRATS AGAINST HIM.

New York Herald: You will find just what you want in Charles A. Dana.

Sheriff-elect J. J. Gorman (Tammany dem.) said: I had not heard of it until now and decline to express an opinion.

Mayor Grant (Tammany dem.): I decline to say anything on the subject.

Comptroller Theodore W. Myers (county dem.): I decline to discuss the subject.

Governor Hill refused to talk on anything or anybody connected with the United States senatorship.

C. P. Woodruff (dem.), editor Rochester Sunday Herald: My choice is Roswell P. Flower.

Ex-Mayor Grace (dem.): I have nothing to say on that subject. (Said emphatically and curtly.)

Secretary of State Rice (dem.)—Absolutely refused to discuss the question.

D. D. Candee (dem.), Syracuse: Editor Dana is not fit for the position.

Henry J. Mowry (dem.), Syracuse: I judge that the tariff was the main issue before the people at the recent elections and you know what the verdict was. I do not believe that Editor Dana of the Sun is in sympathy with

the issue of tariff reform laid before the country by Grover Cleveland, and therefore I do not think he should be chosen senator.

Francis M. Scott (county dem.): Oh, Lord! I can't discuss that subject. I'll talk yachts with you or anything else.

William F. Mackey (dem.), Buffalo: I think the democrats should elect a democrat. If Dana was the last man on earth I would not want to see him elected senator.

Ex-Lieutenant-Governor Allen C. Beach (dem.), Watertown: If Governor Hill does not want the place the man who does take it must be a democrat who will command the respect of the party throughout the state.

City Attorney Lang (dem.), Buffalo: I think Dana would be acceptable to all republicans, but we want a democrat for United States senator.

Buffalo Times (dem.): Dana is none of us; his democracy is like the celebrated flea, absent when attempt is made to grasp it.

Philadelphia Record (dem.): Mr. Dana is a brilliant man, and would make a first-class senator. The objection to him is that he isn't a democrat.

Syracuse Courier (dem.): Mr. Dana is a good man, and weighs upward of two hundred pounds, but unfortunately he is not sound on the main question.

Charleston Budget (dem.): Mr. Dana's ideas are so little in accord with the present principles of the democratic party that he can hardly be the choice of democrats.

Kansas City Star (dem.): It is impossible that the Herald, a tariff reform and civil service reform newspaper, can advocate the election of a man to the senate who is a high protectionist and an avowed spoilsman.

Zanesville, Ohio, Chronicle (dem.): What is the animus that prompts the Herald to this seeming fraternal generosity? Is the purpose to keep Governor Hill from getting the place?

Assemblyman James A. McKenna (dem.), Queens county: I cannot accept his views as regards tariff reform, and would prefer one who is more in accord with the present policy of the democratic party.

Mayor Gleason (pugilistic dem., just out of jail): He is my choice before any one else.

Assemblyman Grant B. Taylor (dem.), Orange county: I am not prepared to express an opinion on this subject.

Judge Ehrlich (Tammany dem.): Qualifications are not the only matter that must of necessity be considered in the selection of a United States senator.

General James W. Husted (rep.): I have the greatest admiration for Mr. Dana, and consider him one of the greatest men in America to day.

Assemblyman Sage (dem.): Under no circumstances would I support Dana.

John W. Goff (county dem.): I believe that the Herald nomination is a matter of irony.

Ex-Governor Hoadly (dem.): Hill is my choice.

William H. Tracy (Hill dem.), Rochester: Should he be announced as a candidate and receive the support of Governor Hill, I think the democracy of the state would be perfectly satisfied.

Buffalo Express (rep.): Dana as a member of the republican senate would be like a cat wandering in a strange garret. He would undoubtedly bother democrats more than republicans. The whole force of a democratic caucus couldn't make him vote for free trade, and the awful and combined dignity of fifty southern democrats could not prevent him from exposing the hypocrisy of Grover Cleveland.

State Senator Lisenard Stewart (rep.): I am a republican. I think that Charles A. Dana would make an excellent senator.

De Lancey Nicoll (dude dem.): Mr. Dana is a man of great ability and force of character, and there is no doubt that he would distinguish himself in the senate.

John H. V. Arnold (Tammany dem.): To be at the head of a journal which "shines for all" might well dil the measure of any man's ambition.

Edward D. Lewis (Hill dem.), Syracuse: I think a great deal of Mr. Dana. He is the same kind of a democrat that I am.

Thomas F. Grady (Dana-Butler dem.): Put me down as strong as you like for Charles A. Dana. He is an able man, and has the courage of his convictions. I believe that he would make a first-class United States senator.

George W. Ross (Hill dem.), Rochester: Admirable in every way. Mr. Dana is one of the best equipped men for the place in the state or nation. He would honor the place and commonwealth.

THAT'S SO.

St. Louis Republic.

Dr. Dana has long ago fallen into a cynicism which makes it impossible for him to admire anything except Chinese bric-a-brac and red-necked fighting roosters.

HOW THE CHILDREN WILL ENJOY THIS.

Philadelphia Times.

Owing to McKinley prices Santa Claus will carry less with him this Christmas and thus will be enabled to make briefer stays at those places he visits.

TAXATION IN IOWA.

OFFICIAL ANSWERS TO A SERIES OF QUESTIONS SENT OUT TO ASSESSORS, WHICH SHOW HOW THE RICH ESCAPE TAXATION AT THE EXPENSE OF FARMERS AND WORKINGMEN—A STORY WHICH POINTS ITS OWN MORAL.

The senate of the Twenty-first general assembly of Iowa passed the following concurrent resolution:

Whereas, There is throughout the state, and especially in our larger cities, a very general complaint of excessive and inadequate taxation; and

Whereas, To a very large extent the farmers and workingmen under the present revenue system of the state feel that taxation is too high, and that the plea of double assessment and taxation on mortgages is an injustice that ought to be remedied; and

Whereas, Efficient legislation must be based on full and reliable information; and

Whereas, No such information in detail upon this subject is now available; therefore,

Resolved, By the senate, the house concurring, that the commissioner of labor statistics is hereby directed to prepare necessary blanks and to send the same to proper authorities, and thus ascertain the amount of assessment and taxation throughout the state, or such parts thereof as may by said commissioner be deemed expedient, giving special attention to the taxation of municipalities and to the incidence of taxation. He shall publish in the next report of his office a report of his investigation on the subject, together with such statistics upon the same as he shall collect.

In obedience to this resolution the following queries were, among others sent to the county auditors and to others in the state of Iowa, and the corresponding replies were substantially or verbatim as follows:

(1) State the aggregate assessed value of all the real estate and all personal property in each city in your county.

Burlington reported:

Real estate	\$3,047,648
Personal	1,448,193
Railroad	95,104

Total \$4,591,345

Davenport:

Real estate	\$3,003,387
Personal	1,319,332

Total \$4,322,719

Des Moines:

Real estate	\$8,540,715
Personal (in county)	3,424,527

Total \$11,965,242

The assessment of railroad property in Polk county was \$782,445.25.

Dubuque reported:

Real estate	\$3,796,050
Personal	1,837,830

Total \$5,633,880

Sioux City reported:

Real estate	\$5,722,232
Personal	1,165,128

Total \$6,887,360

(3) State the ratio or percentage of assessment on real estate as compared with fair salable market value.

Burlington answered—Supposed to be 50 per cent of real value; impossible to give even an approximate figure, so little uniformity, but all less than 40 per cent of real value.

Davenport—30 per cent of real value.

Dubuque—40 per cent of real value.

Des Moines—50 per cent of real value.

Sioux City—33½ per cent of real value.

(5) Moneys and credits?

Burlington—66½ per cent; equals ⅔ value.

Davenport—33½ per cent; equals ⅓ value.

Dubuque—40 per cent; equals 2/5 value.

Des Moines—50 per cent; equals ½ value.

Sioux City—25 per cent; equals ¼ value.

(7) How are national banks assessed?

Burlington—¾ of value.

Davenport—¾ of value.

Des Moines—¾ of value.

Dubuque—¾ of value.

Sioux City—¾ of value.

Is national bank stock treated as moneys and credits?

Burlington—Yes; taxed at ⅔ value.

Davenport—Yes; taxed at ⅔ value.

Des Moines—Yes; taxed at ⅔ value.

Dubuque—Yes; taxed at 2/5 value.

Sioux City—Yes; taxed at ¼ value.

(16) How is merchandise assessed?

Burlington—Suppose 50 per cent; can't say for certain.

Davenport—33 per cent.

Des Moines—50 per cent.

Dubuque—40 per cent.

Sioux City—33 per cent.

How do your assessors arrive at the value of manufacturers' property?

Burlington—No answer. (Guess work, 66½ per cent of value)

Davenport—On average amount on hand during year, 33½ per cent of value.

Des Moines—On average amount on hand during year, 50 per cent of value.

Dubuque—Same as other property, 40 per cent.

Sioux City—Same way, 33 per cent.

(19) State the equalized value of horses, cattle, sheep, swine and mules, giving each class, in your county.

Burlington—Valued at 50 per cent of real value.

Davenport—No report.

Des Moines—About 50 per cent.

Dubuque—Horses 50 per cent, cattle 80, sheep 80, swine 60, mules 50, of real value. Sioux City—About ⅓ of selling value.

(20) State what per cent the assessed value of all merchandise, manufactured goods and other personal property (except live stock and the stock of moneyed institutions) bears to its real value:

Burlington—50 per cent.

Davenport—30 a 33 per cent.

Des Moines—50 per cent.

Dubuque—40 per cent.

Sioux City—25 per cent.

(21) Is there any considerable amount of moneys and credits in your county which goes unassessed by evasion, and if so, how much?

Burlington—Yes; impossible to estimate, but I believe fully 90 per cent!

Davenport—Not over one-fourth returned.

Des Moines—Considerable; can't give estimates.

Dubuque—Can't give estimates.

Sioux City—Don't think much escapes.

(23) Does this occur on notes and mortgages that are not given in for assessment; and if so, to what extent?

Burlington—Very often.

Davenport—Quite largely on mortgages, but can't say to what extent.

Des Moines—Partially; cannot estimate.

Dubuque—My opinion is that it occurs that way.

Sioux City—Considerable by being held in name of non residents.

(23) Is there much property in merchandise and manufactured goods that escapes; and if so, to what extent?

Burlington—Yes; can't tell.

Davenport—No report.

Des Moines—Think not to any great extent.

Dubuque—Very little escapes.

Sioux City—No.

(24) Same as to live stock?

Burlington—No; not a great deal.

Davenport—Not much escapes.

Des Moines—Fairly well assessed.

Dubuque—Very little escapes.

Sioux City—No.

(26) What inequalities do you find in the assessment of the fine home or unusually large or costly dwelling as compared with the less costly one?

Burlington—None. (A gross misstatement—H)

Corning—Very costly property is, as a rule, assessed lower.

Lansing—I find costly dwellings rather low in proportion to value.

Centerville—Costly, 35 per cent; cheap, 40 to 50 per cent.

Belle Plain—Cheap houses, 25 per cent higher.

Waterloo—\$2,000 and under higher than those costing more.

Boone City—The assessor is usually elected and owned by those having that object in view.

Independence—Inequalities arise from the eagerness of wealthy persons to reduce values as low as possible for taxation purposes.

Buena Vista County—The small houses are assessed much higher.

Butler County—A \$500 house, 40 per cent; a \$7,000 or \$8,000 house, 30 per cent or less.

Cass County—As a rule the smaller houses are higher in proportion than larger ones.

Chickasaw County—Fine houses are not assessed near as much as poor ones.

Clarke County—I think the small dwellings are assessed nearer their full value than the better class.

Clinton—I think the costlier buildings are not assessed as near one-third their value as cheaper ones.

Dallas—The cheaper houses are assessed higher than more expensive ones.

Davis—The cheaper property is always assessed higher in proportion to the more valuable. The fellows owning the large houses contend with the assessors to assess them low.

Delaware—The cheaper are assessed higher than the better places.

Des Moines County—I find that the better class of property is assessed higher than the other class.

Dickinson—No difference.

Franklin—The more costly the house the less value in proportion it is assessed.

Fremont—Difference in favor of the rich.

Greene—The best are 25 per cent below the average.

Grundy—Cheap property generally assessed higher in proportion than the more valuable.

Hamilton—About equal; 2/3 of value.

Hardin—25 per cent in favor of costlier dwellings.

Henry—To no great extent.

Marion—The costly houses are all assessed lower than cheaper ones.

Ida—No inequality.

Jackson—Costly ones not generally assessed as high as small homes.

Jasper—The lower priced property assessed near its value; better class too low.

Jefferson—Smaller property about 15 per cent more.

Johnson—The more expensive the property the more it is favored.

Jones—No inequality.

Kossuth—Fine houses and lots are assessed lower in proportion to cost than smaller and poorer ones.

