

THE STANDARD

NO. 110---VOL. V, No. 6.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1889.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

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

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

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

In a letter to THE STANDARD some weeks ago, W. J. Atkinson of the Keystone watch company, president of the single tax society of Philadelphia, related a conversation with a Pennsylvania gentleman he had met in the cars, who, though an opponent of the single tax, spoke of my "Protection or Free Trade?" as the most effective work ever written to convince men of the absurdity and wrong of protection, and lamented the failure to carry out, prior to the last election, a scheme which he said some leading Pennsylvania democrats had been talking of—to make a free distribution of 100,000 copies. Mr. Atkinson offered, in case such a proposition were now carried out, to subscribe half the money needed. Not stopping with this, he wrote to me prior to his departure for a California trip on which he is at present, that he would be responsible for \$5,000 toward the distribution of 250,000 copies. Mr. A. B. Farquhar, the well known agricultural implement manufacturer of York, Pennsylvania, who is both a reader of THE STANDARD and an advertiser in its columns, noting Mr. Atkinson's letter in THE STANDARD, also wrote me about the matter, and offered to be one of ten to subscribe the necessary amount to circulate 250,000 copies of the book where they would do the most good. Learning of Mr. Atkinson's offer he has made this an unconditional subscription of \$1,250 to the fund. I have found that an edition of 250,000 can be printed and distributed by putting the book in somewhat smaller type than the present edition, so that now one-half of the money necessary is provided for. If there are enough others to make up the remaining \$6,250 I will start the work of getting the edition ready as soon as possible.

I should like the Tribune and the Press to note that the half of the necessary fund already subscribed comes from two protected American manufacturers—and not only that, but from two protected Pennsylvania manufacturers. It would be pleasant to have the whole amount made up from the same class. But if the Cobden club would like to divert in this direction any part of the stream of British gold, which, according to the protectionist papers, they are constantly pouring into the United States to spread free trade ideas, their money will not be refused if it comes in time. I do not wish, however, to have this matter interfere with any single tax subscriptions to the ordinary funds needed for the propaganda work we have already commenced, and especially with subscriptions

for the pushing of the work of the committee having charge of the congressional petition. This petition is opening great opportunities, and the fund in the hands of the committee ought to be swelled so as to enable it to meet them. A full statement of what it has done, and what it proposes to do, will be found on another page.

I had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Farquhar in this city last week, and of having for the first time a long talk with him. He is the sort of man whose opinions on the tariff question ought to have weight with General Harrison, for whether he is a student of maxims or not, he is emphatically a student of markets. He begins to study them at his desk in his factory at seven o'clock every morning, and with an hour for dinner, continues their study until six in the evening, opening every day hundreds of letters, and dictating or directing replies to them. By hard work and business energy and sagacity he has built up a trade that not merely extends to all parts of the country, but to all parts of the world.

That Mr. Farquhar is in favor of tariff reduction is well known by the interviews and letters that he contributed to the literature of the last campaign, and which were largely circulated and did effective work. But although his own business well illustrates how protection instead of fostering really cramps American industry, it is only lately that Mr. Farquhar has come to think about and question protection. In Pennsylvania until recently there has been only one opinion on the tariff question, it being accepted as a matter of faith that protection was synonymous with prosperity and that American industry must have protection or it would die. But as Mr. Farquhar began to think a little of the tariff while he daily studied his markets, he began to see reason to question that faith.

He certainly gets no benefit from the tariff. There is, to be sure, a protective duty nominally levied on imported agricultural implements, but that does him no more good than the duties on agricultural productions do the American farmer, who not only supplies the home market, but sends a surplus abroad. That Mr. Farquhar could hold his own against any foreign manufacturer in the American market without any duty is proved by the fact that he not only makes agricultural implements for the United States, but exports them to Europe, to the West Indies, to Brazil, to the Argentine Republic, to Chili, to Peru, to Australia, and even to India. Protection does him no good in the home market, but it seriously hampers him in all foreign markets. It adds to the cost of all the materials he uses, from iron and steel to the jute cloth with which his machines are wrapped, the twine with which bundles are tied, and the wood screws or nails with which the boxing is fastened. And it not only puts him at this disadvantage in his competition with foreign producers, but, especially with his English competitors, it puts him at a disadvantage in another way. For so far as "protection to American industry" killed our foreign commerce that in order to send his goods to South America, Australia, or other such countries, Mr. Farquhar must first send them to England. It is worth repeating—this beautiful scheme for "protecting" American industries not only compels Mr. Farquhar to pay much higher for all his materials

than his English competitor, but it actually compels him to pay freight by English steamers to Liverpool, London or Southampton before he can ship his products to markets in which he is to compete with English manufacturers. Is not this encouraging American industry with a vengeance?

How can American manufacturers manage to compete with foreign manufacturers in such markets as South America, Australia and South Africa, when they are so terribly handicapped by the tariff? According to the notions of the protectionists, they ought not to be able to compete at all, even if released from the burdens the tariff now places upon them. For the wages they have to pay are considerably higher than are paid by the English manufacturers, and much higher than are paid in France or Germany—to say nothing of the wages that are paid in such countries as China, India and Mexico, which, according to the protectionist notion, ought to be the greatest manufacturing countries in the world. But some American manufacturers, of whom Mr. Farquhar and Mr. Atkinson are types, do do it, notwithstanding that to the fancied disadvantage of high wages are added the real disadvantages imposed on them by the tariff in increasing the cost of their materials and compelling them to export via England and in English ships.

American ingenuity and adaptability furnish an answer. Now these are qualities born of our higher wages, the very thing that protectionists insist is such a disadvantage that if it were not for the tariff American manufactures would cease to exist.

But American ingenuity and adaptability, at least in so far as they go to making improved goods, do not furnish the full answer. For instance, Mr. Farquhar does not send to Cuba, to South America and to South Africa the improved plows and other implements that American farmers like to use, and which are unquestionably the best in the world. He sends to those countries the old fashioned implements that the people of those countries like, because their fathers used them. The reason that he is able to send old fashioned tools to old fashioned countries, in spite of our "protective" tariff, is that the labor that goes into the tool costs him less. It is that our higher standard of wages, instead of putting the American manufacturer at a disadvantage, really gives him an advantage, by making American labor, results considered, the cheapest labor in the world. This is not a matter of maxims alone—it is a matter of markets.

Mr. Farquhar told me that the last time he was in England he visited the large Howard agricultural implement factory in Bedford, the town where John Bunyan, being cast into jail for conscience sake, wrote his wonderful allegory. There he saw facsimiles of the identical patterns he was using in York. This Howard factory had the same patterns, so he had no advantage on that score. It was paying \$14 a ton for pig iron, while owing to our protective tariff, he was paying \$20. It was paying \$3 and \$4 per ton for scrap iron, while he was, owing to American protection, paying \$13 and \$14. It was paying on an average some thirty per cent lower wages. To put its goods on board ship for South America, South Africa or Australia, it

had to send them no further than from York to Philadelphia or New York; while he had to send his from York to London, Liverpool or Southampton. Yet in spite of all this, he could undersell in these foreign markets the Howard factory. What was the reason? Mr. Farquhar says he found it to be that his labor was, efficiency considered, the cheapest labor. He paid higher wages, but the work cost him less. The result of his study of markets was thus to convince him that, instead of our higher standard of wages putting American manufacturers at a disadvantage, it constitutes their great advantage, and that all we need to become the greatest manufacturing nation in the world is simply to get rid of protection.

I recall another confirmation of this. Some time ago—it may be a couple of years—I was going on to Philadelphia, and met in the train Daniel Dougherty, the orator. He introduced me to one of the Cramps, the Philadelphia ship builders, from whom I learned many interesting things about the building of iron ships on the Delaware. One of the things that Mr. Cramp told me was that he could build an iron ship of the best and most expensive class on the Delaware as cheaply as she could be built on the Clyde, but that ships not so finely finished could be built more cheaply in Glasgow or Belfast. The reason he gave me for this was that in the more expensive ships the cost of labor as compared with the cost of the raw material was greatest, while in the less expensive ships the cost of the material was greatest. And on the Delaware, he said, owing to their labor saving appliances and the American habit of using them, labor in ship building and ship finishing was less expensive than on the other side of the Atlantic. Mr. Cramp is, I think, an ardent protectionist, evidently for the reason that he has never put two and two together, and in connection with the tariff has been a student of maxims rather than of markets. But the facts he gave me corroborate the statement of Mr. Farquhar.

Mr. Farquhar was an early republican. Born and brought up in Maryland, he saw enough of the cruelty and brutalizing effect of chattel slavery to make him revolt from it in horror and hatred. Some of these memories of a darker time I got from him as we chatted—of families broken up to be sold south; of slave girls tied up and brutally whipped for resisting attacks on their virtue; of the pro-slavery president of a seminary who, when a slave of his was sentenced to be flogged for having been impudent to a man who had insulted her, stood by the whipping post, with clenched teeth and his hand in the pocket of his sack coat while the prescribed number of lashes fell harmlessly on her back, having first sworn in a whisper to the man who was to do the flogging that if the girl was really hurt he would put a bullet through his head; of a colored church raided and the congregation and preacher beaten and driven away because they had managed to learn to sing hymns out of a book; of teaching slaves to read while it was a penal offense to do so; of stations on the underground railroad; and of other things of the same kind that, dark in themselves, now fill us abolitionists of a later day with hope and cheer. For in 1859 the idea that men could be rightfully private property was as strong as in 1889 is the idea that land

can be rightfully private property. And it was defended by the same arguments.

However, Mr. Farquhar was an early republican, and voted the republican ticket in spite of everything, from Fremont to Blaine, inclusive. But the difference in their politics did not prevent his being a warm and intimate friend of his neighbor, Judge Jeremiah Black. Of Judge Black's strong and high character, and of his scorn of the office seeking democracy that knows nothing of democratic principle, he told me many interesting things. But what interested me most was his statement that Judge Black thirty years ago was a single tax man, and had often expressed to him the opinion that there should be no taxes levied except on land values. Judge Black before his death, Mr. Farquhar said, read "Progress and Poverty" with the keenest delight, and told him that its principles were certain to win their way, and ultimately to be adopted.

Mr. Farquhar voted for Blaine in 1884, just as thousands of men of his kind, who next time will vote for the candidate who goes furthest for freedom, voted in 1888 for Harrison. But after the election it happened to him to learn through his interest in a private matter not relating to himself, something of the man Grover Cleveland—to acquire a deep respect for, and to form a personal acquaintance with him. So it happened that when toward the close of November, 1887, it came to Mr. Farquhar's ears that the president meditated a message to congress in which he would take ground against protection, he went down to Washington to urge upon Mr. Cleveland the impolicy of such a message just before an election in which it was already settled that he would be the democratic candidate. Mr. Cleveland showed him the message, heard all that he had to say, and then asked, "But is not what I say of the tariff true?" "Yes, it is true," replied Mr. Farquhar. "But there is not time for the people to see its truth between now and the election." "That makes no difference," said the president. "If it is true, I ought to say it. I have said that I will do nothing to become president again, and I will not refrain from saying what I think ought to be said, even though it may defeat me."

As to the last election, Mr. Farquhar agreed with me that it was fatal to have a free trade fight made by protectionists and half-hearted tariff smoothers. And he also agreed with me that the radical element would all the sooner and all the stronger come to the front because of the election of Harrison. He himself, he now declares, is an out-and-out free trader, absolute, and he believes that this element in both parties will, by the next election, refuse any compromise or affiliation with either whole or half-way protectionists. Let the protectionists get into one party and the free traders into the other, for between the two systems there is no reconciliation. Mr. Farquhar says that in Pennsylvania, as everywhere throughout the country, free trade ideas are making the most rapid progress, and that the single tax idea is swiftly making way.

Among the signatures to the single tax congressional petition, the committee every now and again receive a blank signed by some Canadian friend, who gives his state as Ontario, Quebec, or whatever else may be the name of the province in which he lives. This is not unnatural, for when a man really sees the cat, artificial boundary lines lose their importance in his mind, and his sympathies are enlisted wherever a struggle is being made for the good cause. The

Canadian provinces ought to be states in a greater American union, and will be before the single tax has been long in operation; but so long as they are not, our committee cannot use such signatures. Their occasional coming, however, suggests that it might be well for our Canadian friends to start a Dominion petition similar to our congressional petition. In Ontario a petition is already being circulated, asking the exemption of improvements to the value of \$600, as the thin end of the single tax wedge. But a general petition that could be circulated all over the Dominion would have a wider field of usefulness, while it would not interfere with, but on the contrary would aid, the petition which is to be presented to the Ontario parliament.

In another column we print drafts of a bill and constitutional amendment which have been presented to the Pennsylvania legislature by the single tax men of that state. The bill empowers counties and other political subdivisions to exempt improvements and personal property from taxation, while the amendment declares that all revenues of the state and its subdivisions shall be derived from a single tax on land values. The bill is all right, in principle at least, but the amendment, in my opinion, is bad. We ought not to attempt to legislate through constitutions. Where constitutions now fetter the legislative power by requiring that all property shall be taxed, we ought to try to get this restriction swept away; but it would be wrong as well as impolitic to try to impose a new one.

Chauncey F. Black has written a letter declining an invitation to take part in the Chicago tariff reform conference. His refusal is based on the idea that it is the purpose of the conference to form a new party. On this supposition he is right, for it would obviously be improper for the chairman of the national association of democratic clubs to take part in getting up a rival party organization. But nothing of the sort is intended, and Mr. Black's letter is founded on a misconception. When he receives official information as to this it is to be hoped that he will reconsider his refusal to take part. The purpose of the Chicago conference, as I understand it, is simply to strengthen and intensify the free trade movement, and to aid as far as possible in the work of education now going on in the United States. In so far as it can help in this it will be aiding, not interfering, in the work that it is Mr. Black's hope that democratic societies will do.

The strike, or rather tie up, on the New York horse car lines has not yet been formally given up by the men. But in its eighth day so many cars are running that it is evident that the companies have won the battle. The Richardson lines in Brooklyn have had a longer and a harder contest, but the same thing seems now to be true of them. The dispute appears to have had at bottom the determination of the companies to break up the organization of their men, and restore the days when, if a driver or conductor did not like the hours he was asked to work or the pay the companies chose to give, he could simply be told to find another place. In this it looks as though they have for a time at least succeeded.

During this tie-up New York and Brooklyn have been in a state of mild civil war. The companies have been able to run no cars, or to run but few of them; not from the difficulty of getting men willing to work as drivers and conductors, but from the fear of violence. "Scabs" or supposed "scabs" have been hooted, beaten and driven away, obstructions have been placed on the car tracks, stones thrown,

and other signs of incipient riot from time to time manifested. It is said, and it is probably true, that there would have been more violence, but for the energy and efficiency of the police. As is the custom in New York, they have acted from the first as though martial law had been proclaimed; or rather they simply administered lynch law. They did not exactly hang everybody that it seemed to them good and wise to hang. But they did, as appears from the newspaper reports, proceed to club everybody they thought it good and wise to club, whether he had committed any overt act or whether they merely thought he looked as if he might commit some overt act if suffered to go unclubbed. They cleared saloons, entered houses and charged on crowds with their clubs without any such old fashioned formality as the reading of a riot act. Perhaps this was necessary to prevent the necessity of greater violence. Perhaps this is the only way in which in such times riots can be prevented in New York. Such evidently is the prevailing opinion among the influential classes of New York. But to say this, is to say that constitutional methods of government have become impossible in New York, and that order can only be kept by the stick of eastern despotism. To all but the lower classes this may be entirely satisfactory for the time. But some day, if this be the only way of keeping the peace, the stick is sure to break.

Like all railroad strikes, these tie-ups are but another evidence of the mistake of leaving functions essentially public to private corporations or individuals. No owner of a large building would think of leasing out the privilege of running the elevator necessary for giving access to its upper stories to one who expected to make a profit by charging people for carrying them up and down. Still less would he think of submitting, if only for a day, to a suspension of the accustomed means of getting up and down, whenever there should be a quarrel between the lessee and his employees.

Yet that is what we do with our street cars. What is the difference between the elevator in a building and the street cars of a city, except that one runs perpendicularly and the other horizontally?

When it is understood that the ground values of a city belong rightfully to the whole people, that is to say, to the city itself, then the parallel becomes absolutely complete. Under the single tax it would seem as absurd to put a conductor on a street car to collect fares as it would now seem to put a conductor on an elevator to collect fares. Just as the proprietor of a large building gets back the cost of running a free elevator in the increased value of his rooms, so would the city that under the single tax ran its street cars free to any one who wished to ride, get back the cost in increased land values.

The comments of the press on such conflicts as these tie-ups would be amusing if they were not something more. One set of papers, utterly ignoring the unnatural conditions in which the mere laborer is placed, denounce the strikers as though they were wanton violators of the right of others to make such bargains as they choose and to do such honest work as they see best. All that such papers say would be very just and very true if there were no such thing as customs duties to interfere with the laborer's right of bargain; if there were no fine and imprisonment for the man who buys a little tobacco and makes a few cigars; if the peddler even did not have to have a license; if the franchisees that rightfully belong to the whole community had not been given up to the enrichment of a few; and if the land, the

natural source of all employment, were not for thousands of miles, wherever there is any possibility that the laborer can go, fenced in from him even when lying idle.

And so another set of papers pose as friends of the workingman, and just as carefully ignoring the essential injustice that lies at the root of all these labor troubles, pat the men on the back with words that mean nothing, but strenuously urge them to refrain from violence—just as if force in some of its forms were not the only means by which, with thousands of other men ready to take their places, the strikers can hope to bring their employers to terms.

If anything else were needed the failure of strikes and tie-ups ought to convince workingmen that their combinations cannot beat combinations of capitalists, so long as labor is denied the natural right of access to land. To permanently raise wages, the army of the unemployed must be got rid of, and they can only be got rid of by throwing open to labor the source of all employment. The single tax is the only remedy for a condition of things in which the mere laborer is helpless. And it could be carried with one-tenth of the effort that has been expended in hopeless directions.

The tory government in Ireland is passing from brutality to brutality. The cold blooded ferocity with which political prisoners are being treated there can hardly find a parallel in Bomba of Naples or the unspeakable Turk. That Balfour should treat a gentleman whom night after night he sat opposite to with the indignities he has visited on O'Brien, shows a callous vindictiveness that will make his name long remembered. But his treatment of O'Brien is no worse than his treatment of other Irish gentlemen, and he himself is really no more responsible than his colleagues and supporters. One cannot but sympathize with the gallant O'Brien in his resistance to the indignities which he has been submitted, yet if he were to quietly don the prison dress with the determination to wear it in parliament it might become even a more effective protest. All these atrocities are but adding to the force of the wave that must soon sweep the tory party from power and give Ireland freedom.

HENRY GEORGE.

A Pitiable Story.

A pitiable story of involuntary poverty is told by County Agent Mahoney in the Omaha World of January 25. Mr. Mahoney says that the number of applicants for support from the county is rapidly increasing, and that an investigation shows that nearly all could and would earn their own living if they but had the opportunity. The cause for this poverty, says Mr. Mahoney, is "the absence of work." Then Mr. Mahoney gives some details: On Wednesday an able bodied man living at Thirteenth and Howard street asked aid. An investigation disclosed that he and his wife lived in a room without a stove and for their accommodations paid their landlord \$3 per week. He had worked for Max Meyer a short time ago, but is now out of employment. His wife did washing when she could, but lately had found nothing to do. All the money they had was three cents. Another family of eight named Johnson, in the same condition, was reported the same day, and later a family of eleven were compelled to look to the county for subsistence. The county agent says he has at present under his roof eighty-three persons. Many more would like shelter in the same institution, but it is now more than full. Between 1,200 and 1,500 people in the city are now receiving aid from the county.

There Are Poor in Minnesota.

The superintendent of the poor in Minneapolis reports that calls for relief are becoming surprisingly numerous, considering the exceptional mildness of the winter. Many people who came to Minneapolis last year report that their earnings during the summer have been exhausted, and they are now compelled to seek public relief in order to guard their families from actual want and suffering. In the majority of instances these applicants are respectable men, who would much prefer to support themselves by honest work than by the assistance of the public. A heavy proportion of them, however, are classified as professional tramps, and a too large fraction is ready to commit depredations in order to secure comfortable quarters at the municipal playhouse.

SINGLE TAX PETITIONS.

THERE ARE NOW NEARLY 24,000 OF THEM FROM ALL PARTS OF THE COUNTRY.

A Review of the Work Accomplished by the Committee—Subscribers to the Fund—More Money Needed—Some of the Letters Received.

SINGLE TAX ENROLLMENT COMMITTEE, }
New York, February 5, 1889. }

The work of this committee has reached a stage that enables us to report to the public on the results thus far accomplished. When the committee began work early in December it anticipated that petitions would be likely to come in at the rate of at least five hundred a week. Circulars were printed and ten blanks were sent to each of the persons whose names appeared on the single tax Cleveland and Thurman enrollment list and to such subscribers of THE STANDARD as had not been thus enrolled. This naturally involved a very large expense for printing, directing, postage, etc. Though the great majority of those receiving the petitions do not appear to have gone actively to work, a small number of active men eagerly seized the opportunity thus afforded and began soliciting signatures. The result was that for a considerable time the petitions poured in at the rate of 3,000 or 4,000 per week, and the average for some time past has continued at over 2,000; so that the total number of petitions received to date, according to a hasty count, which, if erroneous, errs in being too small, is 23,758, a result which this committee feels has justified the effort and expenditure.

The petition seems to have met a general demand. Not only were men stimulated to begin canvassing for signatures, but many single tax clubs and associations that had become partly disorganized, or ceased to meet, have been stimulated into new and vigorous activity, and the new zeal of our workers has resulted in causing the press everywhere to give an amount of attention to our principles not accorded them during the last campaign. The tenor of the letters to the committee, extracts from which have been printed in THE STANDARD, go to show that there has been a remarkable revival of interest in all directions, and the feeling is now general that our cause is making more rapid progress than it has ever made before.

It was the original intention of the committee to send out ten blanks to each new signer, but from all quarters came declarations that this would be useless unless documents were sent that would instruct the new signers in our principles and prepare the way for their conversion to the doctrine of the single tax. The necessity for this was made plainer by the receipt of petitions from men who were merely interested in the work of tariff reform, and who confessed that they looked to this work as a method for advancing that reform, but were thus far uninformed as to our purpose and ideas. Furthermore, the rapidity with which the petitions came in rendered it practically impossible, without enormous expense, to send out at letter postage the circulars and petitions, and even had the money been forthcoming it would have required a considerable enlargement of the committee's working force and its quarters to enable it to carry on the work.

Even as it is, the force required has been much larger than was at first anticipated, and two stenographers are kept busy every day in simply answering the great flood of letters that pour in upon the committee, while several others are constantly employed in making an alphabetical list of the signers and properly classifying the petitions in order that we may meet the general desire that literature shall be sent over the whole list. The work has exceeded our expectations, and the committee, of course, rejoices in the remarkable success achieved in so short a time, but it has been compelled, to increase its expenses accordingly.

Before the work began some \$4,000 was subscribed by a comparatively few individuals, to be paid at stated periods during the year beginning December 1, 1888, and from this source and from smaller contributions that have come in from time to time the committee has thus far been able to meet the expenses of carrying on its work. It has now, however, reached a stage when it is absolutely requisite that a very considerable addition shall be made immediately to its funds if it is to be able to utilize the great

opportunity open to it for effective propaganda work.

The enrollment is now so nearly complete that the committee will be prepared in the course of a few days, to begin sending out literature to all of the names on its list. It has ordered for this purpose 90,000 tracts, being 30,000 each of the syllabus of "Progress and Poverty," Mr. Shearman's speech before the legislative committee of Ohio, and Mr. Post's illustrated article on "The Australian ballot system." With these tracts will go a circular issued by the committee and one dozen blank petitions. This will involve not merely the purchase of the tracts and the payment of postage, but a large expense for folding and addressing 30,000 packages, and no estimate the committee has been able to make brings the expense under \$800. We have not that sum in the treasury and the committee feels that if the interest and enthusiasm of our friends cannot meet an exigency like this without compelling it to draw on the regular income guaranteed to it, that its usefulness will be greatly crippled.

In order that the single tax people in all parts of the country may see what has already been done in promoting this work and be stimulated by good example to a liberality that is absolutely essential to the success of our cause, we have determined to make public the subscriptions already received, and to ask that a large increase shall be made in the funds at our disposal.

