

THE STANDARD

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THE STANDARD advocates the abolition of all taxes upon industry and the products of industry, and the taking, by taxation upon land values irrespective of improvements, of the annual rental value of all those various forms of natural opportunities embraced under the general term, Land.

We hold that to tax labor or its products is to discourage industry.

We hold that to tax land values to their full amount will render it impossible for any man to exact from others a price for the privilege of using those bounties of nature in which all living men have an equal right of use; that it will compel every individual controlling natural opportunities to either utilize them by the employment of labor, or abandon them to others; that it will thus provide opportunities of work for all men, and secure to each the full reward of his labor; and that as a result involuntary poverty will be abolished, and the greed, intemperance and vice that spring from poverty and the dread of poverty will be swept away.

Thomas G. Shearman and I went to Harrisburg last Wednesday to speak in behalf of the single tax in the hall of the house of representatives, which had been granted for that purpose by resolution.

We met at Harrisburg Chauncey F. Black, president of the Democratic society of Pennsylvania, A. B. Farquhar, of York, and a large delegation composed of republicans, democrats, mugwumps and single tax men from Philadelphia, who had come to Harrisburg for the purpose of appearing before the committee in favor of the ballot reform bill. Ex-United States Attorney-General Wayne MacVeagh was the principal speaker for the Philadelphia delegation, and a most pleasing and effective speaker he is. The Pennsylvanians think that as an after dinner orator Chauncey M. Depew is nowhere when Wayne MacVeagh gets on his legs. However this may be, he certainly made an effective argument for the Australian ballot. It was especially interesting to me, as showing the recognition, on the part of a man who sees no remedy, of the increasing social pressure in the United States. Alluding to the great strikes, and the riots with which some of them had been accompanied, and to the pregnant fact that twenty-nine farmers in Berks county had recently been sold out by the sheriff in a single day, General MacVeagh suggested, rather than painted, a picture of the social conditions that must exist in this country when the present tendencies to the concentration of wealth have further run their course. It would be most dangerous, he said, to leave in the minds of masses of men who saw wealth but felt poverty, any ground for the impression that the law making power was corrupted at its source by the corruption of the ballot; and to enable our institutions to bear the strain that must come upon them we must adopt such a system of voting as would make secure the fair expression of the will of the people. I do not mean to say that this is all he said, for he made a good argument in detail for the Australian ballot; nor yet that this is precisely what he said, but that it is the substance of what most impressed me. Chauncey Black also made a strong declaration in favor of the Australian system. I was asked to say something and did, and Mr. A. N. Chandler and Mr. Charles Richardson of Philadelphia and others urged the bill, nobody being present to oppose. Legislative sentiment in Harrisburg seems to be clearly in favor of the bill, but Senator Matt Quay has not yet spoken.

The meeting in the evening in the hall of the house of representatives in support of the bill for the exemption of personal property and improvements from taxation was exceedingly well attended. I spoke of the general principle, and then Mr. Shearman took up the matter where I left off, and spoke with marked effect. One of the points he made that excited special attention was that the only way of fairly taxing railroad and similar franchises was through the single tax. All other attempts to tax them, he said, would fail, but a tax levied on the value of the land they used would compel the companies to pay the full value of whatever franchises they held. The questions that were asked and the talk that went on in the halls and around the hotels after the meeting testified to the effect it had had in stimulating discussion. Representative Follmer of Northumberland, a farmer, declared himself a convert to the single tax without more ado, and our friends averred that the seeds of single tax had been fairly planted in Harrisburg.

The main point in the interminable Times-Parnell investigation has at last been reached, and the utter flimsiness of the case of the "Thunderer" fully exposed. The letters which it has been so flatteringly parading, and on the authenticity of which it has been insisting with such pertinacity, its managers now confess that they accepted as genuine from an individual of notoriously bad reputation, and acknowledge that upon no better foundation than this they have risked not merely enormous sums of money but the standing of their paper itself. Such infatuation on the part of men at the head of an institution priding itself upon caution and reliability, seems almost incredible, and is only to be explained by the tone of public feeling in the circles in which the managers of the Times move. Firmly believing beforehand that the Irish parliamentary leaders were in league with all the violent elements, they accepted the forged letters offered by Pigott as documents of whose existence they had been previously certain—accepted them, in short, with as little thought of looking for proof as Cotton Mather would have had of demanding evidence of a story to the discredit of the devil.

The sentiment which has deluded the Times was, until Gladstone began to change front on the Irish question, the general sentiment in England. When I was first in that country, in 1881-2, the ordinary Englishman was ready to believe off-hand anything bad about Irishmen and to shut his ears to anything good. The popular idea seemed to be that every other cow in Ireland was running around without a tail, and that the favorite amusement of the peasantry was gunning for landlords as English gentlemen gunned for pheasants.

In conversations in railway carriages, when I ventured to remark that I had passed some months in Ireland and traveled a good deal in different parts without seeing a single tailless cow, I could always feel that I was not believed. And this tone became more intense as the social scale was ascended. A gentleman of world wide reputation as a philosophic thinker asked me once the result of my observations in Ireland, and when I endeavored to give them with all the philosophical impartiality I could, he got

very mad, declaring with so much warmth the righteousness of "any extent of coercion needed to secure to men the liberty of paying their rent" that I moved away and left the philosopher to his immovable convictions as to a country he had never seen.

While the masses of the English people have, under liberal leadership, been growing out of these prejudices, they seem to have become all the more intense among the Tories and liberal Unionists. This is the only explanation of the faith of the Times managers in a case which seems to have had literally nothing to stand on. The investigation has been made an enormous and outrageous expense to the Irish party; but it is likely to prove far more disastrous to the Times, whose great strength against the fierce competition that has been growing up around it has been the traditional belief that whatever appeared in its columns could be accepted without further question.

The change in the sentiment of the English masses towards Ireland is well illustrated in the great meeting held recently in Sheffield, at which Morley, Mundella, and other prominent liberals made speeches. Ireland was the theme of the anthem, which was sung to the tune of "God Save the Queen," and contained several verses of this kind:

God save our sister land,
And with Thine own right hand,
Oh, set her free;
Send her prosperity,
Give her true liberty;
May cruel hate and tyranny
For ever flee.

And with some shies at ground landlords generally and the iniquity of allowing them to escape taxation, Ireland was the main theme of the speeches. John Morley, who to the reputation of a first class writer is now adding that of a first class speaker, made a most telling presentation of the condition of things in Ireland under Tory coercion; and after dwelling on the "savage, vindictive and ferocious sentence" imposed on Mr. Harrington, and the outrageous treatment of other members of parliament, he went on to show the inevitable effect of the conflict that is going on between brute authority and the sense of right and justice. Here is a significant picture:

To show how little Irish public opinion is cowed, I should like to read you what happened a fortnight ago to a member of parliament, who is also mayor of Clonmel, in Tipperary. The mayor of Clonmel was summoned for an offense under the coercion act. He went to the town hall, he put on his robes, and the aldermen and councillors put on their robes. Preceded by the sword bearer and mace bearer they marched to the court. The mayor took his seat on the bench; he adjudged, in his robes, and with the sword and mace bearers in front of him, certain cases of larceny and drunkenness, and so forth. He did the day's work. Then comes the transformation scene. The mayor, in his robes, and preceded by the sword and mace bearers, steps down from the bench, and seats himself, amid loud cheering, in the dock.

When scenes of this kind can happen, when the whole popular sentiment and all the officials elected by popular vote are on one side, and all the forces of the British government on the other, is this government? (Cries of "No.") Are you bringing the day and hour nearer when you will have Ireland pacified and contented with her situation in the realm? ("No.") I was wondering the other day how I could bring home to you what the state of things in Ireland is like. And I thought—well, I will look at the newspapers and see what the last day's work in Ireland has been. It was last Tuesday, and this is a little chronicle from the Times itself, of January 15. These are the incidents recorded in one day.

First, a motion in the Exchequer court to test the legality of the conviction of a member of parliament; second, an application in

another court to commit a member of parliament for contempt of court for giving certain advice to tenants; third, the committal of a newspaper reporter to prison because he refused to give evidence in the same case; fourth, a violent and defiant speech by a member of parliament; fifth, the trial of a constable for murder in a conflict with the police; sixth, the arrest of a man who was sentenced to six weeks' imprisonment by a coercion court for conspiring not to pay what they call a "blood tax;" seventh, forty-two prisoners, whose offense had been connected with evictions, marched from Derry jail station amid the loud cheering of the crowd; eighth—I am not sure this is not one of the most important of all—two men had agreed to purchase an evicted farm. One of them had deposited a portion of the purchase money, and yet so great was the influence of opinion, so striking, as we are told by the Times correspondent, was the terrorism, that he thought it best to sacrifice his deposit. The ninth item on that day was an affair at Waterford, where seventeen young men who had belonged to a band and who had gone in some sort of procession to attend a demonstration in favor of what they called the Tullamore martyrs, were brought up for rioting and assaulting the police. Fifteen of these men—I don't say whether rightly or wrongly—were committed for terms of imprisonment. What, in public opinion, sanctioned those terms of imprisonment? They were obliged to have a hundred police to take them to the station, and they were followed all through by a dense and enthusiastic crowd of spectators and admirers. Now, gentlemen, those nine items for one day may seem to you to be not very important, but mark in every one of these instances there was a conflict between public opinion and the administrators of the law which illustrated the alienation of public opinion in Ireland.

When such facts as these are presented to such crowds of Englishmen as attended the Sheffield meeting, Irish coercion cannot much longer last.

As to the meaning of the recent London county election, the Democrat makes this statement:

Less than eighteen months ago the "United committee for the taxation of ground rents and values" was organized by the English land restoration league and the Municipal reform league. No less than thirty-eight members of this "United committee"—including the president, one of the honorary treasurers, and four members of the executive—have found seats on the London county council. But the committee has been no less successful in impressing its views upon other candidates. Proposals for "the division of rates between owner and occupier," or for "the taxation of ground rents and values," appeared in the great majority of election addresses. It would not have been possible to elect from the candidates who went to the poll a council which should not contain a majority pledged to one or other of these reforms. Many conservative candidates took up their parable against the ground landlords. The Pall Mall Gazette sent a kind of catechism to all the candidates. Of 134 answers received, only 9 were against the taxation of ground rents. An examination of the election addresses of the successful candidates, and of their definite promises, has shown that at least 66 of them are pledged to it; probably some of the others will vote for it—at any rate, there is a substantial majority in favor of it. The only question now is, how long will the government be able to hold out against the demand of the council for power to rate the ground landlords?

Every once in a while the name of a man who has been active in the cause disappears from the columns of THE STANDARD, and to others it may seem as if from some cause or other he had become lukewarm. The true explanation is generally quite different. Here, for instance, is one of two letters of the same kind received this week:

I have been notified by my employers that I must either withdraw from all active connection with the single tax movement or from my present situation. In the rising spirit that demands justice and righteousness they see a ghost, and "great is the goddess Diana." So for a while you may not hear anything of my name, unless it be "Nicodemus." This puts a load on my heart and disarranges my plans, for we were getting our organization into good shape here. But who knows? It may be for the best! My money and my pen are still free, though my name may be a blank. I am told that some of the directors of the

company are much alarmed at the progress our opinions are gaining. If any allusion to this is made in *THE STANDARD*, let it be of the most general kind, without name or locality.

Still the world moves. The committee, when I reported this, seemed in no way discouraged, but simply stated that the movement had now gained such headway that its progress depended no longer on the existence of one man.

Thank God, that is true.

There is one gross outrage perpetrated upon the owners, crews and passengers of the ocean steamers coming to the port of New York that ought to be peremptorily stopped. That it should have been so long tolerated is striking evidence of the submission of our people to arbitrary regulations of Jacks-in-office. A great ocean steamer carrying a valuable cargo, and one, and sometimes two thousand people, leaves Liverpool, Southampton, Havre, or some other European port for New York. Every exertion is made to drive her across the ocean in the shortest possible time. From the first turn of her screw the one subject of engrossing interest to all on board is when she will land her passengers. Every hour is speculated upon—every minute is counted. Faster when the sea is smooth, slower when it is rough; but on, and on, and on, the giant racer plows her way, four hundred miles a day, even against a living gale. At length a pilot is taken, Fire Island is sighted, and the telegraph flashes to the friends of those on board that the great steamer's voyage is nearly over. Then the hotels at Rockaway rise, and the Navesink Highlands, and then Sandy Hook. The monotony of the voyage is over, and suppressed excitement mounts to fever heat through cabins and steerage. There is one general and intense longing to be on shore—to leave behind the seasickness, the pent quarters, the manifold discomforts of the voyage, to greet again wife, husband, child, parents or friends.

The bar remains. If the tide be below a certain point the ship may have to stop her rushing way, and wait a few hours till the water rises high enough to enable her to pass over. But to shorten this time, to prevent this occasional delay, immense sums are being expended in dredging the channel—and well expended. To shorten the passage across the Atlantic by hours, and even by minutes, human ingenuity is on the strain, and if the bar occasionally causes delay the channel must be dug out.

But when bars are cut through, and steamers are built each larger and more powerful than the other, and night and day human attention and human muscle are strained to pare down the Atlantic record by minutes, what shall be said of the arrogant officialism on the one side and the slavish submission on the other that permits a single state office holder, for no reason but his own whim, to interrupt the voyage, and hold back the steamer and her passengers longer than gale or bar?

Yet so it is. When the bar is cleared, the steamer is within an hour's run of her dock. But if she happens to reach quarantine one-half second after the sun sets, there she must stay until next morning—ten, twelve or fourteen hours, it may be. The intense desire of one or two thousand people on board the ship and of as many on shore must be baulked, out of regard to the convenience of one assistant quarantine physician, who, wanting his evenings all to himself, does not care to do business between sundown and sunrise. So, thousands of people must wait that this understrapper of a functionary may take his ease.

There is no other earthly reason for this delay. On these European steamers, when the quarantine physician does come, his duties are merely perfunctory. He simply chats a minute with the ship's

doctor, looks over the papers, and gets into his boat again. He used to wait until a basket of champagne was lowered into his boat while he was not looking. But he don't wait for that now. There has been so much reform.

There ought to be more. When Queen Victoria travels by railway, other traffic on the line is for the time suspended until the royal train has passed by. Travelling Americans who happen thus to be incommoded curse and swear, and talk bravely about the absurdity of monarchical institutions, which compel a thousand people to wait till one has passed. But what is this compared to the annoyance, expense and delay which a single port physician is permitted to inflict upon thousands of people every month in the harbor of New York? Nothing like it is known elsewhere in the civilized globe.

Will not the Herald, the Times, the World or some other of the powerful New York journals take up this matter and compel the ending of this outrageous abuse?

HENRY GEORGE.

PROTECTION THE FOE OF SHIPPING.

A correspondent asks "for an explanation of how protection has driven our American ships off the sea," adding that he is a little confused on this point, and knows that there are many who would like to have a clear statement of the case.

Our shipping was supposed by the first framers of our protective system to be the most thoroughly protected of any American industry. Ever since the meeting of the first federal congress navigation laws of the strictest and severest kind have been enforced. Under these laws no ship, built in whole or in part in foreign countries, can be admitted to an American register or entitled to carry the American flag. No ship which does not belong exclusively to American citizens, or which is not commanded by an American captain and manned with a large majority of American seamen, is supposed, under the law, to be allowed to sail between any two ports on the American coast. American built, American owned and American manned ships have thus, by the most stringent statute which the wit of man has been able to devise, secured an absolutely exclusive right to the coasting trade of the United States. They have not merely protection, but absolute prohibition, in their favor.

But, while congress would no doubt often have been willing to grant a similar prohibitory protection in favor of American ships engaged in foreign trade, it was impossible to do this, for the simple reason that, if we were to prohibit all foreign vessels from entering our ports, other nations would immediately prohibit our vessels from entering their ports, and we should be shut up within a worse than Chinese wall. Many protectionists declare their anxiety to build a Chinese wall around us; but, when it comes to the point of taking that actual responsibility, they all shrink from it; and perhaps not a single congressman would take the responsibility of voting for such a measure, if he knew that his vote would carry it into law.

Nevertheless, American shipping has an enormous favor shown to it in the law, as it now stands, which gives to an American ship the right not only to sail freely between domestic and foreign ports, as foreign vessels can, but also to sail freely between different domestic ports, as foreign vessels cannot. And, as England has repealed all her navigation laws, and thrown open to foreign shipping her coasting trade, and all the trade between her colonies and herself, as well as her foreign trade, the result is, that an American vessel can take up foreign trade when it is profitable, and, when it is not profitable, can turn to the domestic trade of her own immense coasts, or even interfere with the British coasting trade, or sail between Great Britain and any of her colonies; while, on the other hand, British ships are never al-

lowed to share in the United States coasting trade. Thus American ships have all the privileges of British ships and a great many more of immense value.

Notwithstanding all these advantages, American shipping is steadily falling off, while British shipping is increasing with wonderful rapidity; and this process has gone on, without interruption, for nearly or quite thirty years. What is the cause?

It is not the effect of our late civil war, for that war ceased a quarter of a century ago; and all its effects upon American shipping have long ago been lost. Indeed, the decline of American shipping began, as protectionists are eager to point out, before the war; the real turning point being about 1857, four years before the war broke out, although the decline was much more rapid afterward. All talk about the Alabama and the other confederate cruisers, as having destroyed our commerce and shipping, is simple rubbish. Our shipping began to decline before the Alabama was thought of; and it continued to decline with greater rapidity long after every confederate cruiser had been utterly destroyed.

The real reason is easily found. Up to 1855 nearly every ship afloat was a wooden ship. A few iron ships had been built; but it was not until about 1855 that they became an assured success. In 1854, Great Britain repealed the last shred of her navigation laws; and at the same time, having thrown open her commerce to unrestricted competition, her ship builders felt the necessity of using iron instead of wood, and steam instead of sails. From that date the wooden sailing vessels of Great Britain constantly declined in numbers and were rarely replaced, while iron ships, and especially iron steamships, were built in ever increasing numbers. It was almost immediately evident that for the greater part of the world's trade, wooden ships could never compete successfully with iron ones, and still less could sailing vessels compete with steam. One iron steamship could make five voyages while a wooden sailing vessel made one; and, therefore, it was practically worth five wooden sailing vessels. Indeed, it was worth more, because it required a smaller force of able seamen for its management. When this question was once settled, it was obvious that the country which had the cheapest supply of iron and machinery would have the best advantages for building ships. Before that time, America was possessed of the largest and best supply of ship building timber of any country in the world, while England had practically none at all, and had to rely exclusively upon imported timber for her ships. When this great change in ship building occurred, Great Britain was possessed of the largest and cheapest supply of iron of any country in the world, and admitted free of duty every kind of material which could possibly be used in the construction of a ship. America had not, for many years, made sufficient iron at home for its own supply; and it never has done so from that day to this. Down to 1857, it imposed a tax of thirty per cent, ad valorem, on all foreign iron. From 1857 to 1861 it imposed a similar tax of twenty-four per cent. Ever since 1861 it has imposed taxes of various amounts, according to the purposes for which different classes of iron were used, ranging practically between sixty and one hundred per cent. The supply of home made iron being large and increasing, the whole of this tax has not been added to the price of the domestic article. But, in round numbers, it may be safely said that from 1857 to 1861 the materials of an iron ship cost one-fifth more in this country than in Great Britain, and that at the present time they cost fully one-third more. Therefore, if the materials necessary for the construction of an iron steamship would cost \$500,000 in Great Britain, they would cost about \$650,000 here.

After iron steamships had been in use for about twenty years such improvements were made in the manufacture of

steel that it became cheaper to build ships of steel than of iron; while they were very much lighter, would carry very much more cargo, were much safer, and much more speedy than iron ships. Accordingly, for the last ten or fifteen years, steel vessels have been rapidly replacing iron vessels. But the tariff taxes on steel are heavier even than on iron; and our home manufacturers are able to keep up the prices more successfully than they can in the case of iron. A steel vessel, therefore, inevitably costs even more in proportion in America than an iron vessel, as compared with the cost in Great Britain. Now, in the cost of constructing these vessels, what is called the price of labor, that is, wages paid to workmen actually engaged in the construction of ships, is an immaterial item. American shipwrights no doubt receive larger daily wages than British shipwrights, but they work longer hours, and do much more effective work in each hour. The consequence is, that the actual labor cost of building an American ship is less than in building a British ship. But the cost of American materials is so much greater that the American ship builder is completely handicapped.

Under these circumstances, what result could possibly follow other than actually has followed? It being impossible to exclude foreign ships from some competition with American ships in foreign trade, the advantage which is given to American ship owners, by their liberty to change their ships at will from the foreign trade to the coast trade, has proved entirely insufficient to compensate for the disadvantages which they are under in the foreign trade. British ships are built at one-third less cost than American ships, in consequence of the heavy tax upon ship building materials in America, and can of course afford to take freight and passengers at rates with which no American ship can successfully compete. Probably none of the large steamers now engaged in foreign trade cost less than \$500,000 in Great Britain, and the principal ones cost fully \$1,000,000 each. Similar vessels, built in America, would cost, by reason of the difference in price of materials, certainly not less than \$650,000 and \$1,300,000 respectively. In the case of a large vessel, if we allow six per cent per annum for interest on the investment and four per cent for repairs and depreciation, which is none too much, the British ship could afford to underbid the American ship in rates of freight, etc., to the amount of \$30,000 per annum and still make as much money. Allowing ten round voyages for the year, the British ship could underbid the American ship by over \$3,000 in each voyage and still make a large profit for its owners, while the American ship owners would be ruined. Competition under such circumstances is hopeless; and it now no longer exists. The protective tariff has strangled American shipping.

The protectionists make several statements in reply to these plain facts, the chief of which are:

1. That shipping materials are allowed to be imported free of duty; and therefore the tariff has not caused the decline of American shipping.

2. That the whole difference between the cost of foreign and domestic ships arises from difference in the price of labor.

3. That, even if American ship owners were allowed to purchase foreign built ships free of duty, the cost of American labor to run the ships is so much greater than the cost of labor on foreign ships, that American vessels could not be successfully run in competition.

4. That the real reason why we have not built ships is that we have more profitable investments in railroads and in general commerce.

All of these pretenses admit of short and conclusive answers.

1. The pretense that shipping materials are admitted free of duty is one of those thoroughly dishonest and evasive statements which are, of course, a necessity

in every protectionist argument. Only those articles are admitted free of duty which are used in building wooden vessels, and only a limited number of even these articles. Not a pound of the iron or steel plates, which constitute nine-tenths of the material used in the construction of iron or steel hulls, is admitted free of duty under any circumstances; and, of course, not a pound of the machinery which is indispensable to the construction of an ocean steamship. Not even the material necessary for the construction of this machinery is admitted free of duty. So far, therefore, as iron and steel vessels are concerned, their builders have no relief whatever from the extortions of the tariff. And, as wooden ships stand no chance in competition with iron and steel, except in a certain limited range of trade, it is obvious that these silly exemptions afford no relief to American ship building. But, even as to wooden ships, these exemptions are purposely framed so that they shall accomplish nothing; for no vessel, in the construction of which an ounce of untaxed material is used, is permitted to engage in the coasting trade of the United States for more than two months in any year. Any ship builder, therefore, who imports so much as a single bolt free of duty, is obliged to register the vessel so constructed in such manner that everybody knows that it is confined to foreign trade. But American ship owners want ships which they can use indiscriminately for domestic or foreign trade, according as one or the other is, for the time, most profitable. The owner of a ship in which any free foreign material has been used has to count the days during which it is engaged in the coasting trade; and if, by stress of weather, it is detained for even one day beyond the two months allowed by law, he has to pay the full rate of duty upon all foreign materials used in its construction. As this payment would make the vessel cost rather more than it would have cost if purely domestic materials had been used from the beginning, the owner is never certain that his ship will not eventually cost more than one of purely domestic origin. Very few people want any such ship; and accordingly, the importations of ship building materials free of duty are always ridiculously small.

2. The pretense that the difference in labor cost accounts for the difference between the cost of American and British vessels is both evasive and untruthful. It is evasive, because what is really meant is that the iron and steel cost more in this country by reason of the difference in rates of wages; while if this were candidly stated, the natural and conclusive answer would be that, since experience has proved that we do not and cannot construct ocean steamships for foreign trade under the present system, American manufacturers and laborers would lose nothing by allowing our ship builders to import all their materials free of duty, because the former never can sell those materials to the latter. It is untruthful, because it is now well settled by evidence and admitted by every half way honest and intelligent protectionist, that the labor of American workmen is so much more efficient as to more than counterbalance the difference in the rate of daily wages. This is especially well known to be the case with respect to labor employed in ship building and ship repairing. American labor is cheaper than any European labor whatever.

3. The pretense that American ships could not be run in competition with foreign ships, simply because the wages paid to American seamen are higher than those paid to foreign seamen is particularly absurd, for three reasons: (1) That when real American labor is employed it is always so much more efficient than foreign labor as to be actually cheaper, notwithstanding any difference in the daily or monthly rate of wages; (2) that, in consequence of this well known fact, American shipping was rapidly gaining upon all foreign shipping, prior to 1855, when the difference between rates of

wages was fully as great as it is now; and (3) that there are practically no American seamen, more than two-thirds of all those who now swear that they are Americans being notoriously foreigners. In short, the reason why American ships pay higher rates of wages than foreign ships is that American captains now insist and always did insist upon having more work done by fewer men than foreign captains expect.

