

THE STANDARD

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SILVER OR TARIFF, WHICH ?—The article by Mr. Bellangee, printed elsewhere, is a protest against Mr. Cleveland's attitude on the silver question, and a sharp criticism on THE STANDARD's position by a man whose good will toward this paper has been proved, and whose honesty of purpose is beyond question. Such criticism deserves candid and careful consideration. Such consideration we have given it, and the result is, that Mr. Bellangee's letter adds strength to our conviction that Mr. Cleveland's utterance was necessary and timely. It is true that Mr. Cleveland's views on the silver question were well known, but that did not prevent some of the silver advocates at Washington from claiming that he had materially modified those views. This, of itself, would not have been sufficient to call for any new utterance, since little credence was given to such claims. The one sufficient reason for an expression of opinion by Mr. Cleveland at the time he wrote was that it was demanded by that high sense of the obligation resting on public men to deal frankly with the people that has characterized Mr. Cleveland's whole career and marked him as a democrat in the highest and truest sense of the term.

No one can shut his eyes to the fact that the Silver question has assumed new importance of late and that, however well Mr. Cleveland's views were known, his position and that of many other Democrats on the question, was not merely not understood, but positively misapprehended. Papers of the importance of the St. Louis Republic assumed, despite Mr. Cleveland's well-known views, that there would be no real difficulty in making him a candidate for President on a platform committing the Democratic party to this new issue. Mr. Bellangee, himself, says he was content to accept him as a candidate so long as the tariff was made the dominant issue. The tariff certainly was the dominant issue in 1888, and it was likewise the dominant issue in the elections of last November. During either of these campaigns a man might hold any views he chose on any other questions mentioned by our correspondent, save, perhaps, the Force Bill, and still be an acknowledged member of the Democratic party. No doubt the general Republican policy, in the Congress of Abominations, which closes its career to-day, turned many men against that party: but everybody comprehended that it was the determination to prolong and improve the opportunities for "several years more of good stealing," enjoyed by the protected monopolists, that initiated and inspired all of the lawless schemes of Speaker Reed and his fellow conspirators. Mr. Bellangee gives evidence of this, when he declares that all of those who have come out of the Republican party within the past two years have left their protection notions behind them.

Such being the situation, it seems to us that our critic forgets to be fair and reasonable when he denounces Mr. Cleveland for alleged willingness to divide his party and to weaken the cause of Tariff Reform. It was not Mr. Cleveland, but the silver men, in and out of Congress, who sought to commit the Democratic party to a policy that would certainly have divided it and made the Tariff question no longer the dominant issue, since acceptance of a different and new issue would have become essential to continuance in the Democratic ranks. The men who have been attracted to the support of the Democratic party by its attitude on the Tariff ques-

tion have a right to protest against such a proposal, and Mr. Bellangee "puts the cart before the horse" when he accuses those who made this protest of undue readiness to sacrifice the Tariff question. Men who do not believe in the free coinage of silver, but who are sincerely devoted to Tariff reduction or Free Trade, have the right to complain when an attempt is made to make "a united and aggressive campaign on the lines of tariff reduction" carry with it "the support of free coinage." They not only have the right to protest, but they owe it to the cause they have espoused to protest in time, while there is still opportunity to prevent the attempt to divide, on a new issue, those who are united on an existing issue still unsettled. Mr. Cleveland is the most conspicuous of those who see this, and it was eminently proper that he should speak out. There was not only necessity for his utterance, but he would, in view of the drift of opinion among Democratic Congressmen, have shown himself lacking in his usual courage and honesty had he shut his eyes to what was going on and "been content to go before the country on his record," accept the Democratic nomination, and, by silence, win votes from those who will now oppose him because of his openly expressed opinions.

To those who see this clearly there is no need of pointing out the unfairness of attributing to Mr. Cleveland unworthy motives for a brave and manly act. He very naturally thinks that the opinions of the business men of New York are entitled to some weight in the discussion of a business question, and we fail to see how, in the recent reiteration of his opinions, he made any more of a bid for "the support of the money power of New York," than he did when he gave these views official utterance; which was prior to the time that Mr. Bellangee gave him his earnest support as a candidate for the Presidency. We suppose that it is impossible to convince our Western friends that everybody in New York does not go down to Wall street for advice before making up his mind on any question. It would probably be equally impossible to make them remember that the West has contributed to Wall street many of the principal men who are supposed to control Eastern opinion. We had hoped, however, that Western Single Taxers would not echo this sectional prejudice. They certainly understand that the people of the East and West are very much alike in body and mind, and that the great mass of them are the victims of evil conditions that enable the few to live in luxury off of their labor. It does not really matter to the victims where their plunderers live, and the fact that "financiers" find Wall street a convenient place for the transaction of their business does not make the people of New York responsible for the acts of the millionaires who come here from California, Ohio and other states in which, and by virtue of whose laws, enacted in the name of their people, they obtained their millions. We really cannot consent to discuss this matter, even with a friendly critic. It is so clearly a prejudice that it is as invulnerable to argument as a dislike for the taste of onions. The people of New York have no more to do with Wall street than the people of Iowa, and when a New York man is suggested for the Presidency the only questions that should arise among fair and enlightened people concerning him are those relating to his character, fitness, opinions and probable pol-

icy. Shall the accursed hate that has held apart the common people of the North and South, while those who inflamed their passions robbed them, now be cultivated with like effect between the people of the East and West? Surely our Single Taxers will not contribute to such wretched folly, if they stop to think.

It would, of course, be idle for us to discuss with Mr. Bellangee our differing estimates as to probable results. Time alone can determine that. We do not doubt that there is a tremendous ferment in the West, and we are glad of it. We have no doubt that when the fermentation is complete, and the dregs of passion, prejudice and ignorance have subsided, that most of those who gain some more or less clear idea of the truth will throw aside their "distrust of the two old parties," recognize the fact that they are both composed of well-meaning people, and then do, as Mr. Bellangee himself did in 1888; that is, unite with that one which more nearly represents their views, and honestly strive to press it forward to the fuller acceptance of such views. To a man of conviction, free from prejudice and passion, a political organization is a piece of machinery, to be used for incorporating ideas into law, which can no more excite rational love or hatred than a wheelbarrow or a railway car. Such being the case, we agree with Mr. Bellangee that the question as to the attitude of the Single Tax men toward the new parties that are arising in the West is an open one, and that they are not, because of their attitude in 1888, bound to the support of the Democratic party. Let us consider what ought to be their attitude. The Democratic party is committed to tariff reduction, and it is unquestionably advancing toward a belief that commerce ought to be freed from restrictions. It is a powerful party, with a good chance of carrying the country, and no new party can gain that chance by 1892. In the next contest the Democrats or the Republicans will win. On the issue as it stood in 1888, and as it still will stand in 1892, unless the Democratic National Convention changes it, there is every reason to-day that existed three years ago why we should desire Republican defeat and work for Democratic victory.

But the new parties bring with them new issues. What are they? Out West one of them is this free coinage. Is free coinage any more necessary now than it was three years ago? Are we not constantly adding to the number of silver dollars and silver certificates? Has not the number largely increased? Does our interest in such increase warrant us in abandoning the fight on the question of taxation and going off into playing at politics once more? But free coinage is not the only issue. Mr. Bellangee tells us that he resigned his official position in the Greenback party because of that party's tendency to support unwise schemes, like that of the sub-treasury and Senator Stanford's land loan. Is there any new party into which a belief in free coinage can lead a man that is not absolutely certain to be committed to just such schemes? It is the blindness to consequences like this that has suddenly affected a large number of people that caused THE STANDARD—somewhat discourteously, perhaps—to characterize this new excitement as "the silver craze"—an expression against which not only Mr. Bellangee but another valued correspondent protests.

And now one word as to the question that lies back of all this. Mr. Ballangee frankly confesses that he cares nothing for the free coinage of silver aside from the fact that it carries with it "the making of silver certificates full legal tender." That is doubtless true of nearly all concerned in this agitation, outside of those who have a pecuniary interest in advancing the price of silver ores and the selling value of silver mines. The present silver movement is a revival of the Greenback

movement. The questions involved in that movement THE STANDARD has not cared to discuss at much length. They involve a consideration of the proper powers of government, of economic possibilities in the way of governmental regulation of values, of the amount of currency actually necessary for the convenient transaction of business, and of the readiness and ability of people, under conditions of freedom, to create for themselves facilities for exchange, unassisted by government. On questions relating to the currency THE STANDARD will, when the time comes, be found in accord with those who oppose an artificially restricted currency, but toward those Greenbackers who inculcate the idea that the multiplication of the representatives of value will increase wealth or solve the problem of the just distribution of the products of labor, its attitude unquestionably is one of opposition.

The curse of this and every other land, to-day, is a system that facilitates and encourages the monopolization of the opportunities to labor, with a view to enabling a few men to compel the many to pay them for the privilege of producing. This restricts the production of wealth, and renders impossible the just distribution of that which is produced. The existing systems of taxation aggravate and perpetuate this evil, and the reform of the evil can most easily be accomplished through the gradual undermining of the existing system, and the final substitution for all taxes on production and products of a single tax on land values. When that is accomplished wealth will be equitably divided, and he who has wealth can always command his share of whatever currency is then in existence. The rich can do that now, and those who have not wealth—that is, the products of labor—at their command, can never get any more currency than their wealth, or their supposed ability to produce wealth, will warrant, though ten dollar notes were "thick as leaves in Valambrosia," so long as such notes still have any purchasing power. The delusion that, with other conditions unchanged, an abundance of currency will remove the burdens imposed on industry by the present economic system is as unwarranted, and as dangerous in its ultimate effects, as the Protection delusion. For the present that is not an issue, and we cannot now sacrifice much time or space to its discussion; but Mr. Bellangee's letter requires that he should say this much. The Single Tax means the just distribution of the products of labor, and he who would turn aside from the attempt to reach that end through changing our taxing system and seek to attain his object by the mere multiplication of the representatives of value, would be as unwise as a gardener who abandoned the shovel and the hoe and sought to increase his crops by surrounding his scanty beds with mirrors.

It was for the presentation of the great truth that land monopoly is the one great curse that THE STANDARD was called into being. It is for this that it still exists. It is not indifferent to considerations of policy or to the right settlement of minor questions, but when it comes to the substitution of a delusion for the truth that it represents, it not only can afford to do right, but it cannot afford to do wrong. We are glad to know that many old Greenbackers, like Mr. Bellangee, have lent valuable and valued assistance to the Single Tax cause. We have tried to avoid the premature discussion of our possible differences with them; but we cannot, because of our regard for these friends, allow THE STANDARD to hesitate or waver when the choice must be made between the great issue of taxation and the minor question of the currency. If THE STANDARD ever finds that it cannot afford to take a position like this, it will gracefully recog-

nize the fact that it cannot afford to live ; but it will die upholding the banner that other hands will grasp and still bear aloft.

IS ALL PROPERTY A TRUST?—In a sermon on "Socialism," delivered by Rev. Lyman Abbott to a wealthy Boston congregation on Sunday, February 15, the pastor of Plymouth Church said :

Another great truth is that property is a trust. Henry George himself is not radical enough to suit me. He says there should be no private property in land. I say there should be no private property at all. And yet I am not a Socialist, not even a Christian Socialist. My doctrine is easy to understand.

Dr. Abbott is right in saying that Henry George is not radical enough to accept such doctrine, though we think he misuses the word radical in this connection. A radical, properly speaking, is one who goes to the roots of things, and Henry George does go to the root of the existing inequality in the distribution of the products of labor, when he declares that the source of the evil is the power given by law to a few to exact from the many payment for the privilege of access to the opportunities, through which alone wealth can be created.

The equal right of all men to the use of land being once recognized, Mr. George claims that the producer has a right to the thing that he has produced out of natural materials, to which he has rightful access. Mr. George, however, is a political economist, while Dr. Abbott, in declaring that there should be no private property at all, speaks, we suppose, as a preacher who claims that God not merely gives to the people the earth they inhabit, but the powers that enable them to labor, and that they hold their natural powers, natural opportunities, and the products of both as a trust from their Creator. This is a doctrine that appeals to the individual conscience, and it cannot, in the nature of things, be enforced by law. There is, therefore, no necessity for any controversy between Single Tax men, who are seeking to rewrite the laws of the land concerning property, and Dr. Abbott, who is inculcating what he believes to be the lesson of duty to men who have obtained their property honestly.

WOMEN IN POLITICS.—We print elsewhere a brief report of the fiery speech delivered by Mrs. Lease before the Women's Council at Washington last week. Why the women there assembled should have resented Mrs. Lease's attack on Ingalls is difficult even to imagine. Surely, no man in the United States has more scornfully derided the woman suffrage movement, and his fatal facility in invective has enabled him to put into words the most indecent insult to those engaged in the woman suffrage movement offered by any public man. If women must "refrain from personalities" to an extent that forbids them even to allude to their most violent opponents, they had better drop their public gatherings and whisper their woes to one another in their private parlors. If they intend to come into politics, they will have to get over their squeamishness toward women like Mrs. Lease. She represents the passionate protest against wrong and injustice, that is likely to distinguish women in any part they may take in public affairs, and her language was no stronger than her own sense of outrage and wrong demanded. The women who hissed her must be a lot of weak sisters, who dally with the suffrage question as a fad, and not from any burning desire to obtain the ballot to use it as an instrument for working righteousness. If women ever acquire the right to vote, it will be because women like Mrs. Lease, deeply interested in public affairs, demand the right now withheld.

The speech, aside from its scoring of Ingalls, was at

once passionate and pathetic, and would have touched the hearts of any body of sincere and unspoiled women. The picture drawn of the loneliness and privations endured by the women who went to the West a quarter of a century ago, sacrificing old associations, and all that made youth pleasant, to the hope of making homes for themselves and their children, was a touching one. No wonder that these women are filled with sorrow and despair as they see that the homes for which they sacrificed their youth—including the little graveyards in which their babies are buried—are about to be snatched away from them. No wonder that these women turn to the first plausible proposal for relief, and embrace it with passionate ardor, with little study as to its probable success or its effectiveness, even if adopted. Still less is it to be wondered at that a woman moved, by a bitter sense of wrong, should use strong language in attacking the system from which she has suffered, and in denouncing those who uphold it. The pity of it all is that those, thus aroused to battle for the right, have not been taught to see the true source of their woes.

POSTAL SUBSIDIES.—The brief letter from Captain Codman printed elsewhere describes the Subsidy bill as it passed the House. It was clearly the intention of the advocates of the more extended bounty steal to force the bill into the hands of a conference committee which was certain to report the more obnoxious measure. This fact led a number of senators who were opposed to subsidies and bounties of all kinds to vote for the bill as it came from the House. The bill as passed leaves out the monstrous provision to pay so much per mile per ton to all American built vessels sailing anywhere to foreign ports, and it authorizes the Postmaster-General to pay the following rates for carrying mails to American vessels, owned and officered by American citizens, with crews made up partly of Americans : \$4 per mile to first-class twenty-knot iron or steel vessels of not less than 8,000 tons ; \$2 per mile, for outbound voyage, to second-class iron or steel sixteen-knot vessels of not less than 5,000 tons ; \$1 per mile to third-class iron or steel fourteen-knot vessels of not less than 2,500 tons ; and 66 2-3 cents per mile to fourth-class iron, steel or wooden twelve-knot vessels of not less than 1,500 tons for the number of miles actually required by the post office department. Vessels of the first, second and third classes are to be constructed with particular reference to prompt and economical conversion into auxiliary naval cruisers, according to plans approved by the Secretary of the Navy, and the Government is to have power to take them for such use upon payment of their actual value at the time they are taken.

This bill is far less objectionable than any that has been urged by the subsidy lobby, and the country is to be congratulated on its escape from something vastly worse in the closing hours of this robber Congress.

THE CANADA ELECTION.—The general election in Canada will take place to-morrow, Thursday, March 5, and the result will probably be known before midnight on the same day. Sir John Macdonald and the whole Tory party, persist in charging their opponents with a treasonable desire to overthrow the power of the Crown in Canada, and make reciprocity the stepping stone to annexation. No attempt is made to defend the Protectionist policy against assaults made upon it, but everybody who does not agree with Sir John is denounced as a traitor, and in this way the Tories expect to carry the election.

It would be idle to attempt anything like a prediction as to the result. The Liberal, or the Reform party, as it is called officially, suffers from the dilemma in which it is placed by the passage of the McKinley bill, but the

reports represent its meetings as highly enthusiastic and the leaders as confident. The Tories, however, profess equal confidence and no one really knows what the result will be. Since the United States has no desire to annex Canada, unless Canada wants to be annexed, and would be likely, even in that event, to think over the subject rather seriously, we have no direct interest in the contest. The sympathies of Free Traders will incline them to hope for the success of the Anti-Protectionist Liberals, but for the next two years there will be no hope of rational legislation on the tariff in this country, and, until that is accomplished, it is not probable that anything practical will be achieved in behalf of real reciprocity. The latent hostility to the American people and Government, displayed by the Tory campaigners, is probably only intended for campaign purposes, but if persisted in by a Tory government, reinstalled in power, it would be likely to bring about serious complications.

MORE TRUSTS.—The De Witt Wire Cloth Company, of this city, recently brought suit in the Court of Common Pleas against the New Jersey Wire Cloth Company to recover for goods sold and delivered to the latter. The New Jersey Company claimed an offset to the extent of \$500, that being the proportion received by the plaintiff of \$2,000 contributed by the defendant to the funds of a trust, since declared to be illegal. Judge Pryor refused to allow the offset, and declared that any such agreement in restraint of trade is repugnant to public policy and unlawful; and that no one is entitled to the aid of the law for its enforcement. This is, of course, sound law and sound sense, but at times some of our judges seem to have forgotten it.

Of course, Judge Pryor does his duty in interpreting the law against these combinations to restrict production and enhance prices. Nevertheless, it is clear that the refusal of the courts to enforce such contracts, is not likely to arrest the process of forming trusts. Last week the barbed wire manufacturers organized the Columbia Patent Company, through which they will manage to pool their business. The National Soap Makers' Association completed its organization, which enables it to control nine-tenths of the soap manufactured in this country; and the Geyser Oil Company at Lima sold out its oil territory and its refining plants to the Standard Oil Company for \$800,000. Probably other combinations were formed that escaped our attention; but it is not necessary to keep track of all of them in order to clearly see the tendency.

DEATH OF SENATOR HEARST.—Senator Hearst, of California, died, after a lingering illness, on Saturday night. He was the only Democrat in the Senate who, in case of death, could be succeeded by a Republican, and the Press of this city can hardly conceal its jubilation over the fact that Mr. Hearst at last has died. It declares that there would have been grave danger, in case a Democrat or a tariff reformer is elected from Illinois, that Senators Plumb, Paddock and Pettigrew, who voted against the McKinley bill, would, at the next session of the Senate, join the Democrats and Independents in putting through a bill that would repeal or seriously modify that measure. With a Republican in the place of Hearst, however, the Republican majority will be six, instead of four, and the vote of the Republicans named would merely bring about a tie.

Notwithstanding all this the death of Senator Hearst, may turn out to be not advantageous to the Protectionists, if it enables the Republican Senate to continue the McKinley bill in force. The measure is odious everywhere. Its effects are sure to be evil, and if it be con-

tinued in force by the Republican Senate, in defiance of the expressed will of the people, there will not be the slightest danger that the tariff issue will be forgotten between now and the next presidential election. The real danger to Free Trade lies in the possibility that some measure may be adopted, that will relieve the existing evils, partially, and induce people to put up with a half-way measure of tariff reform that will postpone the agitation for Free Trade. The Republican party will not have completed its mission until it renders anything short of Free Trade impossible.

