

HENRY GEORGE, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

OPENING THE FIGHT.

An Open Challenge.
The Philadelphia Henry George club chal-
lenges "any political organization favoring a
protective tariff," to a public debate on the
question of free trade versus protection. The
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WHAT ONE WOMAN HAS DONE.

To many ardent believers in the good results of the restoration of the land to the people, the question which arises foremost is how they themselves can do something to help forward the grand movement. To those like myself with no special gifts of speech or pen, the discouraging feeling comes that they can do nothing to bring about such tremendous changes in public opinion, as must take place ere their hopes can be attained—an overwhelming sense of the mightiness of the undertaking, and a very distinct conviction of personal insignificance. But after all it was the mouse who freed the lion in the old fable, and I sometimes think that persistent efforts by many workers, each in their own little circle can accomplish a great deal of good and make more easy the grand work of this new crusade. I have met with so much success myself in my limited sphere of action that I think it might encourage others who are likewise enthusiastic, but distrustful of their powers to aid the cause, to hear of my experience.

Of course it goes without saying that I do all the talking I can on the subject to friends and acquaintances. Even an afternoon call I find can be utilized for dropping a few seeds. A word said sometimes to an anxious mother who is worrying over her boy just starting out to do for himself, and who finds opportunities for making a living scarce, or to a wife who complains of the little time her husband has to spend with her and the children, and wishes he were not so tied to his business, will often result in setting a whole family to thinking.

I think the woman's efficacy for good in this movement can hardly be over-estimated, for despite her lack of political and civil equality with men, her influence in home circles is unbounded, and many a man who would resist the arguments of the most brilliant orator, or turn from a work on political economy, will succumb to the method of wife or sisters in putting the economic problem before him. Some quite amusing instances of this have fallen under my observation. One case occurred last summer when I succeeded in interesting a young girl who was visiting me and whose family were very averse to the George movement. She had no sooner returned home than she commenced the work of proselyting with such success that her brother voted the united labor ticket last fall; the whole family are Georgists now, and I would not like to say how many friends they in turn have set to thinking. While as for a sweet-heart's ability to make a young man, in whom no other mortal could arouse the faintest symptom of interest in the matter, wax suddenly eloquent over the wrongs of the disinherited masses, it is a thing calculated to excite astonishment in the mind of the most sanguine crusader. It is rather hard to get girls interested in this matter at first, as they have a sort of idea that politics are not in their line and that political economy is dreadfully dull and dry, but once done so, and they are most enthusiastic workers. If you can get but one woman in a family you may draw a breath of relief and leave her to manage the rest. She will never rest till she converts them all.

But the greatest amount of good can, I think, be done through correspondence. This, too, is a very pleasant way to revive old friendships. If one has not seen a friend for some years or letter writing has flagged between relatives, this crusade makes an easy method to renew old relations. One cannot very well sit down and write a letter on nothing but the commonplaces of home life in such cases, for the reason that there seems no more special call for correspondence in the present than in the past. But it is very simple to write to a friend after any interval of separation, of the new and absorbing interest which has come into your life in your desire to see the abolition of industrial slavery. I find a very good way to begin matters is to inclose a tract from the land and labor library or send a copy of THE STANDARD with some particular article marked to which I wish to draw special attention, and ask for an opinion on it, telling at the same time my own views on the subject. This is a fruitful source of pleasant correspondence, and, I think, leads to even better results than talking, as there is no chance to laugh the matter off or change the conversation, as people are sometimes inclined to do when they are getting the worst of the argument. It also compels your opponents to do some hard thinking if they wish to maintain their position, as a person would hesitate to set down on paper a hastily formed judgment in answer to a frank appeal to their reason, and this thinking on their part is much more important than fine arguments on your own. Mr. Pentecost tells of his conversion to the George theories by his seriously setting to work to refute "Progress and Poverty," and I believe we can help a great many to a like conclusion, if we only get them to honestly trying to show the fallacy in the idea that God made this earth for the use and benefit of all his children, and not for a few only. The greatest obstacles to the attainment of a single tax on land values is a general total lack of knowledge as to the whole movement, or an absolute indifference to the subject, which comes from a sort of notion that the land question only affects farmers; and any one who really wishes to advance the cause, can do somewhat in their immediate circle to enlighten the ignorance on the one hand, and awaken an interest on the other. If they will just think up all the people they know whom they have reason to believe have not heard of our doctrines, or are opposed to them, and as I before said, will attack them with a tract or a STANDARD which fits their particular case they will find as I have done that they will rarely fail to get them started in the right direction.

Aside from the happiness which one derives from the consciousness of helping in however humble a manner or slight a degree in this grandest of all crusades, there is lots of fun in this letter writing besides.

There is no nibbling of pen or looking up to the ceiling for an inspiration, which will suffice to fill the orthodox four pages of note paper. You find you have so much to say, and your thoughts come so fast, that the only difficulty is how to get your bulky epistles in the ordinary envelope, and when the answers come, it is such a satisfaction to find you have made a little headway; that some point is conceded, or the argument in reply so weak, that you feel sure you can reach them next time. I have always on hand four or five correspondents like this with whom I wage this bloodless battle with pen and ink, and keep changing to new groups as soon as the object is attained and interest is excited to study and become thoroughly acquainted with the problem and its proposed remedy, or the person becomes really convinced of the truths of our principles. Besides these regular debating letters, I make a point in my ordinary letter writing, whether to man, woman or child, to weave in some little of the land question, and really it is not hard to find appropriate ways to introduce it. All roads lead to Rome, they say, and I find that every letter offers an opportunity to either show some of the injustices in our present treatment of land as private property, or to expatiate on the good times which would come if the single tax were substituted for all others.

For instance, it is very easy to say to a friend who writes she would be delighted to have me come out to California and make her a visit, that I would be charmed to do so, but cannot afford it, owing to the present condition of things which turns the Union and Central Pacific railroad, which should be a public benefit to all the people of the United States, into a scheme for putting immense fortunes into the pockets of a few of our not too scrupulous citizens, by permitting them to absolutely own those public highways, and to put whatever price the traffic will bear upon the unfortunate masses of non-owners. The tract on A Mysterious Disappearance I find very useful with children and young people generally, as without entering into the taxing question as a means of freeing the land to the people it yet shows them very clearly that the disastrous fate of poor Qui Fasset as a temporary member of the crew family is equally applicable to a landless member of the human family. And by the way, I do not think children are at all to be despised as allies, as they have the faculty of putting various leading questions to their parents and elders and producing in those elder and wiser members of society the humiliating sense of inability to answer the same.

In fact so intimately is this land question related to every condition of our life that even trivial little home matters will be found to lead to it, as the price of coal and Wilton carpets are sure means to enlist the housekeeper's sympathy with George's theories. We cannot all be Pentecosts, Potts, Croasdales and McCreadys, or Miss Muniers, Miss Becks or Mrs. Frances Milnes to talk, sing and write beautifully to thousands. But I do believe if we would all try earnestly to do as much as we can to spread the light as far as our own sphere of action extends, we could accomplish a great deal of good, even though it seems a very small and humble work in comparison with that we are burning to do. Society after all is only an aggregate of families, and in the sense that if we look after the pence the pounds will look after themselves, so if we see to it that all the families in our circle of influence are led to see the truth of our principles, and they in turn will increase the diffusion of knowledge by the same means, if they have not the ability to preach publicly the glad tidings, the movement will spread in ever widening circles, and we may safely leave society as a whole to look after itself. I have not a particle of sympathy, I confess, with those who sometimes write to THE STANDARD of the agencies they endure at being called a crank for advocacy of what they know to be the truth. I should be ashamed if I had not the courage of my convictions, and were not able to show that the term crank is much more applicable to those who like to denounce theories as absurd, and people as cranks for believing in them, without themselves taking the trouble to read and study the evidence upon which the theory is based.

This system of fighting the enemy through private letter writing has proved in my own case most successful, and I am sure it would be equally so with any one who would try it. I have at present on hand a correspondent in London, two west and two south, and whenever I make a new acquaintance who proves to be unfriendly to our principles, I mentally put him or her "on the list" for future missionary work. It is such a simple and glorious remedy we offer for the social evils which afflict mankind that we have but to "keep it before the people" to have it eagerly embraced. If our radius of influence is small, let us but do our work faithfully within it, feeling that with each convert we make we are that much nearer to the coming of the city of God on earth, the reign of the prince of peace.

IDA HIBBARD.

What Feels These Mortals Best?

Toronto Grip.—"Some sort of fools all over the world," said the real estate agent. "Over there in Berlin I see some jackass paid \$300 for the use of a window to see the late emperor's funeral go by, and they paid even more for places to watch the queen's jubilee procession in London last summer."

"And you call them what?" asked the political economist.

"Fools," I said. "Any man who would spend so much money for such a purpose, is an idiot," replied the real estate agent, emphatically.

"Perhaps he is; but what would you think of a man who charged his neighbors a fancy figure for giving them permission to stand on the street to see that funeral?" asked the economist, mildly.

"Oh, what're you giving us! Do you suppose anybody would pay anything if there was no money in it?"

"I don't want to see any big funeral go by. Better wait for one of those Berlin fools to come along."

"And the political economist departed to give a lecture on the single tax system, which was put in the public till the land values created by the community."

THE TYRANNY THAT GRINDS THE LEHIGH MINERS.

It Can Make or Unmake Villages as Well as Men—Ruin That Followed the Strike of 1877.

FREELAND, Pa., April 13.—While interest in the condition of the victims of the recent Lehigh miners' coal strike continues and general attention is being called to their sufferings and appeals made for help, it may be worth while, in order that those not conversant with the situation may be able to thoroughly appreciate the absolute power which the coal operators possess in being permitted to lay exclusive claim to all the vast wealth of anthracite coal with which providence has so generously filled those hills and valleys, to recall one instance which the public has probably long since forgotten.

When the great strike of the brotherhood of locomotive engineers was inaugurated in 1877, the town of Tamaqua was a thriving one. It was a central point in the Reading railroad system, had a population of about ten or twelve thousand, and was surrounded for a radius of from eight to ten miles with smaller villages that as years went on would have grown toward it until all would have been joined together in one great city. The Middle and Schuylkill anthracite coal fields would then have had a central point from which merchants could procure goods cheaper than they now can; manufacturing industries would have started into life, and instead of being, as it is now, almost a wilderness, it might have been, and undoubtedly was intended by nature to be, a mart at which much labor could find employment.

The hills and valleys in and around Tamaqua contain the richest deposits of anthracite coal in the world. The veins double and treble themselves until, in 120 feet of pure coal, and these beds are practically inexhaustible. When the Reading railroad company, through its president, Mr. F. B. Gowen, conceived the idea of purchasing all the Schuylkill valley coal mines, with the avowed purpose of "squeezing out" all the individual operators and securing a monopoly of the coal as well as the carrying business, Tamaqua and the whole vicinity were caught in the net. When the brotherhood strike and the trouble with the miners began, Mr. Gowen, seeing the men making a very determined stand, made his famous threat that if the trouble continued he would withdraw his favor from Tamaqua and make the town such a wilderness that the "goats could eat grass in the village streets." The men had the hardihood to continue the struggle, and Mr. Gowen almost literally made good his threat. The large rolling mills and furnaces then in full blast have since lain idle, and hundreds of stalwart men have been compelled to go elsewhere to work. I was through that country early last March and drove from Tamaqua to Middleport one bright Sunday morning. Along the road are remains of what were once thriving little towns—Turkey Run, Tuscarora and several others—and the utter desolation which exists there ought to open the eyes of the present sufferers to the evils of the land monopoly. I passed where once summer resorts, fine residences, stone and brick structures, now all gone to decay. The cellar walls have crumbled away; the bottom sills of the houses have rotted. Cows, pigs, chickens, goats and all sorts of domestic animals there make their shelter. Desolation is complete. No man can purchase a foot of the coal lands or farm lands. Coal breakers have been torn down, and mines that would have employed thousands of men and boys are abandoned. The building industry is paralyzed, and manufacturing is not to be thought of.

And all this is because of the law that permits the Reading railroad company to hold that land as their own to the exclusion of all others, and to charge men what they please to live and work upon it.

How long will the ignorance and prejudice of the workers permit this to continue? Cannot they see that just as long as these powers are permitted to remain in the hands of a few men, strikes and boycotts are worse than useless. Tax these lands to their full value, and instead of desolation and suffering, oppression and blacklisting, every foot of coal land would be in use; every miner would be employed at the best of wages. There would then be no necessity for strikes—all men would, indeed, be free.

W. B. ESTELL.

A SOLID TIMBER SHIP.

A Freight-Saving Contrivance Which May Be Intended to Save Customs Duties as Well.

Mr. Leary, the loss of whose great raft last fall caused such a flutter of excitement, is by no means discouraged by the failure of his first experiment. He has figured out that if in any way he can manage to have a raft of timber towed to New York, the mere saving of schooner freights and landing will amount to a small fortune in itself, to say nothing of the regular profit on the importation. So, in one way or another, he is determined that the thing shall be done. He is having constructed at Joggins, Nova Scotia, a gigantic ship, 600 feet long, 34 feet wide and 38 feet deep. She will be built of about 25,000 spruce trees and pieces of piling, the sticks averaging thirty-eight feet in length, running up in size from a diameter of six inches at the small end. The ship has no hold, but her hull is a solid mass from keel to deck, rounding fore and aft, as the boss carpenter says, "in regular ship-shape."

The vessel will carry six masts, each built twelve feet into the hull and fitted with spring steel and shrouds. She will be square rigged, with fore and aft trysails, and will be fitted with windlass, anchors, rudder and full steering gear. The foremast head and mainmast head will be fitted with crow's nests, each supplied with a powerful, self-feeding lamp, capable of burning for thirty days, so that in the event of the craft being temporarily abandoned at sea she will give timely warning by night to all approaching vessels. She will carry a crew of twenty men, for whose accommodation a large house is to be erected on the deck. It is intended to employ a powerful tug to tow her to New York, and the builder is confident that the voyage can be accomplished in much shorter time than if the logs were arranged in the form of a raft. The vessel is now more than half completed, and will probably be ready for launching in June.