4. The railroad argument, as we may call it—that is, the pretense that our nation has abandoned ship building and foreign commerce, because railroad building and internal commerce are more profitable, is transparently untruthful. Before the change of ship building from wood to iron, and while we had a low tariff, under which all the materials used in constructing wooden ships were either raised more cheaply at home than abroad, or were admitted free of duty, railroad building and ship building progressed with about equal rapidity, side by side. Never in the previous history of the country had either railroads or shipping increased so fast as under the low tariff of 1846; and it was not until long after the high tariff of 1861 had been adopted, that our railroads recovered from the blow inflicted by it, and began to increase at anything like the rate at which they had been growing between 1846 and 1860. Yet, during the same period in which railroad building fell off, ship building fell off also.

I do not just now remember any more protectionist pretenses on this subject; but, whatever they may be, they are sure to be all equally false with those which have been here refuted. The one sufficient and conclusive reason why American shipping has declined, and especially why American ships have been driven out of foreign trade, is that the protective tariff has made it impossible to build them in this country on an equality with Great Britain. If there had been no tariff at all, the expert ship builders of Maine, Massachusetts and New York would have readily turned their skill into the construction of iron and steel ships in place of wooden ships, because they would have been able to purchase all their materials as cheaply as their British competitors could, with only the small addition of freight from foreign ports. This addition would have been so trifling as to have been completely swallowed up in the greater cheapness of superior American labor. Our ship builders, in 1855, were the best in the world. If we could then have had free materials, our ship yards would have been transformed, even more rapidly than those of England, from the construction of wooden vessels to the construction of iron and steel vessels; and America would to this day have retained and increased its supremacy on the seas.

THOMAS G. SHEARMAN.

Wide Awake in Denver.

DENVER, Col., Feb. 8.—Economic educational work is progressing in Denver very satisfactorily. Our city now has a social science club, a free land club, which repudiates the "single tax theory" and supports the "occupancy and use theory," and a full fledged single tax association.

The single tax association will commence active operations next Thursday, February 14, when Vice President Mills will deliver an address and answer questions put to him by the audience.

Senator Newell has introduced a bill before the state senate proposing the adoption of the Australian system of voting. The association will support the bill by circulating petitions. All single tax men in Denver should communicate with me at once. F. H. MONROE.

Sec. Denver Single Tax Ass'n, 2951 Marion street.

Brooklyn Single Tax Club.

"Wages and the law of wages" was the subject of discussion on the evening of Feb. 13 at the rooms of the Central single tax club. Mr. White made a brief explanation of the gist of the chapter of "Progress and Poverty" under examination, illustrating the inevitable effect of the extension of production to locations of lower potentiality, by a simple diagram. An hour's debate was then opened up. Messrs. Thompson, Aitken, MacClen, Baker, Young, MacLagan and Jeffcott taking active part. The rules were then suspended to allow of the selection of Hugh O. Pentecost as a delegate to represent the club at the tariff reform convention at Chicago.

During a recess voluntary contributions towards a sum sufficient to defray Mr. Pentecost's expenses on the trip were received by the corresponding secretary. This club has now a large and active membership. The subject for the next meeting will be "The correlation of the laws of wages, interest and rent."

Electoral Reform for California.

LOS ANGELES, Cal.—We are getting many signatures to the petition to congress. We are also circulating a petition to the legislature for the ballot reform bill drawn up by the federated trades of San Francisco and introduced by Senator Geo. G. Goucher of Fresno, one of the ablest men in the state, and who, I think, will push it through to adoption. Everyone here is clamoring for ballot reform. At the close of the presidential campaign Lieutenant Governor White remarked that he proposed, if possible, that we should be saved from ever witnessing another "boodle" campaign. Altogether, things look bright out here for "our kind of people."

W. A. COLE.

The Active St. Louis League.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 13.—The single tax league met this evening at its new headquarters, 1109 Washington avenue, with about fifty persons in attendance. Hamlin Russell was elected president; Stephen M. Ryan, vice president; Benjamin E. Bloom, recording secretary; G. S. Bonnell, financial secretary; and E. Meyer, treasurer. H. Martin Williams was chosen representative to the American tariff reform convention, which will be held in Chicago on February 19, 20 and 21.

The headquarters will be open day and evening to the members and their friends. Next regular meeting on Wednesday evening, February 20, to which all inquirers are invited.

B. E. BLOOM,
Recording Secretary.

Electoral Reform and Single Tax in Nebraska.

FALLS CITY, Neb.—The prospects are encouraging that the Nebraska legislature will adopt the Australian system of voting this session. The Journal of this city is a strong supporter of the reform, and Pierce Peppor, one of the leading journalists in the state, recently contributed a very able article on the subject to the Omaha Bee. The single tax idea is advancing, too. Charles Abernathy, a printer, has been explaining the doctrine in some excellent articles in the Omaha Herald.

ED. DYKE.

A Club in the Sixteenth Assembly District.

NEW YORK.—A spread the light club has been formed in the Sixteenth district with headquarters at 350 First avenue. The objects of the club are the removal of all taxes from labor and its products and the placing of a tax on land values irrespective of improvements. The club is not a political organization, and all persons living in the district believing in our principles will be welcome on our meeting nights, the second and fourth Tuesday of each month.

P. O'BRIEN, Secretary.

In New Zealand.

At a recent meeting of the anti-poverty society of Auckland, New Zealand, the presiding officer was Sir George Grey, the well known liberal leader.

Mr. Batty, the president of the society, explained the objects of the society, which, he said, were the same as those shadowed forth in the writings of Herbert Spencer in the Old World and Henry George in the New, and he might also add, he said, by Sir George Grey in the Southern Britain.

Rev. E. H. Gulliver, M.A., delivered the address of the evening, in which he showed how land monopoly was the chief cause of the poverty and wretchedness that now exist.

Pushing "The Standard."

SHENANDOAH.—Only one newsdealer in this town keeps THE STANDARD, and he makes no effort to sell it, yet he has been selling eight copies. We have put fifteen copies in the hands of a boy, and he is selling all of them.

M. M.

A Fit Prelude to the Harrison Inauguration.

Youngstown, Ohio, Evening Gazette, Feb. 12.

At 12 o'clock to-day notices were posted in every blast furnace throughout the Mahoning valley, notifying the employees of the reduction of 10 per cent in wages, to take effect Friday, March 1.

Last November by reason of an advance of 10 per cent to the furnace employees in the Shenango valley, similar action was taken by the furnace operators through the Mahoning. The reduction decided upon will place the wages on the same basis that they were prior to the advance last November.

How Hard Work is Encouraged.

Columbus, Ga., Enquirer.

James Dickey owns a farm in Fannin county. For years the Dickey family has cultivated it, getting what could be raised on its rocky soil. Mr. Dickey has worked it from his boyhood. He won't work it any longer, for a few months since a Chicago firm that is looking for marble in Georgia struck this farm, and after prodding into its crevices and gullies, told Mr. Dickey they would like to lease it for 100 years on a royalty for every square foot of marble quarried, which they guarantee shall reach \$1,000 a month and not exceed \$5,000 a month. Mr. Dickey thinks this good enough and has leased his farm.

A SINGLE TAX BILL PASSED.

South Australia Said to Have Adopted the System for Purposes of Local Taxation.

A correspondent who signs himself South Australian has written two articles for the London Democrat on "Land Reform in South Australia." The second of these articles, which appears in the current, February, number of the Democrat, accords to South Australia the honor of having adopted the first single tax law ever passed in any country. It will be remembered that to this same colony belongs the distinction of having been first to put forward the Australian system of voting, although it was one year behind Victoria in passing the ballot act.

The article referred to is as follows:

News has reached me from Adelaide of an additional and by no means insignificant victory of our cause. A bill has been passed enacting that the assessments for all local taxation shall be made on unimproved land values only, or, in other words, so far as municipal and district council rates are concerned our work is accomplished. The block having a palace or a factory on it will pay no more in rates, etc., than the vacant block.

Strenuous efforts have been made by a certain party to oppose this measure, but in vain. An amendment was proposed in committee to make optional with the local governing body whether land only should be taxed or land and improvements, but it was opposed by the treasurer—all honor to him—and rejected. Let it be well understood that it is now the law in and for the whole province of South Australia that no municipality, corporation, or district council has a right to tax property in any shape or form, but has to levy all rates for roads, gas, water, drainage, etc., etc., on unimproved land values.

It is possible that my English readers may not appreciate the full importance of this measure as far as the colony is concerned. Of course it will shift taxation—as far as it goes—from industry to land owners, but this is not all. It will have another effect which is bound to react far more strongly than the mere readjustment of the incidence of taxation. In new countries there are vast tracts of land held by speculators in the expectation of realizing high prices.

This is especially the case in South Australia, where nearly all the best land is so held. In the county of Adelaide, for instance, there is land assessed at £100 per acre which has never yet been touched by spade or plow. In this county, being the principal and dearest in the province, only one-fifth is under cultivation, the farmers being compelled to retire into the backwoods, to poorer soil, away from the center of population. A comparison of this county with one of about equal size, but much poorer in quality and situation, will, I feel sure, be of interest to most readers, and will probably startle many:

County.	Total Area, Acres.	Area Cultivated, Acres.	Area Unimproved, Acres.	Present Value, £.	Unimproved Value, £.
Adelaide.....	582,191	120,608	461,583	22,544,931	1,166,142
Fergusson.....	555,095	215,216	339,879	701,687	1,166,142

These figures speak volumes. In the county of Adelaide most of the money borrowed has been spent. Railways, roads, harbors, public buildings, etc., are there in profusion, with the result shown above. The land has already acquired a fabulous price, the unearned increment amounting to over twenty-two million pounds, and the cultivator debarred from its use. The other county realized considerably more, has nearly twice the area under crop, with an unearned increment of less than half a million. As the local rates will now be levied on land values only, the selling price is lowered accordingly, with no prospect of going up again. Land kept idle till now cannot be kept out of use much longer, for with the tax it can no longer be said "it doesn't eat." But as soon as land is thrown on the market, it must be at a discount; for our present population could not cultivate more than one-third of the area alienated. Therefore it is not the tax only which is thus shifted from industry to land values, but the rents of the land itself must be considerably lowered; in other words, the land monopolists have to relax their iron grasp.

Let us draw another lesson from the above figures. As I have already pointed out, the present tax of 1s. in the pound is paid on the unimproved value; while the land nationalization society advocates that the purchase money should be exempt, and the unearned increment only taxed. If this were done, Fergusson would, if the halfpenny tax were doubled, not have to pay as much as at present, while the tax of Adelaide would be nearly double what it now pays.

With such facts and figures it will be seen how much easier our task is in South Australia than it is here. I know of no other country where the conditions for this greatest of all reforms are so favorable as in this colony, and if the agitation is kept up—and about this I have no doubt—land reformers in other parts will soon have a country to point to where the theories of the dreamers have been put to a practical test.

Wants The Standard.

PEORIA, Ill.—I have read every number of THE STANDARD, and when I get so poor I can't raise the cash to pay for it, I will beg it, and if I can't do that, I think I might steal it if I had a good chance.

J. W. A.

THE SINGLE TAX PETITION.

A Flood of Letters Testifying to the Interest It is Exciting Throughout the Country.

The work of the committee has made satisfactory progress during the week ending to-day, though the number of signatures received is not so great as last week. This falling off was anticipated, as the work has thus far been carried on only by those to whom blanks were originally sent. A large increase is expected after next week, as by that time all the signers except a few hundred whose addresses are undecipherable will have been supplied with a dozen blanks each. These blanks are issued in sheets and those receiving them are requested to tear the blanks apart on the perforated lines.

The enrollment is now complete, and a large force is busily engaged in writing wrappers. Over ten thousand of the bundles will go out this week and the remainder next week. The total number of signatures now enrolled is as follows:

Reported last week 25,762
Received during week ending Feb. 19, . . . 1,505

Total 27,267

The contributions during the week have been as follows:

R. H. Thompson, Portland, Ore. . .	\$5 00
Richard Spencer, Burlington, Iowa. .	10 00
Edwin Welch, Omaha, Neb. . .	1 00
S. B. Riggen, Portland, Ore. (add.) .	5 00
W. S. Kahnweiler, New York city. .	25 00
Benj. Urner, New York city. . .	25 00
August Lewis, N. Y. city (add.) . .	300 00
Sol. T. Clark, Little Rock, Ark. . .	2 00
James Ryan, Oswego, N. Y. (add.) .	1 00
"S. J.," New York city. . .	1 00
Thos. G. Shearman, N. Y. city (add.) .	300 00
M. Battle, New York city. . .	1 00
Herman Huehn, N. Y. city (add.) . .	5 00
C. H. Russell, Riverside, Cal. . .	1 00
Louis F. Post, New York city (add.) .	10 00
Fred. C. Leubuscher, N. Y. city. . .	7 00
W. L. Cheney, Hartford, Conn. . .	1 00
E. J. P., Boston, Mass. . .	1 00
James E. O'Hara, Lynn, Mass. . .	1 00
S. H. Edgar, Louisville, Ky. . .	10 00
Thomas Hunt, Kennedy, Ohio. . .	1 00
Robert White, Buffalo, N. Y. . .	1 00
A. L. Ford, Jackson, Mich. . .	1 00
Through Isaac McCloskey, Santa Monica, Cal. . .	3 00
"Two Friends," Gouldsville, Vt. . .	1 00
George H. Brown, Lowell, Mass. . .	1 00
Sundry subscriptions in postage stamps.	1 10

Previously acknowledged in THE STANDARD. 1,811 57

Total \$2,532 67

This is not so good a showing as it seems to be, since over \$600 of the amount acknowledged comes from regular subscribers to the expenses of the work, and the outside subscription has not been sufficient to meet the cost of sending out the 90,000 pamphlets and accompanying circulars and blank petitions. It is to be hoped that the deficiency will be promptly made up, and that the sum immediately needed will be considerably exceeded, since it is the committee's desire to purchase and send out 40,000 copies of a special edition of THE STANDARD as soon as possible. Those who agree with the committee that THE STANDARD is the best possible tract that we could send out, and who also desire to assist in bringing the paper before a large body of people throughout the country, will thus have an additional incentive to send in contributions.

Address all communications to
WM. T. CROSDALE,
721 Broadway.

The following extracts from letters received by the enrolling committee tell, in part, the story of the progress being made by the single tax men who are getting signatures to the petition to congress.

D. R. Miller, Los Angeles, Cal.—I was surprised to find how many sympathizers our cause has. I have not met a single person who either did not give his signature cheerfully or show his approval to the movement.

C. J. Johnson, Chicago, Ill.—I made some inquiries among our union carpenters, and find that there are lots of them that know nothing of our ideas. I send you the Carpenters' Monthly Journal, where you can find the names and addresses of the secretaries of our union all over the country. The organized workmen of the country are waiting for something like this.

C. A. Davey, Olean, N. Y.—I took the petitions up to the democratic club, and every one expressed not only a willingness but a desire to have the question investigated. They tendered by vote the privilege of their rooms to all single tax men, and wished to have the question discussed at their meeting so that they might know what our theories were. I hope to convert many of them to our principles.

Wilber Mosena, Burlington, Iowa.—I hope the committee will receive sufficient funds to push its work to completion, as I believe this

is the very best plan that could be adopted to spread our ideas. Inclosed please find one dollar.

A. R. Wynn, Toledo, Ohio.—Some thank me for offering them the petition and are really glad of the opportunity to sign it. It is the most effective way of spreading our views that has thus far been tried.

J. S. Crane, Cohoes, N. Y.—I think that we will start an organization after the returns come in from the matter that your committee is now about to send out.

W. C. Bohannon, vice-president of St. Louis single tax league.—We are preparing to issue a weekly letter which will be mailed to every signer of the petition in the city (and in the state if you will furnish their names and addresses) urging them to renew their efforts in securing signatures to the petition.

John Harle, Philadelphia, Pa.—The single tax is taking root rapidly among the workingmen of this (Kensington) district.

Henry Clegg, Kimball, Dakota.—We have no trouble in getting signatures to the petition here.

W. C. Kipp, Morristown, N. J.—With one exception the names inclosed are those of persons owning large farming lands, but many of them see clearly how the single tax would benefit farmers and all honest producers.

Joseph Sutherland, Yonker, N. Y.—There is a very quiet but steady work going on here. Although we have no club at present all our old members are true, and they are hard workers in the cause. Our principles are steadily gaining ground. We intend to reopen the club in April or May.

John A. Craig, Paterson, N. J.—The members of our single tax association have been very active in securing signatures to the petition. They report little opposition to the movement except among those who must have "protection."

C. Burt Robinson, Harwood, Mo.—We are having some heavy debates on the single tax question. People are beginning to open their eyes to the results of landlordism as described in "Progress and Poverty."

Garratt Mahan, Savannah, Ga.—I have discovered several single tax men since I began circulating the petition. One man came a mile to hunt me up and obtain some of the blanks. Everybody is interested in the tax question, as the people of this town have been thoroughly robbed. The county commissioners have used the convicts to drain the land in the county, and a few speculators calling themselves the Savannah improvement company reap all the benefit.

Thomas S. Hart, Linn Creek, Mo.—The more the work goes on the easier it is to do. I have signers to the petition who three weeks ago positively refused to sign. Everybody seems to be talking about the matter in this neighborhood.

B. A. Birmingham, Kansas City, Mo.—The single tax is moving steadily along in Kansas City, and I am doing the best I can to spread the light. My most fruitful field of labor is among the mechanics and workmen.

George Feller, Los Angeles, Cal.—Please forward me one hundred blanks. The people here are just awakening up to a realization of their need.

B. D. V. Reeve, Pueblo, Col.—At present we are boom struck and the people are too busy rustling for the unearned increment to give heed to economic questions. Hence our work is slow. But when the reaction comes I think we will find a prolific field and reap a large crop of single tax men. Experience, you know, comes high, but it furnishes the most pungent arguments.

J. E. Foreman, Indianola, Iowa.—I find that it is not uncommon for farmers to entertain radical free trade views and at the same time vote the republican ticket, saying that they cannot stomach the democratic party because of its war record. It was not the tariff that defeated the democratic party. If the old war prejudices could have been removed Cleveland would have been elected by a fair majority. A farmer said to me: "It is getting harder and harder every year for a man to begin at the stump and get a home for himself. Those who have farms to rent want more for them than a man can afford to pay." When I suggested to him that the owners allow the renters a bare living and take the rest themselves he agreed that such was the case.

J. A. Tannehill, Comanche, Texas.—We are gaining ground in Texas, but let us have a conference of single tax men and concentrate our work.

Dr. W. N. Hill, Baltimore, Md.—The presentation of the petition might be a good occasion for all our friends who can afford it to gather in Washington for general consultation as to future work.

H. B. Allison, Des Moines, Iowa.—The work is moving. The year of jubilee is in sight.

Melvin H. Palmer, St. Louis, Mo.—I find the blanks are quite an assistance to me in having my politics investigated.

"A Volunteer," New York.—I shall try to send in five cents for each signer to help the thing along and accordingly herewith inclose a postal note for \$1.55 to cover these now sent and the ones previously sent in.

A. C. Dunning, Auburn, New York.—I have obtained the signatures of all my shopmates, and almost every one that I ask signs the petition. The cause of the single tax is making

slow but sure progress here and our single tax club is doing what it can. We organized nearly two years ago. Sometimes it has been hard on a few of us, but we begin to see the light ahead of us now.

THE PETITION.

To the Honorable the House of Representatives of the United States: The undersigned respectfully prays for the appointment by your honorable body of a special committee for the purpose of making a full 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.

THE BAY STATE.

Hopeful Features of the Situation There.

Boston, Feb. 17.—Here is a copy of the petition which is being widely circulated in Massachusetts, and which will be sent to any single tax missionary who applies to me:

To the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts: We, the undersigned citizens and voters of Massachusetts, respectfully pray for the enactment of a general law which shall abolish the present taxation of polls, personal property and improvements, and provide for the collection of all public revenues from the land by a tax upon its rental or site value.

In view of the fact that the demand in dozens of places in Massachusetts for addresses by Henry George cannot be supplied, I renew the announcement that our local single tax league is sending out speakers several times in each week to various cities and towns in Massachusetts. A course of Friday evening lectures is being held in Lynn; a series of Thursday evening meetings in Cambridge. Prof. Garland has answered calls of granges, lyceums and political clubs. Rev. Samuel Brazier, when he can spare the time, is equally useful in the lecture field.

I frequently give my own services in the field of discussion and debate, and we have many other speakers on our list who are equal to any ordinary occasion. Mr. Turner of Charlestown and Mr. Hanaford of Cambridge are endowed with the magnetism which always holds the attention and awakes the enthusiasm of a popular assemblage.

We have young, clever writers and occasional speakers, like Mr. Perkins of Lynn and Mr. Ford of Cambridge, who are always ready for brisk literary engagements with Veritas, Observer, Pro Bono Publico, and other anonymous creatures who sometimes express their ignorance and prejudice in print.

There are others who are very efficient missionaries in fields of business or social connection.

Our ex-president, Mr. Roche, seems to be doing his best to inoculate the typographical fraternity with the leaven of new ideas.

Others, whose names it is not necessary to mention, are determinedly working away.

A very hopeful feature of the situation which few fully realize is, while it is true that our partisans are few in number, they are all in earnest and in perfect agreement upon certain positive principles and ideas. On the other hand, the opposition is, like the world in the beginning, without form and void. No two of our critics will agree with each other, and their arguments all tend to destroy each other. The conservative culture and ripe scholarship which is expected to make a strong defense of time-honored privileges is so unsubstantial as to be almost a myth. We see the works of Henry George circulated by the thousands in our midst, but those who have been aroused to a deeper investigation find that the scholarly works on political economy have often lain for sixty years on shelves of great public libraries with the leaves uncut. As I told my audience in Brockton on Thursday last, "Henry George's class in political economy is the largest the world has ever seen, and his principles will be accepted and applied in the near future."

EDWIN M. WHITE,
Secretary Single Tax League,
27 Pemberton square.

THEY PARADED FOR HARRISON.

And Now Their Wages Are Reduced, Their Hours Lengthened, and They Are Worse Slaves Than Ever.

WHITESTONE, L. I.—A little more than a year ago the Bridgeport forge company bought thirty-eight acres of land at Whitestone, L. I., and built the Central forge works on the shore of Long Island sound. The piece of land they bought is about one-fourth of a mile wide at the water's edge, and runs back a great distance, with the Long Island railroad on one side of it. They also built a few cottages (thirty, I think), which they rent to the men at enormous rents. They don't compel their men to live in the cottages, but they have made it impossible for other builders to build within a reasonable distance of the works, and they don't forget to let the men know that they have houses to let. All the men that got work there when they started up were promised steady jobs, and consequently considered it best to move there and to get as near the works as possible. They were paying fair wages, but no better than were paid at Bridgeport.

There was very little talk about the election, for only a few of the men had votes, coming from Bridgeport within a year; but under the election there was a grand turnout in honor of the republican victory. I had

done a lot of talking to the men in the shop and found that nearly all believed in protection. Anyhow, they all turned out, and each being supplied with a lamp on a stick, they made what the local paper (democratic) described as a splendid showing. The head boss was on horseback in front, and they followed him all over the village and up around the cottages, nearly all of which were decorated. As they passed my house I thought they looked like a lot of slaves.

Well, about a week after the parade they notified the machinists, who had been working every other night till ten o'clock for time and a quarter, that they would be required to work every night till nine o'clock for bare time—that is, for one day's pay—or lose their places. One man left and the others submitted. Soon after that they reduced all their wages. One man, a Scotchman, whose family was in Scotland, had two grown sons and other little children. He asked the proprietors about the advisability of bringing his family from the old country; would his job be steady and could his sons (one of them a machinist and the other a carpenter) get work?

"Oh, yes; take one of our houses, and bring them out at once."

He did so, and now they have reduced his wages from \$2.75 to \$2.25 per day, and refuse to give his sons work. They have also reduced the helpers' wages from \$1.75 to \$1.50, and when they went out rather than submit to it, filled their places with men at \$1.25 a day. I think it will show some of them how well they are protected.

I may be in error as to this concern belonging to the Bridgeport forge company, but all the men and the bosses are from there, and it is generally believed that the owners are the same. Mr. Bishop, whose name I have seen in the list of men worth \$25,000,000, owns most of the Whitestone plant.

G. HARNWELL.

THE MANHATTAN SINGLE TAX CLUB.

The Way in Which it Attained Its Success—Notes of Interest.

A number of communications have been received from various sections of the union asking the Manhattan single tax club to forward copies of its declaration of principles and by-laws for a guide in framing laws for other organizations of a similar character. The club has a code of laws for its government, but they are so simple that they are hardly ever referred to; and one member in answering a letter told his correspondent that the principles of the Manhattan club were contained in six words—"Free trade, free land, free men"—to which all joining must subscribe; that therefore it depended on the member himself to show, by his interest and work in behalf of those principles, whether he had added any strength to the club he had attached himself to.

The library shelf is crowded with contributions of books from friends, and the mantle-piece in the middle parlor is nearly full also. Mr. Steers has presented another marine picture. Mr. Everett is making a handsome stand on which to place the "visitors' book," in which, by the way, can be found names of friends from far off states and territories and from Canada. Mr. Boessig has contributed a number of handsome book covers for filing THE STANDARD and other papers, each having a new system of clasps inside with which to firmly hold the publications. The extension room seems now to be set apart for chess and checkers; and the club has developed several very good players.

The Progress and Poverty class is increasing in numbers, and the chairman of the class invites all who are interested to attend every Monday evening. It is not necessary to be a member of the Manhattan club. All who want to learn will be welcomed.

At the last business meeting Mr. A. Van Duesen was added to the delegation to the Chicago tariff reform convention.

Mr. Doblin is completing arrangements for a concert, which is expected to take place at the rooms Saturday evening, March 2. The agitation committee are at work on a scheme to place THE STANDARD, in board covers, in at least one hundred barber shops of this city. If that idea succeeds the number will be enlarged.