THE WOMEN'S ENROLLMENT COMMITTEE.—

The work of the Women's Enrollment Committee is from time to time reported upon in the Single Tax news in THE STANDARD. It is the outgrowth of a letter from Mrs. E. Q. Norton, of Daphne, Ala., who, through THE STANDARD, invited other Single Tax women to write to her. Amongst those who wrote was Miss C. Estella Bachman, and at the suggestion of Mrs. Norton she, in turn, wrote to Mrs. Twichell, of Boston. The three women thus brought into communication, one with another, thought it would be a good idea to get Single Tax women generally together, and especially to try to get isolated workers into correspondence with others with a view to their encouragement. The result was the call to Single Tax women to send their names and addresses, signed by Mrs. Norton, which appeared in THE STANDARD of December 17 last. Miss Bachman consented, at the request of the others, to act as secretary temporarily, but the only result was that four new names, all from isolated Single Tax women, were received. Two of these came from Philadelphia, one from Ohio and one from Tennessee. Then the society began to make reports to THE STANDARD, and each new report brought a few new names. Next, Single Tax men began to send in the names of Single Tax women, who were promptly written to, thus enlarging the organization, until now the Women's Committee has one active worker in each State, who will try to keep the committee posted as to work in her own State. As each new name is received, the secretary writes asking for the names of other Single Tax women, and also the names of women who might become interested in the cause. Nearly all of those who write letters report themselves as isolated workers, unacquainted with other Single Tax women, but they all want to do something to help the cause. Miss Bachman, in the course of a private letter concerning the work of the Women's Enrollment Committee, says:

Our encouragement consists, first, in the fact that our cause has spread so widely; second, in the cordiality and whole-hearted enthusiasm shown in the letters received; third, in the fact that a number of Single Tax men have voluntarily tried to help us; and, last, in the thought that our work meets the needs and helps, and encourages Single Tax women who are working alone. This is shown by their letters. Several members of the committee have sent money and stamps to continue the work or it would have stopped. If we can continue, we shall soon be worth something to the cause we advocate. New plans come to me suggested by others, and if I had more time I think the work would have advanced more rapidly. It is too promising to give up, but if it is to continue I must have assistance. On February 25 I go to Philadelphia on business and shall meet two of our active workers, when I hope to arrange some plan by which the work can be pushed more vigorously.

THE STANDARD is always chary of encouraging new movements in behalf of the Single Tax cause. It recognizes fully the danger of getting too many irons into the fire. There has, however, been in our columns much discussion as to the work that women can do for the cause and as to the best way of doing it. We have no doubt that whenever there is a substantial consensus of opinion amongst women on the subject, that the men in the movement will cheerfully accept their own judgment as to the work that women best can do, and it seems to us that this Women's Enrollment Committee, presenting as it does an opportunity for them to com-

pare notes as to the lines of work that they have found advantageous, deserves the moderate support required for its maintenance and the cordial co-operation of women everywhere. There certainly is no reason why all women interested in the movement should not at least put themselves in correspondence with the Secretary of the Women's Single Tax Enrollment Committee, Miss C. Estella Bachman, Mauch Chunk, Pa. She is a Single Taxer who, despite the fact that she is obliged to work ten hours a day for a bare living, has found time for such a study of political economy as enables her to make a strong argument in support of the principles she has espoused when attacked by others.

ANNA DICKINSON.—In the later days of the anti-Slavery struggle, just preceding the war, there appeared on the stage a young girl of good presence and excellent voice who denounced the wrongs of Slavery with a passionate eloquence that captivated her audiences. When the war broke out this same woman spoke from the rostrum in all parts of the country, filling audiences with enthusiasm for the continuance of the great struggle for the overthrow of Slavery. Afterwards the enthusiasm that had characterized her work took the direction of extreme partisanship, and Anna Dickinson became a recognized stump orator in many States of the Union. She was a vigorous talker, regarded by her opponents as vituperative, but she always held her audiences by the power and passion of her speech.

When the demand for such oratory ceased, Miss Dickinson took to literature, writing a novel which shocked the susceptibilities of her Abolition friends by its open advocacy of the intermarriage of the races. Subsequently, she became interested in the drama as a writer, and afterwards attempted the part of Hamlet on the stage, where she met with ignominious failure. The qualities that had befitted her for the earlier mission, in which she won fame, seemed unavailable in peaceful times, and her later life has been one of much privation and suffering, embittered by a sense of the ingratitude of politicians who used her and cheated her.

The sad end to all this has come with her commitment to the Danville, Pa., Insane Asylum, by order of one of the trustees of the poor of her own neighborhood. Brooding on her troubles and her poverty finally unhinged her mind, and she has for some time been violently and dangerously insane. It is a sad ending to a career which at one time made Miss Dickinson one of the most conspicuous personages in the country.

THE PACIFIC ROADS.—C. J. Garland, of Glencoe, Cal., asks **THE STANDARD** to advocate the taking of the Union Pacific and Central Pacific Railroads by the Government, not for the purpose of leasing them for fifty years, as proposed by Mr. McCullum, of Idaho, in Congress, but to own and operate them in the interest of the people, in order that we may learn the cost of operating railroads, of which we are now profoundly ignorant. Mr. Garland says the people of the Pacific Coast are anxious for a competing railroad from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and that they cannot have it unless it is owned and operated by the Government. Is not this the opportune time, he asks, to get a national railroad across the continent, from the Mississippi River to Sacramento?

THE STANDARD has already urged that the Government of the United States shall take possession of these two roads that were built with public funds, and which are in the possession of men who have not only morally, but legally, forfeited all right to their continued control. We cannot agree with our correspondent, however, that it is necessary that the Government, upon

taking possession of them, should begin to operate them. If the right of the public to own and maintain public highways cannot be asserted without having the Government engage in the business of transportation, then it may be necessary that we shut our eyes to the objections to the governmental management of business and do whatever is necessary to assert the government's right in the premises.

We do not, however, think that any such necessity can arise in the beginning. Let the government take these railways that belong to it and throw them open, under proper police regulations for the avoidance of accidents and collisions, to all railway companies or other people desirous of transporting freight or passengers between Omaha and the Pacific Coast. This will give the people competition in the business and be a step, and a very long step, toward the proper solution of the existing railway difficulty. This solution, we think, is the public ownership of public highways and the private conduct of the private business of transportation, unless some manifest and overwhelming necessity, compels public or contract operation, such as would probably be necessary where an enormous number of trains must be run between great cities and their suburbs or in cities, on rapid transit roads.

MORTGAGE STATISTICS.—After reluctantly consenting to include statistics concerning mortgages in the census investigation, Commissioner Porter took excellent care to make his figures as inaccurate as was his count of New York's population. The Republican papers, however, are beginning to use the partial returns to demonstrate that there is no truth in the stories that Western farms are largely mortgaged. No one will put faith in any figures prepared by Mr. Porter that he or the Republican party have an interest in making inaccurate, but it does not require any figures to demonstrate that the lot of the Western farmer is not a happy one. We hope the Republicans will depend on Mr. Porter's census as a sufficient offset to the indignant and sometimes wild farmer's movements.

A NEW AND USEFUL OPPONENT.—Mr. E. B. Opdycke recently read before the Williams County Farmers' Institute, at Bryan, Ohio, a paper on "The Land Question in its Possessory Aspect," which is printed, with typographical errors that make it almost unintelligible, in the Bryan Press. Mr. Opdycke summarizes the views of a number of writers on the question of land tenure, and he evidently accepts Mr. Huxley as a person whose opinions on political economy are of importance. Mr. Opdycke declares as his own opinion that no man's title to land endows him with absolute ownership, and he says that every land holder "is presumed to have derived his title to a parcel of the public domain by the consent of the whole people, with whom the superior dominion of all the lands was originally vested." In this, and in various other ways, Mr. Opdycke shows that he is far more enlightened than most of those who rush to the fore as hostile critics of the Single Tax. Nevertheless he attacks the proposals made by Mr. George in "Progress and Poverty," and especially assails the declaration that involuntary poverty is due to the monopoly of natural opportunities for production. Mr. Opdycke undertakes to show that intemperance, rather than land monopoly, is the cause of poverty and distress, and apparently has not even a suspicion that he may be confounding cause and effect. His arguments against Mr. George's proposal are the customary ones that have been answered in **THE STANDARD** hundreds of times, but they really work for good, since his address, made to an audience of farmers, and the admissions

contained in its earlier paragraphs, are likely to stir them to thinking on the land question along lines somewhat new to them.

TAXING PERSONAL PROPERTY.—There is a serious attempt to push through a law authorizing the establishment of the listing system in this State for the purpose of discovering personal property, with a view to its taxation. The system as adopted in some States renders it impossible that any man can escape the payment of taxes on personal property without committing actual perjury, unless he removes the property from the State passing such a law. The rural legislators, who imagine that they have valuable views on the subject of taxation, insist on passing such a law and there is at present no certainty that the representatives in the legislature from this city can be depended upon to vigorously fight the measure. Of course, it will result in driving away from New York City a large amount of business and personal property. This will in the end prove to be a good thing. All intelligent business men in New York understand the folly and impolicy of taxing personal property. They have, however, so perfect a system of escaping the payment of such taxes that they will not take any trouble to bring about a change in the law. When they actually feel the pinch, they perhaps will do something.

BROOKLYN WOMEN'S CLUB.—The discussion in the columns of THE STANDARD as to the best methods by which women can do effective work, has been followed by experiments almost as varied as the plans proposed. The Women's Enrollment Committee is pursuing one plan. The Manhattan Single Tax Club is apparently about to amend its constitution so as to make women eligible to membership, while the Women's Single Tax Club of Brooklyn, has been in existence for over two months, and is the pioneer in that form of effort. Its president says of it: "We subscribe to the declaration of principles, have a regular place of meeting and money in our treasury. We have done no outside work as yet, but have planned for some in the near future. We found that there was work to be done among ourselves in learning to present our ideas clearly, and to be able to answer objections that are constantly raised. We are adding to our membership at each meeting." This is an excellent record so far. Whether it demonstrates that separate work by women is preferable remains to be seen, but it unquestionably shows that whenever women set about it, they find plenty of work to do.

FRENCH FOLLY.—The people of France, or at least those of them who are allowed to pose before the world as the people of Paris, have just been making an exhibition of themselves that will earn for them the contempt of civilized nations. The Dowager Empress Frederick, of Germany, went quietly on a visit to Paris, partly to promote the participation by French artists in the coming art exhibition at Berlin. After she had been in the French capital a few days an intense feeling was stirred up, chiefly by M. Deroulede, among the Paris mob, and there was actually danger at one time that the Empress would be insulted and possibly subjected to violence. The feeling of so-called patriotism grew so strong that all the French artists who had promised to exhibit in Berlin felt bound to withdraw their promises. Meanwhile the Empress left, apparently unruffled in feelings, and her son, the Emperor William, appears more ready to disregard the insult than could have been expected a year ago. Germany can afford to be patient. It is the French who have shown themselves unwilling to promote the return of good relations,

and they have done so in such fashion as to make them contemptible in the eyes of the world.

HON. JERRY SIMPSON.—It will be seen from our Single Tax news that the much abused Kansas Congressman has agreed to address the Manhattan Club in this city at some future time. Mr. Simpson is a Single Tax man and a Free Trader, though he accepts the currency view prevalent in Kansas. He is a man with a powerful personality, and the newspapers that have been sneering at him will have to take him seriously into account in the not distant future. We disagree with him as to the relative importance of the currency question, but it is time that Eastern newspapers were beginning to understand that some of the men who are coming to the front through the new political movements in the West, are natural leaders who will retain a prominent place in our politics. Mr. Simpson is one of these.

A FALSEHOOD.—The Atlanta Constitution declares that the Reform Club of this city is a thoroughly anti-Democratic organization, and that it made a fusion with the Republicans last November. This is positively false, and since the Atlanta Constitution is a kind of a Wall street paper, published down South, we suppose it knows enough of New York affairs to know that its statement is false. The Reform Club is the most effective organization for the propagation of Democratic principles that exists in the whole United States. It does not go into local politics and did not make a fusion with the Republicans last Fall.

HARD ON CHINA.—There is a feeling in many quarters that the United States Government has never treated China with fairness or even with decency. Be this as it may, no previous administration in this country has ever shown such a complete contempt for the Flowery Kingdom as is manifested by President Harrison in his appointment of ex-Senator Blair, of New Hampshire, to be Minister to Peking.

A FOOLISH DEMAND.—The Board of Street Opening and Improvement of New York City met last week for the first time during the present year. Among the subjects considered was the proposition to widen and improve Morningside avenue. Mr. Dwight M. Olmsted reported that the opposition of the trustees of the new Episcopal Cathedral had partially prevented the work. Property owners on the west side of the avenue between One Hundredth and Tenth and One Hundred and Twenty-second streets were willing to put their residences ten feet further back from the curb without expense to the city, so that the additional space could be planted with trees and shrubbery. The Cathedral trustees have control of three blocks from One Hundred and Tenth to One Hundred and Thirteenth, and they object to giving ten feet of their property without some recompense, since they need no stoop line. Mr. Olmsted very properly declared that this action was very small, inasmuch as the city had given the Cathedral considerable property by its agreement to close One Hundred and Eleventh and One Hundred and Twelfth streets, to say nothing of the fact, that the property was exempt from taxation. We are curious to know if there is not enough of comprehension of the situation and straightforward honesty amongst the Episcopal people of New York to compel the trustees of the Cathedral to recede from such a position. Of course, the slice of property needed to beautify the avenue on which the building will stand, can be taken by condemnation and doubtless will be, but the necessity for such proceedings would excite hostility against the Cathedral trustees.

FREE COINAGE OR FREE TRADE?

Although I do not mean to disguise my opinions upon the silver coinage question, or indeed upon any other question, it is not my intention to enter now upon a discussion of the abstract question of silver coinage generally. It will be necessary to deal with that subject in part; but I shall seek to do so in a spirit which is not out of harmony with that of any intelligent and reasonable man whose mind is open to conviction. I decline in advance to argue any question with men who are not open to conviction; and I decline to argue the abstract question of free silver coinage with anybody, at present.

Let it be assumed that the free coinage of silver would expand the currency of this country, by the whole amount of silver supposed to be lying idle in Europe and by all the production of this and other countries. That could not happen without our parting with most of our stock of gold, in exchange for European silver; and, as gold would certainly rise to a premium, I cannot see how it would be possible for our currency to be increased very largely. On the contrary, it seems to me that we should have a contraction rather than expansion. But suppose that there is a large expansion, who will get the benefit of it? What will it do to remedy the evils of which all social reformers complain? It is expected that prices will rise; but if they do, prices of all goods will rise; and, as we are all buyers, we shall have to pay as many extra dollars for what we buy as we receive for what we sell. The only people who can profit by the inflation of prices are those who are shrewd enough to foresee it and skillful enough to buy goods on long credit in advance of the rise, in short, speculators. But how many of our people are or ever can be successful speculators? It is impossible that so many as one in a hundred ever can be.

What is the evil, of which Farmers' Alliances and all the masses complain? Is it not the unequal distribution of wealth? How is that to be cured by free silver coinage? Suppose the currency were doubled by that means; who would get the benefit of the increase? The man who had nothing before the increased coinage would have nothing after it. If it were distributed by natural methods, with perfect equality, the man who was worth \$1,000,000 would get one hundred times as much of the benefit as the man who was worth only \$10,000, and a thousand times as much as the man who had only \$1,000. The utmost which a farmer could hope for would be that his little wealth would increase in the same proportion as the Vanderbilts' or the Astors'; and this would only further increase the enormous gap between him and them. But the laborer, having no property except his clothes and scanty furniture, would not even get this small benefit. He would find the prices of all his food and clothing increased; while his wages would not rise, until all his savings had been exhausted in strikes and lock-outs. Even then, his wages would lag for years below the rise in prices, as they did between 1861 and 1870.

But there would be nothing like equality in the distribution of the increased currency. Most of the benefit, whatever it might be, would inevitably go to shrewd and watchful capitalists. We do not need to theorize about this. Any man who lived through recent periods of inflation knows that this is true.

This country has gone through periods of inflation and contraction, over and over again; and yet, through all alike, the concentration of wealth has gone on without ceasing. It may be, as is generally believed, that the condition of small capitalists is better, after inflation, than it is after contraction of the currency. But it is perfectly certain that the few men, of enor-

mous wealth have gained much more, in proportion; and it has always been just after inflation that many new millionaires become noticeable.

The manner in which silver coin would be distributed is perfectly plain. Nobody could get any of the coin, except the owners of silver mines. They would not part with the coin, unless they received full value for it. Farmers would have to pay the silver mine owners just as much as they do to the owners of gold. For, if gold and silver kept at their present relative values, silver would cost the farmer just as much as gold; and if they did not, then the farmer who got more silver for his grain than he does now, would have to pay out just as much more silver for his purchases.

As we are now only discussing the silver question, we will not be led off into the proposed unlimited issue of greenbacks, further than to say that it would be obviously impossible to pass a bill, giving to farmers exclusively the right to demand greenbacks for the supposed value of their products, without doing the same for every owner of every kind of property. Just the same government loans must be made upon manufactures of every kind. Such an enormous amount of so-called "money" would be issued, that it would all become worthless. The farmers would get decidedly the small end of the lot. Speculators would take advantage of the rising prices, would invest their profits in gold, and then wait contentedly until, as would happen very speedily, greenbacks were worth more than Confederate money. Then they would buy in gold, at cheap prices; and we should see half a dozen billionaires, with a worse concentration of wealth than any which is now imaginable.

In short, as no artificial expansion of the currency in the past has ever helped to equalize conditions between the rich and the poor, we may be quite sure that no such expansion in the future will ever do so.

There is then some cause, constantly at work, quite independent of the currency, which takes from the little savings of the poor, to enhance the wealth of the rich. And to remove this cause is a work of far more importance to the farmer, mechanic and laborer of every kind, than is any scheme for the enlargement of the currency. If this cause is a law of nature, there is nothing to be done but to submit in silence. But if it is found in a statute, let us repeal every statute which robs the poor of their savings, before troubling ourselves to pass statutes which some of us think will add a little to those savings, but as to which no one can be quite sure. Above all, do not let us stop to quarrel about the form of the new law, before we have got rid of the old. If we saw a rich man stealing a farmer's crop, would we let him make off with his plunder, while we debated as to the best methods of increasing the price of what the farmer had left? That is the exact situation to-day, and has been for all our lifetimes. Unjust tax laws are daily robbing the masses of the people of three-fourths of their savings; and now, just as they are slowly waking up to the fact, we are asked to drop this question, upon which all Single Tax men, free traders and even moderate tariff reformers agree, in order to quarrel over a proposition to add a little to the market price of the one-fourth of their savings, which their tariff lords graciously allow them to keep. Some of us do not believe that silver coinage will add a dollar to the income of the poor. Some others believe that it will add a good many dollars. But, no matter which is in the right, one thing is certain—neither silver coinage nor fresh greenbacks nor any other change in the currency, will diminish by one cent the robbery of the masses, which now goes on, day and night.

THOMAS G. SHEARMAN.

Brooklyn, N. Y.

THE BOUNTIES TO BEGGARS' BILL.

WASHINGTON, February 1.—The situation of the Shipping bill may be thus briefly summarized: After a debate of two days in the House, the Farquhar bill of general depredation, including the stealing for regular steamship lines under the name of subsidy, and the still more bare-faced robbery in the shape of a national gratuity to almost every craft of steam or sail larger than a canal boat, was defeated by a majority of three votes. The committee then immediately reported another bill, taking its main provisions from that of Mr. Candler, of Massachusetts, but omitting his free ship clause. This substitute was passed by a considerable majority, and, without waiting to see what action the Senate would take upon it, a conference was at once appointed.