A correspondent of the New York Herald, who visited Joggins to inspect the new style of vessel, obtained the following information from the contractor in charge:

"There is big money in this business," said Mr. Robertson. "New York wants more piling, and cheaper piling and longer piling than it now gets. Nova Scotia has the article in endless profusion; it is growing there faster than we can carry it away by schooners, even if these small craft could transport the lengths required, which is totally out of the question. I know this much now, if rafts cannot be towed from the Joggins shore to New York, timber ships can be. It is not more power we want, but less surface resistance. The tow must be built to assist and not to thwart the tug; yet the success of the venture must not be contingent on the tensile strength of a hawser. I will build such a structure this time that it will be able, if towed from its leading stings, to ride the seas till succor arrives, or, if need be, to work its own way into port."

The big ship raft, however, will have other difficulties besides wind and wave to overcome before she can reach New York. She has to force her way through the Canadian tariff wall. Canada believes in protecting Canadian industry, if she has to drive every workingman out of Canada to do it, and accordingly she imposes an export duty of \$1 per 1,000 feet board measure on spruce saw logs, and \$2 per 1,000 on pine saw logs. The schooner owners, who see remunerative shipping away from them, just that an quantity of saw logs are being built into the big ship; but Mr. Robertson insists that she is made of nothing but piling and should therefore be allowed to sail free. There may be trouble with her clearance; for once she is put together it will be impossible to examine her cargo without taking her to pieces.

Paterson ruled by her saloons.

Corruption Ran Riot at the Recent Election—Votes Bought for a Glass of Beer.

PATERSON, N. J., April 10.—Our town has again settled down to its usual condition of disinterested selfishness after a short era of "political" excitement. Paterson is a republic, and the excitement over the charter election was due to the efforts of the saloon keepers to elect democrats to the board of aldermen, to punish the republicans for having assailed a high license law, with severe penalties for Sunday liquor selling. The saloonists were successful, electing six out of eight aldermen by the free use of booze, and according to the local democratic organ, they would have had the other two as well but for an oversight as to the purchasing power of booze. The same organ, in commenting on the democratic (?) victory in one of the strongest republican wards, remarks that alderman "enjoyed the free use of all the money he needed." His majority was over three. In another democratic ward there was a strong fight between an independent democrat and a regular democrat. It is unnecessary for the saloonists to concern themselves with this ward, whatever bottle was used was put up by the candidates and their friends. The "regular" nominee was backed by the post office department and the postmaster himself peddled tickets at the polls. However, the post office department had received the endorsement of the labor party and what support it was able to give, the strongest democratic ward in the city republicans endorsed the labor ticket and here the labor party made the best showing, at one would hardly call such a fusion vote labor vote.

The supply of purchasable voters must have been largely in excess of the demand, prices ruled very low. Beer checks, each good for a five cent drink, seemed to be the standard, although in one instance a spurt was made, and two voters were bought for fifteen cents each. Before the market had been gauged, however, two and three dollars were asked and paid, and in some instances a house and lot owned by a voter, was privately estimated and prices fell, until at the close of the polls both prices and voters were decidedly unsteady. If these people would burn a trust, they could get more out of an election than they did Monday.

The single tax vote was 775 in the city. There was no "labor" vote.

The saloon keepers used the democratic vote to punish the republicans, and altogether it was a great event in local politics. Bute heaven of righteousness is getting in its work, and there will be general retribution the next "turning of the wheel."

E. W. NELLIS.

Rhode Island's Opportunity.

ISDALE, R. I.—After the present year Rhode Island, for the first time in her history, will be politically free. Then any citizen of the United States who has acquired residence can vote for all civil offices except members of the city council of the three cities. The only qualification required such adult males is an annual registration. Our suffrage, therefore, will be freer than that of Connecticut, where an educational qualification obtains, and vastly freer than that of Massachusetts, where, in addition to an educational qualification, there also required the prepayment of a poll of two dollars.

Under these circumstances Rhode Island, with compact population, would seem to be the most favorable for the adoption of single tax. The newly enfranchised voters (they will number next year some eight thousand) are ready to be led in the grand manufacturing towns. They are averse to a considerable extent united in labor organizations, and with their trust in lead have had a valuable experience in the brief about the extension of the suffrage—of reforms the most difficult, because those directly benefited could not vote. Aball else, the new voters occupy the unposition, and possess the instinctive advantage of being unattached to either of the parties. Manifestly it is only necessary to concentrate public attention at the precinct upon some single vital reform, and a reform is sure to be adopted.

Especially a reform is now known, fundamental in nature, far-reaching in its good effects, and popular mind, not only of democratic but also of aristocratic opinion, an eschism which will sweep everything before it.

Atty land and labor elites exist in the city of Providence and Pawtucket, and individual adherents of the George theory are in manufacturing village.

It remains, therefore, to lead a fair share the people of this little state to realize the substitution of a single tax upon land values for all other taxes will abolish poverty in order soon to bring here the degree of general prosperity which our citizens in the past have not dreamed.

LUCIUS F. C. GARTIN.

The Women are at Work.

SACRAMENTO, Cal., April 5.—Please find the order for tracts. I can do good work them. Since I read "Progress and Poverty" took up "the cross of the new crusade" years ago, I have tried to spread glorious principles. The name of "crusade" not regarded as a stigma, but as a honorary title.

Therine of the single tax is spreading slowly, but with a certainty that must lead to a big change. Poverty is adding space in San Francisco and charitable institutions are obliged to double their beds; and this, in face of nature's low bounty, must start open minded men thinking.

Any acquaintances there are more converted to your doctrines than men, which is due to the fact that women have a sense of justice than men have and are from the economic sophistries of the obol.

S. SOLOMONS.

FOR PRACTICAL MEN.

A Western Paper Does a Little Figuring on Local Taxation.

Detroit Evening News.

The present method of taxation is to throw out a drag net and seize on everything but churches, graveyards and the Michigan central railroad. So completely has this idea seized the popular mind that, not satisfied with taxing the article itself, the mortgage on it is taxed as well as the paper money representing that intangible thing known as credit, by which the transactions of buying and loaning are consummated. Every legislature that meets tries some new way of digging out "undiscovered" property, in spite of all certain kinds continually eluding the assessor, though actually increasing enormously in quantity. The assessor is not to blame. The law is at fault.

To remedy inequitable assessments the latest plan is to relieve from assessment all property which is the result of human exertion, and to lay all taxes on land values alone—to exempt all buildings and personal property; to take no notice of bonds and mortgages; to make no account of fencing, or draining, or cultivating—to look on land as virgin soil and lay all taxes on the values created by reason of population or location. This is the single tax idea.

If all taxes in Detroit were placed on land values alone, what would be the result? Who would be relieved? Who would pay an increased burden? Would it be equitable?

The system pursued by the assessors in placing values in this city renders these questions easier to answer than they would be with most other localities. Here the value of the land, the building and the personal property is kept separate. The assessed value of the lots, buildings and personal property of Detroit for 1887 was as follows:

Ward.	Lots.	Buildings.	Personal.
1.....	\$12,363,100	\$7,546,940	\$7,141,590
2.....	15,666,220	9,516,980	14,214,490
3.....	2,925,000	2,822,780	1,477,860
4.....	5,117,840	4,117,570	2,551,600
5.....	2,658,550	2,382,300	1,741,510
6.....	2,777,720	2,573,740	1,710,040
7.....	2,125,970	1,285,880	1,540,990
8.....	2,735,780	1,955,380	495,790
9.....	2,654,380	2,100,130	974,710
10.....	2,578,420	2,670,280	1,040,780
11.....	1,775,290	1,481,510	604,260
12.....	1,321,250	1,649,940	1,216,750
13.....	1,734,430	994,480	720,360
14.....	1,599,730	994,480	1,171,230
15.....	1,825,970	704,570	834,960
16.....	1,610,010	625,490	265,960
	\$61,178,050	\$42,649,750	\$36,530,040

The rate of city taxation last year was 12 mills on the dollar, and the amount raised was \$1,714,450.71. Of this there was raised, in round numbers, \$760,000 on the land, \$513,000 on buildings and \$440,000 on personal property. To raise the whole of this \$1,714,450.71 on land alone would have raised the rate to 27 mills on the dollar—more than double the present rate. Let us see how this would affect average individuals.

On the corner of Buchanan and Fifteenth streets, between Twenty-second and Twenty-third streets, lives a shoemaker. He owns his house and lot, which he has paid for by hard work. He is a typical cottage holder—sober, industrious, intelligent. His lot is 27x107, and is assessed for \$270. His house is assessed for \$350. At the present rate and under the present system of taxation he pays \$7.44 in city taxes. If only land values were taxed he would pay \$7.29.

On the corner of Buchanan and Fifteenth streets is a house and lot owned by a renter. The lot is assessed for \$250 and the house for \$400. The house is on the back of the lot. The assessment on this property last year was \$7.80. Under the single tax idea it would be \$6.75.

The great majority of cases the assessed value of buildings on cottage property largely exceeds the assessed value of the lots. Thus a direct benefit would accrue to small property owners by the adoption of the single tax idea. The benefits that would accrue to them as wage workers are much greater.

E. A. Fisher and the Fisher estate own the valuable property corner of Woodward and Michigan avenues. It is irregular in shape—about 168x75—and is assessed at \$152,500 on the land and \$23,000 on the buildings. The present taxes on this property are \$2,100. Under the single tax it would be \$4,117. So it is plain the holders in this instance have everything to lose and nothing to gain by changing the present system. To be sure the gain would be \$276 on the buildings, but the loss would be \$2,287 on the land. Nor could the Fishers shift this added burden on to those who rent from them. If they could do this they could raise the rent without the tax.

Out on the boulevard, near Woodward avenue, a real estate speculator owns a piece of ground 216x110, divided into four lots and held for speculative purposes. It is assessed at \$2,400, and the taxes foot up \$28.80. Under the single tax plan he would pay on these lots \$183.50. Of course he is opposed to the single tax idea. His lots—and these are but a few of many he owns—would sell for no more, while they would eat their heads off if not improved.

Freedom from taxation on personal property would result in immediate advantage to consumers. For example: J. L. Hudson pays \$1,200 taxes on his stock. Were this tax repealed, the public would reap the benefit in lower prices, for all other clothing dealers would also be benefited, and the competition between them would result in lowering the prices by the amount of the taxes. The same can be said of W. H. Elliott, who now pays over \$800 taxes on his dry goods in stock. Were Messrs. Elliott and Hudson alone exempt from taxation, it would give them so great an advantage over competitors that they could in time drive their competitors out of the market, other things being equal.

Apply the single tax idea to the manufacturers of Detroit, and it would become one of the greatest industrial centers in the country. The whole output in all competitors or competitors of other municipalities would be equalized in the matter of taxation. So the wage working class and the small property owners would not only be benefited through lower taxes on their little buildings and reduced prices for their purchases, but also by steadier employment, if not higher wages.

Thus, were all taxes in Detroit to be levied on land values alone, it would lighten the burdens of manufacturers, the traders and the small property owners. It would increase and lighten the burdens of the bond and mortgage holders, for the great majority escape now. It would lighten the burdens of the borrowers of money on mortgages, for it would take out of the problem the fiction that the mortgagee pays the taxes. It would increase the burdens of holders of unimproved land, and it would press the hardest on land speculators.

Making Use of the Current.

When traveling on the Rhine some time ago I saw what are called, I believe, "flying bridges." They are constructed in the following way: In the middle of the stream, say 500 feet above the point where one wishes to cross, an anchor is firmly embedded in the bottom of the river. Attached to the anchor is a cable, and at the other end of the cable is a boat some forty feet long; the bow of the boat points up stream toward the anchor. The cable is attached to an iron bar running across the boat some ten feet above the deck and one-third of the way back from the bow. The end of the cable travels back and forth across this bar in such a way that if the boat heads to the right the cable runs over to the left, and vice versa. Now the boat being at one side of the river, all that is necessary is to release it from the moorings and bring into use the very large rudder, when the current of the river swings the boat first to the middle of the stream and then over to the opposite bank. One man, the helmsman, does all the work, except

fastening and unfastening at the dock. All the power is supplied by the swift current.

This is the ingenious and sensible way in which the Rhine people get outside forces to do their work for them; and if we could only apply the principle to our affairs it might be worth our while. Take politics for instance. Let this bank of the river represent where we stand to-day. Let the opposite bank represent the conditions we are striving to attain. Let the anchor represent the principles we hold to. Now all we have to do is to let our little boat swing out and take advantage of the tariff reform and free trade current of public opinion, and presto! we find ourselves where we wanted to go.

W. BENDER.

FREE MEN AND FREE TRADE.

The Anti-Slavery Apostle an Absolute Free Trader.

William Lloyd Garrison, the younger, is throwing himself into the struggle against protective taxes with an energy and ability worthy of his father. The Boston Traveller and other protection papers having intimated that in this he was not following in the footsteps of his father, Mr. Garrison closed a recent free trade speech in Boston with the following extract from a speech made by his father in the same city in 1868:

The cause of human liberty covers and includes all possible forms of human industry, and best determines how the productions thereof must be distributed, and how they are to be brought to market, and how they are to be sold abroad for mutual advantage. He is the most sagacious political economist who contends for the highest justice, the most far-reaching equality, a close adherence to natural laws, and the removal of those restrictions which foster natural inequalities and selfishness. The mysteries of government are only jingles of usurpers and demagogues. There is nothing intricate in freedom, free institutions, the law of interchange, the measure of reciprocity, the principle of free trade, the removal of those restrictions of class legislation, disregarding the common interests of the people, that creates confusion, sophistications, the judgment, and dazzles to betray. The law of gravitation needs no legislative safeguards to make its operation more effective or more beneficent. It is supposed—other things being equal—that those whose lives are devoted to business affairs and financial matters will have a clearer perception of what concerns their interests than those who are engaged in purely professional or philanthropic. "Other things being equal" is a very important qualification. Alas! they are often most unequal, because of the profligate disregard of principle; and then follow ingratitude, entanglement, loss of vision, impaired faculties, and desperate expedients, calamitous results. This was strikingly illustrated in the insane conduct of the business men of the nation of all classes, in burning incense and servilely bowing the knee to the southern Moloch for a period of three score years and ten, animated by the belief that it was a paying business investment. What came of it we have all had bitter occasion to know.