The lecturer appointed for last Sunday evening did not appear, and Mr. McDonough, the vice-chairman of the club, took his place at short notice, delivering an excellent address on "Justice." At the conclusion, on an invitation from the chair, a socialistic friend asked some questions which brought up a very animated and earnest debate in which J. R. Abarbanel and Mr. McDonough (for the single tax) and Professor De Leon and others (semi-single tax and semi-socialistic) took part. The discussion on the debate lasted till midnight.

The chair announced that Mr. Henry George would deliver the address next Sunday evening—probably his last address before his departure for Great Britain.

Meetings Every Sunday in Nashville.

Judge Reid, writing from Nashville, Tenn., says: "We are working like beavers, and have stirred up in the last few weeks quite a ferment. 'The single tax' is the talk of the town. We have regular meetings every Sunday afternoon. The papers, however, so far have given their readers no account of them. But this cannot continue much longer."

THE NEWSPAPERS.

THE INTERESTING QUESTION OF TAXATION DISCUSSED FROM MANY POINTS OF VIEW.

Many Evidences That the Newspapers are Profiting by the Discussion.

The Portland Oregon Express publishes the platform of THE STANDARD, and says:

Many prominent men consider this an excellent plan, and are working for it to such an extent that it is gaining supporters in every state.

The Rockville, Ind., Tribune, a good free trade paper, says that in the recent discussion between Thomas G. Shearman and Professor Van Buren Denslow, on the theories of Henry George, "Mr. Shearman completely answered all the objections of his adversary." Now, if the Tribune has no objections to offer, why can't it give the single tax a little lift now any then?

The Telford, Dak., Times has the thing about right. It tells its farmer readers:

No greater mistake can be made than in imagining that the exemption of all personal property from taxation and placing all taxes upon land values would increase the burdens of the farming community. The fact is, all tax lists show a greater amount of personal property in the hands of farmers, as compared with the value of their real estate, than that in the hands of all other classes. Stringent laws have often been made for a fair listing of personal property, but their enforcement have always been found absolutely impossible. In any system of taxation in which personal property is taxed the farmers must always get the worst of it. Hence, in a system which only considered the value of land without regard to improvements, the working farmer's land would only be taxed the same as the speculator's land adjoining him, and which is being made valuable by his labor.

The Todd county, Minn., Argus says that it is not yet prepared to say that there are no valid objections to the single tax, but that the objections offered by two correspondents of the Graceville Transcript, that the single tax would injure the farmer, is not tenable. The Argus urges a thorough discussion of the single tax theory and declares that if taxing land values only will remedy the evils of our present system "we should know it."

The Ortonville, Minn., Herald sees something that at least bears a close resemblance to the cat. The Herald says:

The single tax question is bound to be a live question of the day, and we might as well use spare moments considering whether the single tax would cause more or fewer buildings to be erected. Would more or less buildings be erected if it cost twice as much to hold lots idle as now? Would rents be higher or lower? Would more or fewer men be required to erect buildings? Would the holder of idle lots raise or lower the price if it cost him twice as much as now in taxes each year to hold his lots idle, and what effect would this have upon the acquisition of homesteads? These are only a few questions that the single tax theory gives rise to.

A writer in the Columbus, Ohio, Capital wants what he calls "free land," but is opposed to the single tax. He would destroy the land speculator as he would vermin, but denies that the single tax would do it. Says he:

The single tax principle does not preclude the holding of the whole earth even in idleness if the landlord can pay the ground rent, and such a thing is not impossible in the near future under the present tendency of aggregation and combination of wealth.

Another writer in the same paper who signs himself "Tax Reform Republican," opposes land monopoly, but he is a protectionist first and a land reformer a long way afterward. He wants to join some protectionist land reform movement.

The Chicago Leader reprints the editorial of the Chicago Herald condemning the taxation of personal property, which appeared in THE STANDARD of last week, and in commenting on it says:

It is the universal opinion of all students of the science of government that the personal property tax is, at its best, only a premium offered to fraud. But the effort to remedy the evil by any means short of a radical reform is as illogical as it will prove to be futile. Any tax laid upon the product of human industry must, in the nature of things, be a check to production. When this is increased by the escape of the unscrupulous at the expense of the honest citizen, the evil is by so much magnified. The fact must be recognized that a personal property tax is contrary to public policy, and that perfect justice to the honest citizen is impossible while such a law remains on the statute books. Moreover, it should be remembered that, as the imposition of a tax upon the products of industry is an impediment to profitable production, and consequently to the profitable employment of labor, such taxes should be reduced to a minimum.

The Minneapolis Free Lance, the anti-single tax organ of the northwest, ought to make a good many converts to the single tax. Its issue of the 9th contained about seven columns of matter on that question, pro and con.

The good people of Naugatuck, Conn., have got into a squabble over the control of an old burying ground in the heart of that city. Some public spirited citizens petitioned the legislature to give them control of the property in order that it might be properly cared for, but some of their neighbors suspected

that they might use this land for building lots. The Agitator suggests that if the rental value of land went into the public treasury there would be no difficulty in determining what should be done with the old grave yard, because there would then be no possible speculation in it.

The Northwestern Labor Union, the official organ of the Minneapolis trades and labor assembly, finds a lesson in the failure of the recent street car strike in this city very different from those usually drawn from such occurrences by labor papers. It does not advise preparation for another strike, but says:

It was not the policemen's clubs nor the lack of public sympathy nor the power and wealth of the millionaire owners of the lines that broke the back of the strike. It was simply and solely the fact that plenty of other men could be got to take their places that prevented the success of the strikers. Let the street car employees of New York and all other workmen in every line take the lesson to heart. They must help open up the natural opportunities for employment for all the idle men before they can hope to permanently increase their wages or shorten their hours of labor.

The Detroit Evening News calls the attention of Detroit tax payers to the fact that, exclusive of merchants and manufacturers, whose personal property cannot be concealed, widows and orphans pay the bulk of taxes collected from personal property. The News suggests that Detroit might find a small part of the wealth that now eludes the assessor by following the example of Hamilton county, Ohio, and offering to pay some one twenty-five per cent for discovering and placing on the assessment rolls "omitted taxes. But says the News:

The best way after all, and one that would distribute its tax burdens with the most equity, would be to take all personal property off the assessment rolls, and rely on the value of land, independent of all improvements, for taxation purposes.

The Pittsburg Commercial Gazette is of the opinion that the all-important and ever present question of taxation will engage a good share of the attention of the Pennsylvania legislature during the present session, and that among the bills that will be pressed is one formulated by a committee appointed by a recent state convention of county commissioners, entitled an "act to equalize taxation." The object of this bill is the reverse of a single tax. It is a new endeavor to tax everything, and the Commercial Gazette, an uncompromising advocate of "protective" tariffs, naturally and logically takes to the bill. It says that the fact being heralded by single tax men in favor of their system, that real estate now bears most of the burden of taxation, is really an argument in favor of relieving real estate and compelling other property to bear its share. The Commercial Gazette may one day learn that the taxation of land values and the taxation of the products of labor have widely different effects.

The building and loan associations, whose chief object is to facilitate the acquirement of homes, are beginning to see, judging from recent utterances of their organs, that the greatest obstacle in the way of getting homes is the private appropriation of all land upon which homes might be built by a few of the people. Extracts have already been printed in THE STANDARD from the organs of the St. Louis and Chicago associations in favor of the exemption of personal property and the raising of all revenues from land values; and now comes the new organ of the building associations of the metropolitan district, the Home Seeker and Corporation Bulletin, and says:

The amount of the tax that the community exacts from the small house owner, and the method and principle of collecting it, are questions which should interest every building association member. Any system of taxation which puts unnecessary and unjust burdens upon the man of poor or moderate circumstances, or a system which tends to discourage rather than facilitate the frugal citizen in becoming his own landlord, is a wrong system, and needs reforming.

Is the system we are living under in New York and New Jersey that kind of a system? We are disposed to think it is. We are going to investigate and find out all about it, just as the building association people are beginning to do in St. Louis and Chicago. With the assistance of our friends we will ascertain just where the present taxation system operates unjustly or inequitably, and when we do we are going to expose it and denounce it, and agitate for such a change of it as will establish satisfaction and justice.

Have you ever stopped to think of it? That the state ought to encourage men to become home owners and house builders, every one will admit; yet under the present system a man is fined for doing these things. The next time the tax gatherer comes around the industrious citizen is informed that his tax bill is at least ten times greater than it was before he resented the lot from the goats. That isn't encouraging, is it?

The Memphis Appeal of February 13 contains the following:

An esteemed correspondent writes from St. Paul thanking the Appeal for its fairness and justice to Mr. Henry George, and its treatment of the single tax theory, and adds: "I was in St. Paul lately just after George had lectured there on the single tax. I believe he got \$300 for the lecture, and I learn that with the whole legislature trying to down him he let them have the weight of the full. Question after question dumfounded the questioner by the ready and methodical way he answered them, and they concluded that he and his subject together were too much for

the Minnesota legislature. The result has been that a bill to put the scheme in motion has been brought in, and had sufficient backing to give it quite a good status. That it will be passed is, however, dubious, but at least the movement is well under way."

According to the Minneapolis Star, Representative McKusick of that state has introduced a bill providing for the taxation of the property of railroads and all corporations as other property is taxed—as land, improvements and personal property. He claims that whereas, under the present system, the railroads pay \$700,000 in taxes, they would under the proposed plan pay not less than \$2,500,000, or more than three times as much.

James A. Millen has a lengthy and interesting communication in the Iron Molders' Journal in which he says that he has been a member of the molders' union for several years and has at last concluded that labor organizations are a failure. Mr. Millen says that in spite of organization the condition of the molder has grown worse and worse. The only way, says he, to increase wages is to increase the demand for labor, and the only way to increase the demand for labor is not by making more restrictive laws but to about face and wipe out all restrictions and thus give labor a chance to employ itself as it pleases. He arrived at his conclusions by studying the question of taxation, and he would advise all labor unionists to investigate the subject without delay.

Plenty of Work for the White Cross Society.

At the annual meeting of the society of the White cross, held at St. John the Evangelist church last Sunday evening, Father J. O. S. Huntington delivered an excellent address on "Poverty and Immorality." The object of the society is to cleanse society of impure language, bad stories and jokes, immoral pictures, etc., and to elevate the morals of society generally. Father Huntington was in his element. He spoke most earnestly in the plainest sort of language, and the large congregation listened intently. He thought the society had a big job before it. He thought it was a commendable work to rescue a few from contaminated lives, but the essential thing was to prevent contamination in the first place. Then he pointed to those hotbeds of vice, the tenement houses, and pictured the squalor and degradation in which children are born, nursed and reared, and asked the White cross members how they expected to accomplish their object without first getting rid of the tenement house. How were they going to induce people to keep clean when they were compelled to live where there were no facilities for keeping clean? How could they prevent young girls from seeing lewd pictures so long as they were compelled to paste them on cigar boxes all day for a living, or expect girls to preserve their purity when they were compelled to accept any treatment that a brutal employer chose to administer? The speaker reminded his hearers that they were responsible for this state of things, and he wanted to know what they were going to do to abolish conditions under which cleanly bodies, pure language and wholesome, elevating surroundings were simply out of the question. He knew what he was going to do about it (and so do the readers of THE STANDARD), but he would not tell his hearers. He merely impressed upon their minds that they were responsible for the situation and he wanted them to think what they were going to do about it.

Cheering Words.

OLEAN, N. Y.—The cause of the single tax is progressing very satisfactorily here. New recruits are being added every day to the already large list of advocates. Besides circulating the petition, to which we are securing the signatures of a large percentage of our voting population, we are, through the liberality of the editor, Charles F. Persons, running a column devoted to the discussion of the single tax in the Olean Daily Herald and the Weekly Democrat. We are also arranging with Leo Miller for a course of lectures to be delivered during the month of March. A lecture bureau is among our most pressing needs. It would greatly facilitate the procuring of competent speakers and give a fresh impetus to the movement.

GEORGE J. BALL.

Burdens That Ought to be Shifted.

SHEXANDOH, Pa.—How labor is compelled to pay for the privilege of laboring is well illustrated here, for while the land owners receive fifty cents per ton royalty the miners receive less than half that for digging the coal, and while the coal in the ground is free from taxes the miners who live in the borough of Shexandoh must pay an occupation tax of five dollars per annum, and a laborer three dollars. If we could get that and the poll tax removed we would be taking a step in the direction we wish to go. M. M.

From the Fullness of His Heart.

NEW YORK.—I cannot help it, I must talk what I believe and try and make a convert to the single tax occasionally. I have been somewhat instrumental in having twenty-six copies of THE STANDARD sent away every week. I hear that each copy does some missionary work before it is consigned to the fire or rack. J. A.

SOCIETY NOTES.

The end must come, of course, but it is not yet in sight; and this week, with the dog show, Mrs. Goodridge's ball, the festivities of Washington's birthday, Mrs. James A. Roosevelt's dinner dance, Miss Margaret Paris's wedding, and innumerable small affairs, will certainly not be what might be called either sedentary or monotonous. The world of art, too, opens new attractions and excitements every day; the best music by the best performers can be heard in public and private each night in the week; new triumphs of the painter's genius are to be seen at all the galleries, while by Vanderbilts and Astors and their peers in the world of Mammon fabulous prices are paid for masterpieces. The greatest actor of the day on the comic stage will again delight those who love genuine dramatic talent. Thus it will be perceived, no one need be dull in this great city who has enough of the magical silver and gold which opens every door and breaks down every barrier.—[New York Sun.

While high salaried ministers are preaching to millionaire congregations in up town churches this morning a family of little children in tattered garments are sobbing over the body of a woman in a squalid tenement on the east side. The dead woman is Mrs. Annie Weber, who was driven to suicide by hunger and privation, and the mourners are her helpless little ones—Maggie, aged twelve; Charles, aged ten; Henry, aged three; and Bertha, a baby. The woman's husband is a wood worker, and, when strong enough to labor, earned \$8 a week. Both of his hands were recently mangled by machinery. Three fingers were torn off from one hand and two off of the other. He has since been able to earn barely enough to keep his family from dying of starvation. Mrs. Weber sought to add to their income by going out to work, but she could find nothing to do. She could not dress well enough for a servant, and strangers would not trust their washing to her care. Disheartened after one of these fruitless attempts to find employment she stopped into a drug store and invested her last few pennies in arsenic. Then she went to the park at Madison square, swallowed the poison and lay down on a bench to die. It was not an easy death, and her moans attracted the attention of a park policeman, who summoned an ambulance and had the sufferer removed to the New York hospital. She lingered long enough to whisper in broken English that her home was at 318 Rivington street, and died in terrible agony.—[New York Press, Feb. 17.

W. D. Washburn, who has just been elected to a place in the senate, owns the finest private residence in the United States. It is built in the center of three acres of ground in the prettiest part of the beautiful city of Minneapolis, and cost \$1,500,000. The furnishings cost nearly a million more; the stables cost \$750,000 and Mr. Washburn will have spent another million on the grounds when he has them completed according to his plans.

George Wicks, a young fresco painter, of No. 316 West Thirty-ninth street, had been destitute for the past four months. He gave up all hope last week, and after attempting to murder his wife, killed himself. Wicks was but twenty years old. Since last November he had lived with his bride of less than a year and their babe in two little rooms on the top floor of the big Thirty-ninth street flat house. He was earning \$15 per week at the time of his marriage, and when he lost the job he found himself with a little family on his hands and without money. He sought almost frantically for work, but was unsuccessful in every case. Many of his evenings were spent at home in a state of despondent brooding over his misfortunes. Finally, three weeks ago, he got employment at \$6 per week in the paper manufactory of George Beck, at No. 334 Seventh avenue. But this income was insufficient to keep the wolf from the door. He grew more and more despondent and threatened to take his life. One morning he said to his wife that he was tired of struggling along as he had been doing, and that they couldn't live decently on the salary he was getting. Then he seized her and attempted to kill her with a razor, but she broke away from him and ran out of the house. Remembering that she had left her baby asleep on the bed in the room where her husband was, she went back and found her husband dying on the floor, with his throat cut.

A leading figure in the financial circles of the city, but one who is seldom heard of outside of Wall street, is John G. Moore, who is said to have made \$5,000,000 during the past five years. Mr. Moore first came into prominence by his Mutual Union telegraph deal, in which he got the best of Jay Gould to the tune of \$1,000,000. He is said to have engineered the recent deal by which the Pullman palace car company absorbed most of its rivals, and his profits from it were immense. Mr. Moore is a serious looking man, of middle age and quiet habits, and he is a leading church worker.—[New York Journal.

For the past four weeks August Beiman, a tailor living in North Fourth street, Philadelphia, had been unable to secure work. Up to a week ago he managed to obtain edibles for himself, wife, and four children on the promise of paying the bills when he got work. The grocer, baker and milkman, thinking they might be cheated out of the amounts due them, refused one after another to supply the family until all previous debts were paid. The poor tailor hadn't the money to pay them and the tradesmen stopped serving him. On Wednesday his little girl was taken ill while at school, and one of her companions fed her home. The father procured medicine at a neighboring drugstore. Through lack of nourishing food the child became worse. On Thursday a neighbor secured her removal to the German hospital. She was in a very emaciated condition, and this morning she died. The body was removed to the home of her parents. Neighbors then began supplying the family with the necessities of life.

NOTE-BOOK JOTTINGS.

How the battle is going is all important. Yet between onslaughts warriors and spectators alike find time to talk even about the fit of their hats and the pains from their corns. The observer notes in his diary great events and small. The important will find place in sober history. The rest may serve as chat by the way. Who does not occasionally like to gossip?

I have not seen my article on the street car employees' strike in print. It was a full reply to the question, "What good did their organization do them?" Many virtuous people who do not live in the carmen's New York are positive it did them only harm. "They unwisely followed selfish leaders, even to rioting, and now they are worse off than ever." Thousands, however, who live in trades union New York, are equally certain that it was a good thing even for the newly engaged non-union men, who will profit to some extent by other men's pluck. My article, which I suppose was not written, as I did not see it in any of the papers, would have begun with the date of the organization of the carmen. It would have stated the amount of money expended in getting up the organization and maintaining it during the years since that time, and then it would have gone on and told how much the men lost by all the strikes they have had. How much each man contributed would have been an interesting point, too. Then to the other side of the books—how many hours the day's work was shortened, how much more a day was received, and how many more men got work. In brief, what was the cost of this corner in labor and what its profits? That is the sum of it all in dollars and cents. But there is another phase to it—that which does credit to the loyalty and determination of the men who had joined hands for the improvement of their condition. This is intangible, sentimental, if you will.

Granted that organization did the carmen good, that it generally, at least for a time, serves to wring better wages for even the unskilled from the employers, how much good does it do for the masses not organized? For them, cornering the labor market is impossible—excepting through the ballot.

"New York's Dangers" was the subject of a lecture delivered in a church one evening last week by Judge McAdam of the city court. Those who listened to it were told that these dangers were liquor stores expressed in five figures, "palaces of sin," expressed in three, gambling houses, thieves' dens, concert and dance houses, each expressed in two or three, I forget which. The army of Satan was confronted by so many hundred policemen, so many judges, such and such charity societies, and so on, with the camp followers of the two armies on Blackwell's island. These statistics, with a few familiar quotations, made up the framework of the judge's lecture. He mentioned incidentally that the way to get along in the world was by industry and economy.

A feature of the judge's address was a detailed description of the common tricks of sharpers. The envelope game, the lost pocket book fake, the Peter Funk auction room, the wiles of petty gamblers, were all shown up once more. The women and little boys who formed the bulk of the audience paid close attention to the rehearsal. It showed them the face of the hideous monster, vice. It served to make them suspicious of mankind.

By the way, when the judge lectures he is accompanied by a "combination" of jugglers, singers and musicians, who make the occasion interesting. One of the singers was a little girl of perhaps ten or twelve years, who has a remarkably clear and strong voice, and who was much applauded. The child does not know how to sing, and her tones are still in the rough, so to speak. But with a developed musical intelligence, and her voice cultivated, a great future may be in store for her. Now that we are having trade schools started in connection with the common schools, ought there not to be one where her evident gifts could be made the most of? We are all interested in the development of such talent.

Something else came under my observation at this concert lecture, which I hardly know whether to mention or not,

But, as I believe just as strongly in private as public reform, I shall write it and let our editor pass it or kill it. Among a few full of well dressed people, all of a party, behind me, was a young woman, who made many comments on the proceedings to another person whose ear was further from her lips than mine. They were something like these: "What the something is he doing that for?" "Egad! what a break!" "What a blanked fool he is!" Only she used some words which are not those I have written. I always feel reverential in the house of prayer, and I was deeply shocked. The church, indeed, has work to do.

Four or five years ago I wrote some articles on the land question for a reform newspaper. In reply, another correspondent wrote a very good letter, saying he believed a practical reform for the small capitalist and well paid workingman would be to imitate the tactics of the large speculator in real estate and grab some of the unearned. So he suggested a land improvement company. He was an energetic man and carried his project through. I saw him a few days ago, and he told me his land improvement company was doing well. There were forty members. They had bought four or five vacant lots near the Harlem river, carried all the mortgages possible on them, and just held the land, and they were now worth five dollars for every one paid in. There was so much "business" in this man I could not help wishing him luck—so long as the thing goes on.

The debating societies of the Knights of Labor did a lot of good for individuals as well as for the state in making their members more intelligent citizens. The mere bringing together of the men caused them to agitate ways and means to get ahead, and the result was a lot of co-operative measures. The impracticable ones failed, as they had again and again before. But a few, which time has proved practical, like the building associations, are going along swimmingly. One New York association, now in its third year, has even more in its treasury than it should have according to the schedule of a hypothetical one which winds itself up in eight years. But it is in about the fifth or sixth year that the building association ceases to work ahead by theoretical figures. Short term borrowers at high premiums do not then take the money from the treasury, and the eight years on paper becomes from 120 to 140 months in reality.

The newspaper men in convention in New York last week, talked a good deal about type setting machines. I give my opinion for what it is worth that the machine is here which will supersede the hand compositor. Well, the typos understand the single tax idea pretty thoroughly, and the movement still needs missionaries.

A crowd of single tax and tariff reform delegates to the free trade conference, to be held at Chicago on the 19th, 20th and 21st inst., left the Grand Central station on an evening train last Sunday. There were nearly enough in the party to fill a sleeping car. By the time Chicago was reached let us hope the single tax lions did their duty by the tariff reform lambs.

A word by way of suggestion to the many now writing letters to their friends and others on the single tax. Confine yourselves, I pray you, to the one reform and the one method. If you wander into other attractive fields you may confuse your intended converts. I once had a long conversation with a man on the land question. When he finally assented to my principles, I permitted myself to talk about better ways of doing some other things now done badly. "Yes, yes," he said, sympathetically, "I am right with you in promoting all these social reforms. Now, here's this outrageous law which sends a man to the penitentiary for bigamy if he marries two wives. You're with me in wiping that off the statute books, ain't you?" The disgust which suddenly seized me at that moment even yet makes me flinch shy of general reform talk.

GRIFFE.

A Minneapolis Episode.

Ex-Governor McGill—"The principal trouble with the George system is the great age and extreme respectability of the present method. You know we do raise revenue by the present plan."

S. T. Man—"Yes, and we raise the devil with the people in the operation."

McGill—"Yes, that is so."

Exeunt omnes.

C. J. B.

AT THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

I sat in the gallery of the house of representatives at Washington the other day and watched the proceedings on the floor below. Three or four members were debating a bill appropriating money for more cruisers. The debate was petty and personal. It had more of the style of ward politics than of statecraft. The debaters seemed to have no idea of addressing their words to the people of the United States. They talked at one-another and talked words, and words, and words, so that hardly more than a score of their associates thought it worth while to listen to what was going on.

The scene in the house was exactly the one which has so often been described. Some members bent over desks busy with correspondence; some sat back, with feet resting on chairs, reading the morning papers; some lay resting or peacefully slumbering on leather couches beyond screens which hedge off the floor of the house proper; and some, collected in little groups, were telling stories. As for the large remainder, they were not in sight. The speaker in his high perch, behind reporters and clerks, rapped incessantly for order and to still the laughter of the storytelling groups that drowned the debate in progress. Pages ran up and down aisles, members lounged in and out of the chamber, a hum of conversation came from the spectators' galleries, and altogether the scene lacked impressiveness for a young American who hadn't yet learned the way our great statesmen do things.

After a while I went over to the senate chamber. Business there was being conducted with smoothness and propriety. While I sat watching, several citizens were voted competencies in the form of pensions out of Uncle Sam's treasury with the utmost decorum and dispatch. The venerable senators who spoke rose in their places and addressed the chamber with deliberation and easy courtesy. To all appearances it was a gentlemen's debating club having a friendly discussion on public affairs.

Washington city is filling up with strangers, come to attend the inaugural ceremonies on the fourth day of next month, and even at the White house may be heard the sound of hammers in the public square opposite, busily knocking together a reviewing stand that in a few days more is to witness the entrance of President Cleveland's successor.

The work done by Grover Cleveland in opening the great tariff debate is apparent even in this center of officialdom, where thousands of employees in the big departments fear to openly express an opinion upon any public question that does not come up before them in their routine of duties. Even here a vigorous discussion is going on underneath the surface.

A single tax league, of which Paul T. Bowen is president and Dr. William Geddes is secretary, has for several months been at work scattering seed, and now reports very satisfactory progress. It has just put into circulation a petition to congress requesting that the law taxing personal property and improvements on land in the District of Columbia be repealed, and that the deficit caused thereby be met by increasing the tax on land alone on the basis of its actual value. To this petition have been obtained the signatures of some of the leading business men of Washington, besides one of the editors of the Post, the principal newspaper, and the secretary and the vice-president of the Equitable building association.