The Senate now has the matter in its hands. It is in its power to pass the bill as it comes from the House, to appoint a conference, or to talk the bill down altogether. The lobby is busy at work on Senators to-day. It is opposed to any consideration of the bill whatever, which would prevent a conference. Its chief reliance is upon the treachery of the conferees who are counted upon to ignore the object for which they will convene, and to restore the Bounty bill which the House has already set aside, and which is not advocated by the Senate. If this scheme is carried out successfully, the curious spectacle will be presented of a body of half a dozen men more powerful than the whole Senate and House of Representatives combined.

J. C.

CLEVELAND'S LETTER CRITICISED.

For the first time since the beginning of its publication, I feel called upon to criticise and protest against the course of your paper. I have given no aid and comfort to those who have criticised THE STANDARD for its Democratic politics, but, on the contrary, I resigned my position as chairman of the Greenback Congressional Committee for the purpose, then avowed, of supporting Mr. Cleveland for the Presidency, and also because of the tendency of the Greenback party to support monetary schemes like the Sub-Treasury scheme and Senator Sanford's plan, which to me seem unphilosophical and unwise. I have steadily held to the support of Cleveland until the publication of his letter of February 10, knowing full well his views on the silver question, but content to accept him with those views so long as the tariff was made the dominant issue. You say in your editorial of February 14:

The letter unquestionably raises the question as to whether the Democratic party shall enter the coming presidential campaign with Grover Cleveland as its candidate and the reduction of tariff taxation as the issue, or with some one else as its candidate, with the free coinage of silver as the predominant issue, and the tariff question side-tracked. This is the exact form that the question has assumed.

In that statement I think you are greatly mistaken. Were his position on the silver question unknown previous to the writing of this letter, an expression from him at this time upon the subject of Free Coinage would indicate a courage and a disposition to be frank with his fellow citizens that would be highly commendable. But no necessity whatever existed for such an expression. As you point out in your editorial, his views were all along known to the Democratic party, yet there is little doubt, had he been content to go before the country on his record, that he would be the choice of the Democracy in 1892 with the hearty support of even those from whom come those "expressions of regret, alarm and even of disgust," which you note in your editorial. Mr. Cleveland wrote that letter at the serious peril of the cause which he has heretofore been supposed to represent, and he has himself deliberately chosen to make the silver question paramount to the tariff question. He has said, in substance, if a united and aggressive campaign on the line of tariff reduction implies the support of free coinage of silver by the Democracy, I will divide the Democracy and weaken the cause of tariff reform in order to preserve the "business interests of New York." As Mr. Cleveland himself in his letter acknowledges, no expression was needed from him, and his letter, therefore, cannot be seriously regarded as anything else than a direct bid for the support of the money power of New York in the convention of 1892, and so, far from being a statesmanlike utterance on questions of national importance, it is but the plea of a politician for the support of his home delegation. Again, the expression, "the dangerous and reckless experiment of free coinage," which he so flippantly used, is insulting to the last degree to those of his supporters who honestly

favor such coinage, and is indicative of the overweening conceit which he has exhibited within the last year on every possible public occasion.

Let me say right here that for the proposition for the free coinage of silver, aside from the making of silver certificates full legal tender, I have no concern whatever. Your analysis of the possibilities of the Electoral College in 1892 is greatly at fault. The late victory for Democracy was by no means won upon the tariff issue. The silver question and the Force bill were almost equal factors with it in determining the result. And in Iowa at least the Democracy would surely carry the State in 1892 upon an issue of Free Trade and Free Coinage, and as surely lose it on an issue of Free Trade and opposition to silver. Cleveland can never carry Iowa now. One month ago, had there been an election, he would have carried it by 10,000 majority. You have no idea, Mr. Editor, of the political ferment here in the West. As a Republican told me the other day, "I am on the fence, and I guess every body else is." The Alliance is wide awake and I would not be surprised to see Iowa go next year as Kansas did this.

The distrust of the two old parties is about equal among the reform elements. The currency question is of prime importance with them, but I do not know of a single body of men who have left the Republican party who have not also left their protection notions behind them. These elements are as much for Free Trade as the Democracy is, but if the Democratic party allows itself to be dominated by New York and Wall Street, the formation of a formidable third party in Iowa in the immediate future is a certainty, and that it will sweep the State in 1892 is quite probable. The conditions are ripe for great political upheavals, and he who would keep up with politics for the next five years must sit up nights to study.

The wisdom of the Single Tax men supporting the Democracy in 1888 I have never questioned, but I regard it as especially unwise for them at this time to array themselves against these newer parties that are forming, because in them are the dissatisfied elements and the ones that are making the most study of economic questions. The formation of the Republican party was brought about by the crystallization of public sentiment about the slavery question, which at that time overshadowed all others. There was but the one question. To-day it is different. There are a number of questions before the people and a number of remedies proposed to better the condition of mankind, and before the people can intelligently adopt the Single Tax, they must examine carefully all the plans proposed. The Single Tax men cannot afford to ignore this large body of earnest seekers after truth or to pin their fortunes on a single man who cannot see beyond the business interest of New York, and who to serve those interests is ready to disrupt the party that has twice honored him with their choice. Nor can THE STANDARD, it seems to me, afford to use such expressions as the "silver craze," while declaring that the currency question is not an issue and declining to discuss it. Neither can it afford to be so blind to the facts, which go to make up the political history of to-day, as to assert that the Democracy "swept the country" on the tariff issue, and that the Republicans deliberately threw away the silver issue because they found it a losing one. The Republican party took it up because it was a winning issue, and once in power threw it away at the behest of its masters, the plutocracy. That same plutocracy now demands that the "business interest of New York" should dominate the interests of the whole people, to the jeopardy of the tariff issue itself, in order that Grover Cleveland may secure the New York delegation. New York may as well learn now as later that her dominance in American politics is about over. Let me make a prediction that a New York man will not be elected President in 1892, unless the election is thrown into the House.

J. BELLANJEE.

Des Moines, Ia.

AT THE NATIONAL CAPITOL.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 1.—It would have done the heart of every STANDARD reader good to have sat in the gallery of the House of Representatives last Thursday evening during the discussion over the General Deficiency bill, as the member-elect from Cleveland—Tom L. Johnson—for the first time walked on the floor. His coming had not been in any way looked for, and he went on alone, but at once he was recognized and became the centre of attraction to a little group of members behind the screens, in the rear of the chamber, on the Democratic side. Some warmly grasped his hand and familiarly addressed him as "Tom," and others pressed forward for introduction: so that, in a twinkling, the member-elect was beaming in his characteristic way, and chatting and laughing with the best of them. Besides meeting most of the prominent Democrats and several of the Republicans, he met Jerry Simpson, of Kansas, who is a regular attendant at the House and an attentive witness of the proceedings. After shaking hands with the member-elect from Kansas, and making a few general remarks as to how the other's fame had gone abroad, Mr. Johnson, addressing the other gentlemen in the group, said: "Mr. Simpson and myself are Single Tax men." The Kansas member-elect quickly turned and gazed intently at Mr.

Johnson. "What, is this Tom?" he cried, and shook hands over again. It should be mentioned incidentally that Mr. Simpson is a regular reader of *THE STANDARD*. Mr. Johnson left the Capitol about 10 o'clock, after listening with deep interest to the brilliant fifteen-minute speech of Mr. Dalzell, of Pennsylvania, against the Central Pacific Railroad. It is very evident, from this brief experience, that the new member from Cleveland will be very popular in the Fifty-second Congress, and that he will have power for a great deal of good. He will remain here until the fifth, and will witness the closing scenes of this most remarkable Fifty-first Congress.

R. G. Brown and Bolton Smith, of Memphis, Tenn., did "better than they knew," when they set in operation the scheme of supplying weekly papers with free Single Tax plate matter. Among the papers they got on their list was the Colored Farmers' Alliance paper, published at Houston, Tex. Colonel Humphrey, president of the Colored Alliance and editor of its paper, told me, when here a few weeks ago, that his whole organization was solidly for the Single Tax, and that it had received its education through the two columns of plate matter which had been sent from Memphis, and which is now, I believe, going from the Single Tax National Committee in New York. If it were a question at the polls to-morrow, Colonel Humphrey said, the whole Colored Alliance vote would be cast for the Single Tax.

The good cause is forging ahead wonderfully fast, and one of the things which is having strongest effect on the politicians here, especially the Democrats, is the plan for the distribution of the half million copies of "Protection or Free Trade?" by the Hand-to-Hand Club, of which L. L. Carlisle, the son of Senator Carlisle, and compiler of last year's Democratic Congressional Campaign book, is president, and our own W. J. Atkinson is secretary. Many Democratic Congressmen approve of the plan in the strongest terms and most open manner.

HENRY GEORGE, JR.

MR. GEORGE'S LIFE IN BERMUDA.

PRINCESS HOTEL, BERMUDA ISLANDS, January 17.—Two men are sitting on the sunny porch of the hotel just over the waves. One has a big straw hat and a loose, careless dress; the other is attired in the garb of a priest. He is a man of about forty, with a serious face and the air of a man who has seen much of the world. He is Rev. James Bellord, chaplain to the British forces stationed at St. George's at the other end of the island, and he has come all the way down to meet the man in the straw hat, who is Henry George.

Father Bellord is the son of an English banker. He has been in active warfare, and in the Eastern campaigns was several times under fire. In one engagement, while ministering to a dying soldier, he was severely wounded.

Years ago he read "Progress and Poverty." He forgot his own wound then in thinking of the great social injury. For some time back he has been preaching sermons in which he has set forth the great social injustice and the cure for it. They have been so well received here that they are soon to be brought out, I am told, in book form by a New York publisher. In deference to his modesty the book will be anonymously published. Father Bellord is a most entertaining talker and host, and one day this week Mr. George and party went up to St. George's and spent the day with him.

A man quite as interesting in his way, whom I saw conversing with Henry George the other evening, is Mr. S. S. Toddings, editor of the Bermuda Colonist. He has been a Single Taxer since, in 1886, while on a visit to New York, he attended an Anti-Poverty meeting at Cooper Union. If it weren't for him the Islands would be dead. He stirs them up occasionally. He is a hater of sham, and everyone here remembers how he once came to decorate the interior of the Hamilton jail. He attacked a local clergyman for various Pecksniffian qualities and actions, and was prosecuted criminally. The law then prevented his offering anything but the most meagre evidence, and there were three trials before the jury would agree. Each time less and less testimony was admitted. Mr. Toddings has a keen sense of humor, and when called upon to explain why sentence should not be passed upon him, history tells how he rose and said: "May it please your worship, I can only say that though innocent, if I were on the jury, I should vote guilty."

I witnessed a scene in his office the other day, which illustrates the great ramifications of the Single Tax idea. The New York mail had just come in. Mr. Toddings picked up a letter, and said: "Why, here is news from my brother in Philadelphia. Haven't heard from him for some time. Wonder what he has to say."

The letter told how the brother was a Single Tax man, and how he had seen that Mr. George had gone to Bermuda. He urged his brother to interview Mr. George as to how the Single Tax would operate in Bermuda.

Mr. Toddings laughed, and said: "This would be a fine place to try the Single Tax. Most of the land on which you see these pretty little white houses is owned, not by the people who live in the houses, but by landlords who put up the houses, say at a cost of

£250 or £300 each, and ask a rent of from £25 to £35. Go to them and offer even £500 for the place and they will refuse. Very naturally, as they couldn't get as much at 5 per cent. on the £500 as they get in rents. True, we haven't any tramp or beggar element, though we have some paupers, but those visitors who go away saying everybody is happy here, though he may not be rich, do not realize the true condition. They see the soft skies and waves and every sign of a paradisaical sort of life, and can't see why all the people here shouldn't be happy. To me their lot simply shows that people can't be happy under injustice, even in Paradise. Men have to pay for the mere privilege of living and making a living all that can possibly be taken from them. All the traffic will bear is the rule of our landlords as it is of yours. A landlord's heart is no softer under a soft sky than under a hard one. Climate can't reach tax titles."

Since my last letter, Mr. George has been busier on the water than before, and he got hold of one of the best rowboats in the bay. The first day the two of us were pulling the four oars against a pretty good wind, when Mr. George remarked: "I am not lazy, but I think a sail would go better than this."

Mr. George's old life on the sea came in well here. In a short time he had rigged up a sail, with a saucy little jib about as big as a handkerchief, with which we were soon churning foam in a brisk breeze. We ran well, both with the wind and against it, but everybody who viewed our fine maneuvers from the hotel agreed that we were especially strong on the tacks!

Some people may perhaps have an idea that Mr. George is down here dawdling away the days, sitting about the hotel, eating oranges, as many invalids do. They follow Walt Whitman and "loaf and invite their souls." But Mr. George isn't an invalid, and even if he was, I don't think he would do that. The days race gayly by with him. He is on the go pretty well all day, and let me give you a fair idea of Mr. George's daily routine:

Arise at 7; bicycle spin till 8; breakfast, sail, or row till 11; bicycle ride again till noon; lunch at 1 o'clock; fishing, visiting caves and points of interest by boat till 5; another bicycle ride till 5:30; dinner from 6:30 to 7:30; a quiet smoke and chat on the porch till 9; bed.

No wonder that Mr. George sleeps like a log; that he eats the biggest meal in the dining-room; that his face has the glow of perfect physical health, and that he is always thinking up new places to go to by land and water.

"I wonder what Judge Maguire would say if he saw me spurting along this way," said he to me day before yesterday, as we were wheeling swiftly along one of the prettiest roads about Hamilton.

"I know what E. J. Shriver would say," I added.

How this all came about, may go over to another letter.

WILLIAM E. HICKS.

THE RECIPROCITY HUMBUG.

Had Mr. Blaine, when he broached his reciprocity scheme, been as mindful of the truth as of his own interests, he would not have based it upon a half truth. When he made the great discovery that we send to Brazil but twelve million dollars worth of goods and get thence sixty millions' worth, causing thereby a balance against us of forty-eight millions, and left us to infer that we had to make good this "balance" in cash, he did not even state half the truth. He did not tell the "dear public," whom he took into his confidence, that Brazil's imports from England exceeded her exports to that country in the same ratio; nor did he so much as hint at the fact that England's imports from this country exceed her exports to us by two hundred and twenty-eight million dollars. Our gifted Secretary of State would have us keep an eye upon the forty-eight million gold and silver dollars which he assumes that we send to Brazil, and ignore entirely the two hundred and twenty-eight million gold and silver dollars which, in the same assumption, England sends to us. As a matter of fact, the same reports from which Mr. Blaine got his wonderful array of statistics show that the specie which we sent to Brazil was less than one million, and the specie which England sent us was less than two million dollars.

Had Mr. Blaine been as faithful in the service of Truth as he is in that of Mammon, he would have told his dupes that the trade between England, Brazil and the United States is a triangle, which balances itself. We take from Brazil more than we give, Brazil takes from England more than she gives, and England takes from us more than she gives: we all exchange credits, and the balance is made.

Let it be granted for the sake of the argument that we, who need such a high tariff to protect us from European competition at home, and who use taxed raw materials while our competitors have free raw materials, can successfully meet them in the ports of Brazil, where we are favored by special modifications of the Brazilian tariff. As her trade approaches a balance with us, it will also approach a balance with England. As the legitimate trade of any country must balance in the long run, Brazil, as she extends her list of imports from us, must either extend her list of exports to

England or lessen her imports from that country. In either event England must lose her credit in Brazil, with which she now pays part of her debt to us. If she loses that credit, she must either find another market or take that much less of our goods.

While our people may be willing to give up forty-eight million dollars worth of trade with England for a like amount of trade with Brazil, what will the English people do? Will we not by this course strengthen the hands of the British Fair Traders? May not they, acting upon the principle that the sauce which is good for the goose is good for the gander, demand reciprocity with us. If we refuse England can discriminate against our agricultural products; if we accept we must lower the duties on manufactured goods. In such an event, which will our gifted Secretary of State sacrifice, the farmer or the factory lord?

Chicago, February, 1891.

STOUGHTON COOLEY.

THE LANDLORD BLIGHT IN ILLINOIS.

CHICAGO, Ill., February 26.—Fully one hundred and twenty-five, and possibly one hundred and fifty families, numbering in the aggregate at least five hundred people, will take their permanent departure from McLean County, this State, between this date and April 15 next. One large party started on February 24 and will be followed by others. They have chartered whole trains and will join in a general legira to Northwestern Iowa in search of cheaper lands. The great majority of those who will join the exodus are farmers who, most of their lives, have been renters. Many of them, it seems, have been living in McLean County from fifteen to thirty years, and during all that time, in which they have cultivated one of the richest soils under the sun, they have been unable to acquire homes which they could call their own. McLean County is known as the breastpin of the great Commonwealth of Illinois. In point of population it is the sixth county in the State. It is noted for its rich soil, its resources and its beauty. It is the pride and boast of the whole State. Few counties in the United States possess so many advantages. It is the county to which great orators point as evidence of the nobility of husbandry. But it appears that at last this magnificent garden spot and breastpin of one of the foremost States in America is blighted by landlordism, for the exodus about to take place is due to the fact that farming lands are too high to be profitably cultivated, and, therefore, cheaper and perhaps inferior lands are in great demand.

According to the testimony of a gentleman from McLean, with whom I have just had a conversation, the city of Bloomington, the seat of McLean County, is very largely populated by a class of men who are known there as retired farmers. Many of them live in luxury and ease, and still many others count their fortunes by the million. Its big landlords, it is said, are equal in their exactions to the noted Lord Scully, whose thousands and thousands of acres lie across the border from McLean County. Many of this distinguished gentleman's serfs have escaped from his acres and cast their lot with the landlords of McLean County, hoping thereby to secure greater profits for their labor from "American" landlords, secure in the belief that the methods of the English tyrant were not practiced by the latter. In this they were sadly mistaken, as they have learned to their sorrow, after having labored for many years in developing the richness of the great county of McLean. They found that the American landlord was quite as avaricious as Lord Scully, taking from them all that their labor produced except a bare subsistence. Early in the history of the county the Funks, the Gridleys, the Brokaws, the Stevensons, the Orendorffs, the Ewings, the Vanordstrands, the Kennedys, and others probably to the number of a hundred, got hold of the lands in this promising country and by "wise forethought and business sagacity" kept them until necessity compelled thousands to live upon them at terms profitable to the holders.

After all these years of toil, and after witnessing the wonderful development of McLean County, these tenants have at last realized that they must have cheaper lands, hence they propose to go in great droves to Iowa, where "rents" are cheaper than they are in Illinois. They want new landlords, as my friend expressed it, "landlords who will not charge them for house rent, nor more than a dollar or two dollars an acre for the use of land."

There is no place in the United States which affords a better field for Single Tax laborers than Central Illinois, and particularly McLean County. The five hundred people who have already determined to become the tenants of Iowa landlords are not all of those who are discontented. It is reasonably certain that hundreds of others in McLean and adjoining counties, to escape the grasping greed of Illinois landlords, will follow as soon as they can. In the meantime something should be done towards raising funds to use in sending Single Tax missionaries through this country. The thousands and thousands of tenants and discontented farmers in Central Illinois were never in a better frame of mind than now to receive the light of the new political economy. The field is a grand one for Single Tax workers, and it would be a lasting shame to allow it to escape further attention. Something ought to be done at once. Good speakers should be secured to canvass every town and village in the district.

J. F. H.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

The leaders of the Farmer organizations are evidently in politics for more than their principles. One of them seems to hanker for the flesh pots. N. S. Hall, who is the head of the Missouri organization, wants nothing for himself—at present—but he has a brother who does, and therefore a deal has been consummated with the Governor of Missouri by which Lee Meriwether, the present head of the labor bureau of that State, is to be ousted from the office he has filled with great satisfaction to the working people in order to give it to Alliance Leader Hall's brother. In consideration of this, Leader Hall will throw the votes of the Alliance men in the Missouri Legislature to Governor Francis for United States Senator; and, with Francis out of the way, Leader Hall hopes to get into the Governor's seat. The Alliance motto, that "the office must seek the man," seems to be lost sight of in this case. The labor organizations and K. of K. assemblies have sent strong resolutions of protest against this proposed action of the Governor. Mr. Meriwether will be best remembered to our readers throughout the country as a delegate to the Single Tax National Conference, where his able addresses gave him great prominence.

