THE STAND

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY, BY WM. T. CROASDALE, AT NO. 42 UNIVERSITY PLACE.

VOL. IX. NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 1891. No. 15.

CRISP'S CANDIDACY.—So far as present indications go the contest for the Speakership of the next House of Representatives is between Roger Q. Mills, of Texas, and Charles F. Crisp, of Georgia. No one needs to inquire who Mr. Mills is, or what is his attitude on the tariff question. Mr. Crisp's reputation, however, is largely confined to his fellow Congressmen, who admire him as a skilled parliamentarian. His formal record on the tariff question may be perfectly straight, but his name is not popularly indentified with that question, and the character of his support creates an impression that he is regarded with too much favor by the men who have even yet a sneaking inclination toward protection. That small body of Democratic Congressmen who have committed themselves to David B. Hill's fortunes are all for Crisp. Senator Gorman, who is opposing Mr. Mills on the ground that he is a Free Trader, is for Crisp. The inference naturally drawn from these facts by many men is that Mr. Crisp's election would be a triumph for the tariff tinkerers over the radical opponents of protection. Mr. Crisp, it appears, is writing letters soliciting votes from members-elect, and one of these was sent to Mr. Watson, an Alliance man elected as a Democrat in the South Georgia District. Mr. Watson's reply is frank and emphatic. He announces that he had intended to vote for Mr. Crisp, but that he does not now intend to do so until his doubts as to that gentleman's attitude are cleared up. He says:

> Now, of course, this is a free country, and every man in it has a right to his opinion, but I say to you most frankly and most earnestly that I would not vote for my own father for a high Federal office if he had been a Randall or Gorman or a Pat Walsh Tariff Democrat. The views of these men are so utterly different from mine that we would not pull together for one moment. In fact, I abhor their doctrines all the more because I regard it as rank Republicanism coming from the mouths of Democrats. With the tariff I cannot conceive a conservatism that is not hurtful. Bitterly hating the entire system, as I do, for its rottenness, its greed, its sham, its cruelty, and the certainty with which it is ruining my section, I do not temporize with it myself, and I cannot encourage others to do so. My political life may be very brief, but, no matter how short it may be, I have promised myself to vote as I think right; to stand squarely by the platform upon which I was elected, and to do all in my power to bring some relief to our people. This being the case, I feel bound to vote for that Democrat who has been the most active and radical in his demands for tariff reform, and who stands nearest to the Ocala platform of the Farmers' Alliance. I have no hesitation in saying that the Ocala platform meets my hearty endorsement, and that my chief hope for any real reform beneficial to the masses rests upon that order. I beg that you will understand that there is no personal unkindness in all this, for there is none; nor am I pledged, directly or indirectly, to any one as against you. I am simply expressing my honest views, and endeavoring to do so courteously, not for one moment doubting that where you may differ from me you are equally sincere.

This letter appears to have brought matters to a crisis, and Mr. Crisp has made an answer to what he calls "the charges" against him. He explains that he has never been a member of the Committee on Ways and Means, and therefore was not expected to be a leader in the fight for tariff reform. Nevertheless, he says, he has always favored tariff reform or a reduction of taxation, voted with his party on all tariff measures, made tariff reform speeches in a number of States, and is therefore greatly surprised to find himself "classed with Protectionists." This is the only allusion to protection that we find in those portions of his letter published, and anyone can see that he studiously avoids any such expression of indignant disgust as would come from Mr. Mills if such stories had been set afloat concerning him. His whole attitude is that of a man compelled, reluctantly, to declare himself, and determined to say nothing that would offend his Protectionist supporters.

The letter will do nothing to win for Mr. Crisp the votes of men feeling as Mr. Watson does about the bunco steering tactics of the Protectionists; men who bitterly "hate the entire system" and refuse to temporize with it. Still less will it satisfy absolute Free Traders. It is a letter that Hill or Gorman might have written. The excuse offered by Mr. Crisp for his inactivity in behalf of tariff reduction in Congress is utterly inadequate. Breckinridge, of Kentucky, Wilson, of West Virginia, Springer, of Illinois, Bynum, of Indiana, and several others who might be named were not members of the Ways and Means Committee, yet that did not prevent them from becoming conspicuous as leaders in the two great tariff fights that have taken place in two successive Houses. Mr. Crisp's failure to similarly distinguish himself can only be ascribed to inability or indifference. Either of these ought to be sufficient to put him, at once, out of the list of possible candidates for the Speakership.

THE RECENT ELECTIONS.—Senator Morrill, of Vermont, thinks that the recent State elections indicate that public sentiment on the Tariff question has changed since last Fall, and in view of this change he believes that Western Republican Senators, who voted against the McKinley bill, will hesitate before voting in the next Congress in favor of any serious modification of the provisions of the present Tariff. If this proves to be true, the recent Republican victories will prove useful in pressing the Democratic party toward Free Trade. Any temporary relief might diminish the popular dissatisfaction with the existing law, and it would certainly tend to promote the return to the Republican party of many who voted against it or refused to vote last Fall. The Tariff question was not directly involved in the recent Spring elections. The question was between the two great parties on purely local issues, and many who are disgusted with the Republican attitude on the Tariff question yielded to habit and prejudice, and voted with it once more. If the Senators of that party will take care to demonstrate that there is no hope of relief so long as the Republican party controls the Senate, the Free Trade Republicans of the Northwest will see that they must give up their prejudices and elect Democratic legislatures in order to get rid of the burden that is crushing them.

All of this means a continuous agitation of the question of tariff taxation, and the more it is agitated the more radical becomes the attitude of the victims of the protected monopolists. We hope Senator Morrill is right in his assumption as to the effect of the Spring elections on the minds of Republican party leaders. If he mistakes the tendency of life-long Republicans to give their party another chance for its life, it is reasonable to expect that other Republican leaders will do likewise, and all concessions will therefore be denied. We Free Traders want none. We want to see the American people drain the cup that McKinley fashioned to its dregs, not that we are indifferent to their sufferings, but because we want them to fully understand, at last, the cause of their distress, so that they will demand the entire abolition of all forms of indirect taxation.

THE COUNTY OPTION TAX BILL.—Despite the fact that the County Option Tax bill, introduced by Mr. Stein, was favorably reported by the Committee on Taxation, it was killed without ceremony or protest in the Assembly on Wednesday of last week. Mr. Stein, the putative author of the bill, appears to be a feather-weight legislator, not much interested in such weighty subjects as taxation, and he actually failed to be present when the bill came up for final action. The majority of the members of the Assembly never gained any adequate idea of the bill, and, though it presented the only immediate solution of a problem that keenly interests the Legislature and a large portion of the public, outside of the delegation of Single Tax men, who obtained for it the favorable report of the Committee on Taxation, it received no support from any quarter. The various bodies in this city that are protesting with such vigor against increased taxation on personal property, gave it no real consideration. All that they ask is that nothing shall be done, and they favor the appointment of a commission simply to delay action until the present storm blows over. Their policy is not a wise one. The storm is going to last, and they will wake up some fine morning to find themselves the victim of legislation terribly prejudicial to the business interests of the whole Metropolitan district, but which will utterly fail to give to the rural counties the relief they are blindly seeking.

Of course, the proposed commission bill is attractive to the politicians. It will provide for the appointment of from five to seven new office holders at salaries of $3,000 a year. As this price will not command the services of those most capable of performing the duties involved, the new places will be filled by mere politicians, who will be disposed to prolong their tenure of office by delay. This will satisfy those who have been so successful in evading existing taxes that they desire the present law to remain unchanged, but it will infuriate the farmers who are pressing for a change. On the whole it will do good, however, as it will give opportunity for evidence and argument and keep the subject more or less before the public. A commission bill will therefore be much better than no bill at all.

The proposal of County option has attracted considerable attention outside of the State. The Chicago Herald, in discussing it editorially, says that its real object was to "put it in the power of any county to make a trial of 'the Single Tax limited.'" That was by no means its only object. It gave equal opportunity to any county to raise revenue by taxing personal property alone, if it so desired. It gave, in fact, opportunity for actual experiment with any system of taxation. The Herald seems to assume that the Single Taxers are the only people willing to put their theories to such a test. The Herald, in speculating on the possible result of such legislation, says:

> If such a county as New York, in the exercise of its discretionary power, should put the whole burden on land, or on land and improvements together, the commercial consequences would probably be important. With personal property wholly exempt the city of New York would be more than ever an attractive centre for corporate enterprises. Practically, personal property, or the securities representing such property, is pretty much exempt there now. Still, the Assessor is supposed to look for it, so that much evasion, with the attendant annoyance and wear and tear of conscience, has to be practiced. If evasion were rendered unnecessary New York would become more than ever a financial centre, and the folly of attempting to tax the mere shadows and ghosts of property would become apparent.

Queerly enough, the Herald thinks that there is "not much probability that any county would exercise its local option in that way," because of "the popular notion that mere paper evidences are property and that they ought to be taxed." We cannot speak for Chicago, but we are very confident that New York would exercise its option in this matter with a view to securing the very advantages that the Herald points out. The real estate owners see this as clearly as the Herald, and they favor the levying of all taxes on real estate. If they are willing, who else will object and insist on having his own property taxed? Of course, the owners of realty do not believe that the Single Tax unlimited will follow in their time, if at all, or they might not be so willing; though the owners of improved property are beginning to see that even that would not be an unmixed evil, if they are also engaged in active business. Our Chicago contemporary is mistaken about one county, at least.

A THIRD PARTY, ANYHOW.—The Knights of Labor Journal thinks that THE STANDARD "could be doing better work for the great cause it has at heart than by seeking to smuggle it into the platform of a party of place-hunters, sugar-coated and disguised as tariff reform." Nevertheless, it declares practically that THE STANDARD speaks the truth when, to repeat our own words, it "advises the Democratic party not to divide itself by taking up a new issue in a foolish and vain endeavor to prevent the formation of a third party." The Journal plainly intimates that if the Democrats declare for free silver, in the hope that they can "prevent the inevitable" formation of a third party, they are fooling themselves, and that third party men have no occasion to quarrel with THE STANDARD for telling the Democrats so, if it feels that much interest in what the Journal calls "the Democratic wing of the Wall street party." This we think can be accepted as an authoritative statement of the attitude of the Knights of Labor, the element to which the new party must look for its organized support in the East. No matter what the Democrats do or leave undone, there will be a third party that will have considerable strength in a number of States.

We are glad to find ourselves in agreement with the Knights of Labor Journal in this matter. We do not accept its description of THE STANDARD'S attitude, but we believe that that is the way it really appears to the Journal. It hates both the old parties and has no faith in their sincerity. THE STANDARD recognizes the fact that the great majority of the American people are found in these parties, and that both of them are just as good in their composition as any new party is likely to be. It judges parties by their aims and tendencies, and favors that which seems most likely to advance the principles that it believes in. We have never claimed that the Democratic party is for Free Trade; merely that it is consciously or unconsciously tending that way. We do not desire to smuggle the Single Tax into its platform. We do believe, however, that the purpose of the Democratic party is to reduce tariff taxation and destroy the so-called "protective system" and that the momentum thus acquired will carry it to Free Trade. When it gets within hailing distance of Free Trade it will have to accept the Single Tax or give way to some party that will, because that is the only form of direct taxation that any self-governing people will stand. Believing this, we want to keep the Democratic party going in the direction in which it is headed, and we prefer that those who wish to turn it in another direction shall flock by themselves and leave the Democratic party alone. We are equally anxious that it shall attend to its own business and not try to poach on its neighbor's preserves.

In this we are glad to find ourselves in accord with the Knights of Labor Journal. The Knights and the Single Taxers are pretty nearly in accord on the land question, but they differ as to the methods of accomplishing results that both desire. About other things they also differ widely, but they are agreed that the producer is entitled to what he produces, and that he does not get it. THE STANDARD believes that through the settlement of the taxing question we shall arrive at

a condition that will give all men willing to work easy access to natural opportunities and absolute freedom of exchange, and thus emancipate the producer. The Journal seeks the same thing by a much more complex system. It looks to the enactment of laws and to Governmental interference for the accomplishment of its purposes. We look rather to the repeal of laws and the curtailment of Governmental activity. We may be wrong, but we believe we are right, and will stick to the course we have pursued. Meanwhile we shall watch the new party movement with interest and without hostility, and we do not propose to quarrel with its leaders or organs.

POLITICAL PARTIES. — Some of our Western friends are getting themselves into a curious state of mind concerning political parties. They have apparently forgotten what parties are made of and why they exist, and are disposed to consider them as dangerous forces outside of, and apart from, the people. A writer in the Kansas City Star sets forth at great length the purposes of the Western Commercial Congress that convened yesterday at Kansas City. Its chief object, according to this authority, is an interchange of views concerning the problems of the times. Only Western opinion is sought, however, and distinct notice is given that no Eastern philosophers need apply. "What the West produces and sells to the East," says the writer, "has been steadily declining in value," while, on the other hand, "what the West buys from the East has been just as steadily increasing in value," the result being that "Western interests are prostrate to the East." The Commercial Congress is called to find out why this is thus. We are pleased to see that one method of getting at the desired truth is to be a debate on the tariff question between Major McKinley and Roger Q. Mills. We are curious to know what McKinley's answer to the question will be, and no Eastern prejudice causes us to doubt that Mills' answer will be a sound and sensible one.

It is in alluding to this, however, that the writer in the Star gives evidence of the curious condition of mind that we are considering. He evidently is disposed to apologize for the presence of these representative leaders of two great parties. He is "down on" parties and party men. He says that the politicians have pretended to offer solutions of the questions about which the West has recently become excited. "One party," he says, "has said one thing and another has taken the other view, and each has assumed to be lustily pulling for the public weal, when in truth nothing higher or nobler or better was in the party heart than the welfare and advancement of its own small, partisan interests."

We wonder what the writer thinks that he means. Does he imagine that any great party was ever organized for the purpose of giving each individual composing it an office? Does he not know that every great party that ever existed grew out of an honest desire to serve the public weal? We are ready to grant that when the immediate purpose of their existence is served that parties fall into the management of men animated by selfish purposes, but the mass of those composing them are held to them by the belief that their success will contribute to the general welfare. Of course, prejudice holds many to party allegiance, but even prejudice is not with the masses built on mere personal selfishness. Different habits of thought also divide men more or less permanently into opposing parties. This is entirely natural and there is nothing wrong about it. If both parties are really bad the American people are bad, for a majority of them belong to one or the other of the two parties.

The continuance of parties is easily accounted for. Why should not the men who voted together this year be likely to vote together next year? The habit of thought that made them see alike last year is likely to cause them to see alike this year? Association and the sense of fellowship tend to keep them together. Old issues are rarely finally disposed of, and when new ones arise it is tendency and habit of thought, rather than any mere guess as to the popular side, that decides the respective attitude of the exisiting parties. When the tariff question once more became a vital issue it was no accident that put the Republican party on the side of "Protection" and gradually arrayed the Democratic party against it. That was natural and inevitable. If they had both been committed to the same side a real third party, with a reason for existence and a sufficient test of faith and fellowship, would have sprung up This was not necessary, however, when the two old parties took issue on the question. Men who were really superior to party prejudice then gave support to the party most nearly representing their own opinions.

"But," says our Western friend, "people are learning to distrust party. They are slowly but surely gaining the courage to think for themselves." Yes, but after they have once got accustomed to thinking, they will cease to gush about the "party heart" and inquire critically as to the party purpose. They will understand that the party having the good principles or merely the political shrewdness, if you will, to undertake to do the thing that needs to be done for the public interests is the party for them to help. They will no more think of making a new party to accomplish a purpose that an old party is striving for than they would of building a railway car instead of boarding a train bound for the place they wish to reach. They will understand that parties are made of mere men, and that they do not differ much in composition, whether they are old or new. In short, they will have common sense, know what they want, and have some idea of how to get it.

Such chatter as that we are considering is not due to non-partisanship, but to keen party prejudice. This, and this alone, has prevented the Western people from answering positively and effectively through legislation the question that this mock congress is to debate. Suppose that along the whole Atlantic Coast there were pirates who would not let the Western farmer ship any of his surplus crop to Europe without their consent, nor let him receive any goods in return without he paid blackmail, would the Western farmer not have the sense to see that this system was hurting him? Suppose these pirates should conclude to go into manufacturing, and hire cheaper pirates to watch the coast and prevent the farmers from trading with any other factories than their own, would the Western farmers need to hold conventions to find out why the East was getting the better of them? Unfortunately, the people who have been doing these things are not called pirates, but custom house officers and "protected industries," and it is the Western people who, through blind party prejudice, have insisted on licensing them to continue their piratical practices. Now that some of them begin to see what fools they have been, instead of rejoicing that they find a ready-made party that purposes to make piracy a crime instead of a laudable practice, they gratify the prejudice that has blinded them all along, and insist on making a new party, and beclouding the true issue rather than give up the satisfaction of damning the Democratic party. It is well that they are at last beginning to think. When they have had some practice at it they will understand that politics is not organizing a church, but using the best obtainable agency for accomplishing a definite result. They will cease to bother about the "party heart," and ask, with keen interest, for a party with a body big enough, and

a purpose strong enough, to stop this licensed piracy on the Atlantic coast and along all our borders.

CRIPPLING THE BALLOT LAW.—The present ballot law in this State. though very faulty, thanks to Governor Hill, is a decided improvement on the old law. It is entirely too good to satisfy the politicians and the Legislature is therefore engaged in an effort to amend it so as to make it far more difficult than at present to put independent candidates in the field. At present any body of men nominating indeendent candidates for a few offices can require the county to print two sets of tickets containing not only the names of such candidates, but the names of all the candidates regularly nominated for whom the promotors of the independent candidate are willing to vote. Of course, this is cumbersome and expensive, but the remedy is the abolition of the multiple ballot, not the forcing of men to make a full ticket or else vote for no candidates except those they have nominated themselves. That is practically what the pending amendments amount to.

The New York Times, in criticising this attempt, says: "We do not for a moment suppose that Senator Saxton would connive at this attempt to slaughter the law in the house of its friends," though it does permit itself to wonder what he was about while the job was going through the Senate. What an innocent paper the Times is, now and then! Does it forget that after the best bill that Hill would let us have passed the House a year ago, that this same Senator Saxton was, for a time, bullied into consenting to make the Senate the house of its butchery instead of "the house of its friends?" Aside from the politics in it, Senator Saxton never had any great interest in ballot reform, and there is nothing more likely than that he consented gladly to the proposed mutilation of the bill in the interest of the two regular party machines.

TALKING NONSENSE.—William R. Grace, one time Mayor of New York, has taken the trouble to assure a Democratic club in California that the people are thoroughly convinced that a protective tariff is made solely in the interests of the rich, and not for the people. This would have done well enough, but Mr. Grace added, "What we want is a tariff that will protect infant industries." What is that but a protective tariff? What does Mr. Grace think he was talking about?

A FULL OUTFIT.—The New York Sun editorially declares that the "STANDARD of last week publishes the only really complete and satisfactory report" of the Free Trade celebration of Jefferson's birthday. That is true. but why should it be the case? Among the daily newspapers the Sun had the best report, but considering the fact that it professes to be a *news* paper and THE STANDARD does not, it makes a somewhat humiliating confession when it acknowledged that it did not itself present to its readers a complete and satisfactory report of an event on which it has dwelt at such length editorially. The Sun declares that most of the writers whose letters were read declared unequivocally for Free Trade, and it adds:

> But the nominator of the night was the Hon. "Tom L. Johnson" of Ohio, who wrote with trip-hammer precision:
>
> "Count on me at all times for Free Trade and direct taxation.
>
> "I am for Mills of Texas for Speaker because I want to have an out-and-out Free Trader take the chair held by Reed.
>
> "Grover Cleveland should be our candidate for President."
>
> The flies that buzzed about this famous Free Trade meeting could not detect any political deficiency in it. It furnished every feature of outfit necessary to begin a Presidential campaign.

Yes, all that was necessary was there, and it is for the Democratic party to decide whether it wants the help of the men who are attracted to it by principle, or whether it wants to depend on the people who are represented by the paper that stabbed Hancock in the back, and openly sought to defeat Cleveland in 1884. The Sun represents the Protectionist element in the Democratic party; men like Tom Johnson represent the Free Trade element in that party, and the party can accept the latter kind or die in the gutter with the former. That concerns it more than it does the Free Traders.