Charles Fred. Adams is one of the most active workers in the movement in Washington, and an eloquent speaker. At his house I met W. D. Burbage, Congressman Smith, Maurice Pechin and H. H. Pechin, C. B. Hemingway, Charles Newburg and several other earnest men whose names I cannot now recall. They were full of hope and all agreed that great progress had been made in the discussion since the election. Mr. Hemingway, who had that afternoon obtained several very important signatures to the local petition, thought a great deal of good could be done in that way.

That good may be done in that way seems very probable; but whether the results are large or small, is of no great matter. The important thing is that the first step has been taken in Washington. An interest has been awakened. The leaven has been put with the dough. It will leaven the lump.

HENRY GEORGE, JR.

JOHN MORLEY.

His Sheffield Speech and Its Peculiar Significance—A Sign of the Times.

DUNTON, Mass., Feb. 12.—I have just received a Sheffield (England) newspaper, containing a full account of a great public meeting held in that town. It contains a verbatim report of a great speech by John Morley, which indicates the bold stand the liberal party is taking in favor of "the taxation of ground rents," or as we may put it, the single tax. It seems to me there has been a great advance of late. At any rate, I am sure there has been rapid progress made since the year 1883—the year I left England for this country. It surprises me that a leader like John Morley should speak such brave, words respecting ground rents at such a representative meeting. Of all the great towns in old England that suffer through the iniquitous old system of leaseholding Sheffield bears the heaviest burden. The duke of Norfolk—personally an insignificant man—(albeit the premier peer of the realm in rank) has, according to common estimate at the place, for the last twenty-five years drawn as much as two hundred and fifty thousand pounds per annum from the enterprising business men and the toiling thousands. He owns the very heart of the borough, i.e., the land in the business streets, the market halls and the land under them, the corn exchange and its land. On his estate stand many of the iron foundries and cutlery establishments; within the corporation limits he owns a moderate sized residence and park, but not a foot of land will the agent ever sell. All the business enterprises and all the toil that are carried on within the boundaries of his great estate are taxed for the duke's benefit. The withdrawal of all his money from the town has been upheld by the laws of the land and sanctioned by public opinion. Why, when I resided there six years ago never a line could one find in the large local papers that would lead anyone to think that any citizen judged it otherwise than ordained by the will of Providence. All was submitted to without a murmur. Yet every winter there were loud appeals for charity to support soup kitchens, etc., and this besides the enormous poor rates. While that vast amount was going out of the earnings of the people into the duke's pockets, it was taking thousands of pounds to keep the poor, and the town erected a poor house on the outskirts at the cost of half a million dollars.

Thus, what more fit place could there be for such remarks as those of Mr. Morley; and it is impossible to overestimate on the one hand the importance of such a speech in such a place, and on the other hand, the importance of the change for the better in the public mind. Again, the whole occasion of Morley's visit is an evidence that Sheffield, at one time the hot bed of radicalism but of recent years the stronghold of Toryism, is swinging round again to its old position.

All this is very cheering to me. I am prouder than ever of being born an Englishman, for it is a clear indication that the British people will be again in the van, not second to this country on the single tax question. And I am persuaded, if she be the first to adopt the new fiscal system in its completeness, she will, as a consequence, keep her commercial supremacy.

ALFRED CROSS.

Agitation and Discussion, Followed by Petition.

PEORIA, Ill.—Last Sunday afternoon we had before our public lyceum the ballot reform. We had a very fair attendance of representative men. The resolution passed almost unanimously. I waited on the principal officers of the courts, the mayor and leading men of different parties, whose names I got without extra effort. I went on 'Change with my petition, although against the rules, my apology being that I was working for them as well as myself—all free. Although a very busy day, I found them ready to add their names to the list; in fact it was a list that sober, intelligent men would feel honored to add their names to.

J. W. AVERY.

A Permanent Organization in the Eastern District, Brooklyn.

The advocates of the single tax residing in the eastern district of Brooklyn met on Wednesday last, Feb. 6, at Washington hall and effected a permanent organization with the following officers: President, Jos. McGuiness; first vice-president, Harry Powers; second vice-president, Fred Deverall; recording secretary, John Britton; corresponding secretary, Robert A. Lindsay; treasurer, Geo. L. Titus. Executive committee, P. T. A. Newman, Horatio Camps, Morris L. Cohen, J. J. Hall, Chas. Westwood, R. Noldenberg, F. C. Wherley. The club held a debate on Saturday, Feb. 9, at Phoenix hall.

R. A. LINDSAY, Cor. Sec.

367 Driggs st., Brooklyn.

Permanent Headquarters in Syracuse.

SYRACUSE, N. Y.—The single tax men of Syracuse, deciding to establish permanent headquarters, have leased No. 30 Butler block and meet for discussion each Wednesday evening. The rooms are open for visitors every evening. Syracuse is in a healthy condition and our friends here feel sanguine of the prospects of the cause in central New York. All single tax men in this vicinity are requested to visit the headquarters or communicate with the secretary.

J. K. MCGUIRE, Sec.

CONDITIONS AND MEN.

Hugh O. Pentecost's Conclusive Replies to the Question, "Can Human Nature Be Changed by Law?"

In the second of a series of addresses on the social question, delivered on last Sunday, Mr. Pentecost was, even for him, unusually happy in putting principle and illustration. The address is printed in full in the Twentieth Century. The following passages will serve, however, to indicate the speaker's vein of thought:

It is impossible to understand a race of people unless you know when, where, and under what circumstances they lived. This is so well understood now that every modern historian becomes a critic and seeks to discover why this race stood differs from that. His most interesting chapters are those which define the influence of laws and natural conditions upon national character.

What makes the Scotchman sturdy, thrifty, hard-headed and difficult to conquer? Not his rough climate and barren hills alone, but the dogged Puritanism instilled into him by John Knox in the common schools which dotted Scotland before we were a nation; an independent church of enormous virility; a thorough training in religious doctrine which, whether true or false, is admirably adapted to develop strong mindedness and moral stamina, good of its kind.

Why do we use the expression "the unspeakable Turk?" Because the Mohammedan doctrine of fate, the Mohammedan idea of the family, and the Mohammedan conception of government have transformed a naturally brave and intelligent people into a nation of eunuchs, imbeciles and slaves.

Why is the Jew in America so different from the Jew in ancient Palestine or Europe? Because here he grows rich: here he mingles more freely with other peoples; here he is not so subject to ostracism, though there is even here an insane and ill grounded prejudice against him. The best representatives of the American Jews are unusually intelligent, especially broad minded, and altogether superior to the native Americans who try to keep alive the old, hateful, spirit of opposition to them. I am told by a careful observer—a Jew—that in so short a time as one generation, the Jews in America have been modified in manners, thoughts, and even facial features, to an extent nothing short of the marvelous.

What better illustration of my subject could you wish than the difference which every one may observe between the immigrant Irishman and the American born Irishman, especially if prosperity has come to the family? The Irish bogtrotter is a humble peasant who pulls his forelock to the landlord. The Irish-American policeman is a king who makes everybody pull his forelock to him. The uniform straightens him up; the badge and club give him a sense of power; and I, for one, would rather see him a little overbearing in his new environment, because he feels himself a man among men, than to think of him as the poor, whipped creature he was in his native land.

With individuals as well, the law holds good. There can never be another Socrates, another Buddha, or another Jesus, because the peculiar conditions which produced these men can never come again, so far as we can see. And if you descend from high things to low, where, I may ask, is the old-fashioned, red-shirted, top-booted, swaggering fireman, who would set a house on fire for the sake of getting his engine into action first? He is gone. City ordinances and the paid fire department annihilated him. If any of the old volunteer firemen are still in service, they are different men from what they were. They have been changed by law.

Where is the old-fashioned "Bowers boy?" The modern east side "tough" has supplanted him and is a much worse character. Different conditions in the same section of the city have given us even a new kind of loafer. The tramp is a wholly modern institution. He is the Rip Van Winkle, the Sam Lawson of to-day, but he is a hateful character, while the old-fashioned idler was not. The tramp is the product of immigration from countries cursed by land monopoly to a country cursed by land monopoly, which is the base of a pyramid of monopolies.

The political boss and the ward heeler are possible only under our present election laws. Introduce the Australian ballot system of voting and both will disappear. The millionaire is the product of special legislation. Abolish special legislation and that whole type of man will vanish.

Take two pictures: A workman comes home at night, tired and seeking rest and quiet. He lives in three small compartments in a tenement house. His parlor is also kitchen, dining room, laundry and cellar. It is filled with smoke; all his children are there under the heels of his wife, who is also his cook, laundress and scullery maid. If she is not untidy and cross she is more than human. The children quarrel, or fight, or play boisterously. The whole house is a pandemonium of discordant sounds and a reservoir of old and new smells. Musical instruments and pet birds and animals add to the maddening din. Perhaps he stumbled over a drunken man or woman on the stairs. What chance has such a man to be anything? There is no quiet in which to read, no retirement in which to think, no freedom for his wife by which she might sweeten him and be sweetened herself

by love. This is not a home. This is not to live. There is nothing here to feed his heart or brain. That such a man does not drown himself or get drunk, or become discontented or criminal, is to be accounted for only because his brain becomes stupid and he reverts to animalhood. That poverty benumbs as well as debases is something for which organized society should be profoundly thankful, otherwise every tenement house would soon become a lunatic asylum or dynamite bomb factory.

Reverse the picture. Here is competency. A family of five live in nine or ten rooms with windows and closets and cellar. The house is cool in summer and warm in winter. When the man comes home he closes the door upon his neighbors, good and bad. His wife is waiting for him with a welcome kiss. His pretty rooms, beautiful because he has money and she has leisure and taste, are open on either side of him with blazing fires and shaded lamps. His wife is more charming by the added grace of womanhood than the girl he loved in his youth. His table is spread with abundance prepared by an inmate of his home whose part of the household labor it is to cook, and wash, and scrub. When his appetite is appeased with well cooked and politely served food, he and his family repair to their cosy sitting room, his least one of two or three children climbs into his lap and prattles of her love to him. His evening is spent in quietude and peace in an atmosphere that is balm to the tired brain and tonic to a fainting heart. Is it any wonder that when he falls asleep at night the care-lines have been smoothed from his face? Is it any wonder that he takes up his task the next day with a spring in his step and courage in his breast? The world holds something for such a man. He is content. He believes in things as they are. It ought to be easy for him to be sober and law abiding. Everything tempts him to be a good and tender man. These are conditions and conditions make the man.

Look now at another effect of conditions upon the same man, which all of us may have observed. Have you never noticed the prosperous man, how erect he is, how manly in his bearing, how apt, indeed, to elbow people out of his way, and tread on their toes and bully his servants. Success gives him the confidence which marks the victor in life's race. He moves buoyantly among his fellows. He goes to their houses because he knows he can invite them to his house. He accepts favors because he knows he can return them. He is gracious if he pleases and gruff if he pleases, because he has, to a very great extent, that best of blessings, independence.

Now mark him when misfortune overtakes him. He takes the side street. He shuns his friends. He declines their invitations. His clothing grows not only threadbare, but he does not brush it often. His whiskers go untrimmed. He shrinks before the hotel clerk or railroad porter. His shoulders stoop. He shuffles his feet. He is a clerk where he was once a master. You say of him: "Poor devil; he is a changed man." He is changed. Once he laughed and joked with his fellows and poked them familiarly in the ribs. Now he rarely smiles and becomes deferential or morose or discouraged. And what has changed him? Circumstances.

Your social system decrees that men and women shall work ten or sixteen hours for six days in the week, and then you expect them to go to church on Sunday. The preachers lament that people do not go to church and are growing irreligious, and appoint committees and invent patent schemes to remedy the evil. I can tell you what the trouble is. Your social system has taken away all leisure from the people through the week, and they will have a holiday on Sunday.

You violate nature with your customs laws, and every man and woman becomes a smuggler. The very preachers will hide silk dresses in their trunks for their wives when they come back from their summer tours across the water. You tax property that should not be taxed, and every man hides what he can and swears he has it not. Our tax laws have made us a nation of liars. All progress is based upon the idea that you can change human nature if you get rid of bad laws.

You must actually abolish those laws which hinder production and inequitably distribute wealth in order to improve society. What society needs is a system under which more wealth can be produced, and shall be generally and equitably distributed. The whole people, man by man and woman by woman, must be richer before it can be better.

When everybody works and nobody drudges; when everybody plays and nobody loafers; when children shall not become producers until their bones are hard and they have spent ten or twelve years in school; when no bread-winner knows what it is to want for any needful thing; then mind will develop, conscience will grow healthy, true religion will thrive; then drunkenness will cease, robbery will be unknown, and envy, hatred and murder will be things of the past. What I hope to show you is that the way which leads to that happy condition is already open, and you may walk in it if you will, reaching the end of the journey step by step through an ever-increasingly pleasant country; that no shot need be fired and no useful thing destroyed on the way. It is simply a question of removing, one after another, those laws which now deprive us of equal opportunities to labor and to live.

The Public Estate That Boston Threw Away.

PROVIDENCE, R. I.—The city of Boston received from the sales of the made lands in the Back bay district up to 1885, \$3,335,693 and had then remaining about \$200,000 worth of land. The city has, however, had the cost of laying out and building the streets to deduct from the above sum, and this together with other improvements in process, such as the Back bay park and the Charles river embankment, will probably absorb more than was realized from sales of lands. The value of the land in the Back bay district must now be enormously greater than the price the city received. The valuation—both real and personal—in this district in 1885 was \$94,000,000, and at a very low estimate the present ground value must be five or six times what the city received for the land. A thorough presentation of all the figures in this case by some of the single tax men in Boston who can obtain the figures readily, would be an interesting and most valuable illustration of public improvement resulting in private gain.

R. G. LAWWOOD.

The "Ocean Hill" Club in Brooklyn.

BROOKLYN, N. Y.—The "Ocean Hill" single tax society recently appointed a committee to secure permanent headquarters, suitable for public meetings, reading room, etc., with power to devise ways and means for its support. In accordance with the above, the committee would be pleased to receive subscriptions from all who sympathize with their efforts.

The rent question will be generally discussed here this spring, the great rise in land values, caused by the extension of the elevated railroad, permitting the land owners to raise the rents. The society hopes to be able to take advantage of this discussion to promote a more thorough knowledge of the single tax.

Regular meetings are held every Thursday evening at 8 o'clock at 2120 Dean street, near Stone avenue, the residence of the secretary.

MAX O. NEWMAN, Secretary.

The Lucky Agents of Botany Bay.

NEW YORK.—My brother writes me from Australia: "We in New South Wales are with you heart and soul in the single tax movement. Just think how it would give us our birthright here, and give us justice where there is nothing but injustice. For instance: When the British government used to send convicts to Botany Bay, she sent them out in charge of agents, who were given grants of land of hundreds of thousands of acres; and now the heirs of those agents are living as lords in other parts of the world. Their land has become valuable. They have sold enough to be independently rich. The rest lies idle (except as sheep farms), but rising in value; and not a foot for sale in market except at their fancy price."

G. A.

Farmers Awakening.

One of the many indications of awakening thought among farmers comes from Tulare county, California, where the farmers' grange organization recently passed resolutions requesting representatives John Roth and G. Stockton Berry of the state legislature to explain the features of the electoral reform bill pending before that body, and inviting Judge James G. Maguire of San Francisco to address them regarding the single tax.

SINGLE TAX MEN.

The following list contains the names and addresses of men active in the single tax cause in their respective localities, with whom those wishing to join in the movement may communicate:

Akron, O.—Jas R. Angier, 109 Allen street.
Albany, N. Y.—Robert Baker, 178 Madison avenue; J. C. Roskoff, 23 Third avenue; or James J. Mahoney, secretary Single Tax Cleveland and Thurman club, 25 Myrtle avenue.
Alhambra, Mon. Ter.—Mrs. Josephine Spahr.
Altoona, Pa.—Joseph Sharp, jr., secretary Single tax club, 411 Tenth street; Albert C. Rozee, 924 First avenue.
Amsterdam, N. Y.—Harvey Book.
Anacostia, D. C.—Carroll W. Smith, office Anacostia tea company, 1415 Anacostia street.
Anheim, Cal.—James B. Hasset.
Anton Chico, N. M.—Lewis T. Granstam.
Ashtabula, Ohio.—A. D. Strong.
Atlanta, Ga.—John C. Reed, lawyer, 25 1-2 Marietta street.
Auburn, Me.—F. W. Beards, secretary Single tax club.
Augusta, Ga.—L. A. Schmidt, 523 Line street.
Avon, N. Y.—Homer Sabin.
Baldwin Spa, N. Y.—Richard Feeney, 63 Milton avenue.
Baltimore, Md.—John W. Jones, see Single tax league of Maryland, 125 N. Bond street; John Salmon, Pres. Henry George club, 415 N. Eutaw street; Dr. Wm. N. Hill, 113 E. Baltimore street.
Bayside, Long Island, N. Y.—Antonio M. Molina.
Braceville, Ill.—William Matthews, secretary Tariff reform club.
Bradford, Pa.—J. C. De Forest, secretary Land and labor club, 26 Newell place.
Bristol, Dak.—W. E. Frohawk.
Binghamton, N. Y.—E. W. Dundon, 31 Maiden lane.
Boston, Mass.—Edwin M. White, 208 Main street, Charles town; J. R. Roche, 29 Converse avenue, Malden; Hamilton Garland, chairman single tax league, Jamaica Plain.
Brooklyn, N. Y.—George E. West, M. D., 49 Clermont avenue, president Single tax club.
Burlington, Iowa.—James Love, bookseller, or Richard Spoor.
Cambridgeport, Mass.—Wm. A. Ford, 106 Norfolk street, secretary Single tax organization.
Camden, N. Y.—H. W. Johnson, P. O. box 265.
Canon City, Col.—Frank P. Blake, M. D.
Canton, O.—S. J. Harmon, M. D., president single tax club.
Cape May City—Wm. Porter, box 57.
Chamberlain, Dak.—James Brown.
Charles City, Iowa.—Irving W. Smith, M. D., office opposite Union house.
Chicago, Ill.—Frank Pearson, secretary Land and labor club, No. 1, 45 La Salle street.
Chenault, Ind.—Dr. David De Beck, 129 West Ninth street; Jones's news and stationery store, 272 Vine street; headquarters Single tax club, 295 Vine street.
Clinton, Ala.—O. M. Mastin or Alex. G. Dake.
Cleveland, O.—C. W. Whitmarsh, 4 Euclyd avenue; Frank L. Carter, 122 Chestnut street.
Clinton, Ind.—L. O. Bishop, editor Argus.
Columbus, N. Y.—J. S. Crane.
Columbus, O.—Edward Hyneman, 348 1-2 South High street.
Cornwall, Cal.—Jeff A. Bailey.
Cramer Hill, Camden county, N. J.—Chas. P. Johnston.

Danbury, Conn.—Sam A. Main, 34 Smith street.
Dayton, O.—W. W. Kile, 31 E. Fifth street; J. G. Galloway, 263 Samuel street.
Denver, Col.—F. H. Monroe.
Des Moines, Iowa.—L. J. Kasson, president Single tax club; John W. King, secretary.
Detroit, Mich.—J. R. Fincham, 45 Waterloo street; J. F. Duncan, 279 Third street, secretary Tax reform association; S. C. Howe, 61 1-2 N. W. 4th street.
Diamond Springs, El Dorado county, Cal.—J. V. Lanston.
Dunkirk, N. Y.—Francis Lake.
East Cambridge, Mass.—J. F. Harrington, St. John's Literary institute.
East Nor. port, Long Island, N. Y.—J. K. Rudyard.
East Rindge, N. H.—Edward Jewett.
Elizabeth, N. J.—Johann D. Ormer.
Elmhurst, N. Y.—William Bergman, 112 East Market street.
Englewood, Ill.—W. B. Steers.
Evansville, Ind.—Charles G. Bennett, 427 Upper Third street.
Fitchburg, Mass.—R. O. Terry.
Farmington, Iowa.—F. W. Rockwell.
Gardner, Ill.—F. S. Cunningham.
Glen Cove, Long Island, N. Y.—Herbert Lorimer.
Greenville, Mont.—A. H. Sawyer.
Glens Falls, N. Y.—John H. Quinn.
Gloucester, N. Y.—Wm. C. Wood, M. D.
Grand View-on-the-Hudson, N. Y.—Henry L. Hinton.
Harrison, Tex.—J. J. McCullum.
Hartington, Neb.—J. H. Feder.
Haverhill, Mass.—Arthur F. Brock.
Helena, Mont.—Judge J. M. Jewett.
Hempstead, N. Y.—George H. H. Winkler.
Hot Springs, Ark.—W. Albert Chapman.
Hosick Falls, N. Y.—F. S. Hammond.
Houston, Tex.—H. F. Ring, corporation attorney.
Hutchinson, Kas.—J. G. Malcom, M. D.
Ilion, N. Y.—George Smith, P. O. box 22.
Indianapolis, Ind.—Herman Kuehn, 14 Talbot block; or L. P. Custer, member Single tax club.
Ithaca, N. Y.—C. C. Platt, druggist, 75 East State street.
Jamestown, N. J.—S. B. Walsh.
Jersey City, N. J.—Joseph Linn Miller, secretary Hudson county Single tax league, 36 Ege avenue.
Kansas City, Mo.—Chas. E. Reid, 223 Woodland avenue.
Kearnsburg, Ill.—M. McDonald.
Kingston, N. Y.—Theodore M. Romeyn.
Lansingburgh, N. Y.—James McMann, 21 Eighteenth st.
Lonsdale, Ill.—Dr. L. F. Harvey.
Lowville, Mo.—F. P. Lyford, Cottage street.
Lexington, Ky.—James Lewis.
London, England.—William Saunders, 177 Palace Chambers, Westminster.
Los Angeles, Cal.—W. H. Dodge, 30 North Alameda street; W. A. Cook, 109 Broadway; H. A. Vignette, P. O. box 10.
Lowell, Mass.—Henry Robertson, 5 Metcalf block, Kildar street.
Lytle, Minn.—C. F. Wenham.
Lynchburg, Va.—Thos. Williamson, cor Fifth and Church streets.
Lynn, Mass.—Theodore P. Perkins, 14 South Common street.
Madison, Dak.—E. H. Evenson.
Mahanoy City, Pa.—J. N. Becker, president Free trade club; Robert Richardson, secretary.
Manchester, N. H.—Albert Wadley, or W. R. Hall.
Massfield, O.—W. J. Higgins, manager Western union telegraph office.
Marlboro, Mass.—Geo. A. E. Reynolds.
Marlborough, N. Y.—C. H. Baildon.
Mart, Tex.—J. L. Caldwell, chairman Ninth congressional district organizer.
Marysville, Mont.—S. P. Ralston, 85.
Massillon, O.—Victor Burnett, 78 East South street.
Mauritius, Indian Ocean.—Robert A. Rohan, 8 Pump street, Port Louis.
Memphis, Tenn.—R. G. Brown, secretary Tariff reform club, 39 Madison street.
Middletown, Conn.—John G. Hopkins, P. O. box 580.
Middletown, N. Y.—Chas. H. Fuller, P. O. box 115.
Milwaukee, Wis.—Peter McGill, 17 Front street.
Minneapolis, Minn.—C. J. Bush, president Single tax league, 402 W. Franklin avenue; E. L. Hyder, secretary.
Mobile, Ala.—E. Q. Norton, 23 South Royal street.
Mt. Pleasant, Iowa.—A. O. Fletcher, M. D.
Mt. Vernon, N. Y.—Richard Weston.
Murrayville, Ill.—William Cunniff, president Democratic club.
Nashville, Tenn.—P. H. Carroll, 235 N. High street, secretary American land league.
Newport, Mass.—J. A. Lottrop, member Henry George club, 13 Walnut street.
Newark, N. J.—Rev. Hugh O. Pentecost, 56 Oriental street.
New Brighton, Pa.—John Seitz, 1 North Broadway.
Newburg, N. Y.—D. J. McKay, secretary Single tax club, 238 Broadway.
Newburyport, Mass.—Wm. R. Whitmore, secretary Merimee assembly, Herald office.
Newport, Ky.—Joseph L. Schurer, secretary Single tax league, 247 Southgate street; Will C. James, 89 Taylor street.
New Westminster, Brit. Col.—Alex. Hamilton, member Tariff reform association.
Norfolk, Va.—Edward K. Robertson, secretary Alpha club, 15 O. driver st.
North Springfield, Mo.—K. P. Alexander, 1826 North Boonville street.
Oberlin, O.—Edw. B. Haskell.
Olean, N. Y.—George Ball, pres. Single tax association.
Olympia, Wash.—J. C. Alexander, 100 Broadway.
Omaha, Neb.—John E. Embler, 822 Virginia avenue.
Ordway, Dak.—R. H. Garland, member Tax reform association.
Oswego, N. Y.—Alex. Skillen, 100 West First street.
Passaic, N. J.—J. J. Barland, P. O. box 181.
Patterson, N. D.—W. S. Nellis, chairman Passaic county Single tax Cleveland campaign committee, 89 North Main street.
Parkersburg, W. Va.—W. I. Borenman, member of Single tax league.
Pawtucket, R. I.—Edward Barker, 21 Gooding street.
Peoria, Ill.—Wm. Avery.
Philadelphia, Pa.—Wm. J. Atkinson, 926 Chestnut street, or A. H. Stephenson, 214 Chestnut street, secretary Henry George club.
Piermont, N. Y.—Charles R. Hood, P. O. box 13.
Pittsburg, Pa.—Mark F. Roberts, 1727 Carey alley.
Portland, Ore.—S. B. Hagen, 48 Stark street; R. H. Thompson.
Poughkeepsie, N. Y.—William C. Albro.
Providence, R. I.—Robert Grievie, 32 Sutton street; Dr. Wm. Barker, pres. Rhode Island single tax association.
Pulaski, N. Y.—C. V. Harbottle.
Ravenswood, Ill.—W. H. Van Ornum.
Reading, Pa.—Chas. S. Pitzer, 1013 First street; Charles Corbitt, 24 Penn street.
Reynolds, Bridge, Conn.—John Carner, box 20.
Richmond, Ind.—J. Quigley, 100 South Third street.
Ridgeway, N. Y.—D. C. Sullivan.
River Falls, Wis.—George H. Bates.
Rochester, N. Y.—Charles A. Vail, 7 Morrill street.
Roselle, N. J.—Read Gordon.
Rutland, Vt.—H. J. Cherry street.
San Francisco, Cal.—Judge James G. Maguire, Superior court.
San Luis Obispo, Cal.—Mrs. Frances M. Mims.
Seattle, Wash.—F. P. Morrow.
Seneca Falls, N. Y.—Wm. H. Alderson, P. O. box 56.
Sharon, Conn.—J. D. Beck, chairman Single tax club.
Shenandoah, Pa.—Morris Marsh, president Single tax club; Thos. Potts, secretary.
Southboro, Mass.—S. H. Howes.
South Gaston, N. C.—W. L. M. Perkins.
Sparrow Bush, Orange county, N. Y.—C. L. Dedrick, president Progressive association; John Sheehan, secretary.
Spirit Lake, Iowa.—J. W. Schimpf, secretary Tariff reform club.
Springfield, Mo.—H. A. W. Janeman, 66 Nichols street.
St. Louis, Mo.—H. H. Russell, president Single tax league, 206 H. H. street; Benj. E. Bloom, secretary, 114 G. H. avenue.
Stockton, Cal.—D. A. Learned.
Syracuse, N. Y.—Charles S. Hopkins, 9 Seymour street.
Tahoe, Cal.—H. Perry, 119 South Clinton street, or F. A. Paul, 4 Walton street, or James K. McGuire, secretary Single tax club, 59 Greene street.
Tahoe, O.—Wm. Avelsperger, secretary Single tax club, No. 1, 112 Summit street.
Tacoma, Wash.—F. C. Clarke, 128 E. 8th st.
Trenton, N. J.—H. R. Mathews, 9 Howell street.
Troy, N. Y.—H. H. Harris.
Tuckahoe, N. Y.—Albert O. Young.
Unionville, Conn.—John McLaughlin.
Utica, N. Y.—Thos. Sweeney, 156 Elizabeth street, or Daniel M. Buckley, grocer, southwest corner First and Catharine streets.
Victor, N. Y.—W. L. Sinton, East N. R. R. Co.
Vincennes, Ind.—Hon. Samuel W. Williams, rooms 2 and 3 Quera block.
Waco, Tex.—Frank Grady, lawyer, 163 South 4th street.
Wakefield, R. I.—Dr. J. H. Powers.
Washington, D. C.—Dr. William Geddes, 1719 G street, N. W., secretary single tax league.
Weatherford, Tex.—William M. Buell.
West New Brighton, Staten Island, N. Y.—A. B. Stoddard.
Whitestone, Long Island, N. Y.—George Harwell.
Whitman, Mass.—C. F. Bohn, cigar store, Thos. Douglass, president single tax league.
Williamstown, Del.—Geo. W. Keizer, 717 West Ninth street.
Woodstock, Ill.—A. W. Curran.
Worcester, Mass.—E. K. Page, Lake View.
Yonkers, N. Y.—Joseph Sutherland.
Youngstown, O.—Bryl Radcliffe, Radcliffe house.
Zanesville, Ohio.—W. H. Loughhead, 27 Van Buren street.