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Mrs. Lease is one of the most prominent members of the Kansas Alliance, and it is to be presumed that she but echoed the Alliance's sentiments regarding Senator Ingalls. If that be so, what are we to think of the utterances of the person who was elected by the Kansas Alliance to occupy Senator Ingall's seat in the United States Senate? In an interview last Monday Mr. Peffer had this to say of the man who had been denounced by Mrs. Lease as "a smart rascal."

Mr. Ingalls is a good friend of mine, and I am sure no one ever heard me say a word against him personally. It would have pleased me to have seen him re-elected, had we not differed in matters of public policy. Our personal relations are most cordial and I esteem him highly.

It is to be hoped, after what she has said, that Mrs. Lease will pay some attention to the utterances of her Senator, quoted above.

* * * *

The Philadelphia Record bids Single Taxers to be not discouraged. In view of the editorial article which appeared in the Sun last week, the Record thinks Mr. Dana is "an apparent convert" to our ideas. That would discourage Single Taxers if anything could. But even Dana's defection from protectionism and other cussedness to the Single Tax cannot discourage Single Taxers. They have stood up successfully under even greater calamities than that.

* * * *

A committee of the North Dakota House of Representatives recently reported to that body a bill prohibiting prize-fighting, boxing matches, etc. A minority report was submitted opposing the measure, on the ground that "the Legislature was attempting to deprive the people of all kinds of luxuries and amusements." This appeal appears to have been successful, and the minority report against the bill was accepted by the House. No legislature in the East would take such a course as this, but it would be hard to keep a quorum in either House if a notable pair of bruisers were announced to engage in a prize-fight in the immediate neighborhood of the State Capitol.

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The forty-sixth annual report of the New York Life Insurance Company, printed elsewhere, shows the tremendous proportions that the business of life insurance has reached. Here is a company with over \$100,000,000 of capital and a surplus of over \$14,000,000 that has achieved this vast accumulation in less than half a century, not by the sudden gains of risky speculation, but by the sure and conservative method of regular business management. There are but few examples of such success.

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A subscriber to THE STANDARD, who is an architect in Kansas City, Mo., though a resident of the State of Kansas, in the course of a business letter to THE STANDARD, says:

The tampering with money matters in Kansas has already made capital shy, and the possibility of getting loans on any security are met with new obstacles. Some of our clients have offered, without success, 8 per cent., payable in gold, with the "fakir's" 4 per cent. commission added—4 per cent. now because of the extra "labor" (energy and ability, genius, etc.) necessary to get it, I suppose. In no instance has the amount asked for exceeded 50 per cent. of the appraised value of the building and ground. So much for the attempt of the Legislature to regulate the rate of interest.

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Whenever or wherever a question comes up which bears on the Single Tax, there is always a flutter. Those who don't understand what it means are always badly scared when it is mentioned. Mr. Fippen, a member of the Indiana Legislature, had a bill before the lower House which provided for the erection by cities of water works, electric lights, and artificial and natural gas plants. To raise the money necessary to erect these plants, the bill proposed that "land" alone be taxed. The bill had passed the House and had

been sent to the Senate; but meantime some one had got it through his head that "taxing land" was the Single Tax idea, whereupon he went around the assembly chamber shouting that the Fippen bill was a "Henry George" bill. He frightened enough of the members to get a vote through recalling the bill from the Senate, and while the stampede was still on, a motion was put through to postpone action on it indefinitely. Meantime some of the frightened ones will find out what it was they were voting against.

* * * *

A magazine of the size of the Ladies' Home Journal, which has just reached a circulation of 600,000 copies, requires a good deal of room; another four-story building is to be occupied next month, in addition to the two six-story buildings now in use. The growing popularity of the Journal has also overtaken the capacity of its nine large presses, and twelve new ones of latest improved pattern are awaiting the completion of the new quarters.

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The sad story comes to us from across the Atlantic that H. R. H. the Prince of Wales has something the matter with him. H. R. H. is showing symptoms of profound melancholia, and it is even hinted that H. R. H. is losing his mental grip, and that in a short time he will become a hopeless imbecile. H. R. H. believes that he will never live to ascend the throne when it is vacated by H. M. Queen Victoria, and that even if he does live after his royal mother, the British people won't let him ascend the throne anyhow, because her death will bring to a head a now widely scattered sentiment in favor of a democratic form of government. But H. R. H. ought to be content anyhow. No man ever lived who has had as much fun crammed into a single life of forty-nine years. During that period H. R. H.'s career has been what Brother Dana calls a "perpetual circus," but it has been at the expense of the English people, from whose pockets he has taken over sixteen and a half million of dollars, to be spent in his personal amusement, while he has run into debt for eight millions more—a total of over \$24,500,000, not including the incomes from the various duchys he owns and other properties, which have brought him in large revenues since his twenty-first year. But if this willful squandering of the English people's money by H. R. H. brings them to the conclusion that monarchy is an evil to be done away with, and that as a result they will proclaim the republic, the price paid will be cheap indeed.

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The art prints of L. Prang & Co., of Boston, have attained such world-wide celebrity that it has come to be one of the natural questions in holiday seasons to ask: "What new gift novelties have the Prangs given us this year?" The Easter publications of this house have just been issued. They include a series of little books cut in shape of bunches of flowers, the covers of which are daintily lithographed to represent the clusters of lilies, mayflowers or daffodils. They contain poems by Whittier, Wordsworth, Shelley, Herrick and others, illustrated by F. Stanley Matthews. Other little books, bound in rough card covers, on which are flower prints that rival the daintiest hand painting, contain appropriate Easter texts and poems, beautifully illustrated and illuminated. It is in satin prints, however, that Mr. Prang surpasses himself. We have before us a satin mouchoir case, on which is printed a bunch of white moss roses which few artists could excel or perhaps equal, and the durability of the print is far greater than that of water-color painting.

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The Minneapolis Tribune has put the name and picture of James G. Blaine at the head of its editorial columns as its candidate for President in 1892, on the platform, "Protection to American industries—an honest enforcement of the law of reciprocity." This is somewhat mixed, but we suppose it is all right. Over James' head flies the starry banner, with the legend, "Stand by the Flag," while under the portrait is the title of the first editorial article, "Hogs and Hog Products."

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Lieutenant-Governor Jones has begun the work of creating public opinion in his own behalf. He wants to be the Democratic candidate for Governor of New York at the next election.

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The tide of opposition to the taxation of personal property rises steadily every day. Senator Linson, of Kingston, has introduced a bill in the Legislature which will levy a tax on all personal property without allowing any deduction for "just debts owing," as now provided by law. The New York City Board of Trade and Transportation is bitterly opposed to it, and has sent a circular to 137 commercial organizations throughout the State protesting against it. Among other things, the circular sets forth the following arguments against the passage of the Linson bill:

If, for instance, Messrs. A. B. & Co. have a stock of \$500,000 worth of goods in store, and they owe thereon bills payable to the amount of \$150,000, and on open account another \$100,000, their actual ownership in such goods is but \$250,000, on which they now pay at, say 2 per cent., a tax of \$5,000. If Mr. Linson's bill becomes a law the tax will be \$10,000. The true title of this bill should be: "An Act to discourage Commerce and Manufactures in the State

of New York." Many of our large manufacturers now find it to their advantage to have their factories in New Jersey. Pass this law and the number will be largely increased. There are many classes of goods handled in this city that pay a profit of only a fraction of 1 per cent. to the merchant. If, then, such goods are taxed 2 per cent. and upward, as the rate may be, it would totally destroy the business. Any business done would be by sample alone and the goods themselves would be stored in New Jersey or other States and shipped direct without coming into New York. The loss of employment to our people in handling the goods would be enormous, and that portion of our population depending on such employment would, with the goods, also be transferred to New Jersey.

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THE STANDARD is glad to see the interest that is being manifested in this direction. It would, however, venture to call the attention of the Board of Trade to another form of taxation—in this case by private parties—which is and has been driving factories to Jersey City and other adjacent places for years. It is set forth in a story in last week's STANDARD, in the Single Tax News, under the heading, "The Devil in His True Colors," in which the president of a manufacturing company tells how his company was compelled to move its plant from this city to Jersey City because it could not longer afford to pay the increased rent demanded for the New York premises occupied.

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The question as to who owns the phosphate rock in the Coosaw river, South Carolina, has been settled—it belongs to the people of that State, and it has been declared that the right to mine phosphate rock in that river shall hereafter be open to everyone. It was a hard fight, but the people have won. The company who claimed the exclusive right to mine in the Coosaw river paid enormous dividends from the time of its organization, which dividends will now be diffused among those who will now go in as independent workers and get out the phosphate rock. If the decision is affirmed, it will add very materially to the prosperity of the people of the State of South Carolina, as well as show them, in small part, what a blessing it will be when all men shall have free access to the bounties of nature.

* * * *

There is a bill before the Legislature to allow the formation of rent insurance companies in this State, which has for its object a combination that will prosecute those who may be in arrears for rent. It would seem to the average man that our laws protect landlords pretty well as they stand. All the landlord and tenant laws favor the former; if it were not so the probabilities are that rents would not be so high as at present.

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A Kansas Farmers' Alliance man, Hiram Williams by name, told a Chicago reporter the other day that he will bet his next harvest that Jerry Simpson will be the Alliance candidate for President in 1892. Here is a chance to win a harvest—it is a "lead pipe cinch" for a betting man. Simpson will not be a candidate for President, for he would not be eligible if elected. He is of foreign birth. The President of the United States must be native born.

* * * *

Denmark and Sweden are legislating in the direction of Tariff Reform. A bill placing sugar on the free list, and for the removal of the tariff from several other necessities, has already reached its third reading in the Lower House, and there is a proposition to the same end in the Swedish Lower House. The Liberal party in Norway is agitating on the same lines.

* * * *

The Philadelphia Record says that "Henry George's Single Tax ideas" have taken a strong hold upon the minds of those who give attention to economic discussion. The Record made a declaration a week or two ago that, "no matter how taxes may be collected, a load is thereby laid on the back of thrift and industry," whereupon, "perhaps a dozen ready and forcible writers" sent in communications to the editor, telling him of a tax which would have exactly the opposite effect. Evidently an impression has been made, for the Record says it "goes half way with the Single Taxers in believing * * * that land is the best basis of taxation;" but "it does not believe the Single Tax [presumably in the full acceptance of the term] would be either a feasible or desirable reform." The Record "regrets" that it has not room for one-tenth part of the literature on the subject which correspondents are anxious to have printed, which means that the Record does not desire either to continue the discussion or examine into the matter. We are sorry—for the Record. Meantime, however, it is striking giant blows for Free Trade, under the guise of tariff reform, which will do for the present.

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Mr. H. F. Ring, writing from Houston, Texas, says regarding Mr. Richard M. Humphrey, the leader of the Colored Farmers' Alliance:

He resides at 81 Magnolia street, Houston, and occasionally attends our Single Tax meetings. He is an old-fashioned Baptist preacher, a man of imposing personal presence, and is with us heart and soul. I first met him some two or three years ago and

had a long talk with him on the Single Tax, but failed to make him see the cat. He heard Mr. George lecture here and I introduced him to Mr. George. I am inclined to believe that it was our Single Tax Conference in September, followed by Mr. George's lecture here in Houston, which brought Mr. Humphrey to us. Mr. Humphrey said to me not long ago than last night that the number of Single Tax men whom he was continually meeting with among the farmers was astonishing. He says we have no idea how wide-spread the movement has extended.

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The San Francisco Star tells of six lots in that city which were wanted in order to open a street. A commission appraised them at \$1,845, but the owner wanted \$4,000, and said he valued them at \$6,000 and didn't want to let them go even at that price. An examination of the assessor's books showed that they were assessed at only \$45 each. The Star says this case ought to make Single Taxers of all thinking persons who examine into it; and we think so, too.

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The judge before whom was tried the case brought by Marshall Field & Co., of Chicago, to test the constitutionality of the McKinley bill has decided, technically, in favor of the Government, but in such a way as to leave the impression that he was not altogether satisfied with the conclusion he arrived at. Here are his own words:

The best disposition the Court can make of the matter is to affirm the decision of the appraisers at New York and allow the case to go directly to the Supreme Court. I will say, however, that the Court was much impressed with the chain of reason advanced by the appellant, and it might be difficult for the argument to be met by the other side. However, the McKinley bill has become the operating mechanism by which the Government collects its duties, and an adverse decision in this case might seriously disarrange the existing arrangement of this service. There should be finding of facts that this Court found the case of sufficient importance to warrant an appeal to the Supreme Court.

It is expected that the Supreme Court will make its decision soon, as the case is considered of sufficient importance to advance it on the docket of the Court. Should the Supreme Court decide in favor of the appealing parties, all of Mr. Blaine's reciprocity treaties will be invalidated.

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The Sun dearly loves J. J. Ingalls. It loves him so much as to exclude from its columns, for instance, such a scoring as Mrs. Lease, of Kansas, gave him last Wednesday. The lady's speech before the Women's Congress in Washington was among the most interesting of the news items of last Thursday, but the Sun did not print it. But as compensation for its dereliction in this matter, it gave, on its editorial page, a story of a game of poker played in Boston some time ago.

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In closing the last lecture of the course delivered by Ralph E. Hoyt in San Francisco recently, under the auspices of the Single Tax Society of that city, the speaker paid a deserved compliment to Henry George, which the audience greeted with tremendous applause. Mr. Hoyt said:

As this city was for many years the home of Henry George, and the scene of his early labors for reform, I am unwilling to let this occasion pass without saying a few words about the great leader of the Single Tax movement. The noblest hero of the age is not he who leads armies into battle and drenches the earth with blood; but he who, with heart and brain, with tongue and pen, bravely fights the battles of the people against unjust laws and popular iniquities. Such a hero is Henry George. He does not claim to have originated the Single Tax theory. It originated with the human family—as long ago as the first human being trod the soil of this revolving world. But Henry George has done far more than any other man to develop, to push forward, to popularize the God-given idea that the land belongs to the people, for their use, and therefore should not be monopolized. In all his labors and struggles for humanity, this principle has been his inspiration. A few years ago he was called a dreamer, a crank, then an Anarchist. But later on these epithets gave way for such terms as agitator, economist, prophet and philosopher. To-day the most intellectual and influential men of America, Europe and Australia are proud to meet him and glad to hear him talk. With a pure character, a clear head and an honest heart, he has steadfastly advocated the grand idea of free land for all, until to-day its reiterations are heard throughout the civilized world.

Let us who grasp this idea cleave to it and battle for it, under the banner erected by Henry George; never ceasing our efforts till the victory is won, or till he and we have graduated from this primary department of life's unending school, into the broader realms and clearer light of an eternal day.

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An unusual interest at the present time attaches itself to some unpublished letters from the late General Sherman which appear in the March number of the North American Review. One written to General Garfield in August, 1870, as to the loyalty of General Thomas, is eminently characteristic of Sherman. Another letter describes the meeting of Grant and Sherman with President Lincoln on board the Ocean Queen at City Point near the end of the war. These letters will doubtless attract a large number of readers.

CURRENT THOUGHT.

BOUTWELL ON SILVER.

"Silver as a Circulating Medium" is the subject discussed by Ex-Secretary of the Treasury George S. Boutwell, in the March issue of the Forum. Mr. Boutwell argues for the mechanical convenience of a paper currency, but believes that it can be maintained only when it is secured by the presence in the Treasury of gold or silver coin equal to any demand that can be made by the holders of the paper promises. This condition is fulfilled by gold or silver certificates. The difficulty that the country is called upon to meet is the result of a cheapening of silver in comparison with gold, caused by the great output of the former metal. Mr. Boutwell thinks that the earth's treasury of gold is less relatively than its treasury of silver, and that the tendency is toward the greater use of silver and the less frequent use of gold as the basis of currency.

The annual output of gold in the United States is, for the last ten years, \$35,000,000, and of this \$10,000,000 is used in the arts, so that only \$25,000,000 per annum can go to swell the currency. This amount is insufficient. The experience of these ten years justifies the use of silver as the "most available, most reliable and least dangerous means of reinforcing the currency of the country." Then to what extent shall the use of silver be continued, and how shall England and Germany be induced to authorize the use of silver and to enter into an international bimetallic agreement?

Mr. Boutwell traces the history of silver legislation from 1872, and while admitting that the wisdom of the Bland act is open to question, says that there can be no departure from it without a serious wrench to our financial system. Certainly no one would demoralize the \$376,000,000 of silver now in circulation.

How, then, can the use of silver be continued with the least serious consequences? Mr. Boutwell apparently believes that free coinage, open to the silver product of the world, would subject our silver mines to a dangerous, perhaps ruinous, competition. If the balance of trade should turn against us after free silver coinage was well begun, we should be drained of gold. As gold is the better part of our currency, we should retain as much of it as possible and try to bring about the use of silver in other countries. Considerable trouble might ensue should the production of silver increase and other countries maintain the gold standard. The evils of a depreciated currency must fall upon all, and therefore the profits of coinage should inure to all, that is, to the Government. It seems unwise to transfer to the general public the power to issue a depreciated dollar with only such limit as may be fixed by the uncertain product of the mines.

Possibly the refusal of England and Germany to join us in bimetalism would be more serious in its consequences to those countries than to us. Here the constantly increasing volume of currency under silver coinage would cause an era of inflation and apparent prosperity, to be followed by loss of confidence, hoarding, and to the debtor class bankruptcy. On the other hand depression, discontent and final bankruptcy must come to a country in which the volume of currency is decreasing. Great Britain and Germany cannot keep up with the needed increase of currency by the coinage of gold, and Mr. Boutwell seems to think that a solution of the currency question may be found by the enforced adoption of bimetalism in Europe.

A CONSERVATIVE'S VIEW.

Highly characteristic is Frederick Greenwood's article on "The Revolt of Labor" in the January issue of the "New Review." Mr. Greenwood is an able and honest Tory whom one would be glad to see a Liberal. He is without many of the mental infirmities that make so many Conservatives absurd in the nineteenth century. He does not share the truculence of that light-hearted Conservative champion, Mr. Mallock, nor is he in sympathy with the so-called Tory Democracy, which, of course, is only another name for Socialism.

Mr. Greenwood sees that Home Rule, whether successful or unsuccessful, cannot much longer be the first issue in British politics, and he has only contempt for those public men, Liberal or Conservative, that fail to see the really serious mood of the British masses. He believes that the British workingman is eager for a socialistic panacea, and that his eagerness is no mere temporary feeling, but the settled mood of one that knows what he wants, and believes himself able to obtain it by a well-defined method. Mr. Greenwood thinks we are shortly to see great and perhaps sudden changes as the result of the advance in material development and political liberty in this century. He protests against being understood to condemn such advance because it is responsible for the restlessness of the masses; but, nevertheless, he does hold it responsible for that restlessness, and he does believe that evil will come of the mood in which the British masses find themselves. Education makes men restless under poverty and degradation. It is well that it should, but it also arouses tastes and needs that have to be provided for.

Mr. Greenwood, as a conservative, not of the socialistic stamp, is

not encouraged at the iconoclastic mood of the people. With the masses convinced that they know what is the matter, and what is the remedy, and at the same time armed with the ballot, he knows not what to expect. He conjectures in a hopeless sort of way what will be the attitude of party leaders; and wonders whether it is possible that they will, for the sake of place and power, yield to what they know to be the mistaken wish of the masses. He hopes that the leaders on both sides will agree upon this question as they agree upon the question of protection, and refuse to appeal for support to a false public sentiment. He hopes that public men will have the courage to tell the masses that the invasion of property rights, the enforced distribution of wealth, the extension of governmental powers so that they may meddle with private concerns, afford no remedy for present ills. Finally, he sees hope for society in the increased humanity of the upper classes; the sympathy with poverty, the earnest wish to lift and soothe those that are cast down and distressed.

