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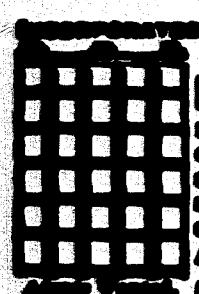

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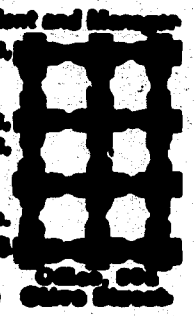

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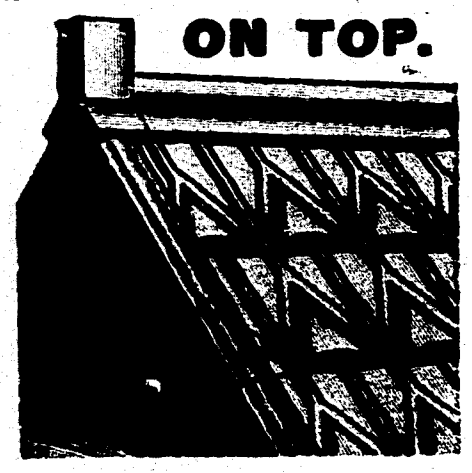

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THE STANDARD

VOL. XII. NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, JULY 13, 1892. No. 2.

EDITORIAL NOTES.—O. M. Tinkham has been investigating the effects of the McKinley tariff upon English industries, and reports the results of his observations to the Independent. He finds that it has practically ruined the English trade with America in many lines, and that English workingmen in some industries are facing starvation, owing to the falling off in the American demand for their products. Mr. Tinkham seems to chuckle over this, because he thinks with one of the workmen whom he interviewed, that when the McKinley tariff shuts out English cutlery, cutlery shops are put up in America and Americans get work there with good wages and buy the products of American farms. This workman remarked: "It's all right for they, but bloomin' hard for we." Mr. Pinkham piously responds, "Amen," and patriotically exclaims, "Hurrah!" The Christian protectionist, like Barnum's mermaid, is an ingenious combination of fish and monkey.

It is probably true that the timidity of Democratic politicians regarding the tariff issue is really not so much because they have a hankering for the flesh pots of protection as because they are afraid of the labor vote. They are actually so blind as to suppose that workingmen are still gulled by the talk about the tariff's being necessary to keep up wages. These Democrats ought to talk with workingmen. Here is a specimen, an interview with a Homestead striker, taken from the New York Morning Journal, of what they would hear:

Suppose this strike is averted, and suppose we should go back to work at our old wages—if such a thing were supposable—hasn't the firm shown that it means to cut down our wages instead of raising them or even keeping them up to their former mark? Wouldn't they be compelled to give in this time just because it is a Presidential year and they wanted our votes? That game might have been played years ago, but it won't go down now. My, we are all reading Henry George's works now. A year or two ago we wouldn't have been seen touching one of them. Now every man is reading them and talking about them. Twenty thousand copies of Henry George's "Protection or Free Trade?" Congressional Record edition, have been asked for by members of the Amalgamated Association for distribution where they will be read. Of course, the political changes in our ranks may not make much of a hole in the Republican majority in Pennsylvania, but they will be quite effective in Ohio, and in some towns there, such as Youngstown, they will count mightily. These places may make Ohio Democratic.

A sufficient explanation of the protection policy of the Sun, of its strenuous efforts to nominate Hill at Chicago, of its hostility to Cleveland open and insulting before the nomination but concealed and crafty now, of its attempt to keep the free trade plank of the Democratic party out of sight in the campaign, and of its masquerading performances as a Republican servant in Democratic livery, may be found in last Sunday's issue, in which half of the editorial page is devoted to a defense and eulogy of Carnegie, mingled with inconsiderate condemnation of his locked-out workmen at Homestead. It should not be necessary to remind all Democratic managers that prudence requires them to give a wide berth to a pretended Democratic paper which turns its columns over to the service of Carnegie; stabs in the back are impossible while a long distance is maintained between the stabber and the stabbee.