THE STANDARD.

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THE STANDARD is forwarded to subscribers by the early morning mails each Thursday. Subscribers who do not receive the paper promptly will confer a favor by communicating with the publisher.

The Liederkrantz society has a grievance against the police for coming into the dining room—sixty of them headed by Captain Reilly—at the ball recently given by the society. Their object was to prevent the sale of liquor after 1 o'clock in the morning.

It is not a bad thing that the Liederkrantz society and other societies should learn to what lengths the police have come to think they have a right to go. Such an invasion of some dollar ball would have called out only signs of approval. But the Liederkrantz ball! And yet, Liederkrantz or what you will, the police have no right to make such intrusions. It is their business to preserve the peace and to arrest for crime under certain circumstances; but it is not their business to go mousing around in ball rooms or dining rooms or private apartments of any kind to see if perchance they may not surprise some one in the commission of a misdemeanor. And it is dangerous to let them get the notion that it is their business.

The Broadway and Seventh avenue railroad company passes resolutions thanking the rank and file of the police force for their protection during the strike, and by way of proving that the resolutions are not mere words, forwards \$1,000 for the police pension fund. It is quite right for the company to express its thanks, for it was well served, and perhaps the \$1,000 was earned; but there is a suggestion in the giving that the police more than preserved the peace and prevented crime.

There are other reasons to believe that in some instances they did. The newspapers told of one case where a captain ordered three of his men to enter a restaurant and drive the people out, at the same time warning them to use their clubs "gently," gently being a familiar euphemism in the force. This restaurant was not a liquor saloon. If it had been, the legal right and wrong of the matter would have been the same. But it was a temperance restaurant, where meals were furnished to surface car men, the proprietor also accommodating such of his customers as wished with weekly lodging and board. When the police order to enter this restaurant was given, several people, some of whom were regular boarders, were within and peaceably engaged at a meal. The newspapers go on to describe how two of the policemen entered the place while the third, with night stick drawn, stood by the door without, and as the interrupted diners came plunging through the doorway propelled by an unseen force, supposably the night sticks of the two policemen who had entered, the third policeman helped them on with the ungentle blows upon the head. All this was told by the press without the slightest apparent thought that the captain who gave the order ought to have been deprived of his uniform and all authority, and without any other explanation of the lawless act

than that the restaurant was a headquarters for strikers.

The naturalization bill reported by the judiciary committee of the house at Washington provides that when an alien presents his petition for naturalization the clerk of the court shall give notice to the district attorney, whose duty it shall be to attend the court and see that the allegations of the petition are properly proven. On the prevailing assumption that naturalization is a judicial inquiry, this is a wise alteration of the present off-hand proceeding. The new bill also provides that written as well as oral evidence may be offered, a provision which will relieve from the hardship of bringing witnesses from a distance in cases in which part of the applicant's residence has been in one section of the country and part in another. The bill might be improved by requiring a record of naturalizations to be made at Washington. It is often a matter of importance to show that a foreigner has not been naturalized; but this is practically an impossibility, or, at least, a very expensive possibility, when he may have been naturalized in any one of the great number of counties in the United States.

In Ohio there was recently passed what is known as the "Arnett law," which prohibits the separation of white and colored children in schools. This law is unpopular with the whites, and since its passage, whenever a colored man's lease expires, the white owner of the farm informs him that another tenant is to have the place; and if he applies to other farm owners for a lease he is refused. In this way the various school districts are being quietly but forcibly relieved of their colored population so rapidly that soon the schools will no longer be mixed; all of which goes to show the weakness of "Arnett laws" and the power of land titles.

A spirit similar to that of the white farmers of Ohio has appeared in a board of trustees in this city, with the single difference that here it relates to the distinction of rich and poor, while in Ohio it relates to white and colored. In a certain up town school district a new school house has been built because the old one was unfit. When the disposition of the old building came up for consideration one of the trustees, who was supported by others, but not enough to make a majority, proposed that the old building should be used as a school for the children of hod carriers and other unpleasant classes.

The whole state of New Jersey is variously owned by somebody; but no one knows who owns one-twelfth of the eastern half, and the supreme court of the United States is to be asked to find out. To do this they will be compelled to go back two hundred years, to the time of the "proprietors," and construe the legal effect of certain records and papers of that date. Jersey men have an idea that they govern themselves, but once in a while a lawsuit reminds them that they are really governed by ghosts.

The committee of the Union league club appointed to report on the subject of electoral reform, has, according to the Times, "prepared a bill which is in substance the measure introduced in the assembly by Mr. Saxton, but so modified as to obviate the objections which the governor has already expressed in regard to its provisions." The committee has also prepared a supplementary bill embodying those essential provisions of the Saxton measure which are omitted in the first bill. The professed purpose is to offer the governor two bills, which together make the reform complete, the first alone being an improvement on present methods. If he signs both, all that the Saxton bill proposes is accomplished; if he vetoes the supplementary bill and signs the other, we shall have at least a partial reform. It is hard to understand how any bill can be drawn that will obviate all the governor's objections. Those pro-

visions of the Saxton bill which require the exclusive use of official ballots might be omitted; but official ballots are provided there must be preliminary nominations, and to this the governor objects. But aside from technical difficulties it is not wise under existing circumstances to compromise on a lame reform. In over twenty states the bills embodying all the essential parts of the Saxton measure are pending, and in most of these states they will be enacted; at the same time the agitation goes on, in New York as well as elsewhere, gathering strength continually. It is, then, but a matter of time, and not a long time, when the full reform will be adopted in this state; with Governor Hill's assent if he chooses, without it if he does not. If a perfect bill is presented to him he must sign it or be responsible to the people for depriving them of the reform they demand; but if two bills are presented, one a partial reform and the other a supplement making the reform complete, he can, by signing the first and vetoing the other, pose as an electoral reformer, while he really nullifies electoral reform in all those respects in which it would be destructive of the kind of politics he has heretofore represented.

A secret ballot will prevent bribery and intimidation; but nothing short of an official ballot, to the exclusion of all private ballots, will abolish the machine in politics. By the "machine" is not meant political parties or political organizations, which are desirable factors in our system of government, but the wheel within the wheel—the organization which controls the party instead of being controlled by the party. The evil influence of the machine is indisputable, and to destroy it has become a necessity. If an ineffective law is enacted now it will be more difficult to enact an effective one later; but if all reform fails now, on account of the governor's opposition, a complete reform will be soon accomplished in spite of his opposition.

Nor is it quite certain that, by acceding to the governor's demands, there will be such secrecy as to prevent bribery and intimidation. If a voter is to be allowed to deposit ballots prepared by political machines, it will not be impossible to know how he votes. If bribed or intimidated, he will not dare to vote the official ballot. He must vote one of the ballots which are privately prepared. And that this will expose his vote, or at least make him afraid to vote otherwise than as he has been told, is shown by the fact that under our present system, even though ballots are required to be uniform, voters are liable to such exposure.

Besides, is it not too strong an inference that because the governor vetoed the Saxton bill last year he will veto it this? There is no better reason to believe he will than that to do otherwise would be a stultification. But it would not be a stultification. Governor Hill gave one reasonable reason for his veto last year, namely, that the reform was too radical to be safely adopted without more careful and general consideration than it had received. That objection no longer exists. The reform has been discussed in detail all over the state. If there were any valid objections to it, they would by this time have made an impression. But none have been heard except that of Tammany hall to the effect that the reform would make political machines more powerful, an objection which, both from its source and intrinsically, is laughable. On the contrary, the more the measure has been discussed the stronger has grown the demand for it and the weaker have become the protests of its opponents. These are considerations which it is only fair to infer would affect the action of Governor Hill should the same measure be laid before him this year. He might personally object on the old grounds, but at the same time, regarding himself as a branch of the law making power of the state, conclude that his personal opposition must give way to the manifest wishes of the people for whom he was called on to legislate.

MEN AND THINGS.

I paid a visit one day last week to an institution which, in a modest, unobtrusive way, has been doing a good deal of work among a class who sadly need assistance—Primrose house, the home of the Society to befriend working girls. It occupies a nice looking four story brown stone front building in West Thirty-third street, which, I am happy to say, is not disfigured with any sign or other outward label of its purpose. A young girl may ascend the steps without making it patent to every passer by that she is in trouble and seeking relief.

What the society does is this: It seeks to take the place of an affectionate, well to do, experienced friend, to respectable young women who have to earn their own living, and who stand in need of help. And so far as I can judge, it carries out its purpose very well indeed. It does not torture its beneficiaries with cross examination into their past life and present circumstances, but asks from them simply such references as would be equivalent to an introduction from a friend. It assumes no reformatory mission, and makes no pretense of preaching a gospel of hard work. It recognizes the fact that there are in this city an enormous number of young girls who have to work for a living, whose earnings are too scanty to admit of any saving, and who, when work fails them, or sickness comes upon them, are reduced to absolute, friendless destitution. When such a girl comes to Primrose house she is treated as much like a friend visiting a friend, as circumstances will allow. A pleasant faced, kindly matron greets her, and does her best to make her feel at home. If she is hungry, she is fed; if she needs shelter, a bed is at her service; if she is ill, a physician summoned for her. If her only trouble is want of work, an effort is made to find work for her, and meantime she is taken care of. So far as she is able she is allowed to pay for her entertainment; but whether she pays much or little, or nothing at all, she is made at home just the same. If she is able, she is asked to assist to some extent in the household work, but there seems to be no ordering round, nor dictatorial assumption of authority. When she is fit for work and has succeeded in getting work that will support her, she is expected to bring her visit to a close. If she asks advice, it is given her, but there is no effort made to thrust advice upon her.

I was allowed to go through the house, and found it neat and cheery from top to bottom. Except that each bedroom had several beds, there was no look of the institution about it. The floors were covered with carpet, matting, or oilcloth. The furniture was excellent. The dining room showed snowy table linen, bright glassware and silver forks. I could easily imagine what a heart-easing sense of relief must come over a poor girl, hunted by the wolf of poverty, when she finds herself suddenly admitted to such a home. And I can thoroughly understand what hopefulness and courage may be infused into a working girl's life by the mere knowledge that she has such a refuge to fall back upon. For the dread of helpless destitution is, if anything, more terrible than destitution itself. It is like the assassin's dagger to a threatened man—like the sword of Damocles.

If any charity is good, the charity I have described is good. But just think what would happen if the Society to befriend working girls had sufficient means to befriend all working girls who need befriending. Suppose it were known—as, if the fact existed, it would be known—all over the United States, that here in New York no honest, self respecting working girl would be allowed to suffer actual want. What an influx there would be from north and south and east and west of women seeking to earn a living. In the fierce competition of thousands upon thousands of women anxious for work, what would women's wages sink to? How many men would be crowded out of employment? The mere dream of such a thing is appalling.

This is the paradox that confronts every organization, and every individual, who seeks by charity, however skillfully concealed, to make life easier for men and women. If they try to do their work effectually, they are swamped for want of means. Already, the society I have described is compelled to turn away one-third of the working girls who apply to

it. If they enlist public sympathy and secure more means, they create more distress than they can possibly relieve. The better their motives, the more efficient their methods of work, the more trouble they will cause. Let the Society for befriending working girls grow as the Children's aid society has grown, and it will beggar New York. Yet if it doesn't grow—if it is to turn away, first one-third, then a half, at last a large majority of its applicants—of what use is it? Its members might as well use their money to establish almshouses on the English plan, where a limited number of selected working girls should live at ease, while their less fortunate sisters struggled with the poverty wolf as best they might.

Poverty is like some grasses; the more it is nibbled at the faster it spreads. The only way to extirpate it is to strike at the root. And what the root of poverty is no man can fail to see, who, dismissing prejudice from his mind, will seriously ask himself the question, "What is the source of wealth?" and insist on a satisfactory answer. For poverty is simply the want of wealth. It can be cured only by the acquisition of wealth. And the wealth must be acquired, not by gift, or theft—which only relieve poverty in the individual to encourage it in the mass, but by the productive labor of the men whose poverty is to be relieved.

Let the Society to befriend working girls think this out. What the working girls need is *things*—houses, clothes, fuel, food, furniture, books, jewelry, laces, and a thousand other things. All these are but the result of human labor applied to the raw material of nature. Out of earth, and air, and water they have been wrought by man's labor, every one of them, and to earth and air and water they are all returning just as fast as they can. If working girls want more of them, what needs there to be done, save to apply more human labor to the inexhaustible materials of nature and produce them? There is no lack of coal in the bowels of the earth—why should the working girl lack fuel? There is no lack of brick clay, and timber and iron—why should the working girl lack shelter? There is no lack of pasture land for sheep, or of arable land for flax and cotton—why should the working girl lack clothing? She lacks them all, not because they cannot be produced in superabundance, but because they *may* not be. The men who would gladly mine coal, mold brick, shape timber, raise sheep, grow flax and cotton, build houses, weave cloth, and exchange these things for other forms of wealth which they need and the working girl is eager to produce—these men, like the working girl herself, are forbidden to apply their labor to the raw material of nature. They are fenced out from the earth, to which God gave them an equal, indefeasible right with all other men. The coal and iron lie useless in the ground, the brick clay is not dug, the timber stands unfelled, the broad pastures are bare of sheep, the rich soil is untillied, not because men are lazy, or unambitious for wealth, but simply, solely, and altogether, because society by one gigantic robbery has made private property of that which the Almighty gave to be the property of all the race—has put the keys of nature's well filled storehouse into the hands of favored individuals, and authorizes them to forbid their fellows to use God's gifts, except as they may choose to allow, and on such terms as they may choose to fix. What the working girl wants is not a society to befriend her in her poverty, but that simple justice which shall make poverty impossible for her so long as she is willing to be indeed a *working* girl!

And this justice will be secured, without economic friction of any kind, without injustice to any man on earth, by the adoption of the single tax on land values. So soon as men who hold possession of nature's opportunities are compelled to pay to the community the value which attaches to those opportunities by reason of the competition among men for the privilege of using them, so soon will they either utilize those opportunities to their fullest possible extent or abandon them to the unhindered use of others. In either case, labor will find ample occupation, at wages of which it now dares not even dream. No man willing to work will then be idle; if capital declines his services, he will need but to seek a vacant piece of ground, an unused mine or quarry, an uncultivated field, and apply the labor of his hands, aided by such capital as any

man, with a prospect of remunerative employment before him, can readily secure, direct to earth itself, and have the whole product for his reward. But capital will not decline his services. On the contrary, it will be eager to secure them, and will compete for the privilege of employing them. For though the laborer will be able to get along without the capitalist, the capitalist will be utterly helpless without the laborer. The richest mine owner or manufacturer will see his capital perish before his eyes if he cannot hire men to work for him.

And with men free to apply their labor direct to the earth the secondary processes of production will flourish as never before. Men wresting wealth from mine and pasture land and furrow will seek to transform it by exchange into a thousand different shapes. Think what the business of piano makers and watchmakers will be when every man who wants can afford to buy a piano and a watch. A surge of reviving industry will run through all society—a swelling wave of wealth. With all the barriers to production and exchange broken down, with every tax on industry abolished, with invention stimulated to its highest point, with the forces of nature everywhere harnessed to do man's work, what limit can be set to the wealth of the world? And it may well be, that in that time happy wives and mothers, looking backward a few years, shall shudder as they think of the evil days when women begged the privilege of work and working girls needed a society to befriend them.

A very interesting passage in William O'Brien's recent Manchester speech—made during his hurried tour of the two kingdoms, with an army of constables trying to catch him—seems to have hitherto escaped quotation on this side the Atlantic. Speaking of his latest condemnation Mr. O'Brien said:

The words for which I was condemned were as follows: "The self protection against land grabbers is the first principle of self-preservation for 100,000 defenseless people in Ireland. Yes, there is absolutely no alternative but the blunderbuss;" and the Times report stops there, as if I had recommended and countenanced the blunderbuss. How did that sentence finish? "Yes, there is absolutely no alternative but the blunderbuss, and it is because I abhor and condemn crime in every shape and form that I hope every man and woman in Tipperary will take a leaf out of the Primrose dames' book."

The Primrose dames, it should be remembered, are an association of female Tories, one of whose guiding principles is to boycott every tradesman who does not at least pretend to think as they do.

Beef is too cheap. So a very considerable body of men in New York, in Pennsylvania and in Ohio are saying. If it could only be made to cost a few cents more per pound, a whole host of men would get work and wages who now have to go without. City abattoirs would double their business, and little towns and villages that are now flooded with Chicago dressed beef and mutton would be compelled to support once more their local slaughter houses and butcher shops, to the vast increase, of course, of the comfort and prosperity of their inhabitants. And so, in the legislatures of the states named, bills have been introduced for the levying of a protective duty on the pauper dressed beef of Chicago by means of an elaborate and costly system of local meat inspection. This, it is anticipated, will compel the Chicago men to send their beef east on the hoof instead of dressed. And everybody knows that there is nothing like a rail journey of a thousand miles or so to improve the fitness of a beast for conversion into food.

The town of Gravesend, Long Island, was, a few years ago, the owner of pretty much the whole of Coney island. When the island developed into a fashionable resort the township authorities sold the larger part of it to various individuals, who have since realized immense profits from the increase of land values. For a long time the western end of the island, known as Norton's point, was neglected, or utilized only as a resort for the roughest and most undesirable class of visitors. But with the pressure of population, Norton's point has acquired value, and capitalists have begun to cast the eye of desire upon it. It has been discovered that it is the only part of the island at which an ordinary pier can be maintained for boat landings, and moreover it is the nearest point to New York by water. So the town of Gravesend has resolved to sell Norton's point, and bids for its pur-

chase are to be opened on March 20. It is said that one New York man is prepared to bid \$300,000 for the property.

Hereat the other owners of land on Coney Island are becoming scared. They have held a meeting, and pointed out to one another that if Norton's Point is bought by any private individual and laid out as a summer resort, the value of the lands at the other end of the island will be sensibly affected. So, under the leadership of John Y. McKane, a politician of much local influence, they have united with the township trustees to influence the federal government to buy Norton's point, and establish on it a life-saving station, a coast survey station, a fort and a park. They ask for all these, but they are not particularly anxious for any of them. What they really want is that the government should buy the land, and so withdraw it from the possibility of private use. In other words, if they have their wish, the public treasury will be depleted to the extent of \$400,000 or \$500,000 for their exclusive benefit, and to the positive detriment of the people of New York.

It is announced that General Harrison, at his coming inauguration, will be clothed, as to his outer man, in a suit of black worsted diagonal, the material of which has been specially woven at the Springville mills, Rockville, Conn., under the direction of Mr. John F. Plummer. In this way the general will give point to his famous maxim about markets and maxims, and set an example which all good protectionists ought to follow.

Only it is to be hoped that the general will be consistent all the way through. It will be no virtue in him to keep the sacred law of protection as to coat, vest and pantaloons, if he breaks it as to other of his personal necessities. He must see to it that his shoes are of American leather, made from American hides; that his shirt front contains no foreign pauper linen; that his hosiery is woven in an American mill, from home raised wool and cotton. He must scrupulously banish from the White house all crockery, glassware, china, tin ware, carpets, sheets, pillow cases, knives and forks, etc., that may be in any way tainted with foreign pauperism as to material or manufacture. He must eschew foreign grown tea, coffee, and sugar; smoke nothing but domestic cigars; avoid Pears's soap like poison; and decline, when attacked by that fine Washington malaria, to admit into his system any pauper grown cinchona bark. He won't have a very good time, but he will be setting a noble example to the men who elected him. And if they will only imitate him, the American people in general and the American farmer in particular, will get such a lesson in the blessings of protection as will astonish them.

Police Superintendent Murray's report on the car drivers' late strike is an interesting document. After stating the manner in which the police were distributed to the different roads, the superintendent says:

Frequently the police were called upon to disperse crowds of disorderly persons who evidently had congregated for the purpose mentioned, and at such times it became necessary to act with great vigor and earnestness. Idlers who helped to swell the mob may in some such instances have been injured. When a charge was made it was almost impossible to use discrimination, as no prisoners were taken until after the immediate conflict was over.

Pleasant reading that, isn't it? "Idlers may, in some instances, have been injured"—by the "great vigor and earnestness" with which the clubs were used. "No prisoners were taken until after the immediate conflict was over." Nineteenth century? Yes. United States? Oh! yes. Not Ireland or Russia. When they do these things over there it is different. We call it brutality then, and hold meetings and collect subscriptions by way of protest against it. But right here in New York it is simply "acting with great vigor and earnestness." You see, this is a land of liberty—for Superintendent Murray and his men.

At the conclusion of his report the superintendent presents a list of officers whom he recommends "for official recognition by the police commissioners" on account of "special courage and discretion during the disturbances." And first among the patrolmen named in this list is the man who showed his "special courage and discretion" by drawing his revolver and shooting a man dead!

Add to this report of Superintendent Murray the fact that since the strike

ended several of the railway companies have testified their gratitude by substantial contributions to the police pension fund. And let any candid minded man say whether, when the time comes round for the next dispute between the companies and their men, the police will not feel encouraged to act with even greater "vigor and earnestness."

And it is not the least significant among the signs of the times, that the vast majority of people seem utterly to forget that for a gang of policemen, without any higher authority than the order of their commanding officer, to attack a crowd of citizens with clubs and revolvers, is just as lawless as if the cases were reversed and the crowd attacked the policemen. It may be true enough that if the police did not take the law into their own hands and act as peace officers, judges, juries and executioners all combined, some worse things might happen. But that sort of argument is safe only while its use is confined to the men who wield the clubs, or on whose behalf the clubs are wielded. When the clubbees apply it, it becomes dangerous.

There are few more amusing papers than the Press. Of course it doesn't rise to the sublimity of comicality attained by the Mail and Express, but it does very well in its own way. Here it is, publishing with every mark of approval, a long article by George B. Cowlam on the future of the United States, in which this passage occurs:

Our immense field is open to the freest cultivation by our people, and their productive energies are stimulated by the greatest of all forces of human progress; namely, a guarantee that each shall have what he makes. The exchange of their products is obstructed only by such natural barriers as can be overcome or evaded; is checked but by the need of such an adjustment and diversification of their industries as will give free play to their labor, and which can be made or is restricted by the lack of facilities for interchange which can be rapidly and profitably supplied. The organization which this work involves constitutes the progressive force of national growth, for in it is that foundation for the profitable use of surplus which fixes the only limit to the growth of wealth, either as to its extent or the rapidity with which it can be pushed.