We do not, as the figures show, need immediately the full 90,000 documents, but it is the committee's purpose to have these packages on hand and mail one to each new signer as soon as his name comes in. We are perfectly aware of the fact that a great many blanks and documents will thus fall into the hands of people who are indifferent to the progress of our cause, but the experience of the late campaign committee demonstrates that a sufficient percentage of new and active men are thus brought to work for the cause to amply compensate us for any waste of documents on the indifferent. It is thus and thus only that active workers can be discovered, and the great advantage of this plan of campaign lies in the fact that it does open opportunities for work to those so disposed and bring into the committee's headquarters a good list of such workers who can be depended on to help the cause in all parts of the country. We already have a separate enrollment of these active workers, which is growing from day to day; and after the first rush and hurry is over, it is the committee's purpose to begin paying special attention to localities where work has been slack, and gradually bring the whole of our force into united and harmonious activity in arousing public attention to doctrines that only need to be understood in order that they shall be accepted. Hereafter all subscriptions, unless a special request is made to the contrary, will not only be acknowledged as hitherto, by a receipt from the chairman of the committee, but they will also be published in THE STANDARD, in order that our friends may see the progress made, and put forth their own efforts accordingly. The subscriptions thus far received have been as follows:

Thos. G. Shearman, New York	\$ 300 00
August Lewis, New York	300 00
Tom L. Johnson, Cleveland, Ohio	300 00
W. & M. Mendelson, New York	25 00
S. Mendelson, New York	25 00
J. P. Cranford, Brooklyn, N. Y.	25 00
J. M. Flandian, Brooklyn, N. Y.	1 00
Miss B. Macdonald, Flushing, L. I.	7 00
Miss H. Weston, W. New Brighton, S. I.	100 00
John Cairns, Hartford, Conn.	1 25
B. Sagehomme, Lawrence, Mass.	5 00
G. Hawkins, New York	1 00
Chas. H. Shepard, M.D., Bklyn, N.Y.	5 00
G. H. Phelps, Denver, Col.	1 00
Canby J. Christenson, Bklyn, N. Y.	5 00
Ellis T. Jones, New York	1 00
L. Newman, Hoosick Falls, N. Y.	50
F.C. Wintermute, E. Mauch Chunk, Pa.	1 00
Reed Gordon, Roselle, N. J.	75 00
O. & L. O. Macdonald, New York	6 25
W. J. Bolton, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.	1 00
Martin L. Small, Rockville, Conn.	1 00
Wm. Schuyler, St. Louis, Mo.	1 00
I. E. Alger, Fitchburg, Mass.	2 00
Geo. Champion, Jefferson, Col.	50
Mary A. Crane, Brooklyn, N. Y.	1 00
Louis F. Post, New York	10 00
James M. Whiton, Tremont, N. Y.	1 00
Robert H. Miller, Cherokee, Kan.	25
J. W. Neely, Reno, Pa.	1 00
John Brosius, Carbonate, Dak.	2 00
John H. Doyle, Denver, Col.	1 00
Adam Behny, Lebanon, Pa.	20
I. Zackarias, New York	2 00
M. Gross, jr., New York	2 00
Charles Newburgh, Beloit, Wis.	25
H. Donovan, New Bedford, Mass.	1 00
Robert Ireland, New York	1 00
Harry Bowerman, New York	1 00
L. Lesaulnier, Red Bud, Ill.	1 00
E. D. Burleigh, Germantown, Pa.	1 00
B. Canty, Valley Falls, R. I.	1 00

George Breed, Cold Spring, N. Y.	3 00
Henry George, New York	25 00
S. B. Riggan, Portland, Ore.	2 50
Chas. G. Schaedel, Fells, Mass.	1 00
F. H. Marsh, Brooklyn, N. Y.	3 00
Mrs. M. Weston, W. New Brighton	25 00
Thomas Rushton, Malden, Mass.	1 00
Alex. Reid, Philadelphia, Pa.	1 00
F. A. Evans, Salda, Col.	1 00
James Boyd, Clelum, Wash. Ter.	10 00
Charles Nelson, Brooklyn, N. Y.	1 00
J. P. Ryan, Brooklyn, N. Y.	1 00
A. Van Dusen, New York	100 00
Michael J. Murray, Owego, N. Y.	1 00
Wm. Young, Paterson, N. J.	2 00
Chas. Bonestill, Grand Crossing, Ill.	1 00
A. D. Whittingham, Annandale, N. Y.	1 00
C. C. Terrill, San Francisco, Cal.	1 00
C. P. Cooper, Brooklyn, N. Y.	4 00
Philip J. Zann, New York	1 00
H. J. Winganham, New York	1 00
Cyrus Monroe, Woburn, Mass.	1 00
James Frish, Pawtucket, R. I.	1 00
R. M. L. Young, Tuckahoe, N. J.	2 00
Miss F. Mendelson, New York	25 00
B. F. Templeton, Wallula, W. Ter.	25
L. Dawson, Wallula, Wash. Ter.	25
M. Sheehan, Wallula, Wash. Ter.	25
R. Fitzgerald, Wallula, Wash. Ter.	25
W. Phillips, Wallula, Wash. Ter.	25
E. Foster, Wallula, Wash. Ter.	25
M. A. Ellis, Wallula, Wash. Ter.	25
J. J. Burns, Wallula, Wash. Ter.	50
J. McKnight, Wallula, Wash. Ter.	1 00
T. G. C. Farnestock, Wallhalla, S. C.	1 15
Wm. Balfour, Troy, N. Y.	1 50
Webotuek Farm, Sharon, Conn.	100 00
John Mulley, Philadelphia, Pa.	1 00
E. R. Stearns, Cincinnati, Ohio.	5 00
S. D. Conklin, Cleveland, Ohio.	2 00
A. J. Wennerblach, Minneapolis, Minn.	1 00
W. B. Du Bois, New York	5 00
John C. Gibbs, New Orleans, La.	1 00
A. R. Winn, Toledo, Ohio.	2 50
J. E. Young, Saltersville, N. J.	1 00
Garratt Mahan, Savannah, Ga.	20
J. W. Bailey, Monmouth, Ill.	5 00
G. A. Menger, St. Louis, Mo.	10
Ed. Fridenberg, M. D., New York	2 00
D. K. Janson, Minneapolis, Minn.	1 00
A. J. Auchterlonie, Newark, N. J.	1 00
James B. Hasutt, Anaheim, Cal.	1 00
John W. Calanay, Leadville, Col.	5 00
Robert J. Boyd, Washington, D. C.	1 00
B. H. Nadal, New York	25 00
Sol. Levy, New York	2 00
A. L. Westinghouse, St. Louis, Mo.	1 00
C. W. Hughes, Brooklyn, N. Y.	25
John Bridge, Detroit, Mich.	2 00
Geo. W. Wood, Poplar, Mont. Ter.	1 00
L. Prang, Boston, Mass.	16 00
James R. Carrett, Boston, Mass.	7 70
Miss H. T. Paul, Philadelphia, Pa.	5 00
L. Diamond, San Francisco, Cal.	1 00
Charles Stoll, Chicago, Ill.	1 00
Geo. A. Shreter, Jackson, Mich.	1 00
Fielding Guener, Youkers, N. Y.	1 00
George M. Wersel, Oakley, Ohio,	
from the upholsterers of George	
Henshaw & Sons.	4 75
John Moran, Wallula, Wash. Ter.	25
T. Kimmeran, Wallula, Wash. Ter.	25
Jno. Hogan, Wallula, Wash. Ter.	25
A. Anderson, Wallula, Wash. Ter.	25
Chas. Ekfield, Wallula, Wash. Ter.	25
G. V. Hely, Cour, Cal.	1 00
E. Lucas, Boston, Mass.	20
Irving T. Guild, Lynn, Mass.	5 00
John Marsden, Gouldsville, Vt.	2 00
S. D. Conklin, Cleveland, O.	1 00
M. V. Waters, Norwalk, O.	1 00
Protin Bros., New York	1 00
Herman Kuehn, New York	5 00
Anon contributors	4 00
David Mogay	1 00
John Rix, Ilion, N. Y.	5 00
F. A. Merrill, Concord, N. H.	1 00
T. J. Werner, Newark, N. J.	1 00
Sundry contributions in postage stamps	16 22

Total contributions to Feb. 4 . . . \$1,687 77
Expended in postage, printing, rent, wages, etc., up to Feb. 4 . . . 1,470 68
Cash balance on hand Feb. 4, 1889 . . . 217 09 \$1,687 77

Having thus laid the facts before our friends this committee awaits their action. The committee has no interest in this work that is not shared by every advocate of the single tax anywhere in the United States. It took it up and began to push it forward at a time of apparent demoralization and discouragement. Without claiming for its efforts all of the credit for the new and wonderful revival of interest that is now visible everywhere, it has no doubt whatever that the petition is, to a very considerable extent, the cause of this renewed activity, and it sees opening up before it such opportunities for the enlargement of its work as have hitherto been impossible. The number of petitions already secured in about six weeks' active work is very large, but the work of these few weeks is chiefly important in the fact that it has practically organized machinery in every state and territory save one (Mississippi), through which, during the coming year, popular interest in our doctrines may be steadily extended and an accurate record made of the people upon whom we can depend for work in this direction.

The cause of the single tax is, happily, now free from the complications that came about through the attempt to advance it by direct political action, and everywhere our people, through their interest in ballot reform or free trade, are coming into friendly contact and co-operation with others, who thus, in turn, have their attention directed for the first time to the true remedy for the evils that

all complain of. There are probably no associations of ballot reformers or tariff reformers that do not by this time contain some active and earnest single tax men who are steadily preaching our doctrines to their associates. Had any one two years ago imagined that the doctrine would have reached a position by this time that would demand for it the serious consideration of legislators and public men he would have been laughed at as an enthusiast. We have reached that position, and every man familiar with the situation rejoices most heartily in the progress thus made. Rejoicing, however, will not, of itself, secure the fruits of this progress. The work of propaganda should be carried forward with renewed zeal proportioned to the wider field open to us, and in order that this may be done we must not depend on a few men to contribute their money or their efforts, but all of the advocates of our doctrines must be willing to put their shoulders to the wheel and contribute according to their ability for carrying on the work and use their personal influence to widen the circle of our influence and activity. There is no longer any use in discussing this, or that, or the other plan for advancing the cause. The cause is already advancing as rapidly as any one could expect. The field is open to us for such work as one year ago would have been impossible and the only question is as to whether those who have sighed for new fields to conquer will, by their liberality and zeal, enable us to work the field we have already reached and which is "white unto the harvest."

WM. T. CROSDALE, Chairman.

Al. Peirson, Jackson, Ill.—It is a very easy matter to get into conversation with the people hereabouts on the single tax question since the election, especially with democrats. I think we shall soon be able to organize a single tax club in this locality.

T. J. Hawkins, New York City.—The petition presents an excellent opportunity to spread our doctrine, and we should all take advantage of it.

Andrew R. Paul, North Adams, Mass.—I think the discussion about New Jersey has gone far enough. Some time ago I was in favor of invading Massachusetts, but on second sober thought I have concluded that we can do more good in other ways. Even if we carried one state, the tariff swindle would still be left to oppress us, and it will take a national movement to obliterate that. It would be an excellent movement to send a good speaker where ever we hear of a strike, a lockout, or a cut down in wages. The workmen never begin to think until they get hungry, and those of us who are members of labor organizations should get halls on such occasions and show them where the real evils lie. I belong to the laster's protective union, and the members are always glad to give me the use of the hall to show them the cat.

L. A. Hill, Pasadena, Cal.—Money and work are scarce here now, owing to the collapse of the real estate boom, but the ground is in fine condition for sowing the single tax seed. I have been doing what I could for the last two years, and I find I have made some working converts here and in Los Angeles. When the boom was at its height it was hard to get any one interested, but now I find that most business men, as soon as they understand our ideas, say that they would like to see them tried. I have induced the carpenters' union here to devote every other meeting to discussing this and other labor questions, and I find that many Knights of Labor who were recently opposed to hearing anything about the single tax are now in favor of it. This is a good field for work, for if ever there was a community cursed by land speculation this is it.

Gus A. Menger, St. Louis, Mo.—They are discussing the single tax in most of the Knights of Labor assemblies about here now, and some good will eventually come from it.

Theodore Dischinger, Providence, R. I.—We are gaining ground here in Rhode Island.

G. T. McBride, New York City.—I find that the doctrine of the single tax is being received more favorably since the late election, and though I still meet many opposed to it, their number is decreasing. I agree with Mr. George that it would be unwise to concentrate our efforts on any one state, and that such an attempt would be detrimental to the more important work that is now being carried forward.

Peter Karl, Coatsville, Pa.—Presenting petitions for signatures is a good way to bring the subject of single tax before the people. It causes discussion, which is all we can expect at present.

D. Sheldon, McIntyre, Dutchess County, N. Y.—The inclosed signatures were obtained at a little meeting held in the interest of the single tax in our district school house. About twenty of the neighboring farmers assembled, and were addressed by W. C. Albroy of Poughkeepsie, who presented the doctrine in such a clear and logical manner that an im-

THE MANHATTAN SINGLE TAX CLUB.

Delegates to the Chicago Conference—Resolutions on the Car Strike—John DeWitt Warner's Address.

Donations of books for the library still continue large. The platform for lecturers is now covered with a handsome carpet presented by Mr. Rogers.

Last Thursday evening the club decided to send delegates to the tariff reform conference, which is to be held at Chicago on the 19th, 20th and 21st of February. The representatives will probably be selected at the next meeting. During the latter part of the session the car strike was discussed, with the result that a committee was appointed to draft resolutions bearing on the matter, to report on the following evening, till which time the meeting adjourned. When the club reassembled on Friday evening resolutions were offered and unanimously adopted, and a copy sent to the headquarters of the strikers. Other copies were mailed to the police commissioners, Mayor Grant and to both houses of the legislature.

These resolutions state that the conductors and drivers of the street car lines of New York are now on strike for the maintenance of the right of workingmen to organize for the protection of their own interests, and that the public is thereby subjected to loss and inconvenience and the strikers to great loss and suffering. The club expresses its sincere sympathy with the cause of the strikers and denounces the companies as the original aggressors and lawbreakers, declaring that the admissions of the railway officers to the state board of arbitration demonstrate that the various presidents have entered into a deliberate conspiracy to deny to their workmen a right specifically guaranteed to them by the statutes of this state, and to nullify an existing law, and that if justice were impartially administered, the conspiracy laws, so readily invoked against workmen, would be set in motion against these rich conspirators. The resolutions then go on:

Resolved, That while we thus declare our entire sympathy with any struggle, however blind, against the encroachment by the monopolists of natural opportunities and public functions on the rights of the wealth producing class, we see no hope of any settlement of the conflict between producers and monopolists except through the overthrow of the vicious system that allows governments to farm out their powers to private parties and encourages individuals, who seize and hold for their personal use and benefit values created by the people in common.

Resolved, That the one thing that, in the first place, prompts the injustice which causes strikes, and, in the second place, generally makes strikes futile, is the presence in every community of a large number of unemployed men, who are eager to obtain employment on any conditions and at almost any price. In a country so rich in natural resources and so sparsely populated as this such a condition of affairs would be impossible were it not that our laws permit and encourage private parties to monopolize natural opportunities and debar others from their use. Labor will never secure just wages till workmen cease to depend on methods discredited by repeated failure and unite to use their power at the polls to overthrow that parent of all monopolies—the monopoly of land.

Resolved, That the streets of New York belong to the whole people of New York, whether paved with stone, or partly with stone and partly with iron, and that every citizen should have the right to run vehicles over them, to carry passengers, or else the municipality should itself undertake the performance of this public duty. We shall never have an end to these disastrous struggles between conflicting private interests so long as we permit private individuals to control public thoroughfares for their own personal profit.

Resolved, That we recognize in the rapidly growing insolence of all monopolists a new note of aggressive triumph and confidence that is clearly born of the success achieved by the tariff protected monopolies in deceiving, intimidating and bribing their victims into voting them a new lease of power at the last presidential election.

The rooms were crowded last Sunday evening to hear Mr. John DeWitt Warner's lecture on "The decay of civilization," which was without doubt as fine a lecture as has been so far delivered before the club. Mr. Warner premised his lecture by saying that before we could clearly point out what our nation should do to prevent the decay of our civilization we should look into the history of nations in the past. There were two peoples whose birth and rise had been similar to our own, and whose deaths had resulted from the disease with which our national life was threatened—land monopoly. These were Israel and Rome. Both these nations, while their lands were common property, were the greatest people and ruled the world. When Israel, despite the warnings of the prophets, disobeyed the divine law regarding the land, it began to decline. So with Rome.

When the patricians evaded the ancient laws and oppressed the common people by taking away from them their rights in the soil Rome began to decay. Now and back men rose who tried to bring Rome again to her ancient glory by making the patricians loose their hold on the common domain, but they met the fate usually meted out to ancient reformers—assassination. Among these were the Gracchi, whose memories are venerated throughout the world.

The above is a lame attempt to give a synopsis of Mr. Warner's lecture, which was eagerly listened to and enthusiastically applauded at the close. The club by resolution unanimously thanked the gentleman for the instructive evening he had afforded it.

Mr. Croasdale made a few remarks in answer to some objections which Mr. Warner said were being made against the single tax movement, and the meeting adjourned.

Montague R. Levenson has been invited to address the club next Sunday evening on "Proportional Representation."

The following names of applicants for membership have been posted on the bulletin board: August Lewis, 151 Greene street; Henry Doblin, 113 East Eighty-fifth street; E. N. Ballandigham, 32 West Twenty-eighth street; T. Levy, 321 East Eighty-sixth street; R. J. Victor, 158 South street; H. A. Rundlett, 111 Waverly place; Hopkin Williams, 225 East Fifty-first street; William J. McGrane, 306 East Twelfth street; Edward Polak, 155 East 109th street.

Harlem Single Tax Club.

The regular weekly meeting of this club was held at its room, No. 247 West 125th street. The officers for the ensuing year are Eugene G. Muret, chairman; Dr. Edward Fridenberg, vice-chairman; T. E. Timmins, recording secretary; Chas. H. Mitchell, corresponding and financial secretary; Julius Schlueter, treasurer. Mr. Jesse C. Joy read a paper on "What can be done with the immense revenue to be derived from the single tax." Mr. Joy showed by figures that the rental value of all land in the United States, based upon what is usually obtained for twenty-year leases of large estates like those of the Astors or Goets, at five per cent as fairly representing the annual rental, would put into the treasury the round sum of \$1,000,000,000, which would increase the income of the government over \$350,000,000. With this vast sum he proposed to run the railroads, telegraphs, post office and all businesses in their nature monopolies. The paper was very interesting throughout. Debate followed. Mr. Brinkerhoff said that one of the most difficult questions single tax men have to meet was as to whether enough could be raised by a tax on land values to pay all the expenses of government; he thought we must convince our opponents that only enough to meet such expenses can be raised—no more, no less. Mr. Mitchell replied that in his opinion the paramount question to be settled was not whether we should be able to raise more or less, but whether that system was a just one or not; whether the unearned increment belongs to the community or to private individuals. If to the community it ought to be taken in taxation; if to the individuals, then we had better give up the single tax doctrine. Mr. Touks said we might answer the question by asking one: Would any other system provide enough to pay expenses? Was not that as good an argument against the tariff, the internal revenue or any other system? The discussion became general and the hour was late when the club adjourned.

This club has been organized ever since Mr. George ran for mayor, and though it has had many a hard knock, it has held together like a veritable Spartan band. Enemies have decried us, friends have deserted us and seemed to have thought that we were dead, but here we are, stronger than ever. Come and see us on Thursday evenings, and smoke a pipe and play a game; let the single tax men of Harlem join us and help us with the work.

C. H. M.

An Organization That All Michigan Men Should Join.

DETROIT, Mich.—A permanent tax and governmental reform association has been organized here. In order to make it successful as an educational institute in political and social economics, the promoters decided to have it as comprehensive as possible, compatible with practicability. A very large percentage of the membership is composed of single tax men and radical reformers, but they do not exclude from its membership those who are not so far advanced. We believe that in the end more good will be obtained through progressive thought than sudden conversion. Our experience of the campaign justifies us in this opinion. The officers elected are as follows: President, W. G. Brownlee, free trader; secretary, J. F. Duncan, radical and single tax; treasurer, G. Gourlay, single tax. The executive committee is H. A. Robinson, Jas. Finn, S. G. Howe, J. G. McGregor, J. Hanna, all single tax men.

Arrangements have been made to hold weekly meetings every Thursday at 8 o'clock p. m., in room 7, Hullsmyer block, and we in-

vite all single tax men to attend. The subscription is \$1.

The articles of association of this new organization take radical ground against all tariff legislation, in favor of ballot reform, and close as follows:

We consider it not only the right but the imperative duty of all those who would preserve the principles enunciated in the Declaration of Independence, upon which the constitution is founded, to unite to reduce the government to its most simple form, and we believe that the readiest and best method to attain this is by the removal of all indirect taxation and a strictly secret ballot.

I suppose you are aware that the Australian ballot system is before the Michigan legislature, also a single land tax bill. I will not be surprised if the ballot bill is passed, for the reason that the K. of L. in the state have taken it up.

J. F. DUNCAN.

An Organization in Brooklyn, E. D.

At a meeting of the temporary organization of single tax men at 215 Ross street, E. D., on Saturday last, it was decided to form a permanent organization under the name of the Eastern district single tax club on Wednesday evening, February 6. All seeking reform in the present methods of taxation are invited to join. On Saturday evening, February 9, the club will hold their first public meeting in Phoenix hall, 118 South Eighth street, E. D., at which Mr. Thomas G. Shearman will deliver an address, after which questions bearing on the subject will be answered.

JOSEPH MCGUINNESS,

Temporary Chairman.

JOHN BRITTON,

Temporary Secretary.

Rapid Progress of the Single Tax as Compared with Abolitionism.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Mr. George's speaking by invitation before the legislature of Minnesota, two years after the beginning of the single tax discussion shows the rapid progress of this movement as compared with that of abolitionism. To make that advance equal to ours we should now read, as part of the history of those times, that William Lloyd Garrison in January, 1830, two years after he had begun to agitate in a newspaper, had been invited to lay before the legislature of South Carolina his plans of uncompensated, immediate emancipation.

D. R. G.

To Louisville Readers.

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—The single tax league has rented the Excelsior hall, southeast corner First and Market streets, and will meet there every Friday night. We have among us many warm supporters of the cause and will now begin a systematic agitation for the single tax. We are increasing in number each meeting. We respectfully invite all single tax men of this city to meet with us and further our efforts.

CHRIST. LANDOLT, Sec'y,

501 E. Market st.

Some Massachusetts Friends.

Cambridge, Mass., has a central organization of about thirty single tax men, and will shortly have district clubs. The Weekly Press has opened its columns to the discussion. Walter Daniel, a well known dry goods dealer; W. F. Morrill, Thomas Hall, Mr. Presby, W. H. Hannaford and W. A. Ford are among the active members.

A Single Tax Aphorism.

Denver Arbitrator.

An acre of free land would do more good for a desitute family than a square mile of charity.

SINGLE TAX MEN.

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

Akron, O.—Jas R. Angier, 109 Allen street.
Albany, N. Y.—Robert Baker, 178 Madison avenue; J. C. Roshirt, 23 Third avenue, or James J. Mahoney, secretary Single Tax Cleveland and Thurman club, 25 Myrtle avenue.
Alhambra, Mon Ter—W. E. Brokaw.
Altoona, Pa.—Joseph Sharp, Jr., secretary Single tax club, 411 Tenth street; Albert C. Ronzee, 921 First avenue.
Amsterdam, N. Y.—Harvey Book.
Anacostia, D. C.—Carroll W. Smith, office Anacostia tea company, Harrison and Monroe streets.
Anheim, Cal.—James H. Hassett.
Anton Chico, N. M.—Lewis T. Franstam.
Astrabula, Ohio—A. D. Biron.
Atlanta, Ga.—John C. Reed, lawyer, 25 1-2 Marietta street.
Auburn, Me.—F. W. Beals, secretary Single tax club.
Augusta, Ga.—L. A. Schmidt, 525 Lincoln street.
Avon, N. Y.—Homer Sablin.
Baltimore, Md.—John W. Jones, sec Single tax league of Charles City, Iowa; John Salmon, Pres Henry George club, 415 N. Eutaw street; Dr. Wm. N. Hill, 1435 E. Baltimore street.
Bayside, Long Island, N. Y.—Antonio M. Molina.
Braceville, Ill.—William Matthews, secretary Tariff reform club.
Bradford, Pa.—J. C. De Forest, secretary Land and labor club, 36 Newell place.
Binghamton, N. Y.—E. W. Dundon, 31 Maiden lane.
Boston, Mass.—Edwin M. White, 208 Main street, Charles-ton; R. Roche, 29 Converse avenue, Malden; Hamilton Garland, chairman Single tax league, Jamaica Plain.
Brooklyn, N. Y.—George E. West, M. D., 49 Clermont avenue, president Single tax club.
Burlington, Iowa—James Love, bookseller, or Richard Spencer.
Cambridgeport, Mass.—Wm. A. Ford, 164 Norfolk street, secretary Single tax organization.
Canisteo, N. Y.—H. W. Johnson, P. O. box 263.
Canon City, Col.—Frank P. Blake, M. D.
Canton, O.—S. J. Harriott, M. D., president single tax club.
Cape May City—W. Porter, box 57.
Chamberlain, Dak.—James Brown.
Charles City, Iowa—Irving W. Smith, M. D., office opposite Union house.
Chicago, Ill.—Frank Pearson, secretary Land and labor club No. 1, 45 La Salle street.
Cincinnati, O.—Dr. David De Beck, 139 West Ninth street; Joseph's news and stationery store, 273 Vine street; headquarters Single tax club, 398 Vine street.
Canton, Ala.—O. M. Austin, or Alex G. Deke.
Cleveland, O.—Frank L. Carter, 133 Chestnut street.
Clinton, Ind.—L. O. Bishop, editor Argus.
Columbus, O.—J. S. Craig.