THE RETIREMENT OF EDMUNDS.—George F. Edmunds has resigned as United States Senator from Vermont, and both Mugwump papers in this city are almost moved to tears. Why? There has never been in any legislative body a meaner or more bitter partisan than this representative of the senseless Bourbonism of Vermont. The fact that he really had brains enough to know better only aggravates his offence. Furthermore, for a long time his habits have made him a lazy and inattentive member of the Senate, who was addicted to scolding his associates rather than to setting them a good example. He did stand by the Senate's traditions and oppose the revolutionary change of the rules, but his voice has not been raised at all against any of the villainies perpetrated by the Congress of Abominations. What sense, then, is there in the declaration by the New York Times that he "will leave in the Senate a vacancy that nobody else from Vermont or any other State can be expected to fill." Rot! The Times certainly ought to know that it is easier to fill the vacancy than to fill Edmunds.

OFF FOR EUROPE.—Mr. Henry George, Jr., will sail on the steamer Veendam, of the Netherland Line (via Boulogne), on Saturday, April 18, for England. Mr. George will write a series of letters for the New York World, the Boston Globe, the Chicago News, the Philadelphia Times, the Tacoma News, the Cleveland Press and the Washington Post, and perhaps some other papers. He will also write a special letter each week to THE STANDARD, particularly relating to the Single Tax movement, as it has developed in England. The good wishes of the thousands of Single Taxers in the United States, who have read his Washington letters in THE STANDARD and other papers, will go with him.

FAIR TRADE.—The Kansas City Star advocates a universal system of reciprocity, which it proposes to call "Fair Trade." Its main reason for the suggestion seems to be that there is a prejudice against the term "Free Trade" in this country, which it imagines would be overcome in this fashion. The Star says that the "ultimate purpose of 'Free Trade' is only avowed by Single Tax advocates, who are bold enough to espouse openly any principle to which they subscribe." This is a high compliment to the courage of the Single Taxers, and we wish we could return it in alluding to the attitude of the Star. If papers that already see what Free Trade will bring to the world had the courage to advocate it, prejudice would not only subside but the people would become eager for it for its own sake.

THE FARMER'S FOLLY.—We do not absolutely agree with Mr. Willson in all of his economic views, but his indictment against the Western farmers for blindly adhering to protection, despite its utter failure to do for them what its advocates have promised, is as just as it is strong. They have been making fools of themselves through their blind and senseless partisanship, and they are bent on making fools of themselves again in trying to muddle things instead of confessing their folly, abandoning their unreasoning prejudice and helping the Democractic party to first scotch and finally to kill the accursed thing that has well nigh ruined them. The farmers have no truer friends than men who courageously show them what fools they have been.

MARYLAND OYSTERS.

The land question, in its relation to oyster culture, is agitating the people of Maryland. It has long been, and until settled in harmony with sound industrial policy it will continue to be, a subject of contention in that State. Though naturally fitted for the greatest oyster region in America, Maryland falls far short of her productive power. It is estimated that the waters of the State might be made to yield as many oysters annually as they have yielded in all the last half century—the enormous quantity of 400,000,000 bushels; but Maryland oysters are really in danger of extermination. The source of danger is the short-sighted policy of treating the oyster lands of the State as an open common.

There are two modes of harvesting oysters—"tonging," which is slow, and adapted only to shallow water; and "dredging," which is destructive. "Dredging" is not allowed on grounds set aside for "tonging;" but, except by this regulation, natural oyster growth is unprotected, and the only encouragement to oyster culture is a revocable license to pre-empt five acres of land under water for purposes of planting. Subject only to the imperfect enforcement of these imperfect regulations, the oyster grounds of Maryland are free fisheries. That such a policy involves extermination may readily be inferred from a consideration of the oyster's nature, for a statement of the chief characteristics of which I am indebted to Professor Brooks, of Johns Hopkins University.

Though, in respect of vegetable life, the ocean seems a desert, it really abounds in microscopic plants, so prolific that if all the descendants of a single one were to live they would in a week choke the ocean solid; and upon these plants oysters feed. The plants themselves live upon mineral matter worn away from mountain rocks by frost and rain, and carried to lower levels to form hill sides and meadows. In times of flood, rivers cutting their banks away, carry this fertile soil to the sea; but on its journey, the soil sometimes makes long halts in low, flat river bottoms. Chesapeake Bay is one of these bottoms. Every year it receives soil from more than 50,000,000 acres of farming land lying in New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia. The sediment, falling to the bottom of the bay in a thick, black mud, is capable of supporting unlimited numbers of microscopic plants, and the oyster is adapted by nature for converting these plants into a delicate and nutritious food for man. Its gills are organs not alone for breathing, but also for keeping its stomach filled. Their long, delicate fringes, hanging between the shells and covered with invisible hairs that continuously beat backwards and forwards, entangle the plants in a slimy excretion: and the hairs push them, in a steady stream of food, towards the oyster's mouth. The gills also sweep eggs out into the water, where they are fertilized by male cells swept out by other oysters.

The oyster is so prolific that if all the eggs of a single one were to grow up, the fifth generation would form a mass about eight times the size of the earth. Comparatively few can grow up, however, without cultivation. As the oyster takes its food from the water above the soft mud, it must be as near to the mud as possible; but when young oysters settle on the mud they sink into it and are killed. To live, they must fasten themselves to some hard body above the mud. Accordingly, when a large body is brought down by the ice and dropped to the bottom, or a wandering conch dies and leaves its shell, young oysters quickly cover it: and as these grow up and become crowded, their shells dropping off form a new surface for the attachment of more oysters. In this way a natural bed is made.

The process of natural growth is very slow. But to increase i indefinitely it is necessary only to cover the bottom of the bay, at the proper time, with clean oyster shells or other hard bodies; and it is in this that private culture primarly consists. But men will not engage in private culture without reasonable security that they may reap where they shall have sown. Hence, the agitation over oyster land tenures now in progress in Maryland.

John K. Cowen, a leading citizen, proposes that the oyster land under water in the Chesapeake and its tributaries be reduced to private property for oyster culture, precisely as is the land above water. The Knights of Labor protest against any legislation for selling, and favor legislation looking to leases for short terms and in small acreage. Single Tax men are divided between leasing, and selling subject to the Single Tax on the value of location.

The necessity of private culture is conceded. And private culture involves private and exclusive possession. But, though a literal common of fishery no longer harmonizes with the best interests of the community, it does not follow that private ownership is necessary. Only village papers, and those metropolitan journals that emulate the bourbonistic qualities of their provincial contemporaries, any longer assume that the benefits of private possession of land justify private ownership. The duty of the State, when common use of land ceases to be expedient, is to adopt a system of private tenures that will at once secure to the community the profits of the common property, and to its users—oyster farmers in the case in question—all the security of private control.

Private ownership, such as Mr. Cowen proposes, would unjustly divest the people of their inalienable usufruct of the bottom of Chesapeake Bay, just as the same system of tenures has divested them of the same right in the lands above water This alone should condemn it, however advantageous to oyster culture it might appear to be. But it would not be advantageous to oyster culture. Instead of encouraging oyster culture, it would discourage it by promoting speculation in oyster lands, as private ownership of city lots has discouraged building by promoting speculation in vacant lots. If the bottom of Chesapeake Bay were sold, the time would come when its owners, without planting or even having planted, would draw a revenue from other people for the privilege of planting: and when more would be made by keeping large areas of the bottom of the bay out of use than by using them. The man who, finding land already privately owned, is unable to understand that justice demands its restoration, may be excused for his moral blindness; but whoever, at this day, advocates the subjection of common lands to absolute private ownership, must not complain if his honesty falls under suspicion.

To sell these oyster lands subject to the Single Tax would, if the tax were fairly applied, accomplish substantial justice. The sales then would be only nominal. Such a policy might really secure private possession in the purchaser and common property in the people. But there is danger in the policy. A new class of land owners would arise, who would not only oppose the application of the Single Tax to other holdings, but would lobby for the abolition of its application to their own; and the transaction would be regarded by those teachers to whom a bad but favorable precedent is superior to a salutary principle, as an emphatic endorsement of the doctrine of absolute private property in land.

Leasing, on the other hand, would accomplish all that public policy demands. As perfectly as private ownership, it would prevent the destruction of the oyster: and itwould encourage its cultivation to a far greater extent. It would secure to the oyster farmer the product of his labor—both the plant and its fruit; and it would give to no one the benefit of values he did not make, nor the advantage of superior locations for which he did not regularly pay. Whether the leases were short or long, or the areas great or small, would make no difference; provided they were subject, if long, to frequent revision of rental. The plant and product should, of course, be wholly exempt from taxation.

The notion that oysters would not be planted on leased ground, is either ignorant or dishonest. Our Chicago friends could enlighten the people of Baltimore on the subject of improving leased land. Some of the finest structures in the world are erected in that city on leaseholds, and we have yet to see leased ground vacant for a longer time than is necessary to improve it. The only profit of a lessee comes from use; the greatest and surest profit of an owner comes from ownership.

The Single Tax movement is often criticized as an attack upon vested rights in land. "If land were still common," so runs the criticism, "all you say about the injustice of private property would be good; but you are too late." Let the people of Maryland consider this plea for vested rights before surrendering land still recognized as common property, over to the absolute ownership of individuals.

LOUIS F. POST.

THOMAS JEFFERSON.

It is well to keep in mind the memory of a man whose genius, force of character, and human instincts developed a party in the people themselves that to-day holds in its keeping the destiny of an empire. In the birth of Thomas Jefferson the democracy was born. He alone of all the patriotic leaders of the day that saw our independence gained, realized its real significance, and knew that we had not only severed the colonial ties, but all those founded on the superstitious errors that made a government by rulers for the enforcement of law, in lieu of a government through agents for the maintenance of order. The fathers had scarcely achieved their independence before they set about creating a political fabric as near that of Great Britain as the prejudices of the masses would permit. In their anxiety to protect the people against themselves they eliminated from the central government at Washington all popular control.

They gave us an Executive without a Ministry, that changed its personalty every four years, without any constitutional process through which the policy governing an administration might be changed. They gave us a Senate as near like a House of Lords as a lack of birth and breeding would allow, where the personalty is changed every six years, and where the Senators representing States are as far removed from popular control as it is possible for such a body to be. The House of Representatives is elective every two years, utterly regardless of public opinion on a question of a grave sort which may agitate the popular mind. In a word the fathers said to the people, "You may have as many political opinions as you please, but we will, as far as possible, prevent your influencing the Government at Washington."

So long as the States retained their sovereignty, and legislated for themselves, making in its most perfect form what now is called

Home Rule, the affair at Washington was a dignified, innocent figurehead. In it the President posed as a sovereign. The Congress resolved itself into a debating society, while the Supreme Court solemnly adjudicated the few legal questions that came up from the States. The whole affair could, at any time, have been wiped out without the people feeling any distress at its loss.

When, however, the war of secession came upon us, and one-half of our territory, in the name of the general Government, was conquered by the bayonets of the other half, home rule receded and centralization set in. We now have the Government at Washington legislating on every conceivable interest in the land, without any process by which such legislation can be shaped or controlled by the people. A dead, heavy, cast-iron concern, it is without fear, affection, or favor the machine of the faction that happens, through a supposed election, to get possession. Mr. McKinley, for example, coolly informs us that for eight years to come it will not be possible for the people to change the policy now enforced upon them at Washington. The honorable gentleman does not seem to be aware that the iron despotism at Washington, is making possible that resort to violence which justified the rebellion of the fathers against the tyranny of England. When we remember that in this the Hon. McKinley refers to the fact that the Senate is packed through rotten boroughs and purchase, against free opinion of the people, the gravity of the menace is lost in wonder at the insolence of the confession.

In the last thirty years of our existence as a nation the condition to which I refer has developed the fact that we have all the evils that affect the monarchies of Europe. Indeed, we are in a worse condition; for while, through ministries that respond to popular demands, the people there approach slowly the benefits of home rule, we are receding rapidly from that relief. Every day, in Europe, the classes are loosing their hold on power; and every day, with us, the aristocracy of the few tightens its grip on the throat of the democracy found in the many. No better illustration can be given of our unhappy plight than the singular fact that a citizen may possess intact all the political rights guaranteed him by the Constitution, and yet be deprived of all that makes life worth living. A man can return from the polls, where his vote may have killed that of a millionaire, to the shelterless refuge of his hovel, to find his family in rags, starving to death, and he, the bread winner, a mendicant for work that he cannot procure. He has free speech, a free press, a free conscience, a free ballot—in a word, all his political rights, and is yet a miserable slave. Nor is the fact less significant which tells us that the organization now holding the Government, by purchase, is not a political party at all, but a combination of moneyed interests in private hands, which seeks to enrich itself by a plunder of the revenue under sanction of law.

Of all that immortal group of patriots concerned in the making of a republic, Thomas Jefferson, alone, comprehended the situation, and stood by the people in whose seeming behalf all labored. He not only accepted the Revolution in its full significance, but planted his hope upon the people it had liberated. He alone recognized the governing element, that had grown up upon our continent in the births of many generations of men left to themselves, and their God, in their fight for existence. While Hamilton, Madison and that group built their political fabric from the rotten material of the Old World, Jefferson felt the presence of a new power, and moved against the aristocrats in behalf of the people. His prophecies of that day are the histories of this, and his warnings make the platform for the masses upon which patriots can stand firmly in their fight for human rights. He looms up through the century the one great figure of a great epoch, and as time wears on his fame brightens and his influence grows greater. He is yet our living leader. There is no reform pressing upon us that can be provided for until the wrongs he designated are met and disposed of.

Tariff reform, civil service reform, tax reform, corporation reform, and trade reform, is in each instance an attempt to put a boulder in a rut when the whole road calls for remaking, for what can be done under a form of government that gives the citizen his rights to vote, and denies him all the legitimate results of such privilege?

Let us first return to home rule found in State rights, and thereby destroy the despotism developed in a central government. Let us seine on Hamilton's aristocratic fabric at Washington and remodel that into a free republic. The House of Lords must go. We must have a ministry dependent for its existence on the House of Representatives. We want elections for the Federal Government only when some grave question is appealed to the people for solution. We want to see to-day a return of the golden days of old, when the people will have to be reminded that there is a Government at Washington, not by the tax gatherer, but by the election of Congressmen and President, and when the entire concern can be annihilated without any great loss to the nation.

Such reform carries in it all other reforms, and gives us a real republic and true Jeffersonian Democracy. DONN PIATT.

THE FARMER'S FOLLY.

There were in the United States in 1880 322,357 tenant farmers paying rent and 702,244 tenant farmers, villeins or metayers farming on shares—a total of 1,024,701 tenant farmers. The total number of tenant farmers in England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales is 1,069,127.

If the 574,222 Irish tenant farmers should be compelled to share their crops equally with their landlords, as 702,244 American farmers must, such an outcry would go up to heaven as was never before heard in the world.

If the 414,804 English tenant farmers were required to do it they would take only from thirty-six to forty-eight hours in which to wipe out the whole system of land tenures. The greatest share ever asked of them was one-fourth.

This condition has been brought about with the consent and at the desire of the Republican farmers of the country, who have heartily approved and supported the conspiracy entered into by the chiefs of their party with the Plutocrats to change this free Republic into a Plutocracy. In pursuance of this conspiracy a Republican Congress—

1. Gave in two years to a dozen corporations over 200,000,000 acres of the best farming land in the country, and locked up for plutocratic purchase as much more, in alternate sections.

2. Granted to 14,500 owners of machines protection for the product of their machinery from the competition of American farm labor.

3. Increased the value of machines and plant, and decreased the value of labor and all products of labor by demonetizing silver.

4. Decreed that Europe, now paying for our surplus farm products in Spanish-American cheeks (or bills of exchange), given for European mill products, which we use to buy Spanish-American tropical products, shall be deprived of these checks by supplying Spanish-America with American machine products, and that the payment for these South American products shall be transferred from American farm labor to American machine labor. The Brazilian note now sent from Rio to London to pay for British cloth, then sent from London to New York to pay for American wheat, and finally sent from New York to Rio for cancellation after payment in Brazilian coffee, must hereafter be sent from Rio to New York to pay for American cloth, and returned from New York for cancellation after payment in Brazilian coffee. The American farmer must find a new customer and a new market for his farm products—if he can. The one he has now must go to the American mill-owner.

Thirty years ago, when this conspiracy was formed, we boasted that every American owned his own farm, and we called upon the oppressed to come from every nation, to come from every way, believing Uncle Sam to be rich enough to give them each and all a farm. The census of 1890 will show one-sixth the farmers of the United States reduced to vassalage, tenants at will, farming on shares, giving one-half the crop to the landlord and one-half the remainder nominal owners only, mortgaged to the full value, struggling against foreclosure.

The Plutocratic machine owners have invaded farming. So rapid has been this invasion that, while in 1870 there were only 15,873 farms between 500 and 1,000 acres, there were in 1880 75,972; and of farms over 1,000 acres, 3,720 in 1870 and 23,878 in 1880.

These bonanza farms range from 500 to 500,000 acres. They have no homes and no home-life—only barracks, where a few hirelings live for a few months in the year. Machinery and animals do the work, and the only labor is for machine-tenders and herders. When the harvest is over these machine-tenders are turned adrift, a dozen of them not having earned enough to support one family for a year, and a new gang is hired when the next harvest comes. The land that would support fifty families in comfort does not furnish wages to support five, and furnishes employment only for tramps without families.

It is the machine labor on our 100,000 bonanza farms—bonanzas to the capitalist owning them—that has brought the cost of an acre of wheat to $3.55, of corn to $3.15, of barley and oats to $2.87, as against four times that cost when cultivated by men and not machines.

The Plutocrats who have bought this Government from the Republican farmers of the country—paying for it by pandering to their ignorance and their biogotry—do not intend to let one independent farmer remain upon the land. Plutocracy has enslaved wage labor. It proposes to enslave and will enslave our independent farm labor.

The plutocratic mill-owners demanded and obtained in 1868 a decree that the surplus products of nearly 2,000,000 farmers shall be shut off from an exchange abroad for products that will compete with American mill machinery. The screws which at first were hardly felt have been put on harder aud harder, and now over 1,250,000 have lost their farms and are tenant farmers only, while twice that number are too heavily mortgaged to hold on for five years more under the sharp turn given by the McKinley tariff.

Can any man doubt that the order will be fully carried out, that our farm surplus will be destroyed and this number forced out of farming? Can any one point a way of salvation—a method of escape for them?

The plutocratic farm owners, using machinery entirely, who have driven the cost of producing wheat down to 18 cents per bushel, will continue the battle with those who remain. Farm by farm will pass into their hands, until a few thousand men will own the farming land of the United States, and the villeinage of the sixth century in Europe will be repeated here in America,

Reciprocity is a bunco. Its avowed object is to have the $200,000,000 in tropical products annually sent from South America to this country (to pay the notes held by our American farmers, or their agents, and taken by them in payment for their farm products sent to Europe) paid for in American machine products; but its real object is not so much to steal this small market from the farmer as to steal his home market. Here is a balance-sheet for 1890:

EUROPE.

	Imports.	Exports.
Merchandise	$449,987,266	$683,736,397
Gold and Silver	6,735,722	30,225,681

AMERICA.

Merchandise	238,374,850	132,853,058
Gold and Silver	23,159,826	6,155,576

—Report Bureau of Statistics p. xcii. and pp. 59-70.

These accounts were settled by transfers of credit—for no gold or silver was used or could be used, the bullion excess always going with the merchandise excess. But anyone who imagines that reciprocity seeks for the mill-owner only the $100,000,000 in the South American trade is deceived.

Europe sent the Spanish-Americas $1,100,000,000 of mill goods, receiving $900,000,000 in Spanish-American FARM products—its only exports—and took notes for $200,000,000, with which it purchased American farm products.

Our American mill-owners intend to capture this whole Spanish-American market for mill-goods, and to receive in payment for our American mill-goods the $900,000,000 in Spanish-American farm products now sent to Europe, as well as the $100,000,000 now coming here.

They are plotting for Billions, not Millions.