Lee—\$10,000 and upward 25 per cent; \$5,000 and upward 35; \$500 and upward 50.

Louisa—About equal.

Lucas—The fine residences are assessed lower than less costly ones, in proportion to value.

Lyon—Not much.

Madison—Costly dwellings have the advantage.

Mills—15 to 20 per cent higher on less costly homes.

Mitchell—The ordinary dwelling assessed higher, in proportion to its value.

Monona—\$10,000 or \$12,000 not assessed as high in proportion as cheaper houses.

Monroe—The costly dwelling is invariably assessed lower in proportion than the less costly one.

Muscatine—Some inequality as to cost; none as to selling price.

Osceola—They are not assessed as high as properties of small value.

Page—I find a difference of from 5 to 20 per cent in their valuation.

Palo Alto—Think the valuable houses are generally assessed lower, considering value or cost, than smaller houses.

Plymouth—The cheaper dwellings are assessed higher in proportion to value than the more costly ones.

Pocahontas—There is an inequality in the proportion of three to one.

Polk—The most valuable property is assessed far below the per cent of the values last referred to (especially in Des Moines city).

Poweshiek—The tendency is to discriminate always in favor of the more costly improvements. I think it will continue so as long as the assessors will persist in violating the law in making their assessments.

Ringgold—A little. Not much.

Sac—The costlier houses are assessed lower in proportion than the common ones.

Scott—The small properties pay more in proportion to value than that of larger properties.

Shelby—30½ per cent.

Story—Know of none.

Tama—It is possible that the expensive house is not assessed as near up to its value as the less expensive.

Union—I think that fine dwellings are assessed some lower according to their real value and cost.

Wapello—I think the small buildings have the heaviest assessment in proportion to the larger ones.

Washington—The difference is in favor of the costly building.

Winnebago—Some way or other, costly property is not assessed as high, accordingly.

Winneshiek—As a rule, I think the fine house is not assessed within 15 to 35 per cent as high as the ordinary home.

Woodbury—No inequality. (It will be observed all through that Sioux City is governed more wisely than any other city, and they thrive beyond the dreams of any of the others.)

Wright—Don't think the fine houses are assessed as high as the smaller ones.

Worth—As a rule in the towns the smaller houses are assessed relatively higher than the better ones.

No report from any of the other counties.

Query 27—Have you any suggestion to make as to means by which more just assessment can be made, duties of assessors, etc?

Adair—I suggest that everything be assessed at its full value.

Adams—Have all property assessed at its full cash value.

Allamakee—Compel every person.

Anneke—Think assessments are made too low by many counties because they are afraid of paying too much of the state revenue.

Audubon—No county will assess at cash value, for they know that some counties will not, and therefore those that do will pay more state tax than their proportion.

Benton—Each merchant should be compelled to make an inventory under oath. Assessors should be compelled to question all women of age, as it is a common trick to place money or property in their hands to avoid assessment.

Boone—Property should be listed at cash value and to real owner.

Buchanan—By compelling all parties to render a full cash valuation to all kinds and classes of property.

Butler—Assess all property according to law.

Cass—Make all parties give sworn statement of all their property.

Cherokee—Provide as stringent penalties for the violation of existing laws regarding assessments as in the Clark law.

Clark—Assess all property equally.

Crawford—Assess on cash value.

Dallas—Assess on cash value, then an exemption of \$200 given each head of a family.

Davis—No exemptions; carry out the law; it should be enforced.

Decatur—Assess everything at cash value.

Delaware—Make every assessor administer oath or affirmation to every owner of property. Pay no assessor for his services unless he does so.

Des Moines—The present law is all right; assessor should comply with it.

Dickinson—Yes, make heavy penalty for assessor and owner who violate their oath. If property were assessed at cash value eastern capital would come west, as appraisers

will always make value much greater than assessed value, and capitalists are afraid of swindle.

Fayette—Let the man that owns the mortgages and notes pay the taxes on them. Let every man give the assessor a list of his debts.

Franklin—We have parties that are loaning from \$10,000 to \$100,000 to farmers, and the money is furnished by eastern capitalists. Now, if you assess these farmers as agents, then the agent swears that the notes and mortgages are not kept here, so a very large amount of money escapes taxation. Some way should be devised of assessing these notes and mortgages in the county where they are given and recorded.

Fremont—Swear everybody.

Greene—Assess all property at its cash value and deduct indebtedness.

Grundy—The trouble is, the best men are not generally elected assessors.

Guthrie—Assess all property at its cash value.

Hamilton—Assess at cash value. Too many incompetent assessors.

Hancock—Real estate should be assessed at its cash value; that mortgages on real estate and personal property should be deducted, and mortgages assessed to mortgagees.

Harden—Compel assessors to comply with the law—assess at full value.

Marion—Make it redhot for assessors that assess property at \$40 that they know to be worth \$100.

Henry—A true cash value. Administer the oath in a manner suggestive of its meaning. Require every man to pay his taxes or forfeit his right to vote. This would collect \$100,000 a year for this state that you and others pay for other men each year to walk up to the polls to kill your vote.

Howard—Auditors should assess property omitted by assessors.

Ida—I think mortgages held by eastern companies should be looked up; also money in their agents' hands for such purposes.

Iowa—Heavy penalties for violations of duties of assessors.

Jasper—Employ competent men and retain them. Make owners of wealth pay taxes on it.

Jefferson—Assess realty once in ten years except improvements, state tax in dollars, not mills, demanding of each county a certain amount.

Johnson—Yes; enforce the law.

Jane—Would recommend affidavits.

Kossuth—Have a state board of assessors; also, county boards; work together and get each others' ideas in regard to relative values; meet and compare works and equalize as between divisions of territory.

Louisa—Administer the law and the oath.

Lyon—There is a great deal of trouble from incompetent assessors.

Madison—Ironclad oath for owners, severe penalties for incompetent assessors.

Mahaska—Assess at cash value.

Mills—Let state executive board appoint assessors for each county.

Mitchell—Get competent men and pay them well.

Monroe—Failure to assess at cash value should be punishable by fine and imprisonment.

Montgomery—Not with present method.

Osceola—Compel assessors to assess at full cash value.

Page—Swear parties before, not after, being listed. Let the state require so much money from each county, and in a great measure obviate the trouble.

Palo Alto—Stringent laws to unearth moneys, credits and capital.

Plymouth—Assess at cash value.

Polk—Assess all taxable property at cash value.

Poweshiek—The rich and the poor hide their wealth or run away; the middle class bears the burden of the others and its own. There ought to be something done to adjust the burdens equally on the shoulders of all the people.

Ringgold—Assess at cash value.

Sac—Cash basis.

Story—Choose good men for office and keep them.

Tama—One assessor for each county.

Union—Assess at cash value.

Van Buren—Cash value the fair basis.

Wapello—Holders of mortgages should pay taxes on them. Assess only on what a man owns.

Warren—The law is as good as it can be made.

THE FREE TRADE FIGHT.

SUB-TREASURIES, FREE SILVER OR FREE TRADE?

If we choose to exert our strength the fight in 1892 will be for absolute free trade. If we remain idle, free silver and the sub-treasury scheme will be forced to the front. We learned in 1888 that it takes more than a few months for the education of a nation. Eighteen hundred and ninety has taught us that the awakening common sense of the people is more powerful than "the cohesive power of public plunder." In 1892 we must face organized plutocracy, now made desperate by defeat, which will not shrink from any means to avert annihilation. If we would win our campaign must begin now, and we can afford to neglect no means of education. As Mr. C. W. Kellogg of Chicago recently said through the Farmers' alliances, we can reach hundreds of thousands just beginning to think on such subjects. At the Denver general assembly the Knights of Labor decided to recommend the discussion of protection or free trade, previously prohibited to the local assemblies.

Beyond question, the best book on this subject is Henry George's "Protection or Free Trade." Going over the whole matter in a way which leaves no question unanswered, no objection unmet, it is not merely invaluable to every writer and speaker, but to every participant in those informal debates now occurring at country crossroads, in market places, work shops, homes, and everywhere that the questions of the day are discussed. Written for the masses, with a style and eloquent simplicity that make it as interesting as a novel, it has already in thousands of cases proved its power to make ardent workers for free trade of those once believers that protection was needed by workingmen.

It has been decided to invite subscriptions to a special edition in paper covers of five hundred thousand copies, to be printed and bound in the best style and sold at twenty-five cents a copy, but which will be delivered to advance subscribers at ten cents per copy, postage paid. Subscribers may have the books sent to any number of special addresses, or they may have them distributed to the men it is most important and desirable to reach through agencies which now have on their lists some millions of selected names. In no other way can you so easily and so cheaply insure our success in 1892 as by subscribing and inducing all friends of reform to subscribe for every copy possible. If you feel unable to give away a few thousand or even a few dozen copies, you can assist just as much by subscribing freely and selling your copies at a profit. The Manhattan single tax club on December 4 heartily indorsed the plan and decided unanimously on the appointment of a committee to take charge of the work in New York. A few of the members present subscribed for a thousand copies, and all took blanks to solicit subscriptions. Mr. William Britigan subscribed for five hundred, and announced his intention of securing subscriptions for one hundred thousand more. If similar enthusiasm is shown elsewhere we can easily make this edition a million copies. Please address all correspondence, requests for subscription blanks, circulars, etc., to

W. J. ATKINSON,
12 Union square, New York.

IN THE CAUSE OF TARIFF REFORM.

A REPORT OF THE GREAT WORK DONE DURING THE PAST YEAR BY THE TARIFF REFORM COMMITTEE OF THE REFORM CLUB.

On December 2 the tariff reform committee of the Reform club submitted its annual report of the work done during the past year. The situation on January 1 was this: The plans for a poll canvass of New York state outside of the larger cities, had proved practicable, and had been half completed; while in half a dozen other states local committees had been induced to begin similar work. The work of compiling and publishing industrial statistics had so far progressed as to have already supplied a great part of the literature urgently needed, and to be ready to furnish as fast as funds could be supplied for its publication the copy for the more important matter yet required; the committee on press had just perfected arrangements by which matter prepared by it would be regularly offered local papers throughout the country without further effect on its party. And in the work of 1890 the several divisions of this committee have had a most valuable experience in numerous classes of work, which it had exploited to the extent of finding the way to success in each. In his report of December 31, 1889, Mr. John De Witt Warner thus outlined the plans of his committee for the future:

The work in this city should proceed on the plan reported above. The poll canvass this state should be completed as promptly as possible, and the campaign of agitation and non-partisan discussion of tariff questions pushed, till every quarter of the state is

covered. In other states, the work should be stimulated and mutual co-operation arranged for. The present most effective work of our committee on press should be continued and in scope broadened. Details as to each plant should now be added to the systematic classification by locality and class already made of the manufacturing plants of the country. The preparation and publication should be pushed of the special discussions on the tariff questions already announced, and such others as may prove urgently needed. Our stock of tariff reform literature should be kept up and added to so as to meet the responsibility now resting upon us—as the only general bureau in America for such literature; and during 1890 the committee on congress should do its best work. And now, a year later, we are fortunate enough to be able to report, not merely that each of these lines of work has been carried through to successful completion by the extraordinary self sacrifice of those to whom they were intrusted, and the never failing generosity of those to whom we were already greatly indebted for financial support.

Having introduced the report of his committee, Mr. Warner proceeds to give, in detail, the reports of the various sub-committees of his committee.

The sub-committee on cities (Mr. E. Ellery Anderson, chairman) report the tariff reform class meetings which were held at Cooper union early last spring. These meetings were fully reported in THE STANDARD as they occurred, and the first part of Mr. Anderson's report, concerning them, is the same as was printed in our summary of the semi-annual report of the committee in our issue of June 4. The report goes on to speak of the invitation sent out by the Manhattan single tax club, calling for a conference of clubs to unite in the movement to secure better representation in congress. Mr. Anderson dwells on the work done by that conference, of which THE STANDARD readers are fully acquainted, as the progress of that movement was fully reported in these columns. As to the future, Mr. Anderson recommends that a common movement, representing all tariff reform interests, should be pushed immediately for the purpose of securing from our representatives, in the short session to be held next December, the immediate introduction of bills for the purpose of placing on the free list all the metallic ores, wool, lumber, coal, salt, jute and sulphuric acid. This sub-committee proposes to put itself in communication with the members of congress now representing this city, and urge this action. Somewhat later in the season the committee proposes to institute another course of tariff reform instruction, similar to the course so successfully pursued last winter.

In referring to the work of Mr. Jason Hinman's committee in New York state Mr. Warner says:

The only apology that can be made, on the one hand for the extent to which it is mentioned, and on the other for the summary character with which much of it must be treated, is that its extent, its variety, its effectiveness, and the energy and self sacrifice necessary to have carried it through to success in each direction in which work was undertaken, have been of a character unexampled in work of this nature. The principal omission of its chairman's report being thus supplied, no abstract can be so effective as the following quotations therefrom.