Believing that the interests of the American people lie in no wise manner in the hands of those of the people of any other country, and denying the rectitude or feasibility of building ourselves up at their expense by an exclusive policy, obstructing the natural flow of material exchanges, I have myself been a radical free trader, even to the extent of desiring the abolition of all custom houses throughout the world. That event is far distant, undoubtedly, but I believe it will come with the freedom and enlightenment of mankind. My faith is absolute that it will do away with the barriers to every branch of human industry, whether at home or abroad. Its realization cannot fail to bring great and signal blessings along with it, and to foster a more noble and expansive spirit of humanity throughout the world, through which at last all the nations of the earth shall strike hands in amity and peace.

STRAWS WHICH SHOW THE WIND.

The taxation of land values, the tax paid to be regulated by what men who want land are willing to pay for it, is the only plan yet devised, so far as we know, for the overthrow of land monopoly.—(Toledo, O., News.)

Free trade is the great question of the time. Just as our people carry themselves the United States as a good labor market, so will our producers of all kinds eventually see that to make those products most available to their, too, must get that market.—(St. John, N. B., Globe.)

There is something worth thinking about in the remarks of a Buffalonian returned from California, as reported by the Commercial Appeal: "Americans native born have no idea of the importance of owning land. They have let foreigners come here and buy hundreds of thousands of acres of land, and just because it was cheap the American citizens wouldn't have it. They are paying an annual tax on the values rose, as in many cases out west, the foreigner was the one to profit by it."—(Lynn, Mass., Bee.)

There is no point on the Genesee river within the limits of Rochester where a new bridge across the Genesee is so urgently needed as at the lower falls. The northwestern and northeastern sections of the city are growing rapidly, and the connection between them by a bridge has become a necessity, not for the people of that section only, but for the business and convenience of the entire city. But we want no toll gates or private corporation management. The proposed bridge should be built, maintained, paid for and owned by the public.—(Rochester Herald.)

No country has ever before had such a problem because no government has ever dared to tax its people so much in excess of its wants. It is hard enough for most governments to make both ends meet. The reasons for this difference are that our magnificent resources enable us to pay an annual tax on the values of land, and that the interested parties in no other country have ever succeeded in deluding the people into the belief that taxation is a source of wealth, like a gold mine, or a promoter of wealth, like rice, and good government.—(Philadelphia Call.)

P

QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

The Law of Rent.

New York.—So many of my friends deny the correctness of my understanding of the law of rent, without convincing me of error, that I venture to ask you:

(1) Is not economic rent to be described as a natural tax on individual production, arising from the fact that in a progressive community a greater degree of desirability attaches to some portions of the earth's surface than to other portions?

(2) Wealth being produced by the labor of individuals, and it being a physical necessity that this labor must be expended in locations of different degrees of desirability, is it not correct to say that, strictly speaking, individual producers are not entitled to all the wealth they produce, but only to the amount the same exertion would have produced on land below the margin of desirability?

(3) In the complex processes of civilization capital is used to aid labor, and it is not correct to say that an individual producing 100 on land 10 above the margin of desirability, with the aid of borrowed capital commanding 5 interest is entitled to call "his own, against all the world," is he not?

(4) Is not the argument in favor of the single tax founded on the recognition of the fact that, in a progressive community, rent is an inexorable law from which individuals cannot escape; but that it is a law which provides a fund (made up of enforced contributions of individuals) amply sufficient for public expenses?

(5) Your description is correct. As a greater degree of desirability attaches to some portions of the earth's surface, the owners of these portions are able to compel users to pay a premium for the privilege of producing there. This premium is a tax upon the producer who pays it; but it is a tax for which he receives an equivalent in the permission to work in a more desirable place than other people, whose natural rights are equal to his, must work in; and if the tax were used for the common good it would equalize privileges.

(6) Strictly speaking, yes. For the wealth that an individual produces on land lying above the margin of production he is indebted, not to his labor, but to his advantage over individuals who must produce below the margin or not at all.

(7) I think so.

(8) Yes, except that the "contributions" are voluntary rather than enforced, and payments for a privilege rather than contributions.

Free Trade and Wages.

East Freetown, Mass.—The tariff reformers assert that the effect of a radical revision of the tariff would be to increase wages by increasing the opportunities to work. This is basing the increase of wages to labor upon similar grounds to that upon which the land tax advocates base it. Now, the question of an increase of wages under free trade is one which, to my mind, is not perfectly clear. If it was, I would not trouble you with this inquiry.

On page 217 of "Progress and Poverty" I read: "And as in the United States, if we were to reduce public expenditures to the lowest possible point, and meet them by revenue taxation, the benefit could certainly not be greater than that which railroads have brought. There would be more wealth left in the hands of the people as a whole, just as the railroads have put more wealth in the hands of the people as a whole, but the same inexorable laws would operate as to its distribution. The condition of those who live by their labor would not ultimately be improved." Now, in view of this economic principle which I believe to be true, I wish to inquire whether we are to understand the increase of wages under free trade to be "as a quantity or as a proportion."

Suppose commercial free trade to be established without the land tax system—and business should be stimulated, and the cost of living reduced to the laborer, would not rent rise and the landlord reap the whole gain, and if so, how would the "poor people who have to work" be benefited?

Yours for the land tax.

D. S. TOSTER.

If you will re-read your quotation from "Progress and Poverty" you will notice that Mr. George says: "The condition of those who live by their labor would not ultimately be improved." This is true, and it is also true that a radical revision of the tariff would increase wages, both as a quantity and as a proportion. The increase of wages resulting from commercial free trade would not, however, be permanent. It was the ultimate effect to which Mr. George referred; but it is only the immediate effect to which single tax free traders refer.

If commercial free trade were established, land would be cheaper. The tariff benefits only land owners. A tax on coal makes coal mines dear and encourages the cornering of mines without using them. A tariff on lumber produces the same effect on lumber land. And so on. To abolish these tariffs would reduce the value of these kinds of land and by checking speculation in them bring such quantities into market as to still further reduce the value of all. You, as a land tax man, will readily see that a rise of wages would result from this. But the removal of duties, the consequent cheapening of land, the higher profits of capital and the increased wages of labor would ultimately bring about a reaction in land values and land speculation. Rents would rise, and as they rose land would become scarce in the market again. And as a land tax man, you would also see that this would diminish profits, discourage enterprise and reduce wages.

Commercial free trade in itself would benefit people who have to work, but its chief importance is as a step which the people are now ready to take and which leads directly and inevitably to absolute free trade in its broadest sense—free production and free exchange.

Unearned Increment.

Brooklyn.—(1) What constitutes an unearned increment?

(2) Are there any other unearned increments besides that accruing from the increase of land values?

(3) Is the taking (by an individual) of an unearned increment at any time in accord with pure justice?

(4) If so, when?

FRED C. GROS.

else for the privilege; and now the price of such a privilege anywhere on the island is very high. This price is, strictly speaking, economic rent; but it is frequently called unearned increment, because it is a value that the owner does not earn, and appears to be something added to the land itself.

(2) The only thing like it is the value that attaches to other forms of monopoly. Sometimes through fluctuations of prices the owner of a commodity will find that its value has increased on his hands. But this increase bears no resemblance to the "unearned increment" of land.

(3) It does not follow that individuals are to be condemned for profiting by what the community approves. It is the system that is to be condemned in these cases, not the individual.

The Rice in Coffee.

New York.—I read in *Queries and Answers* your issue of the 31st ultimo Mr. Lucas's question regarding the prices of tea and coffee before and after they were placed on the free list, as spoken of by Mr. Edmunds in his article in *Harper's Monthly*.

To explain the reasons for the maintenance of prices after the tax was repealed, is it not a fact that at about the same time that coffee was placed upon the free list, the Brazilian government imposed a heavy export duty which almost made up the difference? Another probable explanation is that the coffee plant takes some years to come into bearing, and if there were for any reason a sudden increased demand for the berry, it could only be supplied to the extent of the already existing plantations, and some years would elapse before the supply could equal the demand, when prices would, of course, fall to a normal point.

J. L. DUNHAM.

The Brazilian export duty has been referred to as a factor to account for the rise in coffee after the abolition of our import duty; but the facts do not seem to warrant this explanation.

In a recent issue the *Evening Post* took the trouble to make an historical presentation of the subject, from which we find that our import duty on coffee was reduced in 1871 from 5 to 3 cents a pound, and in 1873 it was wholly abolished; and that it was not in either of these years, but as long before as 1867, that Brazil imposed an export duty of nine per cent, which has been maintained ever since. When our import duty was repealed coffee rose in price. This could not have been due to the Brazilian export tax, for, as already stated, that has been long in force; but neither was it a result of the repeal of our import tax, as protectionists claim. The rise in coffee began about 1859, when it was worth less than 10 cents a pound, and continued until 1874, when it was as high as 19 1/2 cents, a difference of over 9 cents, which, as the *Post* truly says, was "a rise so great that the duty removed becomes too insignificant a factor." On the protectionist theory applied to coffee, the repeal of a 5 cent duty raises the price 9 cents! The proposition is its own refutation. The causes of this rise in coffee must be looked for as we would look for the causes of the rise or fall of any other commodity—silver, for example.

Your suggestion that the coffee plant takes some years to come into bearing is one factor to be considered; Mr. Eastlake's statement in last week's *STANDARD* that importations were kept down in expectation of the repeal is another; an increased demand is another; failure of crops is another, and the fact that coffee production is in some degree a monopoly is another. But whether the explanation be one or all of these conditions, the truth remains that a tariff on a competitive commodity adds to the price of the commodity, and a repeal of the tax diminishes it.

Rescuing War Taxes.

Kalamazoo, Mich.—Will you be so kind as to explain in the columns of *THE STANDARD* this scheme in congress of refunding to the states the direct taxes levied during the war? I do not understand it. How was it collected, and why should it be paid back when the direct tax system is still kept up? If you will explain what this scheme is and the reason given for it you will greatly oblige me. I have not seen anything in any of the papers which has given me any light upon it.

N. G. LESTER.

During the war several kinds of direct taxes were levied in accordance with the provisions of the constitution. For example: On one occasion a sum—I think it was \$20,000,000—was apportioned among the states according to population, and raised by a tax on real estate. It is now proposed to return this and others sums levied in a similar manner to the states according to the quota they paid. There is no reason for returning it. It would not, and in most cases could not, be returned to the people who paid it, and it would furnish a method of keeping down the surplus without diminishing taxation, and thus give the internal and customs revenues a longer lease of life. The latter is the real motive of the scheme, although the ostensible motive is to return to the people out of an abundant treasury taxes that they paid for war purposes. This, as I have already said, it would not accomplish, for the money would stick in the state treasuries; but if, instead of sticking there, it could go back to the people who paid it, that would be returning war taxes to direct tax payers, not alone without similarly reimbursing indirect tax payers for their contribution to the war, but actually at the expense of indirect tax payers.

Notes.

L. L. PELTIER, Montreal, Canada.—The clipping from the *Witness* presents no new objections to the single tax nor any of the old objections in sufficiently striking form to call for a special answer.

LOUIS F. POST.

Won't the Land Owners be Able to Corner Electricity Then, as They Corner Coal Now?

Williamsport, Pa., Record.

Twenty-five years hence electricity will have become the motor power of the globe. It will propel our steamships upon water, our engines upon land. It will heat our dwellings and do our cooking. The coal fields, now the scene of misery and oppression, will be desolate and forsaken. There will be little use for the fuel that now runs the machinery of the world. Electricity will be quite independent, and no Corbin will hold in his hand the destiny of thousands of men, nor can he, by his autocratic sway, stop the machinery of hundreds of mills.

THE BREWERS IN A FERMENT.

Five Thousand Men Out—A Bitter Fight in Prospect—A Strike Probable in the Building Trades.

The action of the journeymen brewers last Sunday deciding to keep on at work and let the central labor union of New York, Brooklyn and Hudson county do the boycotting of boss brewers who refused to sign the new contracts; also the action of the Brooklyn central labor union in placing a boycott on the breweries of W. B. Scherman, S. Liebman's Sons, William Ulmer, Ferdinand Muench, Williamsburg, and C. P. Hawkins' Sons, New York city, have brought about the crisis predicted in this paper last week. At a meeting of the boss brewers, held on Tuesday, April 10, the following was unanimously adopted:

Whereas, A boycott has been placed upon several of the brewers of this city and vicinity, and the workers of this city and vicinity having been instrumental in procuring and enforcing that boycott;

Be it resolved, Unless the boycott placed upon our product is raised, and we so notified through the public press by Monday, April 16, we, the undersigned, shall immediately proceed to reorganize our working force.

And be it further resolved, That in carrying out the above resolution we pledge ourselves to maintain, in good faith, any existing contracts with our men.

Men desiring steady employment, at good wages, as drivers and workmen in breweries, are requested to register their names at 100 East Fourth street, near Court street, New York city, between the hours of 10 a. m. and 2 p. m., on Thursday, Friday and Saturday of this week.

The resolutions were signed by seventy-nine leading brewing firms of this city, Brooklyn, Hudson county and Newark, and are certain to be endorsed by the brewing trade all over the country.