"DOMESTIC SERVICE."

"Domestic Service" is the title of a well meant but ill written article by A. Amy Bullay in the Westminster Review for February. The writer recognizes the maid servant problem as part of the whole labor problem, that the kitchen girl even in Great Britain has come to feel herself something better than a drudge.

Miss or Mrs. Bulley recognizes that domestic servants have gained much from the organization of labor, even though they belong to the great majority of unorganized laborers. With this gain has come a great change in the relation of mistress and servant. The servant no longer lives in the family; she merely hires herself out for a short term. The servant difficulty becomes more serious every year. Domestic peace has vanished and the stock conversation of even educated housekeepers is the problem of getting and keeping good servants. Indeed, there are no good servants. It is far easier for a servant to find and keep a place than for a mistress to find and keep a servant.

Mrs. Bulley dismisses the various remedies and palliatives for the trouble. Greater freedom in the kitchen, permission to receive visitors, rewards for good conduct, a breaking down of social forms—all are unavailing. It is not the present conditions of domestic service to which servants object, it is to the fact. Every concession on the part of the mistress is accepted as a right and used as vantage ground for acquiring further privileges.

The fact is, thinks Mrs. Bulley, that domestic service as we now have it, is a survival of a departed social condition. Life below stairs is now totally distinct from life up above stairs. The servants are no longer part of the "household." The institution as we now have it is doomed, and must go. The outlook is serious. We are reaping the result of an unequal social development. Servants will henceforth seek to have their work limited to definite hours. Possibly service in the future may be provided by a bureau for limited hours per day. Possibly families may have servants in common, and thus institute a sort of co-operative housekeeping. Possibly the servant class may disappear and each family may do its own work. This, however, is not in line with the tendency of this age toward subdivision and specialization of labor. However, perhaps many educated persons may come to devote themselves to domestic service. Girls that cannot teach or write novels may cook, mend clothes and look after children. With changed conditions in domestic service these duties will not be repugnant to educated women. Here is a great social problem lying within the province of women and it is their duty to solve it. They should not meet it with anger.

Mrs. Bulley mourns the inaptitude of modern servants, and suggests an extension of household training in the elementary schools. She seems to think that with such preparation girls might not only be able to look well to their own households, but might also, if necessary, take service in the homes of others.

RAILWAYS AND THE STATE.

W. M. Acworth, in the March Forum, briefly discusses "Railways Under Government Control." He notes three classes of railway management by the State, under State's supervision, and by private corporations. England and the United States stand alone among nations in having the last named system. Mr. Acworth believes that had the English people suspected, when the early railways were chartered, the immense power and wealth that were to come to modern railways, they would have been made a department of state or at least subjected to a stringent governmental control. As it is, new lines require special Parliamentary permission, and the supervision of debentures produces almost absolute security. Secret rebates are unknown upon British railways, and while governmental power to fix rates has not been asserted, the Board of Trade in 1888 was authorized to draw up a schedule of maximum rates. The English people are satisfied with the Government's relations to the railways.

In Australia, where State ownership and management prevail,

there has been abuse of patronage, now happily removed by the appointment of life-term non partisan commissions, and favoritism in railway extension is an abuse still prevalent. Railway rates have not been reduced as rapidly in Australia as in our West, and it may be argued that the more rapid development of that region than of the Australian colonies may be in part ascribed to fierce railway competitions in the former.

German state railway lines are unprogressive, and the acquisition of private lines by the State has had a bad effect in the matter of express trains. The answer of the German Government is that express trains are a luxury of the rich. German railway policy is more or less dominated by policy. Trade is directed toward particular places, and a sort of probative system is established by the fixing of freight rates that discriminate against products coming from the frontier.

France has handed over her territory to a few great railway corporations, each guaranteed against competition within its own district, and all under State supervision. The State, however, guarantees interest on the bonds and does not dare demand too much of the railways, less the amount of the indemnity to be paid by the government be too large. In fact, the government occasionally discourages improved service and lower rates. Trains are few and express trains are not swift.

Italy after many experiments six years ago consolidated its railways with two great companies that leased lines from the State for a term of years and were left to work them for their private interest. The result is a success. In Holland a like plan has been adopted.

The Swedish railways are mainly Government property. They have to compete with transportations via a chain of lakes, that may be compared in their relation to railways within our own great lakes. In Summer, when navigation is open, the railways are little used. In Winter they come into play. Rates are maintained at the Winter schedule the year round.

Mr. Acworth thinks that the abuses of our railway system are not peculiar to roads managed by private corporations. The "long and short haul" provision of our Federal statute is needed on the continent of Europe to correct an abuse by State-owned railways. He believes that English and American railways deserve, respectively, first and second place among the railways of the world in the matter of administration. As an individualist he believes in the survival of the fittest, and would apply the theory to railways as to other things. He evidently believes that England and America will continue to preserve something like their present attitude toward the question under discussion.

A DREAM OF COMMUNISM.

Following the example of Mr. Bellamy, in his "Looking Backward," William Morris, the English poet, has endeavored to give us a glimpse of society in the middle of the twenty-first century as it appeared to a nineteenth century man who dreamed he had survived a Rip Van Winkle sleep of some 150 years or so.* The condition he pictures is very different from the "Wooden Millennium" of State Socialism so graphically described by Mr. Bellamy; but like that it is the ideal of a man who has not the faintest conception of what free competition really means.

The man who has the dream is a member of the English Socialist League. He falls asleep at Hammersmith, on the Thames River, near London, and awakes to find that little town a beautiful country village, one of an infinite number of similar villages which contain almost the whole population of England. For he finds that during his sleep England has become one great garden. London and the other cities have to a large extent disappeared, or exist merely as extended country towns; and the people have established a social system in which Arcadian simplicity is combined with civilized luxury and every one gets all the advantages of both town and country life.

The "struggle for existence" is over, and the happy, healthy race, with which the dreamer mingles for a few days, have solved all the problems of government and the production and distribution of wealth, by abolishing government altogether and living in absolute communism. Poverty, and the greed and crime that spring from poverty, are unknown. "The scowling envy coupled by the poets with hatred," and the bitter passions and animosities caused by the fierce cutthroat competition for wealth and power and position, of past ages, have disappeared. He well calls it "An Epoch of Rest."

This state of things was reached after an attempt to establish State Socialism. The great social revolution at the close of the nineteenth century was accomplished by a long and bloody struggle, admirably described in the book, between the workingmen and the army and upper classes. It commences with a massacre in Trafalgar square, London, followed by an uprising and a general strike. The workers then take charge of such branches of production as are most necessary, and during the civil war which ensues they gradually establish industry on a co-operative basis. Finally

* News from Nowhere; or, An Epoch of Rest. By William Morris: Boston, Roberts Brothers.

the war is ended. Production of all kinds under the comparatively free conditions is enormous, but the evils and difficulties of the "industrial army" system of enforced co-operation soon develop themselves, and the longing after complete equality leads to the establishment of the communistic state which the dreamer describes.

England is now a country of village communities, and all the people live an open-air life, every body taking part in agriculture, which is looked on as a healthy, pleasurable amusement. Production of other kinds is carried on mostly in the homes of the workers. Power has been so developed, and the machinery used is so light and compact, that in most cases it is not necessary to erect factories. But strange to say production is largely by hand work—machinery has been discarded.

Products are brought to the local or central markets, and stores which are managed by people who prefer to do that kind of work. But there is no buying or selling; no bookkeeping or checking. Each takes what he wants, not merely in his own district, but wherever else he may happen to be.

There is no compulsory work. Everybody does exactly what he likes best and is best fitted to do, and all occupations are alike honorable. Everybody is educated, and men of the highest ability in every branch of science and art are to be found in all parts of the country, pursuing all kinds of work, for a combination of brain work and hand work is considered beneficial and healthful.

Book learning, however, has ceased to be looked on as an evidence of superiority, although there are scholars and writers in abundance, and the idea that pure science and letters are the only occupations fit for a man of brains who does not need to work for a living, has entirely disappeared. On the other hand, the artistic tastes and abilities have been developed to the highest point, and music, poetry, architecture and painting are appreciated by every one.

A meeting of all the members of a Mote is occasionally called to decide on such a question as the proposed building of a bridge or a market or more houses. But this is the nearest approach to government and no one is obliged to work on any proposed improvement unless he wishes to.

Crime is unpunished. Even a murderer goes free, unless by repetition of his crime he proves himself insane, in which case he is treated as a sick man. Of crimes against property, of course, there are none, for there is no such thing as property.

Lazy people, who would not work, and who at first were to be found here and there, were looked on as mentally infirm. As time went on, however, such people became fewer and fewer, and were hardly to be found.

The philosophic basis of this state of things, where each works for all and all for each, and no man claims the right to anything which he produces, is given by an old man named Hammond, in conversation with the dreamer.

The dreamer says:

"Now this is what I want to ask you about, to wit—how you get people to work when there is no reward of labor, and, especially, how you get them to work *strenuously*?"

"No reward of labor?" said Hammond, gravely. * * *

"Plenty of reward—the reward of creation. The wages which God gets, as people might have said time ago."

The dreamer then suggests that there is a natural desire not to work. Hammond replies:

"I know the ancient platitude—wholly untrue. * * * It implies that all work is suffering, and we are so far from thinking that, that as you may have noticed, when we are not short of wealth there is a fear growing up among us that we shall one day be short of work. It is a pleasure which we are afraid of losing. * * * Happiness without daily work is impossible. * * * All work is now pleasurable, either because of the hope of gain in honor and wealth, which causes pleasurable excitement even when the actual work is not pleasant, or else because it has grown into a pleasurable *habit*, as is the case with what you may call mechanical work; and lastly (and most of our work is of this kind), because there is conscious pleasure in the work itself—it is done, that is, by artists. * * * It is this change that makes all others possible. * * * All work which would be irksome to do by hand is done by immensely improved machinery, and in all work which it is a pleasure to do by hand machinery is done without. There is no difficulty in finding work which suits the special turn of mind of everybody, so that no man is sacrificed to the wants of another. From time to time when we have found out that some piece of work was too disagreeable or troublesome, we have given it up and done altogether without the thing produced by it. Now, surely you can see that under these circumstances all the work we do is an exercise of the mind and body more or less pleasant to be done: so that instead of avoiding work, everybody seeks it, and since people have got defter in doing the work generation after generation, it has become so easy to do that it seems as if there were less done, though probably more is produced. I suppose this explains a certain fear of a possible scarcity of work, which, perhaps, you have already noticed."

Mr. Morris has written a charming and amusing book, and few who love freedom would not prefer his ideal state to that of Mr. Bellamy. But on what absurdities does he base the system he describes. That it is necessary to make *all* work a pleasure, and to revert to primitive methods and hand work in order that people may be happily employed. That the mass of men must find in mere wealth

producing sufficient work to occupy the greater part of their time. That machinery is a necessary evil. That leisure is a thing to be dreaded. That the desires and wants of men are capable of being so completely satisfied that other men will have nothing to do. That great centres of thought and learning, of production and exchange, are unnecessary.

All this is a natural development of socialistic ideas. Mr. Morris says in the book that most of the more intelligent Socialists of the nineteenth century understood that Communism was the inevitable outcome of Socialism. Unable to see in competition anything but an evil, and realizing that State Socialism is but luxurious tyranny, involving inconceivable complications of direction and bookkeeping, Socialists are forced to dream out such a state as that described.

PROFESSOR ANDREWS ON SOCIALISM AND SINGLE TAX.

Dr. E. Benjamin Andrews, president of Brown University, lectured before the Young People's Association of Calvary Baptist Church, on Tuesday evening of last week, on "Socialism and the Land Question." The audience was not large, but was very attentive, and it applauded the Professor heartily at the conclusion of his address. Dr. Andrews stated the theory of the Socialists with great clearness and precision, and carefully discriminated between Socialism, Anarchy and Communism. He treated the aspirations of the Socialists sympathetically and expressed his wish that their hopes could be realized; but he declared his own belief that their scheme is impracticable, not simply on account of the enormous power that it would necessarily lodge in the hands of men charged with the direction of the vast system of co-operative production involved, but particularly because of the impossibility of arriving at the labor cost of productions, which Professor Andrews regarded as essential to the success of the Socialistic scheme. He insisted on it that this is the inherent defect in the whole plan, and that thinking men after they are baffled by it naturally drift off into Communism: and he pointed out that though Mr. Bellamy started out in "Looking Backward" as a Socialist, he had to introduce the Communistic idea of a periodical divide in order to justify his picture of universal happiness and content. Professor Andrews did not, in his necessarily brief treatment of the question, make it quite clear how the estimate of values by labor time is an essential part of the Socialistic system. If all of Socialism except that were in operation, the paralysis of personal initiative and the lodgment of such power and authority as kings have rarely exercised in the hands of directors of production, would probably soon reduce the masses to a condition in which they would abjectly submit to any system of ascertaining relative values, so long as they did not go hungry.

Professor Andrews, in the early part of his lecture, paid a handsome tribute to the character and ability of Henry George, and told his audience that everybody would be made wiser and better by the reading of his remarkable books. When he turned from the consideration of Socialism to the discussion of the Land Question he repeated his praise of Mr. George's work, and gave a clear and admirable summary of the general features of the Single Tax proposal, which he clearly differentiated from Socialism. He did not dwell long upon it, and he failed noticeably to show the effect of the Single Tax in destroying the incentive to land monopoly by speculators, and thus opening natural opportunities to the people. He declared, however, that he could not see how Mr. George's plan would accomplish the sweeping advantages anticipated by its author and the advocates of the system, and he particularly declared that he had no idea that it could accomplish the abolition of poverty. He based this declaration largely on the tendency that he believes to exist amongst a large number of people "cursed by the damnable economic vice of laziness and unthrift." This class he believed could not be benefited by either the successful establishment of Socialism or the Single Tax. Professor Andrews seemed to think that such people constitute the mass of those who are plunged in poverty, and he told of a primitive New England community where distinctions based on wealth have not yet arisen, but where at least one shiftless pauper, whose poverty was due to laziness, could be discovered. But while the Professor exaggerated the extent of laziness in bringing about poverty, he was warmly eloquent in the denunciation of the present unjust system of distributing the products of labor. He did not take into account the fact that, always by implication, and usually directly, Single Tax men speak not of the abolition of poverty, but of the abolition of involuntary poverty, as the result of a just system that shall assure to labor its own product. There doubtless are people poor through laziness and shiftlessness, due in some instances to individual qualities, and due in many others to the conditions that fill men with despair. The people who propose an economic system for the promotion of just distribution are under no obligation to account for the idiosyncrasies of diseased individuals, though they have the right to show that healthier conditions would in all probability reduce the number of such people, as they unquestionably would reduce the number affected by physical

diseases arising from over-crowding, over-work, foul surroundings, and other similar results of the existing system.

But, while Professor Andrews gave evidence that he had failed to grasp the full meaning and purpose of the Single Tax, not merely as an economic measure but as a means of moral uplifting through giving to society the conditions essential to health, looking at the question from the fiscal standpoint, he said: "I say frankly that the taxation of the unearned increment of land value is the fairest single form of taxation that men could devise. If a law should be proposed by which the value of land apart from improvements would be taxed I would be glad to vote for it." Of course, for present purposes this is all that any advocate of practical movements in behalf of the Single Tax could ask, and the fact that the president of the leading Baptist college of the country sees no further into the subject perhaps is not to be regretted, since, were he an open and active Single Taxer, he would not be likely to be invited to take part in a lecture course managed by any society connected with a church presided over by so intense a partisan Protectionist as the Rev. Dr. McArthur.

Evidently, having in view his idea that poverty is chiefly due to laziness and unthrift, but still holding that the present economic conditions are in desperate need of amendment, Professor Andrews closed his lecture as follows:

The sum of the whole matter is this: Let us work in the directions indicated so far as they seem good. Let us not be afraid to advance. Let us not be afraid of changing the present system. We must change it or sink. We must have some remedies for the terrible evils which now exist, or we are lost. Let us advance with prosperity, without taking steps in the dark. But when we have done all we can do in the way of the amendment of society, we shall find that the supreme difficulty still remains, until we have put new moral and new religious life into the hearts of men. If we cannot lift men up morally we cannot lift up men socially. Political economy and sociology can never by themselves save the race. They can do something, and I for one am most heartily in favor of every effort that can be put forth in their name. But at last we shall find that the soul of man is the principal seat of his difficulty, and that to preach the Gospel efficiently, earnestly, openly and rationally, and bring men to love one another as brothers, will be the only and sufficient social panacea.

If justice be once established, so that society may say to those who will not work that it is under no obligation to see that they eat, Professor Andrews will find in the ranks of the Single Taxers plenty who are ready to acknowledge the obligation of mercy, which is in many ways even higher than justice, such will join him in laboring for the redemption of those who, in the midst of changed conditions conducive to moral health, persist in the sins against themselves and society that drag down the few to the condition of poverty into which the many are now forced by unjust laws and a false system of political economy, which fly in the face of the Divine declaration that "the laborer is worthy of his hire."

A LIVE WOMAN IN REAL POLITICS.

The "Women's National Council" has been holding its annual meeting at Washington, and listening to papers on "The Matriarchate or Mother Age," "The Relation of the Women's Suffrage Movement to other Modern Reforms," "God's Women," "Improved Dress," "What do the Signs of the Times Signify," and so on. The sessions were decorous, and many irreverent people might say, dull, until there suddenly broke loose a storm which showed that the signs of the times signify that when women come into politics they will probably come with their war-paint on, and without so much as a "by-your-leave" to the recognized leaders in the Women's Suffragist movement. Amongst the delegates to the council was Mrs. Lease, of Kansas, who had taken an active part in the political revolution that removed Mr. Ingalls, of that State, from the United States Senate. When Mrs. Lease arrived in Washington, she sent her card to the Senator. He declared, however, that he had no time to talk with her, and sent her a message to the effect, "that Indians and women are the only people who scalp the dead." This insult doubtless added to the wrath with which Mrs. Lease subsequently proceeded to scalp the Senator. In the course of her speech she said:

You wonder why the women of the West interested themselves in this great uprising of common people? Twenty-five years ago the women came from the East to this land. They came with roses in their cheeks and the fire of hope in their hearts. Leaving behind them all that was near and dear, they turned their faces toward the new and untried West.

Here we endured loneliness and privations. Children were born to us, and our babies lie buried 'neath the sods of the wild prairie, and to-day we are being robbed of our homes by the infamous system of mortgage foreclosure. As many as five hundred families have been turned out in a week. We are evicted from homes that represent the toil of the best years of our lives. Do you wonder that we join the Farmers' Alliance and the Knights of Labor? I wonder how any mother in Kansas could stay out. In them we have the greatest promise made since John the Baptist heralded the coming of One who should relieve the world of its misery.

That great landslide, that political Johnstown flood of last November, was due to the women of the Alliance. So was the defeat of that man who for eighteen years represented us in the United States Senate, and who has never once identified himself with the legislation demanded by his constituents. We, the women of the Farmers'

Alliance, defeated John James Ingalls. (Slight applause mingled with hisses.) I have been asked, "Why do you women glory in the defeat of John J. Ingalls? He is a brainy, smart man." Yes, he is a smart man; he must be a smart man to be the consummate rascal he has made of himself.

Here the hisses were renewed with vigor and force; the Alliance sympathizer applauded loudly and general confusion prevailed, during which several ladies and gentlemen left the hall. Miss Willard rapped for order, and said in her quiet, gentle manner, that while she had no idea of the character of the address Mrs. Lease was to make, she would have to insist that speakers on the platform refrain from personalities, and she hoped that the self-respect and dignity of the ladies composing the audience would deter them from hissing a speaker whose sentiments were not theirs.