Pinchbeck patriotism was exemplified in a novel way upon the Thames last Fourth of July. A party of Americans were steaming up the river, carrying the American flag, when a fool Englishman crossed their bows in a canoe, and, seeing the flag, shouted: "You might fly a better flag than that rag, captain." Had the Americans possessed a grain or two more of sense than the Englishman, they would have met the insult with silent contempt; but there was a patriotic woman aboard who offered the captain twenty-five dollars to run the Englishman down. The captain, a pinchbeck patriot too, disliked the job, not for its folly but because he also thought the stars and stripes a rag; but the bribe overcame his patriotism, as a sufficient bribe will always overcome patriotism of the pinchbeck order, and he accommodated the "spirited little American lady." Flag worship is not necessarily patriotism, any more than god worship is necessarily religion.

The exciting English elections are not yet over. At first the returns disappointed the hopes of the Liberals, for in some sixty boroughs the Liberal gain was only eight. At the same rate the Liberals could not have controlled the next Parliament. Later returns, however, put a different complexion upon the situation; there is now little room for doubt that Gladstone will go back to Parliament with sufficient support to give home rule to Ireland, and, by putting the Irish question at rest, make way for the social question which has been pressing to the front, and in the Liberal programme already has its place in the form of a proposition to tax land values and ground rents. The explanation of the first disappointing returns is simple. Upon the dissolution of a Parliament, the writs for election being issued by the party in power, it is customary to name, for the earliest dates, localities in which the party in power is certain of success. The victories there are expected to have a moral effect in close places, just as the October elections in Pennsylvania once influenced the November elections in other states. The Tory party followed the custom this year, and accordingly the earlier returns were favorable to them; but they were not able to save themselves.

The organization of women in a Democratic club to assist in the free trade campaign is an excellent idea; but it was unwarranted and thoughtless to give the name of Mr. Cleveland's wife to the club. Mr. Cleveland did well in courteously requesting a change of name. The pending political fight is of serious moment to the people of this country, and the naming of clubs for the wives of candidates is too much of a piece with the "Baby Ruth" and "Baby McKee" order of politics.

The Christian Union, recognizing Henry George's "Protection or Free Trade?" as a protest against using public funds to promote private interests, speaks of its distribution through the mails under congressional franks as an example of the very wrong it attacks. The Christian Union now has the floor to explain how any private interest is served by the free circulation of that book.

Landowners in New York City are congratulating themselves this year upon the action of the tax assessors in increasing valuations only upon land which has been actually improved. Since taxes on improvements are shifted to the tenant they have excellent reasons for their joy. The tenants have not yet been heard from.

Kate Foote, the entertaining but obtuse Washington correspondent of the Independent, scents treason in the air because the free trade plank of the Democratic platform is "like the ex-Confederate Constitution by a curious resemblance." This curious resemblance is the declaration against all tariffs except for revenue. But they are alike by a still more "curious resemblance," which Kate Foote must have overlooked, for she fails to mention it. Each is written in the English language.

The Boston Question Club is positively cruel when it asks Governor McKinley, by way of offset to the news of reductions and strikes in the greatest of protected industries, to name instances of increased wages as the result of his bill.

THE HOMESTEAD LOCKOUT.—For a week past, the attention of the whole country has been concentrated upon the village of Homestead, in the State of Pennsylvania. The population there consists almost exclusively of workmen in one of the great protected factories, of which Andrew Carnegie is the head, and the cause of the trouble is a dispute over a question of wages between them and the owners of the establishment. It has been customary for the employers periodically to confer and agree with the workingmen's association as to a scale; but the last agreement having expired, the employers—Mr. Carnegie and his associates—proposed a new scale in accordance with their own notions and regardless of the interests of the men. The chief objections to the proposed scale are that it reduces wages and that it would expire in the dull season instead of the busy season, thus making further reductions easy upon its expiration. The employers refused to arbitrate, insisting upon their scale as final, and made preparations for a conflict by scouring this country and Europe for non-union workmen, erecting a barricade around their works, and employing an army of hireling soldiery euphoniously called "watchmen" but commonly known as "Pinkerton's men." Thereupon the workmen took possession of the works, and upon the arrival of the hireling soldiery in their town drove them out, after a conflict in which several lives were lost. Subsequently, upon the neglect or inability of the Sheriff to control the workmen, Governor Pattison called out the militia. No resistance was offered. In fact, there has been no violence from the beginning except the assault upon the Pinkerton men.