The employment agency opened by the association on Thursday street was crowded last Thursday, Friday and Saturday by applicants for work. About 2,500 names were registered. The men who registered were about twenty per cent brewers and the balance mostly laborers.

Last Monday at noon seventy-nine boss brewers of this city, Brooklyn, Hudson county and Newark locked out all their brewing employees—about 5,000 men—and informed them that those who desired to return to work on the employers' terms, as outlined in the strike notice, must report on Tuesday morning. The employers mostly all remained at work. They held a meeting Monday morning and decided to give up their charter. This is a setback to the strikers.

The fight promises to be a bitter one. The employers say they are determined to win even if they have to keep their breweries closed indefinitely. Money is plenty on their side. The journeymen say they have money enough to last six months. The strongest cards the men can play are two. If all sympathetic will stop drinking beer and also during the strike it will naturally aid the men by the intimidating effect it will have on the bosses. If the saloon keepers will refuse to sell the boycotted beer, that will also help the men.

In the mean time the breweries are being filled up with new men.

The journeymen waiters and brewers of Chicago, 2,000 men, went on strike last Thursday, because of a circular issued by the brewery proprietors refusing recognition of the brewers' and waiters' union. At last accounts the men were discouraged.

Eight Thousand More Workers May Strike.

There is a probability of a number of strikes in the building trades. The tin and slate roofers and framers want to make new contracts for the coming season, to commence May 1. The roofers want four dollars for a day's work of nine hours, and thirty-eight of the employing firms have already said that they will not accede to the demands. M. Harnett, who has the contract for roofing the new Gasvort market, has refused to go on with the work until this difficulty has been settled. The framers want forty cents an hour and nine hours, except on Saturday, when they want eight hours, and double pay for Sunday work. If these two trades strike they will directly affect 8,000 men, and indirectly the entire building trade.

Sowing the Seed in Washington.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 9.—The anti-poverty society recently formed here is booming. It is fast gaining recruits, although we have not yet begun to work systematically. We have set a great many to thinking about and discussing the single tax idea who never thought about it before. Mr. Charles Frederick Adams is one of the most ardent of our members. He is a clear, distinct and forcible speaker, and is ever ready to answer questions. Mr. M. Pechin addressed our meeting on the 9th inst. There were a number of strangers present who became deeply interested in his discourse. Professor Lester F. Ward of the anthropological society also spoke. He said he was not prepared to take a position for or against the single tax doctrine, as a student of public and private business had prevented his studying the subject, but he did know enough about Mr. George's works to say that the author was entitled to the gratitude of all thinking men and women for having demolished forever the theory set forth by Malthus.

Our next meeting will be held in Grand army hall, on Pennsylvania avenue, on Thursday evening, April 19. Mr. Davis will deliver a discourse on "The effect of the single tax on the American farmer." A meeting will be held every Thursday at the same place, and all interested in the movement are cordially invited to attend. Gentlemen are requested to bring ladies.

WILLIAM GENDES, M. D.,
221 E street, N. W. Secretary.

Seize the Opportunity.

TOLEDO, Ohio, April 15.—Dr. Alfred S. Houghton of Cincinnati called here last week in the interest of the Cincinnati convention in May. Of course we were glad to meet the doctor, but told him frankly how we felt about the matter. We did not believe that it is right and just to be crowded into a convention to nominate a candidate until after we have had a conference of single tax men to determine what would be best to do under the circumstances, and we do better judge what would be for the best after all the other parties have made their nominations and declared their principles. The more I mingle with the people the more I become convinced that it would be shameful on our part to shrink the national issue and place before the people a good, true man as a candidate to be slaughtered at the polls. This campaign is the American farmer. A meeting will be held every Thursday at the same place, and all interested in the movement are cordially invited to attend. Gentlemen are requested to bring ladies.

New York capitalists are going to establish a silk farm near Jacksonville. Three hundred acres will be immediately planted in the morris mulberry, the variety of mulberry which is adapted for food for the worms. This tree grows very rapidly from a cutting and produces unusually large leaves of great tenderness and silky quality. This mulberry grows in far greater perfection in this state than in any other location with which they are familiar. In a very short time, probably within the next two or three weeks, they will begin to plant the trees, which they have already ordered, and will continue until 5,000 have been set out. The factory for the reeling, spinning and weaving of the silk will be located in Jacksonville. All the raw silk will be carried on there.—[Savannah News]

Cleveland, by his message, has given us the inside track and an even start in the race. They own the horses, it is true, but we are the drivers, if we only will take hold of the lines and drive for all the horses are worth toward the single tax. I for one believe after mature thought that we ought to seize the opportunity and go into this fight as individuals, and in it advocate free trade and the single tax on land values in order to kill land monopoly. No one knows how much he can do for the cause until he has tried it, and it is by trying it that I have reached this conclusion. Let us place ourselves at present, at least, on the side of the administration. That act alone will have a tendency to give our ideas respectability and consideration, and that is what we must have before they can ever be adopted. Therefore let us seize the opportunity.

We will have at least two delegates from Toledo to the Chicago conference July 4th.

A Composite Photograph.

Here are some of the answers given at a teachers' examination at Canton, Ohio, recently to the questions: "Who is Henry George?" "What principles does he represent?" "An anarchist." "Writer on free trade." "Opponent for governor of New York, and was defeated." "Leader of the liberal republican party of New York." "A lecturer." "A communist." "Mayor of New York, with peculiar principles." "Advocates disputes about the fisheries of Newfoundland." "Commissioner of the fishery department." "A democrat fighting tariff reform." "King of Russia." "First king of England." "A signer of the constitution." "Political advocate of temperance."

PEN, PASTE AND SCISSORS.

The single tax men of Des Moines, Iowa, have organized a non-partisan tax reform association.

Teacher—John, give me a sentence containing the word contents. John—The contents of a cow is milk.

Ross Winans, the American, intends to give up his Scotch deer forests in Ross-shire and Inverness-shire, which extend over about 200,000 acres.

According to the *Hartford Courant* men who go south for change and rest find on the way that the deer forest get all the change and the landlords the rest.

A new degree to be conferred by Harvard college next commencement will be in honor of successful merchants in Boston. The degree will be "D. D.", which, being interpreted, means tax dodger.—[Boston Traveller]

The *New York Press* sports a headline, "Little Rhody redeemed," which means, presumably, that the state had been in pawn, and was only recovered by the grand old party plunking down the cash.—[Manchester Union]

Let no man pacify his conscience by the delusion that he does no harm if he takes no part and forms no opinion. Bad men need nothing more to compass their ends than that good men should look on and do nothing.—[John Stuart Mill]

Among the latest inventions is a self-registering thermometer, which can be placed in a green house, and when the temperature falls to a point at which injury would be done to the plants an electric bell is set in motion and alarm is given.

Japanese composers have lots of fun bustling around after the 3,000 characters which make up the alphabet of that language. There is one case for all the characters, and it is stationed at the side of the wall. It has been estimated that a compositor in that country covers about twenty miles a day while at work.

Senator Brown of Georgia pleaded not long ago for a covenant of war taxes in behalf of American labor, and Senator Brown of Georgia hires state convicts at twenty-five cents per day to work his coal mine. Can these two senators be one and the same person?—[Jacksonville Times-Union]

There is no telling what a pet jury will do, has long been a saying among lawyers. Here is the latest instance of it in Atlanta. One man was suing another for a rule of the jury brought in a verdict for the plaintiff for \$85. On the first ballot they had stood: Five for \$1 for the plaintiff, three for five cents for the defendant, one for \$5 and two for \$125.—[Atlanta Journal]

Recently, at one of the local mission halls in London, two of the brethren were holding forth with zeal on the wicked ways of the world and desired to emphasize the conspicuous difference between the saints and the sinners, or the "sheep and the goats." A member of the congregation requested "all who are saved to leave the room, and all who are not saved to remain." The effect was magical for the whole of the congregation present at once rose and departed as being among the "saved." Only the two preachers remained in the hall to represent the unsaved.

On the night of Jan. 25 A. F. McNeal of Rawson, Ohio, dreamed that he had died and gone to heaven. In the dream he learned that he had died on March 26. In heaven he met an old friend, who said that he had been sent just a week. Mr. McNeal was so impressed by the dream that he wrote it out and laid the paper away. On March 19 the friend whom he had seen in heaven died, and a week later, on March 26, Mr. McNeal died himself. His widow has the manuscript containing the dream of Jan. 25 and dated Jan. 29.

Most of the mines and a large part of the forests of Germany are owned by the government, which also owns considerable farming land once the property of monasteries. When the mines are worked by private parties a royalty is exacted. The forests are preserved for the benefit of the people, and the timber and wood for fuel are sold from time to time. Some revenue is obtained, too, by selling permits to sportsmen to shoot in the forests. The farming lands are leased to private persons, and a piece of the established church is allowed a piece of ground expected to make his salary by letting it a portion of it.

Sausages, cooked, or half raw, highly spiced, are an essential of German cookery. In order to prevent the Germans from exposing themselves to a number of bad diseases incidental to pork, the authorities insist upon the pigs being examined before being offered for sale. A peasant was arrested for evading this law, and upon being asked to explain, said that he had a most accurate method of determining the soundness of the pig. The pastor of the district was always hungry, so the peasant always sent him a first sausage made from each pig slaughtered, and a week later called to inquire about his health. If the pastor was well, the peasant went to the market, and examination fees were saved.

New York capitalists are going to establish a silk farm near Jacksonville. Three hundred acres will be immediately planted in the morris mulberry, the variety of mulberry which is adapted for food for the worms. This tree grows very rapidly from a cutting and produces unusually large leaves of great tenderness and silky quality. This mulberry grows in far greater perfection in this state than in any other location with which they are familiar. In a very short time, probably within the next two or three weeks, they will begin to plant the trees, which they have already ordered, and will continue until 5,000 have been set out. The factory for the reeling, spinning and weaving of the silk will be located in Jacksonville. All the raw silk will be carried on there.—[Savannah News]

THE TAX REFORM ASSOCIATION.

PUTTING ITS SHOULDER TO THE WHEEL, AND MAKING THINGS MOVE IN TEXAS.

An Encouraging Report from the State Executive Committee—A Petition to the Legislature for the Adoption of the Single Tax—Better to Be the Leaven Than the Lump.

Under the energetic leadership of H. F. Ring and his co-workers the tax reform association is doing magnificent work in the Lone Star state. The following report, issued by the state executive committee, shows the lines along which the association is working, and the measure of success they are meeting with:

The issuance of this report has been delayed by the pressure of private affairs upon the time of the members of this committee. This delay, however, enables us to state some interesting developments in connection with the work of obtaining signatures in Harris county to the petition to the next legislature.

In the first place, we circulated among a few favored friends of the cause here a subscription list headed by the tax reform memorial, with the following addenda:

We, the undersigned, agree, so long as it may be agreeable to us, to give each of the sum placed below opposite our respective names, for the purpose of providing a fund to be used by the executive committee of the Texas branch of the national tax reform association, in payment of expenses incurred in circulating and obtaining signatures to the above memorial; said committee are to submit to us a detailed account of the receipts to and expenditures of said fund.

In this way we obtained in a few minutes the pledge of some \$35 a month. We then agreed to pay one man, whose love for the cause is such that he is willing to work for a very small salary, a certain fixed sum per month for his entire time. This party, while circulating the petition, also takes subscriptions for *THE STANDARD* and the *Labor Echo*, and gives us the benefit of his commissions, so that the expense of keeping him in the field promises to be very slight indeed.

Mr. N. V. McMahon, the gentleman whom we first selected, and who, by the way, is the man who first thought of the idea of circulating a petition to the legislature, commenced his work last Tuesday morning, and by the following Saturday night he had obtained 327 signatures. Only two persons approached on the subject expressly refused to sign the petition, though quite a number requested time in which to consider it further, and of these several, after reading the tracts placed in their hands by Mr. McMahon, came to him without further solicitation, and eagerly signed the document. All to whom the subject was presented, with but one or two exceptions, became deeply and most favorably interested in it, and a number volunteered to contribute both time and money to the work. The fact is, we are simply astonished at the response which the circulation of this petition in this community is awakening, and we have not the slightest doubt but that within two or three months we shall have the signatures of a majority of the voters of the county who can read and write, and long before the next legislature meets we believe four-fifths, at least, of the names of the business men of this county will also be on the list.

Our experience in the circulation of this petition has satisfied us that the harvest in Texas is more nearly ripe than we have dreamed of its being, and we are now fully convinced that it is easily possible for the members of this association in Texas to secure the amendment to the vote of the people. If any one is skeptical about it let him start out with a copy of the petition, and see how eagerly nine men out of ten will sign it, so soon as it is explained to them.

We say that one man of common sense, who has himself seen the cat, and not a hundred who have heard of it, will win the day. We have handed, set the ball in motion in his own county, and secure a majority of the voters of his county pledged to this reform long before the next legislature meets. Can not each of you at least give a few Sundays' work to the cause? Can any one, on the Sabbath day, engage in anything holier or more acceptable in the sight of God? Try it next Sunday if you cannot get it at once. Put a lot of tracts in your pocket before starting out, for one or two should be left with every one whom you approach. Begin with the first man you meet. Don't go out of your way to get men of influence to start with. Such men often have such an exalted idea of their influence that they will not throw it on either side until they find out how the popular current is going. You will get them easily enough later. You will not circulate the petition long before finding enthusiastic helpers coming to your aid, as Mr. McMahon has found them, volunteering with enthusiasm to assist him. After you have made them understand the truth, give each of such helpers a petition, and before many weeks there will be dozens of men in your county working with these petitions as enthusiastically as yourself. If each of you will do what you consistently can in this matter, before the legislature meets, we shall certainly have the names of a majority of the voters of the state on our petitions.

Ten days ago this committee did not suppose it possible to do such a thing—we now know that it can be done, and we believe it will be done. The business men of this city, so far as they have been approached, are on the subject, with hardly an exception, are our quiet but enthusiastic allies. One of the most prominent of them has promised Mr. McMahon to contribute a hundred dollars to our fund, although he does not want it known yet that he is taking a hundred dollars' worth of interest in the cause.