She then gave way to Mrs. Lease, who assumed a moderate tone as she went on to describe how the women of Kansas voted for "Mollie and the babies," and while they didn't "want the earth," they had got a pretty good slice of it, and that they would pursue their fight against capitalists from the "banks of Wall street to the gates of hell."

At this juncture a large number of ladies got up and left the hall. Mrs. Lease paid no attention to the interruption, but holding up a campaign song said, it was the music that had assisted in the Alliance victory last fall. In conclusion she said:

We have come to stay. We are advocating the principles of truth and justice and are trying to put into practical use the principles of Christianity. We want the day to come when we shall have no more millionaires and no more paupers. Thank you for your hisses and applause."

TAXATION THE BURNING QUESTION.

On Friday last an important paper was presented to the Albany Senate. It was the report of the State assessors in answer to the resolution asking for their opinion as to the probable effect of what is known as the "listing system" for increasing the revenues by taxation of personal property. The assessors think that the effect of the adoption of the "listing system" would be to increase the assessed valuation of personal property at least one billion dollars within one year after its enactment. Their report then goes on to tell what the effect of the adoption of the listing system has been in a number of States: in each case it has resulted in an increased assessed valuation of personal property. In New York State, the report shows that for many years there has been an annual shrinkage of personal property for the purpose of taxation, "in spite of the conceded fact that the aggregate value of this class of property held and owned in this State equals, or exceeds, the value of its realty." The State assessors think the situation is serious, but when we consider how urgent they are in pressing forward the "listing system" we are surprised to find in their report a paragraph by which they prove, out of their own mouth, as it were, that they are against, unconsciously perhaps, the very "listing system" which they so strongly endorse in the beginning of their report. Here is the paragraph:

We regard an immediate revision of our system of taxation as an imperative duty. It is conceded by all candid and well-informed persons that our present system bears with heavy weight upon the only industry of our people which at the present time can be said to be unusually depressed, to wit, agriculture. This industry asks for no favors, for no exemptions, but for an equal distribution of the burdens of government. We believe that such distribution would best subserve the interests of all classes, and that a law which compels the productions of the soil and the homes of the laboring classes to bear the bulk of taxation violates all correct principles of political economy. The problem of devising the best system of taxation, one that will be the least oppressive to the people or that will bear equally upon all classes of taxpayers, is difficult if not impossible.

The States assessors evidently have not studied the question of taxation. Thousands of people in the State can tell the State assessors of a system of taxation which would not be in the least "oppressive to the people," and one that would bear "equally upon all classes of taxpayers." Full information on the subject will be furnished the State assessors by application at this office; or if they do not care to do that, they can find in each issue of THE STANDARD the platform on which it stands, and in which is clearly set forth a method of taxation such as the State assessors say is "impossible."

Now, in Nebraska, they are miles ahead of our State. Some of the Legislators there claim to have found the ideal system of taxation. They call it "The Single Tax." A bill in regard to it has been discussed in the Lower House of the Nebraska Legislature for three weeks or more, and it is now in such a shape that its opponents are handling it with very soft gloves. THE STANDARD of last week had two items regarding its progress in the Nebraska Legislature; but it has now reached the point at which nothing else is talked about, either in the Legislature or in the newspapers. Even the Nebraska State Journal, a Republican paper, and therefore presumably as much in the dark in regard to the matter of taxation as are our State assessors, says: "There is a good deal to be said in favor of the Single Tax on real estate, and very likely it will, in the course of time, be the method of collecting revenues in all enlightened countries." Now, the Journal sees a way out of the mire into which our State assessors have fallen. It believes that the just system of taxation for which our assessors are hunting can be reached, not by the "listing system," or by the inquisitorial methods proposed by the personal property tax advocates, but by taking taxes off of personal property. True, the Journal proposes that this be done gradually, but it believes it should be done all the same.

SINGLE TAX NEWS.

SINGLE TAX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE,
42 UNIVERSITY PLACE, New York, March 3, 1891.

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 wide-spread 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.

Eight hundred and forty-three signatures to the petition received during the past week, making a total to date of 100,202! Make it 105,000 by April 1st! Let each of our "workers" procure one signature a week for the thirty-eight weeks between now and December 1st, and by so doing add another hundred thousand to our roll of signers!

Subscriptions toward expenses of this committee's work remain as reported last week, viz., \$1,551.20.

Cash contributions for week ending March 3, are as follows:

M. Barthel, San Jose, Cal.....	25
J. H. Simonton, Dade City, Fla.....	30
M. H. Garly, Paterson, N. J.....	50
J. H. Francis, New Britain, Conn.....	2 00
Otto Blomck, Watertown, Conn.....	25 00
Owego Single Tax Club, Owego, N. Y.....	3 00
	<hr/>
	\$31 05

Cash contributions previously acknowledged..... 1,415 24

Total..... \$1,446 29

The enrollment now stands as follows:

Reported last week.....	99,359
Signatures received since last report.....	843
	<hr/>
Total.....	100,202

For news budget, see roll of States.

GEO. ST. JOHN LEAVENS, Secretary.

BROKAW SPENDS A WEEK AT SIOUX FALLS.

SIOUX FALLS, S. D., Feb. 23.—Monday, February 16, I obtained 32 names and 7 orders for "Protection or Free Trade," and left blank orders for the book with some who did not have the money handy. I got the order of a lawyer who would not sign the petition, and who said he was a Protectionist. One man said, "That is the first petition I ever signed that was good for anything." Another said he heard Henry George in San Francisco on his way to Australia; of course he was a convert. I found it hard to get signatures among those who seemed to be doing the largest business; they were more satisfied with present conditions than the smaller business men. Some places, where I could get no signatures, I would get them into a discussion, and then get them to reading "The Case Plainly Stated," or some other tract, and then go off in search of fresh game. I met two sons of Frank A. Leavitt (who ran for Congress last Fall), and, like their father, they believed in the Single Tax.

Tuesday I got into a discussion with a real estate speculator. It was in a drug store, among a group of men to whom I had presented the petition. In the midst of it he called in another real estate man who was passing. When No. 2 entered he recognized me and spoke. No. 1 told No. 2 he had better sign that petition to have all the taxes placed on their property, as their money was all in real estate. No. 2 said, "Let me tell you what converted me to the Single Tax." And when I left they were still discussing it. One merchant, whom I could hardly get to sign, because he said he didn't understand it, got so interested as to insist on borrowing my STANDARD. Some groups of men will all sign the petition, and again not a man in another group will sign it. Sometimes I will get into a discussion of an hour or two and do not get a name, but I leave tracts to keep them thinking. Sometimes a man will say, "I will never sign that," but will change his mind after I have shown him some parts of "the cat."

Wednesday I got the order of a druggist for "Protection or Free Trade?" who would not sign the petition. I met, also, a young farmer who said he believed in the Single Tax; said he heard of it through the Alliance. I received the following letter from Congressman-elect Snow, of Illinois:

OFFICE OF H. W. SNOW,
SHELDON, Ill., February 12, 1891.

Mr. W. E. Brokaw, Watertown, S. D.—Dear Sir: Yours of February 9, 1891, received. I do not fill out blank as requested, as I have the books referred to, having ordered them some days ago. With regard to the direct and the Single Tax, I am an investigator, and shall try to "hold fast to that which is good." While I think a direct tax would be unpopular, it would be more economical, and cause the people to scrutinize the acts of legislative bodies much closer than they now do, and that would result in great good.

As to the Single Tax I am a learner till I know more and have investigated further. It looks as if it would mend many matters, and has a due regard for justice, and fully exposes the present tax system, which is not just and equal in its results; but whether it would do all claimed for it may well be questioned. In the meantime I shall try to inform myself. Yours truly,
H. W. SNOW.

I have also received a letter from Congressman-elect Durbin, of Chicago, promising to give the subject careful consideration before the next Congress meets.

Thursday it snowed all day, and I put in part of it writing. I got two dry goods clerks to order "Protection or Free Trade?" who would not sign the petition, one of whom was a Protectionist. It being a stormy day and little trading going on, the various merchants were inclined to discuss the subject with me. The most frequent objection first expressed, is: "If

a rich man puts up a fine house, you wouldn't tax it at all, but tax the poor man with a lot next to it just as much, although he is too poor to build?" And when the discussion turns on the right to private property in land they are horrified, until I quote Jefferson, Spencer, Emerson, Gladstone, Blackstone and others, and then they look nonplused.

Among those who signed Friday was S. E. Young, who was Speaker of the House during the session of our first State Legislature. Had quite a talk with him. He held that this is the golden age for the working man; that never before could a poor man get a home so easily; that individual extravagance and lack of thrift was the poor man's worst enemy, and that Mr. George's error arose from the opposite assumption. Another signer was Rev. Wm. J. Skillman, editor Sioux Falls Journal, with whom I am having a discussion in his paper; another is an alderman. As usual, I got a few Protectionists to order "Protection or Free Trade." The city Street Commissioner, who is also M. W. of the Local K. of L., and the F. S. of the K. of L. are both captivated with the Single Tax, and I shall expect to see a lively club here in less than a year.

I spent part of Saturday in writing to Congressmen. I received a reply from Hon. George Fred. Williams, of Boston, in which he said he had subscribed for THE STANDARD, and that "no one who takes part in public affairs, at the present time, is, in my judgment, properly equipped for public work who does not at least give far study to a movement having such large and able following as that of the Single Tax League." As I presented the petition to a lawyer, and told him of the information he could get from THE STANDARD, he replied that he had studied the subject more than I ever did. I said I doubted it, and then he said the petition ought to be confined to taxpayers. I asked him if he ever bought clothes. He replied that he did. "Then," said I, "you pay taxes." "Well," he said, "I guess you are right," and then signed the petition. One lawyer gave me to understand, in stentorian tones, that he wanted "nothing to do with it."

In canvassing this city I have found that, whether "it takes all kinds of people to make a world" or not, there are all kinds of people in the world. "Many men of many minds," and you cannot tell until you try a man how he will view the subject. Some who seemed the most indifferent, when aroused, took great interest in it. Again, there are some who are ignorant—and glad of it.

Enclosed find 172 signatures. I also took orders for thirty-seven copies of "Protection or Free Trade?" during the week and left blanks with several who preferred to send in their own order. The constitution of society is such at present that people naturally look with suspicion upon a stranger offering a thirty-five-cent book for ten cents, and all sorts of tricks are resorted to for "making money."

From what I had read of the progress and growth of Sioux Falls, I was not prepared to see quite so many vacant store rooms nor so many idle men. And from what you hear of prohibition in South Dakota you might not be prepared to believe all I have learned of its practice, and its relation to politics in this city and county. Suffice it to say that it corroborates the statements made by Henry George in the Arena on this subject.

W. E. BROKAW.

SINGLE TAX LETTER WRITERS.

Geo. C. Jones, publisher Journal, Watertown, South Dakota, offers to publish every week short, pithy Single Tax letters, not over a thousand words each. In writing to the assessors, whose names follow, tracts Nos. 5, 9, 17 or 25 would be excellent enclosures.

The briefer these letters are the better, provided, you cover the particular point you aim at.

R. J. Griffin, 12 Howard street, Atlanta, Ga.; T. J. Malone, 75 East Hunter street, Atlanta, Ga.; Chas. Keith, Metropolitan Hotel, Atlanta, Ga.; C. D. Meadow, 101 Peachtree street, Atlanta, Ga.; W. H. Davidson, 14 Brandt Place, Amsterdam, N. Y.; Richard Lindsay, 74 Prospect street, Amsterdam, N. Y.; James H. Dean, 19 Kline street, Amsterdam, N. Y.; M. P. Caughey, 128 Mosher street, Baltimore, Md.; Dr. Geo. W. Massamore, 1702 Madison avenue, Baltimore, Md.; Elias Rosenbaum, 511 West Lombard street, Baltimore, Md.; C. D. Aldrich, 96 Washington street, Binghamton, N. Y.; Wm. E. Bray, 148 Murray street, Binghamton, N. Y.; Robert Brown, 189 Hawley street, Binghamton, N. Y.

We will gladly send tract No. 36 free of charge to any list of names furnished, of those likely to subscribe to the ten-cent edition of Protection or Free Trade.

W. J. ATKINSON, 42 University Place, N. Y.

NEW YORK CITY.

The monthly meeting of the Board of Managers of the Manhattan Single Tax Club was held at the rooms last Friday evening. The committee appointed at the last monthly meeting of the club to revise the Constitution submitted their report, which was approved and recommended to the club for adoption. The changes made in the document make women eligible to membership, and creates fifth class of members—associates—who will be entitled to the fullest use of the rooms and its property, but will not be eligible to hold office, nor to a voice nor vote in the management of the club's affairs, nor to an interest in the club's property. The dues for this class will be fifty cents a month. The reason for creating the "associate" class of membership is that there are many who feel friendly toward the principles advocated by the club, but who are not yet ready to be committed to them; but who desire to avail themselves of the advantages of the rooms on equal terms with the members. The committee thought that by this means many who are now wavering could be made converts to the Single Tax.

The regular meeting of the club will be held to-morrow evening (Thursday, March 5). The constitution approved by the Board of Managers will be submitted for approval as to form. Other matters of vital interest will also be brought up, so a full attendance of the members is requested. Last week Mr. Doblin wrote to Congressman-elect Simpson, inviting him to deliver a lecture before the club. Mr. Simpson answered as follows:

Mr. Benjamin Doblin.—Dear Sir: Your kind letter dated February 24 is received, and will say in reply that I will be glad to meet with the members of your club at some date in the future, if I find that I can spare the time.

I will do anything I can to forward the cause of humanity, and I know no better way of doing so than by forwarding the principles that the members of your club advocate. I will let you know in due time if I can be with you. Yours truly,
JERRY SIMPSON.

It is now more than three weeks since that the chairman of the agitation committee wrote a letter to the American Protective Tariff League inviting its officers to appoint a speaker to address the club on the tariff question. So far no letter has been received in answer, which indicates that the Protective League is either lacking in ordinary courtesy, careless in attending to its correspondence, or that it is afraid to present its side of the tariff issue.

Rev. Layton Williams last Monday evening spoke for an hour before the Workingwoman's Society, 27 Clinton Place, in favor of the Single Tax.

Fred C. Keller.—At the next meeting of the Metropolitan Single Tax Association, Saturday, March 7, 8 p. m., Mr. Daniel Cavanagh will speak on "Ancient and Modern Taxation."

H. J. Wingardner, Harlem.—Twenty-five petitions. I find people quite willing to sign—both Democrats and Republicans.

NEW YORK STATE.

S. M. Gay, West New Brighton, S. I.—Twenty-four petitions. I have never regarded the petition as anything but an educational measure, and it never occurred to me that it could do more than make a little talk in Congress; but if a committee is appointed it must compel attention in the press throughout the country.

"Single Tax Womar," Hornellsville.—Fifteen petitions. Most of them are the names of business men of our little city. I wish to say a few words about some of them. Benton McConnell is the head of the firm of McConnell & Co., who own the sash and blind factory here; he is also president of the "Lumberman's Association," which was formed in your city last Summer; he is a Protectionist. George T. Reed is our most prominent druggist; a rank Republican. He is the man who undertook to "down" Henry George at the time of his lecture here several years ago, but failed, for obvious reasons. M. A. Tuttle is one of our dry goods merchants, a strong, active Prohibitionist. He willingly signed the petition, although he had no faith in its ever accomplishing anything. He knew all about the Single Tax, although he had never read any of George's works. Dr. W. E. Hathaway is a popular physician, also an inventor to quite an extent; among his patents is the "Hathaway patent wire fence." He also invented the machinery with which the wire is made. He is a man of brains and influence, somewhat in sympathy with the movement, but is indifferent and needs to be aroused to the necessity of action. Indifference is a hard thing to contend with. Once get men aroused to action, either for or against our cause, and a great deal can be accomplished. J. I. Bently is an enterprising groceryman, a Democrat and Free Trader; does not know very much about Single Tax.

MASSACHUSETTS.

E. T. Turner, Boston.—The announcement that William Lloyd Garrison would speak at G. A. R. Hall on the 22d of February resulted in a large audience, which gave him an enthusiastic reception. His lecture was one of the best we have ever had in Boston on the Single Tax. On March 8th Professor Moses True Brown, Principal of the Boston School of Oratory, will give some select readings in this same hall, 616 Washington street, at 2:45 p. m.

S. T., Boston.—"Land, Transportation and Finance" were the subjects discussed at the Longshoremen's meeting in Monument Hall, Charlestown, on February 22.

Levi K. Turner will speak before the Worcester Club to-morrow (Thursday) evening on "Rent: its origin, its effect on the distribution of wealth, and its relation to the law of wages."

A. S. Barnard, Brockton.—The Single Tax men of this city formed a permanent organization February 10. William A. McKendrick, 11 L street, president; A. S. Barnard, 54 Belmont street, secretary. Our night of meeting is Friday, and place, corner of Vernon street and Belmont avenue at present. Though our numbers are few we are doing good work, and hope to show good results in the near future. This club was greatly needed here, as there are many who almost "see the cat," and we propose to show them the feline.

John Lavis, Dorchester.—Wednesday, February 25, Q. A. Lothrop, Secretary Neponset Single Tax League, delivered a spirited address before Assembly 6,030, K. of L., in Buckfitt Hall, Dorchester. The weather was very bad, and there were only about fifty present in consequence. However, the Single Tax was very ably presented by Mr. Lothrop, and we are confident that we set those present to thinking. Being called on by the master workman to say a few words, I very briefly stated that the Single Tax was the course for organized labor to pursue. The assembly paid all expenses of the meeting, and the master workman, in closing, said he was a Single Tax man, unlimited, and asked every one present who was not a member to join the assembly, as that assembly discussed the land question at all its meetings. Thursday, 26th, Lothrop and myself went to East Weymouth, eleven miles from Boston, and we both addressed a small meeting in Temperance Hall. There was a regular blizzard abroad, and the express company that took our printing down in the early part of the week failed to deliver it, making the meeting almost a failure. But we are sure the good seed was sown, as the chairman, a Mr. Fennel, said he would try for another meeting under more favorable conditions. Lothrop and myself lost \$2 apiece on this meeting; but we are not discouraged, but intend trying again. I wish we could get help from those around here who could afford it, as we are only working men, and can't afford the expense, and this is the only way to spread the light.

D. Webster Groh, Boston.—An interesting and well attended joint debate on reciprocity took place, Friday evening, February 27, between the Boston Question Club, represented by Messrs. E. M. White, D. Webster Groh and Q. A. Lothrop, and the Boston Y. M. C. A. Literary Society, represented by Messrs. Frank Parsons, F. J. Stowe and J. H. Hyer. The

latter took the affirmation, the former the negative of the question:

Resolved, That genuine reciprocity with all American nations is the most desirable tariff policy the United States can adopt.

The Q. C. men were all Single Taxers and two of the Y. M. C. A. men free traders, while the remaining man, a limited Protectionist, very tenderly kept his Protection ideas in the background on this occasion. So it was simply a question between a limited or unlimited amount of Free Trade—a half loaf or a whole one. Two of the three judges decided in favor of the negative, while a vote of the audience taken before and after the discussion showed a gain of nine for the negative over the first vote taken. With a view of injecting more Single Tax ideas in other conservative audiences, we will probably challenge some other literary societies to joint debate of similar questions.

G. A. Lake, Lynn.—Twenty-three petitions. I find very little trouble in getting signatures.

NEW JERSEY.

M. J. Flynn, Camden.—Forty-eight petitions. Probably you will be able to form some idea now what I meant when I said that there was quite a number of blanks in Camden which should be in New York signed.