Think of a paragraph like that appearing in the Press without a line of editorial condemnation. What would become of the protection fetish if every man should have what he makes, and exchange of products should be obstructed only by natural barriers?

In another issue of the Press the tariff talker brags of the rich deposits of tin ore in Dakota and Montana. He tells us, on the authority of the United States geologist for Montana, that the tin-bearing rock of the Black Hills contains veins measuring more than fifty feet in width, which will average much better than the tin ores of Cornwall. Also, that the Black Hills tin crystals are easily separable, and yield about sixty-five per cent of metallic tin, against a yield from the Cornish ores of two and one-half per cent.

Figures such as these would look very well in a free trade paper as illustrating the absurdity of fining men for buying tin from Englishmen and Sumatrans rather than pay the tax imposed by the Black Hills mine owners; but it has a queer out-of-place look in a protectionist paper.

PERSONAL.

F. C. Clarke of Tacoma, Washington territory, wants all single tax men there to send their names to his address, B308 K street, in order to arrange for local educational work.

W. H. Van Ornum of Ravenswood, Ill., has assumed editorial management of the Chicago Building Society Advocate. Under his able direction that paper may be expected to at once take on new interest.

Judge Frank T. Reid has been delivering a series of lectures in the Olympic theater at Nashville, which have been quite fully reported in the Daily American. In its introductory to the report of the address of the 11th, the American says:

Attention has been directed toward them by reason of the fact that while his primary object is evidently to inculcate a political principle (the single tax theory), the speaker builds about him a fabric of satire and moral abstraction which have made these discourses unique and of interest to the curious, if not seriously inclined.

Evidently He Had No Use For It.
Lyons, Kansas, Tribune.

A prominent Lyons business man was paying his taxes a few days ago when he discovered a certain tract in arrears and sold for taxes. Thinking there was something familiar in the description he investigated and learned that he had bought his own property at tax sale the year before.

CURRENT THOUGHT.

The Russian Peasantry.

To these who appreciate the fact that the Russian social system, with its despotism, its bureaucracy and its fiercely smoldering discontent, is but a phase of a world wide problem, Stepniak's book on the condition of the Russian peasantry, lately published by Harper & Brothers, will be full of interest. It describes the present condition of the real Russian people—the immense body of serfs for whom it was fondly hoped that emancipation would accomplish so much—and illustrates anew the truth that partial reforms can have little permanent value, while the fundamental injustice of private land ownership remains unredressed. "Emancipation," says Stepniak, "has utterly failed to realize the ardent expectations of its advocates and promoters. The great benefit of the measure was purely moral. It has failed to improve the material condition of the former serfs, who on the whole are worse off than they were before emancipation. The bulk of our peasantry is in a condition not far removed from actual starvation." These are strong words. But if Stepniak's picture of the condition of the sometime serfs is a truthful one, their fault is in their moderation.

What serf emancipation was supposed to mean was the effectual acknowledgment of the serfs' right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. What it really meant was the substitution of one form of slavery for another. And the second slavery is infinitely more crushing than the first.

Under the old system the serf was allowed the use of an allotment of land, which he was free, during two or three days of each week, to cultivate for his own benefit. The rest of his time he was compelled to labor, without pay, upon his master's estate. Under the new system he receives still his scanty allotment of land, and the master's claim upon him is abolished. But in place of the master stands the tax gatherer, of whom in the old serf days he knew nothing. And the tax gatherer's little finger is thicker than were the master's loins. There is no way in which the wretched peasant can escape him. The fiscal machine works with conscienceless, unvarying regularity, and be the seasons good or bad, the full measure of the taxes must be paid. If neither corn nor cattle can be found to satisfy them, houses, store houses, plows and harrows are seized and sold at auction, or the delinquent is punished for his insolvency by flogging. During 1885-86, in one district alone, 1,500 peasants were flogged for non-payment of taxes.

With such incentives to regularity in his payments, the Russian peasant naturally seeks by every means in his power to meet the demands upon him. Should his crops fail, or sickness hinder him from toil, there is still a resource open to him. He goes to the owner of the nearest big estate, usually his former master, or to some rich villager, one of his own kind, who by accident or special ability has raised himself above the others, or to the village clergyman—the latter two proving by far the harder taskmasters—and for sufficient money to make out the taxes and tid him over the winter, pledges his future work at wages agreed upon. Naturally the wages he is compelled to accept under these circumstances are the poorest possible; and to make his plight worse he is required to sign an agreement to the effect that he will work for the wages at such time as the lender may choose, so that if the following year wages are very low he will not be allowed to work out his indebtedness that season, but must wait till wages are high and labor hard to procure. There are frequently seen working side by side in the same field free laborers and those bound by their winter engagements—the one for ten the other for three and a half rubles per dissipation.

When a peasant is once forced to enter into such a contract it is usually all over with him. He sinks year by year deeper and deeper into the mire of poverty and wretchedness; his debt growing bigger with each season. He has no chance to retrieve his fortunes, since in good seasons he must accept the wages of a poor one, and must at any time leave the cultivation of his own field to do his creditor's bidding. In proportion as he is impoverished, the usurer waxes richer, the money lender gradually acquiring cattle, house and land, while the debtor becomes a downright proletarian.

The wedge, which over the civilized world, is dividing society into two classes, the one above the dividing line rich and luxurious, the one below becoming more and more purely proletarian, has operated with peculiar severity on the peasantry of Russia. What with the smallness of the land allotted him by government, the drastic measures to which he is subjected by the tax collector, and the gradual re-enslavement of whole villages in their efforts to meet the taxes, the peasant is reduced to a condition which beggars description. It is not only grinding poverty which is the lot of a vast number of them. It is absolute starvation.

The death rate in Russia is higher than that of any other European country, being 37.3 per thousand. And according to the expressed opinion of the council of Russian surgeons, at a meeting held December, 1885, the primary cause of this terrible mortality is lack of food. This in a vast country peopled chiefly by agricultural laborers would seem supremely ridiculous, if it were not so appalling. And when we consider also, that Russia enjoys a state of high protection as to her home market, and exports yearly large amounts of wheat, corn, etc., the situation becomes more enigmatical. Why should they shut out the things they so sorely need, and send out of the country the food for lack of which they die? According to Stepniak, "half a million a year virtually dying of starvation."

From the network of officialdom which surrounds them, there is no escape for the unhappy moujiks. The uriadniks, the village officials, have the right to enter the house of the peasant at any time, day or night; arrest on suspicion any citizen, and in numerous ways exercise their hateful authority. "They poke their noses into everything," writes Stepniak, "prying into private households and enforcing various prescriptions intended by the idle bureaucratic imagination for the benefit of the moujiks. They forsooth must see that peasants houses be ventilated and the windows opened, even during the winter time when the people have hardly fuel enough to keep the hard frost out of the door. The same solicitude for the moujik is displayed in the prohibition of the practice of keeping cattle in their dwellings, though otherwise the young cattle would be frozen in the courts, as the peasants have no warm stables." Some idea of the extent to which their power may be carried will be shown by this passage, which I cannot forbear quoting, as illustrating so well the man armed with a little brief authority;

In Ivanooka, the uriadnik, on entering the house of a peasant to make an inspection as to whether it was kept clean, saw a young calf tied to a table leg in the kitchen. At such slovenliness the uriadnik lost his temper, and after having reviled the women who were spinning in the other room, as best he could, he drew his sabre and cut the calf to pieces.

From this, and other accounts of like abuses of authority, it is easy to see how powers so unlimited can be used to extort from the peasants all sorts of private gains to these village pests, the uriadniks.

But in spite of all their troubles, "there are no people on the face of the earth," says Stepniak, "who treat aliens as kindly as do the Russian moujiks. They live peacefully side by side with hundreds of tribes, differing in race and religion. During the late Turkish war, while the burghers and shopboys of the towns were casting stones and mud at the poor Turkish prisoners of war as they passed along the streets, until the police had to intervene, the moujiks offered them bread and coppers, and in some cases even took them home to their villages as paid laborers. They were greatly perplexed, it is true, as to whether they could invite them to share their meals, being infidels; but they generally ended by conquering their prejudices, and the representatives of two belligerent nations might be seen amicably eating at the same table."

The charity of the Russian peasant is something remarkable, coupled, as it is, with his extreme poverty. Eight months out of the twelve the ordinary villager eats bread mixed with husks, pounded straw, or birch bark. The children of such families, when first placed in situations in the city as servants, literally overeat themselves on pure bread as ordinary children do on cake. Yet in spite of this scarcity of even bare necessities, so long as there is a loaf of bread in the house the peasant woman gives "a morsel" in charity to whomever asks in "Christ's name." Sometimes in bad sea-

sons, when crops fail, some of the villagers will be reduced to great suffering, but as long as they have anything left they divide it with those poorer than themselves. When the last loaf is gone they set out to ask of more fortunate neighbors the same charity they have extended.

The peasants have very strong principles as to the rights of labor, which are always recognized as indefeasible. For instance, if a man has sown a crop in another's field, knowingly or unknowingly, he does not forfeit all right to it, as he would in our country. He is either allowed to reap it, paying to the owner of the land a rent according to current prices, or the owner of the field gathers the crop, but must pay to the other the price of the seed and for his labor in sowing it. A father cannot disinherit a son, or show in his will any preference to one of his children, unless it can be shown that the one discriminated against was idle and thriftless and had failed to render service to the family. The favorite is always spoken of as the one "who worked hard for the family." So strong is their idea of the rights of labor that even the ties of kinship yield to it, and any one who has lived with and worked in a family for ten or more years is entitled to inherit as one of the heirs, though of no kindred, sometimes inheriting most or all of the estate if it can be proved that the legitimate heirs have not taken part in the common work. The same principles hold true of women as well. The Russian law gives to women one-fourteenth only of the family inheritance. The peasants' customary law is otherwise. The women are in all respects dealt with as the men; they share in the property in proportion to their share of the work. Married sisters do not as a rule inherit from their brothers, but an unmarried sister or a widow who returns to her brother's house will receive her share of the estate or can obtain it from the mir tribunal.

The mir is an institution of the peasants—a sort of village commune, which is unique, and would, were it not for the interference of the official government, result in a condition of equality and justice. The peasants comprising it hold the lands of the mir in common, subject to redistribution at stated periods. Each peasant is allotted an amount of land proportionate to the size of his family. At the redistribution his amount is increased or diminished to suit the increase or decrease of his family. His right in the common land can, however, be lost, as it may be taken for debt as other property, the peasant then becoming a "batrak," a landless one.

The mir is an ancient institution of Russia, and has many things to recommend it to a lover of freedom and equality. It is presided over by an elder, who is elected by the citizens of the village. The village communes composing the Volost elect the ten judges of the Volost, all of whom must be peasants, members of some village commune. The peasants' tribunal is extensive in its power, and is not obliged to use the official code of law. It renders verdicts according to tradition and custom. Formerly no record was kept of its decisions, but latterly the government has required the keeping of a clerk, who records them, much to the dissatisfaction of the peasants, as the clerk's support is added to their burden. The peasants' love for their mir is remarkable. It represents their country to them. To serve and "suffer for the mir" is their ideal of heroism. To be beaten, to be exiled to Siberia or to the mines for having stood up for the rights of the mir, are acts held up for admiration and honor.

At certain times, when by conquest or peaceful annexation, Russia has become possessed of new territory, the peasants are offered free land if they will remove to the new country, as of course it renders the government safer to have some of their native born subjects settled among the aliens. The words, free land, operate like magic on the peasant. He at once removes to the new province, and so peaceable and kindly is he in disposition, that he finds no difficulty in making friends with the natives. They live amicably side by side until the settlement grows denser and land values begin to arise. Then the official, scenting the agreeable odor of unearned increment, descends upon the scene, and by various subterfuges and sometimes downright outrage despoils them of the land. In this way vast estates are being acquired by the shrewd and unscrupulous, and the peasant is being driven further and further to the wall. The officials and

their retinue, in the period between 1873 and 1879, have embezzled about five million acres of the best arable land in the provinces of Oofa and Orenburg alone.

What stands principally in the way of any practical economic advance in Russia is the superstition of the peasants in regard to the czar. They refuse to believe that he is responsible for their sufferings, attributing all evils of government to "the wicked nobility." The Nihilists chief difficulty is in arousing the interest of the peasants. If the masses in Russia could but be roused there would be, in fact, no necessity for the Nihilists in the violent sense of the term. For the masses in Russia, like the masses of every other country, are in the last analysis the real power.

How disastrously any attempt to resist the authorities in isolated cases results can be seen by the account of an occurrence in the province of Minsk. The governor of this province, General Tokareff, obtained from the governor-general of the region, for a nominal sum payable in installments extending over twenty years, a vast estate yielding an income of 9,000 rubles a year. This estate, Stepniak tells us, was carved out from the land which belonged by rights to the peasants of Lohishino. The peasants had owned the land from time immemorial, and of course had never paid any rent for it to the local board. When they heard of the transfer of the possession of their land, and that thereafter they must pay rent for their own, they sent deputies to the governor to plead their cause; a hearing was denied them. They sent five peasants to St. Petersburg to represent the case before the authorities there, and on the charge of the governor-general that they were revolutionary agitators, they were, without further trial, exiled. The peasants, however, refused to pay the rents, and accordingly a battalion of soldiers and two hundred and fifty Cossacks were sent to the village to compel obedience. The frightened people declared themselves submissive, and promised thereafter to pay the rent as demanded. But this was not enough. The commander of the soldiery announced then that not only must they pay the rent of that year, but of the year previous; a time when there had been no question of the peasant's ownership, the arrears amounting to 5,000 rubles.

The task of collecting the money was assigned to a man by the name of Kapger, who seems to have been a most villainous fellow. According to Stepniak, "he refused to wait for the money even until the next morning. He rushed upon the peasants as one possessed, abusing them, calling their names, stamping his foot, boxing them on the ears, and shouting, 'the rods, bring the rods! I will you to death; I will flay you alive!' He was nearly as good as his word. Those who were unable to pay the amount assigned them were flogged until they promised to find the money, selling their goods to the Jews or borrowing from them the money at an interest of from one and a half to three per cent a week." One peasant, a non-commissioned officer, was beaten so savagely that he has never recovered. He had but just returned from his regiment, not even being settled in his home, and was very poor. Although he told the wretch, Kapger, of his reasons for being unable to pay the sum demanded, he was, nevertheless, flogged three times. He was, however, still unable to pay the money, which was paid for him by the mir. An old man of eighty-seven years begged for a short respite. It was denied him, and he also was flogged three times, Kapger telling his men to strike more heavily, and asking the victim "if he would bring the money now?" "None were spared," writes Stepniak; "money was demanded from even a blind old beggar, and when he said he had no money he was struck in the face by Kapger, and would have been flogged but for the generosity of some of the unfortunate villagers, from whom he collected ten rubles 'in Christ's name.'"

And then the general of this commission reported at St. Petersburg that the rebellion had been put down without the discharge of a single shot, for which "he was rewarded by the thanks of the emperor, while Kapger was decorated with one of the highest military honors."

It is not surprising that in a country where such atrocities are permitted by government, nihilism should exist, and that all the horrors of Siberia avail not to stamp out the organization. The wonder only is that such wanton cruelty and

rapacity do not arouse a spirit of hatred against the government and the ruling classes which might result in something more than occasional attempts at the blowing up of a czar.

But even in Russia the light is breaking through the darkness. The word is being said, and some day the real emancipation of the serfs will come. It is a great point gained when one knows what one wants, and how to get it. The Russians already know what they want, and they are learning how to get it. So deeply implanted in the peasant's mind is the idea that the soil belongs to him that uses it, that when serfs they had a curious saying, "We are the master's, but the soil is ours;" and their disappointment was intense when they found that their freedom actually reduced their rights to the land of their country. They imagined that the land would all be theirs after emancipation, they supporting the nobility as they did the czar. Their notions, however, as to the relation of the peasant to the soil, were so strong, and so well understood, that it operated to prevent government from robbing them outright of their share in it. The small parcels carved out of the master's estate and allotted to the ex-serf were the tub thrown to the whale, to avert a revolution. There is no doubt that but for this slight recognition of natural rights there would have been a general uprising.

IDA HIBBARD.

Another Refutation.

The Rev. J. W. Heinze, S. J., president of Canisius college in Buffalo, has thought it wise to translate, revise, enlarge and publish to the world (1) two articles by the Rev. Victor Cathrein, S. J., which originally appeared in a German Jesuit magazine, and in which Messrs. Emile de Laveleye and Henry George are handled without gloves and triumphantly demolished. M. de Laveleye's statements as to the primitive communal ownership of land are declared to be erroneous, largely upon the authority of the inscriptions upon certain Assyrian boundary stones; the economic law of rent is shown to be no economic law at all; and private property in land is demonstrated to be in accordance with natural right and divine law.

Here is the Rev. Victor Cathrein's solution of the universe, given in his own words:

In order to understand God's government of the world, we must not bury ourselves, mole-like, in the earth, but raise ourselves to a higher standpoint, and thence, as from a mountain top, survey humankind in the light of eternity.

This small planet whereon we live and suffer, and whence, as from a little island, we look out into the immense space of the universe, this small planet is the divinely appointed place of our pilgrimage and probation.

Our short life here is the preparation for an everlasting, happy life hereafter, but for one which we must merit here below. Without this fundamental truth a thousand problems of our present life remain unsolved, but in its light the darkness is lit up, and things otherwise inexplicable stand out as parts of a grand and wise universal plan, bearing the impress of eternal wisdom and beneficence.

This same principle throws new light on the question in which we are engaged, viz., of the inequality of temporal possession. For carrying out God's purposes in our probation, for the practice of virtue, and hence for obtaining life eternal, the inequality of temporal goods is a means of paramount importance. By it rich and poor are banded together for mutual help in the fulfillment of the divine intentions.

The rich man stands in need of the poor, not only on account of the many humble services which he cannot forego, but still more for higher, moral purposes. The poor, who, after all, are the rich man's brethren, tending towards the same eternal goal, are a perpetual reminder to him that temporal things are not the end of man, but only means to it, and that consequently he may strive after temporal goods only so far as not to lose the eternal. By their wants the poor admonish him that, according to God's intention, he ought to consider himself as a good steward, and succor the needy with his treasures. And thus poverty opens to the rich man the widest field for practising Christian virtue. Nay, for the practice of many virtues there would be no occasion at all without poverty. And is it not in that very field that the Christian virtues have at all times achieved their greatest triumphs? Only in the light of this truth does it become intelligible why the Son of God in the description of the universal judgment assigns so prominent a place to the works of Christian mercy.

In a still greater measure the poor man stands in need of the rich. Not the least part of the hardships of poverty consists in the very fact that the needy must bow in humility

before the rich, and stretch out their hands for mercy. Thus poverty is a constant, effectual, though trying, school of humility and self denial. At the same time it detaches the heart from earthly things and directs the looks of the indigent, full of hope and confidence, to the superabundant goods of eternity. This is the intrinsic reason why temporal poverty becomes for so many a source of imperishable riches, and why our Saviour said: "Blessed are ye poor, for yours is the kingdom of God." And why was it that the Eternal Son of God, being rich, became poor for our sake? Was it not to draw our hearts the more effectually to the hidden treasures of poverty?

There would be little use in attempting an argument in defense of the doctrine of the single tax with a man who holds such views as those quoted above. Father Cathrein doubtless believes his political economy to be as reliable as his theology. We can safely afford to admit that it is so.

"The Bible and Land" is a book of 250 pages written and published by James B. Converse, a clergyman of Morristown, Tennessee. Mr. Converse begins with the proposition that God is the owner of all the land upon the globe; from which, by easy stages, he reaches a conclusion that individual ownership by some men to the exclusion of others is right.

God made the land, but he did not make it for himself; he made it to be inhabited, and it is through civil government that his right to land is transferred to men. But God's grants of land are upon terms, non-compliance with which forfeits the grant. These terms are that the land is to be used to sustain population in such circumstances as are conducive to health and holiness, to morality and intelligence; that man shall subdue it; and that man shall rule the brutes and be to them in some sort a representative of God. And it is only in so far as man seeks to comply with these conditions that he has any righteous claim to land. It was because the antediluvians did not comply with the conditions that the grant from God to Adam was forfeited and a new grant made, this time to Noah and heirs, the condition being that the land should be used to support population.

Though Mr. Converse believes in the right of private ownership of land, to which title can be traced to God through his agents, the various civil governments of the world, he nevertheless believes in the single tax on land values. This should be the source of public revenues. But the tax should not be increased so as to destroy capitalized value, because among other reasons land needs the protection of capitalized value. Without this protection it will be wasted and destroyed. Forests will be denuded of timber; farm land will be abused; every company will try to get the most product in the shortest time and cheapest manner out of mining land, and vacant lots in cities will be pleasure grounds for the rich.

Mr. Converse does not believe that land should be free to labor, and therefore finds in land speculation a useful social factor. He justifies the single tax on the ground that it would discourage the unproductive holding of land, and so secure its just and righteous use. It would also increase the capitalized value of land, and thus in still greater degree than now prevent waste.

Two Paragraphs from a Single Issue of The Press.

This is a great year for reputable tramps—men who would like to work but who can get nothing to do. There is a vast unoccupied field for coffee houses and respectable cheap lodging houses.

If there is any more mournful sight afforded by the daily routine of this great town than the gathering at a public dispensary, I don't think I care to be introduced to it. An hour in the dispensary of one of our hospitals the other morning was enough for me. It was a melancholy crowd that appealed to the ministrations of the place, but without exception a crowd of decent poverty. The couple of doctors were very businesslike, but neither brusque nor condescending, and in several specially pitiful cases exhibited decided unprofessional sympathy and feeling.

The Theorist and the Practical Man.

Here is one of the good things which appeared during the last campaign:

A theorist is a man who believes that the square of the hypotenuse of a right-angled triangle is equal to the sum of the squares of the other two sides, and refuses to give up his belief because some fellow says it ain't so. The base being 4, the height 3, the sum of the two squares 16 plus 9 equals 25, which is the square of the hypotenuse; this the theorist believes. The "practical man" says he knows better—he has been dealing in right-angle triangles all his life; that in the case mentioned sometimes the square of the hypotenuse would be 24, 25, 26 or 27, and in a favorable year he has known it to run up as high as 34.

IS PAUPERISM DECREASING?

Following is an extract from a little pamphlet issued in England entitled "The Way and How of Land Nationalization," by Alfred Russell Wallace, the distinguished naturalist and president of the land nationalization society:

Our public men continually assure us that pauperism is diminishing; or that at the worst it is stationary, while our population is increasing rapidly, and that it is therefore proportionally diminishing; and they base their statements on the official statistics of pauperism. I shall show, however, that these are not trustworthy guides, and that there is good reason to believe that, during the very periods in which our aggregate wealth has increased most rapidly, pauperism has increased also in positive amount, and perhaps even in greater proportion than the increase of population.

If we take the official statistics of pauperism in England and Wales for the last thirty years we find great fluctuations, but nothing like a regular diminution. Between 1849 and 1880 the numbers were lowest in the years 1853 and 1876-78, while they were highest from 1862 to 1873. The only years in which the numbers rose above a million were 1863-64 and 1868-71, and this was the very period when our commerce was increasing so rapidly as to excite the enthusiasm of our legislators, and when our prosperity was supposed to be greatest. The extremely irregular fluctuations of official pauperism render it possible almost always to choose some year, twenty, thirty or forty years back, when it was higher than now, and thus show an apparent decrease of numbers; but if we take the whole period from 1849 to 1880 as one during which our commerce and wealth increased enormously, and all the industrial arts and means of communication made the most rapid strides, and take the average pauperism of the first twelve and last twelve of these years, we find them almost exactly the same, thus—1849-1860, average paupers, 863,338; 1869-1880, average paupers, 864,398. Between the middle points of these two periods (1854 to 1874) the population increased about twenty-three per cent, and thus the proportional pauperism appears to have decreased considerably, though not at all in proportion to the increase of our aggregate wealth, which was at least doubled during the same period.

Several causes have, however, been in operation during this period which have led to the numbers of officially recorded paupers forming a less and less adequate indication of the total mass of pauperism in the country, so that even the small comfort derived from its supposed decrease in proportion to population may be denied to us. In the first place there can be no doubt that the extent and efficiency of private charity all over the country have been steadily increasing, and that by its generous and large numbers have been saved from becoming paupers. Not only have old charities been better administered, but many societies have been formed for the systematization of private charity; while all over the country the clergy and an ever increasing army of lady visitors, have aided the poor with advice and timely relief. It is impossible to estimate the amount of these various agencies, but it seems not impossible that they may have relieved the rate payers from an amount equal to that due to increase of population during the same period; and this is the more probable when we consider the enormous increase of the wealthy middle class and the increasing feeling that the poor have some moral claim upon the rich, leading to more and more liberality in every case of undeserved misfortune.