Columbus, O.—Edward Hyneman, 948 1-2 South High street.
Cornwall, Cal.—Jeff A. Bailey.
Cramer Hill, Camden county, N. J.—Chas P Johnston.
Danbury, Conn.—Sam A. Main, 34 Smith street.
Dayton, O.—Kilo, 33 E Fifth street; J. G. Galloway, 283 Samuel street.
Denver, Col.—F. H. Monroe.
Des Moines, Iowa—L. J. Kasson, president Single tax club; John W. King, secretary.
Detroit, Mich.—J. K. Fincham, 45 Waterloo street; J. F. Duncan, 27 Third street, secretary Tariff reform association; S. G. Howe, 63 1-2 14th av.
Diamond Springs, Eldorado county, Cal.—J. V. Lanston.
Dunkirk, N. Y.—Francis Lake.
East Cambridge, Mass.—J. F. Harrington, St John's Literary Institute.
East Northport, Long Island, N. Y.—J. K. Rudyard.
East Rindge, N. H.—Edward Jewett.
Elizabeth, N. J.—Benjamin Orner.
Elmira, N. Y.—William Bergman, 712 East Market street.
Englewood, Ill.—W. B. Steers.
Evansville, Ind.—Charles G. Bennett, 427 Upper Third street.
Fitchburg, Mass.—A. D. Terry.
Farmington, Iowa—B. W. Rockwell.
Gardner, Ill.—T. S. Cunningham.
Glen Cove, Long Island, N. Y.—Herbert Loromer.
Glendale, Mont.—A. H. Sawyer.
Glens Falls, N. Y.—John H. Quinnan.
Gloversville, N. Y.—Wm C Wood, M. D.
Grand View-on-the-Hudson, N. Y.—Henry L. Hinton.
Harrison, Tex.—J. J. McCollum.
Hartington, Neb.—J. H. Feller.
Haverhill, Mass.—Arthur F. Brock.
Helena, Mont.—Judge J. C. Clements.
Hornesville, N. Y.—George H. Van Winkle.
Hot Springs, Ark.—W. Albert Chapman.
Hockley Falls, N. Y.—P. S. Hammond.
Houston, Tex.—H. F. King, corporation attorney.
Hutchinson, Kas.—J. G. Malcolm, M. D.
Ilion, N. Y.—George Smith, P. O. box 502.
Indianapolis, Ind.—Herman Kuehn, 14 Taibot block; or L. P. Custer, member of Single tax club.
Itasca, N. Y.—C. Platt, druggist, 75 East State street.
Janvier, N. J.—S. B. Walsh.
Jersey City, N. J.—Joseph Dana Miller, secretary Hudson county single tax league, 86 Ege avenue.
Kansas City, Mo.—Chas E. Reid, 2,223 Woodland avenue.
Keithsburg, Ill.—M. McDonald.
Kingston, N. Y.—Theodore M. Romeyn.
Lansburg, Mich.—J. J. McManis, 21 Eighteenth st.
Lonsdale, Ill.—Dr. L. F. Garvin.
Lewiston, Me.—F. D. Lyford, 3 Cottage street.
Lexington, Ky.—James Erwin.
London, England—William Saunders, 177 Palace Chambers, Westminster.
Los Angeles, Cal.—W. H. Dodge, 30 North Alameda street; W. A. Cole, 49 South Hill; or A. Vinette, P. O. station F.
Lowell, Mass.—Henry Robertson, 5 Metcalf block, Kilder street.
Lyle, Minn.—C. F. Wenham.
Lynchburg, Va.—Thos Williamson, cor Fifth and Church streets.
Lynn, Mass.—Theodore P. Perkins, 14 South Common street.
Madison, Dak.—E. H. Evenson.
Maharaj City, Pa.—J. N. Becker, president Free trade club; Robert Richardson, secretary.
Manistee, Mich.—Albert Walkley, or W. R. Hall.
Mansfield, N. Y.—J. Higgins, manager Western union telegraph office.
Marlboro, Mass.—Geo A. E. Reynolds.
Marlborough, N. Y.—C. H. Baldwin.
Mart, Tex.—J. L. Caldwell, chairman Ninth congressional district organizer.
Marysville, Mont.—S. F. Ralston, Sr.
Massillon, O.—Victor Burnett, 75 East South street.
Mauritius, Indian Ocean—Robert A. Rolan, 8 Pump street, Port Louis.
Memphis, Tenn.—R. G. Brown, secretary Tariff reform club, 59 Madison street.
Middletown, Conn.—John G. Hopkins, P. O. box 590.
Middletown, N. Y.—Chas H. Fuller, P. O. box 115.
Milwaukee, Wis.—Peter McGill, 147 Fourth street.
Minneapolis, Minn.—C. J. Buell, president Single tax league, 402 W Franklin avenue; E. L. Ryder, secretary.
Mobile, Ala.—E. Q. Norton, 23 South Royal street.
Mt Pleasant, Iowa—A. O. Hildreth, M. D.
Mt Vernon, N. Y.—Richard Walton.
Murrayville, Ill.—William Camm, president Democratic club.
Nashville, Tenn.—P. H. Carroll, 238 N High street, secretary American land league.
Neponset, Mass.—Q. A. Lotthrop, member Henry George club, 43 Walnut street.
Newark, N. J.—Rev Hugh O. Pentecost, 56 Oriental street.
Newburg, N. Y.—D. J. McKay, secretary Single tax club, 238 Broadway.
Newburyport, Mass.—Wm R. Whitmore, secretary Mer-rimack assembly, Herald office.
Newport, Ky.—Joseph L. Schraer, secretary Single tax league, 24 Southgate street; Will C. James, 89 Taylor street.
New Westminster, Brit Col.—Alex Hamilton, member Tariff reform association.
Norfolk, Va.—Edward K. Robertson, secretary Alpha club, Marine bank.
North Springfield, Mo.—K. P. Alexander, 1826 North Booneville street.
Oberlin, O.—Edw B. Haskell.
Olean, N. Y.—George Ball, pres Single tax association.
Timothy, Horan, sec 33 Railroad street.
Omaha, Neb.—John E. Embler, 323 Virginia avenue.
Orway, Dak.—R. H. Garland, member Tariff reform association.
Passaic, N. J.—J. J. Barnard, P. O. box 181.
Paterson, N. J.—E. W. Nellis, chairman Passaic county Single tax Cleveland campaign committee, 89 North Main street.
Parkersburg, W. Va.—W. I. Boreman, member of Single tax league.
Pawtucket, R. I.—Edward Barker, 23 Gooding street.
Peoria, Ill.—J. W. Avery.
Philadelphia, Pa.—Wm J. Atkinson, 926 Chestnut street or A. H. Stepien, 214 Chestnut street, secretary Henry George club.
Piermont, N. Y.—Charles R. Hood, P. O. box 13.
Pittsburg, Pa.—Mark F. Roberts, 1727 Carey alley.
Portland, Ore.—S. B. Rigger, 48 Stark street, James P. Kohler, 134 Grand street, or R. H. Thompson.
Poughkeepsie, N. Y.—William C. Albree.
Providence—J. I. Robert, 32 Sutton street; Dr. Wm Barker, pres. Rhode Island single tax association.
Pulaski, N. Y.—C. V. Harbottle.
Ravenswood, Ill.—H. H. Van Ornum.
Reading, Pa.—Chas S. Frizer, 1013 Penn street; Charles C. Kirk, 25 Penn street.
Richmond, Ind.—D. Quigley, 105 South Third street.
Ridgeway, N. Y.—D. C. Sullivan.
River Falls, Wis.—George H. Bates.
Rochester, N. Y.—Charles A. Davis, 17 Morrill street.
Roselle, N. J.—Read Gordon.
Rutland, Vt.—T. H. Brown, 11 Cherry street.
San Francisco, Cal.—Judge James G. Maguire, Superior court.
San Luis Obispo, Cal.—Mrs Frances M. Milne.
Seattle, Wash Ter.—F. P. Morrow.
Seneca Falls, N. Y.—Wm H. Adkinson, P. O. box 56.
Saron, Conn.—J. J. B. Westwick, librarian Single tax club.
Shenandoah, Pa.—Morris Marsh, president Single tax club; Thos Potts, secretary.
Southboro, Mass.—S. H. Howes.
South Gaston, N. C.—W. L. M. Perkins.
Sparrow Bush, Orange county, N. Y.—C. L. Dedrick, president Progressive association; John Sheehan, sec retary.
Spirit Lake, Iowa—J. W. Schrimpf, secretary Tariff reform club.
Springfield, Mo.—H. A. W. Juncman, 665 Nichols street.
St. Louis, Mo.—Geo S. Bonnell, president Single tax league, 1527 Lefflingwell avenue; Sidney A. Rendi, secretary, 146 Olive street.
Stockton, Cal.—A. Learned.
Syracuse, N. Y.—Charles S. Hopkins, 9 Seymour street; H. R. Perry, 149 South Clinton street; or F. A. Paul, 4 Walton street; or James K. McGuire, secretary Single tax club, 59 Greene street.
Toledo, N. Y.—Vincent Adelberger, secretary Single tax club, No. 12 Summit street.
Toronto, Can.—W. A. Douglass, president anti-poverty society, 218 Wellesley street.
Tacoma, Wash Ter.—F. C. Clarke, 1308 K st.
Trenton, N. J.—H. R. Matthews, 9 Howell street.
Troy, N. Y.—J. B. Bartis.
Tuckahoe, N. Y.—Albert O. Young.
Unionville, Conn.—John McAuliffe.
Utica, N. Y.—Thas Sweeney, 136 Elizabeth street, or Daniel M. Buckley, grocer, southwest corner First and Catharine.
Vincennes, Ind.—Hon Samuel W. Williams, rooms 2 and 3, Opera block.
Waco, Tex.—Frank Grady, lawyer, 183 south 4th street.
Wakefield, R. I.—David Harrower.
Washington, D. C.—Dr. William Geddes, 1719 G street, N. W., secretary single tax league.
Weatherford, Tex.—William M. Buell.
West New Britain, Staten Island, N. Y.—A. B. Stoddard.
West Island, N. Y.—George Harwell.
Whitman, Mass.—C. P. Hollis, cigar store; Thos Douglass, president Single tax league.
Wilmington, Del.—Geo W. Kreer, 717 West Ninth street.
Woodstock, Ill.—A. W. Currin.
Worcester, Mass.—E. K. Page, Lake View.
Yonkers, N. Y.—Joseph Sutherland.
Youngstown, O.—B. R. Radcliffe, Radcliffe house.
Zanesville, Ohio—W. H. Longhead, 27 Van Buren street.

THE NEWSPAPERS.

THE DISCUSSION OF THE BURNING QUESTION OF TAXATION BECOMING EPIDEMIC WITH THEM.

And Under It the Single Tax Flourishes Like a Green Bay Tree.

The universal dissatisfaction with the present system of taxation and the resulting efforts to devise a better system is fast leading, as it inevitably must, to a general consideration of the single tax. The number of newspapers that either treat the taxation of land values editorially or permit its treatment in their columns by others is growing at an amazing rate. As might be expected, the majority of those who oppose the single tax pass opinion on this great question before giving it anything like the consideration which is necessary for the brightest minds to comprehend the full scope and effect of the mere removal of all taxes from labor and the products of labor, and the appropriation of the rental value of land for the public benefit. The result is in many cases a display of some very queer political economy. However, it is discussion that will help our movement, and we are now getting that, as the matter which follows will testify:

The Cincinnati Volksblatt lays down several principles which it thinks should govern in the levying of taxes. One is that a tax yielding nothing or next to nothing should be abolished, and then it goes on to say that not one-twentieth of all personal property in Cincinnati is listed for taxation. Such a tax, the Volksblatt thinks, ought to be abolished because it cannot be collected and because it would permit capital to invest in legitimate enterprises without the fear of being fined.

The Bobcaygeon, Ont., Independent declares for the single tax and says:

There has been no movement in modern times which can compare in importance with the movement set on foot by Mr. Henry George for the abolition of all taxes on industry and the collection of the national revenue by a single tax imposed on the annual rental value of land irrespective of improvements.

Approp's of the Oklahoma land scheme the Anti-Monopolist remarks that the adoption of the single tax in any one of a dozen western states would at once open to settlement a far larger area and of better land than is contained in that reservation, and that too without the hardships and perils inseparable from frontier life.

The Farmers' alliance of Scott county, Minn., recently passed resolutions against the single tax on the ground that it would lessen the tax burden of the banker, merchant and manufacturer, and therefore it would increase the tax burdens of the farmer. The Todd County Argus assures the alliance that it is in error, and maintains that the farmer would be greatly benefited by the single tax.

The Spectator and Times of Hamilton, Ont., are entertaining their readers with a controversy on the income tax. The Spectator lays down the general proposition that "what is needed is a system of taxation which will compel every man to pay according to his means." The Times in reply says that what is needed is a system that will tax a man according to the value of the natural opportunity he appropriates to his own use. Don't fine a man for his industry, says the Times, but "sock it" to the man who is lying in wait to take to himself a value to be created by the labor of others.

The Minneapolis Industrial Times, an organ of financial reform, says:

We are not an advocate of the single tax as a remedy for all the evils of our industrial system, but if its agitation and adoption will force the question of finance to the front in the western states, we bid it God speed.

The Minneapolis Journal is erroneously of the opinion that the exemption from taxation of farm improvements, such as fences, drainage and fruit trees, is impracticable. The Journal does not see that to tax natural opportunities it is not necessary to take improvements into account at all. An improved farm should be taxed simply upon the value of wild land in the same situation.

The Dayton, Ohio, Workman wants to know what right a few men have to say to their fellows, "We own the surface of this planet, and you shall not stay on it unless you pay us what we ask for the privilege?"

J. T. Avery, in a card to the Minneapolis Journal, says that the single tax would be a premium on vagrancy. "Where," says he, "would you find the laboring man with his home when he knows that 'he will have to pay a heavy penalty for possessing it.' Mr. Avery should lose no time in reading 'Progress and Poverty.'"

The Indianapolis News does not agree with Mayor Denny in his opinion that it is necessary to remove the limit the rate of taxation in that city in order to raise sufficient revenue. It says that the "short" returns of personal taxables made by the owners to the assessor will account for a large part of the deficiency of the state and city revenue. The News wants all taxable property, real and personal, fairly valued, not at its "full cash valuation, though that would be bare

justice, but at three-fourths fairly appraised." It tells a shocking story of the cheating and perjury committed by personal property owners, but it had nothing to say about those building lots held at \$300 or \$400, and assessed at \$35. Hasn't the News the wrong pig by the ear, anyway?

H. A. Harrington of Anoka, Minn., writes the Minneapolis Journal that he is in favor of any system which will make the natural bounties of nature equally accessible to all.

The Austin, Texas, Statesman informs us that State Senator Lane has prepared a bill providing for the exemption of manufacturing establishments from taxation in that state, with a view of encouraging manufacturing industries. Why not extend this principle to all industries?

The Worthington, Minn., Advance sees the seed of revolution in the proposition of the mayor of Minneapolis to exempt machinery from city taxation. It regards the proposition as revolutionary and as a step toward the single tax. The Advance wants everything under the sun taxed and at the same time it would have every tub stand on its own bottom, unmindful of the difficulty that it is the attempt to tax everything which makes it impossible for every tub to stand on its own bottom.

To the question, "Shall we invade New Jersey?" the South Orange, N. J., Bulletin exclaims:

Yes! if the invasion will tend to equalize such discrepancies of taxation and values in this village as exists in two pieces of property directly opposite each other on our main street. That upon the south side is being held at \$100 per foot, and the land on the north side, which is better than the other, is assessed at \$4 per acre.

The Hamilton, Ohio, Democrat, January 18, denounces the present system of taxation as a bundle of absurdities and a nuisance. The proper solution of the tax question is hard to determine, it says, but now that the people are thinking over it something will be formulated.

The Johnstown, Pa., Tribune, illustrates how the single tax would operate in that town by comparing present taxes on property on both sides of a block on Main street (which includes some vacant lots) with what the taxes would be under the proposed system. The Tribune shows a decided preference for the single tax.

Some landlords in Memphis who do not know when they were well off have complained that the assessments are too high. The Avalanche does not agree with them. It says that the assessment is "less than \$28,000,000, and yet we will venture to say no man who is in a position to speak will jeopardize his reputation by denying that the wealth of Memphis, real and personal, is at least \$100,000,000," and in a letter further down the column it remarks that "the merchants' tax is the first thing which should be sawed off short by the legislature. No embargo should be placed on the commercial capital of Memphis." That is to say, that all such taxes should be put on real estate, if not on land values.

In his recent annual message Mayor Pond of San Francisco expressed regret and indignation at the illiberal refusal of a large land owner to permit a great public improvement—the extension of Van Ness avenue to the bay—unless the city would buy his land at a price far greater than its value. The mayor suggested that the legislature be appealed to to enact some law to adequately deal with such obstructionists. The Weekly Star suggests to Mayor Pond and the people of San Francisco that the single tax would be "pizen" to all such dogs in the manger, and says:

The land of this person (whoever he may be) would not be worth five cents but for the value put on it by the labor of the whole people of this coast generally and of this city especially; and it would serve him right if a law should be enacted under which he could be taxed out of every dollar's worth of legalized plunder.

Here is the way the Northwestern Labor Union, a representative labor paper of Minneapolis, talks:

A pro-slavery writer in Wednesday's Star expresses himself as being very much worried because he ignorantly imagines the George men want to exempt the personal property of the rich from taxation, not knowing, poor benighted soul, that the rich people are already exempt from taxation on those things and that the single tax men simply propose to extend the exemption so that it will take in the middle and poorer class of people as well as the rich.

The single tax club recently formed at Nashville, Tenn., has issued an address expounding its principles quite at length. The address was published in full in the Nashville Banner.

The Minneapolis Free Lance, which opposes the single tax only because it does not understand it, publishes the form of a petition asking the legislature to lay the single tax petition on the table and instead adopt some means of enforcing present laws. It proposes, however, that personal property to the amount of \$300 should be exempt from taxes and that buildings to the amount of \$700, when used by the owners as homesteads, should pay no tax.

The Cleveland American Union of Jan. 19 says that all will concede that the present system of taxation is full of flaws and operates unfairly, and that if a more equitable system can be found it ought to be consid-

ered. If the one tax system is what its friends claim for it, the Union thinks that the sooner the people find it out the better; and with a view of awakening thought on the subject it publishes interviews with a number of business men of Cleveland.

The Allerton, Iowa, News is out for the single tax. It calls attention of the farmer that the assessor is now abroad hunting up all the products of the farmer's labor in order that he may be fined according to his thrift and industry. The News declares that such a system is unjust and altogether wrong, and that a tax on land values is the only just tax.

The San Antonio, Texas, Tribune has a department which is regularly devoted to the discussion of the single tax, to which H. F. Ring is a constant contributor.

Public Opinion of Washington, D. C., of January 26 contains extensive quotations from the Globe and the Pioneer-Press of St. Paul on the land question, and also one from THE STANDARD.

Commenting on the statement by Mr. Wemple, state controller of New York, that there is in this state over \$2,500,000,000 of personal property that is not, but ought to be, subject to taxation, the Brooklyn Citizen says:

For ourselves, we are so far in agreement with Mr. George as to hold that land is the subject upon which a heavy tax can be laid with the least danger of doing injustice to any class in the community or seriously interfering with enterprise. We do not, however, think that land alone should be taxed. We part company with Mr. George at this point, and return to what we regard as the more practical qualifications imposed on the main principle by Mr. Mill. We believe that wealth, as distinguished from capital, ought to be taxed, and that all estates exceeding say \$500,000 in value ought to be required to contribute liberally to the common fund as they pass from hand to hand.

But why the Citizen parts company with Mr. George at this point is made clear by the following erroneous statements:

It (a tax on land values) is paid, not by the owner, but by the renter, who in turn reckons in the rent, as part of the cost of producing, whatever he may have to sell. A tax on land is, therefore, in the last analysis, a tax on commodities, and through them reaches every person who is not a mere pauper.

The Columbus correspondent of the Cincinnati Commercial Gazette writes his paper that the joint legislative committee on amendments have prepared a proposition to amend the constitution so as to place the whole power of regulating the finances of the state in the legislature. That is just what the single tax men of Minnesota are petitioning their legislature to do. The correspondent goes on to say:

The inequalities and the injustice of the present tax system are recognized. The idea of the committee is that general rules for taxation cannot be made to apply fairly to all property. The argument is that the right of discrimination in applying these rules should be left with the legislature. There is manifest in this, perhaps without the consciousness of the holders of the ideas, the influence of Henry George and Thomas G. Shearman.

The Chicago Tribune, in the course of a comment on Archbishop Corrigan's recent letter, says that the single tax doctrine may be partially right.

The Newton, Kan., Commoner will find an answer to some of its objections to the single tax in the Denslow-Shearman controversy, published in THE STANDARD of January 26.

The New York Real Estate Record and Guide says:

The Daily Times, in some recent articles, seems to view with favor Henry George's single tax scheme. This is significant coming from so conservative and respectable a journal, and George expresses his delight in THE STANDARD, his organ; and certainly, as a mere theory, the programme proposed looks plausible.

The San Francisco Star reports that Henry Toomey has challenged Judge Maguire to argue the single tax question with him. The Star proposes that the discussion be carried on in a series of articles in its columns. It offers Mr. Toomey space for twelve articles of not more than six hundred words each.

The Chicago Evening News agrees with the position taken by Governor Oglesby in his recent message when he argued that the present revenue laws were a failure and declared that the time has come for an honest trial of some other method. The News truly says:

Our methods of taxation are antiquated and odious. They involve crudities and injustices of the most flagrant type, promoting frauds, inviting favoritism, conserving monopoly, deadening conscience, rewarding knavery, punishing enterprise, and making honest thrift the object of pains and penalties. Surely, Governor Oglesby is right in counseling their repeal and the substitution of methods that shall promote rather than hamper the progress of this great people.

The Richmond County, N. Y., Standard complains that the system of taxation on Staten island is full of dishonesty and injustice and it demands an investigation of the assessor's books.

The Cambridge, Mass., Daily of January 26 makes a very favorable report of the single tax agitation in the Bay state. It says that the petitions are being pushed and that Representative Sanger has presented the petition from Cambridge to the legislature.

The Minneapolis Star wants the single tax to have a trial in Dakota.

The Toronto, Ont., Empire of Jan. 18, published a synopsis of an interesting address be-

fore the anti-poverty society, by Sam Jones, on the bible in relation to the anti-poverty movement.

Should the editor of the Billings, Mont., Gazette give the great question of taxation some serious thought he might find much more than a joke in it. Let him begin by reading "Progress and Poverty."

Says the San Francisco Echoes: Taxes on personal property—that is, upon values produced by labor—are open to serious objections. Experience has proved that it is impossible to assess and collect them with any approach to equality. The single tax would not be open to this objection. Neither is the argument of the advocates of this tax against putting burdens upon improvements without force, because such taxes tend to check production.

The New York World is disgusted with the present system of taxation and is in favor of a graduated income tax.

The Detroit Advance publishes the main features of Representative Wettlaufer's bill to exempt from taxation personal property and improvements on land. The bill leaves no other source from which to draw revenues but land values, but it is a single tax limited measure. It does not require the appropriation of the full rental value of land. The Advance makes a three column argument in support of the bill and among other things it shows the effect of the change on taxation in Detroit, taking its figures from the assessor's books:

Land	\$68,195,020
Buildings	\$4,555,840
Personal property	\$3,558,840
Total	\$84,114,680

Total assessed valuation . . . \$152,300,700

It will be seen at a glance that the land bears a smaller share of the burdens of government than is borne by other kinds of property. The combined value of buildings and personal property is 23.3 per cent greater than the value of land. The exemption of the former class of property would therefore add just 123.3 per cent to the land tax.

This would be a stunner for the land speculator, the Advance argues, for the reason that since improvements would not be considered in assessing land for taxation under the single tax system, a much larger proportion of the burden must necessarily be borne by unimproved, speculative lands, and of course the relief to all industries would be correspondingly great.

The speech of Jonathan A. Lane, president of the Boston merchants' association, at their annual banquet on January 8, in which he advocated the abolition of all personal property taxes and their concentration on real estate, provoked a spirited discussion of that proposition in the Transcript. Amos W. Stetson, president of the state national bank, opened the controversy with a letter to the Transcript, in which he held that Mr. Lane's proposition was unjust—that because some personal property now escaped taxation was not a good reason why all should escape, and besides it would be ungenerous to shift the burdens from "our backs" to the backs of the poor farmers. The Transcript itself replied to Mr. Stetson, and argued in answer to one point made by him, that it would be beneficial to both the merchant and the community not to tax the merchant's stock. Then came a letter from Mr. Lane, in which he ably and vigorously reaffirmed his views, and quoted Mayor Hewitt's message in its support. But Mr. Stetson was far from satisfied. In another long letter he argued the question with Mr. Lane point by point, always striving to show that the poor farmers would suffer and the rich bankers would suffer by such a change in the tax system. Besides, Boston had grown in wealth and population under the present system, ergo, the system was a good one. Another correspondent, who signed himself W. A. M., then recommended to the attention of Mr. Stetson the address of Thomas G. Shearman before a committee of the Ohio state legislature, and pointed out to him the damaging fact that the assessed value of personal property in Boston is \$5,000,000 less now than it was in 1868, twenty years ago. President Lane in the Transcript of January 26 directs a long argument to the customary appeals in opposition to the taxation of real estate, only made in behalf of the "poor farmer" and "small householder." Says Mr. Lane:

In conversation upon this subject, a few months ago, with a distinguished citizen of the state of New York, he frankly admitted that there were some 200,000 of the agricultural class in that state who could not be reasoned with on this question. To use his own way of quoting the New York farmers, "We are not going to let these rich fellows off. They may lie and go to hell. That is their lookout. Tax them we will." Now if the 40,000 farmers of Massachusetts are as big fools as this, reform in this state may be as hopeless. The sham and pretense of taxing personal property continues in New York. The people generally do not pay taxes on personal property. In this state, however, it happens the taxation of personal property is not a thing from which people generally escape. The figures plainly show that with all its disproportion and unreasonableness it is a stern reality. Massachusetts, therefore, should lead the way to a reform which all the American authorities regarded as authorities most earnestly commend. I am not, however, prepared at present to believe that the farmers of Massachusetts are all to be counted against this reform. I am quite ready to believe that to a majority of them also the one tax upon their real estate might be as truly a more acceptable method of taxation.

EUROPEAN NOTES.

I got back to New York from a nine months' European trip last week. I visited several of the cities of Holland, Belgium and the Rhine country and then spent three months in Switzerland, two in Italy, and two in France, finishing with two weeks in London. My attention was not largely given to that study of social problems which consists in "slumming." I gained no minute knowledge of the various phases of political agitation at present disturbing the countries mentioned, nor did I spend much time in observing closely the effects of the numerous forms of charity which abound in Europe. I kept in view a few principles and directed my inquiries mainly to the results that ensue from observing them or contravening them. They related to free access to land, the incidence of taxation, free trade, and government management of monopolies.

Holland is a land of peace and plenty. Its policy has been to foster no industry which could not sustain itself under foreign competition. The lowest customs tariff in Europe permits commodities of every clime to enter its markets at no greater advance in price than a natural profit to dealers. Adapted to agriculture, and especially to cattle growing, the entire land is garden or meadow. Wages of the least skilled are low, immigrants from Germany and the Scandinavian countries competing for rough work even with the Dutch peasants. But Holland's large shipping interests and its great colonies of Java and Sumatra serve to draw away much of its "surplus" labor and open up business careers for men of energy and education. The middle class is very numerous and well-to-do. The homes of the people living in the smaller cities and in the country are almost uniformly comfortable and often beautiful. The poorer people get the necessities of life, and even their little luxuries of beer and tobacco, at rates which to an American seem astonishingly low.

When the traveler leaves Holland and enters Belgium he perceives, in the space of only a few miles, a great change in the appearance of the farms, the houses, and the people. Casual inquiry as to the causes evokes various replies. The prevailing opinion among the Dutch is that Belgium lags behind and has a multitude of poor because it is Catholic, the form in which this explanation is given closely resembling that adopted by a Belfast Protestant in telling why Ulster is better off than Connaught. Whatever the causes, misery is everywhere apparent in Belgium. Discontent is rife. An election that took place while I was in Brussels brought out much bad blood. With the Belgians, radicalism generally signifies a belief in revolution. The workingmen's newspapers are violent in tone, and strikes on a larger scale, attended with outbreaks, are frequent.