If any man doubts this I offer him the proof. Export and Finance is the name of a new weekly journal established in this city at 5 Bowling Green, "devoted to the financial interests of the manufacturers of the United States, and the exporters of South America." Under date of March 21 it sends out a prospectus which begins with this paragraph:

"Instead of the ELEVEN HUNDRED MILLIONS ($1,100,000,000) Dollars of Spanish-American commerce [farm products] annually going to build up and enrich the great commercial and manufacturing industries of England, France and Germany, these millions [in farm products] should all come to the United States. With earnest and patriotic effort we can secure them. *Every true American should lend a helping hand.*"

Every dollar of these "eleven hundred millions" represents farm products. Every dollar's worth of goods for which they are exchanged is the machine products of mills. Only two hundred million are tropical products which cannot be raised in the United States, and over nine hundred million dollars worth of these Spanish-American farm products will enter directly here into competition with our own, as they now do in Europe with our exports, being made up of breadstuffs, provisions, cotton, animals and other articles, the price of which is now driven down here to the lowest possible point because we raise more than we can consume.

In so many plain words this organ of the Plutocratic machine owners of our mills declare, that "with earnest and patriotic effort we (the Plutocratic owners of mill machines) can secure them" (these $1,100,000,000 worth of Spanish-American farm products) in exchange for our American machine products. A part of this plan was defeated by the Democratic Senators in the last Congress—the bill to give American machine products transportation to South America at the public expense. "Every true American should lend a helping hand," and the italics are its own, to dump this "eleven hundred millions" of farm products on us as the payment for American machine products, enabling our machine owners to supply the farm products as well as the machine products consumed in this country.

As the total value of the farm products consumed in the United States in 1880 was only $1,600,000,000, the Plutocratic bonanza machine farmers and mill machine owners propose to destroy every independent farmer and make every man in the United States either a machine lord or a wage slave. Let any man who doubts it write to Export and Finance, No. 5 Bowling Green, New York.

The American farmer must go. He has sold his birthright in freedom and independence for a bloody shirt and a British flag. Men are living who will see the day when every tiller of the soil will wear a serf's collar, unless something can be done to put a little manhood and a touch of self-respect into the Republican voters who "prefer to be buncoed rather than know the truth," and who "prefer to become serfs rather than believe the American mill owner is not their best friend."

As the wealth which could purchase armor and build a castle once enslaved the half naked and defenceless poor of Europe, so the wealth to-day which can buy machinery and dispense with human labor is bound within the next thirty years to enslave the people of the United States. From that there can be no escape for our grandchildren. Plutocracy will triumph again as it has always triumphed, and history will repeat itself on this continent as on every other.

Over 8,000,000 farmers, comprising a majority of the voters of the country, once formed a bulwark against which plutocracy might have dashed in vain. Each man was an independent sovereign, owning his land and lord of his acres. His product was all wages. There was practically no raw material, for that was air and sunlight, furnished free. The machinery used was his own, and its profits were added to his own wages. His farm labor furnished all he used or enjoyed, and when he exchanged his surplus corn for French silk or English broadcloth every cent of value in every yard of either represented his wages. He had made the silk or the broadcloth on his farm, out of seed and sunlight, in Nature's laboratory, at no other expense than his labor. When he sold the silk or the broadcloth to his fellow-citizens what he received for it was wages for his farm labor.

Capital controlling machinery first entered into competition against his farm surplus, to cut off his foreign wages received for labor for foreigners, but before doing so asked for Protection against the foreigner (!) who exchanged machine mill products for our farm surplus. He meant Protection against the exchange by the American farmer of his labor for foreign wages, not against the foreigner, and Congress, to Protect the Machine, fined the American farmer 50 per cent. on every exchange of his lalor products that entered into competition with American mill machinery products, and an average of 30 per cent. on every dollar his labor received in foreign wages.

How did this affect the labor market?

Originally, 1,000 bushels of wheat, representing at the most $100 for seed and interest, were exchanged for 1,000 yards of cloth worth $1,000—and $900 went to the farmer for wages and $100 for raw material and plant. Congress imposed a fine of $450, and what was left did not pay the farmer for his time.

Capital and machinery then made the cloth and supplied the demand. Only $200 was paid in wages to machine tenders, and the remainder was the earnings of the Machine and the cost of the imported raw material.

The farmer was euchred out of the market for his 1,000 bushels of corn (after the exchange), and $1,000 worth of farm labor—$900 to be exact—lost its profitable foreign employment.

The Machine and the capitalists got it all, but gave back some of it to the machine tender and a little to the producer of the raw material. But the Machine got the lion's share.

The farmer lost all. What he lost was divided between the Machine and other workmen, but what little the Machine left for labor did not help the farmer. Though the machine tender spent all his wages for extra food the farmer was a loser still of four-fifths.

Labor lost in wages what the Machine made for the machine owner.

Every machine built takes its profit out of the wages of labor. The Massachusetts Bureau of Labor Statistics presents some startling facts to show this.

COTTON FABRICS.

	1865.	1875.
Production in yards	175,875,934	874,780,784
Number of workers	24,151	31,707

WOOLEN GOODS.

Production in yards	46,008,141	90,208,280
Number of workers	18,753	11,550

BOOTS AND SHOES.

Number of pairs	31,870,581	59,762,866
Number of workers	52,821	28,854

The constant improvement in machinery is such that an increase of 500 per cent. per decade in the production increases the number of machine tenders only 25 per cent., while merely to increase the production 100 per cent. results in a reduction of the machine tenders by one-half.

When Nat Lud was ordered to set his needles he took a hammer and smashed his loom. The memory of "the Luddite days" has almost vanished, but if we in this generation had the sense that he had or the backbone that the Luddites had we would repeat them, even though the result should be the same.

But *revenons a nos moutons*—the sheep who "vote in Vermont." The gift of Protection to the Machines against his surplus farm labor was not enough to satisfy the Republican farmer. He gave it all he had—he surrendered the Government to it. He spurned all warnings, insulted every man who asked him to seriously think of what he was doing, and by his approval of reciprocity opened wide the gate for machine products to buy in South America three-fourths the farm products consumed in the United States.

The Machine now has him by the throat. His surplus farm labor has gone. His other farm labor within five years will be pitted squarely against the machinery of the bonanza farms, and the cheaper farm products of our neighbors bought with our machine mill products. In fifty years he will be a wage-slave to the Machine, a wage-slave working with a collar around his throat, in competition with Asiatics, as the mill-machine tenders in this country are now doing.

So will we all. The struggle between labor and the Machine outside of farming has been hopeless ever since the Republican farmer surrendered his mind and body, and with it the liberty of all the people, to the triumphant plutocracy.

There is only one way of salvation left for the farmer—a short, sharp and bloody one, beside which that of the French Revolution was child's play. But that way will never be his. The Republican farmer "prefers to be buncoed." He takes his anger out in talk and kisses the hand that smites—Protection in 1868 and Reciprocity in 1891.

The American Republic has been destroyed by the American farmer.

New York City. T. E. WILLSON.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

The "small holdings" bill which has just passed the House of Commons, and having the support of the Tories will probably pass the House of Lords, is a plain attempt of the landowning classes to stem the tide of land restoration sentiment. In order to prevent the whole people from taking all the land, they propose to increase the number of small landowners and strengthen the landlord element; at the same time they fill their own pockets at the public expense, for the small holdings have to be purchased from them. Under the provisions of the bill the local authorities are empowered to buy land and either sell it in small farms or let it in blocks not exceeding ten acres. In case of sale, the laborer who buys it must advance one-fourth of the purchase money. The remaining three-fourths will be lent him at 4 per cent. This corresponds exactly with the peasant proprietorship legislation for Ireland which Mr. Parnell and statesmen of his calibre advocate, and which has for the past half dozen years been enriching a few great Irish landlords, who, if their estates had not been purchased from them at the expense of the taxpapers, would, in a few years, have been glad to give their land away.

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GATESHEAD-ON-TYNE, Eng.—A correspondent of THE STANDARD, in attempting to show that a tax on land values cannot be shifted, argues thus:

"Suppose the ground rent of the United States to be $900,000,000; suppose the Single Tax adopted; something over $800,000,000 would then be collected: the landlords, it is said, would add this to their rents. Very well, then rents would be raised to $1,700,000,000. Rents are then doubled again and reach $3,300,000,000, and so on, until the whole productive power of the United States is absorbed."

This writer continues: "The idea that a landlord can add to his ground rents, taxes on ground rents, is transparently absurd. He can get no more than he now gets, for the plain reason that he now charges all for the rent of land which he can possibly get."

In replying to this, I ask the reader to turn to that refuge of the political economist, an island. Let it be owned by one man, and yield ten thousand tons of produce. Let the landlord take all the rent he can get, and let it be a thousand tons. Here, imagine some foreign invader takes possession of the island, and carries away from the landlord his thousand tons of produce; in short, applies the Single Tax to the owner of the soil in its extreme form. The whole produce of the island being ten thousand tons, and one being removed, nine thousand remain, and this the people require for sustenance. The result then of the Single Tax will be that the people continue as before at the verge of subsistence, whilst the landlord is a beggar. He cannot shift the tax for the reason given by the correspondent of THE STANDARD, that the laborers cannot subsist on less than what they already receive. If, however, the invading potentate should prove so magnanimous as to distribute the thousand tons which he takes from the landlord amongst the people, then, seeing that they now enjoy ten thousand tons instead of nine, they can spare the old rent, and the landlord will be able to obtain it. The relative wealth of this landlord and his tenants becomes again exactly the same as at first—he has a thousand tons, and they the other nine. There is no doubling and redoubling as the correspon- of THE STANDARD supposes.

Applying this illustrative argument to the remission of taxation, let us suppose the taxes of our island to absorb a thousand tons of produce, the landlord to take a thousand and the people to subsist on the remaining eight thousand. Suppose such a change to be made in the laws as that the expenses of government are to be discharged by a Single Tax on land values. The result would be that the people, having no longer to give a thousand tons in taxation, would enjoy nine thousand instead of eight, and the landlord would have nothing. But the landlord would be able to recoup himself, because the people have now a thousand tons of produce more than they need, and, as your correspondent says, he takes all that he can get. He will demand this surplus thousand and will get it; with the result that the relative positon of landlord and tenants remains the same as at first, viz.: The landlord receives a thousand tons, the people eight thousand, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer a thousand.

This result is stated in exact terms by Henry George, "Progress and Foverty," book vi., ch. 1.: "A reduction in the amount taken from the aggregate produce of a community by taxation would simply be equivalent to an increase in the power of net production. It would, in effect, add to the productive power of labor just as do the increasing density of population and improvement in the arts. And as the advantage in the one case goes, and must go, to the owners of land in increased rent, so would the advantage in the other."

It appears to me that whilst the Single Tax is the specific remedy in the case of unused land held for a rise, it will fail if applied to other land, and for the same reason, namely, that in the one case there are no tenants to fall back upon, but in the other there are tenants have been enriched by a remission of taxation to the amount which which the landlord has lost. I. ELLIS.

Assume that the people remain as they were, and that the landlord is a beggar, and what do you prove except that a landlord's power to exact rent is as disastrous as a foreign invasion. Let the invader distribute the produce, as suggested, among the people, and if the landlord retains his power, he will take it from them. The Single Tax aims to deprive him of that power.

In the next instance our clerical critic brings in the element of taxation, not mentioned in the first. He supposes that the people subsist on 8,000 tons, pay 1,000 in taxes, and 1,000 in rent. The taxes are imposed on land values, and the people are relieved of that charge, which is thenceforward borne by the landlord. As the people now save 1,000 tons, the landlord will take that and thus recoup himself. Mr. Ellis invents a case that assumes there is no unoccupied land, and leaves out the possibility of emigration, and it therefore is not a practical one, but even then it presents no serious obstacle. The people must, in such a case as supposed, purposely increase the services rendered by government so as to absorb all of the rent paid to the landlord, as such, as well as that paid through him in taxes—that is, 2,000 tons. Then they will eliminate landlordism, and that is the very object of the Single Tax. In the case supposed, they would find an apparently simpler solution by throwing the landlord overboard and letting each man keep what he had paid him, but they would soon discover that rents still existed, and that those who held the choicer locations would be able to command labor for which they rendered no equivalent. They would then discover that what is needed is not to eliminate the landlord but landlordism. Mr. Ellis seems to assume that this is impossible, and to base his objection on that assumption. The tenants who at first find themselves "enriched by a remission of taxation to the amount which the landlord has lost," would surely be idiots if they did not carry the process further and prevent the landlord from recouping himself by robbing them again. This they would do by using the common income for the common good, instead of allowing individuals to scramble for or seize it. Rent does not belong to individuals. It belongs to the community. When the community takes it, it deprives one man of the power to command another's services without rendering an equivalent, thus insuring general productiveness under conditions of access to natural opportunities that will increase the individual product and raise greatly the standard of living. This seems to us so plain that we cannot easily see what the Rev. Mr. Ellis is bothering himself about. We sometimes have a fear that a modern people who regard such an anachronism as royalty as indispensable cannot get such a violation of tradition as the abolition of landlordism before their minds even as a working hypothesis. It seems to them as "unthinkable" as the "fourth dimension in space." Until this difficulty is overcome they will never understand the Single Tax or comprehend its methods and objects.

* * * *

New schemes to pick up an honest dollar are being constantly devised as our civilization advances. A. N. Lockwood, president of an accident insurance company in this city, says that since the accident companies offered an indemnity of two thousand five hundred dollars for the loss of a hand or foot there has been a great increase in the number of accidents to the left hand; so many, indeed, that it was found that people were maiming themselves to get the insurance. Finally, the companies were forced to offer a less sum for the left hand than for the right, since which time there has been a decrease of 80 per cent. in this variety of accidents. Now the companies contemplate eliminating the leg and arm indemnity clause from their policies, for self-protection. Mr. Lockwood says there are more insurance cripples in the country to-day than war cripples. Out in Minnesota some enterprising citizens have started wolf farms and have gone into the business of breeding that most undesirable animal in order to get a bounty of five dollars a head, which the State has offered with a view to exterminating them. The wolf breeders say that it pays better than raising wheat.

* * * *

The Memphis Appeal-Avalanche points with bitterness to the fact that the "land barons" of that city rule it for their own benefit and to the detriment of the balance of its citizens. It says these "barons" stand in the way of improving the city, and at the same time devise schemes for reducing the valuation of their properties. They will neither build themselves nor permit others to do so, until they receive their price. It is not only the "land barons" of Memphi

who stand in the way of the march of improvement. "Land barons" are the same the world over. Can the Appeal suggest a way to cut the claws of its "land barons?"

* * * *

Even Broadway business men can "see the cat" when it is stuck right in front of their eyes. Rents are so high on lower Broadway that office locations are being sought for in the intersecting streets. Of course, business men can see the advantage of having an office in the great thoroughfare, but the owners of Broadway lands can see the advantage also, and they want the business men to pay for it as well as for the ground they occupy. As a rule, these same business men are opposed to "the Henry George theory of confiscation," even while they grumble at the extortionate demands of the landlords.

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The New York World wants to know if it is McKinley wages or the general blessings of tax-promoted prosperity for "American labor" that have led to the rioting and bloodshed in Pennsylvania.

* * * *

The Rhode Island Single Tax State Committee has issued an address to the people of the State, showing how the Single Tax would work there. It shows that by taking taxes off of manufactures, that that branch of industry would be largely increased, thus making work for hands that are now idle; that it would put an end to speculation in land, cheaper the necessaries of life, give homes to the people and increase the returns to capital.

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W. S. Harthan, of Selma, Ala., declares that he would not do without THE STANDARD if it costs $10 per annum. He thinks there is a grand future before the paper.

* * * *

In the course of some testimony in a contested election case at Greensboro, Ala., two of the most intelligent negro witnesses in behalf of the Republican contestant were asked why they belonged to the Republican party. They replied that it was because that party was in favor of a high tariff. When further asked how that benefited them they declared that a high tariff gives this country Free Trade with England and thereby makes goods cheap. These negroes are about as intelligent as other workingmen who advocate the system with a better understanding of its objects.

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The friends of Major McKinley say that he will force the tariff question to the front in Ohio, and will make his campaign for Governor on that issue. How would Governor Hill meet the issue if he were the candidate in opposition? Many Democrats would like to know.

* * * *

The Indianapolis Sentinel thinks that Charles A. Dana, by his approval of the Single Tax idea, has placed a "hoodoo" upon it. We hope not.

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The firm of John Wannamaker, of Philadelphia, is suing the Government for a refund of alleged excessive duties on hat trimmings.

* * * *

The American Protective Tariff people are going to have a strictly American dinner at Madison Square Garden on the evening of Wednesday, April 29th. The dishes and food and everything are to be of native production. The presumption is that the guests will be native products also. If so, the editor of the Press, Robert P. Porter, and the great advocate of American tin, John Jarrett, will be left out of the list. Mr. Wakeman, who is getting up the thing, says he is encountering much difficulty in getting strictly Yankee material for the banquet; but nothwithstanding this, everything—so he told the Mail and Express—will be of "domestic make." The preparations for the dinner and the dinner itself, will be watched with interest.

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There is a rumor abroad that the Sugar Trust and Claus Speckels have come to an "understanding" by which the trust is to control the sugar trade east of the Missouri River, while Spreckles will control all west of that line. This may mean higher prices for sugar.

* * * *

The complaint is general throughout the city of Chicago that rents are being unreasonably raised. This is in anticipation of the pressure of business and increase of population during the coming World's Fair. Landlords are far-sighted, as has perhaps been heretofore observed.

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The Iroquois Club, of San Francisco, Cal., celebrated Jefferson's birthday on April 2. Judge James G. Maguire delivered the principal address.

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After a fight on the "plan of campaign," lasting seven years, the tenants on the Tower Hill estate in Limerick and Glensharold have yielded to the landlord's terms. The split in the Irish Parliamentary party was the cause of the surrender.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

OUR SERVANT GIRLS.

Editor of THE STANDARD—SIR: Captain Codman has taken issue with Mr. Kenneth Cranford because of the latter's emphatic pride in our American young women's democratic independence in preferring to serve in stores as salesladies at small wages and smaller comfort, to serving in our houses as domestics. There must be grades in society, exclaims the Captain, and there must be discipline. He, himself, has served before the mast and risen to command; why not let the girls serve the same way in our houses and rise to be mistresses?

Evidently the Captain, this time, is steering the wrong course. Our shopgirls nowise rebel against discipline, on the contrary they cheerfully accept the rigorous discipline of the stores. What they do despise, and what in my estimation they justly refuse to take to, is the menial servitude in our homes. The Captain confounds the condition of a sailor with that of a servant. Was he a menial in serving before the mast? Indeed not. Are our domestics menials? Decidedly they are. Nearly every personal servant is a menial. House servants are expected to be all the time on the alert and to quickly execute any order given, almost at any time inside of waking hours, by almost any member of the family down to the youngest "Miss," likewise to bear with angelic temper the ill-humor or the just, or may be unjust, rebuke of anyone in the house, notably of the mistress. After having come up to all requirements they are, over and above, expected to take a "real interest" in the family. Our servant girls, in the better (read richer) families, are also required to wear caps, if they are nurses—Alsatian caps with bow and ribbons to match.

In the case of a man-servant he must often be dresssd up in livery and buttons, like a monkey in the circus, or, if on the box, he must often appear as a well groomed and very furry black bear, trapped out in a pair of excruciatingly tight white buckskin pants. Of these lackeys it is required that they shall combine the precision and the woodiness of a soldier in their bearing. It would seem that, to make their slavery still more visible, only one more step were left—branding.

Now let us see what they get in return? Mostly dark, unwholesome kitchens, narrow quarters for sleeping and a rather moderate allowance of the sight of their friends. When sick they get our sympathy and help, but when well, they neither want nor get our sympathy, and thus there is no community of feeling between them and us. But they get something else—wages. We buy and they sell their labor, and there is so far an identity of interest, solely based, though, on the vilest of motives—money.

Now, things were formerly not in this deplorable condition, when the demand for help outran the supply. We find a better state of things even in our days in the country. There labor is still scarce and the neighboring farmer's daughter has to be coaxed to come as help; there the servant is not looked upon as the inferior and the obliged party; there a true interest is taken reciprocally, good will is manifested, and thus is personal servitude made bearable and honorable.

The fact is that mutual satisfaction of mistress and maid can exist only where there is clearly recognized an equality of obligation, mutually conferred and accepted. Then there arises a true identity of interests and a true sympathy between both parties. Then labor will be properly rewarded, and not merely by wages; then labor will be more cheerfully and more perfectly performed. This balance of obligations is the true foundation for harmonious working.