The Carnegie people claim the right to manage their own business in their own way, without dictation or interference from or consultation with their workmen; the workmen, on the other hand, insist in effect if not in plain words upon a right of employment in the Homestead factory. In ordinary circumstances there could be no doubt that in this the employers are in the right and their men in the wrong. Every man has the right to manage his own busi-

men in his own way, and no one has a right to demand employment of another. But the Carnegies have so far educated their workmen in opposition to this principle as to justify the sympathy that has everywhere, outside of the influence of monopoly circles, been extended to the locked-out workmen at Homestead. For the purpose of securing from Congress special privileges for their business, they have pretended that protective tariffs are for the benefit of their workmen as well as themselves, and in the presence of the whole American people, they have impliedly taken their workmen into partnership with them. The McKinley tariff was not intended to enrich the Carnegies, but to make their employees fairly prosperous. It was so stated by the Carnegies when they sought for protection, and was so understood by the men and all their sympathizers throughout the country when they voted for it. Master and men were considered as one. From the moment that protection was conferred upon an industry, that industry became a co-operative business in which the men had as much moral right, if moral rights can be asserted regarding protection, to a voice in the management so far as the question of wages is concerned, as the proprietors. There was an implied dedication of the business to the service of the workmen for whose benefit protection was granted. Legally, of course, that is not true; there was no such formal dedication of protected plants as would give the workmen any standing in court. But in the eyes of the men, and that is the real question when the moral culpability of their trespass is under consideration, there was such a dedication.

Under these circumstances, Carnegie's workmen, when they took possession of his factory for the purpose of preventing its operation with cheap imported help, which would have deprived them of their share of the "protection to American labor" that had been accorded by Congress for the benefit of the men and not of the masters alone, were doing only what they had logically learned from the masters to believe that they had a right to do. Their case is not, as it is said to be, that of farm hands who, dissatisfied with the wages offered by the farmer, take possession of his farm; it is that of the ward who forcibly seizes a legacy out of which the guardian tries to cheat him. Technically the ward would be in the wrong, but in his own estimation the rascality of the guardian would justify him. Precisely so with the Homestead workmen. For taking possession of the Carnegie factory they are by the ordinary standards to be condemned; but under the circumstances of the adoption of the McKinley tariff and the brazen attempt of Carnegie to deprive his men of their share in its advantages, they are not to be morally judged by ordinary standards.

The wrong in this case goes back of the technical trespass. It goes back to the crime against the American people, hatched by these very employers, who made dupes of their workmen, and on pretence of protecting labor secured plundering legislation for themselves.

The same considerations would excuse the assault upon the mercenary soldiery hired to overawe and if necessary to shoot down the men who were struggling for their share of protection. The identical kind of political education that induced them to vote for protection, from which they logically argued that they acquired a right to control the wages of protected establishments in which they work, fairly excused them to themselves in forcibly driving off any armed men who stood between them and their supposed rights. But all these considerations aside, there is perfect justification for the assault upon Pinkerton's men. Had the militia of Ohio gone in menacing array over into Pennsylvania, without the express consent of the Pennsylvania authorities, it would have been within the province of the people of any town which they invaded to drive them off with force. Nor would it have made any difference if the Ohio troops had been hired by the owners of the Homestead works, and called "watchmen" instead of militia. But Pinkerton's men, the armed hirelings of a foreign detective agency, recruited in foreign States, uniformed, armed, organized, drilled, and officered as an army, had no better legal footing when they invaded Homestead than the Ohio militia would have had. They were not to be regarded as the domestic servants of Carnegie upon his property protecting it from destruction, but as an invading army, menacing the inhabitants of the town upon which they moved; and when the inhabitants rose up and drove them off, responsibility for deaths resulting from a battle fell upon the invaders and their confederates. It was not a fight between Carnegie's locked-out workmen and servants engaged in the defense of his property; it was a fight between the people of Homestead and a detachment of foreign troops who were marching upon the town. That the troops were pirates, carrying the flag of no established government, does not shift responsibility to the townspeople who met and routed them.