Mr. Hinman's report begins with a description of the poll canvass on which his committee was working when he made his June report. It will be remembered, as it appeared in THE STANDARD of June 4, that the plan of canvass was to prepare a complete address list of the voters of New York state, outside of a few of the largest cities, which would "show the occupation, politics, opinion on the tariff of each, and whether or not each was a veteran or Grand Army man." When that report was submitted Mr. Hinman had in his office the names, etc., of over 400,000 voters and voters to be made before 1892. He now reports the poll as practically completed. "In only two counties," Mr. Hinman says, "Clinton and Essex, has it not been begun. In three others—Chenango, Columbia and Madison—there are still several towns to be canvassed. All the other counties of the fifty-seven in the state which we undertook to canvass have been polled, with the exception of an occasional small town or election district, and we now have in the office, classified as indicated, the names of 650,103 voters; and we think that the poll can be entirely completed at an expense not exceeding \$500. The work already done has, we estimate, cost the committee about \$13,300."

The classified count of the voters in the various counties was of great use to the debaters who represented the club at the county fair debates which attracted so much attention, and produced so great an effect during the early fall. The value of this poll has also been demonstrated by the many urgent requests for copies which were received during the late campaign from many congressional candidates in the state. In some cases, also, the showing made by it had a very important influence in encouraging democrats to undertake what they had previously thought a very uphill fight for the election of congressmen and assemblymen. This is notably true of the poll of Lewis county, which showed clearly that that county, which has not until the present year gone democratic for some years, is naturally so by a considerable plurality.

Mr. Hinman's committee distributed during the year to the voters included in the poll canvass 219,736 copies of tariff reform pamphlets and 159,684 newspapers containing articles that would be of special interest to those to whom they were sent—a total of 379,420 copies of both classes of literature.

The most interesting part of Mr. Hinman's report is that in which he speaks of the meetings and county fair debates held under the auspices of his committee. There were 100 meetings held last winter in various counties of this state, at which Mr. Hinman estimates that the speakers addressed 25,000 votes. We gave a detailed report of these meetings and their effect in our June report.

The county campaign meetings were carried on in September and October. Sixty-eight meetings were held and 10,000 voters listened to tariff reform speeches. In the course of these meetings, Messrs. Everett Wheeler and Lindley Vinton met Mr. Mahon, Chance of the American protective tariff league and "made his cause ridiculous." The speakers who did the greater share of the work in these campaigns were John De Witt Warner, Louis F. Post, Walter S. Logan, William T. Croasdale, Hon. George M. Yeaman, Henry T. Terry, Frank M. Todd, George P. Decker, John Brooks Leavitt, W. B. Estell, J. P. Jones and F. A. Herwig.

The county fair debates, which attracted so much attention throughout the state, was decided upon June 30. On July 23 Mr. Hinman challenged the American protective league to debate with reform club speakers the tariff question before the farmers at sixteen annual fairs. A month passed without an answer; then, in the middle of August, the protective league replied that they had the matter under consideration. Two county fair meetings had been addressed by tariff reform speakers before the protectionists awakened to the real situation. On August 29 they sent in a notice of acceptance of Mr. Hinman's challenge. By this course the protectionists succeeded in preventing the arrangements for debates in several counties, including Suffolk, Dutchess, Washington, Saratoga, Clinton (where a democratic candidate for senator from this state interfered to assist the enemies of the democratic party, and was the means of preventing the arrangement of a tariff debate), Niagara, Genesee, Wyoming, Seneca and Monroe. But protectionist cowardice, and efforts to prevent the discussion of the tariff before the farmers, were generally unsuccessful, and debates were arranged and advertised at forty-one local fairs. In one case the champion of protection refused to debate in the court house, when driven from the fair ground by rain. At five points the protectionists defaulted, and at three of these five places our debaters were not allowed by the local republican societies to preach the heresy of tariff reduction.

The result of this work surprised even Mr. Hinman himself. He says so in the paragraph in which he presents the following figures:

In 1888 the democrats, fighting upon the tariff issue, but before it had been thoroughly discussed among the people, and under the leadership of a state committee which sought to confine the issue between the two parties in the state to local rather than national issues, elected fifteen congressmen, all but two of them from the first fourteen congressional districts, that is, from the distinctly metropolitan section of the state, and left nineteen districts, all but one of them among those north of Harlem river, to the republicans.

In 1890 the democrats, fighting upon the tariff issue, with little intermingling of state and local issues, carried twenty-three congressional districts, nine of them outside the metropolitan district, and left only eleven districts to the republicans.

In 1888 the total democratic congressional vote in the state was 581,517; the total republican vote 634,084; the republican congressional plurality 52,567.

In 1890 the total democratic congressional vote in the state, estimating the democratic vote in one district (the Thirty-first) in which the democratic candidate withdrew just before the election, and in which the democratic votes are returned among the scattering at 1,500 (too low an estimate, since we are informed that nearly 700 votes were cast for this candidate in one of the four counties of the district) was 498,379; the total republican congressional vote in the state was 420,250; the democratic congressional plurality, 78,129—the largest majority by which the state was ever carried by any party, we think, except when Grover Cleveland was elected governor in 1883 by a plurality of almost 200,000.

The effectiveness of the tariff issue, and of the work of your sub-committee, we believe we may properly claim, is clearly indicated by a contrast between the results of the congressional and assembly elections. The congressional campaigns were fought with little or no aid from the state committee, distinctly on the tariff issue, practically by the candidates themselves and the Reform club. The assembly campaigns were fought on local and state issues, and to them the democratic state committee devoted nearly all its energy. In the twenty congressional districts north of Westchester county, and outside of the metropolitan section, in which twenty districts your sub-committee did all its work, there was a total and net gain of seven congressional districts, comprising in themselves twenty-seven assembly districts. In the same twenty congressional districts there was a total gain of fourteen, a loss of six, and a net gain of eight assembly districts.

Mr. Hinman concludes his remarkable report by thanking Messrs. W. T. Hall and

Calvin Tomkins of the sub-committee, and Messrs. C. W. Hamilton, W. B. Estell, B. D. Beal and John Farley for the loyal service they rendered the committee.

Mr. Warner says that the work of the committee on other states, Mr. Baldwin, chairman, has been scarcely less interesting and effective. Recognizing the fact that the Reform club could not be expected to undertake propaganda work for the whole country, its energies were at first mainly directed to opening communications with local clubs and procuring the organization of such in quarters where they were not already in existence, and generally to co-operating with all the organizations outside of the state, engaged in any branch of tariff reform work. Sample poll canvass blanks were furnished, specimen copies of our literature distributed, blank forms of constitution, and by-laws for tariff reform clubs furnished for local use, and in general, the facilities of this club brought to the acquaintance and put at the disposal of our friends all over the country.

There was found a general willingness to adopt this method of poll canvass. In Iowa, Connecticut, Washington, Maryland, South Dakota, Michigan and Wisconsin, this work was most thoroughly done—the first two states mentioned having been completely covered by the poll canvasses in question; while in numerous other states one or more congressional districts were thus covered by organizations, with whom we co-operated, and in still others our plan of work was adopted by local organizations.

The work in the above lines was carried on in so many quarters that it is simply impossible to attempt a detailed review here. The most important item was probably the Iowa canvass. Here the state committee concluded to devote its efforts and its energies to the state ticket and left the congressional campaign to be looked out for by a voluntary committee, acting in co-operation with the Reform club. The result was in every way significant. Though the Iowa state committee freely acknowledged that the congressional campaign had been a source of additional strength to the state committee, yet the republicans succeeded in electing the state officers voted for. On the other hand, taking the whole state through, there was a net democratic majority of 8,000 on the congressional vote; while instead of the one lone tariff reformer now in congress from Iowa, there were elected six—a majority of the state delegation. In connection with this same work unstinted praise is due to the tact, energy, perseverance and self-sacrifice of Mr. Rignold D. Woodward, who, under the most discouraging circumstances, undertook the burden of this whole matter, so far as concerned the Reform club, and made each feature of it through a most creditable success.

Of the many other interesting items which deserve mention, one as to Illinois may serve as a sample. The Reform club having concluded for special reasons to undertake the expense and direct the supervision of canvassing one congressional district in the western states, chose that of Illinois now represented in congress by Mr. Rowe, the chairman of the house committee on contested elections. It was supposed to be hopelessly against tariff reform. The district was covered, however, and a few weeks before election a complete canvass was handed to Mr. Scott, the tariff reform candidate, with data showing him that he would be elected—as he was by a good majority—though neither he nor his opponent could believe it until some days after his election.

The committee distributed 501,800 copies of tariff reform pamphlets in twenty-three states and the District of Columbia.

The sub-committee on literature (Lawrence Dunham chairman for the first part of the year, and Mr. Abbott chairman for the latter part) reported the printing of 939,186 copies of tariff reform literature. These publications were very largely used by democratic state committees in the various states. The state central committee of Wisconsin distributed, during the late campaign, 250,000 copies of the Reform club pamphlets. In the report of the committee was some correspondence, from which we quote a paragraph or two:

Wesley W. Hyde, Grand Rapids, Mich.—I cannot refrain from writing you in relation to your influence and effectiveness in the campaign in Michigan and the west. I believe that to your literature, more than any other one thing, the democrats owe their victory. Nothing could be more admirable and timely than the literature on tariff questions. It formed the text book of speakers and writers alike, and enabled us to present our side of the question intelligently, exhaustively and forcibly. I want to thank you in the name of all tariff reformers here for your good work.

Hon. Neal Brown, Warsaw, Wis.—You have helped us very greatly in Wisconsin during the present campaign, and personally I owe a great deal to the information obtained from your briefs on the tariff question. I hope that you will not cease your work, but that you will at once commence the campaign of 1892. In Wisconsin we shall do our utmost to hold the electoral vote for president, and from present indications we shall succeed. From what I know of your work in other states I have no doubt but what you have made tens of thousands of votes for tariff reform. The greatest good you have done has been in educating our own leaders upon the tariff question.

The sub-committee urges that work for the campaign of 1892 should be begun immediately. The efforts of the tariff reform committee has, the sub-committee says, "been very largely, if not almost exclusively, devoted to the farmers. Without in any way remitting those efforts, it may, perhaps, be advisable to devote more energy than we have hitherto done to mechanics and other laboring men of the cities. These are a class of men who are in many respects more easily influenced than the farmers, and there is danger that, in looking too closely after the farmers, we may lose many votes that we might otherwise easily save or win."

The sub-committee on press (Mr. Walter H. Page chairman) reports having spent only \$1,369.16 during the past year. With this expenditure the committee has secured the continuous, effective and enthusiastic service of: (1) The American press association, to which we give 7,000 words every three weeks of popular tariff reform articles, which are published in 290 of the better daily and weekly papers outside the large cities. The estimated circulation of these papers is 300,000. (2) The A. N. Kellogg newspaper company, Kansas City, to whom we give 8,000 words every three weeks, which goes into 150 papers, whose circulation is estimated at 150,000. (3) The Chicago newspaper union, to which we send 4,000 words weekly, which goes into papers which use plate matter and into "ready print" papers. This matter is distributed by matrices from the several branches of this union, among others the Western newspaper union, Chicago (250 papers); the North western newspaper union, St. Paul (110 papers); the Indiana newspaper union, Indianapolis (20 papers); through branches at Detroit, St. Louis and other cities (300 papers). In all 680 papers, having a circulation of 600,000. By this machinery, therefore, we put popular tariff reform matter into papers that have a circulation in the country and in the smaller towns and villages of about 950,000.

The sub-committee on congress, of which Mr. Warner is chairman, reports: The sub-committee found abundance of work to be done from April, when it definitely undertook active work, until the November elections were held. By frequent visits to Washington, numerous trips through the different congressional districts in this state, and in several of these in other states, and by a continued system of correspondence, this committee undertook, so far as it dared count upon the efforts and resources of the club and its friends, to procure the nomination of proper congressional candidates and then to secure their election in every part of the country outside of New York city (where the work was left to the sub-committee on that city, assisted by local organizations). So far, however, as concerns details of actual campaign work, it became evident that this could be better attended to either by the efficient sub-committees in charge of the territory to be covered, or through local committees. Upon these, therefore, fell most of the work, and to these is due the credit.

After summing up the work of the whole committee for the year, the report concludes as follows:

As to the future, the situation seems clear. The present situation is the result not merely of an awakening of economic intelligence, but also to some extent of blind discontent, which has kept voters from the polls. To keep the former awake, and to turn the latter into appreciation of the real causes of hard times, are the duties imperative to be performed, unless we are willing to let the impulses to which we owe our late success either ebb into comparative ineffectiveness, or to be diverted in the direction of movements as hostile as is protection to real freedom, and only less dangerous because less directly serviceable to mercenary forces that are capable of permanent organization. Our opponents appreciate the situation; they have already commenced the campaign of 1892, which, on their part, from this time till the polls close in that year, will be the most intelligently and thoroughly contested of any that has been waged since the United States has been a nation. To see that every inch of the ground left uncovered by our allies is continuously occupied by ourselves, to anticipate and meet every device of our opponents, is the task before this committee if it is to do as it has heretofore done—assume that the extent of its work is to be measured only by that necessary to secure success.