The great advantage of this petition is that it changes an abstract and remote economic theory into an immediate, practical political issue; hence it is that every one to whom the memorial is presented and explained becomes at once keenly interested in the subject, and is anxious to learn about it and talk about it. It also gives the missionary carrying the petition an object for introducing the subject of tax reform, and an excuse for explaining it thoroughly. At the same time it does not arouse the passion and prejudice and fear which would be engendered were the agitation being carried on by means of a third political party. We give all an opportunity of expressing their views in practical politics without compelling them to sever party ties.

We are daily becoming more and more convinced that the course for us to pursue in Texas, for the present at least, is to stick to existing parties. If we are democrats let us, to the last man, turn out to the democratic primaries and pull together in democratic conventions to secure, if possible, and whenever possible, the nomination of tax reform democratic candidates for legislative offices. We can honorably, and successfully, trade with each party for these offices by giving them the balance, and can, in many ways, exert a powerful influence upon this party and its leaders to the benefit of our great cause. If we are republicans, or

union labor men, we can do the same thing in these parties. Do not let us think at present of throwing away our ballot in this state as members of a distinct tax reform political party. If our public men can be made to feel assured of a strong following in their own respective parties, we shall soon have on our side some of the most talented men of the dominant party in the state. The writer personally knows of some of the leading public men of the state who are in sympathy with us, and who, he firmly believes, would come out as champions of this cause without feeling that they could do so without cutting loose from the democratic party, and without being snowed under by wire pulling politicians. Let it be our aim to show these men our strength in their own party, and to encourage them in coming out for the truth.

The reports from clubs all over the state are highly satisfactory. About the same amount of work having been done as that shown in the last report. We simply cannot take the time from private matters to make the detailed compilation of these reports required by the by-laws, but it will be shown in next month's report. Every man bring us letters from faithful workers all over the state, whose contagious and encouraging zeal and enthusiasm seems never to tire.

Respectfully submitted,
H. F. RING,
J. B. COCHRAN,
L. L. BEACHE,
State Executive Committee.

The following is the petition referred to in the report:

To the Twenty-first Legislature of the State of Texas: The undersigned, citizens of the state of Texas, including democrats, republicans, prohibitionists and greenbackers, without regard to political parties or platforms, respectfully petition your honorable body to submit to the voters of the people the following amendment to the constitution of the state:

AMENDMENT ADDING ARTICLE XVIII TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF TEXAS.

Sec. 1. Improvements on land and personal property shall be exempt from taxation and all direct taxes shall be levied on relative land values only. The word "improvements" as herein used shall mean buildings, including any product obtained by the application to land of human industry, such as from the breaking up of the wild sod and from clearing land and reducing it to cultivation, as well as such improvements as fences, and fences, and any and all provisions of the present constitution of the state, as well as those of existing laws which prohibit the legislature or the proper authorities of any county or municipality from levying taxes, or in their discretion the percentage of ad valorem taxes, shall be and the same are hereby repealed.

Sec. 2. This amendment shall go into effect ninety days after the adjournment of the first regular session of the legislature held after its adoption.

Branches of the single tax association are being rapidly formed in other states, and there is no reason why, by equally energetic work, they should not accomplish results as great as those that are being achieved in Texas. There is not a state in the Union that is not ripe for the circulation of just such a petition.

WOMEN.

There are now four women on the rolls of the Union College of Law in Chicago.

Why cannot the newspapers leave Cora B. F. C. Chaskey alone? She is evidently stouted.—[New York World]

The wife of the painter Herman Knabach of Munich has received the gold medal of the order of merit of the Bavarian crown for having, at the risk of her own life, saved a young man

THE STANDARD.

HENRY GEORGE, Editor and Proprietor.

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SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 1888.

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

A BATCH OF INTERVIEWS.

The Chicago Mail recently sent out its
reporters to obtain interviews on the sub-
ject of the single tax from professional
and business men not connected with the
movement. On April 7 it published
thirty-eight such interviews, a synopsis
of which we reproduce below.Twelve of the gentlemen interviewed
declared themselves opposed to the single
tax, the reasons assigned showing that
they were either affected by their personal
interests or in utter ignorance of the sub-
ject.Ex-Governor John A. Hamilton: "I am
against the single tax, as it would virtually
be a tax on homesteads. I would rather
reverse the proposition and not tax land at all,
thus leaving the homestead free. I would
place all taxes on capital and speculative prop-
erty."Walter M. Sempill, druggist, corner of Clark
and Madison streets: "I don't think it a good
idea. If a man puts up an improvement on a
vacant lot he ought to be taxed more than
he is for the vacant lot, and the bigger the
improvement the more tax he ought to pay.
I really haven't given the subject any thought."W. C. Potter, jeweler: "Property in all
forms should be taxed, whether it is real or
personal. The present system is in principle
correct, although a great deal of hardship is
worked because personal property is not re-
turned. Something ought to be done to pre-
vent fraudulent listing of personality. If all
taxes were borne by real estate no one would
want to own any, and Chicago would be a
deserted village. The land wouldn't be im-
proved. It is the improvements on land that
make it valuable. I am in favor of an inter-
nal revenue tax revised and for a revenue
tariff."E. Peacock, formerly a well known jeweler,
now retired from business: "They are taxing
real estate too much now. Why I've held
vacant land on 120th street of the city for
forty years, waiting till I could get my figure
on it, and really it has been eaten up two or
three times by taxes."George A. Tripp of Sidney Shepard & Co.,
wholesale hardware dealers: "Real estate
pays its full share of the taxes now, more, in
fact, than personal property does, because it
is not so easily concealed. I believe that the
last tax returns show that there are only
about four hundred or five hundred gold
watches in Chicago. The fault is that per-
sonal property is not assessed high enough.
If real estate were taxed any higher there
would be no inducement to people to invest
their money in it."Ex-alderman A. B. Cook, building con-
tractor: "Workingmen would be taxed out of
existence if public revenues were derived
solely by land taxation. It seems to me that
such a scheme would only result in making
life easy for the millionaires. A man who
owned \$100,000 worth of bonds would pay
nothing, and the workmen and middle
classes would pay all the tax."D. V. Farrington, ex-county commissioner
and brick maker: "That is Henry George's
scheme. I don't approve it. Land specula-
tion, to my mind, is just as legitimate as any
other business. Protection by tariff duties is
what has made our country what it is and
they must be continued."Henry Stewart, clerk of Judge Altgeld's
court: "It looks like a fool scheme to me to
tax nothing but land. A man who buys a
piece of property and builds on it ought to
have the benefit of the added value on prop-
erty he may own in the vicinity. There is
plenty of good land in the country and people
needn't talk about it not being obtainable at
reasonable rates."T. J. Kinsella, real estate: "Land is taxed
too much already without talking about put-
ting an additional burden on it."F. A. Henshaw, real estate: "Such a tax
would be too burdensome on landlords. Cor-
porations would escape almost entirely, as
but few of them own land to any great ex-
tent. The present system, I admit, is unfair
in that railroads and big corporations have a
faculty of escaping from paying their just
dues. An income tax would be fair to all
provided the property could be got at."E. A. Cummings, real estate dealer: "Land
pays five-sixths of all taxes already. It is on
record that but one percent of the personal
property in Chicago is taxed. A license sys-
tem and income tax would, I think, do away
with many of the abuses of the present sys-
tem."E. S. Dwyer & Co., bankers: "The present
system of taxation is a farce, but a single tax
on land values would make matters worse by
allowing the big security holders to go scot
free. A direct income tax, as enforced in
Germany, is theoretically the true system.
In practice it might not work so advantage-
ously, however."Six of the thirty-eight confessed they
had not given the subject sufficient
thought. Of these Judge Lyman Trum-
bull and General McNulta, receiver of the
Wabash road, said their first impressions
were against it; Warren Leland, of hotel
fame, was inclined to think it a good
thing; Ezra J. Warner of Sprague, Warner
& Griswold, wholesale grocers, said he
had determined to read "Progress and
Poverty," as he felt sure the editorials in
the papers against it were written by menwho did not know what they were talking
about; and with but one exception all
thought it a subject that was coming to
the front and was worth considering.Five of the thirty-eight declined to com-
mit themselves to an endorsement of the
single tax. But it is evident in which di-
rection their minds are tending, if indeed
these have not already "got there."H. W. Seymour, editor of the Chicago
Herald: "The present tax system is as bad
as it could possibly be. Federal, state and
municipal taxes are all inequitable, extrava-
gant and unjust, but I do not care to endorse
the single tax, as it would involve too many
changes and it is too remote. The thing to
do now is to stop the private taxing power,
which enables a few men to levy tribute on
the many."Joseph Kasper of Shourds, Storey & Kas-
per, jewelers: "The present mode of levying
taxes is not right, but I don't know that a
single tax on land would make much differ-
ence. The school lands are not valued at
one-fifth of what they are actually worth,
and none of the land on State street is rated
at more than a third of what it would bring."George Back of Buck & Raynor, druggists,
corner of State and Madison streets: "It
ought to be tried. I wouldn't like to be com-
mitted to the doctrine, but it certainly ought
to have a trial. I do think it is a matter
worth considering by business men. I don't
pretend to say I am competent to speak of it,
but I think it is a good idea."E. Baggot, manufacturing plumber: "I
knew of a widow with five children who kept
a little toy and confectionery store near a
school. She was taxed \$30, and her whole
stock wasn't worth that much. This is a sub-
ject well worth discussion. I don't believe in
an income tax. I have always looked on a
personal property tax as a sort of a cheating
scheme, but I think it is perhaps as good as
any other way."Charles H. Kingman, of Gray, Kingman &
Collins, wholesale grocers: "I haven't given
the subject the consideration due it, but I
should think that all forms of personal prop-
erty should be exempt from taxation when it
tends to repress or discourage industry. In
our business the margin of profit is very nar-
row, yet we have to pay taxes on our stock at
the same rate as other businesses where the
profits are three or four times as large. The
taxes on a large stock of our goods are very
oppressive. I think the present system en-
tails a great deal of injustice and should be
reformed, although I don't know that I am
willing to lay all the burden on real estate."But no less than fifteen of the thirty-
eight, as will be seen by the following,
declared themselves in favor of the single
tax:C. S. Darrow, lawyer, 94 LaSalle street:
"A single tax on land values would be an
effective check to state and national extrava-
gance; would prevent inequality, fraud and
perjury in our tax lists, would largely break
up land speculation and monopoly and greatly
stimulate production."G. H. Loehr, jeweler, 82 State street: "I
own some land down near the Calumet river
that I hope to make some money from. When
Hyde Park is taken in and the docks are
moved down there, it will be worth as much
as State street property. But the money I
make will not be earned. The single tax on
land values would knock out these foreign
syndicates which gobble up big tracts of land
that ought to be homes for our own citizens.
It would be a great thing for the west, for land
speculation is killing off legitimate business
there, and this would knock that sort of
thing higher than a kite."A. W. Schultz, at W. C. Scupham's, drug-
gist, corner State and Randolph streets: "It
is the location that makes our rent so high,
and it seems to me that if the taxes were
taken off our stock it would make a big dif-
ference, and for the better. The tax being
taken off the building, the rent wouldn't be
any higher. I should like to see it tried."Fred Ryther, with J. V. Farwell & Co.: "I
think a single tax would stimulate trade
all along the line and prevent recurring in-
dustrial depressions. It would also give em-
ployment to the surplus labor of the country
which is constantly forcing wages down. I
haven't given the subject extensive thought,
but I can see great good in the application of
the single tax."Michael Ulrich, of Grommes & Ulrich, im-
porters of wines and cigars: "It is a splendid
idea. The present system of taxing a man's
stock in trade and whatever furniture and
comforts of life he has gathered together is
unjust and ought to be abolished."George Williams, broom manufacturer: "A
single tax on land values would, in my opin-
ion, solve the labor problem, abolish poverty
and monopolies, and start an era of prosperity
which would be healthy and lasting. The
farmers of the country are robbed of more
than half their earnings by the monopolists
and the so-called protective tariff."St. Clair Sutherland, court bailiff: "I am
decidedly in favor of it. The rich man's lot on
Prairie avenue would pay its proportionate
share and the poor man's lot on Sacramento
avenue would not pay more than it rightly
should. I know a rich man who peddled tick-
ets for a certain assessor. He wouldn't have
done that for any other town officer. What
did he do it for? I know and so do you. The
present system is very unjust."H. Webster, manager for Henry R. Worth-
ington & Co.: "I know that on my little house
in the suburbs I pay twice as much taxes as
a friend of mine does who owns four houses. If
taxes were on real estate alone I don't think
I would be the one who would pay the most.
It is undoubtedly true that a tax on real es-
tate would be a great help to business."Ed. Mandel of Mandel Bros., dry goods: "It
cannot be questioned that it is far easier to
get at the value of real estate than that of
personal property. That cannot be concealed,
while it is easy enough to swear that the
furniture, pictures, pianos, carpets, etc., in
your house cost only \$2,000, when maybe one
picture could not be bought for that. It
would certainly be more equitable and just
for the man who owns his little home. As it
is now he pays very much more in proportion
than the rich man does. The proposed scheme
would lighten the burden of taxes on the
business men."Robert Stevenson, wholesale druggist: "A
personal property tax is a horrible thing. It
is unjust. I pay one-third more taxes on my
house and furniture than the man across the
street, whose house is worth nearly twice as
much as mine. It would be a great relief to
business if the taxes on goods in the store
were removed. What does an assessor who
comes in here know of the value of profit on
the goods? Nothing. The personal property
tax is more onerous and oppressive than any
other expense. It seems more like robbery."A. Ryder, commission merchant on South
Water street: "Business would go better if
the taxes were abolished, on stock in trade
and levied on real estate. Here on SouthWater street, rents are enormous: 'I paid
\$2,400 last year for this store, 18 feet by 60 or
70, and the landlord is going to charge me
\$3,000 next year. People who own land on
South Water street can make an everlasting
fortune without working. I think the people
of Chicago ought to get the benefit of the land
value here."F. E. Nellis, South Water street commission
merchant: "Isn't the personal property tax
abolished as far as concerns the rich? It falls
heaviest now upon those least able to bear it.
The burden of taxes exclusively on real estate
values would relieve business a great deal,
and I think it a good idea. It would be a bad
thing for those who held unimproved land
for a rise, and that would be right. They
should either be compelled to put to use the
land they are holding away from other peo-
ple or else I go it. We pay \$4,000 a year
rent for a space of 26 1/2 x 145 feet and four
stories high. The landlord hasn't done \$50
worth of improvement in ten years. It is
awful. The tax on land values would bring
down our rent and make our business better."T. Mason, South Water street commission
merchant: "The building which I lease could
be paid for easily with three years' rent. I
pay \$5,000 rent for a twenty-foot front. I sup-
pose that the land on which it stands is worth
\$3,000 a year to the landlord."C. C. Strawn, lawyer, Lakeside building:
"Present socialistic conditions and tendencies
will be best met and disposed of in harmony
with the genius of our republican institutions
by the adoption of a single tax upon land."Henry T. Jones, property owner and brick
maker: "I have investigated the subject of
this land tax and find a great deal of good in
it. Everything seems to be concentrating
into the hands of the few just now, and some-
thing ought to be done to remedy the evil."It is certainly encouraging to find that
out of thirty-eight business men, selected
at random in Chicago, fifteen are believers
in the doctrine of industrial emancipation.
It is scarcely less encouraging to learn
that of the same thirty-eight no less
than twelve are avowedly opposed to it
and not adverse to giving the reasons for
their opposition. When once a man can
be induced to cast about for arguments in
support of the proposition that the privi-
lege of licensing men to live upon the
earth is a thing to be bought and sold and
owned, he is not far from knowledge of
the truth. If a man's face is dirty, the
surest way to convince him of it is to get
him to look in the glass.