John Morrison, Washington.—Eighteen petitions. Our Democrats do not talk tariff reform nowadays, but absolute Free Trade. The Single Tax is in everybody's mouth. Our club is doing all it can. We lack the means to do as much as we would like.

PENNSYLVANIA.

S. T., Philadelphia.—Our offer to give \$500 to any one who would show us that the Single Tax is a tax on industry, has been a great advertisement for our cause in this section. Our club challenged a statement in The Record that the Single Tax was a tax on industry, and after some correspondence on our part, and editorial answers from that paper, we made an offer to submit the question to discussion before three judges, one of whom should be appointed by the proprietor of The Record, one by us, and the third by the two already named. The Record declined our proposal in courteous terms, while admitting that the letters from our side were remarkable for their ability. But the matter is being extensively discussed, people now listening attentively who but a short time ago turned a deaf ear toward us.

"Uncle Tom," Bryn-Mawr.—Twenty petitions. One is a master plumber and machinist; two a piano tuner, who travels a good deal and expects to make converts to the Single Tax next season; three is a butcher (Republican). The remainder are plumbers, carpenters, coachmen, gardeners, handy men about the place, and others. To give our sluggish workers an opportunity "to do something" in favor of the movement, it is suggested, gently but firmly, to keep the petition in circulation until A. D. 1991. By that time we probably could have 200,000 signers, provided they would be sent in as fast as at present.

DELAWARE.

J. M. Dorney, Wilmington.—Ten petitions, mostly collected by Mr. Sideil, of Newcastle, a most active worker. Discussion is in the air, and with the streets full of idle men there is plenty of opportunity for it. I would say to "Uncle Tom" that Bryn-Mawr is not the only place of lazy bones Single Tax men. Wilmington is full of them who read THE STANDARD and wait for others to act. Wilmington Single Tax dreamers, wake up, work the petition and attend our club meetings on the first and third Mondays of each month, at 604 Market street, at 8 o'clock in the evening.

MARYLAND.

Wm. N. Hill, M. D., Baltimore.—Our League, at its meeting last night (February 23), indorsed a project, now before the City Council of Baltimore, for a re-survey of the city and the making of a topographical map of its territory. This map, if made, will show the exact location of all lots vacant and improved, and, being done under the authority of the municipality, will be official. There has been no general survey of Baltimore since 1816, though maps have been gotten up by private enterprise which do not contain full details, as is proposed in the official map, and are otherwise inaccurate. We believe this map project to be essential to a proper assessment of the lands of the city, and that it will furnish official data which will help the Single Tax. I would like very much to hear through THE STANDARD from friends in other cities how and when such surveys have been made, and the results to be obtained from such maps. To my mind, it is clear that they result in a great saving to the community.

LOUISIANA.

George W. Roberts, New Orleans.—The Louisiana Single Tax Club still holds up the flag, but cannot tell what effect we may produce, as there is no outward appearance of any; but we know there are being investigations made in the assessments, but do not know to what extent. The idea uppermost here is to prevent all taxation from falling on property, and make it fall on occupations and labor products.

TEXAS.

J. H. Hall, McGregor.—Nine petitions, the most of which were received almost without solicitation. I never go without carrying a few petitions with me, and when an opportunity offers I distribute a few out through a crowd, and it never fails to get up a discussion of the subject; and it is often the case that I find men who only have to understand what the Single Tax means to indorse it.

I. J. McCullom, Snow, Leon County.—Seventeen petitions. Single Tax is on a boom in this neck of woods.

OHIO.

"Buckthorn," Cincinnati.—Forty-four petitions, collected by several friends. No. 1 is a public-spirited, conscientious lawyer and an active Democrat. Says he believes already in the Single Tax to some extent, but is not quite clear as to the effect of it on farmers. I have given him Sherman's "Farmers and the Single Tax," with passages marked that will suit

his case. No. 2 is an active K. of L. man, very bright and an entertaining speaker; inclines toward Free Trade. No. 4 is an Indian, studious and well informed.

J. G. Galloway, Dayton.—Ohio votes this fall on a constitutional convention. We want it and must have it. The Ohio State Trade and Labor Assembly is an organization composed of delegates from the various central unions, district assemblies, local trade assemblies, and local unions and organizations of labor in the State. Object, concentration of the combined intelligence and influence of organized labor on legislative lines. This body will work for the most advanced position that can be secured in organic and statute liberty, while devoting all its power to forming public sentiment on natural rights; in a word, to secure to the toilers a proper share of the wealth they create, more of the leisure that rightfully belongs to them, more of the benefits and emoluments of the world. Imbued with these sentiments a live president, with a corps of sixteen vice-presidents as agitators in as many congressional districts, and a representation of sixty earnest men, adjourned last Friday to go to their homes and work for the concentration of the workers of the State into a solid phalanx, for a presentation of their demands at the next session of the Ohio Legislature.

INDIANA.

Henry Rawie, Anderson.—Indiana is among the progressive States, and we will get some Single Tax legislation from the present Legislature.

ILLINOIS.

Warren Worth Bailey, Chicago, February 27.—Mr. Kellett, "the millionaire's friend," drew a large and intelligent audience last night to hear his address on "The Crime of Poverty." The evening was bitter cold, but it would seem that the weather makes no difference to the people who have seen the cat, or are looking for it. Mr. Kellett made a typical prohibition speech, although he denied that he took the prohibition ground, his whole argument being based on alleged statistics of the drink evil, to which he attributed most of the poverty of the world. He declared that waste makes want, and he included theatre going in the list of wasteful practices and habits. Some of his statements and conclusions were very funny, although he did not mean to be humorous, and was evidently much surprised by the frequent outbursts of laughter and applause at the most unexpected places. However, the gentleman was given a most patient and considerate hearing, despite the obvious absurdity of the position he assumed, and the undigested and indigestible mass of "figgers" which he paraded in yard-long columns which proved nothing except the ingenuity of the man who compiled them and the credulity of those who have accepted them as conclusive in a discussion of economics.

Louis F. Post spoke briefly in reply to Mr. Kellett, and in a few happy sentences disposed of the laborious effort which he charitably called an argument. He agreed with the speaker as to the evils attending the liquor traffic; he would be glad if it could be wiped out. But he wanted the gentleman to understand that the abolition of the drink evil would not abolish poverty or result in any great permanent improvement in the condition of labor, since landlordism would still remain to claim an ever-increasing share of production as the price of its permission of access to the soil. And then Mr. Post proceeded to make a Single Tax speech that left nothing to be desired except more of it. Yet there was enough of it to make our main idea perfectly clear to any open mind, and enough to set our own folks into a very happy frame of mind.

Mr. Post left this afternoon for New York, after a very pleasant month's visit among friends, who had learned to love and admire him long before they ever saw his genial face. We had hoped that he would conclude to remain permanently in Chicago and still hope that he will return, not alone because we like him so well, but because just such talent as his is so much needed here. The demand for Single Tax speakers continues to grow apace, and if we had Mr. Post to add to Mr. White, Mr. Brown, Mr. Beck, Mr. Furbish, Mr. Bartholomew and the rest of our talkers, I think we could make Rome howl. Mr. Post spoke several times while in Chicago, and in every instance he more than satisfied expectation. Should he return he may be very sure of a warm welcome.

A significant and very gratifying fact came to my attention this week. It is a straw that shows the way the wind is beginning to blow, not only in Illinois, but throughout the country. The Farmers' Institute of the Eighth District has been in session at Morris, and among other topics of discussion was that of taxation. Through the influence of our Mr. H. W. McFarlane an invitation was sent to us to furnish a speaker on the Single Tax and Mr. John Z. White went down this morning directly on his return from the Missouri conference. The farmers are ripe for the harvest. All we need is reapers.

Mr. Edward F. Sweet will expose "The Fallacies of Progress and Poverty" next Thursday evening. March 12 Miss Leonora Beck will be the speaker, and March 19 the Equal Suffragists will be with us. April 2 we will celebrate Jefferson's birthday, perhaps with a little supper at the Grand Pacific.

Ernest J. Flood, Chicago.—Twenty-one petitions. When this petition shall come—over a hundred thousand strong—before our representatives in Washington, our Congress shall and will take heed to "the handwriting on the wall" to guide their actions and deliberations on a point so vital that the very existence of our future government may turn upon it.

IOWA.

S. T., Burlington.—The personal property of Burlington, Iowa, pays 35 percent. of the total taxes. This is a very unusually large proportion. Other cities of the State levying only 17 or 18 per cent. of their total taxes on personalty. Mr. Frank S. Churchill, of Burlington, used this point effectively in a speech delivered at the Commercial Club Banquet in Burlington last week. He showed how other cities, like Des Moines and Sioux City, where these taxes of personalty were lower, were rapidly outstripping Burlington in the increase of wealth and improvements, and pointed out what

a folly it was for Burlington to drive capital away by such a system. Then, without mentioning the Single Tax, he made an admirable address, advocating the exemption of all personalty and improvements, and the levying of all taxes on land values. He was congratulated on the speech by some men who were afraid he was "going to talk Georgeism," and was delighted that he had confined himself to good, hard common sense. The Hawkeye printed his speech in full.

MINNESOTA.

C. J. Buell, Minneapolis.—Eight petitions. They are people I have run across. I am now finishing a house at St. Anthony Park. The other day there were eight of us there—two carpenters, two plumbers, two furnace-men (one of them the inventor and manufacturer of a famous furnace) and two grate setters. The other carpenters and the furnace manufacturer were the only one's whose names I knew. The question of Single Tax came up, as is wont to do on all occasions, when it soon appeared that every man present was a firm believer in the justice and efficacy of the Single Tax. A few days ago I ran across, on the car, a man from Wisconsin, who said he had never heard of the Single Tax idea. I gave him a brief explanation when he remarked: "Every workingman ought to go in for that." "Nobody but land speculators would oppose such a thing."

Our bill for a constitutional amendment permitting the people of the State or of any county or city to abolish the personal property or improvement tax, or both, by majority vote, came up in the house Thursday in committee of the whole, and was indefinitely postponed. As the committee arose, Mr. Tripp, of this county, moved to except the "Single Tax Amendment bill" from the report of the committee, and called for the ayes and noes. On call of the roll thirty-four favored the Single Tax and fifty-one were against it. One of our men, J. H. Sheets, voted in the negative in order that he might move a reconsideration, thus making 35 for, 50 against. Of these thirty-five, twenty were Democrats, ten were Alliance, and only five Republicans; twenty-nine members were absent or not voting. About half of those would have voted with us. Whether the vote can be reconsidered remains to be seen. While it seems utterly absurd that the people of any city or county should be obliged to ask the legislature or the people of the State for permission to do such a thing as to adopt the Single Tax for local purposes, yet we feel pretty well over the result of the ballot. Our thirty-five were either all Single Taxers or else those who were perfectly willing it should be tried. It is perhaps instructive to note that fully two-thirds of the Democrats of the house are willing to give the Single Tax a trial, while the opposition comes from Republicans who understand fully what the Single Tax means, or from Alliance men who do not understand at all what it means, and who have been fooled into believing that it means more taxes on the farmers. Wait till the farmers have a chance to study the question a few years more, and they will do some voting very similar to the way they voted on the tariff question last fall. Friday evening, February 27, I am to address the students of the School of Agriculture on the "Single Tax." I will write you how I come out.

Oliver T. Erickson, Minneapolis.—We have put on the war paint and stirred up a little ghost dance among the ministers of Minneapolis. One very significant fact in connection with the reply so far is, that the most contemptible answers come from the ministers drawing the "fattest" salaries. To them the idea of removing poverty in any way, except by poorhouses and charity balls, is in the direction of Anarchy, and cannot be commended. On the other hand, some of our ministers who have more plebeian audiences have written us some very kind answers, stating that they would comply with our request.

When we take into consideration the fact that two years ago our constitutional amendment bill did not have friends enough to get it out the committee's pigeon hole, the result of the recent vote on it is very gratifying.

George C. Madison, St. Paul.—Two petitions. The Globe says we Single Taxers got a "black eye" in the defeat of the tax bill in the lower house. Well, a "black eye" is of little consequence, and soon heals. I have seen no Single Tax men since to speak to, but personally I feel elated that I should have been squelched by a majority of only seventeen, and the prime object at present of getting the subject before the people has certainly been attained. The Dispatch says the friends of the bill will soon make another attempt officially. I do not know as to the correctness of that report. I think Senator Tawney would be a good subject for the letter writers. I have been shooting at him all by myself.

MISSOURI.

R. H. Hasenritter, Hermann.—Nine petitions. Whenever I write a business letter, I enclose one of the petition blanks, with the request to sign. If the party even does not sign, his attention will be drawn thereby to the question. I do all I can to make the people acquainted with the Single Tax by distributing pamphlets. If a drummer comes around and can't sell me anything, I tell him to work for the Single Tax, and so improve trade.

Wm. W. Rose, Kansas City.—Eleven petitions. We expect our State convention at Jefferson City to be a great success.

CALIFORNIA.

S. T., San Francisco.—February 13 Ralph E. Hoyt, of Los Angeles, spoke before the Single Tax Society at Y. M. C. A. Hall on "Who Owns the Earth?" He answered the question from the standpoint of an out-and-out Single Taxer and Free Trader. After the lecture Mr. Hoyt and Judge Maguire answered several questions from the audience.

H. M. Rhodes, Hesperia.—Nine petitions. The idea of postponing the presentation of the petition until the next session of Congress was a good one. By that time it will be possible to run it up to half a million. I am here in this high altitude laying in a new store of health, some of which I expect to use for the Single Tax when I return to the valley in the Spring.

M. Barthel, San Jose.—Nine petitions; all good men. Our cause is progressing. Four years ago we mustered but three, now we can count over thirty.

THE HAND-TO-HAND CLUB EDITION OF "PROTECTION OR FREE TRADE?"

Before the end of the week we hope to begin mailing "Protection or Free Trade?" to prepaid subscribers. When this is done, what are left of the 100,000 will go to subscribers who have not yet paid; but the probability is that most of these will have to wait for their books till the second 100,000 is out. This will probably be late in April. We think we are safe in promising all whose remittances reach here by March 20, copies from the first lot. Advance subscriptions at ten cents a copy will be received until the entire edition is published. With this first 100,000 our work begins.

We can easily "make it a million" now. It is far easier to sell one hundred copies of a book you can show, and deliver at once, than to take orders for something of which you have not even a sample. In Buffalo, Denver and Youngstown, individuals, and in Philadelphia and Brooklyn Single Tax clubs, have undertaken to make a canvass of every house in these cities for subscriptions to "Protection or Free Trade?", leaving tract wherever subscriptions are not obtained. Volunteers will be used, so far as possible, in making this house-to-house canvass, and the expenses, including payment of canvassers, where needed, will be provided for by selling the books at the regular retail price (twenty-five cents). The tracts (Extra No. 36) will be furnished, free, in any desired quantity, to any club or individual wishing to make such a canvass. These tracts contain sample pages, subscription blanks and press notices. If the reformers of this country choose to take full advantage of this opportunity, by inaugurating such a canvass in every city, we cannot only make certain the success of absolute Free Trade next year, but make direct taxation a live and leading issue. Should we fail to take this tide, now flooding so strongly in our favor, we will have many years in which to regret it; but with what has been done in the past few weeks, as an earnest of what will be done from now on, there need be no thought of failure. One united effort now will insure our immediate success.

Bolton Smith, Memphis, Tenn.—Send me a hundred copies to use as samples.

J. T. Ripley, Chicago, Ill.—Have sent in subscriptions for about 500 copies, so I suppose I am entitled to membership in the Hand-to-Hand Club. Am still at work, as are others, and hope to add to this number.

J. G. Galloway, Dayton, O.—My whole soul is in this work. A number have promised help financially. When they pay up the money, will all sent through Mr. Kile to you.

B. Romberg, Black Jack Springs, Texas.—Have sent money for forty-five copies, and will send for fifty more when these arrive. If farmers read this book, it will do more good than anything else.

Billy Radcliffe, Single Taxer, Youngstown, O.—Am putting in what spare time I have canvassing for "Protection or Free Trade?" and get orders easily. Enclosed find \$15; will send more in about a week.

James Sharp, Altoona, Pa.—Enclosed is \$2.70 for twenty-seven copies. Can get more orders when books arrive, as some want to see what the book looks like, before ordering.

L. W. Hoch, Adrian, Mich.—Enclosed find \$15.70. It is from subscribers secured by H. P. Whinnery.

Edgar Farnell, Pawtucket, R. I.—Enclosed find \$2 for twenty subscriptions from my shopmates, mostly Republican Protectionists. If "Protection or Free Trade?" don't convert them, nothing short of working without dinner will. Will get more orders when these books arrive.

Wm. O. Foley, Greensburg, Indiana.—Enclose \$10 for 100 copies and to make me a member of the Hand-to-Hand Club. Am glad you are succeeding so well with your grand work. We need hundreds of copies in this State, and I hope the money and machinery may be found to circulate them.

Watt Piercy, Helena, Montana.—Enclosed find my subscription for 100 copies of ten cent edition. Would like at least part soon as published, as with samples to show can doubtless get other subscriptions.

P. D. Lafayette, Middletown, Conn.—Feel sure of getting a number of subscriptions as soon as those ordered arrive, so I can show what kind of a book they will get for ten cents.

Thomas Watson, corresponding secretary California Single Tax Society of San Francisco.—At our last business meeting we passed a resolution subscribing for 500 copies; will forward money shortly.

James Cox, Jr., Little Falls, N. Y.—I think it would be almost as easy to sell this book at twenty cents as at ten. If I can make a living at it, will work all Summer distributing it. I never read a book I could take more interest in circulating, except "Progress and Poverty."

Oliver T. Erickson, Minneapolis, Minn.—Enclosed find \$16 account subscriptions. Am taking some orders all the time, and will send another batch soon. You can't get the books here any too quick to suit us.

S. B. Lowe, Tehuacana, Texas.—While nearly all the voters of the State vote right on this question, quite a number can't tell why they do so. This book will give them the needed information. Am glad you have begun to teach the lesson so early, because you can get men to think more calmly now, when there is no heated canvass in progress. If the northern and western farmers can be taught to see clearly their own interests without prejudice, there will be no question about '92.

Cannot get time to separate Michigan subscriptions this week, but will try to do so for next issue. From now on every moment must tell till we get at least a million copies printed. The fact, that this book was first printed a few years ago in chapters by the Louisville Courier Journal and the Philadelphia Record, may satisfy Democrats who doubt the policy of circulating it, if there are any. Within the past few days the Louisville Courier Journal, Indianapolis Sentinel, Cincinnati Post, San Francisco Examiner, Cleveland Press and a number of other papers have printed interviews with President Carlisle about this edition. Please send copies of any such notices as you may have inserted in your local papers to W. J. Atkinson, 42 University place, New York.

PERSONAL.

Louis F. Post returned from the West last Monday. He will preside at the monthly meeting of the Manhattan Single Tax Club, of which he is the president, to-morrow evening, when it may be expected that he will have something to say of his trip.

* * *

John Brown, chairman of the House Committee of the Manhattan Single Tax Club, returned to this city last Thursday night from a two weeks' business trip in the West, during which time he visited St. Louis, Chicago, Pittsburg and Cleveland. He left his STANDARD at home, and not being able to buy one in the first three towns named, was unable to connect with the Single Tax brethren; but in Cleveland he spent a pleasant evening at the rooms of the Single Tax Club, having been specially taken in charge by L. E. Siemon. When our Single Taxers go traveling they ought to take a STANDARD with them; then, by referring to its directory, many an otherwise dull and lonesome evening may be made pleasant by contact with brothers in the faith.