But yet more powerful agencies have been at work tending to decrease the numbers of official paupers without any corresponding decrease of poverty and pauperism. For many years there has been a growing disposition to diminish out door relief, and apply more generally the "workhouse test" which is the fundamental principle of our poor law. It is well known that there is such a wide spread dislike and dread of the workhouse among the more respectable poor that many will rather starve than enter it, and as a matter of fact many do starve who might have been well fed within its walls. Now in the Daily News of April 18 of this year, there was a remarkable article giving an account of the results of this change of system in some London parishes. It states that ten years ago a severe reduction of out door relief was commenced in Whitechapel and other parishes, till at the present time there is no out door relief given in that parish, nor in Stepney and St. George's in the east, while the same process is going on in Marylebone and other parts of London, and to a less extent all over the kingdom. The article in question states the remarkable fact that this great change has produced practically no increase of indoor paupers. In Stepney, for example, outdoor relief has been reduced by 7,000 in the last ten years, and there is no increase whatever of indoor paupers, the reason being (as expressly stated) that organized private charity has taken the place of out door relief. Now, if there has been a reduction of 7,000 official paupers in one London parish without any proof of a corresponding decrease of real want and destitution, how utterly unmeaning and even misleading becomes the quotation of these official statistics as showing any real decrease of our pauperism. If we take as our guide the fact that, in one of the worst and most poverty stricken districts of the metropolis, organized private charity has been able to take the place of the relieving officer when a total cessation of out door relief has been effected, we may be sure that it has been found quite equal to the much easier task of relieving those thrown on its hands by a very partial application of the same methods of dealing with the poor in other parts of the country. We may, therefore, fairly assume that the diminution of out door paupers over the whole country during the last thirty years has been largely due to the stricter application of the work house test, and that those thus refused relief by the guardians have been aided and kept alive by more extensive and better organized private charity. If this is the case, the only official test of pauperism as actually in-

creasing or decreasing will be found in the records of indoor relief, and these show numbers steadily increasing at a much greater rate than population! Thus in thirty years from 1852 to 1882 the number of indoor paupers in England and Wales has continuously increased, from 106,113 in the former year to 188,433 in the latter, an increase of 83 per cent, while in the same period population only increased forty-five per cent. The plain inference is, that confirmed pauperism—that which includes all the most degraded and the most hopeless of our poor—has been steadily increasing at a greater rate than our population—during a period in which our aggregate wealth has been doubled, and our commerce, of which we are so proud, has increased threefold.

Before quitting this subject, it is well to point out that the way in which the number of paupers is estimated is most misleading, and gives no adequate idea of the real numbers. The tables show only the numbers relieved on the first of January in each year, but it is estimated that the actual number of persons receiving relief during the year is nearly two and a half times this number, or about an average of two millions for England and Wales, or two and a half millions for the United Kingdom. If we add to this latter number those who receive relief in the casual wards (which are not included in the official tables), and the very large numbers who depend wholly or partially on private charity for support, we shall perhaps bring the figures up to three and a half millions. But beyond this number of actual paupers loom a vast host of the poor who ever live on the verge of pauperism, and from whom the ranks of the actual paupers are constantly recruited, including whole populations, like the cottiers of the west of Ireland, and the crofters of the highlands and islands of Scotland, living in such a condition of perennial want that it only requires that most certain of periodical events—a bad season—to produce actual famine. If we add only one million for all these, we bring up the number of actual or potential paupers in this civilized, Christian and pre-eminently wealthy country to about four millions and a half, or about one in seven of the whole population!

Chemistry of Character.

John and Peter, and Robert and Paul, God in His wisdom created them all, John was a statesman and Peter a slave, Robert a preacher, and Paul—a knave. Evil or good, as the case might be, White, or colored, or bond, or free—John and Peter, and Robert and Paul, God in His wisdom created them all.

Out of earth's elements, mingled with flame,
Out of life's compounds of glory and shame,
Fashioned and shaped by no will of their own,
And helplessly into life's history thrown;
Born by the law that compels men to be,
Born to conditions they could not foresee,
John and Peter, and Robert and Paul,
God in His wisdom created them all.

John was the head and heart of his state,
Was trusted and honored, was noble and great.

Peter was made 'neath life's burdens to groan,
And never once dreamed that his soul was his own;

Robert great glory and honor received;
For zealously preaching what no one believed;
While Paul, of the pleasures of sin took his fill,
And gave up his life to the service of ill.

It chanced that these men in their passing
From earth and its conflicts all died the same day.

John was mourned through the length and breadth of the land;

Peter fell 'neath the lash of a merciless hand;
Robert died with the praise of the Lord on his tongue,

While Paul was convicted of murder and hung.

John and Peter, and Robert and Paul—
The purpose in life was fulfilled in them all.

Men said of the statesman, "How noble and brave!"

But of Peter, alas! "He was only a slave."
Of Robert—"His well with his soul—it is well."

While Paul they consigned to the torments of hell.

Born by one law, through all nature the same,

What made them different, and who also was to blame?

John and Peter, and Robert and Paul—
God in His wisdom created them all.

Out in that region of infinite light,
Where the soul of the black man is as pure as the white—

Out where the spirit through sorrow made wise,

No longer resorts to deception and lies—
Out where the flesh can no longer control

The freedom and faith of the God-given soul—

Who shall determine what change may befall
John and Peter, and Robert and Paul?

John may in wisdom and goodness increase—
Peter rejoice in an infinite peace—

Robert may learn that the truths of the Lord
Are more in the spirit and less in the word—

And Paul may be blessed with a holier birth
Than the passions of man had allowed him on earth.

John and Peter, and Robert and Paul,
God in His wisdom created them all.

Oh! This Sort of Thing in a Protectionist Paper?

New York Press.

Let us make no mistake about it. When gentlemen beg to be made conductors; when well born, well bred, polished graduates seek the employment of car drivers; when our streets are swept by old-time associates and men who in other days would have been welcome to our parlors ask the privilege of cleaning our sidewalks for a cup of coffee, isn't it time for us to call a halt? If not, go it,

(1) The Champions of Agrarian Socialism. A Refutation of Emile de Laveleye and Henry George. By Rev. Victor Cathrein, S. J.; translated, revised and enlarged by Rev. J. W. Heinze, S. J., president of Canisius college, Buffalo, N. Y. Buffalo: Peter Paul & Bro.

MRS. TITLOW'S VISITOR.

"Dear Mrs. Titlow," said the archdeacon blandly, "you must not be discouraged. Such experience comes every day to those who work among the poor. They are providentially intended for our guidance, and not for our discouragement."

And the archdeacon sipped his tea. It was five o'clock in the afternoon, the tea drinker's sacred hour, and Mrs. Titlow's tea was excellent.

"But, doctor," said the lady, half querulously, "it does seem so impossible to do anything for the poor creatures. It's so hard to do anything *with* them. Don't you know, when I go on one of my visiting rounds, I feel just as though I were looking at something through a plate glass window. I can see everything plainly enough, but when I reach out my hand to touch anything I find I can't get at it."

The archdeacon smiled benevolently. "You will get over that feeling after awhile," he said. "It probably comes from self-consciousness on your part. Keep on saying to yourself, 'These people are my friends,' and after a time you'll feel that they really are your friends. Then everything will be easy for you."

"Yes, but they're not my friends—that's just the trouble. I don't know why. I'm sure I feel interested enough in them, and friendly enough toward them. But when I give them good advice, I can see they haven't the slightest idea of following it. And I *know* they often tell me lies in answer to my questions. Now you know, doctor, that's not being friendly."

The archdeacon smiled again and finished his cup of tea before he spoke. "We must recognize the situation," he said, "and not expect too much. The poor are often very hard to deal with. They are prone to rebel against the decrees of Providence. They are not always as contented as they should be in the station to which it has pleased God to call them. They are often ignorant and thriftless. And as a rule they are sadly lacking in truthfulness. But all this, dear Mrs. Titlow, only makes it the more necessary that we should labor earnestly among them. In the scheme of God's wise providence, we have been set apart to be the stewards of His bounty. He might have so arranged the world that there should be no poor. But he knew better. 'The poor,' he tells us, 'ye have always with you.' They stimulate our benevolence. They keep our sympathies alive. And we, in turn, if we do our duty by them, will develop in them the virtues of thrift and temperance, and teach them to look with gratitude, not to us, but to the Father who loves all His children equally, and has appointed the wiser and better educated to dispense His bounty among the simple and untaught. Think how objectless your life would be if there were no poor for whose improvement you could labor. Think how wretched the lives of the poor would be if there were no people like you to visit and assist them. Keep up your district visiting, then, and let your poorer brothers and sisters see, that while you are not blind to their faults, you love them still, and want to be their friend."

The archdeacon put down his cup and rose to go. Mrs. Titlow was conscious of a sense of moral exaltation, as though she had just been to church.

"If you please, ma'am," said the housemaid, "there's a woman in the hall that wants to speak to you."

"A woman, Mary?" said Mrs. Titlow. "What woman? Didn't she give any name?"

"No ma'am. I asked her what her name was and what she wanted to see you for, and she said you wouldn't know her name, but she knew you'd be glad to see her. I'd ha' sent her off, but I thought she might be one of them charity society women, and you might want to see her after all."

"Good gracious! Mary, you mustn't leave strange women sitting in the hall like that. Why she may be robbing the drawing room at this moment! Run down stairs and say I'll be there in a minute, and don't leave her alone until I come."

When Mrs. Titlow descended she found the visitor seated on one of the straight backed comfortless chairs that flanked the hat rack, while Mary the housemaid lingered near, making a pretense of doing something with a duster. Mrs. Titlow gave a gasp of relief. Not a thief after all. Probably some poor person come a

begging. That was the worst of this charitable work, that it led to unauthorized intrusions of this kind. Mrs. Titlow mentally decided to refer the woman to the office of the Good Samaritan society, where the secretary could investigate her case. It would never do to encourage visits from people of that kind.

As Mrs. Titlow drew near, the visitor rose and extended her hand. Mrs. Titlow involuntarily put out her own. The stranger grasped it, and held it with a gentle pressure. "You are the lady of the house?" she said.

"I am Mrs. Titlow." She made a slight effort to withdraw her hand, but without avail.

"Dear Mrs. Titlow, I am delighted to know you," said the other, sweetly. "I am making my first round of visits this morning, and I am so glad to have commenced with you. But come," this strange woman went on, with a final pressure of the lady's unresponsive hand, "we mustn't stand here like two strangers. Take me into the parlor, where we can sit down together, as dear friends ought to do."

Take her into the parlor, indeed! What *could* the woman mean! Mrs. Titlow could do nothing but stare at her. The stranger walked deliberately into the drawing room, and seated herself in the most comfortable easy chair. Mrs. Titlow followed in bewilderment, and remained standing.

"What a delightful chair," said the visitor. "So restful for the back. I could almost go to sleep in it. Ah! my dear, you rich people have a great deal to be thankful for, after all. Of course, it's sad that you should be so helpless, and need so many people to work for you and wait on you. But you must fight against that sort of degradation, and think, meantime, how good God is to provide you with all these pleasant things. How much more of a burden your helplessness would be to you if you had no nice, spacious house and no comfortable furniture in it. Have you ever thought of that, my dear, in your moments of discontent?"

Mrs. Titlow drew herself up. She was half afraid of this extraordinary female, but she felt it would never do to show her trepidation. "Did you want to see me about anything special?" she said. "If it's any charity business you can leave me your address, and I will see that a visitor calls on you. Or, perhaps, you had better go direct to the Good Samaritan office and see the secretary." Mrs. Titlow made this last suggestion with a faint hope that the stranger might take the hint and go at once. But the hope was disappointed. The stranger only settled herself more comfortably in the easy chair, and answered:

"See you about anything special? Why, of course it's something special, or I shouldn't intrude on you in this unceremonious fashion. And it is charity business, too, however you happened to guess it. You must know, I am a member of the Needle's Eye society."

Mrs. Titlow felt more comfortable. Some sewing women's organization, no doubt, that had sent this queer delegate to solicit her patronage. "Yes?" she said encouragingly, "and what sort of work is it you want to do?"

"Oh!" said the stranger, "I'm coming to that in a minute. But do sit down, won't you? Now I insist upon it,"—as Mrs. Titlow remained standing—"you *must* sit down. I want you to feel that I'm your friend, and how can I think you feel that, or talk to you as a friend should talk, if you persist in standing while I'm sitting in this comfortable chair. Now sit right down, or I won't say another word."

Mrs. Titlow sat down. As she did so, her suppressed indignation at the stranger's impertinence hardened into a resolution that the Needle's Eye society should get mighty little sewing from her. Then the visitor went on.

"There! Now we can have a comfortable talk together. Do you know?"—with a little laugh—"it just occurs to me that I haven't introduced myself. That was stupid of me, wasn't it? How could I expect you to look on me as a friend, when you didn't even know my name? I am Mrs. Jones—Sophronia Jones. I hope you will learn to call me Sophy. And what shall I learn to call you?"

"I don't think we need go into that, Mrs. Jones," said Mrs. Titlow, with mild haughtiness. "If you will be kind enough to state your business in as few words as possible I will be obliged."

"Dear, dear!" said Mrs. Jones, "how unsympathetic you rich folks are. I sup-

pose it's one of the evils of your lot in life. If you only knew how much good it would do you to look on me as your friend, and to call me Sophy. But you'll do it by and by. God meant the rich and poor to be brothers and sisters, you know."

Mrs. Titlow felt a chill run down her backbone. This was the sort of thing she had brought upon herself by engaging in charitable work. She felt as though she should never want to go district visiting again.

"You see, dear," Mrs. Jones went on, "you mustn't think the poor are altogether selfish and heartless. Many of them are so, I know, but not all. Some of us have a keen sympathy for the rich, and long to do them good. It is dreadful, I know, to have all your pleasure in this world, and nothing to look forward to but hell fire in the next. It makes my heart—"

"Good God, woman!" cried Mrs. Titlow, fairly shocked into profanity, "what ever do you mean?"

"Is it possible," said Mrs. Jones, "that you haven't read your Bible? Don't you know that it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God? You know Christ said that—the same Christ that promised you should always have the poor with you. But, my dear, we mustn't take the text too literally. It cannot mean that *all* the rich people will go to hell, but only that most of them must go there. There must be room for some of them in heaven. Oh, dear, dear Mrs. Titlow, how happy shall I be if I can bring you comfort, and make the future less terrible to you. Let me be your friend. I *want* to be your sister. Now, *can't* you call me Sophy?"

And really, for a moment, Mrs. Titlow almost felt as if she *could* call her Sophy, and find relief in doing it. For the woman's strength of earnestness carried conviction with it. She so evidently believed what she said, she was so full of tender sympathy and pity, that the rich woman's heart went out toward her for a space as to a refuge from an impending awful doom. Then Mrs. Titlow remembered the archdeacon, and her soul regained its balance. If the text about the needle's eye were to be so strictly interpreted, surely the archdeacon would have told her about it before this. So she said nothing, though she looked at Mrs. Jones with a plainly startled glance.

"Ah, well," said Mrs. Jones, "we'll be friends some day. And now I must tell you about our society. Its objects are to induce the poor to cast the mantle of their charity over the rich and to teach the rich that the poor want to be their friends and to divide their inheritance of eternal glory with them. We poor folks don't want to keep the promise of heaven all to ourselves. We feel as if we were, after a fashion, only stewards of God's bounty, to share it with the deserving rich. I and my friends call ourselves the Needle's Eye society, because we want to widen the needle's eye—to make it possible for the camel to pass through, and for the rich man to enter the kingdom. And we have arranged to visit among the rich, each one of us in a certain district—to listen to their stories, to investigate the manner of their lives, to find out those among them who are deserving of charity, and to show them that we are indeed their brothers and sisters, more lucky than they are, to be sure, but just the same flesh and blood. And now that you know just what brings me here, try and confide in me. Tell me all about yourself and your family. What is your husband's business? Is he honest in it? Does he treat you kindly? What are your own besetting faults? You see, I'm ready to hear your whole story."

"Archdeacon Ramsay-Brown!" announced Mary, throwing wide the drawing room door. Mrs. Titlow gave a great gasp of thankfulness. To her surprise Mrs. Jones rose up and greeted the new comer with effusion. "My dear archdeacon," she said, "I've been studying the texts and I understand them all. It's just as you said. The rich and poor are brothers and sisters, and meant to be each other's dearest friends. Look at me and Mrs. Titlow. We love each other dearly. And we've organized our society—"

"Yes, yes, I know," said the archdeacon. Then, with a movement of apology to Mrs. Titlow, he led the representative of the Needle's Eye society apart and spoke to her earnestly for a few minutes. "You really think so, doctor?" said Mrs. Jones aloud, at last.

"I really do. You know, you mustn't

force your friendship upon your richer sisters. They might think you were inclined to patronize them."

"All right," said Mrs. Jones. "Then I'll say good-by to Mrs. Titlow for the present. But remember, dear, that I *want* to be your friend, and if you find yourself in need of charity don't hesitate to send for me."

The archdeacon showed the visitor to the door and returned. "A sad case," he said, in pitying tone, "a truly sad case. Of course, you saw that she was crazy. I'll have her sent to the asylum on Blackwell's island to-morrow."

T. L. MCCREADY.

SOME FOREIGN ITEMS.

The Berlin Volkszeitung, one of the best known socialistic dailies, has at last met the fate of almost all the socialistic organs in Germany. Bismarck has had it confiscated by the government for "libelling the Reichskanzler," i. e., talking too much about Bismarck.

"Hansard's Debates" is the title of the English publication which corresponds to our Congressional Record. It is a private undertaking. A writer in the Pall Mall Gazette says of it: "A complete set to the present time consists of no less than 433 volumes, that is, including Cobbett and Hansard's Parliamentary History from 1066 to 1803, in 36 volumes. At present each session averages about 7 volumes, but if the publishers intend to include the 'Lords' debates, we may at least expect 10 volumes a year; so that by the time this century is done with a set will consist of nearly 550 volumes. I believe I am correct in saying that since the commencement of this publication it has never been thought necessary to have an official account kept of the speeches in the house, all matters of dispute being referred to Hansard."

The famous writer Tolstoi is said to have given the government more anxiety by his present crusade against the numerous public holidays in Russia than by all his other religious-philosophic teachings which have made such a stir elsewhere. There are over fifty holidays in the year, and Count Tolstoi declares that they merely serve as occasions for idleness and drunkenness.

A book has recently been published by the popular democratic author of the "Book of Kings," Mr. J. Morrison Davidson. A copy of this new work—"The Book of Erin"—was sent by the publisher to Mr. Gladstone. The book is full of unsparing criticism of Mr. Gladstone, as well as of denunciation of coercionist measures. Nevertheless, a letter of cordial thanks from the great statesman has been received by Mr. Davidson. Mr. Gladstone's only comment is that he has read the book with great pleasure and thinks that at the present moment it will be of especial service. The clearly arranged and logical sequence of fact and argument excite his admiration. He begs, however, to "reserve his opinion of the criticism passed upon the bills of 1880-84."—[London Star.

Morrison Davidson will shortly make a lecturing tour in Australia, according to the Australian papers, and the radicals of that continent will give him a hearty welcome.

Twice during the last year the duke of Bedford has, through his agents, asked of the London board of works that a certain public court on his property should be closed and a portion of the property thus obtained be given him for nothing. Of course this is not quite as bad as the infamous commons inclosures, where the landlords first inclosed the public domain and then asked for legal titles, but it is bad enough to make the Star cry "halt." That paper, however, likes the precedent set by the duke in valuing lands which he wants. When he wants land he values it at nothing. The county council should do the same when they want land for the people, says the Star.

In his recent lecturing tour in Switzerland, Michael Flursheim had more than one opportunity of meeting and answering socialistic leaders. In Zurich the hall he spoke in was the headquarters of the social democracy. At all his meetings he gave about half the evening to answering objections. The implicit faith of the more fanatical Marx followers in their prophet and his bible, "Das Capital," was well brought out by one objector, who arose and made the naive remark that such and such a theory could not be true "because it wasn't in Karl Marx." In his article in Deutsch Land, Mr. Flursheim compares this kind of unreasoning bigotry with that of Caliph Omar, who destroyed the famous library of Alexandria because the information it contained "was useless if already contained in the Koran, and harmful if not already contained in the Koran."

The emperor of Germany, who is said to look forward to a career such as Frederick the Great might choose for himself if he were alive to-day, has adopted some of the methods of Frederick the Great's father in bringing up his children. At six o'clock the four elder boys get up, at seven their lessons begin, and what with military drill, with music, and other lessons, only an hour and a half is left for daily recreation. The eldest of the boys is only seven years old.

THE BONDAGE OF BONDS.

Wendell Phillips in the resolution presented by him to the labor reform state convention at Framingham, Mass., October 4, 1871, declared "war with the system of enriching capitalists by the creation and increase of public interest bearing debt." The debts of municipalities have been steadily growing. In nearly all our large cities and towns by far the largest item in the annual budget is for interest on the bonded debt. In New York city alone the amount appropriated for this purpose for the year 1889 is \$7,120,048.90, nearly twice as much as the amount appropriated for any single department.

Who pays all this interest? Whence come these millions? From the earnings of labor! Labor pays for everything because it produces everything.

The bonding system is based upon the fallacies of an old and false political economy, which the majority of mankind are still stupid enough to believe in—a political economy that, beginning with the absurdity that capital employs labor concludes that the employment of labor or the doing of things is limited by the supply of capital. Linked with this is the fallacy with which mankind have been deluded and enslaved for centuries, that money is capital, and only gold or silver coins or their representatives constitute money. Thus it is that in all countries the power of a privileged class of bankers and money lenders has been built up and perpetuated. Does our own national government need a trifle of a billion or a billion and a half of dollars to put down rebellion? Let it issue two billions in gold interest bearing bonds and a patriotic and self-sacrificing syndicate of Wall street bankers will forthwith accommodate it with their cash, or, more properly speaking, with their credit. In the same manner an eminent German banker will take some thirty millions in interest bearing bonds from the silver bearing republic of Mexico at eighty cents on the dollar. A fine thing for the German banker, but an unjust, a sad and pitiful thing for the people of Mexico. Even the czar of all the Russias, he who can trample the natural rights of his subjects beneath an iron heel and chill the spirit of liberty amid Siberian snows, must bow to the money power, must "crook the pregnant hinges of the knee" to a syndicate of Parisian bankers and beg for a loan of three hundred million roubles. One can scarcely pick up a newspaper without reading of bonds to be issued for one purpose or another, or seeing advertisements of bonds offered for sale—bonds of the government, bonds of states, bonds of counties, bonds of cities, towns and school districts or county cross roads villages. No report of any insurance company, savings bank or other fiduciary institution seems complete without a goodly list of some such bonds in its assets.

Another fallacy that has operated very powerfully in behalf of this false system of finance is the delusion that future generations can be made to pay for any part of the undertakings of the present generation. We hear, for instance, such talk as this: "The national debt is being paid off too fast, and is thereby made too much of a burden for us of the present generation. The war was fought for the benefit of posterity; therefore let posterity pay its share of the cost." A pretty and plausible argument. When I was a very young man I was much taken with it. The same argument is made to apply in many other cases where it is the common custom to raise money by the issuing of interest bearing bonds—for the laying out of new parks, the building of bridges, the paving of streets, the macadamizing of roads, the building of a sewer or aqueduct or for doing any other public work the benefits of which will extend over a long term of years.

Let us probe this argument. The fighting of our civil war was the fighting of it. It had to be fought by the men of that day. We who were children then could take no hand in it.

The actual cost of that war was the amount of suffering it caused, the number of lives lost, the quantity of valuable property destroyed, the waste of human energy, the agony and tears of the widowed and the fatherless. It cannot be reckoned in dollars and cents. There was no real loss of money except after the war was all over, when millions of dollars in greenbacks, the people's money, were wantonly destroyed in order to make room for interest-bearing bonds, which were issued in their stead. I repeat, the actual cost cannot be estimated in money; but the money cost has been made tenfold to the people by stupid and wicked financial legislation, of which the issuing of bonds was but a part and a beginning.

So, too, the building of a great aqueduct is the building of it. It must be built by the labor and materials of the present day. Posterity cannot dig a spadeful of earth nor lay a brick of it. Its actual cost is not to be reckoned in dollars and cents, but only in the number of days' labor expended in its construction.

The work of the world, whether it be the spilling of blood in wars or the conducting of water through aqueducts, must be done by the world as it goes along. The generations to come cannot do anything for us, however much we may do for them. They will have plenty of work of their own to do after they get here. It is true we put a burden upon

them, a burden of debt and interest which it would be no more than justice if they should some day repudiate; but in doing this we do not in the least lessen the pressure of the load upon our own backs.

We may borrow the money of the banker but we cannot borrow the labor of the future, we can only mortgage it, and that is exactly what happens when we as a nation, a state, or a municipality issue interest-bearing bonds. Instead of shifting any part of the burdens of the present from our own shoulders to the shoulders of those who come after us, as our legislators and officials so foolishly imagine, we simply help to create a privileged class of bondholders to whom we mortgage the labor of ourselves, our children and our children's children.

"But you must admit," says Dryasdust, "that it takes money to fight wars and to build aqueducts."

Well, yes, Friend Dryasdust, now that you put me in mind of it, I do recollect that money has heretofore been a necessary incident in the accomplishment of these things. That is to say, in the case of a war certain soldiers, certain manufacturers of arms, ammunition and accoutrements, certain contractors for the supplying of army mules, army blankets, army clothing, pork, beans, coffee and hard tack—or in the case of an aqueduct, certain engineers and surveyors, certain handlers of picks and shovels, certain masons and bricklayers, certain suppliers of lumber, bricks, lime and cement, to say nothing of dynamite—will insist upon having a certain something to show that they have done certain things, have performed the services or furnished the materials required of them and are entitled, in exchange, to an equivalent amount of such other services or materials as they may elect to receive. And this certain gold, silver, copper or paper something, which is nothing but the evidence of title, the account keeping part of this whole wonderful business, and is moreover solely the creation of law, is what men call money.

"But," insists Dryasdust, "where in all the universe are we to get this something, this money, if we are not to be allowed to borrow it from those who have it to lend?"

Patience, brother, while I relate to you a tale.

Once upon a time there was a member of congress who startled his fellow members by crying out aloud—of all things!—that he had discovered the philosopher's stone!

"What is it?" said the astonished speaker.

"Pay as you go," replied he.

Well done, honest John Randolph of Roanoke! Whether or not you had discovered the philosopher's stone, you had gotten hold of a goodly chip of it.