HOW THE TARIFF WORKS.

THE CASE AGAINST PROTECTION CLEARLY STATED.

San Francisco Examiner.

The reason why the tariff question has been so hotly debated is that people in general have had very dim ideas of the way in which tariffs work. "Protection to American labor" has a taking sound, and most people who favor it are captured by the name. This is natural. All true Americans believe in protecting American labor—the only question is, whether tariff taxes have that effect.

There are two kinds of tariffs—tariffs for protection and tariffs for revenue. Protectionists often try to mix up the two, but they really have nothing in common. There can be no revenue from a tariff unless foreign goods come in to be taxed, while the object of a protective tariff is to keep goods out. A perfect revenue tariff would yield no pro-

tection at all, and a perfect protective tariff would yield no revenue at all. The question is, whether protection is a good thing in itself. If it is we ought to have it without regard to revenue. If duties of sixty per cent will give higher wages than duties of twenty per cent, then the McKinley bill is a good thing, but we ought not to stop at that. The American workman is entitled to the best wages he can get, and we ought to put the rates up to a hundred, a thousand, or ten thousand per cent. In fact, we ought not to be satisfied with duties at all, but should absolutely forbid foreign goods to be brought into the country.

The democratic contention is that the tariff is merely a necessary evil to provide for the expenses of the government; that it cannot benefit labor or promote prosperity, but is merely a drag on both, and consequently the lower we can put it and still keep the government running the better off we shall be.

The people who believe that custom houses can make us prosperous should sit down and try to think out carefully just how they expect this effect to be produced. When an American merchant sends to Europe for a stock of goods the things are stopped at the custom house and taxed. When the merchant who imported them sells them to a wholesaler he adds the tax, the custom-house expenses, which are pretty high, and a profit for the use of his capital. The wholesaler charges all this up to the retailer and adds another profit on his own capital. The retailer sells the things to anybody that may wish to use them, with all these costs added and a still larger profit of his own. The result is that for every dollar he spends the consumer gets about fifty cents' worth of goods and fifty cents' worth of tax, brokerage and extra profits.

This is the plain, direct effect of the tariff. If it were the only effect, of course nobody would be in favor of the system. But there is an indirect effect much more important, and it is upon this that the protective theory rests. In raising the price of foreign goods the tariff raises the price of American goods, too. That is its object. In this case, as in the other, the consumer buys fifty cents' worth of tax with every fifty cents' worth of goods, but the government does not get the money. It goes into the pockets of Mr. Carnegie, Mr. Niedringhaus, General Butler and the other millionaires whose fortunes have been built up by monopolies fenced in by our national laws.

It is asserted that these taxes are levied for the benefit of labor. If you will read the McKinley bill carefully from end to end you will find that its authors forgot to mention labor in a single paragraph. There are 472 sections in the dutiable schedules—nothing that the workman must use and pay for has been overlooked—but there is no duty on the importation of foreign workmen to compete with him. When Mr. McKinley and his friends were making up their bill, their committee room was full of capitalists, explaining what sort of duties they would like. Did anybody hear of delegations of laborers making similar explanations?

The intentional effect of high duties is to make high prices, and this, while it is sometimes good for capitalists, is always bad for workmen. When things are high people buy less of them, and that means that fewer men are needed to make them, that there is competition among workers for jobs, and that wages go down. Suppose a carpet mill to be making a million yards of carpet a year, and selling it at fifty cents a yard. That brings in \$500,000. If the price were raised to a dollar a yard, and the sales reduced to 500,000 yards, the owners of the factory would take in the same amount, and their profits might be greater, because all their running expenses would be diminished. But how about the weavers? Only half as many of them would be needed, and those who were thrown out of work would be begging to be allowed to stay at lower rates and wages would go down.

That is precisely what has been happening in several industries since the McKinley bill went into effect. Although the workman's cost of living has gone up, his wages have gone down, because there is less demand for his services. People are getting more wear out of their old clothes and their old crockery and their old tinware, and fewer new things are bought.

Americans are a patriotic people, and they proved during the war that they would willingly stand any amount of taxation for the benefit of the government. But when they are barely able to make both ends meet, and the government takes a third of their earnings, not for its own needs, but to hand over to men already so gorged with wealth that they do not know how to dispose of it except in vulgar display, the American people have a right to kick.

PROTECT OUR HOME-MADE LYMPH.

New York Evening Post.

Dr. Koch's lymph, in large or small quantities, is daily expected by several medical men in this city. We would warn them, and all others concerned, that this lymph is liable to twenty-five per cent duty, under the clause of the McKinley bill affecting "Medicinal preparations not otherwise provided for." If any of it has got in surreptitiously without paying duty, it is Mr. Eggard's duty to hunt it up and bring the smuggler to justice. Moreover, we would ask congress whether twenty-five per cent is not an ab-

surdly low duty on such a product. Sixty per cent—the regular McKinley figure—would not, in our opinion, be a cent too high. We would ask those who would be disposed to ridicule this suggestion—and doubtless there are many such—what there is in it to laugh at? It is true no lymph like Koch's is, so far as is known, now made in this country. But what of it? The question is whether, with proper protection against the pauper bacteriologists of Europe, there would not be abundance of it produced in this country, not only for all our own wants, but for export to the countries of South America—of course not to Canada. Our word for it, Koch's plan now is, if we let his lymph in free, or at a nominal rate of duty, to sell it for a while very cheap, so as to kill all thought of American competition, and then, when he has got our consumptives thoroughly in his power, to charge exorbitant rates:—or, in other words, any rates he pleases; for what will not people pay to be saved from a lingering death? We do not wish to seem extravagant in our statements, but our firm belief is that with a reasonable protection under the tariff, such as will enable them to pay proper wages to self-respecting American workmen, our own bacteriologists stand ready to-day with hundreds of thousands of dollars of capital to start lymph works all over the country, and not at a few points only, and bring good native lymph to every poor man's door. An American bacteriologist cannot and will not live on Koch's fare, or wear Koch's clothes, or use his cheap microscope. They insist on dearer food and clothing and more costly instruments than his, and congress should foster this decent American pride.

THEY FEAR TOO MUCH PROTECTION.

New York Post.

American manufacturers who have no export trade, though they would like one, may take a hint from the present attitude of French manufacturers, who have a large foreign trade, but are in danger of losing it. The rising tide of protectionism in France, with its proposal to lay taxes on raw materials, has alarmed the great manufacturers and exporters of Lyons, Bordeaux, Roubaix, Marseilles and other industrial cities, and they have begun an agitation in defense of their own interests. In each of those cities a league or union has been formed to protest against the enactment of laws which will close factories and throw workmen out of employment through making it impossible for French exporters to compete with England in foreign markets. Now these separate organizations have been merged into a national "union for free raw materials and the defense of the export trade." This consolidation was effected in Paris November 5, delegates being present from all the principal manufacturing centers. The aim is to present a united front in opposition to the proposed taxes on raw materials, in the name both of the French consumer and the French workman.

DOWN WENT MCKINLEY.

(To be sung to the melody of "McInty.")

J. J. Anderson in St. Louis Republic.

In congress one fine day

Bill McKinley, so they say,

Sat writing up a tariff bill so high,

When his friend, old Jimmie Blaine,

Said William, do refrain,

For if you don't for us the fur will fly.

The people now are taxed

On all they wear upon their backs

And they will not stand it longer, don't you see!

If we make the taxes higher

They will our party fire,

So give us a little reciprocity.

But down sat McKinley in the bottom of his chair,

And he raised the tariff taxes

On their tin and shoes and axes,

And on everything they eat or wear he made the taxes higher,

And he made them all wear high protected clothes.

But McKinley heeded not

The warning that he got,

For he had to do the bidding, don't you see

Of the men who gave the fat

That put him where he sat

And gave him and Reed a big majority.

So he taxed the clothes and tin

And Reed whipped the kickers in,

The republicans, they voted for the steal.

McKinley, Reed and Payson,

Joe Cannon and Bill Mason

Said we care not if it makes the people squeal.

Down went McKinley to his home in Ohio,

And he chuckled as he thought

Of the victory he had bought,

But that the people had it in for him he didn't know.

Dressed in his high protected clothes,

The election came at last

And the people came so fast,

All crowding to the polls in jubilee,

And they said McKinley, you

Are a fraud, and Reed is too,

And we're done with your protection policy.

We'll no longer cast our votes

To put taxes on our coats,

And so from your dictation we are free:

We will treat you rather rough

For you've fooled us long enough

And we have joined the old democracy.

And down went McKinley to the bottom of the sea,

And with him there went Payson

And Joe Cannon and Billy Mason.

A grand deluge swept o'er the land and

drowned them in the sea,

Dressed in their high protected clothes,

BALLOT REFORM.

HAS HE SOLVED THE PROBLEM?

D. Webster Grob, Boston.—After carefully studying the letter of Mr. Robert White of Buffalo on the "new devices of vote buyers," and your editorials in the last two numbers of THE STANDARD, I think I have solved the problem of overcoming this device, and yet allow the voter the "personal liberty" of writing any name not on the printed list that he may prefer. It is as follows: Besides the regular printed list of party nominees on the official ticket let it carry also two blank columns, in the first of which is printed simply each office to be voted for with a blank space left wherein to write the candidate's name who is preferred to either of those in the printed columns. Then, over the written name in the first blank column let a corresponding portion of the second blank column be turned and slightly pasted down, so as to conceal it entirely; and, to facilitate this turning over, the ticket should be stamped with a line of perforation separating each office from the preceding one. The back of this turned over blank should have printed on it the name of the office whose written vote it conceals. When thus turned over and concealed the written name forms of itself a separate and secret ballot. Now, the judges in counting the votes can see when the ticket is opened whether or not this office has been marked and voted for in the list of printed names, and, if not, then this secret written name has a right to be counted; otherwise it has not. All these secret written single votes entitled to be counted should be detached unopened from the ticket and thrown aside, to be finally opened and counted when all the printed ones have first been counted. But those not entitled, because of a vote already cast for one of the list of printed nominees, should be thrown out and destroyed. After these secret written single ballots are once detached from the original ballot all chance of identification of the original ballot through them is lost, and thus the briber is foiled in getting anything but the name written, while all the rest of the ticket, for aught he knows, was the opposite of what he paid for having cast. By carefully examining the illustrated ballot below you will, I think, fully catch my idea:

Democratic.	Republican.	Independent.
For Congress, William Brown.	For Congress, James White.	For Congress, J. J. Anderson.
For Governor, Thomas J. Nes.	For Governor, John Smith.	For Governor, J. J. Anderson.
For Mayor, David Miller.	For Mayor, Edward White.	For Mayor, J. J. Anderson.
For Alderman, Peter Harrison.	For Alderman, John Smith.	For Alderman, J. J. Anderson.
For School Director, Luther May.	For School Director, George Baker.	For School Director, J. J. Anderson.
For Judge, David May.	For Judge, Daniel Kay.	For Judge, J. J. Anderson.

TO OVERCOME THE TRICK.

To the Editor of The Standard—Sir: It seems to me that the only way to overcome the "trick of the briber," described by Mr. Gilligan, that of having them write their own or some other name agreed upon as an identification mark, instead of some candidate's name they struck out, is as follows: If they are to be allowed the privilege of voting for any one not a regular candidate whose name must be written, allow them to write it on the inside of the folded paper, stamped on the outside with the name of the office voted for. Let this paper be folded so as to show only the name of the office when the ticket is opened, and be pasted fast slightly, only at one end, and over the name stricken out. Let the law compel those who count the votes to detach all such votes without examining their inside contents, after first ascertaining that the name under them is stricken out, and that this sticker is for that office, and throw the pasters unopened and uncounted on a separate pile until the rest are all counted, when they will be finally counted.

Although this would still necessitate paper, yet it would be a government paper, and would thus be disconnected with the balance of the ticket, thus defying identification of the ticket.

D. WEBSTER GROB.

Boston, Mass.

DON'T YOU KNOW THE MEANING?

Minneapolis Journal (reg.).

What does the loss of four congressmen out of five mean? What does a reduction of the republican plurality for governor from 36,000 in 1878 to 2,000 or so in 1890 mean? What does the loss of the lower branch of the legislature mean?

SINGLE TAX NEWS.

THE SINGLE TAX PLATFORM.

ADOPTED BY THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE SINGLE TAX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES AT COOPER UNION, NEW YORK, SEPT. 3, 1890.

We assert as our fundamental principle the self-evident truth enunciated in the Declaration of American Independence, that all men are created equal and are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights.