I should not venture to attribute the obvious social differences between Holland and Belgium to the fact that the first country is a free trader and the other not. Yet I could not but observe the contrast in the situation of the wage worker under the two governments. In Holland he is much left to himself, with a broad and, comparatively speaking, free field. In Belgium the state is largely in the business of caring for him. He is coddled by protection, is given special rates on railways owned and operated by the government, and his hope commonly is to benefit himself through a general nationalization of things.

I passed up the Rhine and thence to Basle by way of Heidelberg and Strassburg a few days after the issue of the order requiring passports to be produced by travelers entering Germany from France. From appearances one might have easily believed that war had already been declared. The line of great forts that stretches from Cologne to near Basle, a distance which the traveler usually makes in two days by boat and one by rail, were garrisoned by tens of thousands of soldiers. Registering at a hotel took quite the form of what the reporters term "giving a pedigree" at a New York police station. Tourists were at any moment liable to be compelled to give a strict account of themselves. At Strassburg, now a dead city—smothered by a foreign garrison and buried in fortifications that extend twenty miles around it—the military surveillance over strangers was most irksome.

The passport order brought with it complete "protection" against each, other to

the people living on both sides of the frontier. Those on one side could not buy anything from those on the other, or sell anything to them, or, in fact, have hardly any communication with them. The local French newspapers were filled with accounts of the ruin that had been wrought. Farmers had their produce thrown back on their hands; merchants had lost in large part their markets; proposed agricultural fairs had to be indefinitely postponed; manufacturers were cut away alike from the usual sources of their raw material and from many of the consumers of their output. The dislocation of the region by a most stringent protective measure affected it as would the wrenching of a member from the human body. It laid it low.

I traveled in German, French and Italian cantons of Switzerland. I saw much true democracy there, but shall not attempt to describe it now. I hope in future to put before the readers of THE STANDARD some interesting facts in regard to this oldest of republics.

In Italy I was prepared to see the old, the "effete." I really saw a reviving nation. The country, whose natural wealth has ever been the subject of the tourist's pen, is, especially in the northern part, being rapidly developed. It is but now fairly beginning to enjoy the benefits of its unification and of a comprehensive railway system. Many of its cities are flourishing. Turin, Milan, even Florence, are modernized, and Rome itself has had a "boom" during the past fifteen years that has made of it one of the finest and newest capitals in Europe. The large shops of the principal cities are equal to the best of America; the newer hotels and restaurants are better kept than are some very pretentious ones in New York. The influence of the newspapers is growing, some of the large dailies showing a creditable activity in news-gathering and pushing their circulation to every province. The government is exerting itself to bring the people to fraternize and to supplant the many dialects with the Italian tongue. An Italian Protestant pastor, stationed in Turin, gave it me as his opinion that the independence of the state, though not conceded by the church, was secure in the hands of the people.

Despite what may be inferred from one's observations of the Sicilians and Neapolitans who flock to New York, the Italians are, physically, a fine race. In Piedmont, Lombardy and Venetia the inhabitants, as a class, resemble in many points our people of Virginia, Kentucky and Tennessee. The men are commonly tall and well made; the women strikingly handsome, a large number being blondes. In looks the officers of the army are superior to those of any other I have seen, and in the ranks are many healthy, strapping young fellows. The Italian military uniforms are most tasteful. Of the people met as they walk the streets both sexes have usually a smart air and dress well. They are kind and courteous to one another and to strangers. One can hope much for Italy, having seen its people and knowing what tasks they have accomplished.

THE STANDARD has lately printed two articles written by me on taxation and the progress of economic thought in France. In this connection let me add a word as to the importance of the illustration that France gives us of the results of bringing land and labor into close relationship, however imperfect and wanting in justice may be the method. France recognizes in its laws of inheritance the importance of keeping its land in use, it constantly undergoing division and re-division with the regularity of the death rate. She is consequently prosperous under the greatest public debt in the world, while maintaining what is in proportion to inhabitants the largest of armies, and while supporting a most costly and cumbrous bureaucracy. In most parts of France there are chances of employment of some kind for all who will embrace them. In addition to her own working people a million and a quarter foreigners get work within her borders to-day. The failure of manufactures or of speculative enterprises does not entail the disasters that would be felt were large bodies of her people divorced from the soil and factory lords and factory hands for the rest of the world. The Panama canal failure, it is safe to maintain, in any other country would have been followed by a panic. It has swallowed up the little fortunes of a hundred thousand plodding

Frenchmen, but, business in France not resting largely on credit, capitalists were not required to sacrifice one kind of stocks to save another, and laborers were not thrown out of work because of ensuing shut downs, most of them keeping steadily on in the great industry which never knows a shut down.

So often have the French demonstrated the strength of their land system, as compared with that of England, for example, that the belief prevails among them that they have the question settled. Their enthusiasm in talking on this subject is catching, even with the single tax man who sees plainly how far they have halted short of justice, since in explaining why their system was adopted they commit themselves largely to his principles. A hopeful sign in France is the light now going on against the increased burdens of taxation and the active discussion of modes of imposing taxes. The merits of the single tax must, it would seem, soon become apparent to many. The direction, however, in which the eyes of the organized workers are at present fixed is, especially at Paris, toward socialism.

I was in no country in which "Progress and Poverty" had not brought along at least its first wave of discussion. The debate, however, usually centers over the points regularly raised by the *doctrinaires*. The practical stage has not yet been reached on the continent. Yet I met Belgians, Germans, Swiss, Italians and French who were looking to our American movement with sympathy and hope.

I have come home with increased regard for my native land and a better appreciation than ever of her people and of the institutions we inherit from our forefathers. I have also come back inspired with hope for her progress and that of the world in the light of complete justice to all men. The signs of the times are good signs. The tendency of events is, I believe, toward better things. I think that conditions in the civilized nations are so changing as to pave the way for the speedy accomplishment of the peaceable and radical reform in which we are engaged.

J. W. SULLIVAN.

The New Church and the Single Tax.

A number of persons (male and female) who believe that "The New Political Economy" is of "The New Church," met at the residence of Mr. L. E. Wilmarth, sr., Brooklyn, on the 29th of January, and organized under the name of "New Churchmen's Single Tax League." The statement of principles printed herewith explains the work the league hope to accomplish. John R. Waters of New York was elected treasurer and John Filmer secretary.

Any readers of THE STANDARD who desire to co-operate with the league and desire to obtain further information, can acquire it by addressing the secretary, John Filmer, 318 Broadway, New York city.

The declaration of principles adopted is as follows:

Whereas, a number of the receivers of the doctrines of the new church believe that the principles underlying the system of political economy set forth in the writings of Henry George are in harmony with the spirit of the new age, that their presentation at the present time is one of the effects of the descent of the truths of the new dispensation, and that an intelligent understanding of their intrinsic justice and equity and the consequent embodiment of them in the civil code of the nation is the only effective remedy for much of the injustice and many of the gross evils that afflict society;

Therefore, we, whose signatures are appended hereto, believing that it would be useful to the community that these principles should be intelligently and systematically expounded in the light of the new dispensation for the benefit of all who are willing to consider them, have associated ourselves under the name of "New Churchmen's Single Tax League," that by mutual aid and co-operative action we may more efficiently assist in spreading a knowledge and understanding of these principles. As a distinctive use and function of this organization, we purpose to address ourselves especially to receivers of the truths of the new church, endeavoring to show them the relations which must exist between the standards of natural justice and morality, and the spiritual truths of the church in any age or community, and pointing out that some such changes in our civil laws, as are indicated in the new political economy, are required to fulfill the conditions of correspondence or true relationship to the principles of spiritual life revealed in the writings of the new church, thus furnishing this latter a stable and enduring basis for its future growth—the natural thought and habits of life of the community.

Thought Awakening in Iowa.

Otto Shields, of Atlantic, Iowa, says the people in and about Des Moines are getting very much interested in the single tax question, which he ascribes principally to Henry George's lecture there not long since.

SOME FOREIGN ITEMS.

For stealing \$1,000 worth of seal-skin saccques a man was recently sentenced in London to ten years' penal servitude—that is at the rate of one year per \$100.

This is the way in which the London Echo complied with a request of some ostentatious "philanthropists" who were anxious to have their left hands know what their right hands are doing:

We are requested to insert the following paragraph, which we do with the omission of the names of all the parties concerned:

Mrs. — will give her second annual dinner and entertainment to the poor of East London at 1 p. m. on New Year's day, in — hall, —. This hall has been kindly lent for the occasion by the Rev. —, and Messrs. — have graciously supplied free the necessary knives, forks, plates, etc. About 500 recipients of the feast will be gathered together by the Rev. —, vicar, and the Rev. —, curate of —.

The Pall Mall Gazette intimates that the extensive agriculture, i. e., that pursued on large farms, as distinguished from the intensive culture of small plots, is not succeeding as well as some political economists would have us believe. It says that in nearly all the villages in Suffolk the rent paid is £2 per acre and landlords are mostly willing to let their land to individual laborers at this rent, because they are more certain of obtaining small sums from laborers than large ones from farmers.

Says the London Star: "The cheapest English edition of 'Robert Elsmere' is published at 6s. The Americans boast a threepenny edition, which sells largely in the drapery stores, and they have a more luxurious issue at ninepence. No wonder that 150,000 copies have been sold, although we believe that the authoress has only received £100 from the States."

A truckman was recently fined £1 and costs in London for using his van to transport passengers. He had cheated the revenue, not having a passenger license. A baker, on the other hand, was fined only five shillings and costs for using false weights. He had cheated the poor.

Here is the opinion of the agent of the duke of Bedford's London estates on the leasehold system, by which the ground owner becomes also the owner of the house erected by the tenant, when his lease expires: "The leasehold system is a most equitable one as it stands: it is a system of contract by which two parties, one the owner of land, and the other the owner of capital, form a partnership, the owner of capital converting it into bricks and mortar and labor, and agreeing for the consideration of the lease of land to pay a certain small sum annually for a given period, at the end of which the whole property goes to the land owner. On the other hand he gets for his share of the partnership all interest accruing from letting and selling the houses during that given term of years, and all immediate profits are therefore his. As for the sentimental objection made to the system, that when a man builds a house he does it to live in and to benefit his children, facts are against its reality. The building of a house is almost invariably a matter of investment of capital. The land owner is really the sleeping partner in the concern; he receives one per cent out of the ten per cent profits of the firm; and when the firm dissolves partnership, he takes, in return for the share of capital he has so long been receiving so small an interest upon the whole of the at that time available capital."

At Canton, China, the introduction of machinery by certain native silk good manufacturers has led to serious riots between their adherents and those of the other firms employing hand labor. Several hundreds of people were engaged in the riots; six or seven were killed and many injured.

The duke of Portman, who lives somewhere abroad, pocketed, last March, \$5,750,000 of land values or "unearned increment," created by the people of London.

In Venezuela three-quarters of the land is still public property, and efforts are being made to induce immigration and remedy this sad state of affairs.

Sir John Pender, the ocean cable magnate, who ran on the tory ticket for the Govan (Glasgow) seat in parliament, was reported to have said in an interview that if he was returned he could bring work to the Clyde connected with submarine telegraphy. He favored a strong navy, and maintained that it was not a time for the discussion of the land question. The Govan contest should be fought on the question of maintaining the union of the empire. The Scotchmen of that region, however, did not take to his protectionist idea of making a little work for them temporarily, and proposed to discuss what questions they chose, the land question included; and the liberal candidate got a good round majority.

The queen's New Year gifts to the poor of the parishes of New Windsor, Holy Trinity, and Clewer St. Stephen's, near Windsor castle were distributed in the riding school of the castle. The gifts consisted of upward of 3,600 pounds of beef, in joints weighing from three pounds to seven pounds. Coals were also delivered at the homes of the poor, in quantities of from 200 to 500 pounds. She also gave eighty-two pounds of meat to the borough police force. Her majesty probably gave away on this occasion articles which cost at least one-fifth of her income for one day. This would leave her quite a number of pounds of meat for herself.

pression was made on the minds of his hearers that will widen as the days pass by. It was the first meeting of the kind ever held in this county, and I shall arrange for another in the near future.

J. S. Crane, Cohoes, N. Y.—One of the signers is an ex-member of the legislature, and two others are large property owners.

Edward Barker, Pawtucket, R. I.—I heartily commend your work. It has opened up to many an opportunity for usefulness. Here in Rhode Island we have been pushing a state petition along with the other, and we are expecting an early opportunity for a public hearing before the committee having the matter in charge. We must have some of our New York generals down to help us. They will be notified as to date.

R. Conger, Rochester, N. Y.—A number of protected cormorants of this city are running their establishments on two-thirds time, just to illustrate how protection works after a "famous victory."

B. S. Meyers, North Adams, Mass.—I just returned from a trip through the state, and find a more liberal idea of the single tax than I expected among the people generally. Is it not time to drop the discussion of the invasion of New Jersey and devote all our energies to an advance all along the line?

Leopold Hoffman, Cleveland, Ohio.—I was at one time in favor of separate political action, but see now that it is better to work with those who go some steps in our direction. It strikes me that the proposal to invade any one state is like that for separate political action, and is an attempt to gather fruit before it is ripe. I do not believe there is a state or county in the Union ripe for the task. I am for keeping cool and going along with the work of education, and these petitions are the very thing for the purpose. They make men approachable and open the way for debate.

J. M. Place, Jeffersonville, Ind.—The Ohio Falls car company has laid off all the men in its passenger department and put them on freight work at \$1.25 per day. These men are awakening to the fact that something is wrong and they begin to see that protection does not protect. Free traders are getting quite numerous and bolder in their denunciations of the tariff swindle.

W. G. Sellers, San Francisco, Cal.—Two of the signers are farmers in Tulare county. A six months' course of STANDARD, reinforced by a little talk and a couple of letters, has brought them to see the cat.

Samuel D. T. Manning, Portsmouth, Va.—The petition affords a good opportunity to introduce and explain the single tax, and I never fail to improve it. In every case I leave a tract of THE STANDARD and trust to time and the power of truth to do the work.

"One of the Herd," Mooresville, Texas.—We are told here by our opponents that "the common herd" who favor the single tax idea are too ignorant to understand the state of affairs that would be brought about through the triumph of this "communistic" scheme. We do not claim to be very wise, but we can see that our triumph might bring about a sad state of affairs for those who live upon an "unearned increment" and monopolize those bounties which our Heavenly Father created for the equal use and enjoyment of all his children. We do not wish to confiscate anything that by right belongs to another, but we do intend to reinstate in their rights heirs of the common parent who have been disinherited by the avarice of their co-heirs. We may know nothing of government, but we would like to have an equal chance with others to enjoy the products of our labor without paying blackmail to fore-stallers. Here in Texas the man who does not own land has to pay from \$4 to \$5 per acre rent, which ordinarily takes all he makes, and frequently, at the end of the year, he is in debt to his landlord and has to be "carried over." Everything the tenant owns is mortgaged to the land owner and is subject to forced sale. A man who is fortunate enough to own two hundred acres of land, a year's provisions, and a certain number of horses and cattle, is exempt from forced sale, but there is no exemption for the tenant. I feel safe in saying that the suffering among the tenants in Texas will equal that of the same class in any other country. We are going right ahead with the single tax down here, and as soon as we can bring the matter before the people for adoption the victory is won. The hardest fight is to have it submitted to the popular vote. We will present our petition to the legislature this winter, but we have little hope of having it acted upon. We are here to stay, however, and will carry on the fight from year to year until we win. We know that we are right, and knowing this makes us courageous. Ring is our captain general, and before the last sun of the present century sinks beneath the horizon we will place him in the gubernatorial chair of Texas.

The Mayor Wants to Investigate.

VICTORIA, B. C.—Things look very hopeful here. I tackled the mayor yesterday. He is in favor of taxing vacant lots, and has requested me to let him have Mr. George's works, which you may be sure I will. One of our members, Mr. Byron West, has gone to Nanaimo, a city about 100 miles from here, to give a lecture on the single tax. Mr. Byron is a sturdy and indefatigable laborer for the cause.

WALTER L. LINTON,

Rec. Sec. V. S. T. C.

FOR A SINGLE TAX CLUB HOUSE.

A Meeting of the Subscribers and the Committee of Five Enlarged to Fifteen.

Pursuant to the call that has been printed in several issues of THE STANDARD, a meeting of the subscribers to the tontine fund for the purchase of a single tax club house was held on Monday evening in the Manhattan single tax club rooms, 8 St. Mark's place. A. J. Steers acted as chairman and William McCabe as secretary of the meeting, which was attended by about fifty subscribers. The names of all the subscribers up to date were read and the number of shares subscribed for, including the following that have come in since last week:

G. Macdonald, 1 Nassau st., city.....	5
L. O. Macdonald, 1 Nassau st., city.....	5
Morgan E. Stevenson, 39 Cornelia st., city (\$1 in- closed).....	1
P. Stewart, 349 W. 14th st., city.....	2
H. A. Rundlett, M. D., 111 Waverly place, city.....	1
Clarence S. Graves, 746 E. 142d st., city.....	1
Mrs. C. R. Hunke, 222 East 10th st., city.....	1
Miss Dena B. Ochs, 222 East 10th st., city.....	1
C. O. Ochs, 222 East 10th st., city.....	1
Curtis Eldons, 13-29th av., city.....	2
Wm. D. Williams, 129 East 27th st., city.....	10
Montague R. Levenson, 23 West 73d st., city.....	5
A. F. Collins, 256 State st., city.....	5
L. J. Ellis, 393 Broadway, city (\$5 in closed).....	5
E. T. Burrell, 657 Carroll st., Brooklyn.....	1
C. R. Pignol, 274 9th st., Brooklyn.....	1
C. O'C. Hennessy, 196 DeKalb av., Brooklyn.....	1
J. W. H. MacLagan, 261 Clinton st., Brooklyn.....	1
W. L. Ross, 37 Schermerhorn st., Brooklyn.....	5
D. W. Clegg, Stapleton, S. I.....	2
J. K. McGuire, Syracuse, N. Y.....	5
Wm. A. Scandrett, 31 Poplar st., Allegheny City, Pa.....	5
A. R. Wynn, 319 Huron st., Toledo, Ohio.....	5
John Kenny, Sandusky, Ohio (\$1 in closed).....	1
Thomas Williamson, Redville, South Carolina.....	3
E. Q. Norton, Mobile, Ala.....	2
J. S. Hill, Constant, Kansas (\$1 in closed).....	1
Charles Appleton, San Jose, Cal. (\$1 in closed).....	1

Total for week..... 79
There were previously acknowledged..... 1,321

Making a total to date of..... 1,400

It was decided that the temporary committee of five be made permanent and ten additional members be added to it. An election resulted in the choice of the following ten gentlemen: F. C. Leubuscher, Joseph Silbernink, Joseph McDonough, Martin Battle, C. O'C. Hennessy, George White, Joseph Dana Miller, William J. Brown, Theodore Atworth and W. B. Scott, who will serve on the committee in company with the original five members, A. J. Steers, W. H. Faulhaber, Jerome O'Neill, William J. Gorsuch and William McCabe.

The chairman then said it would be necessary to raise a small sum of money in order to send to each subscriber a few subscription blanks and a request for aid in securing more subscriptions. He left it to the meeting to decide how the money should be raised. After considerable debate it was decided to authorize the committee to borrow a sum not exceeding \$50 for this purpose, with the additional proviso that if any of this money is borrowed from subscribers, such subscribers shall be allowed to consider the amounts loaned as advance payments on their subscriptions.

After an appeal had been made to all those present to do their best in securing further subscriptions the meeting adjourned.

AN ACT TO ENFORCE THE SINGLE TAX.

The following drafts of a law to exempt the products of industry from taxation and concentrate all taxes on land values, and of an amendment to the state constitution, have been introduced into the Pennsylvania legislature by single tax men of that state. The men who are pushing the bill desire all Pennsylvania single tax advocates who are willing to appear before the committee at Harrisburg, on notification, to send their names to the secretary of the Henry George club, 904 Walnut street, Philadelphia.

An act to provide for separate assessments of land values and the exemption of improvements and personal property from taxation.

Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the senate and house of representatives of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania in general assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same:

That from and after the passage of this act all assessments for taxation in any county, city, borough, ward, township, school district or incorporated district of this commonwealth shall show the value of lands separate from the improvements thereon; the word improvements being construed to include all buildings, structures, living trees and developments of mines.

Sec. 2. That the taxing board of any county, city, borough, ward, township, school district or incorporated district of this commonwealth may, at its discretion, exempt from taxation all buildings, structures, living trees, developments of mines, personal property, and all products of labor, all salaries, posts of profit, professions, trades and occupations, money at interest, stocks, bonds and loans.

Sec. 3. When in any county, city, borough, ward, township, school district or incorporated district it is desired to make the exemption authorized by this act, a special assessment for that purpose may be made at any time previous to the next regular assessment.

Proposed Amendment to Article XX of the Constitution.

Sec. 1. All revenues of this state and all counties, cities, boroughs, wards, school districts and incorporated districts thereof shall be derived from a single tax upon land values.

All Quiet on the Potomac.

An editorial in the Youngstown, Ohio, Telegram, condemning what it called "the teaching of English free trade doctrines" in the

schools, called out a reply from Billy Radcliffe. For his part, he was thankful that free trade was being taught anywhere. In truth, he thought he could teach a little of it himself, and accordingly he flung his sentiments to the breeze in the following fashion:

I can do some business in Youngstown, more business in Ohio, still more in the United States. The world is none too large for me! Give me free trade. Freedom is what labor wants, not protection; and to all protectionists, I have this to say: I am still on deck and challenge any protectionist to debate this question. I will pay for the hall. Do I hear a murmur, or is "all quiet on the Potomac?"

Our Mary and Her Lamb.

Here is an original "poem" read by Senator Vance in the United States senate a few days ago. It is entitled, "The girl with one stocking; a protective pastoral composed and arranged for the spinning wheel, and respectfully dedicated to that devoted friend of protected machinery and high taxes, the senator from Rhode Island, Mr. Aldrich."

Our Mary had a little lamb,

And her heart was most intent
To make its wool beyond its worth,
Bring 55 per cent.

But a pauper girl across the sea

(Had she small lamb also,
Whose wool for less than half that sum
She'd willingly let go.)

Another girl who had no sheep

Nor stockings—wool nor flax—
But money just enough to buy
A pair without the tax.

Went to the pauper girl to get

Some wool to shield her feet,
And make her stockings, not of flax,
But both of wool complete.

When Mary saw the girl's design

She straight began to swear
She'd make her buy both wool and tax
Or let one leg go bare.

So she cried out: "Protect reform!"

Let pauper sheep wool free!
If it will keep both her legs warm,
What will encourage me?"

So it was done, and people said,

Where'd that poor girl went,
One leg was warmed with wool and one
With fifty-six per cent.

Now, praise to Mary and her lamb,

Who did this scheme invent,
To clothe one-half a girl in wool
And one-half in per cent.

All honor, too, to Mary's friend,

And all protective acts,
That cheaply clothe the rich in wool
And wrap the poor in tax.

To Raise Funds for the Committee.

BALLSTON SPA, N. Y.—Some time ago "Credo" made a suggestion that we organize a "sowing society" for the purpose of disseminating our literature, the principal function of this society being to provide funds by a system of regular monthly dues. We all know how hard it is to spare ten dollars at intervals, but we can all spare a small amount weekly, and see what an immense fund would be at the disposal of our committees if we only gave ten cents a month. We ought to get 10,000 contributors, and that would mean \$1,000 every month, and I think that estimate is under what we might reasonably expect. I hope that each will take this to himself and write to you and see if we can not start some systematic means of raising funds.

RICHARD FEENEY.

Judge Reid Reports Progress.

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—The cause here is on a big "boom." I spoke recently on True and Sham Christianity and the single tax, to a large audience, and I find the attendance and interest wonderfully on the increase. Mark my words; it will now be only a very short while before all the "woods" hereabouts will be on fire.

FRANK T. REID.

Especially the Man Who "Runs the Ward."

Times have changed, and men with them. Whatever King Midas touched was turned to gold. Now, you have only to touch a man with gold and he'll turn to anything.

Some Particulars About Prayer Wheels.

One of the strangest contrivances for religious purposes ever invented by any people is the prayer wheel of Tibet. Thomas Manning, the only Englishman that ever saw Lhasa, who visited Tibet at the commencement of the present century, describes these wheels, which he calls "whirligigs," as cylinders turning freely on an axis, with sacred sentences and prayers inside. Turning the whirligig is equivalent to reciting the sentence, and is a substitute for it. The handwheel is carried always by pious persons, and is constantly turned, while another kind is fixed on an axis in the ground, around which it revolves. In the avenues of the temples, he says, there are hundreds of them, which good souls twist one after another as they pass along. Others contain rolls of printed prayers, and are fixed in rows on the walls of temples, near villages, and in streams, to be turned by water power. They are said to have been in use for more than one thousand years. Mr. Andrew Wilson says that the Tibetans are the most preciously praying people on the face of the earth. "They have praying stones, praying pyramids, praying flags flying over every house, praying wheels, praying mills, and the universal prayer, 'Om mani padme hum' is never out of their mouth." A German writer on Lhasa says of this sentence, which literally means "O G-d! the jewel in the lotus," that these six syllables are of all the prayers of earth, that which is most frequently repeated, written, printed, and conveniently offered up by mechanical means.

AN "OLD MAN OF THE SEA" PARTY.

It is like the Tory Government of Canada, and Our People Need to Be Aroused, Not Merely Educated, to Throw It Off.

TORONTO, Canada.—Your republican party, with Jim Baine as dictator, is exactly what our tory party was in '78, when it ousted an honest and progressive government and established office as a god, with John A. Macdonald as high priest. Our tories are protectionists, but for the last six years "protection" has been the mere mask of the government's policy. As usual in such cases, the partisans of the government denounce as traitors those who will not bow the knee to the Baal of the tariff; but this is only intended to catch the most prejudiced and the most ignorant.