This Homestead affair furnishes an object lesson from which every one can see that the policy of protection, considered as an advantage to men who work for wages, is a delusion of the most fraudulent kind. Though workingmen are not blamable for assuming that they have a kind of proprietary interest in protected industries, the legal fact remains, just as it is claimed by and for the protected employers, that every man has a right to manage his business to suit himself, and that workingmen have no other right than to say whether they will or will not work for the wages that protected employers choose to offer. Unless protection increases the demand for labor it cannot help men who live by selling their labor. But it does not increase the demand for labor. Only free production and free trading can do that. Protection is a monopoly scheme which strengthens the Carnegies and weakens their workmen. It limits demand for goods, and thereby demand for labor. It is a form of paternalism, and paternalism in every form has its favorite children, who are invariably not the O'Donnells but the Carnegies. The remedy for it is its abolition, root and branch. This the workingmen can accomplish, not by trespasses which the law does and in the interest of good order must denounce and punish, not by wasting human life in fighting armed hirelings, not by asserting dominion over other people's property, but by voting against protection as they have hitherto voted for it. By placing Pennsylvania in the column of Democratic States this year, when the Democrats expressly denounce protection as robbery, a blow can be dealt to the Carnegies which will hurt them more than anything else the wage-earning classes of Pennsylvania can do.

A still more important lesson may be drawn from this lockout, a lesson not for the working classes alone, but for the whole American people. Conditions are now and long have been at work, of which protection is but one though among the most important, which are dividing the people of this country into two classes—a few employers who are very rich and in ordinary times very powerful, and a vast army of dependent employees who are very poor and in ordinary times very weak. When the division is proximately complete, nothing will be needed to bring on social chaos but some such incident as the Homestead lockout. The sole dependence of the privileged set is a hireling army and the military forces of the states. Before an enraged populace whose homes were threatened a hireling army proved at Homestead to be like chaff in a gale. The militia is yet powerful to preserve things as they are; but when these depressing social conditions shall have reached a climax, whence will the militia be recruited? If Carnegie were dependent upon the militia of Homestead he would now be in sad plight; its rifles would be turned against him and his armed hirelings. But what Homestead now is, the whole country will be, unless this era of legislative privileges is brought to a speedy close. We cannot long go on surrounding millionaires with serfs. This is no question of what the impoverished ought to do; it is a question of what they will do. It is not a question of right or wrong, but of cause and effect. If life is to be sacred and property secure, men prosperous and society at peace, all that class of legislation which turns streams of wealth away from its producers into the treasuries of the privileged must be repealed. And in that class is to be considered not alone the tariff laws which, while raising up a few magnificient Carnegies, turn the population of whole towns into dependent serfs, but also all those laws which make private property of public highways, and those that enable the possessors of wealth to withdraw the natural opportunities of the globe from the equal enjoyment of its inhabitants. Injustice breeds anarchy; justice alone can establish permanent order.

THE UNAVOIDABLE ISSUE.—The New York Times is another of the Democratic papers whose timidity in this crisis threatens the party with disaster. It sets out to run down what it denounces as the Republican lie that the Democrats are free traders; and in doing so it not only attacks the tariff plank in the platform as having been inconsiderately adopted, and describes that proposed by the resolutions committee as the true expression of Democratic principle, but it also ventures to assert that the rejected plank had Mr. Cleveland's approval. Whether or not Mr. Cleveland approved that silly straddle we cannot say. We only know that in no other respect has he shown either idiocy or timidity. There are reasons, however, besides his established character for sound sense and courage, for believing that that rejected plank was asked for not by him, but by people who took advantage of their accidental position to impress upon free traders like Bayard, Vilas, and Jones the idea that this plank was demanded by him. We do not charge these friends of Mr. Cleveland with endeavoring to promote their own business interests by making the Democratic party a protection party by brevet; nor do we make that charge against any of the people who at present control the political policy of the Times. The probability is that they have been influenced by the notion that a large number of Democratic voters among the working classes believe that protection is necessary to maintain American wages, and that if the party declares for free trade, these voters will leave it. Without commenting upon the peculiar ideas of morality with which intelligent men justify this attempt at deceiving the voter in order to win a partisan victory, let us see with what success the fraud could be perpetrated.