Suppose, now, we could induce our American-born girls to serve as domestics, we still would find them in education and in purposes of life inferior to most of their mistresses. They would likewise be their inferiors in leisure and enjoyments, as the burden of the housework is theirs. These facts make servants the weaker party. And reform as we may, such weaker party will always exist. For there will always be a relatively large number of persons in the world, who, by reason of poverty of both means and mind, must serve others, and very often even without chance or ability to rise.

The moment that this is universally recognized, the sense of duty of the stronger party toward the weaker one will awake too, and mistresses will treat their servants in a humane way, let me say with a sisterly consideration and with a real interest in their welfare. They will find pleasure in giving as much consideration as they claim. "Discipline" and "rules" will certainly continue as necessary and elementary lines for good and efficient work, but as they will be cheerfully borne, and with a sense by either side of their necessity, personal servitude will have lost its menial character and the best of mistresses will have the best of servants.

"A golden dream?" No dream at all. Not half as difficult to accomplish as was the emancipation of our slaves; and this menial servitude is only the remnant of former slave holding. No work, not even the work on shipboard, need be continued in a brutal and barbarous way.

There is in this reform, though, one unfavorable feature; no individual woman can set out to act by herself alone. If she undertook to soften and rationalize the condition of her servant, she not only would be ridiculous in the eyes of "society," but her servant would not believe in the strange change, and her efforts would fall dead.

On the other hand, here is a fair field for women to act as a class, and their leaders, the women's associations all over our country, could hardly find a finer task than "the improvement of mistresses." They would surely find, when sitting in council, the best means to effect this improvement. Nor would they afterwards have to solve the problem of the "improvement of servants," since that would follow naturally all of itself.

Single Taxers might say: "Wait for the coming of the Single Tax, that will increase the number of masters, lessen the number of servants, make labor more appreciated, elevate all classes in spirit, and bring them nearer to one another. The Single Tax reforms both mistress and maid."

Very true. But why wait for the distant good time coming when half of its effect, so far as this *menialism* is concerned, can be secured right here in our present day?

New York City. SIMON MENDELSON.

SPENCER'S VOLUNTARY IGNORANCE.

Editor of THE STANDARD—SIR: Apropos of Mr. Herbert Spencer's alleged remark to Mr. Carnegie quoted in your issue: It may be remarked that it seems probable that Mr. Spencer did "throw down George's work as trash after reading a little."

In "The Coming Slavery," one of Mr. Spencer's later works, read: "There is the movement for land nationalization which, arriving at a system of land tenure equitable in the abstract is, as all the world knows, pressed by Mr. George and his friends with avowed disregard for the just claims of existing owners, and as the basis of a scheme going more than half way to State Socialism." "A little ignorance is a dangerous thing."

NEW YORK, April 6. BOLTON HALL.

CURRENT THOUGHT.

WHAT CAN WE DO FOR THE POOR?

This is the title of the leading article in the April number of the *Forum*. It is by the Rev. Dr. W. S. Rainsford, who regards poverty as the inevitable condition of the unfortunate Some, to be rationally relieved by the fortunate Others. If poverty is a child of injustice, Mr. Rainsford does not see the relationship; or, seeing it, he does not choose to declare the fact. His paper runs along, with eloquence and tenderness, but superficially and therefore without force, somewhat like this:

It was once supposed that the New World could be spared the discipline of poverty. We know now that it could not be. Gradually the rich became richer and the poor poorer, and all men with eyes and ears know now that in our national future, poverty must play its part.

The questions it forces on us can no longer be laid aside. Though we may not be able to uproot poverty's bitter thistle crop, we can clear parts of the field; but any effort worth making must deal with the sources whence the tide of poverty springs. Foremost among these is the apathy of the poor regarding their own condition. They will not help themselves. Another source is drunkenness, which is largely provoked by tenement house surroundings. To grapple with poverty we must grapple with these sources. Since we cannot abolish the tenement house we must improve it. We need Peabody funds on a large scale. There must be such a state of aroused feeling and awakened conscience, of common pity and justice, as will lead our rich men to recognize the awful needs of the huddled masses. The rich must lead the way in giving air and breathing space, baths and recreation grounds, instead of devoting vast fortunes to the endowment of a degenerating offspring.

But after all outside aid, radical improvement would be impossible without a co-operating force among the poor themselves. This must be the work of the Christian Church in all her branches. Ethical movements are not sufficient. They are doubtful as to a personal immortality, and all who enter the lists in their struggle with woe and sin must realize that if this life is all, then the goal is not worth the struggle. The church believes in the value of man because in him, be he never so fallen, she sees a spark of everlastingness. She professes to accept her Master's commands. He never contemplated the abolition of all poverty, but He distinctly commanded that men should draw near to each other, forgetting those things that for a short time made them differ. This we believe; yet our rich men hear little in the public teaching of their churches to make them feel that it is their duty to give money to bring about conditions where a civilized life is possible to the thousands whose hands have helped to pile up their fortunes. They are not taught, as they should be, that their wealth is literally not their own. Two or three large free churches, built on cleared spaces, on east and west down town sites, always open to the public, provided with real preachers, having each a large kindergarten, a swimming bath, and a gymnasium, and adequately supported and endowed, would be a stride in the right direction. Near these churches a band of unmarried clergy and picked lay workers should live, undertaking duty for a stated time, and under their control all these accessories of civilization could be placed. This would cost money; but it would right the churches in the eyes of the working people, and to right the church in the eyes of the working people is the duty of the hour.

Soon or late the State will be obliged to institute great changes. Philanthropy can never altogather remove evils that one day we shall unite in regarding as intolerable. But the duty of the hour is to bridge a fast widening and fast deepening gulf that divides the rich from the poor. Legislation will amount to little till it shall be the practical voicing of an aroused public conscience. To awaken and educate man's sense of duty to his fellow is the work of the Church of God.

BALLOT REFORM.

THE HONOR BELONGS TO JUDGE MAGUIRE.

The San Francisco Star declares that the honor of the victory for ballot reform in California "is fairly due to Judge Maguire, as was the honor of winning Waterloo to Wellington, of taking Vicksburg to Grant," and it adds, "it is safe to say that had not Judge Maguire at great loss and sacrifice of his business interests gone to Sacramento and watched the progress of the bill, it would not now be upon the statute books of the State." The Star truly says that the Judge is as much entitled to the public triumph as were the ancient generals of Rome, who won victories for the Republic on the battlefield. It prints in full his report to the Council of Federated Trades of San Francisco, whom he represented before the Legislature. The pressure on our columns and the necessarily local character of the report prevents us from printing it in full, but its salient features are of general interest and their presentation is full of encouragement for workers in behalf of this reform in States that have not adopted it.

The Judge says that a little more than two years ago a committee of the Federated Trades asked his assistance in the preparation of an Australian election law for presentation to the Legislature in 1889. For a year before that time he had been a constant advocate of the measure, but had not entertained any hope of its speedy adoption. At that time it was chiefly known to the people of the United States through its advocacy by Henry George in THE STANDARD and the article on the subject by Allen Thorndike Rice in the North American Review. It had already been adopted in Massachusetts for general purposes and in Kentucky for city elections only, but it had not yet been tried in either of the States. The Single Tax Society had previously engaged in propaganda work in its favor in California, but the first organized effort in its behalf was that of the Federated Trades. The report described the corrupt and sordid condition of California politics at the time, and says that the duties devolving on the Judge, who was then closing up his judicial labors on the eve of his retiremont from the bench, prevented him from drafting the bill; but at his suggestion Mr. Joseph Leggett devoted himself with untiring zeal to the work and prepared the first draft of the Ballot Reform bill presented to the Legislature. This bill was approved by the Federated Trades, and the Young Men's Democratic League of California subsequently became interested and joined in a revision of the measure and its presentation to the Legislature. Judge Maguire went to Sacramento, and he and others were accorded a hearing by the Committee on Elections, and the Judge delivered a public lecture on the subject in the Assembly Chamber. The result was an almost unanimous favorable report from the committee and the passage of the bill in the Assembly by a large majority. This, however, so alarmed the political bosses that they secured a reconsideration of the vote and had the whole matter referred to a new joint committee, which again, despite much opposition, reported in favor of the bill. A minority report in favor of the inadequate measure known as the Story bill was, however, adopted, and it was impossible to again get a vote at that session on the Australian bill in either House. The agitation continued, and in May last a committee of the Federated Trades again asked Judge Maguire's advice and assistance in the preparation of a new bill to be submitted to the political conventions of both parties, and to the Legislature at its next session. The California State Grange of Patrons of Husbandry appointed a committee to co-operate with that of the Federated Trades, and a bill was finally prepared which the Republican State Convention repudiated, while the Democratic State Convention pledged the party to support a measure embracing all the substantial features of the new bill. The Republicans, however, promptly realized their mistake, and their local conventions, in nominating members of the Legislature, endorsed the pending measure. In addition to this, the joint committee of the associations interested sent pledges to individual

members who promptly gave the required promise; and, when the Legislature met, a majority of its members were pledged to pass the bill. Notwithstanding this, the political bosses made an effort to defeat the measure, and a number of the members deliberately defied their pledges, and some of them announced their intention to vote against the bill. The outburst of wrath and contempt against these pledge-breakers called a halt to this movement, whereupon Henry C. Dibble, of San Francisco, induced many of the pledged members to absent themselves from the State capital, and then tried to force a vote upon the bill at a time when it was sure to lack a constitutional majority. This attempt was in turn defeated, and when members could no longer dodge, and the passage of the measure was manifestly assured, it received almost the unanimous vote of both houses and became a law, with an amendment tacked to it, however, that largely increased the number of qualified voters required to make independent nominations. The Governor signed the bill on March 27, and Judge Maguire on that evening made his report.

Master Workman Powderly has published an open letter in the Scranton, Pa., Truth, in which he declares that the Baker Ballot Reform bill now before the Legislature at Harrisburg does not meet the demands of the working men in that direction.

Elections under the Australian system were held in Nebraska last Wednesday. Reports from nearly every city and village in the State indicate that the law is one of the best ever devised. General routine work of receiving and counting the ballots has been greatly expedited.

The New Hampshire State Senate, on Wednesday last, passed, under suspension of the rules, the Australian bill as it came from the House.

THE QUESTION OF TAXATION.

CONGRESSMEN CLOVER A REAL FREE TRADER.

Hon. B. H. Clover, Vice-President of the National Farmers' Alliance, and one of the People's party Congressmen from Kansas, sent a letter to the Cooper Union Free Trade meeting, which arrived too late to be read, but is too good to be lost. Here it is:

NATIONAL FARMERS' ALLIANCE AND INDUSTRIAL UNION.

PRESIDENT, L. L. POLK, D. C.
VICE-PRESIDENT, B. H. CLOVER, Cambridge, Kansas.
SEC'Y-TREASURER, J. H. TURNER, Washington, D. C.
SECRETARY, J. F. WILLETS, McLouth, Kan.

OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT,
CAMBRIDGE, Kansas, April 2d, 1891.

Hon. LOUIS F. POST, President Single Tax Club, New York.

DEAR SIR: Your kind note was received too late to reply before your meeting in interest of "Free Trade."

I do most heartily concur in the sentiment of your short address to the "Free Traders of New York."

I certainly am of opinion that it is high time the "parleying" with public robbers be stopped. There may be a question as to the expediency of going immediately to absolute "Free Trade," but the fact that Free Trade is the natural condition of business is beyond all doubt, and it is only a question of *when*. Pat took his dog's tail off a joint at a time, because he said "he would hurt the poor 'baste' so to take it all off to 'wanct.'" Shall we take it all off "to wanct" or a joint at a time?

Blaine's idea of trading off the pieces will be a prominent issue in the next campaign. It is only a subterfuge to aid in the continuance of the iniquity still longer under misleading names.

The "protection of the laborer" is the veriest nonsense. Monopolistic machinery is protected ten dollars to labor's one, if the assertion were true that the tariff does protect labor. The Democrats seem to be disposed to let "Tariff Reform" rest except as to a few articles. The world was made round and is in the very best possible shape for the people to have free and unrestricted intercourse with each other, and the inhabitants of one climate need the products of other climates, and such products are necessary to their health, happiness and well being.

As soon as some method of keeping up Government expenses is devised the whole thing ought to *go*.

Send me report of your meeting and all information bearing on the subject. Yours truly, B. H. CLOVER.

SINGLE TAX IN RHODE ISLAND.

In the Rhode Island Senate a week ago to-day, the Single Tax occupied the attention of that body for nearly an hour. Senator Garvin, early in the session, had introduced an amendment to a chapter of the Revised Statutes providing for the exemption from taxation of personal property and improvements. The committee to whom the bill had been referred reported in favor of postponing action for a year. Mr. Garvin called the bill from the table, and made an address in its behalf, which the Providence Journal says "The Senate listened to with patience and courtesy, and then consigned to the May session." This kills the bill. In his address the Senator brought out a number of good points. He referred to the decrease in the value of farm lands in New England during the last decade, and from that argued that a change of this nature was necessary to ameliorate this conditions of affairs. Farms in Connecticut do not pay more than $38 per year over and above expenses. The reason was that the industrial population are treated as criminals. If a man builds a respectable house he is fined say $20 per year as long as he holds the property. A sufficient revenue could be raised without any such imposition. The Senator read from an article written by President Andrews, of Brown University, showing that the Single Tax system would relieve the farmer of a considerable portion of the present burden of taxation. In the State of Rhode Island a land value of $100,000,000 has been created. About half of this value is in the city of Providence; the greater portion of the remainder is in the manufacturing villages, and very little in the hillside farms. By the adoption of this system the condition of the manufacturers would also be improved. Reading from the tax book of the town of Warwick, he showed that under a Single Tax the taxation of the large manufacturing establishments would be greatly reduced. The amount to make up this reduction would come from the taxation of vacant lands in the town of Warwick. With mills, machinery and personal property free from taxation, there would be a great incentive for manufacturers to locate in this State. It would be saying to the manufacturers, you can get land more cheaply and centrally located, because the tax on land values would cheapen land and place on the market vacant lots now held for speculation.

THE PENNSYLVANIA LAW.

Mr. H. C. Lea, a prominent merchant of Philadelphia, has written a letter to the Pennsylvania Legislature vigorously protesting against the passage of a bill to list and tax personal property. Mr. Lea is a large owner of real estate and a very small owner of personal property, which makes his letter all the stronger. He says:

As a heavy taxpayer I have naturally given the subject of taxation some thought for many years past, and my conviction is settled that real property is the surest and fairest basis on which to levy the public revenue. It cannot elude the Assessor, as the great bulk of personal property can; its value can be estimated with reasonable accuracy, and is not subject to violent or sudden fluctuations. The difference between land at $25 an acre and $25 a square foot is simply that the latter is surrounded by capital and business, while the former is remote from these sources of value. Of all classes in the commuity, the land-owner is the one most interested in having capital and business untrammeled to earn the largest profits. He gets, sooner or later, his share in those profits, and it is suicidal for him to drive away that which alone gives his land its special value over Government lands in the territories.

The bill provides for a complete inventory of the personal effects of every person, firm and corporation, including household furniture and tools, and then provides that the inventories shall be printed and distributed to all the taxpayers, so that each one may play the spy on his neighbor and see whether he has made a true return or not. As there are 225,000 taxable persons in Philadelphia, the lists would fill several volumes, so that each person would have a small library presented to him every year at the public expense, consisting of a detailed statement of everybody's assets and liabilities.

DETROIT LAND OWNERS SQUEALING.

THE STANDARD said last week that the holders of acre property in Detroit, Mich., were "bursting with indignation" over the action of the City Assessor in raising the assessment on their property to something nearer its real value than had ever been the case before. A late number of the Detroit Journal has come to hand, which not only confirms the report about the "indignation," but tells of one large property owner, Wm. G. Thompson by name, who declares that he is on the warpath, where he intends to stay until he has the political scalp of City Assessor Perren, who is the cause of Mr. Thompson's woes. Thompson is mad clear through. He met Mr. Perren yesterday, says the Journal, and the ex-Mayor and land agent began to use unclassical combinations of words:

"Say, see here, Perren," he said, in effect, "you raised the valuation of a certain tract of land $100,000 last year, and now I understand you have tacked on $100,000 more this year? Why——you know we can't stand that. *I'll see that you don't remain Assessor long.*"

"Oh, it is more than $100,000," said Mr. Perren, with his characteristically pleasant smile and quiet manner. "The exact figures are $162,000."

Language is inadequate to express Thompson's state of mind at this frank statement and his threats of vengeance against Assessor Perren. It takes nerve to run up against such aggregations of wealth as the Brush estate, says the Journal, but Mr. Perren is equal to any occasion. He told Thompson that the property was assessed at the same values as surrounding property; that he knew what it is worth, and he guessed there ought to be no objection to the valuation.

The Journal says that Thompson, at the time of this colloquy, did not know the whole truth. There is other property belonging to the Brush estate, and Mr. Thompson did not know, when he met Mr. Perren, that that had also been assessed higher than the year before. Thompson was indignant at the hundred thousand increase on one piece of property, whereas the assessment on the entire

estate had been raised $300,000 over last year. One piece of ninety-six acres was raised from $88,000 to $154,000; and Mr. Perren thinks it will stand.

The Journal gives in detail the increase in the assessments of a large amount of property in Detroit, and shows that the total increase will reach $12,000,000.

James A. Randall, one of the large property owners affected, takes the matter philosophically. He owns 106 vacant lots, which in 1881 were assessed at $5,000. This year he will without a kick pay taxes on a valuation of $123,760, a jump of 2,400 per cent. in ten years, and it is possible that even this does not represent the full increase in value that has taken place in those lots in that time. It ought to be a great object lesson for the Detroit people.

The trouble about assessments is not all on land; some of it is on the water. Under the law the Detroit Assessors have to tax all vessels registered in that port. For some years past this law has been more honored in the breach than in the observance; but this year Assessor Perren, evidently not desiring to be caught by the land owners in an infringement of the law, has put the lake vessels on the tax roll on a basis of 25 per cent. of their value. The ship owners are very angry about it, and threaten to move to a town called Hamtranck, where they will escape local taxation altogether. One man, who owns vessels worth not less than $1,000,000, told Mr. Perren that if he did not reduce the valuation on them to at most $100,000, he would move his vessels immediately and not pay a cent. Mr. Perren said that it could not be done, and as the vessels will go to Hamtranck, Mr. Perren recognizes that Detroit will lose much of its shipping because of its foolish tax laws; he says he would not tax vessels if he could help himself, but "What can we Assessors do about it?" The personal property tax advocates ought to see the moral in the Assessor's remark.

NATIONAL BANK NOTES ARE TAXABLE.

Judge Brannon, of the District Court of Jackson County, Iowa, last week rendered a decision regarding the taxation of national bank notes which is of national interest. The case is that of L. B. Dunham against the city of Maquoketa, on appeal. In rendering his decision Judge Brannon said:

The appellent is engaged in the business of banking in Maquoketa. The Assessor returned as personal property of appellant subject to municipal taxation the sum of $15,000. The Board of Equalization of the city raised the assessment to $25,000. It is conceded that the Assessor in making his assessment left the sum of $10,000 in national bank notes on the theory that they were not subject to municipal taxation. The Board of Equalization took the opposite view and added this sum to the amount returned by the Assessor, thus raising the assessment to $25,000. From the action of the board in thus raising the assessment an appeal was taken to this court. Counsel on both sides concede that the only question to be determined on this appeal is whether national bank notes are or are not subject to municipal taxation. If they are, then the increased assessment made by the Board of Equalization is to stand: if they are not, then such increase is to be set aside.

National bank notes are not in any just and proper sense obligations of the United States. They show upon their face that they are the obligations of particular banks, to whom they have been delivered and by whom they have been put in circulation. The Government is bound for their ultimate redemption, but this redemption is not made by the Government out of its own funds, but out of the proceeds of sales of Government bonds belonging to the banks, and by them deposited with the Government as a security for such redemption. The duty of the banks to redeem their own circulation rests primarily upon them, and it is only when a bank fails or refuses to redeem its own circulation that the Government can be called upon to make such redemption, and this, as has been stated, it does out of the proceeds of the sales of the bonds deposited with it by the bank to secure such redemption.