The Canadian government has established as its principle "divide and conquer" for every constituency. The Australian system of voting being in force here, direct bribery has no effect except in the very close constituencies, though "bribe among thieves" makes many a man deliver a vote that has been paid for. But indirect bribery is a power.

With us the ministry must be supported by a majority of the people's representatives, or else resign. To wheedle, bully, coax and bribe representatives in the house to stand by the government which dispenses the patronage is a natural and easily suggested step. But the system must go further; the people themselves must be induced to send men to parliament "solid" for the ministry. A constituency is to have a bye-election to fill a vacancy. That constituency wants a railway, or harbor works, or some new post office. The promise is made that these things can be provided if the government candidate is elected. It is true, the dodge does not always carry, but it does sometimes—often enough to keep a big government majority in the house. Until a general election is to be held, whole provinces can be bribed with promises of immense works, with promises of changes in the tariff to favor big industries, and so on through the list of the government's patronage and power.

It seems to me that is what the republicans may be expected to do. The surplus must be reduced. And it must be spent upon useful public works. If those public works without any interference of state rights, of course, could be made very useful to a number of counties having great democratic majorities, the aspects of political life might be so far softened that leading citizens of those counties would speak less harshly of a republican administration. And other counties not so much favored might be led to express some gratitude which Dr. Johnson has defined as "thanks for favors to come." And sections of the democratic organization thus somewhat modified in these respective counties, the few republicans there might be led to insist more strongly upon placing the colored men on the roll and having them vote. It is not impossible.

With the resources at their command bribery can be made as respectable as the wrecking of railway corporations or the floating of bogus companies. The democrats will lose themselves if they attempt another such "educational campaign." Don't misunderstand me; I don't endorse Knicker Dana's advice by any means. But a man who is being robbed doesn't want to be "educated," he wants to be aroused. The people are all right, and they will stamp on monopoly if only the cry of alarm is raised. You may say that is what you mean by an "educational campaign." Well then you choose your words badly and are likely to be confused by mere names. A cry of alarm is a clear, ringing yell, not a long-winded argument. The arguments are all on our side, but they must be condensed into a shout, which shall ring from sentry to sentry and bring the whole army of citizens to their feet ready for action.

The United States are now where Canada was in 1882. We had only tariff takers and tax redistributors to lead us on the way to reform, and their arguments, though sound enough, merely lulled the people to sleep and left the country a prey to selfishness and fraud. Let not free traders or single tax men think that mere "education" can meet the craft of the minions of monopoly. Let me entreat reformers in the United States to take warning by the course of events in Canada, and to appeal direct to the heart and conscience of the people, seeking to arouse rather than to convince. The single tax men are the natural leaders in this crisis, and the people if aroused will follow where they lead. Otherwise selfish politicians will rule for twenty years, and in that time who can say to what depth of political degradation they may drive or drag the people!

A. C. CAMPBELL.

Population and Real Estate Values.

In 1805, the earliest period to which the tabulated statements of property valuations in the comptroller's office refer, the total assessed value of real estate in New York city was \$22,615,808; in 1855 it was \$15,275,879. That is to say, after a period of fifty-four years the assessed value was just fifty times as great as at the beginning of the period. In the same time the population of the city had been multiplied by twenty, increasing from 75,000 in 1805 to 1,500,000 in 1855. Thus the growth of real estate values, as far as can be judged by the assessments, was two and a half times as great as the increase of population.

THE STANDARD.

HENRY GEORGE, Editor and Proprietor.

Published weekly at
12 UNION SQUARE, NEW YORK CITY.

TERMS, POSTAGE FREE.

One year, \$2.50; six months, \$1.25; single copies, 5 cents.
Entered at the post office, New York, as second class matter.

Communications and contributions are invited, and will be attentively considered. Manuscripts not found suitable for publication will be returned if sufficient stamps are sent for return postage. No notice will be taken of anonymous communications.

Contributions and letters on editorial matters should be addressed to THE EDITOR OF THE STANDARD, and all communications on business to the PUBLISHER OF THE STANDARD.

THE STANDARD wants an agent to secure subscribers at every post office in the United States, to whom liberal terms will be given.

THE STANDARD is for sale by newsdealers throughout the United States. Persons who may be unable to obtain it will confer a favor on the publisher by notifying him promptly.

Sample copies sent free on application.

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

Apropos of the re-election of Senator McPherson to the United States senate by the Pennsylvania railroad and the New Jersey legislature, a story is told which throws light on the peculiar conduct of the republicans when McPherson was elected six years ago. The democrats, it will be remembered, had a small majority in joint ballot, but owing to a bolt against McPherson, the caucus nominee, there was strong probability of his defeat. It was in this emergency that an equal number of conscientious republicans announced that as the democrats were entitled to the senatorship, they, the conscientious republicans, would vote for McPherson sooner than see party discipline, even in the party of an adversary, overthrown by a bolt. It now transpires that these virtuous republicans were acting under orders from the Pennsylvania railroad, and that Senator McPherson himself suggested this unique way in which republican members could, in strict accordance with party discipline, vote for a democratic caucus candidate. It is doubtful if any railroad in the country has a shrewder representative in the national senate than Senator McPherson's constituents have in him.

In Illinois a step has been taken toward the suppression of Pinkerton's standing army of mercenaries. A bill introduced into the legislature makes it unlawful to import into the state any person or association of persons for the purpose of discharging the duties of police officers, sheriffs or constables, and prohibits sheriffs from appointing as deputies any but bona fide residents of the county for which the appointment is made. A similar bill has been presented in the legislature of Minnesota. No reasonable objection can be made to such measures, while every consideration of self-government demands their adoption.

A bill introduced in the assembly at Albany by Mr. McKenzie is another step in the movement to restore the women to their rights as citizens. It proposes to permit them to vote for and to hold the office of excise commissioner. Women are already allowed to vote for school commissioners, and in New York city they have held the office with credit to their sex and not a little discredit to some commissioners of the opposite sex. If the excise commission were open to them boards of excise would soon find something to think about and perhaps something to do.

Governor Beaver of Pennsylvania makes a plea for better public roads. How easy it would be to have them! Wherever a road runs it might be wide, macadamized, shaded, and in the better settled regions have good sidewalks without any expense except to the few people who get rich from the profits of monopoly. The annual value of mere mining privileges would many times pay the cost of making and maintaining such roads. If Governor Beaver could induce the legislature of his

state to lay out such a system of public highways and raise the necessary revenue by a tax on the value of land irrespective of improvements, Pennsylvania would set an example of enterprise and justice that other states would hasten to follow and which would go far to absolve her from her besetting sin of protectionism.

The Independent makes a comparison of some books that pay one cent a pound for mailing facilities with some that pay eight cents. Among the former are "Red Skin Tom; or, The Demon's Trail," "Denver Doll, the Detective Queen," and "Little Quick Shot, the Scarlet Scent; or, the Dead Face of Daggerville," while among the latter are bibles, prayer books, hymn books, law books, scientific books and medical books. The explanation, it says, is that "the law did not contemplate that trashy novels should pay any less than bibles and school books, but it did provide for low rates for newspapers and periodicals; so the publishers simply issue their boys' stuff once a week and number the issues, and the post office department is obliged to take them as periodicals." Therefore the Independent approves a proposed law putting all such books in the same class as bibles and school and law books, and urges parents to do likewise. The fact is that there is no discrimination. By making bibles, hymn books, geographies and law books, or parts of them, issues in a regular series, they will go through the mails for the same low rate of postage that the publishers of "Red Skin Tom" or "Denver Doll" secure for their publications. What the Independent really complains of is not that good books pay high postage, but that demoralizing books get the benefit of low postage; and, therefore, with the instinct of the protectionist, it proposes to impose on the demoralizing books a postal tariff, wholly indifferent to the fact that in doing so it would similarly burden useful books which are now very extensively published as periodicals.

Some democratic politicians at Trenton are trying to smother the ballot reform bill. Among the objections they make to it, though professing anxiety for "a good bill," is the familiar plea for the illiterate voter, that he is not allowed to call in a friend instead of a ballot clerk to help him mark his ballot. Why the politician should be so anxious to have a "friend" help illiterate voters is easily explained. He knows that here would be an almost limitless field for bribery and intimidation. But Mr. Saxton has made a change in the New York bill which gets entirely rid of this objection, and we suggest to our friends in New Jersey that they minimize the plausibility of opposition by a similar change. As the New York bill now stands, the illiterate voter is not allowed to take either a ballot clerk or friend into the booth with him; but in lieu thereof he may take a sample ballot—a fac simile of the official ballot, except as to color—into the booth. This sample ballot he may prepare or have a friend prepare in advance, and from it he can mark his official ballot. Whether he marks the official ballot the same as the sample, no one but himself can learn, and nothing more is needed.

In a New Orleans case against the cotton oil trust it was decided last week that the state can suppress all monopolies, by either civil or criminal proceedings or both. This is so in New York as well as in Louisiana, and all the fuss about the necessity of restrictive legislation is a pretense. The same doctrines that have been applied in prosecutions of members of trade unions apply with greater force to trusts. By the statutes of this state it is criminal to conspire to injure trade or commerce. This provision has been invoked against trades unions in peaceable strikes, and under it the defendants have been convicted. Why is the grand jury so slow to act when millionaires are the culprits, and so energetic when the offender is a journeyman shoemaker.

The Christian Union's "Spectator" says "age cannot wither nor custom stale the

infinite variety of beggars that one meets in New York." Among them all, does the "Spectator" recognize what might be called the American variety? That is, American born and bred. If he does not, then he has not yet noted every variety. And yet in 1866 Howard Crosby expressed his gratification that we had no American beggars. If we had no American beggars in 1866, and probably we had none, and if we have American beggars now, and we certainly have, does the fact suggest anything serious to our neighbor's "Spectator?"

Councilman Hughes, of the Dakota legislative assembly, has introduced an electoral reform bill which ought to, and probably will, be enacted. It is modeled upon the new Saxton bill of this state, making the same provision as to voters who are physically disabled, namely, that they may take a friend into the booth with them, and allowing no other concession to the illiterate than the privilege common to all voters, of taking into the booth for reference a sample ballot printed on paper of different color from the paper on which the official ballot is printed. In Dakota, as in Missouri, Maine, New Jersey, Indiana, and indeed wherever the Australian ballot agitation has developed, the single tax men appear to have been its earliest, as they are the chief, among its active advocates.

A Paris dispatch to the London Daily News carries information of interest to protectionists the world over. One Maspero of Paris tells his friends that on his return from Egypt he brought with him a royal mummy. Now, France is a high protection country, and of course the case inclosing the mummy was opened on the French frontier by a French customs officer. The officer was unable to classify the contents. Being informed that the case contained a Pharaoh, he searched the tariff schedules for "pharaoh," but was still unable to make a classification for, strangely enough, "pharaohs" are not enumerated in the French schedules. Here was a dilemma. But the officer solved it by taxing the non-enumerated importation by the highest scale. Accordingly Pharaoh entered France as "dried fish," and Gallic industries were duly protected from the pauper labor of ancient Egypt.

Of all the cranky, crazy opponents of the single tax among newspapers, the Ohio State Journal appears to be the crankiest and craziest. Here is a specimen: It begins by making single tax men propose to abolish taxes on "opportunities," and then charges them with self-contradiction in aiming "to saddle all taxes upon land," without which agriculturists would not have "opportunities" to produce grain. This reads like a wilful misrepresentation of the single tax. But it is not. It is only unalloyed ignorance and idiocy. The same is true of its notion that a tax on land values would enhance the price of food products, and its assertion that "every careful student of history knows" that the single tax "was the theory (reduced to practice) of all the despots and despotisms of the ancient world," and is to-day "the theory and practice of the unspeakable Turk."

The trades unions of England are not pleased at the resolution of the New York gold beaters in which a fine of \$100 is imposed upon foreign gold beaters coming here to work, and it is reported that the secretary of the London trades council has forwarded a strong protest, in which the resolution is denounced as opposed to the fraternity of workmen throughout the world. It is strange that American workmen should not yet have realized this truth, not only in respect to excluding their foreign brethren, but also in respect to excluding the products of their foreign brethren. Aside from all other considerations, this of fraternity is one that should appeal with peculiar force to those whose real battle is not a battle of American labor against foreign labor, but of labor everywhere against monopoly everywhere.

SOCIETY NOTES.

On Wednesday of last week Mrs. Stuyvesant Fish turned her new house into fairyland, when the "other" combination, as it is called, to distinguish it from Mrs. Astor's, met there. Mrs. Fish's house is not so large nor so grand as that of either of the Vanderbilts, but it is exceedingly pretty. The white and gold drawing room, which was the ball room on this occasion, is paneled in white silk, with moldings and arabesques of gold, and the curtains, hangings and portieres are of the same ivory white material, with wreaths of lilies twined over them by hand embroidery. This picture like room was profusely adorned with palms and hot house plants, in the branches of which hung gilded cages with canary birds, whose little throats gave out the shrillest notes, as if in answer to the oft repeated question, "Are they alive now, really?" To say who was there would be only vain repetition, as more than ever this winter are the same people seen night after night dancing the same dances, and as for the ladies' gowns and jewelry, they are as well known by this time as the Fifth avenue omnibuses.

Michael Schmidt, 35 years old, committed suicide last week at his home, corner of 110th street and the Boulevard. Schmidt was a baker and had been out of employment for some time. Becoming despondent he secured a rope and hanged himself to a bedpost.

The Journal describes "the viceroy of the 400" as follows: Colonel DeLancey Kane, as his name implies, comes of a good old Knickerbocker family, part French, Irish, English and German. He is about thirty-eight years old, and is a college graduate. He has all the money he wants to spend without working for it, and plenty to leave to his children.

For some time past Mrs. Roos, with three children, and a widow named Black, with her three children, have been occupying a miserable shanty on North Twenty-first street, St. Louis, Mo. Mrs. Roos, who is a German-American woman, rented this shanty, paying therefor \$5 a month, sub-letting one of the rooms to Mrs. Black for \$2.50 a month. They were unable to pay the last two months' rent, and on January 21 their landlord had them turned out, and all their household goods piled round them on the clay bank by the fence that incloses the place. They arranged what little furniture they had so as to make a shelter, and for warmth, when night came, huddled together on a shuck mattress and covered themselves with a few old quilts. They lived this way three days, the women going about every day applying for whatever work would bring them in a few cents. The people in the neighborhood are very poor, and did little or nothing for them. The Provident association, hearing of their plight, dumped some coal down by their stove on the third day, so that they got a little warmth and could cook what scraps of food they got. Finally, Mrs. Black got shelter and went away with her children, and the same day a Post-Dispatch reporter went out to see how they were getting on. It was snowing, and below the freezing point, and Mrs. Roos and the children lay close together near the little stove. She said the children were taken indoors the night before by some neighbors, and she had lain outside alone in the snow and wind. The reporter learned on inquiry that the women were both of good character, and always worked when they could get anything to do. The landlord had prevented them from taking in washing when their rent got behindhand by turning off the water. The Post-Dispatch is raising a little money for Mrs. Roos.

The most correct and elegant night shirt is now of perfectly plain surah, in a delicate shade of pink, blue, violet, or cream, with a simply stitched rolling collar and pocket, which costs \$20 in stock and \$22 or more when made to order. Cream white Canton silk night shirts are most serviceable and less injured by laundering than those of surah, and have a delicate vine of embroidered flowers stitched around the collar, on the pocket lid, and cuffs, and are sold for \$12. Figured china silk shirts, with cream white ground covered with running vine of scarlet, blue, or pink, or with small figures or fine stripes of the same delicate color, are very popular, and are tied at the neck with a cord and tassels of silk the shade of the figures. They vary in price from \$10 to \$12, and are said to launder quite as well as muslin. A very touching pale pink shirt is pulled on either side the central plait, which is embroidered in a vine of plain leaves in Oriental colors, and every fold and hem is stitched in place with brier work of white silk. A pale soft eeri silk shirt has a double frill of plaited silk tipped with blue down the front, and a band of blue embroidery fastens its fullness, a snarl of blue vines straggles around the neck and over the cuffs and encircles the pocket.

Nicholas Dauzelman, a cigarmaker, sixty-five years of age, was found dead in his room at No. 328 Sixth street, last Friday. Some time during the afternoon Dauzelman wrote a letter to his sister, saying that he had nothing left but the rheumatics and poverty, and was tired of life. He had taken poison.

William K. Vanderbilt's steam yacht Alva left Baltimore last Saturday for an extended cruise. She will go to Bermuda, Funchal, Madeira, and thence to the Mediterranean. Then to Norway and to England. The trip will last about seven months. Mr. Vanderbilt has his wife and children, O. H. P. Belmont, G. Redmond and Winfield Scott Hoyt accompanying him.

Dr. John Flaeger was the oldest dentist in Evansville, Ind. For many years he prospered, and in time accumulated considerable property. But with old age came adversity. He lost his wealth and was finally forced to take to the poorhouse, where one night last week he cut his throat.

Mrs. William Astor and Mrs. James C. Ayer both wear magnificent jewels, and probably no other two women in America have such collections—Mrs. Ayer owning one pair of solitaire pearl earrings valued at \$40,000.

MEN AND THINGS.

The sponsors of that still unborn infant, the tin plate industry, having succeeded in getting their expected founding provided for in the senate tariff bill, the friends of that other infant, the tin ware industry, are coming to the front with piteous complaints that if something isn't done the tin plate baby will eat the tin ware baby's pap. The Central stamping company—which is the masquerade name for the tin ware trust—informs the congress and the public, through the columns of the Tribune, that if the duty on tin plate is increased the duty on tin ware must be doubled, otherwise the English paupers, buying their tin plates at half the price we have to pay for them, will be able to flood our market with milk pans and tin dippers in spite of the present duty of forty-five per cent. "If," whines Mr. David H. James, the president of the trust—"If the duty on tin plate is increased, we shall be forced to cut down wages heavily unless we have a corresponding advance in the duty on the foreign manufactured articles of tin." And then he goes on to express his hope "that the protection press will throw the light on the subject needed to prevent a crushing blow at an important American industry like the manufacture of tin goods," which the Tribune, as representing the protection press, promptly does by publishing his appeal.

So it goes. The moment the tin plate makers seem likely to secure the privilege of taxing the public, up jump the managers of the next higher process of production—the men to whom tin plates are raw material—and clamor that their taxing franchise must be increased, under penalty of ruin. Suppose their modest request granted. The next claimants will be the manufacturers of tinned provisions. The thirty per cent duty on canned corn and tomatoes will be found insufficient to keep out the pauper products of Canada and Bermuda. And so that tariff tax will have to be doubled or trebled. All along the line of production, each producer will clamor for such protection as will enable him to shift on to the shoulders of the man who uses his product the tax he has been compelled to pay on his material.

But when the consumer is reached, the shifting process stops of necessity. He, poor wretch, must bear the whole accumulated weight. The man who eats the canned tomatoes must support the burden laid on the tin plates, and the burden laid on the cans made of the tin plates, and the burden laid on the tomatoes preserved in the burdened cans made of the burdened tin plates as well. There is no escape for him. The only thing he can do is to buy fewer canned tomatoes. But that means a lessened demand for tin plates. And a lessened demand for tin plates means lower wages in the tin plate factories. And lower wages in the tin plate factories means diminished consumption of other products. And that means lower wages in other industries. So nature avenges herself on men who would be wiser than God, and think to make the world richer by interfering with the sacred rights of property.

They are having trouble with tramps in Scranton, Pa. Last week a gang of them took possession of one of the tank houses of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western railroad, and held it for some time against a vigorous assault by the police, in the course of which one officer was killed. The vagrants were finally dislodged and a number of them were afterward arrested. The Scranton common council has now passed an ordinance providing that any tramps found within the city limits shall be sentenced to hard labor on the city streets for a term not exceeding six months.

If a being from Mars or Jupiter should happen to alight in the Lehigh valley he would probably think that men must be a degraded set of beings indeed to be willing to live in filth and pauperism in a country where nature's bounties are lying all around unused. He would wonder why the tramps didn't have self respect enough to dig some coal and exchange it for decent food and clothing. But his astonishment would take a new direction when he learned that no ordinary man could exert his labor on nature's bounties in the Lehigh valley without first paying some more highly privileged man for permission to do so. He would realize, then, that it might be quite within the limits of possibility that he should become a tramp

himself. And if he were wise, he would wing his way back to Mars or Jupiter as quickly as he could.

There are signs that the great copper syndicate is weakening. Cable advices from London announce that it has suspended its purchases of metal, while men supposed to be in its confidence assert that it will only continue its contracts with copper mine owners on the basis of lower prices and limited production.

A little six-year-old girl came crying into a Hoboken police court last Saturday morning. Her mother had been arrested the night before and the little one pleaded with tears for her release. The magistrate said:

"Your mother cannot be released until she returns that watch she stole."

"Why, mamma bought that watch only last night," said the child innocently. "If I get it will you let her go home with me?"

"Do you know where it is?" asked the magistrate.

"Oh, yes!" exclaimed the child. She put it between the mattresses on the bed."

And then a policeman went home with the poor little tot, and, sure enough, brought back the watch. I suppose this sort of thing is all right, but it makes one heart sick to read about it.

That eminent theologian, philanthropist and economist, Colonel Elliott F. Shepard, addressed a meeting of colored men in this city last week, and from the height of his ten million dollar son-in-law-ship instructed them in the way of economic salvation. There are, the colonel said, at least 20,000 colored men in this city earning a dollar a day each. Let them live on eighty cents a day, devote ten cents a day to charity "as an acknowledgment of their gratitude to God for all his mercies," and put the remaining quotidian dime into real estate.

Then the colonel dropped into figures. Twenty thousand people at ten cents would be \$2,000 a day, or \$60,000 a month—it will be observed that the good colonel expects his colored brethren to work Sundays—or \$720,000 a year. And \$720,000 a year would amount to more than \$14,000,000 in twenty years "and at least half as much more from the additional income which you would derive from the income of the real estate from year to year, so that it would be safe to say that it would amount to more than \$20,000,000 in twenty years."

Having thus indicated the easy road from a dollar a day to affluence, the colonel next presented this glowing word picture of Columbia in her robes:

New York city is a mosaic work of the nations. Here there are Chinese, Japanese, East Indians, Persians, Egyptians, Bulgarians, Roumanians, Russ, Hungarians, Austrians, Greeks, Italians, French, Spanish, Germans, Danes, Swedes, Norwegians, English, Scotch, Welsh, Irish, negroes, South Americans, Central Americans, aboriginal Americans, native Americans, all these combined in their different forms, and colors, and tones, and hopes, and aspirations, and industries, and intelligences, make, as it were, one grand, pictorial, stained glass window, and in all these forms together we have whatever single picture on the grand scale the beholder himself may have in his mind. Thus if a man is a communist or an anarchist, he sees in this window the manufacture and reflection of his own thoughts, to wit: the burglar with his cudgel, the hater of society and mankind, a fearful and dastardly figure; but if the beholder be patriotic and a lover of his kind, an intelligent and sober person, he sees in this window the magnificent figure of Columbia herself, and all these different nations making but the different colored robes which she wears in stateliness; herself giving protection to all her people, and all of them contributing to the general welfare, peace and happiness. (Applause.)

Isn't it beautiful? One could almost wish that the good colonel might be compelled to depend on odd jobs at a dollar a day himself. Perhaps he might see a different sort of a picture in that colored glass window then.

As THE STANDARD goes to press New York "society" is devoting its energies to the welfare of the American water color society and the Society of decorative art. These are not charitable organizations in the strict sense of the term. They don't distribute alms to the deserving poor, nor read moral lectures to the undeserving on the disciplinary benefits of starvation. But they do, after a fashion, provide a genteel occupation for decayed gentlewomen, as well as for aspiring females who hope to be gentlewomen and are not yet decayed. Besides which, Art—with a big A—is a sort of patent of nobility in

itself. The great have always been patrons of Art—Lorenzo di Medici, you know, and What's his name that picked up Thingummy's brush, or handkerchief, or whatever it was—the aristocracy just dote on art. And so Society has taken the water color painters and the decorative artists by the hand, and is giving a grand fancy ball for their benefit. Only 1,000 tickets. Price \$7 each. No tickets sold to any but members of the first families. Costumes to be of periods not later than the eighteenth century, and to represent only the higher ranks of society. No peasants, or opera bouffe characters, or anything of that sort; such disguises are reserved for the waiters, who will appear in early Tyrolean costume.

Here is a description of one of the dresses, quoted from the columns of the Press:

Mrs. William Astor's dress has been made by Lalouette. It is probably the most superb of all the costumes that will be seen at the reception. It is in the Medici style and resembles one worn by Marguerite of France, wife of Henry IV. The court train is of ruby velvet, heavily embroidered with gold. The waist is pointed front and back. The under petticoat, or front of the dress, is white satin, veiled with white net, which is embroidered with gold spangles and pearls. There are tight sleeves of net of pearl, and, second, flowing sleeves of net embroidered with spangles and pearls like the front of the dress. The Medici collar is cut in points. The neck is square. The gowns to be worn are marvels. Besides a marvelous stomacher of precious stones Mrs. Astor will wear a head dress composed entirely of white stones. The framework of velvet is covered with diamonds, and over this there is a diadem of the same stones and a magnificent coronet of diamonds and pearls. Gloves will not be used, as it was not the custom of the time to wear them. The fingers will be covered with rings. Besides a girdle of diamonds there will be worn around the neck a piece of velvet, to which will be attached six exquisite solitaires. A necklace of five rows of diamonds will encircle the throat. The dress has been seven weeks in preparation, because of the immense amount of embroidery done by hand.

It seems as though it would be impossible to show a more thorough sympathy with Art than is evidenced by this costume.

I think the clergymen who have of late been showing themselves so very zealous for the evangelization of the poor might turn these charity entertainments to much better account than they do. It is, of course, a sweet and benevolent thing to wear a peck of diamonds, eat a good supper and dance for several hours, all for the love of God and out of sympathy with suffering. It helps the poor people along, there's no doubt about that. That is, of course, it helps the societies that are organized to help the poor, which is just the same thing. And yet there is something lacking. The poor get the assurance of the sympathy of the rich, but they get it, so to speak, at second hand. They read about it in the papers, and are doubtless told about it by the archdeacons and other dignitaries who go among them. But I think they ought to see it. And there really would be nothing easier. The sympathy shows itself most ardently under the guise of dancing and diamonds. Well, let the poor folks see the dancing and the diamonds. It would do them lots of good, and go far toward cementing that brotherhood which ought to exist, but somehow strangely doesn't exist, between the two classes. The poor would never doubt the loving kindness of the rich if they could watch them dancing and wearing diamonds for their sakes through the lonely hours of the night; and the rich folks would dance with redoubled energy and vigor if they were conscious that their poorer brothers and sisters—brothers and sisters in Christ, of course—were looking on.