MR. FUGGELSON'S CHILDREN.

The tragedy at Knowville, N. J., is pre-
cisely one of those abnormalities which
are the despair of the student of social
science and the delight of the sensational
newspaper, and it is not surprising that
the coroner's jury should have rendered
the verdict that they did. For there can
be no doubt that the death of the Fuggel-
son children was directly due to their
treatment by their elder brothers, though
there can be as little question that the
elder children thought that in acting as
they did they were only doing what was
right. The case is altogether so remark-
able—such a regular fifteen puzzle of
psychology—and the local newspaper re-
ports were so evidently influenced by
prejudice, that THE STANDARD determined
to send its own commissioner to Know-
ville to make a thorough investigation of
the circumstances. The commissioner's
task has been completed, and from his re-
port we have compiled the following nar-
rative, which we can vouch for as reliable.Matthew T. Fuggelson is a man with a
hobby. A widower with fourteen chil-
dren, possessed of independent means, his
hobby has been to bring his children up
apart from the world, and to launch them
in life with such firmly fixed principles of
thought and action that they should
never even be tempted to go astray. In
politics Mr. Fuggelson is a republican pro-
tectionist, and his children, of course,
have been educated in that faith. His
house at Knowville is more than two miles
from any other dwelling and Knowville
itself, as every one knows, is a peculiarly
inaccessible village, only to be reached by
a series of little railroads which run with
small regularity at the best of times, and
suspend operations altogether during an
ordinary snow storm. It is probably some
years since the Fuggelson children have
met anybody from the outside world, save
perhaps an occasional teamster bringing
supplies to their secluded home.The 12th of March found Mr. Fuggelson
in New York, whither he had come on
some business connected with his prop-
erty. Of course it was out of the question
for him to get home. He states that al-
though he at first felt some anxiety about
his children, he soon decided that the ex-
perience of having to look out for them-
selves for a time would be a valuable one.
The house was stored with provisions and
fuel enough to last six months or more;
the blizzard itself was security against
tramps and burglars; and Mr. Fuggelson
philosophically waited for the thaw. It
was more than two weeks before he finally
got home. Meanwhile, strange things had
happened in the lonely house at Knowville.When they realized that they were abso-
lutely cut off from the world for an in-
definite period, the three eldest boys took
counsel together and considered the situa-
tion. They had a good house over their
heads, plenty of warm clothing, abundance
of fuel in the cellar, and a store room
stocked with provisions of every kind.
Their father had provided for them, with
loving care. They were cut off from the
rest of mankind as effectually as if they
had been transferred to another planet,
and they determined that during the
period of their seclusion the household
should be managed in accordance with
those principles which they had been
taught were essential to the well being of
all communities, both great and small.
"We thought," said Egbert Fuggelson be-
fore the coroner's jury, "that father would
like us to show that we understood political
economy. We didn't know it wouldn't
work. We only meant to please father."

So Egbert, the eldest, took charge of the

coal cellar, Charles assumed control of
the store room, and Edward undertook to
administer the bed rooms. There was a
slight difficulty about arranging a vehicle
of exchange, but it was finally settled that
a box of pilot bread should be set apart as
the basis of a currency, and neatly written
notes were issued, each good for one bis-
cuit. The younger children were sum-
moned and the plan explained to them,
and the novel system of housekeeping be-
gan.For a day or two matters worked well
enough. The younger children made the
beds of the three eldest boys, cooked their
meals, carried coals for them, and ran-
derms about the house, receiving pay-
ment in the pilot bread currency, with
which they bought for their own use coals
from Egbert and food from Charles, and
paid rent for their rooms to Edward. In-
dustries naturally became diversified.
The girls took to cooking, chamber work
and mending clothes; the boys carried
coals, tended fires and blacked boots. At
first every one was happy and the young-
sters thought it great fun. But on the
third day the principles of political econ-
omy began to assert themselves. Little
Minnie, a tot of four years, was hungry,
and went crying to Charles for food. She
had no money, and Charles kindly but
firmly declined to pamperize her by feed-
ing her for nothing, pointing out to her
the dignity of labor and advising her to
go look for work. So Minnie tearfully
besought Egbert to give her some coal
carrying to do, and good hearted Egbert,
though he really didn't need any more
coal carried that day, generously allowed
her to bring a scuttle full from the cellar
at half price.This was the beginning of the trouble.
The next day there was one scuttle of coal
less to be brought from the cellar—a clear
case of over production—and the same
number of coal carriers clamoring for
work. Egbert consulted authorities, and
felt it his duty to reduce wages. The
children sought employment at bed
making, and cooking, and boot blacking,
and of course wages in those industries
fell, too. The pressure of want began to
be felt in the little community. There
were plenty of bed rooms, and plenty of
coals, and plenty of bacon, and hams, and
potatoes, and canned provisions of every
kind. Yet somehow the younger children
found themselves half fed, and shivering
with cold, and crowded into fewer and
fewer bed rooms. The three eldest boys
fared well enough—had each a well
warmed room, with plenty to eat, and did
no work save to pursue their studies in
political economy—but they enjoyed these
privileges with a clear conscience, because
it was evident that by enjoying them they
made work for the younger children and
thus enabled them to earn their living. It
was the general feeling among the whole
family that the three big brothers were
public benefactors.Things came to a crisis on the tenth day.
Five of the eleven younger children had
sold their clothing to get food, and were
huddled half naked, beneath a single
blanket, in a fireless room. The other six
wandered about the house half starved and
almost frozen, begging their elder brothers
to make work for them somehow. Prices
of coal and food and room rent had been
reduced, but nobody seemed any better off
for it. Clearly something must be done.
Egbert summoned Charles and Edward to
a consultation.The brothers ransacked their father's
library for authorities, but couldn't find
where they had made any mistake. The
law of competition had been allowed full
play in settling both wages and prices.
Everything had been done according to
rule, yet the result had been most disas-
trous. At last Egbert hit upon the solu-
tion. The whole trouble, he explained,
arose from their father's short-sightedness.
He had had too many children. The five
little ones shivering beneath their single
blanket were surplus population, who
should have been provided for elsewhere,
put into some other house, or, better still,
never brought into the world at all. It
was unanimously decided that this theory
covered the ground completely; and it was
resolved, pending Mr. Fuggelson's return,
to form the five little ones into a pauper
class, and support them at the expense of
the community.But, alas! this charitable decision came
too late. Before Mr. Fuggelson reached
home three of the children—Minnie, Jack
and Nellie—were dead—killed, as the cor-
oner's jury has since decided, by hunger,
exposure and neglect. Whether the three
eldest boys are to be held responsible for
their deaths is a question which will be
decided in a criminal court, and it would
be improper for us to express any opinion
upon it at the present moment. Mr. Fug-
gelson's remark, however, on reaching
home and learning the manner of his be-
loved ones, is part of the record of the
case. "Good God!" he said, "couldn't
you understand that I laid in that fuel
and provisions and built that house for the
equal use of all my children? What right
had you three, merely because you were
the eldest born, to lock the coal cellar, and
assume control of the bedrooms, and
monopolize the food?"

A COMPOUND CRIME.

Every now and again we hear com-
plaints from the house of detention. The
house of detention is a penal establishment
for the punishment of witnesses. Any
one who commits the compound offense
of being poor and witnessing a crime is
subject to incarceration in this institution.
He may escape the penalty by giving bail;
but as the friends of poor people are them-
selves poor, this hole for escape is very
narrow. Indeed, it is no hole at all incases in which the poverty element of the
offense is aggravated.There are now imprisoned in the house
of detention of this city several people
who have been there for many months.
They are unable to give bail, and cannot
be released until the persons against
whom they are expected to testify are
tried. This is an outrage that ought to
be remedied if possible. But in a growing
city in which poverty grows faster than
population, it seems impossible to suggest
a remedy consistent with what a blunder-
ing printer in the World not inaptly called
"the regular curse of justice."There is one court, the special sessions,
which devotes itself to the trial of all cases
of misdemeanor in which the defendants
consent to be tried without a jury. This
court keeps fully up with its business, so
that neither witnesses nor prisoners can
be long detained awaiting trial. But it is
doubtful if justice is not often sacrificed to
expedition. At any rate, whoever takes
the trouble to observe trials here will con-
clude that in deciding between guilt and
innocence the judges have some method
in which testimony is only a subordinate
factor.The court of eyes and terminer sits in
the trial of criminal cases occasionally
during the year; but it is seldom that any
but star cases go there, and in the star
cases it is not often that witnesses are re-
quired to give bail.To the general sessions, therefore, the
great bulk of criminal prosecutions go.
Here there are four judges. The fourth
was recently added. They sit every month,
and except that they might open court
earlier in the day, there is no ground of
complaint against them so far as disposing
of cases is concerned.It is usual to attribute delays to the
district attorney. But as his activity in
prosecuting is limited by the number of
courts into which he can bring his cases,
this is hardly reasonable. True, he may se-
lect his cases, and by giving preference to
those in which witnesses are imprisoned,
modify that hardship; but it is as much a
hardship to be imprisoned on a false
charge of crime as to be imprisoned on a
charge of knowing something about a
crime, and if the district attorney gave
absolute preference to prison cases it is
seldom that a bail case would be tried.So far as the long detention of prisoners
is due to delay in the trial of cases, the
district attorney cannot be held respon-
sible, nor can the judges, except in slight
degree. This delay is promoted by a var-
iety of reasons.In the first place there are altogether too
many crimes on the statute book. Every
petty regulation which the legislature un-
dertakes to make is fortified with criminal
provisions; and the legislature has under-
taken to make so many petty and arbi-
trary regulations of private affairs that a
good lawyer is more important than good
motives in keeping men out of the peni-
tentiary.In the next place, the police justices, by
whom every criminal case ought to be
sifted before going to the grand jury, are
in the main so incompetent that an aston-
ishing proportion of cases that pass be-
fore them and which they send to the
grand jury are defective when put to the
final test.Then when cases get to the grand jury,
what with the multitude of crimes, and the
incompetency of magistrates, and the
greater incompetency of grand jurors, a
perfect torrent of indictments comes pour-
ing out into the district attorney's office.In these circumstances there is little
hope by expediting trials of even modify-
ing the evils of detaining witnesses.
More judges might be provided; but if
there were fifty there is reason to suppose
that the legislature and the grand jury
would be equal to the emergency, and that
even fifty judges would be too few to dis-
pose of all the indictments that would be
found. And if they were, the wrong in-
volved in imprisoning witnesses would be
only modified, it would not be removed,
for it is wrong to imprison a witness even
for a day. The evil is one of ten thousand
others that are incident to our social sys-
tem, some of which, like this, are aggra-
vated by the tendency of legislatures to
manufacture crimes and the anxiety of
grand juries to turn the crank of our
criminal machinery, but all of which
would rapidly disappear if the preserva-
tion of natural rights and the punishment
of natural wrongs were practically accept-
ed as the chief purpose of government.

WELCOMING A SETTLER.