The law of this State declares bank bills to be taxable. The circulation notes of national banks are neither more nor less than bank bills. There is nothing in the laws of this State that would exempt them from taxation, and nothing in the acts of Congress properly considered that would prohibit such taxation.

My conclusion is that the action of the Board of Equalization in raising the assessment of the appellant to $25,000 was justified both by the law and the facts, and is authorized by the law of our own State, which makes bank bills subject to taxation.

Senator Erwin's listing bill will be the special order in the Albany Senate to-day.

The Stein bill (for county option) was the special order last Wednesday, but because of the absence of Mr. Stein it was laid on the table. This action puts the bill at the foot of the calendar.

GOVERNOR HILL'S LETTER.

While Governor Hill's letter to the recent Free Trade meeting did not so much as mention Protection, the comments on it by Free Trade papers are hostile, while those of so-called Democratic Protectionists are favorable. The *Sun* gave the key-note to the latter. This difference is made manifest in the following extracts:

HILL'S ORGAN FOR PROTECTION.

Albany Times.

Governor Hill is not one of those who construe the recent overwhelming Democratic victories throughout the country as a demand for Free Trade. He sees in them a protest against Protection carried to extremes, and against gross favoritism to certain petted indus-tries, but not a demand for unlimited Free Trade and the breaking down of all barriers erected for the protection of American industries. Such a policy he plainly and unhesitatingly pronounces "suicidal;" and in thus characterizing it he unquestionably reflects the sentiments of the great body of New York Democrats, whose acknowledged leader he is.

HILL IS AN ASS.

Kansas City Star.

David B. Hill, the New York politician, is determined to make himself conspicuous even if, like Dogberry, it is necessary for him to go on record as an ass in order to achieve notoriety. He has had abundant opportunity to justify a claim to prominence by making himself useful, but he has evidently neither the capacity nor the desire to put himself forward in that way. He succeeded as Governor a man who acquired a national reputation as a practical reformer, but instead of following in Grover Cleveland's footsteps, he has allied himself with the worst elements of his party. He has been elected to the United States Senate, but holds to the office of Governor with a death-like grip till it shall be necessary to go to Washington. His single aim seems to be to convince the country that he is the opposite of Grover Cleveland in every way, and in pursuance of this policy he addressed a letter to a Free Trade mass meeting in New York City in opposition to its purpose, which was received with hisses when it was read. It is full of commonplaces and citations from the Democratic platforms of past years, with the purpose of drawing the cut-and-dried distinction between Free Trade and Tariff Reform. It is easy to read between the lines that the writer is simply a "trimmer" on this as on all other public questions, and willing to be all things to all men for political gain. All such utterances are calculated at this time to discourage the public impulse for the nearest practical approach to commercial freedom, to promote which is the present mission of the Democratic party and the only policy with which it can hope to regain power. Mr. Hill is very fond of proclaiming himself "a Democrat" on all possible occasions, but he is a good deal more of a jackass.

HILL UNWITTINGLY INDORSES CLEVELAND.

New York Times.

It appears to us that Governor Hill not only missed his mark, but stumbled headlong into one of those pitfalls that his home organ declares he makes it the study of his life to avoid. He indorses, approves and accepts the Democratic platform of 1888. But that platform at its very head, front and beginning "reaffirms the platform adopted by the representatives in the convention of 1884 and indorses the views expressed by President Cleveland in his last earnest message to Congress as the correct interpretation of that platform upon the question of tariff reduction."

How effusive and warm will be Governor Hill's thanks to Mr. Post for giving him an opportunity to write a letter recognizing Mr. Cleveland as the authoritative expositor of Democratic tariff doctrines.

REPUBLICAN ADMIRATION.

St Paul (Minn.) Dispatch.

Governor Hill declines to sanction Free Trade, "no matter by whom instigated or championed." This declaration, if it means anything, means that if his party thinks proper to hoist the Stuffed Prophet again on a Free Trade platform for the worship of Democrats, Governor Hill will refuse to take part in the ceremony.

PEANUT POLITICS.

St. Louis Republic.

The Democratic party is a Low Tariff party, not a No Tariff party, but Mr. David B. Hill utterly fails when he tries to make this an excuse for his insolent letter to a Free Trade organization which invited him to address it.

The Free Traders are not running the Federal Government. Of all the evils of the Governmental system not one is due to Free Trade or Free Traders. Free Trade there is none, and the Free Traders have nothing to do with government.

But it is characteristic of Mr. David B. Hill that he should prefer to attack them rather than such manifestations of Radicalism as the McKinley Tariff bill, the attempted Force bill, and the looting of a thousand million dollars from the people as a part of the system of levying taxes to prevent trade.

Mr. Hill's platform is, "I am a Democrat," but no Democrat could ever defend any tax as a blessing in itself. Democrats believe in the least possible taxation compatible with the maintenance of government effective for keeping the peace. They believe in the freest possible trade compatible with this amount of taxation. Their antagonists are not those who want lower taxes, but those who insist on using the taxing power as an agency of extortion.

But in order to curry favor with the Plutocratic element Mr. Hill practically informs Free Traders that he withdraws his consent to their voting the Democratic ticket, and that if they vote against Republicanism hereafter they must do it over his veto.

This is the Peanut in politics with a vengeance.

THE LETTER'S DISTINGUISHISHING FEATURE.

Rochester Post-Express.

The peculiarity of the letter is that in seeming to lash men who called this mass meeting, Governor Hill was no doubt aiming at others—the Free Trade recruits to the Democratic party and Mr. Cleveland.

HOW ANOTHER HILL ORGAN TAKES IT.

Buffalo (N. Y.) News.

The picayunish Free Trade minority had better stick to Cleveland as their sole prophet. No Democrat who has any expectation of receiving popular indorsement will subscribe to these views.

MORE REPUBLICAN PRAISE.

Detroit Tribune.

These vigorous utterances of the distinguished gentleman who is

playing a dual role in the official circles of the Nation and drawing two large salaries in that capacity, have created no end of consternation in the ranks of the Democracy, and particularly among the immediate friends of the Democratic Governor of Ohio, whose name has been linked with that of Governor Hill in connection with the next National Democratic ticket, and who has also written a letter to a Single Tax club.

AN OVERLOOKED PROTECTIONIST PLEASED.

Norfolk (Va.) Landmark.

Governor Hill manages to make himself quite plain on the subject of Free Trade, and he incidentally warms the gentlemen who undertook to embarrass him by their invitation to a Free Trade meeting. A tariff for revenue with incidental protection—or to express it from the present point of view—tariff reform, is the Democratic doctrine, too clearly expressed on all occasions for many years, to be misunderstood by anybody.

WHERE IT PUTS "THE SUN."

Albany Union.

David B. Hill indorses Grover Cleveland's position upon the burning issue of the day. Does the *Sun* mean to make a complete change of front and do the same thing? Does it doubt Governor Hill's sincerity? The answer to both of these questions must be in the negative. The *Sun* simply tells to the world this morning that its opposition to Grover Cleveland has been upon personal grounds, and not from principle. An idea suggested by Grover Cleveland does not meet with its approval. The same idea indorsed by David B. Hill calls forth the highest commendation.

A REPUBLICAN WELCOME TO A PROTECTIONIST.

Toledo (O.) Blade.

Hill realizes, too, that the majority of the people in the East, and the manufacturing States of the Union as far West and including Illinois, and the manufacturing interests of the new South, which are rapidly being developed under protection, are really Protectionist, whether they be Democrats or Republicans, and he proposes to take advantage of this and stand manfully by protection.

It is not too much to say that Hill has thus struck with his pen a line of cleavage in the Democratic party. The Democrats of New England, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania will support him as a Democratic Protectionist against Cleveland.

POLITICAL HARA-KIRI.

Detroit Journal.

Governor Hill is apparently content with his six years' "sit" in the United States Senate. He yesterday committed Presidential hara-kiri with an emphatic anti-Free Trade letter.

READING MEN OUT OF THE PARTY.

Tacoma (Wash News.

By this letter Hill attempts to rule out of the Democratic party all who believe in Free Trade, and by declaring that they "have no right to longer masquerade as true Democrats."

This very important hyphenated officeholder attempts to rule out of the party nine-tenths of the Democrats of the South, for they, since the foundation of the party, have believed in Jefferson's motto, "free commerce."

Whatever political strength Hill has had outside of his own State has been in the South and West, yet both sections he estranged by this letter. The rising element in the Democratic party in the Western States is that which demands Free Trade, which is one of the planks of the Farmers' Alliance platform.

While abusing all Free Traders most bitterly, Hill grants the rightness of the very demands which they make when he says that he is in favor of "a reduction of the present excessive and iniquitous tariff and the retention of the tariff limited to the necessities of the Government economically administered." This means a tariff for revenue only, such as England has, and England certainly cannot be called anything but a Free Trade nation.

This letter is a further evidence that Hill concedes himself to be out of the race for President; if he were not he never would have antagonized so large an element in the Democratic party.

ANOTHER PROTECTIONIST DELIGHTED.

Petersburg (Va.) Index-Appeal.

There was a Free Trade demonstration at Cooper Union, New York City, Thursday night, to which Governor Hill had been invited. He did not go, however, but sent a letter basing his disinclination to attend upon his want of sympathy with the Free Trade movement. In fact, as one report puts it, he came out "flat-footed" for protection. What's the matter with David Bennett Hill? He's all right.

AN ENTIRELY OPPOSITE VIEW.

Richmond (Va.) Despatch.

As we said yesterday, gross injustice was, therefore, done to Governor Hill when telegrams were scattered broadcast over the country stating that he had come out flat-footed for the protective system. He not only did not do so, but came out flat-footed on the other side of the question. He denounced the McKinley law by name, and laid down the true doctrine that the Government ought to be economically administered and should collect only revenue enough to accomplish this object.

A BID FOR PROTECTIONIST SUPPORT.

Brooklyn Standard Union.

Hill's Cooper Union letter is a bid for the Southern Protectionists, not that he can offer them what they want, but that which seems to them better than nothing. They hear Cleveland described as a Free Trader all the while, and Hill sharply says he is not a Free Trader, but a Democratic reformer. This gives Southern friends a platform. Besides, Hill's people have money, and will put it up. Cleveland's money friends will keep their money. In his anxiety to push Tariff Reform only, and through unguarded expressions, Cleveland has come to be regarded almost a crank on Free Trade, and it is a question his party cannot handle. And here comes Governor Hill, with his coolly written sentences, containing the accustomed generalities, ample spaces for evasion, and all the facilities for the slow to understanding and the easy of faith. Hill had closely studied his anti-Free Trade letter as to its effect upon his party, and as the case appears to stand, he has not made a miscalculation.

NO TRUE DEMOCRAT CAN SUPPORT HIM.

Indianapolis Sentinel.

In the face of this letter no genuine Democrat will hereafter be found advocating David B. Hill's nomination for either the first or second place on the Presidential ticket of 1892. Senator Voorhees will, we are sure, be quick to see that he has been mistaken in the man, and that Governor Hill is entirely unavailable as Presidential or Vice-Presidential timber, so long, at least, as the tariff is the dominating issue in our politics. Senator Voorhees' speeches in the Senate and on the stump during the last two years stamp him as the determined and uncompromising enemy of protection in every shape and form; and he cannot, without stultifying himself and compromising the Democracy of Indiana, ask recognition from his party in a national capacity for David B. Hill or any other Protectionist.

THE IOWA FARMER.

In the Tribune of March 28, is a letter from a man named F. B. Doolittle, of Delhi, Iowa, who says he is one of the wretched farmers described by Governor Boies in a recent speech, and fe is very much aggrieved at the false position in which the farmers of Iowa have been placed. According to his statements he and his brethren are in a most prosperous condition. He says:

I make no pretence that farmers can come to Iowa with little or no means, settle on the wild prairie and straightway, in idleness, roll in luxury and wealth. Those who have been here, say ten or fifteen years or more, and who have been reasonably industrious, temperate in their habits and have used reasonable economy, have their farms paid for, comfortable homes, barns and outbuildings. Their farms are well stocked with horses, cattle, hogs, farm machinery and carriages; in short, they own their own livery, good enough for any. Their homes are comfortably furnished—supplied with carpets, organs or pianos, sewing machines, etc. Their families are comfortably clad, and their food is abundant and just as good as they choose to make it. Their children have good school facilities.

Of himself he says:

I am now and have been, ever since I have been in the State, engaged in several branches of business, but my principal business now is farming. I find no trouble in making my several farms pay me 7 per cent. interest, net, on the current prices of farms in the locality where they are situated. I have, in addition, the advance in the value of the farm, which no man whose judgment is worth considering will put less than 3 1-3 per cent. per annum. This, added to the 7 per cent., makes 10 1-3 per cent. interest, good enough for me. An objector may say that the value of Iowa farms does not advance 3 1-3 per cent. per annum. I submit for the consideration of farmers and all good, candid, conservative men of Iowa, of whatever calling—barring only one-horse politicians, schemers, such men as those who never deliberately reflect—whether farm lands will not double in value in thirty years. That is equivalent to an advance of 3 1-3 per cent. per annum. Whether, for instance, argricultural lands in Iowa that are now worth $25 per acre will not, in thirty years, sell as readily, under the same or similar state of cultivation and conditions, for $50 an acre.

Of course, when farming pays 10 per cent. on the investment, mortgages are mere temporary conveniences, not burdens: they are quickly and easily paid off. Mr. Doolittle says that forty years ago they paid 48 per cent. interest for loans: fifteen years later the rate had been reduced to 10 per cent., and to-day mortgages are written at 6 and 7 per cent. Moreover, he says, for every farmer whose mortgage is foreclosed there are twenty others with money to loan to their neighbors; and the farm mortgages are largely owned by farmers, who compete sharply with the Eastern money lenders and cut down the rate of interest in order to invest their savings in such good securities. And then these mortgages are not raised because the farmers have run behind-hand and are unable to make farming pay, but in order to enable them to buy adjoining land and increase their holdings; or, in the case of new settlers, in order to get a start.

Mr. Doolittle is sure that if all the funds were called in that belong to the farmers of Delaware County, which they have sent out of the county to buy farms in this and other States, and lent out on interest and otherwise invested; also the uninvested money they have in banks and elsewhere; and all the money they have lent out on mortgages in this county, it would be sufficient to pay every cent that all the farmers in this county owe, including mortgages, notes, accounts, or any and all indebtedness.

He says that all the talk about "the poor farmer" is the clap-trap of demagogues, who champion the farmers' cause for political effect abroad, "but at home they grow eloquent over the bloated farmers' abuse of the poor laboring man who has a vote."

Admitting that all this is true that Mr. Doolittle says about mortgages, there are one or two of his remarks that lead to further consideration. In the first place, he speaks of his "several farms." Who work those farms? Tenants or farm laborers, of course. But they, too, are farmers. What of their condition?

Again, he says farmers are continually raising money to extend their farms and holdings and to buy farms in other counties and

other States. No doubt this denotes their prosperity. But what do they do with their land? Prof. Rodney Welch, writing in the *Forum*, tell us. He says they "divide their farms into small tracts, erect cheap buildings on them and lease them, generally to persons of foreign birth." In Illinois, Wisconsin and Iowa, he says, more farms have been deserted by their owners than in New Hampshire, Vermont and Massachusetts; but deserted not because they were unprofitable, but because their owners found they could "obtain sufficient rent from tenants to enable them to support their families in town."

So farming does pay—the landlord. But does farming pay the farmer, the tenant, the farm laborer, who is often an expert farmer? Mr. Doolittle's significant remark about "the bloated farmer's abuse of the poor laboring man," that is of the poor farm hand, sheds some light on this question.

CLEVELAND STRIKES BACK AT HILL.

The New York Democratic Club celebrated Jefferson's birthday last Monday evening, April 13, with a banquet and speeches at its club house, 617 Fifth avenue. The principal speech was made by ex-President Cleveland, who took advantage of the opportunity to indirectly answer the slurs put upon him by Governor Hill, in his letter to the Cooper Union Free Trade meeting, and incidentally to hit at Dana and Tammany "Democrats." Among other things Mr. Cleveland said:

I am glad to be called a partisan if my partisanship is patriotic. If a partisan is correctly defined as one who is violently and passionately devoted to a party or interest, I must plead guilty to the charge of being a Democratic partisan, so long as the democracy is true to its creed and traditions, and so long as conditions exist which to my understanding make adherence to its doctrines synonymous with patriotism.

The political revolution which accompanied the birth of our party was not accomplished while the principles of democracy were kept laid away in a napkin, nor was the unanimity of their first acceptance secured by the senseless and noisy shouting of partisan bigotry and the refusal to receive converts to the faith. No man believed more implicitly in the political instruction of the people than the great founder of our party, and the first triumph of democratic principles under his leadership was distinctly the result of a campaign of education.

So, too, in the light of our last great victory, no man who desires Democratic success will deny the supreme importance of a most thorough and systematic presentation to our fellow citizens of the reasons which support the avowed and accepted purposes of our party. Those who now sneer at efforts in that direction are our enemies—whether they confront us as confessed opponents or whether they are traitors skulking within our camp.

In the rejoicing which success permits, let us remember that the mission of our party is continued warfare. We cannot accomplish what we promise to the people if we allow ourselves to be diverted from the perils which are still in our way.

We cannot win permanent and substantial success by putting aside principle and grasping after temporary expedients. We shall court disaster if we relax industry in commending to the intelligence of our countrymen the creed which we profess, and we tempt humiliating failure and disgrace when we encourage or tolerate those who, claiming fellowship with us, needlessly, and often from the worst of motives, seek to stir up strife and sow discord in the counsels of our party.

OUR MAFIA.

Must the world know, shall the stale truth be told,
With seal of State to mark a nation's plea?
Shall we make argument of infamy
For common ear of kings and let them scold?
Must it be said, forsooth, that where, of old,
We drove their betters headlong to the sea,
This peanut-vending spawn of Sicily
Could buy our Justice with a little gold?

Mafia? Yes, we know the scoundrel band;
We see them clutching at the people's throat,
And long for Dante's scourge to clear the land.
Mafia? Yes, with Yankee tongues to quote
The price of pig and honor, while, unscanned,
They sell our birthright for an alien vote.

—LOUIS BELROSE, JR.

"BREAD AND THE CIRCUS."

The Clark thread company, of Newark, in whose mills there has been a strike for over three months, have evolved a plan which they say will stop strikes. They intend to communize their workers. Already the company have purchased fifty houses for the use of their working people, and they intend to prepare and sell hot meals at cost. The erection of a reading-room and a hall for amusement, containing billiard and pool tables and other games, is part of the company's plan. They aim to make their workers "contented," and they think they can do it by furnishing warm dinners and the means of recreation. Perhaps the company will succeed in their undertaking, and then, again, perhaps they won't.

There was a time when a discontented populace of free and independent citizens filled the streets of Rome and cried out against the robbery and injustice to which they were subjected. They knew, perhaps, as little of the real causes of their troubles as the modern thread workers, and their cries were as ill-directed as the strikes of to-day. They were quieted with "panem et circense"—bread and the circus—or, as we might say, dinners and recreation. But those were the days when the "crop of men" had already begun to fail in Rome. The more charity they took the more degraded they became. Do the Clark Brothers think that the crop of men is already failing in this country? Possibly; only the failures are not the active, self-supporting spinners and thread workers; they are the tramps. To offer charity to workers, to try and relegate them to the condition of the Roman proletariat or the army of tramps, is not the way to go to work.

PERSONAL.

Mr. Richard Martin, of Pawtucket, R. I., had a letter two weeks ago in the Boston Journal telling how Major McKinley converted him to Protection. G. K. Anderson, of Boston, who says that earlier in his career he was also converted by the Major, but from a Protectionist to a Free Trader, invites Mr. Martin, through a letter in the Boston Globe, to meet him and discuss the Tariff question. Mr. Anderson says he will pay for the hall if Mr. Martin will come to Boston, but that he will go to Pawtucket or Providence if Mr. Martin will pay for the hall. If the two gentleman can be brought together the fur will fly, for Mr. Anderson, though only an ordinary every-day workingman, is acknowledged to be one of the best debaters on the Free Trade side of the Tariff question in the State of Massachusets.