We hold that all men are equally entitled to the use and enjoyment of what God has created and of what is gained by the general growth and improvement of the community of which they are a part. Therefore, no one should be permitted to hold natural opportunities without a fair return to all for any special privilege thus accorded to him, and that value which the growth and improvement of the community attach to land should be taken for the use of the community.

We hold that each man is entitled to all that his labor produces. Therefore no tax should be levied on the products of labor.

To carry out these principles we are in favor of raising all public revenues for national, state, county and municipal purposes by a single tax upon land values, irrespective of improvements, and of the abolition of all forms of direct and indirect taxation.

Since in all our states we now levy some tax on the value of land, the single tax can be instituted by the simple and easy way of abolishing, one after another, all other taxes now levied, and commensurately increasing the tax on land values, until we draw upon that one source for all expenses of government, the revenue being divided between the local governments, state governments and the general government, as the revenue from direct taxes is now divided between the local and state governments; or, a direct assessment being made by the general government upon the states and paid by them from revenues collected in this manner.

The single tax we propose is not a tax on land, and therefore would not fall on the use of land and become a tax on labor.

It is a tax, not on land, but on the value of land. Thus it would not fall on all land, but only on valuable land, and on that not in proportion to the use made of it, but in proportion to its value—the premium which the user of land must pay to the owner, either in purchase money or rent, for permission to use valuable land. It would thus be a tax not on the use or improvement of land, but on the ownership of land, taking what would otherwise go to the owner as owner, and not as user.

In assessments under the single tax all values created by individual use or improvement would be excluded, and the only value taken into consideration would be the value attaching to the bare land by reason of neighborhood, etc., to be determined by impartial periodical assessments. Thus the farmer would have no more taxes to pay than the speculator who held a similar piece of land idle, and the man who on a city lot erected a valuable building would be taxed no more than the man who held a similar lot vacant.

The single tax, in short, would call upon men to contribute to the public revenues, not in proportion to what they produce or accumulate, but in proportion to the value of the natural opportunities they hold. It would compel them to pay just as much for holding land idle as for putting it to its fullest use.

The single tax therefore, would—

1. Take the weight of taxation off of the agricultural districts where land has little or no value irrespective of improvements, and put it on towns and cities where bare land rises to a value of millions of dollars per acre.

2. Dispense with a multiplicity of taxes and a horde of taxgatherers, simplify government and greatly reduce its cost.

3. Do away with the fraud, corruption and gross inequality inseparable from our present methods of taxation, which allow the rich to escape while they grind the poor. Land cannot be hid or carried off, and its value can be ascertained with greater ease and certainty than any other.

4. Give us with all the world as perfect freedom of trade as now exists between the states of our Union, thus enabling our people to share, through free exchanges, in all the advantages which nature has given to other countries, or which the peculiar skill of other peoples has enabled them to attain. It would destroy the trusts, monopolies and corruptions which are the outgrowths of the tariff. It would do away with the fines and penalties now levied on anyone who improves a farm, erects a house, builds a machine, or in any way adds to the general stock of wealth. It would leave everyone free to apply labor or expend capital in production or exchange without fine or restriction, and would leave to each the full product of his exertion.

5. It would, on the other hand, by taking for public use that value which attaches to land by reason of the growth and improvement of the community, make the holding of land unprofitable to the mere owner, and profitable only to the user. It would thus make it impossible for specu-

lators and monopolists to hold natural opportunities unused or only half used, and would throw open to labor the illimitable field of employment which the earth offers to man. It would thus solve the labor problem, do away with involuntary poverty, raise wages in all occupations to the full earnings of labor, make overproduction impossible until all human wants are satisfied, render labor-saving inventions a blessing to all, and cause such an enormous production and such an equitable distribution of wealth as would give to all comfort, leisure and participation in the advantages of an advancing civilization.

With respect to monopolies other than the monopoly of land, we hold that where free competition becomes impossible, as in telegraphs, railroads, water and gas supplies, etc., such business becomes a proper social function, which should be controlled and managed by and for the whole people concerned, through their proper government, local, state or national, as may be.

A SUGGESTION FROM IOWA.

A PLAN TO EXTEND THE PLAN OF ORGANIZATION OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE.

Richard Spencer, Burlington.—Since the election I have written to most of the single tax men I knew of in this state, and the responses received up to this time are of the most cheering kind, all breathing the spirit of enthusiastic ardor and hopefulness in the success of our great cause.

In consequence of their scattered condition over so wide a territory the absence of organization is a marked feature, our friends personally acting individually; and one or two of my correspondents give it as their opinion, as their numbers are few, that individual effort after all, in its effectiveness, is prolific of greater results, because it centers responsibility in the individual.

One of my correspondents, Mr. C. H. Vorhes of Maynard, president of a bank there, however, has submitted to me a plan of organization which, briefly stated, is this: To extend the organization of the national committee for the states to the organization of each state; on the same general plan to counties, and through them to townships, towns, etc., by the appointment of one good, active man in each county as a committee for local organization, upon whom would devolve the organization of his county; township and town committees to report to him, and he to report to the member for the state of the national committee. Mr. Vorhes is a very earnest and enthusiastic free trader and single tax man, and it occurs to me his plan is worthy of serious consideration. I therefore submit it to the readers of THE STANDARD for examination and to invite criticism.

SINGLE TAX LETTER WRITERS.

An excellent suggestion comes from C. F. Becker of Johnson City, Tenn. He asks that we all write to the Redpath Lyceum Bureau, Fourth and Plum streets, Cincinnati, Ohio; 120 Tremont street, Boston, Mass., or Tribune building, Chicago, asking them if they have any single tax men on their list of lecturers, or if they are prepared to furnish them. Our widely scattered clubs can scarcely afford to maintain a lecture bureau themselves, but if existing bureaus will arrange to supply speakers, many a locality may be enlightened when they expect only to be amused.

Eagle, Brooklyn, N. Y.—On November 26 said:

While the wise men of the greater parties are interpreting results and formulating policies, our enterprising friends, the single taxers, are far from idle. They succeeded Monday night in electing two of their number to membership on the executive committee of the Young men's democratic club. What follows from this demonstration is not that all democrats are single taxers, but that there is room in democracy even for those whose opinions on economic subjects are momentarily distorted. While the single taxers are alert and diligent, they will hardly succeed in carrying the democratic party from its Jeffersonian moorings to espousal of the teachings of Henry George.

We should show the Eagle that we propose carrying the democratic party not away from, but back to, its Jeffersonian moorings.

Rev. Myron W. Haynes (Baptist), Englewood, Chicago, Ill.—Said October 5: "We might not have been able to furnish our new church so handsomely had the McKinley bill passed a little sooner. May the time soon come when this iniquitous tariff system shall be abolished." So brave an utterance from the pulpit merits our applause. Can't we show Mr. Haynes how much greater is the iniquity of landlordism?

Rabbi Harrison, Congregation Temple Israel, Brooklyn, N. Y.—In a sermon, November 16, said: "Do you realize that hundreds are dying every year of starvation, of actual lack of bread, in the very midst of rich communities, apoplectic with wealth? That for the greater part of the human family life is not worth living at all, for it means endless toil, boundless misery, joyless, cheerless homes, and bitter suffering?" But his remedy is charity. Can we not show him that justice only is needed?

Herald, New York, Dec. 4.—In quoting the declaration of Colonel Humphreys of the Colored farmers' alliance in favor of the single tax called it a declaration for the single tax and socialism. We can protest against the constant tendency to mix these two things, which are as far apart as the poles, while thanking the Herald for its excellent reports of the alliance.

Mrs. Margaret Bottome, president the King's daughters, care the Ladies' Home Journal, Philadelphia, Pa.—Mrs. Bottome's work has undoubtedly opened her eyes to the magnitude of the task she has undertaken, and to the fact that more radical remedies than those advocated by the King's daughters are needed.

Mrs. Annie Smith, editor North Danville Enterprise, North Danville, Va.—Lately reprinted the platform at the request of Brother T. J. C. and invited brief criticisms.

H. P. Hall, proprietor Daily News, St. Paul, Minn.—Able, aggressive and an advocate of the Farmers' alliance.

Major James Bruce, Corvallis, Benton county, Oregon.—An absolute free trader, and a man of wide popularity and influence.

Professor Yates, superintendent of education, Corvallis, Benton county, Oregon.—Would make an able advocate of our cause if converted.

The attention of all letter writers is invited to the proposition to issue 500,000 copies of "Protection or Free Trade?" at ten cents per copy. Please note that as I will be almost continuously away from home hereafter that letters will be more promptly forwarded if addressed to

W. J. ATKINSON,
12 Union square, New York.

SINGLE TAX LEAGUE OF THE U. S.

NATIONAL COM., 12 UNION SQUARE,
NEW YORK, Dec. 9, 1890.

The national committee is circulating a petition asking the United States house of representatives to appoint a special committee to make inquiry into and report upon the expediency of raising all public revenues by a single tax upon the value of land, irrespective of improvements, to the exclusion of all other taxes, whether in the form of tariffs upon imports, taxes upon internal productions or otherwise. It will send blank petitions on application to any address, and single tax men are urged to obtain petitions and solicit signatures as a most convenient and effective way of starting the discussion of our principles.

It has also taken up the newspaper work of the Memphis committee, and is now engaged in circularizing newspapers in every state, calling their attention to the widespread interest now shown in the subject of the single tax, and urging that they call on the press companies supplying their ready prints and plates for single tax matter.

The attention of officers of single tax organizations is called to the resolution adopted at the national conference to the effect that all organizations subscribing to the national single tax platform shall be eligible for membership in the league. Thus far but very few clubs have formally subscribed to the platform and enrolled themselves in the league, and officers of organizations that have as yet made no move in the matter are earnestly requested to bring the question before their clubs and apply at once to the secretary of the national committee for enrollment.

As the space accorded to this committee for the advertisement of single tax organizations is limited, the present club list will soon be withdrawn, and a new list made up only of clubs enrolled in the league will be published.

Subscriptions toward expenses of this committee's work for week ending December 9 are as follows:

Riggen & Holbrook, Portland, Ore.	\$50 00
Through Richard Eyre, Johnstown, Pa.	33 00
	\$83 00

Subscriptions previously acknowledged 1,205 00

Total \$1,288 00

Cash contributions for same period are as follows:

Henry George, New York city	\$25 00
Wm. Hughes, Allegheny, Pa.	2 00
Louis Klein, Bryn Mawr, Pa.	25
Charles S. Prizer, Reading, Pa.	35
Miss A. A. Chapman, Brooklyn, N.Y.	1 00
	\$28 00

Cash contributions previously acknowledged 742 56

Total \$771 16

The enrolment now stands as follows:

Reported last week	93,319
Signatures received since last report	505
Total	93,824

For news budget see "Roll of States."

GEO. ST. JOHN LEAVENS, Secretary.

NEW YORK CITY.

AN INCIDENT—AN INTERESTING MONTHLY MEETING OF THE MANHATTAN SINGLE TAX CLUB.

A stranger walked into the rooms of the Manhattan single tax club recently and stated that he desired to join the club, and wanted to know how to proceed. The mem-

ber to whom he was telling this asked him if he knew a member of the club. No, he did not. "Do you know any prominent single taxer?" "No," he replied, "none that you know." "How did you know there was a Manhattan single tax club and its location?" "Oh, I have been reading THE STANDARD for three years." Here was a lone single taxer who ought to have been a member long ago. If there are any other such, let them come forward and help in the work. The club needs all the assistance it can get. Modesty should give way to duty.

When the monthly meeting of the Manhattan single tax club was called to order last Thursday evening the first business was reading the report of the managing board of the work of the club during the past year. Then a member, with a few introductory remarks, read that portion of Colonel Humphrey's address before the colored section of the Farmers' national alliance at Ocala, Fla., which related to the single tax question. A congratulatory dispatch was sent to the colonel.

W. J. Atkinson of Haddonfield, N. J., said that a plan was on foot to circulate 500,000 copies of a special edition of "Protection or Free Trade?" As he describes it in a letter in the Free Trade department, it is not necessary to enlarge on it here. The club voted to indorse the plan, and a committee will be appointed to assist Mr. Atkinson in securing the subscriptions. The discussion brought up by the extract from Colonel Humphrey's address and Mr. Atkinson's proposition is the most interesting that has been heard in the club room for a long time. At the close of the meeting 1,000 copies of the special edition of "Protection or Free Trade?" was subscribed for.

It being the evening for nominating officers for the coming year two tickets were presented. Practically the only contest is for the office of vice-president, for which William McCabe and A. J. Wolf are the contestants. The election takes place to-morrow evening. The polls will be opened at 7 o'clock. The voting will be done under the Australian system.

To-morrow evening Samuel B. Clark, author of the tract "A lawyer's reply to criticisms," will deliver an address before the club.