* * *

According to the New York Press, Senator-elect Peffer, of Kansas, has declared himself "a strong protectionist for the wool growers of this country." He will also be a protectionist "in the manufacture of cotton and woolen goods," because, as he says: "The manufacturers of the United States are entitled to consideration at the hands of Congress. We want employment for the American workman, regardless of the foreign artisan and laborer. Self-preservation is the first law of nature, and I am protectionist in that respect." Senator-elect Kyle, of South Dakota, in an interview in Chicago, says he will stand squarely on the Alliance platform. On all questions outside he will follow his own convictions. He is an uncompromising advocate of free silver. He took the opportunity, while being interviewed, to deny ever having voted the Democratic ticket. He says his last presidential vote was cast for Garfield; so it would seem that he dodged in 1884 and 1888. These two Senators will make a "record" between them that will make the rank and file of the Farmers' Alliance jump out of their brots.

* * *

A good story is told on Thomas J. Gilligan, of the Metropolitan Single Tax Club. He is a dry goods salesman on the West side. Ever since becoming a convert to Single Taxism he has devoted his leisure hours to the task of trying to convert his brother salesmen; and to use an aphorism, "they listened but they didn't 'twig.'" A week or so ago Mr. Gilligan was put down for a lecture on the Single Tax before his club, and he took the opportunity to invite all his salesman friends to hear him, some of whom accepted the invitation. One particularly skeptical fellow was early on hand, and he became the target at which Mr. Gilligan fired all his points. When the lecturer had closed his address, he invited questions. In due course the skeptic rose to his feet and said about as follows: "Mr. Gilligan, I came here, at your invitation, to hear you talk on the Single Tax, under the impression that you would, as you promised, make it clear to me. Now, I have read Mr. George's "Progress and Poverty"; I didn't see anything in it; it hasn't converted me. I have listened attentively to your address, and that hasn't converted me. Now—" "Hold on!" interrupted Mr. Gilligan, "Did you say that after a close reading of 'Progress and Poverty' you failed to find anything in it; and that therefore you were not converted to the Single Tax?" "That's what I said," responded the skeptical salesman. "Then," said Mr. Gilligan, "what I could say to you wouldn't convert you. The only thing I could do for you, my friend, is to pray for you!"

* * *

The Minneapolis Labor Union of the 21st ult. contains the first part of an article on "A Rational System of Taxation," by C. J. Buell. Of course, he advocates the Single Tax, and shows the injustice of and objection to double taxation. Mr. Buell asks his opponents to criticize his position fearlessly.

* * *

Congressman-elect Jere Simpson told the Detroit Free Press that his expenses in the late election were just \$250. He has figured out that his living expenses while in Congress will not be over \$35 a month, and as a result he expects to have a nice bank account when his term expires. The Free Press says that Mr. Simpson neither drinks, smokes nor chews.

* * *

Jerome O'Neill says that during the dinner hour the other day, while talking to the men who are working on a job with him, he was much surprised and pleased to hear them all declare themselves to be Single Tax Free Traders. Jerome is well known to New York Single Taxers, and thought he knew all the men of his way of thinking in the building trades; but the men with whom he was working in this instance were all strangers to him.

* * *

The last issue of the Flushing Journal contains an article by T. E. Lane, in which he uses figures from the assessment books to refute a statement made by a correspondent in a previous issue.

FOR A SPIRITUAL SONG.

A CHRISTMAS STORY.—A poor country congregation found itself badly in want of hymn-books. The clergyman applied to a London firm, and asked to be supplied at the lowest (church) rates. The firm replied that, on condition the hymn-books contained certain advertisements, the congregation should have them for nothing. Necessity knows no law, and the minister sorrowfully complied, thinking to himself that when the advertisements came they could be removed from the leaves. The hymn-books arrived, and—joy of joys—they contained no interleaved advertisements. At the thanksgiving service the good parson joyously gave out the Christmas hymn, and the congregation sang the first verse with fervor. When they reached the last line they found that this was what they had been singing:

"Hark! the herald angels sing,
Beecham's Pills are just the thing;
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
Two for man and one for child."

THE DISCREET MONKEY.

New York Commercial Advertiser.

Dr. R. L. Garner, of Roanoke, Va., has been studying the language of monkeys with a view to making up a Simian vocabulary, which he thinks will contain about forty words. He has been getting monkeys to chatter into graphophones—after which he turns the crank to see what the other monkeys have to say in reply. It is undoubtedly a most striking fact that the Simians—our cousins, according to Darwin—though provided with lips, tongue, all the human organs of speech, in fact, have never been known—despite their love of mimicry—to mimic man's articulate speech; while, on the other hand, the parrot, with his horny and inflexible beak and club-shaped tongue, both talks and sings. Perhaps it is discretion that seals the monkey's lips: "All right," said an old darkey in slavery times, standing in front of a monkey's cage at a menagerie, "You go on lookin' like folks

and actin' like folks and makin' out you is folks. Fust thing you know you'll say something—and then the white man'll cut your tail short off and put you in the tobacco patch. Whar will you be then?" Has the doctor considered this view of the situation?

DEALING DOCTOR DANA A BODY BLOW.

St. Louis Republic.

Doctor Dana chuckles in the editorial columns of the Sun over what he imagines to be symptoms that The Republic is "getting ready to abandon Grover Cleveland as a Presidential candidate." He would have more reason to be halcyon and vociferous over such a prospect, however, if he were himself less industrious in promoting Mr. Cleveland's interests by abusing him. We are in a position to testify that Democrats still love Mr. Cleveland for the enemies he has made.

SINGLE TAX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES.

LIST OF ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAVE ADOPTED THE DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES MADE BY NATIONAL CONFERENCE AT NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER 3, 1890.

Secretaries of clubs are requested to send corrections, notices of the formation of new clubs or of requests for the enrollment of existing clubs to Geo. St. John Leavens, Secretary of the National Committee, at No. 42 University place, New York.

ARKANSAS.

LITTLE ROCK.—Single tax club. Every alternate Thursday evening, 717 Main st. Pres., Sol. F. Clark; sec., Theo. Hartman.

CALIFORNIA.

LOS ANGELES.—Single tax club. Pres., Clarence A. Miller; sec., S. Byron Welcome, 523 Macy st.

OAKLAND.—Oakland single tax club No. 1. Meets every Friday evening at St. Andrew's Hall, at 1056½ Broadway. Pres., A. J. Gregg; sec., E. Hodkins.

SAN FRANCISCO.—California single tax society, room 9, 341 Market street. Pres., L. N. Manzer; cor. sec., Thomas Watson, 341 Market street.

COLORADO.

DENVER.—Denver single tax club. 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. Files, 303 16th st.

DELAWARE.

WILMINGTON.—Single tax association. Meets first and third Mondays of each month at 8 p. m. Pres., Geo. W. Kreer; sec., Frank L. Reardon.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

WASHINGTON.—Chas. F. Adams' Scientific Council (No. 2) of the People's Commonwealth. First Tuesday evening of each month at 150 A st. n. w. Trustee, Chas. Newburgh, 64 Defrees st.; sec., Dr. Wm. Geddes, 1719 G st. n. w.

GEORGIA.

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

ILLINOIS.

CHICAGO.—Chicago single tax club. Every Thursday evening, club room 4, Grand Pacific Hotel. Pres., Warren Worth Bailey, 338 Hudson av.; sec., F. W. Irwin, 217 La Salle st., room 835.

BRACEVILLE.—Braceville single tax committee. Pres., John Mainwaring; sec., Chas. E. Matthews.

PEORIA.—Peoria single tax club. Meetings Monday evenings. Pres., Jas. W. Hill, 304 Madison avenue; sec., Jas. W. Avery.

QUINCY.—Gem City single tax club. Meets every Thursday evening at 7:30, room 4, second floor, n. e. cor. 5th and Hampshire sts. Pres., C. F. Perry; cor. sec. Duke Schroer, 524 York st.

INDIANA.

INDIANAPOLIS.—Single tax league. Pres., Thos. J. Hudson; sec., Chas. H. Krause. Every Sunday, 2:30 p. m., Munster Hall, cor. Washington and Alabama sts, room 12.

RICHMOND.—Single tax club. Pres., C. S. Schneider, 105 South 3d st.; sec., M. Richie, 913 South A st.

IOWA.

BURLINGTON.—Burlington single tax club. First Saturday of each month, 805 North 5th st. Pres., Wilbur Mosena, 320 Hedge av.; sec. treas., Frank S. Churchill.

KENTUCKY.

LOUISVILLE.—Progress single tax club. Open every evening, 504 West Jefferson st. Business meetings Friday. Pres., Christ. Landolf; sec., W. W. Daniel, 303 Franklin st.

LOUISIANA.

NEW ORLEANS.—Louisiana single tax club. Meets first and third Thursday night at 8 p. m. at 131 Poydras st. Pres., Jas. Middleton; sec., G. W. Roberts, 326 Thalia st.

MAINE.

AUBURN.—Auburn single tax club. Public meetings every Saturday evening, 3 River Road. Pres., A. C. Dunming; sec., H. G. Casey, 32 Spring st.

MARYLAND.

BALTIMORE.—Single tax league of Maryland. Every Monday at 8 p. m. in hall 506 East Baltimore st.; Pres., Wm. J. Ogden, 5 North Carey st.; sec. sec., J. W. Hanel, 28 S. Broadway; cor. sec., Dr. Wm. N. Hill, 1435 E. 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, 522 Columbia st.

MASSACHUSETTS.

STATE.—Massachusetts single tax league. Pres., William Lloyd Garrison; sec., E. H. Underhill, 45 Kilby st., Boston; treas., George Cox, Jr., 72 High st., Boston.

BOSTON.—Single tax league. Public meetings second and fourth Sundays of each month, at 2:30 p. m., at G. A. R. Hall, 616 Washington st. Pres., Edwin M. White; sec. Emily T. Turner, 5 Cambridge st.

DORCHESTER.—Single tax club. Meetings first Tuesday of each month at Field's building, Field's corner. Pres., Edward Frost; sec., John Adams, Field's building, Field's corner.

MALDEN.—Single tax club. Pres., Geo. W. Cox; sec. Edwin T. Clark, 100 Tremont st.

NEPONSET.—Single tax league. Sec., Q. A. Lothrop, Wood st court, Neponset.

NEWBURYPORT.—Merrimac single tax assembly. Pres., Andrew R. Curtis; sec., Wm. R. Whitmore, 236 Merrimac street.

ROXBURY.—Single tax club. Pres., J. R. Carrett, 30 Court st., Boston; sec., Henry C. Romaine, 959 Tremont st.

WORCESTER.—Worcester single tax club. Meetings first Thursday of month, at Reform club hall, 98 Front st. Pres., Thomas J. Hastings; sec., E. K. Page, Lake View, Worcester.

MINNESOTA.

MINNEAPOLIS.—Minneapolis single tax league. Every Monday evening, at the West Hotel. Pres., C. J. Buell, 402 W. Franklin av.; sec., Oliver, T. Erickson, 2203 Lyndale av., N.

ST. PAUL.—Single tax club. Pres., H. C. McCartney; sec., Geo. C. Madison, 330 E. 7th st. Second and fourth Tuesdays at 41 W. 4th st.

MISSOURI.

HERMANN.—Single tax committee. Pres., R. H. Havenritter; sec., Dr. H. A. Hibbard.

KANSAS CITY.—Single tax club. First Sunday of the month, at 3 p. m., at Bacon Lodge Hall, 1204 and 1206 Walnut st. Pres., Charles E. Reid; sec., R. F. Young, Signal Service office.

ST. LOUIS.—St. Louis single tax club. Tuesday evenings at 307½ Pine st., third floor; business meetings first Monday of each month. Rooms open every evening. Public meetings first and third Thursday of each month at Bowman's Hall, 11th and Locust sts. Pres., H. H. Hoffman; sec., J. W. Steele, 2738 Gamble st.

Benton School of Social Science. Meets every Saturday evening at 6839 Waldemar avenue. Pres., Henry S. Chase; sec., W. C. Little.

NEBRASKA.

WYMORE.—Wymore single tax and tariff reform club. Meetings every Wednesday evening at Union hall. Pres., Julius Hamm; sec. and treas., H. C. Jaynes; P. O. Box 137.

NEW JERSEY.

CAMDEN.—Single tax club. Meets every Saturday evening at Filton hall, n. e. cor. Second and Filton sts. Pres., M. J. Flynn; sec., Wm. M. Callingham, 530 Lind st.

JANVIER.—Janvier single tax and ballot reform club. Alternate Thursday evenings, Janvier hall. Pres., W. J. Rice; sec., Sydney B. Walsh.

JERSEY CITY.—Standard single tax club. Meets first and third Thursday of each month at Assembly Rooms, 642 Newark av. Pres., Jas. McGregor; sec., Joseph Dana Miller, 223 Grand st.

PLAINFIELD.—Single tax club. Pres., John L. Anderson; sec., J. H. McCullough, 7 Pond place.

NEWARK.—Single tax and free trade club. Pres., C. B. Rathburn; sec., M. T. Gaffney, 211 Plane st.

PATERSON.—Passaic Co. single tax club. Pres., E. W. Nellis; sec., John A. Craig, 192 Hamburg av. Meetings every Thursday evening at 109 Market st.

VINELAND.—Vineland single tax and ballot reform club. Pres., Rev. Adolph Roeder; sec., Wm. P. Nichols, box 924.

WASHINGTON.—Warren county land and labor club. Pres., A. W. Davis, Oxford; sec., John Morison, box 272, Washington.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK.—Manhattan single tax club. Business Meeting first Thursday of each month at 8 p. m.; other Thursdays, social and propaganda. Club rooms, 73 Lexington av.; open every day from 6 p. m. to 12 p. m. Pres. Louis F. Post; sec., A. J. Steers.

Metropolitan single tax association. First and third Saturday evenings of each month, 490 8th av. Pres., John H. O'Connell; sec., Fred C. Keller.

BROOKLYN.—Brooklyn single tax club. Business meetings Wednesday evenings; club house, 198 Livingston st.; open at all hours. Pres., Robert Baker; cor. sec. G. W. Thompson, 9 St. Marks av.

Women's single tax club. Meetings the first and third Tuesdays, 198 Livingston st. at 3 o'clock. Pres. Miss Eva J. Turner; sec., Mrs. Robert Baker, 344 Greene av.

East Brooklyn single tax club. Meetings every Monday evening, 408 Evergreen av. Pres., James Hamilton; sec., Jas. B. Connell, 448 Central av.

Eastern District single tax club. Meetings first and third Mondays, 284 Broadway. Pres., Joseph McGuinness, 133 S. 9th st., Brooklyn, E. D.; sec., Emily A. Deverall.

Eighteenth ward single tax club. Every Thursday at 8 p. m. at 253 Evergreen av. Pres., J. J. Faulkner; sec., Adolph Pettenkofer, 253 Evergreen av.

ALBANY.—Albany single tax club. Meetings Sunday, 7:30 p. m., Beaver-Block, cor. Pearl and Norton sts. Pres., F. W. Croake; cor. sec., Geo. Noyes.

OSWEGO.—Pioneer single tax club. Pres., James Ryan; sec., James C. Murray.

OWEGO.—Single tax club. Pres., Michael J. Murray; sec., Wm. Minehaw, 50 West Main st.

LONG ISLAND CITY.—Freedom association meets evening of every fourth Friday of the month at Schwabenberg's hall, corner Vernon and Borden avs. Sec., T. G. Drake, 215 Kouwenhoven st.

TROY.—Single tax club. Meetings every Thursday evening at 576 River st; Pres., Henry Sterling; sec., B. B. Martin, 576 River st.

OHIO.

CINCINNATI.—Cincinnati single tax club. Every Monday night, 7:30 o'clock, Robertson's Hall, Lincoln's Inn Court, 227 Main st. (near P. O.). Pres., Jos. L. Schraer; sec., Dr. David De Beck, 139 W. 9th st.

CLEVELAND.—Central single tax club. First and third Wednesday evenings, 8 p. m.; rooms, 301 and 303 Arcade, Euclid av. Pres., Tom L. Johnson; sec., L. E. Siemon, 7 Greenwood st.

DAYTON.—Free land club. Pres., J. G. Galloway; sec. W. W. Kile, 108 East 5th st.

GALLON.—Gallon single tax club. Every Monday evening, residence of P. J. Snay, 103 South Union st. Pres., P. J. Snay; sec., Maud E. Snay.

HENLOCK.—Single tax club. Pres., D. P. Sweeny; sec. James G. Hayden.

MIAMISBURG.—Miamisburg single tax club. Pres., H. M. Scott; sec., J. T. Beals.

YOUNGSTOWN.—Every Thursday evening, Ivorites hall. Pres., Billy Radcliffe; sec., A. C. Hughes, 13 Public sq.

ZANESVILLE.—Single tax club. Pres., W. H. Longheed; sec., Wm. Quigley.

PENNSYLVANIA.

BRADFORD.—Single tax club. Hevenor's hall, 41 Main st. Meetings for discussion every Sunday at 3:30 p. m.

GERMANTOWN.—Single tax club. Sec. E. D. Burligh, 13 Willow av.

JOHNSTOWN.—Henry George club. Meets every Monday evening for public discussion. Pres., A. J. Moxham; sec., S. E. Clarkson.

PHILADELPHIA.—Single tax society of Philadelphia, every Thursday, 8 p. m., 1341 Arch st.; cor. sec., A. H. Stephenson, 210 Chestnut st.

PITTSBURG.—Pittsburg single tax club. Meets every first and third Sunday evening at 7:30, 64 4th av. Pres., Edm. Yardley; sec. Mark F. Roberts, 140 South 24th st.

POTTSTOWN.—Single tax club. Meetings first and third Friday evenings each month in Weltzenkorn's hall. Pres., D. L. Haws; sec., Geo. Auchy, Pottstown, Pa.

READING.—Reading single tax society. Monday evenings, 723 Penn st. Pres., Chas. S. Prizer; sec., Wm. H. McKinney, Mineral Spring road and Clymer st.

RHODE ISLAND.

PAWTUCKET.—Pawtucket single tax association. Pres., John McCaffrey; sec., Matthew Curran, 64 Main st.

SOUTH DAKOTA.

STATE.—South Dakota single tax association. Pres., Judge Levi McGee, of Rapid City; sec., John B. Hanten, Watertown.

BALTIC.—Baltic single tax club. Pres. T. T. Vrenne; sec., T. J. Questad.

WATERTOWN.—Single tax club. Pres. Jno. B. Hanten; sec., L. E. Brickell. Meetings every Wednesday night in basement Granite block.

TENNESSEE.

MEMPHIS.—Memphis single tax association. Pres., J. S. Menken; sec., R. G. Brown, Appeal building.

TEXAS.

EL PASO.—Single tax club. Meetings every Saturday evening, 200½ El Paso st. Pres., G. E. Hubbard; sec. and treas. M. W. Stanton; cor. sec., G. H. Higgins.

HOUSTON.—Houston single tax club. Meetings every Tuesday evening, 7:30, Franklin st. Pres., E. P. Alabury; sec., E. W. Brown.

WISCONSIN.

MILWAUKEE.—Milwaukee single tax league. Pres., L. B. Boston; sec. treas., Martin Johnson.

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THE STANDARD,

42 University Place, New York City.

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 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 with out 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 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 speculators and monopolists to hold natural opportunities unused or on a 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.

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Dated New York, February 13th, 1891.
FRANK E. HIPPLE, Assignee.
H. B. WHITBECK, Attorney for Assignee, 234 Broadway, New York.

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER MADE BY THE HON. ROGER A. PRYOR, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas for the City and County of New York, on the 16th day of February, 1891, notice is hereby given to all the creditors and persons having claims against Herbert S. Renton, lately doing business in the City and County of New York under the name of Herbert S. Renton, that they are required to present their claims with the vouchers therefor, duly verified, to the subscriber, the duly appointed Assignee of the said Herbert S. Renton, at his place of transacting business, No. 468 Cherry street, in the City of New York, on or before the 23d day of May, 1891.

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New York, February 20, 1891.

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