* * *

Lee Meriwether, late Labor Commissioner of Missouri, is in this city visitting his friends. He starts to-day for Spain, where he will look into some of the industries of that country. He will visit other parts of the European continent, and then take a trip through Great Britain.

* * *

Geo. D. Liddell, of Providence, R. I., is having a discussion on the question of taxation with the editor of the Orange County *Farmer*, through the columns of that paper. The editor has got to the point where he admits that, "Relieved of the burden of personal taxation, with a system of land values assessment, the farmer would no longer be robbed, the denizen of the town would not be injured, and wealth would be equally distributed between the producer, the manufacturer and the consumer. And that is the way it should be." THE STANDARD congratulates Mr. Liddell.

* * *

Mrs. Annie Besant arrived in this city from England last Thursday. She comes as the representative of the English section of the Theosophical Society to attend the Theosophical Council, which opens at Boston on April 26.

* * *

Congressman-elect Tom L. Johnson, of Cleveland, Ohio, came to this city last Thursday on private business.

* * *

The McCarthy wing of the Irish Parliamentary party are much chagrined over the omission of Michael Davitt's name from the list of those appointed by the Government as a royal labor commission. Mr. Davitt was the only nominee of the McCarthy party. In the House of Commons, Mr. McCarthy demanded of the First Lord of the Treasury the Government's reasons for omitting Mr. Davitt's name. The mission was a Tory favor to Mr. Parnell.

* * *

Eugene Withers, of Danville, Va., has got into a controversy with the Richmond Dispatch over its approval of Governor Hill's letter to the Manhattan Single Tax Club's Free Trade meeting. The editor of the Dispatch deems Mr. Withers' letter important enough to publish it and an answer in the editorial columns, which is a sign of the times.

* * *

S. B. Riggen, of Portland, Oregon, arrived in this city last Sunday, and on Monday morning visited THE STANDARD office. He will remain here a week and then visit Boston, Philadelphia, Washington and other points in the East before returning to his Webfoot home.

* * *

Mr. N. Galloway, styled by the Monticello, Ind., Herald, "the Single Tax apostle of Union Township," has been appointed by Assessor McClintic to assist him in assessing property. Mr. Galloway, says the Herald, makes no concealment of the satisfaction the appointment gives him.

GOOD DEMOCRATIC DOCTRINE.

Chicago Herald.

The Democratic party is opposed to all unnecessary monopolies, private or public, and to all unregulated private monopolies. It is in favor of making all necessary monopolies public, where the interests of the people can be best served by so doing. It is in favor of strict regulation and supervision where that is possible, and where it appears that the people can be served best by private enterprise. Leave all to private enterprise where competition is possible and practicable, for in private enterprise alone is there life and progress, and that stimulus to effort which is supplied only by hope of reward. Where competition is impossible or impracticable and monopoly becomes necessary, then the public must become the monopolist, or the strict regulator and supervisor of the monopolist.

HIS HANDS FULL WITHOUT IT.

Philadelphia Times.

Of course David B. Hill says he's not a Free Trader. What with being a Democrat, a Governor, a United States Senator and a Presidential candidate, the man has more than got his hands full as it is.

ONE SIDE GETS THE EGG; THE OTHER THE SHELL.

Chicago News.

Thirty-one thousand individuals own all the wealth in America. The other 64,000,000 odd go shares on all the poverty.

SINGLE TAX NEWS.

SINGLE TAX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE,
42 UNIVERSITY PLACE, New York, April 14, 1891.

What is the matter with our "workers" this week? Only 285 petitions have been received as against 553 for the corresponding week of last year. In the face of statements from every quarter that there never was a time when signatures could be procured with so little trouble, this is a most lamentable showing. Brace up, friends, and make the returns a thousand for the week ending April 21.

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

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

Subscriptions toward expenses of this committee's work remain as reported last week, viz., $1618.40.

Cash contributions for week ending April 14, are as follows:

"W. M." (additional) New York City	5 00
James R. Carret, (additional) Boston, Mass	3 00
El Paso S. T. Club, El Paso, Tex	1 75
"Mike," Bryn Mawr, Pa.	25
Sundry contributions in postage stamps	87
	$10 87
Subscriptions previously acknowledged	1,483 18
Total	$1,494 05

The enrollment now stands as follows:

Reported last week	103,002
Signatures received since last report	285
Total	103,287

For news budget, see roll of States.

GEO. ST. JOHN LEAVENS, Secretary.

SINGLE TAX LETTER WRITERS.

Lewis W. Smith, Farfield, Neb., argues at length in an ably written letter that "The world's intellectual activities do and must result always in good to the mass of mankind rather than to the few." He endeavors to show that the chief benefits from labor-saving inventions go to the laborer. We should write both Mr. Smith and the Daily News, Chicago, Ill., why this is not true to-day, and explaining briefly the steps we must take to make it true.

The editor of The Journal, Watertown, South Dakota, repeats his offer to print letters of not over three hundred words each on the Single Tax. We can assist W. E. Brokaw materially by accepting this invitation.

The Republican members of the New York Senate, in whose hands largely rests the fate of the Stein Bill for local option in taxation, are Hons. J. W. Birkett, Lispenard Stewart, Wm. H. Robertson, Wm. P. Richardson, Gilbert A. Deane, H. J. Donaldson, L. W. Emersen, G. Z. Erwin, G. B. Sloan, H. J. Coggeshall, Titus Sheard, Edw. O'Connor, F. Hendricks, Thos. Hunter, J. Sloan Fassett, C. T. Sexton, G. S. Van Gorger, John Laughlin and C. P. Vedder, address them all at Albany, N. Y.

Brief letters, urging the justice and wisdom of permiting each county to have freedom to use its own discretion in matters of taxation, shoud help materially the passage of the bill.

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

NEW YORK CITY.

Following is the financial report of the Free Trade meeting held by the Manhattan Single Tax Club on Thursday, April 4.

Credit.—From George W. Jenkins, N. Y., $2; L. O. Macdaniel, N. Y., $2; C. B. Cooper, N. Y., $1; C. F. Goeller, N. Y., $1; A. Bastida, N. Y., $2; Jas. S. Scully, N. Y., $1; F. M. Davis, N. Y. $1; Thos. McGeoch, N. Y., $1; J. B. Wilson, N. Y., $1; Hopkins Williams, N. Y., $1; John Dunn, N. Y., $1; Holbrook Cushman, N. Y., $1; August Lewis, $10; J. W. Jakeway, N. J., $1; E. J. Shriver, N. Y., $2; H. E. W., N. Y., $1; Walter Mendelson, M. D., $2; John R. Waters, $15; C. P. Kelly, 25 cents; Wm. C. Dreher, $1; Chas. H. Mitchell, $1; Geo. F. Peabody, $15; R. R. Bowker, $10; G. W. Thompson, Bk., $2; A. M. Jameson, N. Y., $1; Sol. F. Clarke, Little Rock, Ark., $2; Jno. J. Hopper, N. Y., $5; J. T. Kelly, Baltimore, Md., $2; Dr. H. S. Chase, St. Louis, Mo., $1; W. B. Scott, N. Y., $2; Collection at Cooper Union, $86.38; total cash received $174.63.

Debtor.—To hall rent, $75; postage, $28.34; printing, $26.50—$129.84; balance cash on hand $44.79; total, $174.63.

Respectfully submitted, BENJ. DOBLIN,
Chairman Agitation Committee, Mahattan Single Tax Club.

New York, Aprill, 1891.

Hon. Lee Meriwether, ex-Commissioner of Labor of Missouri, was the lecturer before the Club last Sunday evening. He told an interesting story of the impositions which were practiced on the workingmen and farmers in his State, emphasizing the fact that the men responsible were leading members of both political parties. Mr. Meriwether said that the Single Tax idea was advancing with great strides. It was imposible for a meeting to be held, or for men to gather together, without the Single Tax cropping out.

Abner C. Thomas, candidate for Judge on the United Labor ticket of 1887, and candidate last year on the People's Municipal League ticket for Judge of the Superior Court, will lecture next Sunday evening on "The Philosophy of Taxation."

J. R. Abarbanell lectured last Saturday evening, before the City College Club, at Twenty-third street and Lexington avenue, on "Manual Training in the Light of the New Political Economy." He drew a graphic picture of the present social status of workingmen, and expressed his economic belief in "Free Trade, Free Land, Free Men." A general discussion followed. The City College Club is composed of graduates of the College of the City of New York.

The agitation committee of the club is mailing copies of the pamphlet containing Mr. Julien Davies' address where they will do good.

Fred C. Keller.—Mr. John J. Cronin will deliver a lecture before the Metropolitan Single Tax Association, Saturday, April 18, at 8 P. M. Subject: "Expedient Measures."

BROOKLYN.

E. L. Smith.—A meeting of the Woman's Single Tax Club of Brooklyn was held at their rooms, 198 Livingston street, on the afternoon of April 7. Several papers on the subject of the Single Tax, and the social problems relating to it, were read by members of the club, and were followed by discussions. The president of the club, Miss Eva J. Turner, read a paper in which she discussed the importance of the economic use of time. The consideration of this subject, in approval of Miss Turner's remarks, led to the acceptance of a proposition that greater attention should be given to more active work by the members of the club. That to each one should be assigned a work she would be best calculated to do and to report with regard to her achievement at the regular meeting. On the question whether the electoral ballot should be given to women the meeting was divided, but a vote upon it was not taken. On the evening of April 9, at the rooms of the club, and under its auspices, Mrs. Imogene C. Fales, president of the Socialogic Society of America, and editor of the Socialogic and Co-operative News, published by her at York, Maine, delivered a very carefully prepared and instructive address on the general state of economic disorder now prevailing. She spoke in sympathy with the Single Tax movement, but regarded the Co-operative Society's efforts as better calculated to accomplish the proposed reforms. Several members of the club expressed their views, at the conclusion of her address, and, of course, differed with her as to the respective usefulness of the reformatory associations. An old gentleman declared his agreement with both Mrs. Fales and the Single Tax members in all things except one. He believed the Single Tax to be the first step to be taken for bringing about the reforms so much desired by all of them.

G. W. Thompson.—On Wednesday evening, April 15, Mr. Stansbury Norse, librarian of the Harlem Library, will lecture at the Brooklyn Single Tax Club on "The Necessary Steps to a Thorough Reform."

Alfred J. Wolf.—On the evening of the 9th inst. I addressed Labor Assembly 6912 (Machinists) at 101 Grand street, Brooklyn, E. D., and had an appreciative audience, who plied me freely with questions at the close On Sunday afternoon, April 12, E. A. Curley and myself addressed District Assembly 220, Knights of Labor, at 312 Washington street, Brooklyn. From the absence of outspoken opposition it was readily inferred that those present had seen the cat. This was indeed confirmed when, in addition to the usual vote of thanks, it was moved and carried unanimously that "The Long Island Protective Association do hereafter make special efforts to promulgate the Single Tax among assemblies of the Knights of Labor." Attention is again called to the movement to form a local Assembly of the Knights of Labor in Brooklyn for the special purpose of carrying on Single Tax work among the Knights. Single Tax men residing in Brooklyn should send their names *at once* to Alfred J. Wolf, 18 Sidney place, Brooklyn. The dues are not expected to exceed twenty-five cents per month, and the opportunity for effective work is certainly unsurpassed.

C. Nelson.—Seven petitions. I think every Single Tax man should at least be able to convince one High Tariff Republican every six months that "Free Trade" and the "Single Tax" is what we need. I don't know how many have been converted by my feeble arguments, but it must be at least a few.

NEW YORK STATE.

E. L. Ryder, Sing Sing.—After a very exciting contest we have elected a pronounced Single Tax man one of the Assessers of the town of Ossining on the Democratic ticket. Mr. James Mahon, who has been elected to the office, has been known locally as Henry George, and has never let an opportunity slip to advocate our principles. He was nominated in one of the most bitterly fought canvasses the town ever saw, and now that he is elected by a majority exceeded by but one other candidate on the ticket, we Single Taxers feel highly elated. It is especially gratifying to know that in the farming districts he ran ahead of his ticket, and received large majorities. His defeat was attempted by every means, and the Single Tax issue was brought directly into the canvass by those ignorantly or maliciously inclined. In one of the wealthy voting districts, where herculean efforts were made to defeat him, he received nine majority. His success is also a victory for the working men and farmers. Any one acquainted with the dense conservatism of this part of Westchester County two years ago can hardly fail to see the immense change in public opinion in such a short time.

H. B. Buddenburg, Jamestown.—Six petitions, three being signed by ladies. It is very gratifying to notice the interest being taken by the ladies.

MAINE.

Thomas Marsden, Auburn.—Enclosed find petitions. We seem to have made very little headway here. Those who can work won't, and those who would cannot do much; but I am encouraged, when I read THE STANDARD, of the progress elsewhere.

VERMONT.

G. W. Lowrey, Burlington.—Twenty-eight petitions, most of them Knights of Labor. They were secured by the Master Workman, Hugh P. Monahan.

Stephen T. Byington, S. T., Burlington.—Twenty-five petitions. Ten of those signing are professors in the university here.

MASSACHUSETTS.

S. T., Boston, April 14.—Thomas G. Shearman and R. G. Horr will debate the tariff question at Tremont Temple, to-morrow evening, Mr. Shearman, of course, taking the Free Trade side and Mr. Horr the Protection.

RHODE ISLAND.

S. T., Providence.—In the Legislature on April 9, Senator Garvin's Single Tax bill, which proposes the taxing of real estate only, was debated at length, and it was voted to continue the matter to the next session of the Assembly at Newport.

NEW JERSEY.

J. A. Craig, Paterson.—Charles H. Simmerman, of Trenton, Secretary of the Bureau of Statistics, lectured for the club, at its last meeting, upon the subject of taxation. Mr. Simmerman is not in any way identified with the Single Tax movement, as such, and approaches the subject from an original standpoint, though his conclusions are the same as held by the orthodox Single Taxer. He has undertaken, on his own hook, to do what he can t advance the cause of tax reform in this State, and there is no doubt that he will be able to do much effective work, as his position gives his opinions greater weight than the rest of us. The next meeting will be on Thursday, at the club rooms, on the 23d inst., at 8 P. M. Mr. Louis F. Post will be present, and speak upon the tariff and its relation to other issues now before the people. Readers of THE STANDARD in Paterson should not fail to be present.

Frank W. White, Newark.—Twenty-five petitions. Why don't the other Single Taxers of Newark send in some petitions. It is a very easy matter *now* to get signatures.

PENNSYLVANIA.

"Uncle Tom," Bryn Mawr.—Unlike Mr. Gable I cannot guarantee to send a certain number of signers every week, but will promise to mail them as fast as they sign. Enclose ten petitions—forty-one since March 13th—or three more than my share toward the second hundred thousand. Number one missed the last train, and, although a perfect stranger to me, after a little skirmish he signed, after midnight, and also gave me a quarter, which I enclose. It took a six miles' walk and a good deal of "purring" to capture numbers two and three. Four is the Hon. Jesse M. Baker, Republican member of the present Legislature. He has charge of the Ballot Reform bill. Sagaciously, he wrote across the back of the petition, "For information only. At present I am opposed to Free Trade." Well done! The "at present" seems to indicate that some other time he may favor Free Trade. In a letter Mr. Baker says: "An investigation by a proper committee might throw considerable light upon the theory of Single Tax, and I certainly cannot object to information." "I shall read Mr. George's work with care." The last sentence refers to a copy of "Protection or Free Trade?" which had been mailed to him. Letter writers will please attend to the gentlemen whose post office addresses are Plymouth Meeting, Haverford College, and Rosemont, Pa., and whose names appear in this week's list.

"Uncle Tom's" Wife, Bryn Mawr.—Four petitions. No. 4 is an insurance agent, who said the Single Tax is a good thing. I will try and get more signers. Bad weather, bad roads and house cleaning have prevented me from going out.

MARYLAND.

Wm. N. Hill, M. D., Baltimore.—Apropos of the editorial in this week's STANDARD on the Single Tax as a panacea for social evils, the action of the Executive Committee of the Single Tax League of Maryland shows that we Maryland Single Tax men, in common with our fellows elsewhere, have not held out the Single Tax as a cure-all, but that we take an intelligent interest in all governmental affairs. We hold, however, that the Single Tax is the *sine qua non* in political reform. All political reforms which do not have a tendency to elevate the masses as individuals and collectively by lifting the burdens of labor must necessarily prove failures. In consequence of the inability of many otherwise honest men to see the necessity of endeavoring to raise the conditions surrounding our people to a higher level, these honest but superficial thinking men take up such cries as that functions of municipality, such as cleaning and lighting streets, should be done by contract, merely on the statement that such contract work can be done for less money. Every one at all familiar with the subject knows the fallacy of this notion. Desiring, therefore, that the public should know our views on the matter, the Executive Committee was instructed to formulate them, which it did by declaring that the lighting and cleaning of streets were municipal functions, which should not be done by private parties under contract, but should be done by officials directly appointed and acting under the supervision of the Mayor and City Council, who could thus be held directly responsible to the people of the city for the proper performance of the work.

WEST VIRGINIA.

W. I. Boreman, Parkersburg.—There are quite a number of Single Taxers in West Virginia, but unfortunately for us we have no State organization. This county (Wood), is full of them, though not more than twenty or twenty-five STANDARDS are taken. Our radical ideas are being discussed very generally by the farmers and workingmen, and are read with favor in the Democratic ranks. To show you how little they shy away from us I will say that Mr. Tom Quinn, one of our club, was nominated for the Legislature last Fall and was only beaten by a small majority in this Republican community, the aristocratic protection Democrats voting against him. He is now chairman of the city Democratic Executive Committee. W F. Thayer, our club secretary, is also secretary for the Wood County Democratic Executive Committee. Another Single Taxer, a delegate to the conference last Fall, W. E. Sugden, is president of the Cleveland Democratic Club, and Tom Quinn is secretary of the same. This club on last meeting night passed a resolution recommending Quinn for City Recorder or Police Judge. One of our number is quite often substitute editor of the Daily Sentinel here, and hands out radical documents ad lib. So you see we are not asleep by any manner of means. A trio of sign painters and paper hangers, and, by the way, a part of the fence motto brigade, have put out a twenty-four foot sign over the front of their shop in big letters, "Single Tax Sign Company," and our shoemaker is going to have "Free Trade Shoe Shop" as his sign. This town is Republican, so you see it takes nerve to risk loss of business. But really, if it drives anybody away, it, on the other hand, attracts others. The best work is done in the local paper. If its circulation is 600 or 700 a day, yet that means 600 or 700 tracts distributed without cost. We are pushing along on the tariff line and are helping the farmers to see what a humbug Protection is. The Legislature passed the Australian ballot law, so we are right in the Democratic process. It was done through our efforts mainly. Outside of Wood County little is heard of Single Tax, but all the Democratic county papers are thumping the life out of the G. O. P. and Protection. Don't put West Virginia in the doubtful States.

FLORIDA.

H. J. Simonton, Dade City.—Three petitions. It is getting to be uphill business to get signers to the petition, but I have several in tow that I think will sign soon.

TEXAS.

A. H. McCarty, Plano.—Nineteen petitions. All I want is for a man to listen to me about ten minutes, and if he is possessed of good, sound "horse sense" I get him.

I. P. McCollum, Snow, Leon County.—Three petitions. C. C. Cockrell, one of the signers, is County Assessor, and says that he is of the opinion that the present mode of taxation is unfair to those assessed, and also puts the Assessor in a position that he cannot live up to the oath that he must take as Assessor. Dan Butson and the other signers own a big ranch, but are in favor of land reform, and say the only reason for their owning so much land is that they fear their children would be slaves to the rich when they were dead and gone.

OHIO.

J. S. MacLean, Columbus.—I intend to try the experiment of giving a full tablet of blanks to the secretary or walking delegate of Carpenters Union (Fed. of Labor) here, both of whom I am well acquainted with. I mean to write them as good a letter as I can and send it in with the blanks to be presented to their union. The same, if it works good results, might later on be done with the (Boss) Carpenters' Association here, as also the Mill Workers' Union and other bodies.

C. S. Malone, Granville.—Thirty-three petitions. We are making a little stir here; people begin to know where we stand and I think some permanent effects will be seen before long.

"Buckthorn," Cincinnati.—Forty petitions. These have been gathered by different friends of the cause.

ILLINOIS.