Since the days of that merry monarch, Charles II of England, what might not have been the condition of mankind had people been but wise enough to obey this simple maxim. There are, I think, a few great wars recorded in history that would never have been fought, some great fortunes that never would have been accumulated, and many, very many, cases of poverty that never would have existed.

There are two honest ways to pay as you go. One way is to collect legal tender money by taxation (on land values of course), said money to be paid out again for the labor and materials required; the other way is to issue legal tender money under authority of law. And it must be full legal tender, receivable for all domestic debts, public and private, even to the purchase of gold and silver. Money in its last analysis, is credit. If the credit of the government is good enough to put a billion or two billions of paper interest bearing bonds on the market, it is good enough to keep in circulation the same amount of paper, non-interest bearing greenbacks! If the credit of New York city is good enough to keep a hundred millions or more of paper interest bearing credit in the market at a premium, it is good enough to keep in circulation at par the same amount of paper non-interest bearing credit.

The Constitution of the United States expressly provides that no state shall "coin money, emit bills of credit, or make anything but gold and silver coin a tender in payment of debts," but the general government itself could supply the money to municipalities needing it under proper restrictions and not to exceed a certain maximum amount per capita.

This is very radical I know, Brother Dryasdust; but every reform to be genuine must be radical.

Under a just and scientific fiscal system this old earth might be made a paradise of beauty and delight and our civilization rise to heights of grandeur yet undreamed of.

Under such a system the true policy of communities would be found to consist, not in practicing "economy" and doing without things which they would be all the richer for having, but rather in seeing how much they could do.

Men would not have to ask of any public work, "Can we afford it? How can we raise the money?" but only, "Is the work useful? Is it necessary? Will it be an improvement? Have we the men and the materials to do the work with?" These are, after all, the vital questions. Men to do the labor and materials to labor upon are what do the work of the world—not money.

Under such a system, these things being admitted, the money to do anything and everything useful would be forthcoming. There

would be no borrowing. Money would either be collected or it would be issued.

That is just what this money question comes to—collect or issue. As all money has first to be issued before it can be collected, either method is economically correct in theory, and will lead to the same result.

Another thing. All paper money should be made redeemable only in labor or the products of labor. Never, by any manner of means, in gold or silver coins.

Let public debt be abolished. Let cash—absolute-circulating-non-interest-bearing credit—take the place of interest-bearing-non-circulating credit and the people will be released from the bondage of bonds!

BRADFORD DUBOIS.

FOR A SINGLE TAX CLUB HOUSE.

A Circular Letter to the Subscribers to the Tontine.

The committee appointed at the late meeting of the subscribers to the Tontine club house purchase held their first meeting last Wednesday evening. Blanks were ordered printed to send to all the subscribers, and the following circular letter was prepared to accompany the blanks:

THE SINGLE TAX CLUB HOUSE TONTINE.
SHARES \$1.00 APiece.

NEW YORK, Feb. —, 1889.

Dear Friend: The shares of the single tax club house tontine now subscribed amount to 1,550. This gratifying showing is mainly the result of the labor of five men. It is now proposed that each subscriber shall interest himself in his own locality and assist in the extension of the subscription.

The amount necessary to enable the committee to close an exceptionally advantageous offer of a club house property is 5,000 shares. The balance needed to bring the present subscription to the amount required is 3,450 shares, or, as our subscribers now number 260, less than fifteen shares apiece. A little energy, therefore, on the part of each subscriber, and a pull all together, will give us the sum needed within six weeks from to-day.

The property alluded to, from causes well known to New York men, will very much appreciate in value during the next six months, and the opportunity at present offered to us may be lost unless energetic action be taken without delay.

This property now pays six per cent upon the price at which it is offered to the committee.

It is confidently believed that in the hands of the tontine it can be made to yield a much larger return.

The shares in the tontine are in no sense a donation. The tontine proposes to pay dividends upon its shares, and to increase the dividends as fast as its business warrants, but it is believed by its projectors that four per cent will be its minimum return. Blanks are inclosed with this letter, and we urge upon all present subscribers and all single tax men who see the great advantage of having a headquarters for the movement to procure as many subscriptions as possible and forward them to the secretary of the committee as received.

Protection in the Act of Protecting.

In the following private letter from a mechanic to a correspondent of the Evening Post, published in that paper, there is a hint of the feeling that is spreading rapidly among the people with whom protection has long been a superstition:

I am in a tight place just now, with only what I can earn at the works to get along with and pay my way. If I had full time, I would be all right. This is the protection that we are getting. — in the spring is going to enlarge his house at a cost of \$6,000. If he would give us steady work, it would fit him better, for he was one that had posted up in his hat factory the rate of wages that we would get if Cleveland was elected, and what good times we were going to have if Harrison got it, and we have started on them now. He has made enough money under Cleveland's administration to rebuild his house, but he is afraid to keep his shop running on full time. This is the protection that the American mechanic is to get. I get so mad that I hate to hear any one speak of it. I wish that when people make such a fuss about election, and about the way the laboring man will have to suffer if Harrison was not elected president, they would show us some of the good times that they promised us, and not as soon as he is elected start off on a pleasure trip and shut the works and make the workmen pay for their pleasure, and think they are doing right. But those who voted for Harrison, will have enough of him and his party before the four years are up. I have only three days in the week now, and the rest are running on three-quarters' time."

To the Point.

The Chicago Leader, commenting on the recent defense of the single tax by the Chicago Herald, makes the following criticism of one point of its contemporary's argument:

The Leader is not quite clear as to the meaning of its esteemed contemporary in the expression of a desire for "a just assessment of absentee landlords." It may be a lack of penetration, but there are many who fail to see that it is any easier to be taxed for the benefit of neighbors than strangers, or that it makes any difference whether the man who profits by a system of taxation which punishes thrift and rewards sloth, resides in Chicago or in Kamtschatka.

The difficulty is, that by the system production is hampered and by so much the producer is injured, and it makes little difference to him whether the recipient of the benefit resides on one side or the other of an imaginary line, by which the bounds of a state or nation is recognized. But the very fact that the discussion of the question is opened so ably by the Herald, will prove a stimulus for such further analysis as shall lead to a wise conclusion.

The London Election and Trafalgar Square.

The brutalities perpetrated by the police upon the people in Trafalgar square are in a measure avenged. John Burns was sent to Pentonville prison on January 18, 1888, for asserting the right to free speech. On January 18, 1889, when the result of the polling in Battersea was announced, it was found that this daring criminal had been sent, not to prison, but to the county council to vindicate the same right in another way. James Tims was the convener of the famous meeting in Trafalgar square on November 13, 1887, when the forces of disorder under Sir Charles Warren fell upon the people, horse and foot, and turned what would otherwise have been an orderly meeting into a riot. The people of Battersea have sent Mr. Tims to back up John Burns at the council. A "loose, idle, and disorderly person," William Saunders by name, who only escaped conviction before the Bow street magistrates because the government were unwilling to run the risk of bringing their own illegal action before a court of law, now represents Walworth, in spite of the assurances of all the politically weather wise that "the riotous assemblies" in Trafalgar square were alienating the masses, &c., &c.

The Wonderful Carlsbad Springs.

At the Ninth International Medical Congress, Dr. A. L. A. Toboldt, of the University of Pennsylvania, read a paper stating that out of thirty cases treated with the genuine imported Powdered Carlsbad Sprudel Salt for chronic constipation, hypochondria, disease of the liver and kidneys, jaundice, diabetes, dropsy from valvular heart disease, dyspepsia, catarrhal inflammation of the stomach, ulcer of the stomach or spleen, children with marasmus, gout, rheumatism of the joints, gravel, etc., twenty-six were entirely cured, three much improved and one not treated long enough. Average time of treatment, four weeks.

The Carlsbad Sprudel Salt (powder form), is an excellent *Aperient Laxative and Diuretic*. It *clears the complexion, purifies the blood*. It is easily soluble; pleasant to take and permanent in action. The genuine product of the Carlsbad Springs is exported in round bottles. Each bottle comes in a light blue paper carton, and has the signature "E. Meyer & Mendelsohn Co.," sole agents, 6 Barclay street, on every bottle. One bottle mailed upon receipt of One Dollar. Dr. Toboldt's lectures made free upon application. Mention "The Standard."

Consumption Cured.

An old physician, retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all throat and lung affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellow-men. Actuated by this motive and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge, to all who desire it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Send by mail by addressing with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. Noyes, 149 Power's block, Rochester, N. Y.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WHY YOU SHOULD USE Scott's Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil WITH HYPOPHOSPHITES.

It is used and endorsed by Physicians because it is the best.

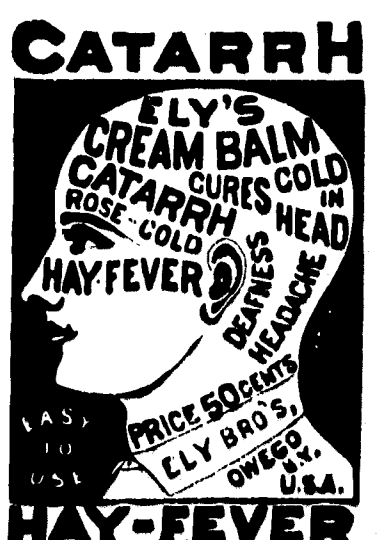
It is Palatable as Milk.
It is three times as efficacious as plain Cod Liver Oil.
It is far superior to all other so-called Emulsions.
It is a perfect Emulsion, does not separate or change.
It is wonderful as a flesh producer.
It is the best remedy for Consumption, Scrofula, Bronchitis, Wasting Diseases, Chronic Coughs and Colds.

Sold by all Druggists.
SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists, N. Y.

ELY'S CREAM BALM

For three weeks I was suffering from a severe cold in head and pain in temples. After only six applications of Ely's Cream Balm I was relieved. Every trace of my cold was removed. — Henry C. Clark, 1st Division N. Y. Appraiser's Office.

A particle is applied into each nostril and is agreeable. Price 50 cents at druggists; by mail, registered, 60 cents. ELY BROTHERS, 50 Warren St., New York.



QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

Poll Taxes.

COLMESNIL, Texas.—If it meets your views and convenience, a few of your readers in this section would like to see the poll tax treated from the standpoint of the "single tax theory." We, of course, know that in the scheme of taxation involved in the "single tax," poll taxes and all other taxes, with one exception, are to be abolished. But as the taxing of heads has no tendency, so far as we can see, to decrease the number of heads or the production of heads, and as the poll tax is a tax on privilege (the privilege of voting), it, in our judgment, in accordance with the reasoning of "Progress and Poverty," ought to be retained. **DAVID RUSSELL.**

The poll tax does not tend to decrease the number of heads, it is true, but it does tend to decrease the number of voters. For this reason, if for no other, it should not be levied. But there is a great difference between the voting privilege and the monopoly of a natural opportunity. Natural opportunities have different values. It is necessary to tax them according to their value in order to equalize them. Votes all count the same in a truly republican government, and there is no need to tax the privilege in order to secure equality.

Is Land Speculation Wrong Under Present Conditions?

TRENTON, N. J.—Do you consider a person who profits by the increased value of unimproved lands guilty of a wrong to society as our laws stand at present; or is it advisable for a conscientious man to refrain from investing his savings in land with the expectation of making money on the transaction? His refusal to deal in real estate will certainly not deter others from pursuing the business, and self-preservation and the welfare of his family are reasons sufficient, I should think, to justify him in trying to add to his means in this way. **R. FRASER.**

It is just as wrong for society to permit a man to enjoy the unearned increment of value of land he uses as of land which he does not use, and it is just as right for the individual to profit by the latter as by the former. A comparison is often made between holding unimproved land on speculation and slave owning. But there is a difference between the two transactions. If a man freed his slave nobody else could make the slave his property; but if a man gave up his land or refused to speculate in land, some other individual would take it either for use or for speculation, and in either case a value would attach to it which he did not produce; and if all speculators gave up their land to users the wrong of private property in land would simply be strengthened, for the evil effects would less rapidly develop themselves. Nor would it injure a single tax man's influence if he speculated in land while denouncing the laws which permitted him to do so; in fact, it would prove his sincerity. One of the commonest arguments used to be, "Where will you find a big landowner advocating such stuff as this single tax?" The moral wrong is to uphold the present unjust system. And in that case the law that is broken is, "Thou shalt not permit thyself to be stolen from," not "Thou shalt not steal," for society is the robber.

International Trusts.

ERIE, Pa.—In the event of this country adopting free trade, would we be able to make brass at less cost than we do now if the metals that go to make up its alloy were controlled by such large syndicates or trusts as the World copper trust that now controls the copper markets of the world? I understand how the single tax would work with such matters, but it is the free trade of the William L. Scott and Henry Watterson order that I mean. **ERNEST GORDON.**

In the case of such close monopolies as copper mining which can be consolidated into one world combination, simple tariff abolition would do no good. But once let any nation abolish all tariffs—revenue as well as protective—and the days of land monopoly are numbered.

From a "Free Lander."

DENVER, Col.—(1) Under the present system A owns a piece of land valued at \$1,000; B, who is landless, must pay A \$60 rent per annum. Under the single tax B will pay the rent to the government. Will it not be as hard for B to raise the money to pay it to the government as it was to pay it to the individual?

(2) A short time since I asked you if free trade did not include free money. You said, what I mean by free money is not clear. By free money I mean that the government should go out of the money business and individuals be allowed to issue their own money. It means the abolition of the treasury department; just as free trade aims at abolishing the custom houses.

(3) I also asked, under a system of free

land (use and occupancy alone giving title), would not the differences in value equalize themselves the same as between two countries under free trade? You answered, "Yes, the single tax would equalize," etc. I want to know if they would not equalize without the single tax? **J. B. JOHNSTONE.**

(1) It will not be as hard provided all other taxes are abolished, for under the present system B pays his share of these other taxes and his rent in addition.

(2) Business at present is transacted for the most part on a credit basis, money being used in part of the retail trade, while checks, notes and drafts are used in large transactions and also to a considerable extent in retail trade; and as the great advantage of having a bank account becomes more and more apparent to the smaller business men, a larger and larger proportion of all payments will be made by drafts and checks. Now bank accounts are very largely pure individual credits, not representing actual money deposited, but discounted notes and amounts loaned to the depositors on some security, such as a mortgage, and the amount of cash in a bank would not as a rule equal the amount to the credit of a single large depositor. And yet checks and drafts on bank accounts are passed from hand to hand and accepted by bankers. Thus we accomplish to-day, to some extent, what the philosophic anarchists would, as I understand it, accomplish with their "individual money."

But a certain amount of circulating medium is needed which can be used in all parts of the country and in all transactions where checks would not be accepted, and this medium should be backed by the strongest credit. What credit is as good as the government's in all parts of the country? And if the government can supply such a medium—money—why should we prevent it from doing so?

(3) As to "use and occupancy" giving title, who is to decide what constitutes "use." I have a block of land in the mercantile quarter of a great distributing center. I carry on a retail market business amounting to \$20,000 a year. The blocks all round me are occupied by people who do several million dollars of business to my \$20,000. My block, nevertheless, supports me. Am I "using" it? The same question would arise in the case of a million acre ranch which a few dozen men might occupy for cattle raising.

The single tax would force the holder of valuable land to use it, and no land court would be necessary to spy into the man's affairs to see if he was using it properly. What he used it for could be left entirely for him to decide. And a tax on land values is absolutely necessary in order to equalize advantages. To say that A, simply because he was born before B, shall have the use and occupancy of a valuable site in the center of population, and that B can equalize things by going to an undesirable place and taking up a piece of vacant land, will not be a very satisfactory statement to make to B. Trade between the two points will permit B to get many things that in his region could not be produced, but he never will be able to get as much as A, with equal exertion, until the price of A's advantage of location is contributed to the common fund and distributed in public benefits. **W. B. SCOTT.**

License Taxes.

BALTIMORE, Md.—Please state whether a trader's license tax, levied by a town government, is a direct tax. Can a license tax of this character be shifted? **W. N. HILL, M. D.**

It is not a direct tax, and can be shifted. It is a barrier between buyers and sellers, which one side or the other must surmount, or exchange will stop. The sellers cannot without a loss which, if continuous, would make their transactions unprofitable; therefore the buyer must. Traders sell at cost plus the usual profit. Require them to take out a license in any town and you reduce their profits below profits elsewhere. This has a tendency to drive them and their capital into other occupations, or to other places, until the profits of trading in the license town rise high enough to cover the tax. All taxes on production tend to shift from the tax payer to the consumer; and a license tax upon traders is a tax on production. **L. F. P.**

Notes.

Dr. J. G. R. Montoux, Kasson, Ind.—As was stated in last week's STANDARD, the mortgagee in such cases would probably be considered as joint owner, and be taxed accordingly.

H. P. Moyer, Oberlin, Ohio.—There is no considerable class of rich men who do not

own land or use land. All the stock and bonds they own are of corporations whose existence depend on the use of land. A railroad right of way is land. Riparian rights are natural opportunities. Their dwellings and their warehouses occupy valuable sites. They own mining stocks, etc.

NEW IDEAS, METHODS AND INVENTIONS.

An Oil Burning Engine.

An oil burning steam engine known as "The Shipman" is described in a recent number of Science. Its essential points are, that it is so thoroughly automatic in fuel, water-supply, and speed, that, when steam has been raised, little if any further attention is required beyond that of opening or closing the throttle-valve when the engine is started or stopped. In burning the oil no wicks are used and there is nothing to gum up or clog. The fire is formed by a mixture in proper proportions of steam and oil. This is fed through one or more atomizers, according to the size of the boiler. A supply of steam from the boiler passing through these atomizers carries with it into the fire-box, in a fine spray, just the amount of oil necessary to generate steam for the work being done by the engine. As the oil enters the fire box it is ignited by a torch and the combustion is so perfect that there is little or no smoke; so the full value of the heating qualities of the oil is obtained. The amount of steam and oil used by the atomizers is controlled by a perfectly automatic diaphragm valve, located in the steam pipe between them and the boiler. If the engine is stopped the fire is entirely put out by the diaphragm; but upon starting again the fire at once relights itself, the steam pressure having been held, in the meantime, by the automatic action of the diaphragm, which will have allowed just enough oil to be burned to make up for the loss of steam by condensation. The supply of oil is stored in a tank placed at any convenient distance from the boiler, and is led to it by ordinary piping. In starting the engine when there is no steam generated and only cold water in the boiler, a hand air pump, attached to the boiler, is used to make a spray of oil. A few strokes of this pump will start the fires, and it is only necessary to pump slowly for seven or eight minutes to raise enough steam to keep them going. As soon as steam is made all work with the air pump ceases, and one hundred pounds pressure can be raised in from ten to twelve minutes. "The Shipman" is compact, light and durable, and entirely dispenses with the services of a skilled engineer.

"The Sewing Machine Method."

Ernest Ingersoll contributes to the March number of the Chautauquan an article on "Industrial and Social Effects of the Sewing Machine." Considering it as a channel for the advancement of mechanical ingenuity in the elaboration of labor saving contrivances, he says, "The idea of interchangeable parts in apparatus of which a great number was to be made, emanated from the fertile brain of Eli Whitney, the inventor of the cotton gin, who first applied it to fire arms in his factory at New Haven. But that was just the moment when the manufacture of sewing machines began, and makers were quick to see its advantage and the whole system soon became known as the 'sewing machine method' in mechanics, and spread rapidly. It is believed by those who know best, that competition between rival sewing machines, stimulating inventors to continually produce machinery in the factories which would most perfectly and cheaply turn out their complex and delicate attachments, has been the most fruitful school in America for inventive mechanical skill; and that from no other trade has the general field of labor saving machines derived so many hints and improvements."

Utilizing the Garbage.

The Fleischmann system of garbage extraction consists principally of two processes. The garbage as it is hauled in is shoveled through manholes and driers below. There are two of these driers, each receiving at one charge five thousand pounds of garbage. Each drier consists of a double walled metallic cylinder, between the walls of which steam at a pressure of about eighty pounds is admitted. In the interior of each drier a rake revolves, constantly stirring up the garbage. These rakes are composed of steam pipes, into which steam of the same pressure is admitted, but the steam is not admitted into the chamber which contains the garbage. The steam which arises by the drying of the garbage is drawn out of the drier by means of a fan, so that a partial vacuum is constantly maintained in the drier; and this steam is carried into the lower part of a chamber, where, as it rises, it meets with a series of sprays or sheets of water which fall from overlapping shelves. In this way the steam which comes from the drier is condensed, and flows away as an inoffensive rill, having no more odor than the condensed water of an ordinary steam radiator. In this process of drying sixty per cent of the weight of the garbage is removed. The second stage of the operation consists in putting the dried garbage into an apparatus called an extractor, where the grease and oil which it contains is thoroughly removed by benzine in an automatic way, so that it is used over and over again without loss. The present plant in Buffalo disposes of about 30,000 pounds of garbage daily. From this about 1,800 pounds of grease is recovered; and the remainder of the dried and pulverized garbage, amounting to a daily average of about 12,000 pounds, is quite rich in ammonia, phosphates, and the other constituents which are valuable in fertilizers, and it is readily sold to the manufacturers of fertilizers. This dried product is screened, and what is removed is sorted out, and nearly all of it finds a market. The old rubber brings a good price; the rags are sold; the bones are valuable as a source of bone meal; the waste tin, brass, and other fragments

of metal, all readily sell; and only a small residuum, such as corn cobs, pieces of crockery ware, etc., are used as filling. According to the showing of those who are peculiarly interested, and of the health officers at Buffalo, a business of this kind pays a good percentage on investment, and an examination of the works must convince any person that a sanitary triumph has been achieved. Upon the first introduction of the garbage to this treatment, it is subjected to a temperature which of course immediately disinfects it, if any of it should be infectious; and from none of the processes through which the garbage is put is there the least odor which is suggestive of danger; and, though much benzine is used in the second stage of the treatment, no smell of it whatever is detected anywhere in the establishment during its use.—[Sanitary Inspector.

Cetawayo in a Dress Coat.

Hugh O. Pentecost in The Twentieth Century.

I am told by a person who knew Cetawayo, the Zulu king who was conquered by glorious England, that he was a man of great natural intelligence. Now, can any one doubt that if Cetawayo had been brought to America in his infancy and given all the advantages of the best that civilization can do for a man he would not have grown up a very much more intelligent and estimable person than he was? Suppose it had been understood that he was a royal infant, and from the first he had been given all the advantages and consideration that rank and money can secure; suppose that instead of being despised on account of his color he had been honored because of his title, as we Americans would certainly have been ready to honor him, especially if his title was associated with wealth, and under a genial, social, atmosphere he had been educated in our schools, fêted at our dinners, honored by our society; suppose he had grown up in the best of American surroundings without ever once seeing Zululand; is any one so fatuous as to suppose that this man still would have been a Zulu? Is it not plain to every one that he would have grown up an American gentleman, despite his savage blood? It is quite possible that he would have learned to wear a dress coat with all the grace of a head waiter and a single eye glass with the ease of a young gentleman who never disgraced himself with work; and he might have acquired the delicate art of carrying a cane upside down and the aristocratic habit of staring through a club house window at the passing women. Or, on the other hand, he might have developed all the characteristics of a "society savior" and become a great land speculator, and spent thousands of dollars to get himself elected to the United States senate, where he could see that no laws were made contrary to his business interests.

Freedom is Waiting.

Edith Nesbitt.

Freedom is waiting with hands held out
Till you tear the veil from her face—
And when once men have seen the light of
her eyes,
And felt her divine embrace,
The light of the world will be risen indeed,
And will shine in the eyes of men,
And those who come after will find life fair,
And their lives worth living then!

A Banner in the Soup.

Harlem Tax Reform Advocate.

Workingman's Wife—There isn't a thing in the house to eat.

Workingman—I know it; but what can I do? The factory is closed for want of orders, and I can't find outside work anywhere.

Wife—Well, go to the closet and bring me that "protection to American labor" banner you carried during the campaign. I'll cut it up and boil it. Maybe it'll do for soup.

MISCELLANEOUS.

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Nobody Allowed to Hold Land Idle Among the Cherokee Indians.

Chief Bushyhead in an interview in Peoria Journal.

The Cherokees are not, and, I am proud to say, never have been, wards of the government. We never received a cent of bounty nor the gift of an acre of land. The Cherokees are a prosperous people. If a Cherokee wishes to go farming he can take up as much land as he likes, locating it in a solid body. But he must till his land in order to hold it, and the limits of his tract must not be within half a mile of the tract occupied by his neighbor. The land between them is common ground. Our people have, as a rule, large plantations, and prosper well in the raising and sale of wheat, cotton, corn, oats and live stock. Our cattle are largely sold in Chicago, and the most of our buying is done in that city, St. Louis and Kansas City.

Solemn Facts.

Should tithing our income be the minimum of our Christian giving? If yes, why? If no, why?

Z. S. HASTINGS.

We know of no law for the Christian as to either the minimum or the maximum of his giving, beyond the general requirement, as the Lord prospers us. Some whose incomes are very small and whose families are very large, can give almost nothing. Indeed, sometimes the regular income fails to supply the necessities of life. Men of large incomes should give a much greater per cent than men of small income. But this is not the rule in practice.—[Christian Standard.]

Yes, He Is a Type.

Howard in the Press.

As I looked from my window yesterday morning, a bad cold—not that I ever knew a good one—making it impossible for me to sleep, a rattling upon the sidewalk attracted my attention to a young man who had removed the cover from my garbage barrel. He took from the barrel several bits of bread and meat, and greedily ate them. Under the circumstances, if he had stolen the barrel, I could have said nothing to him. Well, is he a type?

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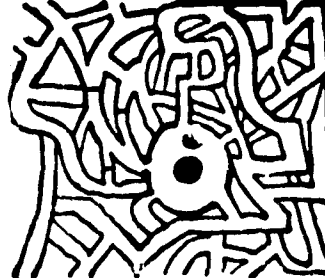
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