B. W. Holt.—The societies for ethical culture of the United States and of England have just held a convention in this city. Their last session was held last week in Chickering hall, which was filled to overflowing. One of their lecturers, Mr. Salter of Chicago, after speaking of property in land, land values and "Georgeism," said the task of ethical societies is to make men feel, after they have seen that land values are made by and belong to communities, that it is wrong to leave such values in the hands of individuals.

"It never rains but that it pours." It will soon be expensive to wire greetings to the new champions of your cause as they bob up in different parts of the world.

BROOKLYN.

WILLIAM LLOYD GARRISON'S LECTURE—SENDING A CONGRATULATORY DISPATCH TO COLONEL HUMPHREY.

W. F. Withers.—"The old abolition and the new" was the subject of William Lloyd Garrison's lecture on Sunday evening. The meeting was well attended, and the speaker was loudly applauded as he denounced our present crooked methods of taxation which virtually rob men of the product of their labor as truly as the black man was mulcted in days gone by.

At the conclusion of the address Mr. W. E. Hicks arose and called the attention of the meeting to the fact that the greatest events in the history of the single tax agitation had transpired during the past week—the declaration in favor of a tax on land values by the leaders of the English liberal party, and the resolution of the colored Farmers' alliance in favor of the single tax. A resolution that the meeting send a telegram of congratulation to Colonel Humphrey was unanimously carried.

Mr. A. H. Stephenson's subject for next Sunday evening will be "Governmental control of transportation."

There will be no meeting at the club house on Wednesday evening, that being the date of the concert at Association hall.

Altona A. Chapman.—I inclose six more names on that first 100, making ninety one all told. The next installment will, I hope, complete the number and leave some to spare. The work goes merrily on, with prospect of being more and more successful. The single tax is the great need of the age, and the people, especially the younger generation, are beginning to find it out.

NEW YORK STATE.

INDORSING THE PLATFORM—A CLERGYMAN FAVORS THE SINGLE TAX.

T. G. Drake, Long Island City.—The Freedom association on Friday evening, November 28, adopted the single tax platform. We shall meet every fourth Friday in the month at Schwaenborg's hall, corner of Vernon and Borden avenues. Our secretary's address is Mr. G. W. A. King, 600 Academy street, Long Island City. We have decided to do

our utmost for the petition to congress, and will not be found wanting in the work of propaganda.

B. B. Martis, Troy.—Rev. H. O. Hiscok addressed our club on the evening of December 2 on "Society's responsibilities." A large audience was present. The lecture received close attention and was fully reported in our local papers. The reverend gentleman unexpectedly developed as a single tax man. We are much pleased at this, our first venture.

MASSACHUSETTS.

ACTIVITY SHOWN IN VARIOUS LOCALITIES.

E. K. Page, Worcester.—At a regular meeting of the Tenth district single tax league of Worcester, Mass., on December 4, the recently adopted national single tax platform was unanimously indorsed, and the secretary was requested to make application for membership in the national league; also, steps were taken to change the name of our organization at the next meeting to Worcester single tax club; also, the annual election of officers took place, re-electing the old board of officers; also, arrangements were made for a course of lectures, to be held hereafter at our monthly meetings. In January Mr. S. H. Howes of Southboro, Mass., is to expound the single tax from the farmers' standpoint, and later we expect to have William Lloyd Garrison, Hamlin Garland and other interesting speakers with us. We hope to increase the interest in the single tax hereabouts.

F. Berry, Haverhill.—It is with pleasure that I am able to say we have at last formed a single tax committee in Haverhill to canvass the town, and see how many out and out single tax men we can find, and in the near future call them together and form a single tax league. Inclosed please find seven signed petitions.

R. Scott, Whitman.—I send four petitions. One of them is somewhat soiled. It contains the signature of Hiram Leavett, who works in the same shop I do, but so far removed from me that I have not any opportunities to talk to him. I passed his bench one day and stopped long enough to give him a petition. He would not sign it then, but said he would look it over. My experience is that such men won't sign, so I thought, "Another blank lost." Several days after he took the trouble to send a boy up two flights of stairs with it signed to me.

F. W. Morton, Webster.—The matter of municipal control of our water supply is being very seriously discussed here. The present water supply is insufficient, but those in control of the company demand a guarantee of long possession before they fix their plant so as to meet our needs. That demand has given the single taxers the opportunity to bring up the question of city ownership, which we hope to press successfully through.

PENNSYLVANIA.

"UNCLE TOM" MAKES THE YEARLY REPORT OF HIS BUREAU OF INFORMATION.

"Uncle Tom," Bryn Mawr.—With this month this bureau of information enters upon the fourth year of doing business at the old stand. The bureau had been run on the pay-as-you-go plan until the Malthusian cry got the best of us, when necessity compelled me either to abandon the agitation or ask for aid. During the past year the following has been received, for which the donors will please accept sincerest thanks and take this as the accounting they are entitled to:

New York state furnished 10 copies of "Protection or Free Trade," 6 copies of "Progress and Poverty" (German), 4 copies of "Social Problems," about 700 tracts, 30 single tax papers, paper and envelopes and \$6.80 in postage stamps.

New Jersey sent 2 copies of "The Land Question," 1 copy of "Property in Land," 30 STANDARDS, 50 tracts and 4 cents in stamps.

Pennsylvania sent 53 tracts, 60 single tax papers and 8 cents in stamps.

Missouri 63 papers and tracts, 2 rubber stamps and 70 cents in stamps.

South Dakota 62 papers, and Montana 37 papers and 2 cents in stamps.

In all 23 pamphlets and 1,000 papers and tracts and \$7.64 in postage stamps.

Eight copies of "Protection or Free Trade" and 3 copies of "Social Problems," with a request to "pass on," were mailed to farmers, clergymen and others in Pennsylvania; 4 copies of "Progress and Poverty" (German) were sent to Germany to business men and a bishop, 1 copy to New York and 1 copy for a clergyman in Philadelphia; the remainder of the pamphlets are out attending to business.

Four hundred and twenty-one papers and tracts, either separately or inclosed in letters, were mailed to Colorado, Illinois, Louisiana, Kentucky, Washington, New York, Ohio, Kansas, Minnesota, Indiana, Montana, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, and the remainder was distributed by hand in two counties.

Seven single tax letters with tracts inclosed, were sent to Germany, and 133 letters were written to farmers, clergymen, lawyers, coachmen, physicians, business men, ninety-cent-a-day men, statesmen (?), politicians, would-be officeholders, and others in the United States, with an outlay of from one to ten cents per letter. A number of above letters were responded to, in some cases, necessitating the writing of three or

four letters to the same person. Outside of single tax papers, of sixty-one communications to country weeklies on the tariff, Australian ballot and the single tax, as far as could be ascertained thirty-nine have been accepted; and forty-one letters were sent to the Watertown, S. D., Journal.

In addition to the above one STANDARD and one copy of Justice per week were mailed or distributed.

What the outcome will be can only be conjectured.

Preparing for the greater struggle in 1892, it is necessary to educate the farmers and others with the aid of single tax and free trade literature this winter, as they will have more than enough to digest next winter when the Gormanizers and the sub-treasury schemers will measure swords with the single taxers and free traders.

The names and addresses of 120 so-called tariff reformers, comprising judges, lawyers, farmers, business men, etc., of all shades of opinion, from the single taxer down to the man who does not know what he wants, are at hand and could profitably be supplied with single tax and free trade literature.

Needing the maximum of tools, but only possessing the minimum to work with, single tax and free trade literature and other sinews of war are always acceptable and will be put to the best possible use.

Robert Miller, Frankford, Philadelphia.—I inclose nine signatures of factory workers for the petition. I have not had the opportunity for some time to canvass for signatures.

W. H. McKinney, Reading.—The single tax cause is having quite a boom in this city and vicinity, and our society expects to reap quite a harvest of converts during the coming winter. At the last meeting of the single tax society it was decided to hold twelve public meetings, including two lectures in the Grand opera house, during the winter and spring months, for the discussion of various political questions. We are also in correspondence with persons in the towns and villages around Reading, with the view of holding meetings in those places during the winter.

MARYLAND.

A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE DECLARATION OF RIGHTS.

Dr. William N. Hill, Baltimore.—It is proposed to amend that part of the declaration of rights of the constitution of this state which relates to taxation; and I ask THE STANDARD to favor its Maryland friends by publishing the text of these articles—the original section and the amendment, so that our friends here may become familiar with them. The section now reads:

Article 15. That the levying of taxes by the poll is grievous and oppressive, and ought to be prohibited; that paupers ought not to be assessed for the support of the government; but every person in the state, or person holding property therein, ought to contribute his proportion of public taxes for the support of the government, according to his actual worth in real or personal property; yet fines, duties, or taxes may properly and justly be imposed, or laid with a political view for the good government and benefit of the community.

The amendment proposed is as follows:

Article 15. All taxes ought to be uniform upon the same kinds of property or class of subjects and should be levied and collected under general laws, but the general assembly may by general laws exempt from taxation all public property used for public purposes, all churches or buildings used exclusively for public worship and the furniture contained therein and the parsonages connected therewith, burying grounds not used for private or corporate profit, all purely charitable or benevolent institutions, literary or educational institutions, with the furniture and equipment contained in such charitable, benevolent, literary or educational institutions, and the grounds appurtenant to such churches, houses of public worship, charitable or benevolent, literary or educational institutions and necessary to the convenient use thereof as the same have been heretofore exempted by law in this state; and all other property in this state not so declared exempt may be taxed, and the general assembly may, by general law, provide for a tax on the incomes of citizens of this state; yet fines, duties, licenses or taxes may properly and justly be imposed or laid with a political view for good government and the benefit of the community.

Section 2 provides for the submission of this amendment to the vote of the people, which will be done the coming fall.

OHIO.

THE TARIFF QUESTION BEING DISCUSSED EVERYWHERE.

Miss Maud E. Snay, Gallion.—At a recent meeting of our club the single tax platform was indorsed and a resolution passed to apply for membership in the national league.

Our club is small, but we are doing what we can, and a great many people in this locality have now heard something of the single tax. We are looking forward to the holding of a state conference some time soon, and hope that after that the work will progress more rapidly.

A. R. Wynn, Toledo.—At hotels and other places, the tariff question is being discussed

at breakfast, dinner and supper. They do not talk tariff reform, but free trade against protection. Both sides are better informed than usual. The republicans are inclined to force the discussion as they are flooding the country with protection documents; and the more it is discussed—well, you know the rest.

ILLINOIS.

A DOUBLE AFFLICTION—MR. WALSH LOSES HIS WIFE AND SON WITHIN A WEEK—MISS BECK'S CLASS.

Warren Worth Bailey, Chicago.—The Rev. Wallis Thomas Mills, editor of the Statesman magazine and one of the most popular platform orators of the prohibition movement, was our speaker on Thursday evening. His subject was "I Am," and the address was in the nature of a running declaration of the gentleman's economic beliefs.

Our club has suffered a heavy loss in the recent tragic death of Mrs. J. C. Walsh, a lady who has been one of our most faithful and enthusiastic members. About three weeks ago she met with a horrible accident while assisting her husband about his shop, setting fire to her clothing while in the act of exhibiting a torch which Mr. Walsh manufactures. This dreadful event happened on a Saturday afternoon, and at 10 o'clock the next morning she breathed her last. She was taken to Trenton for burial, and while the stricken husband was absent on this sad mission he received the news of his eldest son's dangerous illness. A day or two later the son died, and exactly a week from the day he laid his wife to rest Mr. Walsh followed the remains of his boy to the tomb. His double affliction commands the widest and tenderest sympathy.

Wednesday at noon I had the pleasure of being present at the Montefiore school during the session of Miss Leonora Beck's "Progress and Poverty" class. This class is composed entirely of teachers, and it meets every day during the noon recess, Miss Beck reading a chapter of "Progress and Poverty," with running comments, and her pupils asking questions. The following ladies were present on this occasion, and all of them seemed to be much interested in the study: Miss Chenoweth, Miss Pellet, Miss Phelan, Miss McMahon, Mrs. Clock, Miss Kirkley, Miss White and Miss Walsh. It seems to me that her example is worthy of imitation, and I hope to hear that this method of spreading the light will be adopted wherever it is possible.

Judge Bangs will speak December 18 and Henry D. Lloyd January 15. As Christmas and New Year fall on Thursday, it is uncertain whether we will meet during the holidays. Mr. Charles W. Phillips will probably speak next Thursday evening. His subject will be, "What is socialism and who are socialists?"

Arrangements are in progress for a meeting in honor of Mr. George at Central music hall, January 31. The following committee has the matter in charge: Joseph T. Ripley, Edward Osgood Brown, Charles G. Buck, J. M. Place and H. W. McFarlane. No effort will be spared to make the meeting a great success.

William Frankel, Downer's Grove.—Inclosed find petitions—two converts that I have been working at for the last two years. They can finally distinguish the outlines of the cat, and I am very proud of them.