Warren Worth Bailey, Chicago, April 10.—At our meeting last night a committee was appointed to address a letter to the merchants of Chicago on the subject of taxation, the design being to get from them an expression as to the expediency of exempting personal property, buildings, etc., from assessment. W. J. Atkinson, of New York, was the speaker of the evening, his theme being "The Farmers' Alliance; Its Growth, Aims and Objects." At its conclusion a committee was appointed to report on the best method of extending the circulation of "Protection or Free Trade?" Mr. Ernest Foord has already opened headquarters in Room 32, over Buck & Rayner's drug store, southwest corner of Madison and State streets, from which he is sending out agents to make a house-to-house canvass of the city for the Hand-to-Hand Club's popular edition of Mr. George's great book. It is to be hoped that Mr. Foord will be able to equal the remarkable record of my good friend, L. W. Hoch, of Adrian. The Single Tax men of Chicago should give him their earnest support in this labor of love. Mr. Atkinson will leave for Columbus and Cleveland, en route to New York, Saturday evening. He has made many warm friends in Chicago. It will please our friends all over the country to learn that the great Chicago Herald is taking stronger and stronger grounds in favor of tax reform. It has given endorsement to the Stein bill now pending in New York, has endorsed our demand for a legislative investigation of the revenue question and has promised to advocate a measure similar to that before the Albany Legislature. Its local reports of our meetings are generally very friendly.

Edward Osgood Brown's address before the Iroquois club on Tuesday evening was in his best vein, and the meeting was a gratifying success. Two or three of the braves attempted to take Mr. Brown's scalp, but the Herald says that they signally failed.

Representative James Cockrell, chairman of the Revenue Committee of the Illinois House, and John T. Norsworthy, one of the members of that committee, and a good friend of ours, were in the city several days last week. I had the pleasure of meeting both gentlemen, and I was given the assurance that our petition for an investigation of the tax question would be considered in a short time. Mr. Cockrell said he was in favor of the investigation, and that he would appoint a sub-committee that would go into the matter thoroughly. He said he would himself devote his entire energies to the investigation as soon as he got some other committee work out of his way. He is very anxious for Thomas G. Shearman to come out and address the Legislature.

President John C. Harding, of the Illinois Federation of Labor, will be the speaker next Thursday evening. Subject: "The Attitude of Trades Unionism toward the Reform Movement." The Rev. Flavius J. Brobst has promised to address us soon, and Mr. Thomas Hanford, one of the finest orators that I ever heard, has also agreed to favor us again as his health will permit. His address before our club on John Bright a year or two ago was a masterpiece, and it is still talked about by those who had the good fortune to hear it.

Louis Lesaniuier, Red Bud.—Enclosed find petitions. I am still talking and distributing literature on the Single Tax, and almost daily meet men who understand and approve the plan. Although I have not been away from home for a long time, I hear from traveling men all over the country

that the Single Tax is being talked about a great deal. I think this education is already showing itself here, and there is decisions of judges and juries and is bound to do a good deal of good even before it is enacted into written law.

L. C. Semelroth, Peoria.—Thirty-five petitions. The Single Tax movement here is going on slowly.

Henry Walker, Springfield.—Five petitions, which are all I have been able to get.

MICHIGAN.

Howard M. Holmes, Detroit.—I send you the signatures of Mayor Pingree and his secretary. The former doesn't know much about the Single Tax, I think, but he is fighting for higher taxation of vacant land. The latter understands the Single Tax thoroughly, and seems to regard it favorably. There is a big fight on here to secure the bonding of the city for $200,000 to improve the Boulevard roadway. The land speculators who secured the Boulevard are having a hard road to travel, for the disposition seems to be to make the adjacent land pay all the expense of the improvements in the future. One real estate dealer told the Council committee that he was in the hole, for he had borrowed money with which to buy land on the Boulevard. He wants to get his money back, and therefore was anxious that other people should pay for the improvements that would enable him to sell land at a high price. The scheme of bonding is boldly denounced by citizens as in the interest of "landsharks who are holding property for speculative purposes." The committee has decided not to report favorably to the bonding scheme, and the hopes of the speculators are below zero.

MINNESOTA.

C. J. Buell, Minneapolis.—Nine petitions. We had a lively time last Monday evening with Rev. M. D. Shutter, who spoke upon "The Single Tax, Its Principles and Tendencies." He spent nearly his whole time trying to demonstrate that the ultimate outcome of the Single Tax was to destroy all titles to land and "throw all land into the hands of the State." The reverened gentleman seemed to be suffering from the same hallucination that affects many others—a total inability to distinguish between land and its rent. I sometimes wonder if such people could distinguish between a cow and the milk she gives. Unless I am greatly mistaken, the Single Tax in full operation, taking even the entire rental value of land for public needs, would not change in the slightest degree the legal title by which any one now holds his land. No individual has any absolute ownership of land now—that always vests in the State. The holder owns the title to possession, that is all; and the title to possession would be far more safe under the Single Tax than it is now, and infinitely more people could own land.

Had a jolly little visit with Stephenson, of Philadelphia, this morning. Took him to the Unitarian Church to attend the "Class in Modern Tendencies." To-day we were discussing the silver question. Next Sunday we discuss Rates of Interest and Usury Laws. We take up all sorts of questions that are before the people, and study their ethical bearing. It's a good dea better than theology. 1

George C. Madison, St. Paul.—Three petitions. I indorse the stand THE STANDARD takes upon the silver question.

MISSOURI.

H. Martin Williams, St. Louis.—I have just returned from Unionville, Putnam County, this State, where I delivered three addresses, as per announcement in THE STANDARD of March 25. I spoke Friday night on "The Tariff," Saturday afternoon on "Taxation in Missouri" and at night on "The Single Tax." The attendance at each meeting was excellent, notwithstanding the weather was most unfavorable and the roads next to impassable, so that the farmers could only reach town on foot. Many of them walked from five to ten miles to attend the meetings, so you may know that they are deeply interested in the discussion of the subjects on which I spoke. Among my most attentive hearers were leading Republicans and Protectionists, and from the way they snapped up the fifty copies of "Protection or Free Trade?" I had with me, I have reason to believe that many of them will soon be advocating Free Trade and the Single Tax. The character and number of people who attended these meetings is only another evidence that all that is necessary to have thoughttul and intellectual people in all walks of life embrace the Single Tax is to have it fairly and plainly presented. I will speak twice at Van Buren, Carter County, this State, on Monday, the 13th inst.

Henry W. Allen, Kansas City.—Mr. W. W. Rose and myself feel that the Commercial Congress which is to be held in this city in a few days will be a golden opportunity for our cause, and have acted accordingly. We were rejoiced to find that Hon. Wilbur F. Tuttle (now at Hot Springs, Ark.) was to be present as a delegate, and several of us from here have written to him urging that he prepare a speech on the line of the Single Tax. Furthermore, you will I know be more than pleased to know that I have secured an invitation from the executive committee for H. Martin Williams. I have been in communication with Mr. W., and his attendance is now an assured fact. Undoubtedly there will be in this representative gathering of Western men other Single Taxers, and under the circumstances I think we have reason for great satisfaction.

Tom Lodge, Gunter.—I ought to be up and doing more I know. Indeed I don't deserve to be enrolled amongst *real workers*, but I am so shabbily dressed I just can't bear to go outside my own place. "I'm a thing, *now*, of shreds and patches!" I'd be invaluable as a scare-crow were it only the growing season—to set up in some highly protected farmer's grain field: and if labeled "A Single Tax Protectionist," I might attract him while scaring off the rogues that are robbing him of his grain and every product he tries to raise!

R. H. Hasenritter, Hermann.—Eleven petitions. I think that if all the Single Tax men that are in business would enclose a petition in every one of their business letters that this would be a good means to bring the Single Tax into consideration with the merchants of the country.

"Pa" Chase, St. Louis.—Brokaw has been with us for five days. He delighted the Benton School on Saturday, April 4, with an account of his work in Dakota. When he told us his wishes in regard to his Summer work, our hands went down into rather empty pockets and furnished him with about twenty-five dollars towards his proposed pony and cart, with which he wishes to carry himself, books and tracts from school house to school house in his missionary and Single Tax and Free Trade preaching. He had no opportunity to visit the Reform Club and Single Tax Club, for their sessions are not until next week. No doubt the members of those clubs will give something towards the "rig"—several of their members did give, and met Brokaw at "Pa" Chase's office. It was very evident that every one who met Brokaw "fell in love with him." In all conversations the fact was evident that nearly all Single Tax men here favor the retirement of the "silver question" until the Custom Houses are about to be abolished. Mass our army on one enemy at a time, and demolish them one after another. Brokaw left this morning for Quincy. On Saturday, this week, he will be in Burlington, Iowa.

R. F. Young, Kansas City.—Our club was addressed last Sunday by Rabbi Henry Berkowitz, of this city, on the subject, "The Romantic Literature of the Social Question." The speaker reviewed this class of literature from the earliest times to the present. Rabbi Berkowitz is well known in this community and commands general admiration for his broad views on theology, and his address showed him to be an earnest and unprejudiced student of the social question. In speaking of the poorer classes, he declared that social regeneration must precede that of spititual regeneration.

ARKANSAS.

Thos. P. Craig, Alexander.—Eight petitions; all but one farmers. I found the small farmers much mure favorably inclined toward the Single Tax than I expected. Some have seen articles in regard to it in the Farmers' Voice, Chicago, and the Weekly Courier-Journal. The latter is very widely taken by the farmers of the South, and if Single Tax literature would be published in it, a large number that it is very desirable to reach would be reached. Free coinage seems to be very largely believed in because the effect of indirect—"crooked"—taxation is not fully appreciated. Mr. Sol. Nethercutt is an active Alliance man, who thinks the trouble is, with many, not enough of it. He is going to study the taxation side, and I believe will be an active worker.

COLORADO.

H. C. Niles, Denver.—Fifty-two petitions. Members of Knights of Labor Assemblies are interesting themselves in securing signatures and we have had about fifty in the last month or two from that source and are promised more. There are to my personal knowledge at least 500 Single Taxers in Denver who give unqualified support to the principles set forth in our National Platform, and in private discussions maintain the side of truth and justice, but they don't attend our meetings. I known our ideas are gaining converts every day and believe that we have now reached that stage in our progress which the anti-slavery sentiment had reached when the Republican party sprang into existence.

NEBRASKA.

Mary S. Jackson, Purdum.—My husband and myself have become converts to the Single Tax idea some time since, but so far have worked and talked alone. The discussion of the subject in our Legislature has led to more inquiry, and I am intending to give a talk to our neighboring farmers in a couple of weeks. We live in the midst of the draught-stricken region, and times are very hard, but empty pocketbooks, like empty stomachs, are very sensitive, so we hope to be ably to make an impression.

MONTANA.

J. P. H., Choteau.—Two petitions. One of the singers is a pioneer of this part of the State. He sees plainly the evils resulting from land speculation, and has believed for years that private property in land is wrong. Of the Indians he says that he never knew them to molest any one so long as they were left alone. He has been at their mercy when they were on the warpath, but was never molested, because he had always dealt justly with them. He likes our platform and will study the matter.

CALIFORNIA.

M. L. Gable, Auburn.—Fifty-one petitions. You say one signature a week from each of our "workers" would bring in some 15,000 a month or 90,000 by December 1st. I will guarantee to secure two each week, how many of our "workers" go me one better?

E. H. Carpenter, Sante Monica.—I think I am the only one in this place that takes THE STANDARD, and while I read the letters from the people in regard to the petitions, I feel like trying to do something myself. Send me some blank petitions and I will see what I can do in getting signatures.

Ignatius Ferlin, Virginia, San Diego County.—Five petitions. Shall continue to collect them. Times are hard and people are realizing that something is wrong. They have begun to think soberly, and we can hope for an addition to our cause even from this land monopoly-ridden section.

OREGON.

Wm. E. Norton, Monroe.—Last Fall I met Mr. J. R. Markley on the streets of Corvallis, and presented him with a petition, which he signed, saying: "The Single Tax system of Henry George is the only ideal system of taxation, and I heartily endorse it." This was said in the presence of several prominent gentlemen, one other of whom endorsed it also.

Hearing that, as a Deputy Assessor, he had returned nearly $1,000,000 worth of land escaping assessment, I took the trouble to write to him, asking him about it. The enclosed letter speaks for itself. Mr. Markley is a rising young man, and president of the "Benton County Abstract Company:"

CORVALLIS, Oregon, March 27th, 1891.

Mr. Wm. Norton, Monroe, Ore.—Dear Sir: I just found a letter of yours dated December 22, 1890, which, for some reason, was mislaid, and in going through some drawers I found it to-day. You were laboring under a mistake. I am not, nor have I been, a Deputy Assessor. I made a "Present Owner" book for the county, and found 122,000 acres of land not on the tax

list, and 9,000 town lots, increasing the assessment of the county over $700,000. There has been some complaint on account of the work, but it has come from those entirely whose land was brought to light by my work, and placed on the list to bear its burden of assessment. I do not care for criticism so long as I am right. The party who wrote a letter from Monroe to the Times, condemning the county officers for having the work done, if I am not greatly mistaken, was one of the parties concealing about a thousand acres. Yours sincerely, J. R. MARKLEY.

My merchant opponent of Smithfield has failed in business, and will be too much occupied to further oppose the Single Tax, but the leaven is fermenting expansively.

OKLOHOMA TERRITORY.

Isaac McCloskey, Pawnee Agency.—Eight petitions. Received the ten "Protection or Free Trade?" books. They are all out and doing the work they are so able to do. Please send me four more. Whether I ever become a member of the Hand-to-Hand Club or not, you may count me to work with them all the same.

L. McCarty, Norman.—Twenty petitions. I am glad to see the progress we are making. What we want to do is to circulate reading matter supporting our platform, so as to bring it before the public as much as possible.

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

One of the tidal-wave Congressmen who were elected in Republican districts last Fall is seriously considering the distribution of 10,000 copies of "Protection or Free Trade?" in his district. He very frankly says, however, that he will not go to this expense unless the result of the redistricting now in progress should be to leave him with an adverse majority to educate. President Franklin MacVeagh, of the Illinois Tariff Reform League, is, unfortunately, away. Their Executive Committee includes such sterling Free Traders as J. B. Taylor, Edwin Burritt Smith, C. S. Darrow, W. W. Catlin and F. W. Bleike, all of whom are heartily in favor of the league's taking hold and pushing this edition as soon as President MacVeagh returns. The efficient secretary, Mr. W. J. Mize, is enthusiastic about the matter, and hopes sufficient funds will be raised to circulate at least a hundred thousand copies in Illinois. Mr. Ernest J. Foord has taken charge of the Chicago house-to-house canvass, making his headquarters in a room at State and Madison streets, kindly placed at his service by Charles G. Buck. From the enthusiastic spirit shown at the club on Thursday night he will have the help of the entire membership. Mr. Buck has subscribed for two hundred copies to go to the country newspapers of Illinois, in addition to his former subscription. Mr. Ripley and Mr. Irwin have agreed to be two of six to provide the remaining eleven hundred papers of Illinois. Mr. C. C. Foord lives in a suburban town and proposes the following plan of getting effective work done by the boys and girls there. He will offer a prize of a five-dollar gold piece to the boy or girl selling the largest number of copies out of each hundred sold, charging them fifteen cents apiece for the books, which they will sell at twenty-five. In this way he hopes to have the town thoroughly covered, to sell several hundred books, and not be out anything but the time required to start the work. If this should be tried in every town, how the dry bones would rattle. When I called on a prominent tariff reformer here he urged me, by all means, to see the Single Tax men, saying that they were not only the best and most enthusiastic Free Traders around, but that they were very strong in Chicago. Among other methods of pushing the edition all small stores—drug, cigar, stationery, etc.—will be called on and urged to buy ten or more copies at ten cents per copy, and put them in their windows to sell at twenty-five cents. The appeal to reformers, which is printed in good-sized type on the last page of Tract No. 39, will be pasted on bulletin boards and public places where it is likely to be read, and local papers urged to notice the edition.

F. A. Herwig, Philadelphia.—Enclosed $50 from Kensington Reform Club for our second five hundred books. Send at once, as we have but ten or twenty left and will be entirely out at our next meeting if not supplied. As many of our membership have individually attached themselves to various Democratic clubs, we have appointed committees to visit these clubs, in order to interest them in the sale of the books. We hope to supplement above order soon.

Geo. Petrie, Lynn, Mass.—Enclosed find $2.50 for twenty-five more copies. Have disposed of the ten copies you sent, to ten Protectionists.

Baltimore Single Tax Society, J. Hicks Wrightson, Treasurer.—Enclosed $10 for 100 copies "Protection or Free Trade?" Send at your earliest convenience.

Robt. Tyson, Toronto, Canada.—Enclosed $1 for ten more copies. Will keep myself stocked by sending you orders for ten at a time.

Eugene Withers, Danville, Va.—Check enclosed for $7.50 for seventy-five copies.

John H. Blakeney, Binghamton, N. Y.—I enclose $1 for ten copies "Protection or Free Trade?" Michael Brick recently sent an order for twenty or twenty-five. They are all disposed of. We will send for more.

George Paul, Iowa City, Ia.—Enclosed $5 for fifty copies. This makes 100 copies, which entitles me to membership in "Hand-to-Hand Club."

John Idington, Stratford, Canada.—Pursuant to promise to Mr. Robert Tyson, I send you $8.50 to cover order for eighty-five copies of Henry George's "Protection or Free Trade?"

Miss Ida Hibbard, Roselle, N. J.—Enclosed please find $2 for twenty copies. I hope to send more before long.

Hon. Isaac Howe, Redfield, S. Dak.—Enclosed draft for $5 for fifty copies. This makes 100 copies, and I hope to greatly increase the number. The first fifty are largely in the hands of Alliance men. There is no "Tariff Reform" sentiment in this county; the line is sharply drawn; Free Trade pure and simple, or Protection with Reciprocity attachment.

Edgar B. Moore, Rutland, Vt.—Enclosed find check $25 for the 250 copies of "Protection or Free Trade?" ordered.

G. W. Eadington, Lexington, Mo.—Enclosed find order for ten more books. The ten received will soon be disposed of, and I hope to increase orders soon.

Jos. A. Mitchell, P. M., Cherry Grove, Va.—Please send me ten copies of the little book called "Protection or Free Trade?" for canvassing purposes and information for the public.

Warren Worth Bailey, Chicago, Ill.—Enclosed find orders for 158 copies and check for $15.80. This brings my quota up to 364. I regard this as one of the most important undertakings of all, and if I could have it my way effort should be concentrated on the pushing of "Protection or Free Trade?" Hoping what I have done will entitle me to membership in Hand-to-Aand Club, I will not relax in my efforts to extend the circulation of the best work on the tariff that was ever written.

Edward Hill, Pittsburgh, Pa.—Send me ten more copies "Protection or Free Trade?"

W. A. Cole, Kent, O.—Enclosed $1 for ten more copies. My first order of ten came last week and are all gone.

A. F. Holt, Salem, Ore.—I just received ten copies and hasten to order twenty more of "Protection or Free Trade?"—cash enclosed.

S. C. Reese, Pana, Ill.—Received the ten copies this morning. Enclose $1 for ten more. Am trying to work up a scheme to distribute 100 free among the farmers at Pana.

William O. Foley, Greensburg, Ind.—I am again out of "Protection or Free Trade?" I enclose money order. Please fill order at once.

L. L. Sloss, Pearsall, Tex.—Enclosed find $3 for thirty copies. This makes forty-five for me. Next order I hope will entitle me to membership in Hand-to-Hand Club.

C. J. Bartlett, Philadelphia.—Enclosed $5 for fifty copies to be sent to addresses herewith.

Waldron Bates, Boston.—Enclosed find $5 for fifty copies. Twenty copies to be sent to me, balance to be distributed by you.

Quincy A. Glass, Winfield, Kan.—Enclosed $1 for ten copies. Please send a few of Tract No. 39.

George W. Parker, Clinton, Ill.—Enclosed P. O. order for $1. I have sold these ten copies and the parties want them at once.

L. P. Custer, St. Louis.—Enclosed find $1.50 for fifteen books. Of the ten signatures I send, all are Republicans except two, and they are Prohibitionists. I expect to distribute a hundred books and thereby become a member of the "Hand-to-Hand Club."