The Holden smelting company is a
Colorado corporation, whose business is
the smelting of precious ores. They have
been, during the past three months, seek-
ing a suitable site for their works. Had
they been a smaller corporation, or a mere
private individual, they would have been
compelled, before beginning to do any
smelting, to pay a lot of money to some one
of Colorado's owners for the privilege of
going to work. But as they propose to do
business on a large scale, erecting a plant
worth \$600,000 and crushing three hun-
dred tons of ore daily, the case is alto-
gether different. The establishment of
their works will not only attract, directly
and indirectly, a very considerable popu-
lation, all of whom will have to pay com-
petition prices for the use of land to live
on, but will also, probably, determine the
location of other industrial enterprises.
And so, in place of charging the Holden
smelting company anything for the privi-
lege of going to work, the citizens of
Pueblo, Colorado, present them with a
bonus of \$35,000, while the Colorado coal
and iron company are to give them what
land they need for the erection of their
works. The bargain has been completed,
and Pueblo is rejoicing, while Denver andColorado Springs are biting their thumbs
with mortification at having missed a
chance.It is a curious feature of the current
economic philosophy that its laws vary
with the size and importance of the mat-
ters to which they apply. When a com-
bination of capitalists like the Holden
smelting company propose to set a thou-
sand men or more to producing wealth, it
is eminently proper to give them—the
capitalists, of course, not the men—the
freest possible access to the land, and even
to assist them in erecting their buildings
and machinery. But when the thousand
men want to go to work producing wealth,
each on his own account, then the case is
entirely changed, and the proper thing to
do is to build a fence round the land, and
allow no man to go to work unless he can
first pay the landlord's toll. In the light
of common sense, this seems a little
ridiculous.Suppose that New York were to do for
individuals what Pueblo is doing for a cor-
poration. Suppose she were to say to the
tens of thousands who are standing idle
within her borders and pouring through
her gates, what Pueblo says to the Holden
smelting company: "Take a piece of vac-
ant land and go to work, paying taxes
upon it according to its value." Wouldn't
the suburbs blossom with market gardens
and small farms? Wouldn't the vacant
lots be builded up? Wouldn't storekeepers
begin to do a rushing trade, and a hundred
industries which now languish for want of
a market be stimulated by a brisk demand?
A thrill of life would run through the com-
munity, and labor and capital would alike
rejoice in rising wages and increasing
profits.In early days, when a new settler moved
into a neighborhood, the whole community
rejoiced and welcomed him, though he
brought nothing but his own sturdy arms;
and if he had a wife and children, so much
the better. He got his land for nothing,
and people turned out to help him start in
life; they built his house and plowed his
ground, and if need were, fed him for a
time, knowing that by aiding in his health
production they were benefiting them-
selves. Pueblo is welcoming her new
smelting company in just that way. Why
shouldn't New York do likewise, not with
corporations only, but with individuals as
well?

THE TROUBLE WITH THE ROOM.

There is a lull in the "boom" in Salt
Lake City, and the Herald of that town is
seriously considering the reason. "We
cannot believe," says the Herald, "that
this depression is permanent, nor that the
bottom has fallen from the boom. There
is a cause for this lull, however, and it is
one which may lead to the ending of the
activity which promised to make this city
suddenly populous and important." And
then the Herald goes on to give the Salt
Lake citizens some very sensible talk about
what they must do to keep their land val-
ues rising, and make speculation in the
earth's surface more profitable.The real trouble, according to the Her-
ald, is that everybody in Salt Lake City
has been so busy speculating in land
that they have neglected dealing in any-
thing else. They have all bought lots for
a rise, and they have flooded the country
with advertisements and circulars telling
people what a glorious place Salt Lake
City is for a man to come to; but they have
altogether failed to start any manufactur-
ing or other enterprises at which the im-
migrant can work and get wages enough
to pay his rent:No manufacturing enterprise has been un-
dertaken, no utilization of material resources
has been tried; there is no extraordinary
building going on; the lumber yards are doing
no more than at other times; the contracting
companies are not called upon to bid for
work; the brick yards are active only in the
imagination of their proprietors; and the
number of men employed in the mechanical
industries is no larger than it has been in pre-
vious years.This sort of thing, the Herald cogently
remarks, is all wrong. Land values are
not permanently increased merely because
speculators buy lots at fancy prices. Im-
provements must be put upon land; popu-
lation must be attracted and given remun-
erative employment; and then indeed the
price of lots can be maintained, and the
boom go booming on. And in these words
the Herald tells its readers what they
ought to do:Enterprises must be gone into and industrial
concerns established. Natural resources must
be developed and utilized, and that great
source of wealth, labor, be employed pro-
ductively. Land must be made worth its
price by improvement and utilization. People
must be brought here and given something to
do. All the rich men in Christendom will not
help the city if they only buy vacant lots to
let them continue vacant.The Salt Lake City Herald has started
thinking on a dangerous line. If it keeps
on trying to secure the development and
utilization of natural resources, and the
productive employment of labor, it will
find that the chief obstacles in its path are
the fences of the speculating landlords of
Salt Lake City. It may then bethink itself
that if the men who hold natural oppor-
tunities unused were abundantly taxed for
the privilege there would soon be plenty
of productive employment for labor. "All
the rich men in Christendom will not help
the city if they only buy vacant lots to let
them continue vacant." Wouldn't it be a
good idea, then, to arrange matters so that

THE WEEK.

Roscoe Conkling.

Roscoe Conkling died in this city on the morning of Wednesday, April 18. It is an old proverb that nothing but good should be said of the dead. Happy indeed is the man of whom, dying, little but good can be said. Such a man was Roscoe Conkling. His virtues were patent to all. His faults must be sought for if one would know them.

Whether or not he was the great statesman his admirers thought him, must be left to a future generation to decide. We of to-day are too close to the man and the events of which he was a part to do more than guess at the proportions of either to the other. But Roscoe Conkling has a claim to our admiration which it needs no perspective to appreciate.

For he was an honest man, amid the strongest temptations to be otherwise. He was honest in his honesty. He was little troubled about what others might think of him, but a great deal about what he thought of himself. While other politicians cared only for their records, he cared for his life. To be, and not to seem, was what he sought. He entered public life and rose to commanding prominence at a time when political leadership was well nigh a synonym for wealth, and he left the senate of the United States a poorer man than at the beginning of his career. It is an evil thing for the republic when to be an honest man in public life becomes a title to distinction. But all the more is it a noble thing to have deserved that distinction. And Roscoe Conkling deserved it.

The Deadlock in the House.

The deadlock in the house of representatives was broken on the 12th of April, when a motion to adjourn was carried by a vote of 148 to 137. Although the vote took place on Thursday, April 12, it was technically the session of Wednesday, April 11, which was terminated.

The first skirmish of the coming battle between the forces of protection and free trade is thus decided in favor of the latter. The protectionists had every possible advantage in the contest. They had succeeded by a trick in getting before the house a bill in which all the worst features of "log rolling" legislation were combined—a bill which not only commanded the support of a powerful lobby, but also appealed to the interests of no less than twenty-eight states, every one of which would have derived direct pecuniary benefit from the passage of the bill. Although the bill was brought before the house on the distinct understanding that but a single day should be given to its consideration, they managed to expand one day into seven by refusing to adjourn, and consenting only to occasional "recesses." That in spite of all their advantages and maneuvers they should have been foiled in their attempt to force open the treasury doors is a matter of congratulation. Colonel Oates and the little band who have stood by him so steadfastly deserve well of the republic.

The direct tax bill, had it become a law, would have been but the first of a series of raids, which would rapidly have emptied the treasury. A cotton tax refunding bill would have followed, the overflooded bank bill would have taken \$25,000,000—there would have been a general scramble for spoils. The republicans would have gone before the country next fall, pointing to an emptied treasury as an argument against any reduction in taxation, and in the same voice accusing the democratic party of the extravagance of having emptied it. All this is now happily averted.

What It Cost.

The Washington correspondent of the *World* amuses himself by calculating the daily cost of the deadlock, as follows:

Salaries of members, \$4,500; speaker's room, \$12; chaplain, \$3; clerk's office, \$240; engineers and mechanics, \$25; sergeant at arms' office, \$15; doorkeeper's office, \$375; post office, \$70; committee clerks, \$25; official reporters, \$75; police, \$50; miscellaneous, \$320; grand total, \$5,900.

Say \$30,000 for the six working days. Well, after all, it was cheap at that.

The River and Harbor Bill.

The river and harbor bill, at all events in its present shape, is probably killed for this session. There was nothing to be said in favor of it, and everything to be said against it. The fate of the direct tax bill discouraged its advocates.

Minimizing the Issue.

Those who think that the coming contest is going to be over a mere question of tariff tinkering, and that the basic principles of protection and free trade are not going to be thoroughly discussed and compared, will do well to read a few of the utterances of the party leaders in Congress, in their discussion of the president's message. Here is Senator Morrill denouncing his war paint, declaring that a tariff for revenue only is a synonym for free trade, and shrieking that "Henry George has characterized the message as a deadly blow at the ugly fetish of protection." Then he goes on to say that "the protective tariff was originated, as it should now be maintained, by the far-sighted farmers and planters for their own special benefit, to create a constant and sure home market of consumers, to bring the manufacturer and the agriculturist together, and to enable the country to maintain two citizens where only one could otherwise find support."

It cannot be doubted that a protective tariff has vastly increased and diversified American manufactures and made their economical and multifarious production a wide and profound study among the people of every state in the union. It has excited the brain power of not merely the men of science, but the inborn inventive faculties of a great multitude of practical workmen, and has promoted their happiness and thrift."

On the other side comes Senator Coke, no less eager for the fray and not at all inclined to minimize the issue: "If reduction should be made in the tariff, \$5 of tribute paid by the people to the manufacturers will be cut off for every dollar out off from the revenue. The tariff out of which these results grow is the most monstrous system of taxation that this or any other country has ever known."

This high tariff protection is universally defended on the ground of the necessity of protecting American labor against European pauper competition. This is all that there is of the protection argument, and no effort has been made to place it on any other ground. But a more false, heartless and groundless pretext has never been invented to justify or cover up a great wrong.

If United States senators talk like this before the campaign is opened, what bounds will they be likely to set to their eloquence when their blood is heated by the conflict and the air is full of the thunder of the captains and the shouting? Avoid the issue! Sooner look to see two bulldogs in the very act of flying at each other's throats, lay animosity aside and amicably discuss a bone. The fight is on! And nothing but a miracle can stop it.

General Warren's Monument. On April 8, 1877, the Continental congress voted that a monument be erected in the town of Boston, to bear this inscription:

In honor of Joseph Warren, major-general of Massachusetts bay. He devoted his life to the liberties of his country, and in bravely defending them he fell an early victim in the battle of Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775. The congress of the United States, as an acknowledgment of his services and distinguished merit, have erected this monument to his memory.

On April 11, 1888, the United States senate passed the bill appropriating \$15,000 to be applied to carrying into effect the resolution adopted 111 years ago. The unfinished business of the government is being rapidly disposed of.

Leaving the City's Wharves. Thirty-six one-year leases of New York city wharves have been sold at auction by order of the dock commissioners for \$89,175. The average of prices realized was considerably better than at the last annual sale.

It is universally conceded that this method of administering the wharfage facilities of this city is an eminently just one, since it secures to the community that steady increase of wharf values which the community creates by its commerce. Precisely why the community should have a right to the whole increase in value of land utilized as a landing place for cargoes, but no right whatever to the increase in value of the land utilized as a storage place for the same cargoes, is one of those mysteries of current economics that are past finding out.

Showing Off for Charity. The loving kindness of fashionable New York fairly overflowed on Thursday of last week, and the Hahnemann hospital got the benefit of it. A number of young men and women, more or less prominent in "society," danced in public at the Metropolitan opera house, and a large audience paid money to see them do it. The young men and women claim to have been actuated by charity in thus placing themselves on exhibition, and it is to be presumed the spectators went to look at them in the same spirit.

Another exhibition, which realized about \$5,000 for the skin and cancer hospital, was given by the members of the New York riding club on Saturday evening last. There was a grand entering procession, with flourishing of trumpets, a lot of marching and counter marching, a waltzing horse, and a few other of the more ordinary performances of the circus ring. The show was witnessed by a large and enthusiastic audience.

Recorder Smyth's Decision. The manner in which the press and public have received Recorder Smyth's refusal to allow another grand jury to investigate the charges against Jay Gould and Russell Sage is instructive. Theoretically, at least, the recorder's decision should represent the wise and careful judgment of an unbiased judge; practically, it is assumed by very many people, it represents nothing of the sort. Gould and Sage must have been guilty of the crime they are charged with, because they are Gould and Sage; the recorder's decision must have been corruptly secured, because it was in favor of Gould and Sage; such is the unconscious train of reasoning in the minds of many men, not generally given to prejudice or hasty conclusions.

It is not the least alarming symptom of our social condition that men are thus losing confidence in the impartiality of our courts where the interests of any leading members of our corporation aristocracy are at stake. Mr. Smyth may or may not be a thoroughly upright judge. He is certainly a fearless one. Had he been otherwise the temptation to defer to popular clamor in his decision would have been well nigh irresistible.

The Woman Suffrage Bill at Albany. The woman suffrage bill came within three votes of being passed by the assembly at Albany. One statesman, Mr. Tim Sullivan, explained his vote thus:

"A month ago I intended to vote for this bill. Since then I have found two new avenues of employment of women. One is drawing spirit pictures in New York; the other is selling patent medicine bills at Albany. I vote no."

Then the house of assembly of the state of New York laughed.

Warden Walsh's Resignation. Mr. Thomas P. Walsh, better known as Fatty Walsh, has resigned his position as warden of the city prison, and retires into private life until such time as he can be provided for in some equally profitable, but less conspicuous office.

It was a mistake to make a warden of Fatty in the first place. It ought not to have been done. It wasn't merely that he was unfit for the position—most city officials are unfit for their positions. But there was an added something about Fatty—a flavor of gangs and low liquor saloons, and petty rascalities—that made his unfitness peculiarly conspicuous. It was right that he should be sent to the Tombs, but altogether wrong that he should be sent there as warden. The public gorge rose against the appointment.

Still, it is clear that if our statesmen use Fatty Walshes they must pay for them. It's all very well to talk about touching pitch and being defiled, but if you can't

get along without using pitch you must touch it, defilement or no defilement. Touch is a political necessity. His price was the wardenship of the Tombs, and he got it.

But it is curious to see how all the papers pitch into poor Fatty—who in his administration of the Tombs has only obeyed the instincts of his nature—and have no word of reprehension for the higher authorities who have maintained him in his position for fifteen months. When a savage dog is allowed to run at large, it is customary to blame his owner for not keeping him chained up. But principles of that kind have no force in politics.