A charity ball such as I suggest might be given at Madison square garden; and upon my word, I think it would be a great success. The deserving poor could be seated in the galleries, and society could do its dancing in the amphitheater. Of course the affair would be very select—only the firstest of the first families being placed on exhibition and every lady being expected to wear all her diamonds. The ball might open with a prayer and close with a benediction; and while the gentlefolks were at supper, the good Archdeacon Mackay-Smith could deliver his celebrated discourse on Poverty and Providence, explaining that God so loved the world that He sent the poor people into it to clean its streets and do its scavenging and other dirty work. I haven't the slightest doubt that many of the deserving poor would go back to their tenement houses with com-

pletely changed ideas about the aristocracy.

Well, why shouldn't it be done? Aren't they always talking—these clerical evangelizers of the poor—about the great need of bringing rich and poor together? Aren't they always worrying the rich to go down among the poor, to sit by their bedsides, to see how they live, to give them good advice, to become their friends? Why don't they urge the poor to come up among the rich and see how they live? Or, is the bond of brotherhood to pull only in one direction?

At the meeting of the Academy of medicine, February 1, Dr. Henry D. Chapin read a paper entitled, "The Struggle for Subsistence; How can the poor be aided in it?" in which he embodied the result of several years' experience in the hospitals and dispensaries of this city.

What the poor need, Dr. Chapin said, is intelligent help and relief, following investigation into their circumstances and character. They need better homes, in model tenement houses, with better social relations round them. Poverty breeds the saloon, as surely as the saloon breeds poverty. The poor need a better equipment for earning a living. They want practical industrial training in trade schools. If they had this there would be "less idleness, less inefficiency and correspondingly less want. And so on. There was a great deal of thoughtful common sense in what the doctor said. But neither he nor the audience who applauded him seemed to remember that the only sure way to enable the man who is carrying you to walk upright is to get off his back. Strengthening his muscles may make it easier for you, but it will not relieve him. Take the weight from him and he'll come straight of himself.

Model tenement houses! Are there not plenty of model tenement houses? For a price ranging from \$35 to \$150 a month any poor man—with proper references and not too many children—can secure a really very pleasant suite of apartments, moderately well lighted, fairly ventilated, decently drained, in a tolerably respectable neighborhood. Why doesn't he take them? For just the same reason that the poor fellow who sleeps in a 15-cent or 25-cent lodging house doesn't patronize one of the many very comfortable boarding houses and hotels that would be glad of his patronage. For just the same reason that the man who huddles his family into a flat doesn't rent or buy one of the numerous houses that the real estate agents are eager to dispose of. Because he can't afford it. He hasn't got the money. He cannot earn the money.

Fifty or sixty years ago, there wasn't a tenement house in New York city. Thirty years ago, there wasn't a flat. Twenty years ago, there wasn't a lodging house of the modern twenty-five cent style. How did the tenement houses come? Because the poorest class of laborers got squeezed out of their homes. How did the flats come? Because a more prosperous class of citizens got squeezed out of their homes. How did the lodging houses come? In just the same way. Reform the tenement houses—make them respectable, comfortable, wholesome places to live in, without raising their rents—and they will fill up, not from the unreformed tenements, but from the flats. Improve the flats and the exodus will be from the houses. Improve the lodging houses and the lodgers will come from boarding houses and hotels. It is inevitable that this should be so. Because the better off men are, the more, as a rule, will they study thrift, and haste to avail themselves of any opportunity of getting equal accommodations for less money.

And industrial education! I haven't a word to say against industrial education. I wish every child in the United States could be taught to study things and their combinations more, and text books less. But isn't an empty belly a pretty good industrial educator? Won't want spur a man to work about as efficiently as anything else, make him do the best he can at production, and keep him anxious to produce more by exerting greater skill? God knows, there are plenty of empty bellies in New York. But the primary class in industrial training is making mighty little progress.

Get off the man's back, Dr. Chapin, and the man will do the straightening up himself. Compel the earth owners who appropriate to their own use the increased production which comes from concentration of population, to surrender to the community that which the community

has produced and rightfully owns; compel the men who hold natural opportunities unused to use them or let go of them, and you can safely trust the poor to provide their own model dwellings and do their own saloon abolishing. When a man is pinched with cold, lectures on the nature of heat are not going to warm him. What he needs is the key of the coal cellar.

That was a funny little incident that happened just before Mr. Vanderbilt's yacht sailed from Baltimore. The steward went to a fruit dealer and instructed him to send on board ten pounds of hot house grapes at \$6 a pound. And the foolish fruit dealer, thinking, in his inexperience, that no honest man could be guilty of such extravagance, sized the steward up as a swindler and didn't send the grapes. Whether the yacht went to sea grapeless or not history does not say.

T. L. McCREADY.

Providence Puzzled.

Frank Sullivan in The Remedy.
The Angel who, from Heaven's watch tower high,
Seans the horizon, with unsleeping eye,
To signal new born souls that upward fly
Safe to the viewless harbor in the sky,

Perceived, one morn, approaching through
The blue,
The maccous mists and vapors piercing through,
The oddest sight that ever met his view:
A strange, ill omened flock, an inauspicious crew.

No larger, in the distance, still, than gnats,
Onward they soared, like midnight flights of bats.
The Angel stared, flung wide the window slats—
"No disembodied spirits these, in stovepipe hats!"

Yet on they came, nor paused until the wall
Of Heaven stayed them with its ramparts tall,
When loud the spokesman raised a piteous call,
That woke the echoes through the jasper hall.

"We humbly crave an audience with the King!"
He cried, in accents of determined ring;
"A message, brief, from earth we fain would bring—
He surely won't refuse so small a thing!"

Startled at this most informal break—
The rash request the strangers dared to make—
The Angel thought there must be some mistake,
And pinched himself, to prove were he awake.

Yet there the mortals stood before his eyes,
And ere he could recover from surprise,
The gates were opened by a courtier of the skies,
Sent by the King, ne'er deaf to human cries.

A moment later and the venturesome few,
All in their earthly garments, traversed through
The gates of pearl and sapphire arches blue
Into the Presence Chamber of supernal hue.

A moment knelt they, as in trembling fear,
The Awful Presence to approach so near,
When spake the Voice: "Why now, what make ye here,
Before your time, still clothed in worldly gear?"

Then spake the spokesman: "Lord, there is no need
Of our poor eloquence; we come to plead
For mercy on our starving race; indeed,
The story's here writ down, Oh, do but read!"

Then at his feet a parchment scroll they laid,
Telling how famine on their brothers preyed;
How they, despairing of all other aid,
Had been commissioned Heaven to invade,

That they might at the Fount of every grace,
Tell the sad story of the human race;
How poverty was blotting every trace
Of God's fine image from each earthly face.

"Why, how is this," the King impatient cries,
While shrewdly the commissioner he eyes,
"You say that man, on earth, from hunger dies
And to the seasons' cold exposed lies?"

"Are all your mines of coal exhausted quite?
Your fields delivered to some awful blight?
Hath murrain seized your flocks with ruthless might?
Has earth turned sterile, and the sun refused his light?"

"Nay, Lord, from such dire stroke we still are free,
But the fact is, Father, don't you see,
Our landlords hold the fields at monstrous fee,
And the mines are each owned by a company.

"These owners of the fields and mines, ne'er feel
The touch of want, nor harsh oppression's heel;
They use sufficient land to meet their want;
The rest they hold on speculative deal."

Then quoth the King: "I know not what to do;
A brand new world would help not such as you,
For ere the child, now born, to manhood grew,
You'd portion out your new world to a few."

THE AUSTRALIAN BALLOT.

A Louisville Resident Tells of Its Good Effects in Actual Practice.

The Boston Advertiser recently printed a letter from Abram Flexner, a resident of Louisville, Ky., commenting on the operation of the Australian system of balloting which was tried in that city for the first time in the late municipal election. Mr. Flexner says:

A recent election in the city of Louisville subjected to the test of actual use the principles of the Australian ballot law, the adoption of which has been recently urged in America. It may be affirmed, I think, without danger of question, that the experiment was a gratifying success. The law was apparently difficult and intricate; it had been predicted with glee by the bunniers, with whose activity it was designed to interfere, and with regret by the better disposed who thought it attempted the impossible, that the election would end in confusion and disaster. The chief local newspaper had given the project but cold support. Yet the law did not prove either difficult or complicated. It was administered with practically uniform ease and success by election officers who certainly did not rise above the average in intelligence; alike in those places where, on account of the absence of interest, a light vote was polled, and those where, by some reason of spirited contest, a fuller vote was brought out, the voters had no difficulty in obeying its requirements. A few, instead of using the proper mark (X), indicated their preference by striking out the names of all candidates except the one for whom they voted; but I have heard of no case in which a ballot was thrown out in the count because of the failure of the voter to understand what was required of him.

In addition to demonstrating its perfect practicability, the election tested the power of the law to prevent bribery. It can hardly be possible that there is a city in the Union where open corruption has been more generally practiced than in Louisville. The city swarms with a large floating vote, by which every contest can be determined. It is an undeniable fact that in the late election there was, except in one place, no successful corruption, and but little attempted, and that with this evidence of its successful working the chances have greatly lessened that bribery will be tried.

In no case, so far as I can learn, was there any delay in recording votes. A compartment is provided for every 175 voters, whereas the Massachusetts law provides one for every 75, and yet the accommodations were in every case ample. So far from interfering with the process of voting, I should not be surprised if actually less time were required than by the old viva voce system. A person can be engaged in each compartment preparing his ballot, and no appreciable time will be consumed in casting it.

Again, the counting of votes proceeded apparently with perfect ease. The results of the election were published in the papers the following morning with the accustomed fullness; nor did the official count, so far as I know, require more time than was the case under the old method.

A quotation from an editorial in the Louisville Courier-Journal, written after the election, is also given; and while the Courier-Journal was inclined to throw cold water on the proposed change before it was tried, the result had evidently been satisfactory even to Mr. Watterson.

The Rhode Island ballot reform association—Alfred Dawson, secretary, 14 Westminster street, Providence, R. I.—have printed this letter of Mr. Flexner's in the form of a tract and are circulating it in their state. It would make a good tract for all ballot reform associations.

Alabamians Have Plenty to Do at Home.

MOBILE, Ala.—The truth has invaded Alabama, and I find myself crowded upon all sides with demands upon my time, energy and what little money I can spare to aid that truth in its spread and final triumph; and after Alabama has adopted the single tax, if New Jersey is still in darkness and in chains, I will move to that state and work for the single tax there. From all quarters of this state I have calls for information, literature and aid, and my first duty is to those nearest at hand.

Our little club, which we started here, has for some reason ceased to exist; but from unexpected sources comes evidence of an awakening that fills me with encouragement.

Members of our general assembly are studying the land question and discussing the Australian system of voting; and the interest does not stop here. Truly the light is on, and now nothing but final and speedy triumph awaits the cause of truth and justice. At the Chicago meeting I hope to have still more encouraging news to give. E. Q. NORTON.

They Will Try to Elect a Supervisor.

A. C. Woodruff of South Haven, Mich., has managed to awaken the interest of his townspeople in the single tax by writing an article to the local paper proposing that the tax payers take a step toward reducing their burdens by electing a supervisor pledged to work for the removal of all taxes from personal property and improvements, and the increase of the tax on land values. Mr. Woodruff has also circulated a quantity of tracts, and has made a special appeal to preachers of the gospel, with encouraging results.

From Far Away Idaho.

SHOSHONE, Idaho.—A bill outlined from the Australian law, as printed in the Critic, of Baltimore, in July last, has been presented and pushed forward in our territorial legis-

lature by the Hon. Charles Macpherson, a K. of L. belonging to L. A. 3,810, of this place, and a single tax man. To show the dense ignorance of some of our would-be law makers, an aspirant for the governorship of Idaho under the new administration, a lawyer, had never heard of the Australian system of voting. To the members of the legislature it has to be explained from beginning to end. Some republicans use the argument, that as we, the republicans, are now in power, if the bill will in any way affect our continuance in power, we must not touch it. Mr. Macpherson is this week to go before a joint session of both houses and explain his bill in toto.

I will send with this a copy of the bill. So you see, Idaho has fallen into line with Indiana and Nebraska.

As regards the single tax, we are to have a constitutional convention here some time during the summer; this would be the great opportunity of the single tax men of Idaho.

The great opponent of the single tax in this section of the United States is "Goodwin," of the Salt Lake Tribune, who speaks of the author of the single tax as a "dangerous crank."

D. R. MUNRO, JR.

A Few Words From W. J. Atkinson.

DENVER, Col.—Single tax men here say there are among them lots of Nicodemuses who, as a club is about to be started, may shortly help to stir things up. Land is outrageously high in Denver, due more to the people's faith in Denver and themselves than to any other good reason. Lots some distance from the center of the city are held at the enormous price of \$1,000 to \$1,500 a foot front. A clerk from New York, who had some money in Harlem town lots, says lots are higher here than they are there, although even farther from this city's center than Harlem is from New York; that even some miles out choice lots are held as high as a thousand dollars each. He claimed that it was a very bad place for a man without money to come to, and that there are more unemployed laborers and clerks here than in any city he ever visited.

Colorado has more minerals of all kinds than Pennsylvania and California; but here, as everywhere else, natural blessings are turned into curses by man's antagonism to divine laws. Children shiver with cold beside boundless stores of coal; men and women go hungry in the midst of plenty; men anxious to work are forced to beg or steal, though wealth waits on every hand but to be taken from the earth.

I called at the Arbitrator office and found Dr. Harlan and Mr. Keller. They are both able and zealous "free land" men and helped conduct the very successful meetings that are being held here and in the small towns round about. Last Sunday's meeting here brought out 1,200 people. They see some difference between their free land idea and the single tax, but it is a very small difference, something like between single tax limited and unlimited. The single tax men here could not do better than co-operate with the free landers.

W. J. ATKINSON.

The Standard is the Best Tract.

BALLSTON SPA, N. Y.—The best tract is THE STANDARD itself. I have been sending the paper to a friend in the wilds of Pike county, Pennsylvania, and a few weeks ago forwarded petitions requesting him to sign and forward, even if he was not a believer in our doctrines. I received the following:

"We received your letter inclosing the two petitions and the one in THE STANDARD. S—, and Mr. F— and I put our names down and sent them to New York. Everybody is beginning to see through the single tax on land values, and everybody wonders they did not see through it long since."

There! that is what one STANDARD a week did. THE STANDARD is the best tract.

R. FEENEY.

Texas Farmers Want to Tax Land Values.

FORT WORTH, Texas—I am happy to state that the single tax is coming to the front more every day in this state.

The senator from this district has presented a bill to the legislature giving counties the right to issue bonds for the improvement of the county. But the farmers are mostly opposed to it, and our county alliance has passed resolutions favoring that a direct tax on land values would be far better than issuing bonds. Such a tax may be levied that will pay for the roads in five or six years, while the bonds will run for thirty years, bearing interest all the time. The farmers in this state are progressive and will keep up with the times.

H. PLANGMAN.

Where Public Office is a Private Snag.

The officers of the house of lords, says Reynolds's Weekly, are lavish in number, monstrously highly remunerated, and, without exception, appointed by favoritism. Taking the entire session, the house of lords sits about an hour a day for six months. Yet the clerks and officials of the house divide among them for this hard labor no less than £43,643, beginning with the lord chancellor, who receives £4,000 as speaker of the lords, in addition to £6,000 as a judge, and proceeding down through the clerk of parliament, who receives £3,000 to a host of other clerks receiving an average of £700 or £800 a year. The officers of the house of lords form one of the most extravagant departments of our very extravagant public service. In all the peers and their officials swallow annually about £1,000,000 out of the public taxes.

NEW IDEAS, METHODS AND INVENTIONS.

Color Cure in Nervous Disorders.

A singular method of treating nervous disorders, especially those allied with insanity, is reported from Italy in the columns of the Scientific American. It consists simply of confining the patients in rooms where the light is arranged to pass through colored glass, the walls being also colored. Red, blue and violet are the tints which have been found to exercise the most beneficial effect on the mind of the insane, and it is said that a violent patient suddenly introduced into a violet room—the windows and walls being tinted—was perfectly calm in an hour or two. The red room is used for cases of melancholia accompanied by distaste for food; and one patient suffering acutely, after three hours' residence in the red hue became cheerful, and asked for food.

Traveling Lunch Rooms.

An enterprising purveyor of cheap food in London announces his intention of running a service of what he calls "luncheon cars" in the public thoroughfares of the metropolis. Each car is to carry about with it a cook, together with a cooking apparatus and a good supply of the necessary raw material; and to prevent the charge of obstruction, or anything of the kind, the public will be invited to enter the vehicles and to take their cheap luncheon en route, so to speak.

Photographic Portraits for a Penny.

A London man named Russell, manager of the automatic or "drop a penny in the slot" box company, proposes to have machines whereby one can be photographed for a penny. There will be in the box a camera, with a roll of paper upon which the impression will be cast. This paper will be perforated lines, and will be cut into the proper shape by the machine. The only difficulty is as to the delivery of the finished photo. It has been suggested that an envelope should be supplied from the box, upon which could be written the name and address of the purchaser, who, having paid another penny for the stamp, would receive the photo in the course of a few days. The cost of producing a photo—of the paper and chemicals used—is almost nil. Apart from the capital invested, the profits of a photographer are simply enormous. If boxes are put at all railway stations, in public houses, on the piers at the seaside, many people will be content, it is thought, with the penny photo who would otherwise have gone to a cheap studio.

Birdseye Photographic Views.

A curious photographic apparatus, in which a camera is raised by a rocket and lowered by a parachute, is being developed, a Paris correspondent says, by a French inventor, M. Amedee Demisse. In its experimental form, the cylindrical camera has twelve lenses round its circumference, with a sensitive plate in its centre, and it is provided with a shutter which opens and instantly closes as the apparatus commences to fall. Thus twelve birdseye views of a section of the country can be obtained by the use of one rocket without any expensive and dangerous balloon ascents. This method also avoids the risk attaching to military operations.

Another Massachusetts Clergyman With Us.

WEST WARREN, Worcester Co., Mass.—In a recent sermon on the land question by the Rev. G. H. Morss, of this place, he used the following language: "Several years ago I bought a copy of 'Progress and Poverty,' and read it in part. I thought, as I perused its pages, that the principles it so strongly advocated would never be established. As time wore on I changed my opinion. When I saw the greatest thinker in our land examining those grand truths it so ably teaches, I became convinced. Let me say right here, the author of this book is not an anarchist, not a communist, but a just and a God-fearing man. He seeks by all just means in his power to give to each child born his share of the earth. This movement is being pushed ahead by thinking men all over the country, such as Dr. Pentecost and Father Huntington; also Dr. McGinnis, one of the best educated of the Catholic priests. I may not live to see the day when this doctrine will become law, but the time must surely come when 'the righteous shall inherit the earth.'"

I may state I gave him the text, Leviticus, 25th and 23d, two weeks previous to his preaching on it. I have hopes that he will speak on this question in the near future, and if you think this of any moment you shall hear from me again.

WILLIAM MCGREGOR CHAPMAN.

FOR A SINGLE TAX CLUB HOUSE.

We, the undersigned, hereby agree to buy, at (\$1.00) one dollar apiece, the number of Tontine shares set opposite our respective names, and pay for the same at any time as soon as the minimum number of (5,000) five thousand shares be subscribed for,

Name.....

Address.....

Amount.....

When filled out please forward to William McCabe, 236 East Fourteenth street, New York city.

SAVONAROLA.

Professor Thomas Davidson's Lecture Before the Manhattan Single Tax Club.

Following is a report of the greater part of Professor Thomas Davidson's lecture before the Manhattan single tax club on Sunday evening, January 27:

After having molded the whole spiritual movement of antiquity into a great mystic poem, "to which heaven and earth put a hand," and after having lashed the growing corruption in church and state which darkened his time, Dante Alighieri laid his body to rest in alien Ravenna, far from his beloved Florence, and withdrew to the eternal world to see the glory of his lady. As Michael Angelo puts it, "When Florence closed her gates upon him heaven opened hers." He laid aside his corruptible garments and entered, beyond the reach of Florence and corruption. But the corruption did not cease on that account; it only grew worse and worse. Italy had rejected her prophet who had pronounced her doom, but she could not escape the doom. She had tried to silence the warning bell, that was all. And she did not even succeed in that, for Dante the spirit, in the bosom of the Infinite and Absolute, was far mightier than Dante the man, wrapped in ceremonies of flesh. Besides this, he had left on earth, in his great poem, a tocsin that they could not silence, for it rang in their hearts and consciences, waiting only for some great heroic soul to carry its tones with shivering force into all the world. What in Aristotle, Thomas and Bonaventura had been insight and individual life, what in Dante had been poetry and prophecy, must now become action, must enter into and mold the institutions, the civil and religious life of men.

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA AND THOMAS A KEMPIS.

Dante died in 1321, and things went from worse to worse. But he was only a quarter of a century in his grave when there sprang up to deliver his message a woman who seemed as if she were the reincarnated spirit of Beatrice herself, of that Beatrice who in heaven fulminated against the corruptions of the church. This was the peasant girl of Siena, Catherine Benincasa, better known as St. Catherine of Siena, the most remarkable woman that Europe ever produced. She not only declared that the seat of Peter was vacant, but that it had for some time been occupied by "demons incarnate," so she called the popes of her time. She was a mystic of the mystics, and through the strength derived from this mysticism, she performed deeds that seemed little less than miraculous. But alas! she died at the early age of thirty-three, leaving behind her the glow of a meteor. At the same time there arose in Germany the mystic movement headed by Meister Eckhart and John Tauber, the founders of German philosophy. Their quiet society, "the Friends of God," did much to keep alive the spiritual life in Germany at a time when materialism in life was bringing about utter barbarism. A little later there arose in Holland that nobler pious brotherhood known as "The Brotherhood of Common Life," founded by Gerhard Grost. This has left an enduring mark upon the world through one book produced in it by its greatest member, "The Imitation of Christ," by Thomas Hamerken of Kempen, near Cologne, better known as Thomas a Kempis. No religious work except the Bible has had such an influence in Europe; no book has been so often translated and printed. It has appealed and still appeals to the heart of many a man and woman whose creed is very different from that of him who wrote it. Truly, the letter killeth, but the spirit quickeneth. While Tauber and Thomas were laboring with the sword of the spirit in Germany, Wiclif was fighting the same spiritual battle in England, with more English weapons, starting a movement that has not ceased to-day.

SAVONAROLA AND DANTE.

But the mightiest practical outburst of spiritual thought and life, seeking to clothe itself in human institutions, as in the end it must do, took place in Italy. This we might expect, for the Italians are, of all European peoples, the most spiritually minded, the most ideally gifted. Thomas a Kempis was writing his "Imitation of Christ" in his lonely cell at Deventer, when there was born a man in whom the flame of mystic love, the light of mystic vision and the force of mystic energy flung themselves with god-like strength against the titanic desolations of the carnal minded world. This was Girolamo Savonarola, the prophet of the fifteenth century. If Catherine Benincasa was the reincarnated Beatrice, Savonarola was the reincarnated Dante, seeking to do in the practical world what he had done in his previous life in the poetical, and what in that life he had been prevented from doing. I do not know whether this comparison was ever made before, but I cannot imagine one that is more apt. Had Dante returned to the world in the fifteenth century, he would, I think, have done just what Savonarola did. There is a marvelous similarity between the characters and tempers of the two men, and not a little between their spiritual histories. Both were, first of all, gloomy natures, ardent, passionate, idealizing. Both loved young with a love that found no earthly fruition. Both were ardently devoted to poetry and music, both to spiritual philosophy and mystic contemplation. Both had deep spiritual experi-

ences, such as they could express only in symbols and enthusiasms. Both felt themselves aliens in this world. Yet they differed. Dante was the greater genius, Savonarola the greater character.

THE RENAISSANCE.

We have already seen what was the condition of Italy in Dante's time—a condition almost of anarchy. This had in no way changed in the two hundred years after Dante's death. It is true that the emperor's authority and the fear of him had gone on diminishing after the unsuccessful invasion of Henry VII; but there were still four other elements at war in the land. The first was the struggle of each little city to assert and maintain its independence and to encroach upon its neighbors; the second was the ambition of certain families to govern the cities as tyrants, and to prevent the rise of the popular spirit, which had begun freely to assert itself; the third was the ambition of the popes, who, in order to increase their own power and territory, played off city against city and people against tyrant, and often called foreign foes into the land; the fourth was the ambition of French and Spanish kings to gain a footing in Italy. Added to this were the troubles within the church, which went so far that there were once or twice three popes at the same time, all claiming the Roman see, and all having a considerable following. Last, but not least, was the influence of the east, of pagan learning, which had been making itself felt more and more from the time when the church sent to Constantinople for texts of Aristotle to strengthen herself against the Arabs. The real Aristotle, the ally, turned out to be almost as dangerous as the Arab Aristotle, the enemy—not so much in himself as through the company he brought along with him. The western world had got a taste of Greek thought through Aristotle, and they were not content without more. They began to search out and import manuscripts of all kinds, to collect libraries, to learn Greek, and to affect Greek manners. In fact there was almost a complete change of fashion. The advanced thinkers and scholars of the day no longer affected Arabianism and Oriental manners. These had been almost completely settled by Thomas Aquinas and Bonaventura. They now affected Hellenism, Greek literature, and everything Greek became the rage to an extent which we can hardly now imagine, and of which our present spiritualism, theosophy and Darwinianism give but a faint adumbration. All Italy, and in a measure all Europe, suddenly became pagan, and some of the popes were the most pagan of all. This movement in the direction of Hellenism, in the early part of which Boccaccio and Petrarch, bosom friends, played so conspicuous a part was greatly hastened by the sudden influx into Italy of large numbers of learned Greeks, driven from Constantinople by the approach of the Mohammedan Turks. In 1396 Emanuel Chrysoloras settled in Italy and regularly taught Greek. This is what we call the revival of learning, or the Renaissance, of which we are wont to speak with so much admiration. Well, it had admirable sides; but it had also some very painful ones. I need not say that Goethe has with a masterly hand woven all the essential points of the movement into "Faust."