O. C. Rasch, Cincinnati, O.—Enclosed $2.20 for twenty-two copies to be sent to the following addresses.

H. T. Wilson, Bank Lick, Ky.—Enclosed $1.40 for fourteen copies. Think I can sell 500 or 1,000.

Luke Skilly, Rochester, N. Y.—Send twenty more books. I have seen about all the leading Democrats and County Committee, and they say they will help me.

Leon H. Cash, Smith Grove, N. C.—Find $1 for ten books. Am now able to be out and will take pleasure in getting up clubs to circulate literature of that kind.

W. A. Van Epps, Olympia, Ore.—Enclosed please find check for $5 for 50 copies.

A. Pettenkofer, Brooklyn, N. Y.—$5 for 50 more books.

F. P. Dinsmore, Gaynor City, Mo.—Please find enclosed postal note for $2.50 for 25 more books.

W. H. Thomas, Maysville, Ky.—Enclosed is check for $2 for 20 copies. Will send for more soon.

Please accompany all orders with cash. Unless this is done, in handling tens of thousands of subscriptions there is eminent danger of errors, especially as our clerical force is very small. All cash orders will be shipped on receipt. We prefer checks or money orders, but can use one and two cent stamps for small amounts. Single copies will now be twenty-five cents, but orders for ten or more copies will be filled at ten cents each. This is to protect the men who are making their living by selling the books at twenty-five cents each, while effectively preaching the gospel of Free Trade. As ten books will be sent, if desired, to ten different addresses for one dollar, you have only to get nine neighbors to join you, if you want the book for ten cents. Tract Extra No. 39, with price of single copies stated at twenty-five cents, subscription blanks, sample pages and press notices will be delivered free to any address, in any quantity. Don't forget that the twenty-five copies first printed will go as prizes to those sending in the largest lists of subscriptions to the 500,000.

42 University Place, New York. W. J. ATKINSON, Secretary.

PUBLISHER'S NOTES.

There has been during the past week a very general response to the request that names of probable subscribers should be sent in on the blanks of the recruit subscription books. There has also been gratifying evidence that personal effort expended in procuring subscriptions can be made effective. W. E. Brokaw while in St. Louis tackled a man there who had but a faint interest in the Single Tax and convinced him that the best way to inform himself on the subject was to take THE STANDARD.

A gentlemen at Denver, who particularly desires that his name shall not be mentioned, was stirred up to see what he could do towards procuring subscriptions. He concluded that it would be easier to get people interested sufficiently to send in a dollar subscription for four months than to induce them to take the paper for a whole year, and he accordingly stirred about among his friends and sends in $10 for ten subscriptions. He says: "Single Tax men can get new subscribers if they will only say to their friends, 'I am going to send my subscription money for THE STANDARD. Let me send for you and you can pay me some other time.' They will find it easy to get new subscribers and they will lose no money by it. I will try and send you some new names every week and think I can average at least one a week for a year." We regret that our correspondent will not permit the use of his name, and suppose that this must be due to modesty, since we judge from the letter-head on which he writes that he is in the employ of a man well known to us as a Single Tax man.

D. Stuart, Oakland, Cal.—I see no reason why the very moderate increase of five thousand subscribers might not be made in a few weeks. I sincerely hope it may be accomplished for the interest of THE STANDARD, and as a

proof that the friends of the cause, which THE STANDARD so ably represents, are in earnest, I hasten to send my mite for the good work by sending you $1.50 for a six months' subscription, secured from the first man that I asked to subscribe after receiving your letter.

J. A. Brown, Peacedale, R. I.—I prefer to pay for the book sent rather than that you should be at the cost. I am very desirous that THE STANDARD shall abundantly succeed. I like it very much and I appreciate the importance of the work it is doing, and the ability with which it is done. I shall write all of those five persons to see if I can get them to subscribe. I hope some or all of them will.

Dr. A. B. Harrower, Swathmore, Pa.—I cannot consent to take the book as a gift and hereby enclose $1 in payment and two orders. I wish you all success and offer my personal thanks for the frank, fair manner in which THE STANDARD treats all questions.

Ivy H. Teel, Bowling Green, Ky.—The enclosed names are those of men somewhat interested in political economy and social problems.

G. E. Hubbard, El Paso, Tex.—I enclose order for sending paper to Judge ——, who wants more light on the Single Tax movement and theory. I will see him personally later on and get him to subscribe if possible. Will send you their names as I can procure them.

Dr. Charles K. Cutter, Charlestown, Mass.—These are candid and thoughtful men, and I think they are open to conviction upon almost any subject, but they read Republican literature altogether, because the opposite kind happens not to come in their way.

William Coulson, Spring Valley, Ill.—One of the enclosed is a member of the Legislature. I was very much pleased with your article criticising Mr. Bellangee's letter on the free coinage of silver, and suggest that you issue it in tract form.

E. C. Cooley, Dunkirk, N. Y.—These are all thinking men and able to subscribe.

W. S. Brown, Southard, Pa.—Enclosed please find check for $13, for which send STANDARD for one year as follows to — and for four months to ——, to take the place of ——, who I am sorry to lose as a subscriber. As the last year has, however, made a good, solid Single Tax man of him, we can afford to exchange him for ——, who is a *Protectionist Republican and a Prohibitionist*. This is a good showing at any rate, as we have but a sparse settlement, barely enough to keep up a post office, here. The showing is certainly an excellent one, and if there were a few thousand men in the United States like Mr. Brown, who would take the trouble to procure subscribers and to see that subscriptions are kept up, its proprietor would be able to make THE STANDARD a power for good in all parts of the country, and, if need be, contribute largely to the propaganda work of the National Committee. Such letters as these show what can be done if men would only make up their minds to do something.

J. L. Pollard, Randolph, Tenn.—Enclosed please find $1 for my own subscription for four months. Times are so hard in this country that it is impossible for me to subscribe for a whole year at once, being among the poorest of men where none are rich, but I feel as if I ought to try to do something for the cause, and I intend to do what I can as long as I live, not that I expect it ever to do me any good individually, because I am an old man (67), but because I consider it my duty and the duty of every man that wants to do right.

J. Bellangee, Des Moines, Ia.—I was pleased to get the recruit subscription book and return the blanks duly filled out. I have given you names of persons who are not especially prejudiced against Cleveland, and who would not be offended by THE STANDARD'S course on the silver question. I regret, however, that your course in that regard hinders me from making as great use of the paper as I could wish.

C. P. Bollin, Whitman, Mass.—I think the plan will do good. I have seen one of those to whom I sent the paper last week, and he promises to subscribe.

T. Swenson, Osage City, Kans.—I am now voting the Alliance ticket, but so soon as there is any show to put the Single Tax ticket in the field—not only I but hundreds, yes thousands of us are going to vote for it, and the time is not far distant. Only three years ago I could hardly find a man who had heard of the Single Tax; now I can haroly find one man who does not understand something about it. Of those for whom I send recruit subscriptions four are Republicans and one a union labor man.

James H. Risdon, Elgin, Ill.—I read with pleasure the publisher's notes in my last STANDARD, and hasten to offer my services in the good work of increasing the circulation of the paper.

S. H. Howes, Southboro, Mass.—I will use the book which you have sent me as opportunity offers, and hope I may be able to help a little. The last recruit I sent you is very much interested and will subscribe. He is an insuaance agent who travels a great deal. He is a hustler, and may be able to do some good work himself.

Bolton Smith, Memphis, Tenn., in forwarding a subscription, says, "this is the first result of the recruit book you sent me."

Henry J. O'Neill, Allentown, Pa.—I hope Single Tax men will enter with spirit into an effort to increase the circulation of THE STANDARD. Without a paper appearing from week to week, showing that our cause lives, there could be but little enthusiasm or progress in our movement, and, therefore, we should make a great effort to place upon a firm basis a thing so essential to our success. Let us hold fast to what we have.

Mr. John S. Maclean, Columbus, O.—I hope that all who have been given the opportunity will realize that the experiment is rather an expensive one to you, and that its success altogether depends on the exercise of their good judgment. It would be an easy matter to find those who would be delighted to get THE STANDARD free for even four weeks; or those who, however desirous of continuing it, have not the money, and if they had it, would rather spend it otherwise. I know of several who would be ready to vote for the Single Tax who would think many times before spending a dollar to help it along. Others, again, would not take THE STANDARD, although believers in the justice of the Single Tax, because of the hard blows given to their idol, the G. O. P. Others, again, who are that party's most bitter opponents, are in politics for what they can get out of it, and want to reap what others have sown.

R. J. Boyd, Washington, D. C.—I enclose a few more recruit subscriptions. I have told our friends here that they can send recruit subscriptions through me, and thus avoid any duplication of names. Besides, in most cases, I write to or see the subscriber and the person handing me the name does likewise, so that a double pressure is brought to bear on the man to whom the paper is sent.

W. L. Crosman, Roxbury, Mass.—All of the men whose names I enclose are prominent tariff reformers, and perhaps Free Traders on the quiet.

John M. Beath, Atlanta, Ga.—THE STANDARD is to my mind a complete practical embodiment of the great Single Tax doctrine. I shall take great pleasure in a continued effort to extend its circulation.

Thomas Woodliff, Virginia City, Nev.—I hope a number of these will prove to be permanent subscribers, though it is up-hill work to get subscriptions. I will try, however, to do the best that I can.

Robert Cumming, Duquoin, Ill.—I am glad of the opportunity to thus introduce THE STANDARD in this community. I could make use of three or four more books and give the recipients of such favors my attention. The attitude of THE STANDARD on the silver question is sound. The Democratic party cannot afford to turn to the right or the left from the great winning issue for a new issue on which we are divided.

Will N. Buell, Baird, Texas.—I will try and write to all of the persons named after they have received papers. They are Single Tax men and ought to take THE STANDARD. We are gaining ground here every day.

"THE GOVERNMENT IS NOT A HOG TROUGH."

Eugene Field in Chicago News.

The most admirable trait in Grover Cleveland is his utter indifference to the rest of mankind in general and the Democratic party in particular. He can get along without the Democratic party, but the Democratic party cannot get along without him. The writer remembers an interesting conversation he had with President Cleveland in 1886. The talk was about western Democrats, particularly those in Indiana and Illinois; it was said that they hated their President, yet were compelled to stand by and indorse his every word and act. Cleveland laughed. "Yes, I understand all that: we have some such Democrats in New York. But these rampantly hostile Democratic friends of ours must be taught that they represent but a very small percentage of the population of our country. It will take time for them to learn that the national Government is not merely a trough, but they will surely learn it. The political millennium is much nearer than some people suppose."

A PICTURE THAT IS TRUE TO THE LIFE.

Southern Alliance Farmer.

Dana is without doubt editor of the most disreputable daily paper in New York or the whole country. He depends for his patronage upon the hoodlums and toughs of that city, and it is his business to pander to their venal and depraved literary taste. He is as treacherous as an Indian, and will knife alike party or friend if his personal pique or interest dictates. The paper that Mr. Dana edits is a fit representative of the great city. He is devoid of either soul or principle, and reeks with the corruption of the sewerage on which he feeds and fattens. The editor of the *Sun* is as changeable as a chameleon, and is true to nothing but his vile passions and unreasonable prejudices. While professing to publish a Democratic paper, Mr. Dana did all he could in a sneaking way to defeat Grover Cleveland, the party nominee, because he refused to recognize with a high official position such a mess of political and social putrefaction.

NOW, PUT UP, OR SHUT UP!

New York Evening Post.

The New York *Press* having offered to fill the office of a Boston newspaper with American tin plate as cheap as English tin plate is sold within thirty days, a new York broker in metals writes to his Boston correspondent that he is prepared to take 50,000 boxes of American tin plate, for delivery in Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, or Chicago, any time within thirty days, and pay cash on delivery, provided the price is as low as that of the English article. "This," says the Boston *Transcript* (Rep.), in vigorous colloquial phrase, "is 'square talk,' and not 'bluff,' as it comes from a firm of undoubted integrity and standing."

SIMPSON'S SAYINGS.

From his Boston Speech.

Every seaport ought to favor Free Trade, for it isn't what a ship takes out but what a ship brings back that enriches a country.

It must be a disappointment to the advocates of protection that it does not seem to have built up a home market for farm products in the East.

YES, WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH MAKING THEM FREE, TOO.

Kansas City Star.

The protection organs are praising the McKinley bill for wiping out the tariff on sugar and saving the consumers of the country fifty million dollars a year. If free sugar is a good thing, what's the matter with free blankets, free carpets, free gloves, free cloaks, etc.?

HOW TO INCREASE PROFITS.

Minneapolis Journal.

Mr. Jason—"I have half a notion to sell that corner house. I can't make it bring more than 6 per cent. to save me." Mrs. Jason—"Why don't you cut theprice of it down one-half? Then it would bring in 12 per cent."

PLEASE EXPLAIN, MR. MAC.

New York World.

Perhaps Mr. McKinley will explain why cheap sugar doesn't mean "a cheap man," as he once said a cheap coat does?"

OF COURSE IT WOULD.

Boston Globe.

Of course free wool would reduce the price of clothing, just as free sugar has reduced the price of sugar.

SINGLE TAX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES.

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

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

ARKANSAS.

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

CALIFORNIA.

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

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

SAN FRANCISCO.—California single tax society, room 9, 941 Market street. Pres., I. N. Manzer; cor. sec., Thomas Watson, 941 Market street.

COLORADO.

DENVER.—Denver single tax club. Every Thursday evening, 1612 Champa st. Free reading room open every day, 9 a. m. to 9 p. m. Pres., G. H. Phelps; sec. H. C. Miles, 393 19th st.

CONNECTICUT.

SHARON.—Sharon single tax committee. Chairman, J. J. Ryan.

DELAWARE.

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

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

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

GEORGIA.

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

ILLINOIS.

CHICAGO.—Chicago single tax club. Every Thursday evening, club room 4, Grand Pacific Hotel. Pres., Warren Worth Bailey, 326 Hudson av; sec., F. W. Irwin, 217 La Salle st., room 835.

SOUTH CHICAGO.—Single tax club of South Chicago and Cheltenham. Pres., John Black; sec., Robt. Aitchison, box K. K., South Chicago.

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

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

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

INDIANA.

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

RICHMOND.—Single tax club. Pres., C. S. Schneider, 205 South 3d st.; sec., M. Richie, 913 South A st.

IOWA.

BURLINGTON.—Burlington single tax club. First Saturday of each month, 305 North 8th st. Pres., Wilbur, Monona, 320 Hedge av.; sec. treas., Frank S. Churchill.

KENTUCKY.

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

LOUISIANA.

NEW ORLEANS.—Louisiana single tax club. Meets first and third Thursday night at 8 p. m. at 121 Poydras st. Pres., Jas. Middleton; sec., G. W. Roberts, 236 Thalia st.

MAINE.

AUBURN.—Auburn single tax club. Public meetings every Saturday evening, 3 River Road. Pres., A. C. Dunning; sec., W. G. Andrews, P. O. Box 703.

MARYLAND.

BALTIMORE.—Single tax league of Maryland. Every Monday at 8 p. m., in hall 506 East Baltimore st.; Pres., Wm. J. Ogden, 5 North Carey st.; rec. sec., J. W. Hessel, 28 S. Broadway; cor. sec., Dr. Wm. N. Hill, 1426 E. Baltimore st.

Baltimore single tax society. Every Sunday afternoon, 3 p. m., at Industrial Hall, 316 W. Lombard st. Pres., Jas. T. Kelly; sec., W. H. Kelly, 522 Columbia st.

MASSACHUSETTS.

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

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

BROCKTON.—Single tax club. Meets Friday evenings corner Glenwood av. and Vernon st, Pres., Wm A. McKindrick; sec., A. S. Barnard, 54 Belmont st.

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

HAVERHILL.—Haverhill single tax league. Meets every Thursday evening, at 73 Merrimac st. Pres., Geo. W. Pettengill; cor. sec., Edward E. Cullum, 4 Green st

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

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

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

ROXBURY.—Single tax club. Pres., J. R. Carrett, 39 Court st., Boston; sec., Henry C. Romaine, 969 Tremont st.

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

MINNESOTA.

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

ST. PAUL.—Single tax club. Pres., H. C. McCartey; sec., Geo. C. Madison, 339 E. 7th st. Second and fourth Tuesdays at 41 W. 4th st.

MISSOURI.

STATE.—Missouri single tax committee. Henry H. Hoffman, chairman; sec., Percy Pepoon, 3507 Easton av, St. L.

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

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

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

Benton School of Social Science. Meets every Saturday evening at 6339 Waldemar avenue. Pres., Henry S. Chase; sec., W. C. Little.

NEBRASKA.

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

NEW JERSEY.

CAMDEN.—Single tax club. Meets every Saturday evening at Felton hall, n. e. cor. Second and Federal sts. Pres. Aaron Hand; sec., Wm. M. Cellingham, 530 Line st.

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

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

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

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

PATERSON.—Passaic Co. single tax club. Pres., E. W. Nellis; sec., John A. Craig, 192 Hamburg av. Meetings every Thursday evening at 169 Market st.

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

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

NEW YORK.

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

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

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

Women's single tax club. Meetings the first and third Tuesdays. 198 Livingston st. at 3 o'clock. Pres., Miss Eva J. Turner; sec., Mrs. Robert Baker, 884 Greene av.

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

Eastern District single tax club. Meetings first and third Mondays, 284 Broadway. Pres., Joseph McGuinness, 123 S. 9th st., Brooklyn, E. D.; sec., Emily A. Deverall.

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

ALBANY.—Albany single tax club. Meetings Sunday, 7.30 p. m., Beaver-Block, cor. Pearl and Norton sts. Pres., F. W. Croake; cor. sec., Geo. Noyes.

BUFFALO.—Tax Reform Club. Pres., S. C. Rogers; sec., T. M. Crowe, 777 Elk st.

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

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

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

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

WEST NEW BRIGHTON.—Richmond County single tax club. Sec., A. B. Stoddard.

NORTH DAKOTA.

HATTON.—Hatton single tax reform club. Pres., A. S. Forslid; sec., T. E. Nelson; treas., M. F. Hegge.

OHIO.

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

CLEVELAND.—Central single tax club. First and third Wednesday evenings, 8 p. m.; rooms, 301 and 302 Arcade, Euclid av. Pres., Tom L. Johnson; sec., L. E. Siemon, 7 Greenwood st.

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

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

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

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

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

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

PENNSYLVANIA.

BRADFORD.—Single tax club. Hevenor's hall, 41 Main st. Meetings for discussion every Sunday at 3.30 p. m.

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

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

PHILADELPHIA.—Single tax society of Philadelphia, every Thursday, 8 p. m., 1341 Arch st.; cor. sec., A. H. Stephenson, 240 Chestnut st.

PITTSBURG.—Pittsburg single tax club. Meets every first and third Sunday evening at 7.30, 64 4th av. Pres., Edm. Yardley; sec. Mark F. Roberts, 140 South 24th st.

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

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

RHODE ISLAND.

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

SOUTH DAKOTA.

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

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

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

TENNESSEE.

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

TEXAS.

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

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THE SINGLE TAX PLATFORM.

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

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

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

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

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

Since in all our states we now levy some tax on the value of land, the single tax can be instituted by the simple and easy way of abolishing, one after another all other taxes now levied, and commensurately increasing the tax on land values, until we draw upon that one

source for all expenses of government, the revenue being divided between local governments, state governments and the general government, as the revenue from direct taxes is now divided between the local and state governments; or, a direct assessment being made by the general government upon the states and paid by them from revenues collected in this manner.

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

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

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

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

The single tax, therefore, would—

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

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

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

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

5. It would, on the other hand, by taking for public use that value which attaches to land by reason of the growth and improvement of the community, make the holding of land unprofitable to the mere owner, and profitable only to the user. It would thus make it impossible for speculators and monopolists to hold natural opportunities unused or on a half used, and would throw open to labor the illimitable field of employment which the earth offers to man. It would thus solve the labor problem, do away with involuntary poverty, raise wages in all occupations to the full earnings of labor, make overproduction impossible until all human wants are satisfied, render labor-saving inventions a blessing to all, and cause such an enormous production and such an equitable distribution of wealth as would give to all comfort, leisure and participation in the advantages of an advancing civilization.

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

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Dated New York, March 11, 1891.

WINTHROP PARKER, Assignee.

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