Ernest J. Foord, Chicago.—I inclose eleven more petitions, some of them signed by hitherto avowed "protectionists," but now inclined to view "the cat" with friendly eyes.

MINNESOTA.

THE MINNEAPOLIS CLUB RESUMES WORK—THE GOOD WORK DONE IN THE LAST ELECTION BY THE SINGLE TAXERS.

C. J. Buell, Minneapolis.—I send you fourteen new names. We are about to make an organized effort for signatures. Let us have a petition with half a million names if possible when the next congress meets. Minneapolis will try to do her share.

Our league elected officers at the first meeting after the summer vacation. We ceased holding meetings of the league early in June, and organized the Cleveland democratic club, with which we did remarkable work during the campaign. Now that the election is over our league pulls itself together again for practical work.

The officers recently elected are as follows: President, C. J. Buell; vice-president, Edward Russell, of Longfellow & Russell, real estate and loan agents (Mr. Russell is the same person who had a letter in THE STANDARD some time ago explaining why he could no longer support the republican party. He was one of the founders and leaders of the republican party in Iowa, and for twenty years was editor of the Davenport Gazette, a free trade republican paper. He was a warm personal friend of Thomas G. Shearman and an enthusiastic free trader and single taxer); secretary, J. A. Sawyer, court stenographer; treasurer, L. K. Campbell, carpenter; executive committee—James McDaniel, head miller for A. Washburn; E. B. Barber, book-keeper for C. A. Pillsbury; Professor W. A. Carpenter, Rev. E. W. Sample, Albert Dallenmeyer, reporter Evening Tribune; M. P. Finnegan, M. D.; A. M. Goodrich, printer, recently elected member of the public library board over the most popular republi-

can millionaire in the city, S. R. Child, attorney at law.

You see it is a very democratic lot of officers. Several members of our league were elected to the legislature and to other public offices at the recent election.

Hon. Sidney M. Owen, late alliance candidate for governor, has promised us a lecture some time in December; subject, "No tariff at all—direct taxation apportioned among the states." We expect an able address from him. You need not be surprised if S. M. Owen is the next United States senator from this state; and if he is he will present a strong contrast to some of them, I can assure you.

Oliver T. Erickson, Minneapolis.—In our last campaign, all parties pledged themselves to work for the extension of the Australian system of voting to all parts of the state; and Representative Keyes, who introduced the bill in the last legislature, is now preparing an amendment which will include the extension and some minor changes in the present law. As the law has proved so satisfactory in the cities to which it applies, we feel that the friends of the law will meet with very little if any opposition in our next legislature.

Our city charter will undoubtedly receive an overhauling, and we shall labor with our friends in the Hennepin county delegation to have as much of land values turned into the public treasury as is possible under our present constitution.

There seems to be a division of opinion among the single tax men here as to the advisability of asking for the submission of a constitutional amendment at the next session of the legislature. Some of our friends take the ground that the people of the state have not considered the question sufficiently and would vote against an amendment, and that, the amendment being lost, it would retard our movement. On the other hand, it is claimed that the submission of a constitutional amendment would bring about such a discussion of the question of taxation that our cause would be very much advanced whether the amendment carried or not. As a member of the national committee, I would be very glad to hear, directly or through THE STANDARD, from any of our friends in Minnesota who have any suggestions to make in regard to this or other work in our state.

I have been rather dilatory in beginning to do anything for our cause outside of Minneapolis, but after this month I shall have more time to devote to such work and will try to make up for my shortcomings.

The Minneapolis single tax club meets every Tuesday evening at the West hotel, and all friends who may happen to be in the city on that evening are cordially invited to meet with us.

Last evening Major J. B. Bassett, one of our millionaires, addressed our club on the "Fallacies of the Single Tax," and it was the argument of Atkinson and White over again. Some of the papers reported that we were completely annihilated, but the single taxers who were convinced of the error of their ways have not reported yet. On the contrary, quite a number had the temerity to take exception to both the major's logic and his facts; and as he quoted copiously from White's article in the Popular Science Monthly, one of our members suggested that he read Louis F. Post's reply.

Our president has made arrangements for addresses by Rev. H. M. Simmons, S. M. Owen and a number of other prominent men, so the outlook for a good winter's work is very flattering.

SOUTH DAKOTA.

BROKAW AMONG THE ALLIANCE DELEGATES TO THE NATIONAL MEETING—THE SINGLE TAX LEAGUE REORGANIZED—OTHER INTERESTING ITEMS.

W. E. Brokaw, Watertown.—I left Watertown Monday noon, November 21, and stopped over night in Redfield with our good single tax friend, Judge Howe. Upon boarding the train for the south Tuesday morning, I found quite a number of alliance delegates on their way to Mitchell, many of whom I know. We talked single tax all the way down and I obtained quite a number of names to the petition. One of them, who had seen my article in Farm, Stock and Home, said he was already repaid for his trip (before we landed at Mitchell) by what he had learned from our discussion.

I was readily admitted to the alliance meetings as a Knight of Labor, and found them very friendly to our cause. One man, to whom I had been sending literature but had never seen, came to me and introduced himself, saying: "You need not send me any more literature for I am converted." Although near one-third of the delegates told me they wanted to hear me talk, the "talkers" of the convention consumed so much time that when the business was through with many delegates had gone home and the rest were anxious to go, so that I got no opportunity to talk to them publicly. But I had a good many discussions and conversations. I found our idea had gained much influence over them. Mr. J. R. Lowe, the newly elected first vice-president of the South Dakota farmers' alliance and industrial union, who will be acting president much of the time because of the ill health of Mr. Loucks, bought "Progress and Poverty" of me and said he

would start a single tax column in his paper, the Huron Independent, on his return from the convention at Ocala, Fla.

Several influential members of the alliance urged me to join them in order that I might reach their members easier. I shall endeavor so to do at an early date. Mr. Wardall introduced me to the state lecturer of the Iowa alliance, Mr. N. B. Ashley of Des Moines, who said he had read Henry George's works and his paper some, and thought there was much truth in his writings, but considered them only steps in the direction of final nationalism. In his talk to the alliance he told them he did not agree with their sub-treasury bill idea, or their demand for loans on real estate, and told them that the tariff and the tax question were of the utmost importance.

In his address President Loucks referred to Powderly's advice regarding the tariff question and urged the discussion of it in all the local alliances. He scouted the idea that the tariff was not a tax and that the consumer did not pay it. But he avoided the land question and urged making the money question the principal issue.

I also met Judge Bartlett Tripp, the democratic candidate for United States senator. He said he had read "Social Problems" and intended soon to read "Progress and Poverty." He considered Henry George one of the leading thinkers of the day. He said one of Mr. George's sayings that had struck him most forcibly was that man could no more have a just title to the soil than to the air we breathe.

As the farmers were all in a hurry to get back home but a few remained to our single tax meetings. We met in the K. of L. hall Thursday afternoon and expounded it to some of them before the evening trains left. At night we explained it to a small but intelligent number of Mitchell citizens in the court house. Their interest was manifested by the discussions which followed and the purchase of books.

We single taxers reorganized, indorsed the national platform, myself as member of the national committee, and instructed the secretary to ask that our association be enrolled as a member of the national league. Judge Levi McGee was re-elected president, and upon my resignation John B. Hanten of Watertown was elected secretary-treasurer. A constitution and by-laws were adopted, which entitles any resident of the state to become a member who can indorse our principles and pay \$1 annual dues. The president is to appoint one vice-president for each county upon the recommendation of the single tax men of those counties.

It was decided that I could accomplish the most good for the cause by a canvass of the state. I made arrangements with some of the alliance men, and shall make further necessary arrangements as soon as possible that will enable me to go from Watertown south and talk in school houses throughout the southeastern part of the state during this winter. I will continue the single tax department in the Journal for the present at least.

Inclosed find forty-two signed petitions. I wish to second the suggestion of A. R. Wynn of Toledo, regarding furnishing every democratic member of the Fifty-second congress with a copy of THE STANDARD each week during that session, and to amend it by adding "every alliance or independent member."

In THE STANDARD of November 6 J. L. Caldwell of Mart, Texas, said: "I would suggest the plan of having a book of blanks at all times in the pocket, and resolve that every time the single tax is mentioned to ask for signatures." That is what I have done ever since the petition was started and have found it a fruitful plan. Always "go loaded" and you will find lots of game. Every "worker" ought to have petitions and tracts with him wherever he goes.

MAINE.

H. G. Casey, Auburn.—Our club is in good condition and meets every Saturday night. We have our Maine member of the national committee who meets with us regularly. Our club is circulating petitions to the legislature for the Australian system; after we get that we can do more to get more converts, we think, because it will change the one-sidedness of politics in Maine.

INDIANA.

Mr. Ritchie, Richmond.—The single tax club of this city heartily indorses the platform of the conference. Though not now making much noise, we are not idle, but are sowing the good seed. One paper here already uses single tax matter. I believe the author of the poem, "What Mary Meant When She Said 'Hats'" (published in THE STANDARD of November 19), ought to feel proud of his production, for it seems to elicit much attention and start people to thinking.

IOWA.

Richard Spencer, Burlington.—Through the efforts of our untiring single tax fellow citizen, Mr. Frank S. Chubbill, who will be remembered by the members of the New York conference as our representative in that body, we have just been favored with an interesting occasion here.

Mr. Chubbill is a prominent member of our Commercial club, and chairman of the enter-

tainment committee of that body; and for the introductory entertainment of the season he procured the services of Mr. John Z. White of Chicago to deliver a lecture on the single tax.

The occasion was a very interesting and impressive one. A large audience of intelligent ladies and gentlemen listened to a bright, forceful, comprehensive and convincing argument of an hour's length—such as Mr. White is noted for giving—followed by a half hour of questioning by the audience, answered in Mr. White's ready manner to the entire satisfaction of at least the number of single tax men present.

We hope to have other public meetings here this winter, and through these the activity of our local club and the individual efforts of us all will be exerted to advance our interests and awaken an enlarged discussion of this great reform in this community.

MISSOURI.

Percy Pepoon, St. Louis.—Saturday night, December 13, Thomas G. Shearman will lecture at Memorial hall, Nineteenth street and Lucas place. He will have a large and representative audience.

Thursday night, December 18, I. H. Lionberger and Conde B. Pallen will address the single tax league at Bowman's hall, E. eventh and Locust streets. Messrs. Lionberger and Pallen will criticize the single tax, and a general debate will follow, which is certain to be interesting, as the league is thoroughly prepared for the discussion.

Other lectures for the Bowman's hall meetings have been booked as follows: January 1, H. Martin Williams on "Taxation in Missouri;" January 13, Colonel T. J. Portis on "The futility of restrictive legislation as a means of social advancement;" February 5, Rev. Dr. Sonneschein, subject, "Questions for single tax men;" February 17, Dr. John Matthews.

The Evening Call, at the conclusion of a long editorial, expressed the opinion that a free trade and single tax era will come in this country, but many years hence. It is undeniable that our ideas have made great advances in St. Louis within the last year in all directions.

GEORGIA.

John M. Beath, Atlanta.—It is hard to boom anything relating to the single tax in Atlanta. Nevertheless, I am anxious to push the petition beyond the 100,000 mark.

TEXAS.

G. E. Mellif, Lockhart.—Single tax ideas are gaining ground rapidly. The people here have object lessons of the evils of the present system all around them. The roads are filled with homeless wanderers looking for land to rent; while the same roads in many parts of the state are lined with as fertile land as the sun ever shone on, as innocent of the touch of the plowshare as in the dawning of creation.

Things cannot go on in this way. Right is bound to assert itself. The disinherited will gain their inheritance when they are brought to see their true enemy—land monopoly.

NORTH DAKOTA.

S. W. Bradford, Ayr, Cass county.—You have no idea how infernally poor the people are in this part of the west. Persons who came here ten years ago to start small farms and having all the way from \$2,000 to \$3,000 to start with are now in debt and their farms mortgaged. During the last three years every fall several farmers in this immediate vicinity have had to relinquish their farms to banks, and in some localities it is worse.

CALIFORNIA.

Jeff A. Bailey, S. T., Cornwall, Contra Costa county.—The few single tax people about here are rejoicing over the election of T. L. Johnson and J. De W. Warner. I wish I could do more to promote the cause, but must be content to follow after for a while yet.

OREGON.

F. M. Marquis, Pendleton.—Only to-day I laid a copy of THE STANDARD down at the hotel. Upon my return I saw it was gone. I made a careless inquiry and found one of the hotel employees had taken it. He soon returned it and told me that he was a single taxman from Philadelphia. Although he had not seen a copy of THE STANDARD for two years, he had not fallen from grace.

INDIAN TERRITORY.

Thomas Howie, Mascogee.—I was on my way back to Vinita, but was stopped here and put on a jury. I sent home to my wife for my gripsack. When I opened it I found forty odd blanks, which I took around and got signed.

ACKNOWLEDGES THE CORN.