SAVONAROLA'S MYSTICISM.

Going on to describe Savonarola's parentage and early life, his spiritual longings, his love for a daughter of the Strozzi, and his refusal because his rank was not high enough, his retirement to a convent despite the protests of his father and mother, whom he dearly loved, his seven years of study and meditation, and his belief that Christ had called him to be his knight, Professor Davidson continued:

Meanwhile the world around him was growing worse and worse. Church and state, as institutions, were alike corrupt, selfish and brutal. Even the cloister was not spared. Nor was this strange. About this time, and throughout nearly the whole of the second half of the fourteenth century, the church was cursed with a succession of popes that answered perfectly to St. Catherine's description. Paul II, Sixtus IV, Innocent VIII, and finally the worst of the worst, the monster whom no good Catholic mentions without a shudder, Alexander VI, Roderick Borgia, the ex-lawyer of Barcelona, who bought Peter's chair at auction and rented it to the devil. He would have sold it if he could. And the rulers of the states were no better than those of the church. Everywhere corruption, oppression, murder. Savonarola like Dante, clearly saw that he could hope for no aid in his efforts at reform from either church or state—God's two institutions upon earth. This thought, which must have been ever present with him, by the most natural logic, led to the other thought, which, indeed, had been the central idea of Dante's poem, that whoever would reform the world must come with a commission direct from God. Such a commission Savonarola believed he had. This belief is the key to his whole life and action. Savonarola believed himself called by God to reform church and state, no matter what pope or prince might say to the contrary. Many of you will perhaps say: "Visionary! dreamer! fanatic!" and turn away from him with scorn. But it might be well to remember that to the carnally and materially

minded world all that is spiritual is a mere dream and a vision. Christ and Paul and Stephen were dreamers and fanatics. But these the world clings to and reveres, while your carnal Neros and Caligulas, who once dazzled the world, are rejected and despised. The only question we have to put to the dreamer is, What do your dreams inspire you to do? That is the one test of the prophet. By their works ye shall know them. That has good authority. And this test Savonarola will stand. In the struggle which he now, in 1482, begins against the demon of his time, we can recognize, in practical form, the outcome of the spiritual impulse which received intellectual expression in Aristotle's thought, real expression in Christ's life, theological and mystical expression in Thomas and Bonaventura, and poetic expression in Dante. It is now embodied in Savonarola. He leads the hosts of Ahura Magda against the hosts of Angromainyus. It is the old, old story, the battle of spirit against matter, wherein spirit is overcome, is conquered for a moment, only to reign forever. In all cases the fleshly husk must perish ere the spiritual germ can expand. The way to eternal life is through the portal of sacrifice, of death.

HIS JOURNEY TO FLORENCE.

In 1482, when Pope Sixtus IV was trying to subjugate Bologna, the Dominicans of that city transferred much of their property and many of their men, for safety, elsewhere. Savonarola, now a man of thirty, was sent to St. Mark's, in Florence. He no doubt traveled barefoot all the ninety miles over the Apennines. He walked into the splendid city of the Medici, the center of learning, art and paganism, an insignificant man, an unknown monk. He must have been surprised when he entered the court of San Marco, and still more when he visited the chapel and library of the convent, at the wealth and splendor that met his eye. Probably he was not greatly edified by it. He was looking for spirit and found matter. San Marco had forty years before been restored with great magnificence by Cosmo de' Medici, furnished with a library, one of the finest in Europe, and made a seat of learning. The walls of its cells were adorned with frescoes from the hand of John of Piesole, better known as Fra Angelico, frescoes which still remain, a world's wonder. But all this material splendor served but to conceal the absence of spirit. The convent was no longer the home of piety and religion, a center of moral influence, but a seat of pagan learning, such as the Medici affected. And Florence itself, ruled by the cunning, coarse, sensual, vulgar, veneered tyrant, Lorenzo de' Medici, styled the Magnificent, was, to all intents and purposes, a pagan city, a modern copy of old Corinth. Plato ruled in philosophy, Epicurus in morals, Nero in society. Liberty had utterly disappeared, and the tyrant amused his slaves with shows, processions and carnivals, himself composing the beastly songs that were sung at them—songs which his admirers said proved him a greater poet than Dante. Those who could not be amused in this way he treated to Greek philosophy and art, and thus won the reputation of being a great patron of learning. Never was reputation less deserved. Such was the world in which Savonarola was now called to labor, to which he was now to deliver his message, in word and loving deed.

SAVONAROLA IN FLORENCE.

His first sermons called forth no response; but when Innocent VIII ascended the papal throne in 1484, and vice seemed to threaten utter triumph, he became, as it were, inspired with an eloquence not his own. Being sent to preach in country towns, he roused the people by his fierce denunciations of the corruption of his time, and his prophecies of coming judgment. At last, in a council of his order held at Reggio, he poured out his bursting heart against the desolations of the world. The audience was struck dumb, and Savonarola was a famous man. The beautiful, enthusiastic dreamer, Pico della Mirandola, heard him, and advised Lorenzo de' Medici to procure Savonarola's return, as an ornament of eloquence, to amuse the people of Florence. Lorenzo, who knew little of the prophet, and sure, no doubt, that he could manage or crush him with a wink, did so, and in 1490 Savonarola returned to Florence and San Marco. Now the struggle begins in dead earnest, a poor God inspired monk on one side, and all the powers of the world on the other. The monk had counted the cost. All Florence crowds to hear him now, as he denounces and prophecies, and it goes home cold and trembling, half afraid to join in the old festivities. Lorenzo is dismayed, and resolves to put an end to the difficulty. So he sends five men to warn Savonarola that he must leave off preaching against vice and luxury. Savonarola tells them, "I see you come not of your own accord, but from Lorenzo. Tell him to make haste and do penance for his sins; for the Lord spares none, and fears not the princes of the earth." An Elijah might have spoken so. They threaten him with exile, and he answers, "Your exile has no terrors for me; your city is but a speck on the earth; but I tell you, though I am a stranger, and Lorenzo a citizen and lord of this city, I shall remain in it and he will leave it." And then he went on to prophecy the approaching death of Lorenzo, of Pope Innocent and of the king of Naples, all of which took place. The messengers, ere they left, were on Savonarola's side, and remained faithful

to him. This was in 1491. The same year Savonarola was made prior of San Marco. "Now certainly," thought Lorenzo, "the prior will come and do me the wonted homage," but no; he was mistaken. Savonarola knew the man and his influence too well. Lorenzo sent the monastery rich presents; the prior turned them over to the poor. He attended masses at San Marco; the prior paid no attention to him. He even went and walked in the convent garden; the prior sat in his cell and ignored him. When all this failed, he ordered his hireling preacher to preach him down. The only result was that the hireling lost his popularity. Savonarola went his own way, and, by his simple earnestness and kindness won the people's hearts. Lorenzo the Magnificent was baffled by the humble monk.

SAVONAROLA'S REFORMS.

Professor Davidson then proceeded to describe how Savonarola reformed his convent; how his preaching created a revival of Christian feeling; how he became the most influential man in Florence; how he received Charles VIII of France, and then when he became tyrannical got him out of the city again; how he and his friends framed a democratic constitution for Florence, and brought about the most astonishing reformation in manners and morals; and how, thoroughly believing in his mission and his visions, he made the false step of publicly claiming prophetic powers.

From this Professor Davidson went on to tell how Savonarola's gentleness allowed the Mediceans to again obtain a foothold in the city, and to plot against him. How the then pope, the infamous Roderick Borgia, whose election was declared null and void by his successor, first tried to bribe him by the offer of a cardinal's hat to stop preaching, and then by every means to destroy him. How at last Savonarola's reputation with the people was destroyed by the refusal of a challenge to work a miracle, and his convent was stormed and captured by the Medicean party, and Savonarola was taken, tortured, hanged and burned, in company with his two faithful friends, Fra Dominico and Fra Benedetto, as a heretic, schismatic and criminal. In conclusion he said:

LATER REFORMS.

With Savonarola perished the last hope of an inward reform of the whole church. Despite all his indignation at the vices of the popes and the clergy, he was an ardent Catholic, devoted heart and soul to the church and its ideal. He was the last great reformer who was so. Luther was fourteen years old when Savonarola was burned, and the lesson of Savonarola's life was not lost on him. Thus it came to pass that the church, the great spiritual institution of the world, was rent in twain, and one part of it made a mere attachment to worldly thrones, while the other hardened more and more into formalism. Goethe said the Reformation interrupted quiet development (*stille ruhige Bildung*) and blamed the reformers for their impatience. No doubt this is true; but the fault lay less with the reformers than with monsters like Alexander VI, who refused to allow the church to reform herself within, and tortured and burnt the Savonarolas who attempted to guide such reform. The Reformation was a necessity; but, none the less, it had many evil effects, from which we are suffering to-day. It drew out of the church many of the men who were best fitted to guide the church in the way of peaceful evolution corresponding to the moral and religious needs of evolving humanity, and the church was left in the hands of its retrograde members. The seceders lost much of the spirituality which the church had in its best times, and drifted, or are still drifting, into pure rationalism and selfish materialism; those who remained more and more lost their hold on the sympathies of the world. Thus, we have on the one side a scientific rationalism, which cannot give life a meaning because it cannot find a form in which to express the spiritual realities and rise to a concept of spiritual life; on the other an institution embodying spirit, but incapable of bringing it into contact with the things of the world, to mold and spiritualize them. There are faults and shortcomings on both sides, and it is the task of our time to overcome these and to bring the spiritual once more into relation with the material, so that our life may recover its meaning, as a preparation for eternal, beneficent existence in the world of realities. Then

"Heart and mind, according well,
Shall make one music, as before,
But vaster."

Then the spiritual philosophy which had its roots in Aristotle's intellect and Jesus' life will become the guiding power of all that is human.

"THE DENVER ARBITRATOR."

F. H. Monroe of Denver writes THE STANDARD to say that the Arbitrator of that city is not an advocate of the single tax as a remedy for land monopoly. The Arbitrator belongs to a large class who "see the dog in the manger, but do not see the cat." At any rate the Arbitrator is doing good work by making a big row over the dog.

A STATISTICAL DRAMA.

At almost any large toy store in the United States there can be bought, at very reasonable price, a toy theater, in which one or more comedies, tragedies or melodramas may be performed by little tin puppets in a manner far from lifelike, but withal sufficiently animated to satisfy the infant proprietor of the show. The scenery is arranged in much the same style as in large theaters, and the stage is provided with little grooves or slots, in which the tin figures stand, and along which they are made to move by means of cunningly concealed strings. The manager pulls the strings and speaks the parts; the little puppets come on, go off, advance, retreat, obedient to their respective strings; and the audience in front exercise their imagination, and pretend enthusiastic admiration. It's a pretty toy, for a very small boy or girl; but it grows monotonous with frequent use.

Had this ingenious toy been invented when Mr. Edward Atkinson was young, he would probably have saved up his pennies and bought one. He is too old to find amusement in such things now; but the turn of mind survives that would have made him enjoy a puppet theater as a boy, and in his present maturity he amuses himself with something that bears the same relation to the toy theater that the man does to the boy. In place of cardboard scenery he uses pen and ink descriptions; instead of tin images he provides supposititious men, women and children; instead of having his show in a parlor, he publishes it in the Forum; but the principle of the thing is the same. The actors move forward and backward along their appointed grooves as Edward Atkinson pulls the strings, and the manager does all the talking.

Mr. Atkinson's show might very properly be christened The Economic Theater; and the drama which he is now presenting might with equal justice be called "The Wonderful Township; or statistics made easy." It is a very pretty play, though it does strain the imagination considerably; and we could wish that the puppet moving strings were more artfully concealed. But there are certain weaknesses in its construction which we shall venture to point out in a spirit of friendly sympathy with the games of middle age. In these realistic days, even our playthings must preserve the realities.

The scene of Mr. Atkinson's drama is laid in a township twenty-five miles long by twelve miles wide—a delightful little country, agreeably diversified with mountain, meadow, forest and river. It is full of good things. It has 96,000 acres of arable land, plenty of pasture, mountains rich with minerals of every kind, a temperate climate—in short 300 square miles of North American Eden. Within this township live 6,000 people, who, from the way Mr. Atkinson describes them, seem to be a thrifty, industrious set, who ought to get along a great deal better than they do. Among them are farmers, and laborers, and hotel keepers, and merchants, and miners, and hackmen, and plumbers—in short representatives of every industry known to civilization, including that of owning land. They have railroads, steamships, banks, mills, machinery, every possible convenience for creating wealth. As they come sliding on to the stage, obedient to the compelling strings, and as the manager of the show proclaims from behind their different characters and the many advantages they enjoy, you can't help thinking that the question of the play is going to be, What are they going to do with all their wealth? But it isn't. The motive of the drama is, How are they going to get enough to eat and some decent clothes to wear?

The *dramatis personae* being got together on the stage, the action of the play commences. The community is making up its accounts—reckoning up its year's work in terms of money, and finding out just where it stands. The statistician slides along his slot, and halts opposite the various groups and individuals in succession. All hands fall to making figures, and hand in their results. Miners, so much. Farmers, so much. Capitalists, so much. Laborers, so much. The land owner, mumbles something about a part of the product being "distributed in payment of rent for land." At last the returns are all in; the statistician is pulled off o. p., and the orchestra plays a mournful air while the final result is being figured out. Presently the music stops. The statistician is fitted into his groove, and enters with a jerk. The awful result is made known. The

community has been earning less than fifty-five cents a day per head of population. Chord! The puppets utter wails of grief and consternation, and the curtain falls.

In the second act the little tin men and women are moving about as fast as the strings can pull them—now gathering into groups, now sliding off to weep alone over the horrible condition of affairs. Fifty-five cents a day per head of population! And out of that the interest on bonds and mortgages must be provided, the doctors must be paid, the millionaires must be supported! What can they do about it? The whole community is in a turmoil. The whole community, that is, with the exception of two men, the land owner and the statistician. The land owner is quiet, because he knows he's all right, whatever happens; and the statistician is quiet, because he understands the whole thing. Fifty-five cents a day! Surely there must be some way to get more than that. The puppets come together in a single crowd, and are addressed by several little tin men in succession, each of whom undertakes to solve the problem, but is triumphantly refuted by the omniscient tin statistician. This is one of the most interesting parts of the show, and Mr. Atkinson, behind the scenes, manages his voice so well that if you make believe a good deal you can almost fancy the tin puppets are alive and talking.

First steps out an anarchist. His remedy is severe, but simple: "Shoot a policeman!" The statistician wastes no words, but hangs the anarchist up, which he calls "dealing with him after the Chicago method." This does not convince the anarchist; but as it leaves him without a word to say for himself, it practically amounts to the same thing.

Then a socialist comes forward to give his solution of the problem. He wants "to bring all the property of the community under state control, and to do away with private enterprise and private property, both in land and capital." The statistician turns to the crowd and asks if they would ever "agree to put the conduct of all the business, and the control of all the capital, all the farms, factories, forests and mines into the hands of the town officers." "Who," he asks, "would be the aldermen, the councilors, or the selectmen chosen to become the managers of all the railways, factories, shops, and warehouses? Who would be boss?" A dreadful shiver passes through the tin audience as he utters the word. The socialist is hauled back along his groove, discomfited.

A communist comes next, proposing "to divide the annual product equally among the members of the community—to have all things in common." The statistician looks at him contemptuously, and demands "whether or not the application of the policy suggested by him would lead to a product exceeding that of the present day, about fifty cents' worth daily per head?" The communist cannot speak. He is "incapable of giving any affirmative answer." So that settles him.

The anarchist, and the socialist, and the communist have said each his little say, and been refuted. There is a solemn pause. Then the orchestra plays up and the music swells to a perfect crash—trombones booming, fiddles squeaking, flutes and clarionets playing away for dear life. Crash go the cymbals! Bang, goes the big bass drum! And with a rapid slide the single tax anti-poverty man comes upon the stage. The statistician removes his coat. This is the fellow he has been waiting for.

The tin single tax man has precious little to say for himself. He remarks that "all value comes from land," and follows up this extraordinary proposition with a statement that "all that is needed to bring about uniformly better conditions is to adopt the single tax system and to organize anti-poverty societies." He says that "the rent of land would be more than sufficient to meet all the expenditures of city, town, state and nation combined, and that by so converting what is now paid as rent into taxes, no rent could thereafter accrue to the benefit of private persons." He admits that "the private possession of land is necessary to its productive use," so he only proposes "to tax land more and other property less," and only objects to the private possession of land under any other conditions than those contemplated by the single tax system. Then he sits down—or would sit down if he wasn't made of tin—and the statistician goes for him.

"Raw land," says the statistician, "has no value. When a high price is paid for a corner lot in a city, it is paid for the choice of position, not for any inherent value in the land itself. Until the town house is built upon it the corner lot will yield neither rent nor tax." There is a movement among the audience at this, and somebody seems to say that though the vacant lot may yield no rent, it can certainly be made to yield a tax, and would yield rent mighty soon if the tax were only high enough. But the statistician pays no heed, or doesn't hear, and goes on with his remarks. "Land," he tells his hearers, "attains value only in proportion to the labor and capital which are applied to its use and occupancy." Again, the semblance of a voice is heard, remarking that land really attains value according to the desire of men to apply labor and capital to its use and occupancy; and again the tin statistician pays no attention.

The statistician explains that the single tax would not provide sufficient revenue. It would be necessary to take at least $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent on the capitalized value every year, and the effect of that would be to depress the value of land. "Why," says the statistician, "I heard of good land in England last summer on which the rates and tithes were so heavy that its market value was only five shillings an acre. The rates, tithes and other burdens upon wheat land in Great Britain, where there is almost no direct tax upon land value, come to more than the entire cost of producing wheat in Illinois, Minnesota or Dakota." The ghostly voice in the audience is heard to murmur "Rats!" and the single tax man looks as if he would like to ask what "rates, and tithes, and other burdens upon wheat land" are if not taxes upon land value; but the statistician, heedless, flops along. "Would land subject to an annual tax of \$35 per \$1,000," he asks, "be more widely distributed than it now is? Why at such a rate of tax the land could be used or cultivated only in the most productive way, and this implies large capital and full capacity." Then he addresses the single tax man directly. "Draw a bill," he shouts. "Put your project into the form of a bill to be submitted to any legislature. Then your difficulties will begin, and the fallacy of your reasoning will at once become plain." But the single tax man answers never a word. He doesn't answer, because he hasn't heard. He has fallen asleep. He is tired. Down comes the curtain.

This is as far as Edward Atkinson has carried his drama up to the present writing. But that makes no difference. We know what the rest of it will be, just as well as if we'd seen it all rehearsed. In the next act the populace is assembled as before, with deep dejection stamped on every countenance. The anarchist is still hanging. The socialist and communist and single tax man have gone away, discredited and despised. There is a burst of lively music, a glare of colored lights, and the statistician is seen advancing along one of the grooves. He has a pig under one arm, and a cooking stove under the other. He has come to straighten things out, like a fairy god-mother. He sets the cooking stove down, holds the pig's mouth shut to stop his squealing, and declares the only and entire gospel.

"The pig," says the statistician, "is the real poverty breeder. Pork is what's the matter with you, my friends. You may not know it, but it is. Bacon, ham, jowl and cabbage, sausages and scrapple—they may satisfy your sinful appetites, indeed, but they cannot save your perishing bodies. The more you eat them the worse off you'll be. And do you ask why? Isn't my word enough? Know, then, that the pig contains a SUPERFLUITY OF FAT, AND A DEFICIENCY OF PROTEINE. Pig, pork and poison go together.

The audience is stilled. The orchestra plays the dead march. The statistician hangs up the pig beside the anarchist.

Then he takes up the cooking stove, and tells them that in this lies salvation. It will cook a dinner for a family at a cost of only one cent's worth of oil. The oil can be burned in a common lamp, and the lamp used for illuminating purposes at the same time. Thus the tin proletarian can cook his dinner and study statistics both at once. "And now, my friends," the statistician says, "I've done the best I can for you. I can't tell you how to produce more than fifty-five cents' worth a day. To do that, you must wait in patience till more capitalists come along to give you more work, when, if

your numbers don't increase in the mean time, you may produce as much as sixty, and in time—say a couple of hundred years or so—even seventy-five cents a day. But I have showed you how to make the best of what you have. Buy lean beef, waste no money on watery vegetables, use the improved cooking stove, let beer alone, and don't be led away by pork, and if you can't be rich, at least you ought to be contented." Then the curtain falls for the last time, and Edward Atkinson puts away the things.

The weakness of Mr. Atkinson's puppet drama consists in this: that though it is avowedly founded on real life, and professes to tell the actual story of an actual township, it fails in many ways to adhere to the truth, and so inculcates a moral as false as it is absurd. Mr. Atkinson, unfortunately, started out with a theory, and twisted his drama to conform to it. Had he studied the condition of the real township a little more carefully, the lesson of the play would have been altogether different, and the statistician would have occupied a less prominent position.

So far as the size and the natural resources of the township are concerned, the Atkinsonian drama is correct enough. The number of inhabitants is also rightly stated; but the drama fails most lamentably to convey any correct idea of the conditions under which they lived. Mr. Atkinson acknowledges, indeed, that private ownership of land was the rule in the township; but it seems not to have occurred to him that this circumstance may have somewhat affected the prosperity of the people. He dismisses the subject with the simple statement that a portion of the product was "distributed in payment for rent of land, to owners in whose possession all the occupied land now is."

Another thing that escaped Mr. Atkinson's attention almost entirely, was the fact that the people of the township were robbed in the most horrible manner by taxgatherers, official and private, who made a practice of seizing a portion—and generally a tolerably large portion—of pretty much everything that everybody produced. If a farmer raised a crop he was punished with a fine proportioned to its value. If he bred sheep or cattle the official confiscator seized a portion of the increase. If he built a house or barn, the taxgatherer was on hand to inflict a penalty. If a man bought anything from a resident in the adjoining township, a mere fraction of it was all he was permitted to keep for his own use. Then there were the private taxgatherers—men with whom the people were compelled to trade under penalty of the law and who took advantage of this fact to make folks pay them extra prices for clothes, and tinware, and blankets, and sugar, and machinery, and carpets—in short for manufactures of every kind. Altogether, what with the landlords' fences shutting them out from the opportunity to go to work producing anything, and the greedy host of taxgatherers snatching at what little they did produce, the unfortunate people of the township were so bedeviled and beset on every side, that the real wonder was, not that they couldn't produce more than fifty-five cents a day per head, but that they were able to produce anything like so much.

The single tax man in Mr. Atkinson's drama didn't say anything about all this, because he was only a tin single tax man; but the real flesh and blood single tax man in the real township had plenty to say about it and downed the statistician most completely. No precise report of his speech has come down to us; but the tradition of the township relates it to have been substantially as follows:

"Here you are, 6,000 of you, men, women and children, living in as bountifully furnished a land as God ever provided for his creatures. All of you that can work are willing to work. All of you that get a chance to work do work. And all you have to show for it at the end of the year is an average of fifty-five cents a day per head, which to the great majority of you means less than thirty cents a day—barely enough for the coarsest kind of food, clothing and shelter. And you want to know how you can manage to produce more.

"Well, how did you produce what little you have got? Think a moment, and ask yourselves where they came from—your houses and your railroad cars, your clothing and your tools, your tin dippers and your bread and meat, the things of every kind that make up your wealth?

Out of the great storehouse of nature. They were wrought by the labor of your hands out of the raw material of the earth. Can't you read the lesson? If all the wealth you have comes from the application of labor to nature's opportunities, isn't it plain that to get more wealth you need only apply more labor to the natural opportunities—or, which is the same thing, increase the efficiency of your labor. You want more coal. Why don't you go and dig it? You want more beef. Why don't you go and raise it? You want more wheat. Why don't you go and grow it? You want more clothes. Well, making clothes is only carrying the production of cotton and wool a few steps farther along. There are plenty of you who can be making clothes while others are producing coal and corn and beef to exchange for them. You want things that can only be produced in other townships. All right, the people of those townships want things that you can produce. Why don't you produce them and swap. Don't stand here talking about your miserable fifty-five cents a day, but go to work on the natural opportunities God has provided for you, and be as rich as you want to." (A voice—"But we can't get at the natural opportunities!")

"You can't get at them, eh? The find out why you can't get at them, and you will have touched the cause of your poverty. Fix things so that you can get at them, and your troubles will be well nigh ended. The reason why you can't get at them is because the men who own them won't let you. And the way to fix things is to tax those owners up to the full value of the opportunities they own. Then, if they want to make any profit out of their ownership, they must utilize the opportunities to the fullest extent; and if they can't do that they will abandon them to those who will. Abolish all your stupid tax fines on production. Stop punishing men for building houses and raising crops. Lay your taxes upon land values and you will find the road to nature's opportunities open broad and straight before you."

Right here was where the statistician broke in with his remarks. He said that to obtain the requisite revenue for the government, it would be necessary, if all other taxes should be abolished, to tax land up to three and a half per cent of its value annually. He said that this would immediately depress the value of land, and probably extinguish it altogether; that nobody would then consent to build on land unless with a preliminary guarantee that the tax should not be raised for a long term of years; that only a large capitalist could afford to occupy land on such terms; that country towns, where land was of little value, would have scarcely any revenue; that under the single tax system, when the tax became high, land could only be used in the most productive way, and would consequently fall into the hands of capitalists; and that under these conditions the capitalists would be enabled to distribute the whole of the single tax among consumers.