Two years ago Mr. Walsh wanted to go to congress and had arranged matters in his district to give himself the democratic nomination. But ex-Mayor Cooper and prospective Mayor Hewitt wanted to have young General Bryce, the son-in-law of one and the nephew-in-law of the other, go to congress. So, as was understood at the time, a "deal" was made with Mr. Walsh by which he was to have the wardenship of the Tombs on consideration of letting General Bryce go to congress in his stead. Whether Mr. Walsh would have been more of a public scandal as a representative in congress than as warden of the Tombs is not worth discussing, but it is unquestionable that more than half the power of the "disreputable element" in our politics comes from the readiness of the so-called "respectable element" to dicker with and buy them.

Mr. Potter on Mayor Hewitt's Plan. Mr. Orlando B. Potter is a citizen of New York who differs from most other citizens in that he really owns a part of New York. Not only can he eat, sleep, sit around, and transact his business in the city without leave asked from any man, but he is in a position to levy a tax on a very considerable number of his less fortunate fellow citizens for the enjoyment of those franchises. Mr. Potter, in short, has what is called a stake in the country, and a very considerable stake it is. Under these circumstances Mr. Potter has felt it a duty to go to Albany and tell the senate committee on railroads what he thinks about Mayor Hewitt's scheme for rapid transit in New York.

Mr. Potter objects to Mayor Hewitt's plan because it would permit the mayor to control "the property interests of its citizens." He also thinks that as the present rapid transit roads pay taxes toward the support of the city, it would be a terrible injustice for the city to force them to compete with roads which, paying no taxes, could be operated at less expense. He is of opinion, too, that there might be danger of dishonest administration, that property along Broadway might be depreciated in value, and that the city couldn't borrow funds at three per cent. Altogether Mr. Orlando B. Potter doesn't like the idea, and would much prefer that things should be left as they are.

What is noticeable about Mr. Potter's speech before the senate committee is, not the somewhat trifling objections he advances, but the tone of self assertion and class assertion that runs through it. He poses as a member of an oligarchy, and not in the least as a citizen of a democracy. He feels that in any question affecting the government and administration of New York city the only interests proper to be consulted are those of the land owners. He has a confused idea that the ownership of a few thousand square feet of New York's surface makes him a useful citizen, whose counsel should be sought about city affairs, and whose advice should be carefully heeded. It would probably astonish him to be told that a disinherited resident of an east side tenement house has as much right to a voice in city affairs as himself. He regards the Declaration of Independence, like the sermon on the mount, as "a tissue of glittering generalities."

More Protection Wanted. Boston is importing beans. It's dreadful to think of—terrible to have to believe—but the customs returns can't lie. And the customs returns show that 67,889 bushels of beans have been brought into Boston from foreign ports within the past three months. And this in spite of a ten per cent duty! What won't the pauper labor of Europe and Nova Scotia do next? We had become resigned to potatoes and cabbage from Germany, and eggs from Denmark and elsewhere, but the bean should have been held sacred. The need of the hour is a higher duty on beans.

A Blow at the Fishing Industry. Fisherman's luck has passed into a proverb, but the luck of the American fisherman is too hard for even a proverb to do justice to it. Not content with trampling on his rights in the most barefaced manner, refusing to blow Canada out of water for his satisfaction, and shamelessly allowing foreign caught fish to be landed and sold on mere payment of a tariff fine—

not content with all this, the wicked democratic free trade government of the United States last week struck a foul blow at his very existence and absolutely forbade him to come into the country. A vessel arrived at Boston from Liverpool, Nova Scotia, having on board two entire crews of American fishermen—true blue-nosed Nova Scotians, every man of them—one intended for the schooner Minette, and one for the schooner Iolanthe. Will it be believed that the collector of the port actually refused these American fishermen permission to land, on the paltry pretense that they were imported contract laborers, and sent them back to Nova Scotia?

There are two things necessary to a well developed fishing industry—fish and fishermen. If Canada refuses to let us take the first, and our own government forbids our furnishing us with the second, our fishing industry is doomed to extinction. Let Congress look to it.

The World's Advertising Contest. The New York *World* has adopted a novel method of demonstrating the value of its advertising columns. It offered a series of rewards—\$50, \$25 and \$15—to the advertisers receiving the largest number of replies to bona fide advertisements during the month of March; each advertisement to be inserted but once, and the

letters received in reply to be turned over to the *World* for verification and counting. The result of this unique contest was announced in the *World* of Sunday last.

A single insertion of a four line advertisement for a young man to fill a position of trust at a salary of \$1,200, with good prospects, brought 913 applications. A call for two men and a boy for office and store work—men to be willing to work till 8 p. m. every second Tuesday, salary \$15—was answered by 802 men and boys. And an announcement that a clerk was wanted at \$10 a week resulted in 743 applications for the situation.

Judging from these figures, a man or boy has about as much chance of obtaining employment in New York as of drawing a prize in the Louisiana lottery. And yet there ought to be no want of work in New York. Outside the circle of fashionable society, there is probably not a man standing idle in the city to-day who cannot do something that plenty of other people want done, and who does not need plenty of things that other idle people can do. Why should there be any idle people?

Convict Camp Life. The horrors of exile in Siberia are well matched, if not surpassed, by those of convict camp life in Arkansas. The board of penitentiary commissioners of that state has made an investigation into the condition of the convicts at a single mining camp, the result of which is given in the *Memphis Appeal*. It was found that the convicts were worked more than ten hours a day in badly ventilated mines and places dangerous to health and life; that they were insufficiently clothed, poorly fed, forced to work on Sunday and refused hospital accommodation. The *Appeal*, commenting on the report, remarks that the fault is not in the board of commissioners, but in the law, which makes living human bodies the subjects of competitive hire and thus puts a premium on rapacity. "The state that works its convicts on the leased camp system," says the *Appeal*, "will inevitably be disgraced." We are much of the *Appeal's* opinion.

The United Labor Party. The state executive committee has notified the members of the state committee to call congressional conventions in their respective districts for the purpose of electing delegates to the Cincinnati conference. The basis of representation in these conventions will be: For the first fourteen districts, one delegate for each 100 votes or fraction thereof cast for Henry George at the last election; and for the remaining twenty districts, one delegate for each 25 votes or cast. If any committee man fails to call a convention in his district, the state executive committee is to do so in his stead; or, if the emergency shall seem to require it, they shall designate the delegates to the national conference, who must be residents of the congressional district for which they are appointed.

WAKING UP A PENNSYLVANIA TOWN. Single Tax Men at Edge Hill Village Held a Big Meeting and Preach the True Gospel.

A rousing meeting was held at Edge Hill village, Montgomery county, Pa., Saturday evening, April 14, under the auspices of the single tax reform club of that place. Zachmann's neat little hall was filled by workmen of the vicinity in consequence of the efforts of Messrs. Hunt, Callan, McCormack, and the Stearns Bros., druggists. These are all earnest men, not muzzled by fear or self-interest, but openly advocating our cause. Moses Stearns says "I am no Nicodemus; I talk the doctrine to my customers whether they like it or not, or whether I lose custom or not." Mr. Hunt, who presided, is a property owner, but he sees clearly that he would not lose anything by shifting taxes from his houses to his land, and that he would gain much in obtaining the full fruits of his labor instead of a part as at present. Mr. Callan is secretary of the club that organized the meeting. He is strongly opposed to separate political action. Mr. McCormack takes the same attitude, and states that the democrats thereabouts regard single tax reform with much favor since we have struck out straight from the shoulder at the tariff abomination.

Richard Chambers of Philadelphia, in addressing the meeting, said that he believed, as the result of twelve years' experience in the labor movement, that strikes and boycotts could not have lasting effect, combinations of labor being overmatched by combinations of monopoly. He lay with the ballot, by which all taxation could be removed from the shoulders of the industrious and placed upon monopoly—upon land values. Another speaker from Philadelphia, H. V. Hettzel, spoke in the same strain. He said that taxing land up to its full rental value would kill land monopoly, and with that would die many other monopolies. This remedy could only be applied through political action. If workmen are averse to this they should bear in mind the story of the party of Maine lumbermen, none of whom wished to work with the tax on their land, but who, by which all taxation could be removed from the shoulders of the industrious and placed upon monopoly—upon land values.

The entrance hall is the biggest, the most imposing, the costliest and by long odds the handsomest apartment in a modern New York house of the first rank. New Yorkers of wealth and of the highest social position, the straight hall of the narrow block house where the stairs go straight up and the narrow passage to the back parlor and basement stairs go straight back. Instead they have made the hall the central feature of the establishment, to which all necessary everything else is subordinated. The new type of hall is elaborate in its architectural features, richly antique in its furnishings, and if the mistress of the establishment has any taste whatever for large decorative effects, it is upon the hall that she lavishes them. The hall, indeed, is a lobby of a lobby that people build new houses in order to have halls—[Brooklyn Review and Record.]

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Dover Beach.
Matthew Arnold, died in Liverpool April 13.
The sea is calm to-night,
The tide is full, the moon lies fair
Upon the straits; on the French coast the light
Gleams and is gone; the cliffs of England stand,
Glimmering and vast out in the tranquil bay.
Come to the window, sweet is the night air!
Only from the long line of spray,
Where the edge meets the moon-blanch'd sand,
Listen! you hear the grating roar
Of pebbles which the waves suck back and
fling,
At their return, up the high strand,
Begin and cease, and then again begin,
With tremulous cadence slow, and bring
The eternal note of sadness in.

Sophocles long ago
Heard it of the *Ægean*, and he brought
Into his mind the turbid ebb and flow
Of human misery: we
Find also in the sound a thought,
Hearing it by this distant northern sea.
The sea of faith
Was once too at the full, and round earth's shore
Lay like the folds of a bright girdle furled;
But now I only hear
Its melancholy, long withdrawing roar,
Retreating, to the breath
Of the night wind down the vast edges drear
And naked shingles of the world.

Ah, love, let us be true
To one another! for the world which seems
To lie before us like a land of dreams,
So various, so beautiful, so new,
Hath really neither joy, nor love, nor light,
Nor certitude, nor peace, nor help for pain;
And we are here as on a darkling plain,
Swept with confused alarms of struggle and
flight,
Where ignorant armies clash by night.

Shaking Things Up in Jersey City.
JERSEY CITY, April 16.—Since the hot debate here last week as to whether "a protective tariff has aided in promoting our manufactures, urging industries," and whether "its continuance is essential to the prosperity of the country," between ex-Judge Morrison of Indiana for the affirmative and Joseph Dana Miller of Jersey City for the negative, there has been considerable discussion on the subject. Newspaper reports and reports of those who were there have excited no small amount of interest, and single tax men are busily fanning the embers into a flame. Arguments used and claims made on the protectionist side have aroused the suspicion of men who hitherto thought they were protectionists. We do not propose to let the matter rest here, but shall carry on the good fight until we set the whole city thinking. H. W.

SOCIETY NOTES.
The late Emperor William, though he lived for his country, also paid careful attention to the "main chance." His majesty, "resting in God," died worth 51,000,000 marks (\$12,750,000).

Paul Schwartz, seventeen years old, swallowed a dose of phosphorus in the Spencer house, No. 88 Bowery. He screamed with pain and was found rolling on the floor. He has been in the country two months and failed to secure work. The day before he had purchased two newspapers, and after reading the want columns remarked, "I am afraid I shall never be able to get work to do." He then bought and swallowed poison.

The Princess Wilhelmine, the little heiress to the throne of the Netherlands, was recently sledge riding with her mother when they came upon a party of children snow-balling. The princess asked to be allowed to join them, and the queen gave her permission at once. The royal sledge waited for half an hour while the future queen of the Netherlands took her share in the mutual snow-pounding which was going forward. The little princess then threw her snowball to mingle in the sports and enjoyments of children of her own age.—[London Star.]

As a horse car was moving down Poplar street, in Memphis, it was boarded by four men, one of whom held a revolver to the driver's head while the rest robbed him of \$33. Poplar street is one of the most fashionable streets of Memphis. The men escaped, and the gift of \$100,000 from Mr. William Massey of this city to the house of refuge to enable that institution to remove from its present location to the country, where the boys may be profitably employed on a farm, is not only unusually generous but also thoroughly practical. It will enable the committee by lessening the number of those who would otherwise be likely to swell the ranks of crime or mendicancy. Mr. Massey's noble beneficence will assist many unfortunate boys into paths of industry and enable them to become valuable factors in the social and industrial development of the community.—[Philadelphia Record.]

Among the cases brought before a district court in New York a few days ago was an application for the eviction of Mrs. Pauline Able, who occupied a floor at No. 410 Water street, and owed \$1.50 rent. The woman appeared in court with her six children. She stated that her husband was in the insane asylum on Ward's island, that she was trying to support her children, was sick and couldn't pay the money. The judge and lawyers made up a phrase and paid her rent, leaving something over for the woman's support. The landlord, Patrick O'Brien, was asked to waive his statutory costs, but refused.

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SPIRIT PHENOMENA.

I had been told of a man named Phillips who was a wonderful slate writing medium. Having never seen any spirit slate writing I determined to get an hour's amusement out of Phillips. Professing to be a reporter, I asked for some tests for publication. There is no reasonable prob-

It is needless to say that these slate communications at both interviews were sheer nonsense. Every reader of "spiritual communications" will recognize that characteristic. But it was not what was written, but that anything should be written, that excited our interest. My friend's leggedman had left him clear in the lurch; still his mind reverted continually to that mode of explanation. The slates might be trick slates, or—well, anyhow, he would like to see the exhibition in his own room and with his own slates. To be

There was enough in this to induce me to make inquiries and I learned the fact to be that the school mate I had in mind, and whose first name was given by the medium, was still alive; but that her sister, having a different first name, who had also gone to school with me in two different villages and for the same reason, namely, the burning of the school house, had died about a year before of a throat disease the

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