Chicago Evening Journal (re)
Revise the McKinley bill. A revision of the McKinley bill has been demanded by the people, and there is equally a demand for legislation in the same line looking toward a wide system of trade reciprocity. That the republican party can retain the principle of protection without prohibiting imports, and can take all proper steps for the extension of our foreign trade in a practical way, is a thing assured. Reciprocity should be considered. Revision of the McKinley bill is a necessity.

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Every active worker for the single tax should have in his pocket a recruit subscription book, in order that he may be able to tear out the blanks and order the paper sent to anyone with whom he has been having an argument on the subject. If our friends will use the stubs in the books and keep a record of those to whom they order the paper sent they will be able to follow the matter up and probably make converts. The price of the books is as follows:

Five subscriptions	\$1 00
Twelve subscriptions	2 00
Thirty-five subscriptions	5 00

THE STANDARD,

No. 12 Union square, New York city.

FRONTING THE FUTURE.

B. O. Flower in December Arena.

In this battle of moral ideas that confronts us, we may depend chiefly on the young men and women to carry the day for a high civilization. Sad and unfortunate as the fact is, there are few men who, like Gladstone, Henry Ward Beecher, and Victor Hugo, can grow old in service without losing that exuberance of spirit, that irresistible hope, and that abiding faith in human nature which are absolutely essential to success in any great movement. As a rule old men, after long years of battling with life's vicissitudes, lose much of that essential faith in humanity which must fire the blood of any true reformer. They lose sight of the splendid triumphs of mankind, the glorious victories which have marked the ascent of humanity. They dwell chiefly in the shadow, or, marking only the snail's pace which their brief span of existence has witnessed, become sceptics, frequently paralyzing in a measure every movement or effort born of enthusiastic hopes which look toward a higher expression of justice, a broader conception of freedom or a nobler idea of truth. Age begets conservatism—the negative pole of social life—and conservatism, notwithstanding its value in preventing reckless extremes, does not represent life, growth, or progress. She dwells in the shadow of the past. Her eyes are on the earth. Her fondest dreams haunt the cemetery of yesterday. She feels not the fire of faith, the thrill of hope, the exultation of a soul aglow with the allures of divine love. The drum beat of the onward marching cohorts of radical reform thrill her with something akin to terror. The spirit of progress, with hand pointing forward, with feet set toward untrodden paths, with face prering into the future, and eyes riveted on the sun, inspires her with unmixd fear. Conservatism distrusts liberty, has small faith in humanity, and seeks refuge in increased legislation, in decaying institutions, and in the shadows of obsolescent precedents. The present condition of society calls for radically different measures. A crisis is at hand which demands brave hearts, cool heads and muscles of steel. They who lead the people in the great reforms that are forcing themselves on this age must possess an abiding faith in the inherent good in humanity; an unconquerable devotion to freedom; an earnest desire to elevate society, to secure justice for all the people. They must create a wide-spread spirit of fraternity. They must be earnest, persistent, intelligent agitators and educators, who understand that none but ignorant social quacks would seek

Consumption Cured.

An old physician, retired from practice had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all nervous complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it this recipe in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using, sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. RAY, 59 Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.

to film over the present ulcers "whilst rank corruption, mining all within, infects unseen." They must know that they can they be remedied. Only by depicting life as it is in juxtaposition to life as it would be if we had more justice, can a loftier era be inaugurated, and they must plead the cause of the poor, the wretched, the outcasts, the sinners and sinned against, who suffer so much, and have so little to make life joyous. They must awaken in the people a spirit of divine love, kindle the flame of hope, exalt their souls, and make them irresistible. The era of moral force is at our door. We are fronting a future throbbing with undreamed-of possibilities. The destiny of this great civilization lies largely in the hands of the rising generation—our young men and women—who, with the able reinforcement from those chosen few among the silvering heads who always constitute a splendid minority in the struggle for human progress, must carry forward the unfurled standard of freedom, fraternity and justice.

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SINGLE TAX ORGANIZATIONS.

(Secretaries of clubs are requested to send any corrections in the list below, and all newly formed organizations are asked to report promptly, either to the Secretary of National committee or The Standard.)

ARKANSAS.

LITTLE ROCK.—Little Rock single tax club. Every alternate Thursday evening, 717 Main st. Pres., Sol F. Clark; sec., O. D. Hemming, 1910 Main st.

CALIFORNIA.

SAN FRANCISCO.—California single tax society. Every Sunday evening, St. George's hall, 909 1/2 Market st. Library and reading room open from 9 a. m. to 10 p. m., 841 Market st. Pres., L. M. Manzer; sec., H. M. Welcome; fin. sec., John A. Maynard. Address of all officers, 841 Market st.

SACRAMENTO.—Single tax club of Sacramento. Every Friday evening, Dr. Reed's office, 6th and K sts. Pres., Dr. Thos. B. Reed; sec., C. W. Farnsworth, 1406 4th st.

OAKLAND.—Single tax club No. 1 meets every Friday evening at St. Andrews hall, 1056 1/2 Broadway. Pres., A. J. Gregg; sec., E. Haddins.

LOS ANGELES.—Los Angeles single tax club. Pres., I. J. Harrell; sec., Clarence A. Miller.

BLACK DIAMOND.—Contra Costa county single tax committee. Jeff. A. Bailey, sec.

COLORADO.

STATE.—Colorado State single tax association, 303 16th st. Pres., A. W. Elder; sec., H. C. Niles; treas., Geo. Champion.

DENVER.—Denver single tax association. Every Thursday evening, 303 16th st. Free reading room open every day, 9 a. m. to 9 p. m. Pres., G. H. Phelps; sec., H. C. Niles, 303 16th.

PUEBLO.—Commonwealth single tax club. First and Fourth Thursdays at office of D. B. V. Reeve, Union av. Pres., D. B. V. Reeve; sec., J. W. Brentlinger, Pueblo Smelting and Refining Co.

GRAND JUNCTION.—Mesa county single tax and ballot reform club. Pres., James W. Bucklin; sec., Geo. Smith.

CANYON CITY.—Single tax committee; sec., Dr. Frank P. Blake.

CONNECTICUT.

DANBURY.—Single tax club. Pres., John E. Jones; sec., W. E. Grumman. Address for the present, Sam E. Main, 10 Montgomery st.

NEW HAVEN.—Tax reform club. Every Friday evening. Pres., Willard D. Warren, room 11, 102 Orange st.; sec., Alfred Smith, 105 Day.

MERIDEN.—Meriden single tax club. 3 p. m. every Sunday, Circle hall. Pres., Wm. Hawthorne; sec., Wm. Willis, P. O. box 1342.

SHARON.—Single tax committee. Chairman, J. Ryan.

DELAWARE.

WILMINGTON.—Single tax association. Pres., Geo. W. Kreer; sec., Frank L. Reardon.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

WASHINGTON.—Washington single tax league; always open; regular meeting Friday evening, 609 F street, N. W. Pres., Paul T. Bowen; sec., Wm. Geddes, M. D., 1719 G st., N. W.

FLORIDA.

PENSACOLA.—Pensacola single tax club No. 1. Tuesday evenings, K. of L. hall, corner of Zaragoza and Palafox sts. Pres., J. Dennis Wolfe; sec., James McHugh.

TAMPA.—Thomas G. Shearman single tax league. First Monday in each month, business meeting; Sundays, public speaking. Pres., C. E. Ainsworth; sec., J. H. McCormick.

GEORGIA.

ATLANTA, Ga.—Atlanta single tax club No. 1. Pres., J. M. Beath; sec., J. Henley Smith, 12 w. Alabama st.

AUGUSTA.—Augusta single tax club. Every Friday evening, Hussar hall. Pres., Ed. Flury; sec., George Haines, care of Loflin & Meyer.

ILLINOIS.

CHICAGO.—Chicago single tax club. Every Thursday evening, club room 4, Grand Pacific hotel. Pres., Warren Worth Bailey; sec., F. W. Irwin, 217 La Salle st., room 335.

SOUTH CHICAGO.—Single tax committee. Pres., John Black, box 512.

SPRINGFIELD.—Sangamon single tax club. Pres., Joseph Farris; sec., James H. McCrea, 623 Black ave.

JACKSONVILLE.—Morgan county single tax club. Pres., Col. Wm. Camm of Murrayville; sec., Chas. W. Alexander of Jacksonville.

QUINCY.—Gen City single tax club. Meets every Sunday afternoon, 3 p. m., room 4, second floor, u. e. cor. Fifth and Hampshire sts. Pres., C. F. Perry; cor. sec., Duke Schroer, 524 York st.

INDIANA.

STATE.—Indiana single tax league. Pres., Henry Rawie, Anderson; vice-pres., L. P. Custer, Indianapolis; sec., Thos. J. Hudson, 155 Elm st., Indianapolis. State executive committee, Henry Rawie, Anderson; S. W. Williams, Vincennes; L. O. Bishop, Clinton; Dr. C. A. Kersey, Richmond; Chas. G. Bennett, Evansville; Wm. Henry, Coopersville; W. E. McDermott, Ft. Wayne; T. J. Hudson, J. F. White, L. P. Custer, Indianapolis.

CLINTON.—Single tax club. Sunday afternoons, 3 o'clock, Argus office. Pres., Isaac H. Strain; sec., L. O. Bishop.

POINT WAYNE.—Single tax club. Pres., W. E. McDermott; vice-pres., J. M. Scherzogen; sec., Henry Cohen.

INDIANAPOLIS.—Indianapolis single tax league. Every Sunday, 3 p. m., Main hall, u. e. cor. Washington and Alabama sts. Pres., A. V. Hahn; sec., Chas. Kraus.

EVANSVILLE.—Single tax association. Pres., Edwin Walker; sec., Charles G. Bennett.

RICHMOND.—Single tax club. Pres., C. S. Schneider, 105 North Third st.; sec., M. Michie, 913 South A st.

IOWA.

BURLINGTON.—Burlington single tax club. First Saturday of each month, 805 N. 5th st. Pres., Richard Egan; sec., Willard Moore, 900 Hedges ave.

DAN MONTE.—Single tax club. Pres., E. P. Allison, box 4; sec., J. Ballance.

COUNCIL BLUFFS.—Council Bluffs single tax club; second and fourth Sunday of each month, 2:30 p. m.; 724 Sixth st. Pres., Chas. Stevenson; sec., J. Kinsman, 328 W Broadway.

MARSHALLTOWN.—Single tax committee. Pres., James Shoop; sec., Hans Erickson.

MARION CITY.—Single tax committee; 1st and 3d evenings of each month at Dr. Osborne's office. Pres., J. A. Beranthon; sec., J. R. Mott.

MOORE CITY.—Single tax committee, first and third Monday each month. Pres., Jas. A.

Ford, 316 Nebraska st.; sec., H. H. Hoffman, Hotel Hooga.

KENTUCKY.

LOUISVILLE.—Single tax club. Open every evening, 504 w. Jefferson st. Business meetings Friday. Pres., Christ. Landolt; sec., W. W. Daniel, 803 Franklin st.

KANSAS.

ABILENE.—Single tax club. Pres., C. W. Brooks; vice-pres., H. Charters; sec., A. L. Russel.

GROVE HILL.—Grove Hill single tax club. Thursday evenings, Grove Hill school house, Lincoln township, Dickman county. Pres., E. Z. Butcher; sec., Andrew Reddick.

LOUISIANA.

NEW ORLEANS.—Louisiana single tax club. Meets 1st and 3d Thursday night at 8 p. m. at Natchez st. Pres., Jas. Middleton; sec., G. W. Roberts, 326 Thalia st.

MAINE.

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LEWISTON.—Single tax committee. Every Wednesday evening, 79 Summer st. Chairman, F. D. Lyford; sec., Joseph Walsh, 79 Summer st.

MARYLAND.

BALTIMORE.—Single tax league of Maryland. Every Monday, at 8 p. m., in hall 506 E. Baltimore st. Pres., Wm. J. Ogden, 5 N. Carey st.; sec., John W. Jones, 29 N. Caroline st.; cor. sec., Dr. Wm. N. Hill, 1438 Baltimore st.

Baltimore single tax society. Every Sunday afternoon, 3 p. m., at Industrial hall, 316 W. Lombard st. Pres., Jas. T. Kelly; sec., W. H. Kelly, 739 Franklin st.

Single tax association of East Baltimore. Pres., J. M. Ralph; sec., Chas. H. Williams, 312 Myrtle av.

MASSACHUSETTS.

STATE.—Single tax state central committee of Massachusetts. Pres., Edwin M. White, 1498 Washington st., Boston; sec., G. K. Anderson, 30 Hanover st., Boston.

Boston.—Boston single tax league, Wells's memorial hall. Pres., Hamlin Garland, 12 Moreland st.; sec., Edwin M. White, 1498 Washington st.

Neponset single tax league. Sec., Q. A. Lothrop, Wood st. court, Neponset.

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