To all this the single tax man made answer that to tax land values would not depress or destroy the value of land, but only its selling price; that men built houses now without any guarantee against the rise or fall of land values, and were often obliged to pull them down if the land value rose too high, or to abandon them if it fell too low; that to have the most valuable land occupied by large capitalists, provided only they were not allowed to appropriate its value, would be a singularly good thing, because the capitalists would be compelled to use the land in the most productive way, and could only do so by employing laborers at wages necessarily higher than those they could earn on no-tax land; that whenever land had little or no value it must necessarily be because there were few or no people, and in such a locality scarcely any revenue would be needed. As to the statistician's objection that the capitalists would be able to shift the burden of the single tax, as they now shift the taxes on industry, on to the shoulders of the community, the single tax man laughed when he spoke of it. After he had finished laughing, he explained to the statistician that the single tax was not in any sense a burden upon industry. It was simply the taking by one of the partners in the work of production, of his just share of the product. It lessened the reward of no man's labor and would be a burden upon nobody. Men compete together for the privilege of using land near centers of population because production can there be carried on more profitably. Farming land in New

York is more valuable than farming land in Dakota simply because its crop, when measured in the things for the sake of getting which the farmer raises a crop, is greater than the Dakota crop. The difference is not due to any superior fertility of the land, but simply to the greater density of population. And this difference, if the element of land speculation were eliminated, would be accurately measured by the difference in the value of land. To say that landowners could shift the burden of the single tax would be like saying that a manufacturer could increase the price of his product by the simple device of putting out an old partner and taking in a new one. It might as well be said that a farmer could double the price of his wheat by getting married.

It was at this point that the meeting broke up. The township, we regret to say, has not yet adopted the single tax, and the statistician continues his railing against it. But a wind of reform is blowing, and the people are seriously asking themselves whether, after all, the Almighty really intended that they should utilize the earth to the extent of only fifty-five cents' worth each per day.

PERSONALTY TAXES IN RHODE ISLAND

How They Are Made to Bear Heavier on the Farming Communities Than in Cities.

The injustice of our personal property taxes, which now bear proportionately heavier on the farmers and people in small towns than upon the wealthy residents of great cities, has already been proved by reference to the assessment rolls of Ohio, Minnesota and Iowa. Now comes an analysis of the taxes in Rhode Island, by Joseph McDonald of Allentown, R. I., in the Providence Journal.

First, Mr. McDonald takes the following cities—Providence, Newport, Pawtucket, Woonsocket, Cranston, Johnston, East Providence and North Providence—saying: "I class with the cities the four towns that join Providence because a large number of people who do business in Providence and own homes in the neighboring towns because the taxes are lighter than in the city, and because it is easier to dodge the payment of taxes on personal property. That such taxes are dodged is very evident from the small amount of personal property taxed in those towns."

In these cities he finds that of the total taxation, 81 per cent is in real estate and 19 per cent is in personal property.

Then he takes the rest of the townships of the state, excepting only a few places where the population is and has been declining, and finds that of the total taxes 71.9 per cent is on real estate and 28.1 on personal property; that is to say, in order to raise the present amount of revenue on real estate alone the country towns would have to pay a certain rate on 71.9 per cent of the total amount of property on which they now pay taxes, while the cities would have to pay the same rate on 81 per cent of the valuation on which they now pay.

Mr. McDonald then shows that the farming towns of Barrington, East Greenwich, Jamestown, Middletown, New Shoreham, Tiverton, Burrillville, South Kingstown and North Kingstown would gain by the change because they would pay on 73.6 per cent of their present assessment, against 81 per cent for the cities.

He then shows how the futile attempt to tax personal property shifts the burden of government from the rich denizens of the cities to the farming communities, by the fact that while the assessment of real estate in the four cities of the state and the four wealthy towns adjoining Providence has increased \$18,712,504 in the last ten years, the assessment of personal property in those cities and towns shows a decrease of \$279,669; but that in the same time the assessment of personal property in the farming towns has generally increased. Then, concludes Mr. McDonald:

If these statistics teach us anything, they teach us that in taxing personal property the country districts always suffer in comparison with the cities. Personal property never was, is not and never can be taxed with anything like fairness, and we think that the sooner taxes on personal property are abolished and all taxes levied on real estate the more equitably will the burdens of taxation be distributed.

Leo Miller Lectures in Youngstown.

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio.—The single tax club of this city held a series of lectures last week. The club secured the services of Leo Miller of Chicago, Ill., and he opened in the single tax hall on the evening of January 24 with a discourse on the single tax, and on the evening of January 26 his subject was "Protection or free trade, which?" The meetings were fairly attended and the audience accepted the invitation to ask questions, which resulted in great instruction and amusement both to the members and the audience. The questions were answered and illustrated with the use of the blackboard, which aids very much in making answers plain. I would advise all clubs to use blackboards in their public meetings. Mr. Miller is an excellent talker and close reasoner and receives close attention from his audience. We hope to engage him for several lectures, as we feel he has done much good here. A. C. HUGHES, Secretary single tax club.

A SHORT SERMON TO CHRISTIANS.

No doubt you have all prayed, time and again, that God's will might be done on earth as it is done in heaven. No doubt, in offering that prayer, you have felt a certain degree of sincerity. But have you realized or sought to understand its full import?

If you pray that the will of God may be done on earth as in heaven, then you must, to some extent, have a knowledge of the condition of affairs in heaven, or at least you must form a fairly accurate supposition in regard to them. You want the same beautiful and equitable management here as must exist there.

Do you think it is God's will that individuals should own heaven? Do you think that those who reached there first have appropriated the choice locations and have staked them off and fenced them in? Is it possible that Abraham's estate comprises a large share of the most desirable streets and that Isaac has secured all the property adjoining the throne, whilst Jacob with a well trained cunning has a registered title to the beautiful hills of Zion and the lovely, well shaded plains and fountain gushing valleys?

Do you think that a poor, luckless individual who reaches heaven at this late date will find himself compelled to wander about admiring the heavenly homes which he cannot enter? Or do you think that in the Father's house are many mansions and that a place is prepared for all? Will you not think of this the next time you pray God to do his will here as he does it in heaven?

Perhaps in your consideration and study of the single tax gospel you have been too much prejudiced by old laws and long existing customs. It may seem dishonest to you to propose taking away from individuals their title to land. But are you not to consider a higher law?

Would slavery have been abolished ever if we had not recognized as a truth that there were something which never could honestly and rightly be regarded as chattels?

If the mere thought of dividing up heaven and parceling it out into lots and compelling the late comers to live in heavenly tenement houses is repugnant to you, nay, almost blasphemous, how can you look with complacency upon a similar condition of affairs here?

You may say that there is no parallel between the two places, that here men are compelled to live by the sweat of their brows whilst in heaven there are only spiritualized bodies which require no food, and that as a consequence there is no business carried on in heaven, and every one there is pure and holy and intensely in love with his neighbor, etc. You may say there is no use in trying to make a heaven here. Certain cruelties must always be, for man is corrupt; and unless he be brought to the knowledge of Jesus, will always be vile and vicious and grasping and unjust.

How do you know we cannot make a heaven here? Have no advances been made? Is not our world a little more like heaven since the time slavery was abolished; since the time man's right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness has obtained some recognition?

Therefore, brethren, let me beseech you to study these things. Rise to a place from whence you can look upon the whole human family. Take into your heart the question, what can be done for the poor and down trodden. Throw off the bondage with which tradition and custom have fettered you. And then with unobscured vision realize what you mean when you pray, "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

ALEX. S. KIRKMAN.

A Governor Who Wants to Relieve Land of All Taxation.

ST. PAUL, Neb.—In his message to the territorial legislature, Governor Church says, touching the question of taxation:

A system of taxation that would eventually lead to the exemption of real estate from territorial or state taxation, would be very desirable, and could largely, if not entirely, be accomplished by the territorial tax being collected from a class of property corporate and personal in its nature.

Now if Governor Church wants to encourage land production, his suggestion would be to the point. Land is a very good thing, and a state cannot get along very well without it. But the suggestion is very singular in the case of Dakota, for the Dakotans have got the land already produced for them, and have got scarcely anything else but land. They have no room for more land. But instead of producing more land, the people of Dakota would like to manufacture or convert the

land into food, clothing, shelter, fuel, money, or other good things, of which they have but a scant supply.

It is clear that these good things should not be taxed; but on the other hand speculation is a sacred business, and must not be profaned by vulgar and unfeeling taxes! And it being more important in Governor Church's eyes to have vacant land than to have the good things which our labor draws forth from the land, he recommends that the burdens of taxation be taken from land, and be united with the other hardships of production and subsistence.

J. B. PACKARD.

A Bad Land for Anybody.

Boston Transcript.

"I don't know how it is," said the expressman, "but ever since our town went to license more'n half my packages are marked, 'Glass, handle with care.' I'm getting sick of it. I can't load or unload in twice the time I used to."

The Wonderful Carlsbad Springs.

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

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

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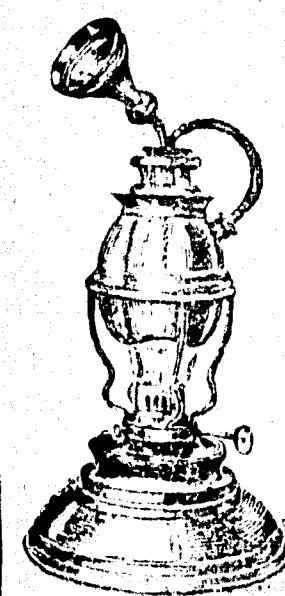
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JAMES BOGAN, PRINCIPAL AGENT, for James Bogan & Co., 211 Bowery, New York.

QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

WYANDOTTE, Mich.—This city, with a population of about five thousand, raises by taxation from eight to twelve thousand dollars per year. The greater proportion is assessed upon manufacturing industries and the better class of residence property. My neighbor, who has given some little thought to the single tax project, takes me to task in this way: "Suppose we resort to the single or land value tax, and so raise the fund to carry on the expenses of the city. Does it not follow that the per cent of assessments will be very largely augmented in order to raise the original amounts? and will not the owner of a humble home be taxed far beyond that which is now assessed as his private share of the expenditure of the city?" I concede the point, but tell him that exemption from all other taxes will more than compensate, and that he will largely be the gainer in the end. My neighbor is skeptical, and refuses to be so comforted.

I am unable to discuss the subject to its logical conclusions, and will feel greatly obliged if you will demonstrate through the columns of THE STANDARD the point at issue.

W. W. COLFAX.

Your opinion that your neighbors who own humble homes would be largely the gainer in the end, even if their taxes on their homes were larger than now is sound; but I doubt if it was necessary for you to concede your friend's point. I cannot discuss the matter in detail, for I am ignorant of the values of your town; but I shall be very much surprised if your land values are not amply sufficient to yield \$12,000 a year, and still more surprised if a very large proportion of these values belong to people who own humble homes. It ought to be a simple matter for you to tabulate the land values of your neighbors, compute the percentage of tax necessary to raise your levy, ascertain how much of this would have to be paid by one or more humble house owners, and then inquire how much these same humble house owners pay now. This would give you and your friend a starting point for further inquiry and argument.

But whether or not the direct taxes the owners of humble houses had to pay would be more or less than the direct taxes they pay now, they would, as you say, be benefited in the long run. Your friend can certainly see that if you exempted manufacturing industries from taxation, you could manufacture cheaper, and therefore would have an extended market and manufacture more. This would attract capital, enhance wages, increase your population, encourage building, make your store business more brisk, and in a thousand ways improve your condition as a town. So much of your reform were purely local. But if it were general, the removal of federal and state taxes from your industries, the freeing of land in your suburbs, the cheapening of all you consumed by more than the amount of indirect taxes, and the higher wages and greater steadiness of employment that would follow a general demand for labor, would repay your humble house owners many times over, even if their taxes equaled the entire rental value of their homestead lots.

Read in "Progress and Poverty" the chapter on "Effect on Individuals and Classes."

The Equalization of Taxation.

ROCKFORD, Ill.—(1) Some time since in argument with a friend, he said: "You have been a member of the board of supervisors of this county, holding the chairmanships of the finance committee and board of equalization. Answer me. Can the single tax be applied?"

In the heat of debate, with the enthusiasm of the convert, I answered, "Yes, the rule of the constitution of the United States is sufficient; distribute taxes between the division of each body politic in the ratio of population, and we shall find plain sailing until the line of taxation for the necessities of government is reached. Beyond that, the taking of the balance of the unearned increment can never be accomplished, I fear."

(2) Some months since I put to you this question, which I have not observed answered: "Is there any better method of distributing taxes by bodies politic between subdivisions, than the rule of the constitution of the United States, the ratio of population?"

(3) In 1870 Illinois adopted a constitution theoretically perfect, but see the result. The law provides that all property shall be assessed at full cash value, but it is safe to say that now not over one quarter of value is assessed. The assessor of each town is endeavoring to "beat" the other towns of his county by his low assessment, and if it were not for the checks interposed by county and state equalization boards we should soon have a great state without assessed property.

H. N. STARR.

(1) You need have no fear about taking "the balance of the unearned increment." No single tax man asks more than that all taxes be abolished save a tax on land values sufficient in the aggregate for the necessities of an economical administration of government. But many single tax men believe that the necessities of administration will keep pretty close on the heels of the unearned increment.

(2) I think the distribution of taxation according to land values, while in effect it would be according to population, would be the better mode.

(3) The constitution of Illinois is by no means theoretically perfect. It was intended to tax everything, and the result is as ridiculous as anyone acquainted with the subject of taxation should have foreseen it would be. The reason that land values under the law of Illinois, as under the law of New York and some of the other states, are not properly appraised is because land values are not what the law seeks to tax. It seeks to tax wealth and land values, which is like trying to catch birds and fish in the same net. If land values alone were taxed every man in the community would be alert to see that there were no undervaluations. One locality would not then try to shift the burden of taxation upon another. But when wealth is the subject of taxation, and land values are taxed only because they are regarded as wealth, no one is consciously interested in honest assessments, while nearly every one is interested in evading taxation. Hence, in the general scramble to escape the taxgatherer, land values have opportunities to escape which they could not have if they alone were taxed.

LOUIS F. POST.

A Single Tax Man's Notes in France.

PARIS, France.—"Liberte, Egalite, Fraternite." These words, full of most glorious significance, to the honor of the French republic, are the watchwords placed upon all the public buildings, coins and documents. If also graven on the hearts and minds of the people in all their true import the past glories of France shall be nothing as compared with her future.

Liberty: That no man shall be enslaved or robbed by another.

Equality: That all being born equal before God have an equal inheritance in His bounty, given to all alike.

Fraternity: That men are brethren, and should love and not hate each other; should do good and not evil to each other; should be kind to each other, and not wish to rob one another or to cheat or despoil.

Let us hope that France may some day rise to the full comprehension of these words and the realization of the glorious ideal republic and the people that would rise from the development of such principles.

But at the present time how immeasurably have they come short of the simple but natural and grand ideas set before them by Mirabeau, Conde and other philosophers and political economists.

The voices of the prophets of justice have been for a time drowned in the selfish clamor of those who feed upon injustice by robbing their countrymen through plausible legislation, solely in the interest of syndicates and rings, the tendency of this selfish class legislation being to make the industrious poor and the idle rich and to make a mockery of the glorious watchwords of the republic.

These greedy, lazy but artful self-seekers pose as patriots, but spend their time in humbugging the people for their personal emolument.

For instance, they heavily tax the importation of sugar, giving themselves a monopoly of its manufacture and price. Next they procure the passage of a law giving a bounty on all sugar exported, which bounty, of course, goes into their pockets and the pockets of the men who own the land where the sugar producing beet is grown.

They pretend, of course, that such legislation is for the benefit of the laboring man—making more work—but omit to say that it enhances the cost of the sugar he consumes. They claim the tariff raises the price of wages, but do not say how, and the poor workingman is kept so busy getting a bare living that he hasn't the time to think it out, but takes it for granted that the great, good and wise patriots who make the laws will not betray the public confidence.

For the sake of La Belle France, would that another Mirabeau would rise to expose the sham patriotism, or perhaps intense stupidity, of her legislators, and to show the French people that all their tariffs are devices resulting solely to the benefit of a few monopolists at the cost of the public, who are the consumers; but that tariff and octroi and all other taxation robberies are chiefly schemes for the enrichment of ground landlords, which renders it unnecessary that their land values created by the public should be taxed, and thus presenting them with the public property—the unearned increment—the only just object of taxation. In the environs of most cities and towns of France, upon the side of the roads which are the only means of access for merchandise, are octroi stations where officials value and tax all articles of food, all fuel and other articles of consumption which enter the town.

This octroi tax, of course, increases the cost (sometimes more than doubles it) of these articles. The rich and the poor are thus made to bear an equal burden of taxation, but the municipal expenses being met and paid for in this way, it becomes unnecessary to tax land values, and idle landlords in France, as else-

where, get rich without labor other than originating and carrying out these artful devices of indirect taxation.

I send you a photograph of an octroi at Cannes with a load of wood waiting before it for the official to measure and assess the tax on it at his leisure. The "hewer of wood" has brought these miserable sticks, dry twigs and roots from far away up in the mountains for the use of the poor of the town, who can afford no other fuel. He has already had to pay a tax to some landlord baron who owns the mountains' snowy caps and all, but the landlord of the town and city likes nothing so well as to see his fellow citizens pay the municipal taxes so that he himself shall not be taxed, and can get a big price for his land.

This he does, by the way, all over France where the land has any value. They sell land in French towns by the square meter, and in Spanish towns by the palma, or square of the span of the hand and fingers. Land speculation in both countries is far more profitable (if luckily made when population and trade are growing) than any industry or profession. Americans who visit Ireland are prone to ascribe the poverty of the people to laziness, quite omitting to inquire of the conditions which enable landlords to rob the people of the results of their industry. What will they say of the poor working people of France? They are notoriously industrious, but most of them live miserably, if they have no land of their own.

Before the revolution a few landlords had all the land, and the people were crushed and robbed most mercilessly. Now there are many landlords instead of a few. The iniquity remains the same, but the people have got used to it. There are more landlords to advocate it, and perhaps, after all, they are not so bad as in other countries, America and England, for instance.

Therefore, if there is not yet to be "Liberte Egalite Fraternite" in France to-day, it may be that to-morrow she will achieve the glorious civilization when those watchwords are understood and acted upon.

SILAS MAINVILLE.

A WISCONSIN FARMER.

He Tells How His Tax Bills Have Convinced Him that the Single Tax is What He Wants.

AMY, Wis.—I am a farmer in my seventy-third year. Was born in Ireland, lived there fifteen years on an estate owned by the Mercers' company of London.

My father built four stone houses on land he leased from that company. He paid them a bonus for the lease, paid an annual rent for the use of it, and all taxes and tithes assessed to it. When the lease expired the company confiscated to their own use two of the houses without giving my father a cent for them.

This made an impression on my mind not yet forgotten, and to prevent such monopoly from subjecting us to like vassalage in this country has been a leading thought in my mind for many years. Land limitation, homestead exemption, freedom of the public lands for settlers and the abolition of custom houses and substitution of direct for indirect taxation were all advocated forty years ago, and if carried out might have done much good. But the single tax is the most far reaching and simplest remedy.

Now, as to the ruin which the single tax will work to the farmers, let me give my experience with the present system of taxation:

A few days ago I paid my taxes for 1888, \$66.22, besides \$10 paid in work for road tax last summer—\$76.22 in all. Some would call it mostly a land tax, as only \$12.39 is marked for personal property. But as each forty acre lot has a different valuation, though the land is of nearly the same quality, a little examination will show that it is more a tax on the improvements I have made than on the land.

One forty acre lot, about one-fourth of it in cultivation and three-fourths in a state of nature, is valued at \$150. Another lot, same size and land same quality, but all in cultivation, is valued at \$250. Another lot, same size, all cultivated and with some buildings (hay sheds) on it, is valued at \$350. Another lot of thirty-eight acres, one-half of it in a ravine and too steep for the plow, but having dwelling house, barn, granary and other improvements on it, is valued at \$900. Two other lots of forty acres each, all in cultivation, are each valued at \$250. If I was only taxed on the land without improvements my taxes would be about one-fourth of what they are now.

One hundred and twenty acres of this land I bought of the government with a land warrant. It cost me about \$1.10 an acre.

Eighty acres I bought of a banker for about \$900. He also bought of the government and held it about thirteen years, paid nothing for improvement or taxes, having sold it, before I bought it, to an old man who improved it some and paid the taxes, but being unable to finish the payments lost all.

Forty acres I bought of a railway company for \$250. Said company received it as a gift from the state of Wisconsin with freedom from taxes for about twenty years. So that I helped to pay the taxes of that company for many years and also paid it for the value my industry and that of others gave to what I bought of it. As I am now condemned to pay a yearly fine of about \$50 (or a tax as some call it) for the good I have done by improving land and raising food for myself and others,

I find that I am more of a vassal than a free-man. The banker's cunning and laziness saved him from such a penalty, and government supplies him with thousands of paper dollars with which he can buy more land or collect interest on debts he owes to others.

The single tax on land values without improvements would lower the taxes of the farmer as it raises that of the banker or railway company who kept land unimproved for speculation. It might lower the price of unimproved land, but would add to the value of improvement. It would make it easier for young men to get farms in old settlements and for people in towns to own their homes. It would soon give us a better home market and would "protect" us from those who make "paupers," both "foreign" and domestic.

H. B.

PERSONAL.

Charles A. Crouch of Bartow-on-Sound writes in the last Weekly Telegrapher a very clear and concise statement of the grounds and effects of the single tax. The Telegrapher is the organ of the railway telegraphers.

Andrew Garbutt of Beaumont and Professor Hamlin Garland of Boston are helping to stir things up in Massachusetts. They invaded the little town of Winthrop a few days ago and gave the people their first allopathic dose of single tax remedies.

One week's work of W. A. Douglass in Toronto, Can., was: Monday, addressed young men's conservative club; Tuesday, addressed York county council; Wednesday, meeting of West end club, with local members of parliament; Thursday, committee meeting; Friday, society meeting. Then, preparing addresses for some labor unions to deliver to the government, completed the week's work.

Yet the Protective Duty on a Dollar Shirt is Forty Cents.

Joe Howard in the Press.

Did it ever occur to you that it must be fun to be a sewing woman? No? Why, what can be nicer? A sewing woman with plenty to do in the way of shirts, linen dusters and winter trousers ought to be as jolly as a grig, as merry as a clam, as full of fun as a well developed sandboy. Let's see. If she is real smart, and hasn't more than two sick children, she ought to be able to make nine coats a day, and all our big houses pay ten cents apiece. That gives her ninety cents a day, and if she rides one way only she nets eighty-five cents. Six times eighty-five cents make \$5.10 and that's a great deal of money. To be sure, she doesn't average more than \$3.30 a week, but what kind of a woman is she who will come for to go for to try to make believe she and her three children and a sick husband can't live on \$3.50 per week? It's positively shameful the way some of these poor people go on.

MISCELLANEOUS.

OUR \$43 RAILROAD WATCH

is specially constructed for the most exacting use and is the BEST PHILA. Railroad Watch made. It contains numerous important patented improvements of vital importance to accurate timing—Patent Dustproof, Patent Stem Wind, &c., which we control exclusively. It has 15 Genuine Ruby jewels in settings, and is accurately adjusted to heat, cold and isochronism. It is fully equal for appearance, accuracy, durability and service to any \$90 watch. Price \$43, either all cash or in Clubs, \$1 a week. Open face or hunting. Our \$1 a week Club System, while as convenient to the buyer as any installment system, is a wholesale spot cash system to us. The Co-operation of the club members sells us 43 watches in each \$43 Watch Club, and we get cash from the club for each watch before it goes out, though each member only pays \$1 a week. This is why we give you more for your money than any one else and why we are doing the largest watch business in the world.

An Ajax Watch Insulator given free with each Watch.

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Ajax Watch Insulator, \$1.00
A perfect protection against magnetism.
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THE SINGLE TAX MILITARY BAND
AND ORCHESTRA. JAMES BECKER, Director.
Music furnished for all occasions. Address 154 SEVENTH AVENUE, BROOKLYN.

THE SAN FRANCISCO SINGLE TAX
Society hold meetings for public discussion every Sunday evening at 8:15 P.M. in the City Hall, 313 1/2 Market Street.

THE SINGLE TAX MEN IN INDIANA.—You are earnestly requested to send your address to the undersigned, Secretary of the Indianapolis League, together with such suggestions as you may deem wise, as to the best means of effecting a state organization. Address THOS. J. HUDSON, 155 Elm Street, Indianapolis, Ind.

THE SINGLE TAX CLUB of the Twelfth congressional district meets every Thursday evening at 8 p. m. at 1,506 Second Ave., near 70th Street. All single tax men living uptown are invited to attend. The officers for the next six months are: Arthur Fliegel, president; A. M. Mendoza, vice-president; A. Schulz, secretary; F. M. Lawrence, treasurer; Geo. Hecklinger, sergeant at arms.

Not a Success in Pennsylvania, Either.

It seems that the attempt to put into practice the theory held by most farmers, small house holders and a great many very wealthy sympathizers, that all property, and especially the personal property of very rich men and corporations, "should bear their just share of the burdens of government," though the attempt is backed by all the laws that could be desired, is not yet a screaming success in Pennsylvania. A dispatch from Harrisburg of February 1 gives a list of some pretty rich corporations which do not like this theory as applied to themselves, and which will appear at a special term of court as defendants to suits against them for the collection of taxes, as follows:

For the collection of taxes on capital stock—Pullman palace car company, Scranton illuminating, heat and power company, Northern electric light and power company (two cases), United States electric lighting company of Philadelphia, Excelsior electric company of Harrisburg.

For the collection of taxes on net earnings or income—Penn mutual life insurance company, Insurance fidelity mutual aid association, the Home beneficial society of Pennsylvania, the Fireside protective union, the Keystone guarantee endowment beneficial association of Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania mutual benefit and accident association.

For the collection of taxes on gross receipts—Delaware and Hudson canal company, Delaware, Lackawanna and Western railroad company, Lehigh Valley railroad company, Pennsylvania and New York canal and railroad company.

A Woman's Club Would be Useful—Where Are the Women?

A Philadelphia correspondent sends us the following: A lady wishes to inquire whether a woman's single tax club would be an advantage, and whether there are any Philadelphia ladies with sufficient leisure and enthusiasm in the cause to start such an organization.

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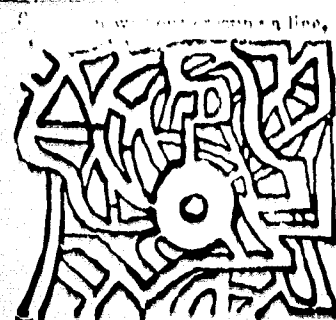
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