The platform demands a tariff for revenue alone. That woul

be as near to free trade as we could get without changing our system of federal taxation. It is what the Republicans mean when they call the Democrats free traders, and it is what timid Democrats allude to when they insist that the party is not for free trade. How can the positions of these Democrats be maintained? Certainly not by pretending, as the Times does, that the free trade plank was not the deliberate expression of the convention. The nomination of the candidates excepted, it was the only work which the convention took into its own hands. Everything else was cut and dried by committees of old stagers. When the Republicans are accused of misrepresentation for calling the Democrats free traders, it is those that accuse who are really guilty of misrepresentation. It is the silliest kind of misrepresentation, too, for not only does the plain declaration of the platform expose it, but it is exposed by the whole tendency of the party as shown in its attempts at legislation, in the speeches of its public men, and even in Cleveland's famous message.

We cannot believe that Mr. Cleveland will, in his letter of acceptance, give his sanction to this proposed campaign of timidity and deceit. By doing so he can only jeopardize his own interests as a candidate and the prospects of his party, without the satisfaction that has always heretofore attended his sacrifices—the satisfaction of having been true to himself regardless of consequences. He cannot change the issue. That has been made and must be fought to a finish. Whatever he may say or do, however apologetic his supporters may be, the Republicans will easily convince the people that Democratic success means the inauguration of a free trade policy. Honest Democrats must admit it, and instead of wasting their energies on denials, explanations, and apologies, will make every effort to show that in standing for free trade the Democratic party is fighting monopolies and trusts, is seeking to keep the federal government within its constitutional limits, and is struggling for that industrial freedom which will rescue workingmen from the grasp of a powerful privileged class who call upon the government to raise the price of their goods and hire Pinkerton mercenaries to keep down the wages of their workmen.

The idea that the workers can be any longer deceived by twaddle about "enough protection to maintain American wages" is a mistake. In 1888 Cleveland's vote was increased in manufacturing centres; already the mechanics had begun to sicken of protection. Progress since then has gone far and deep; few workingmen are protectionists now. Most of them are free traders, and all that is necessary to draw them in masses to the Democratic party is to convince them that the Democratic party is for free trade and "means business."

THE PEOPLE'S PARTY.—The National People's party was finally organized at Omaha last week by the adoption of a platform and the nomination of candidates.

The platform is no worse than most platforms in its platitudes and confusions, but neither is it any better. It asserts that wealth belongs to him who creates it, demands the nationalization of railroads and telegraphs under civil service regulations sufficient to prevent increase of political power, calls for a legal tender currency to be distributed direct to the people through the Sub-Treasury scheme of the Farmers' Alliance "or a better system," insists upon the free and unlimited coinage of silver and gold, at the ratio of 16 to 1, and an increase of circulation to $50 per capita, and advocates a graduated income tax and postal savings' banks. The only declaration as to the tariff is the cautious one, sugar-coated with a soft-money preamble, that "all state and national revenues shall be limited to the necessary expenses of the government economically and honestly administered," a declaration which is really not inconsistent with a protective tariff. On the land question the platform reads: "The land, including all the natural sources of wealth, is the heritage of the people, and should not be monopolized for speculative purposes, and alien ownership of land should be prohibited. All land now held by railroads and other corporations in excess of their actual needs, and all lands now owned by aliens, should be reclaimed by the government and held for actual settlers only."

General Weaver, the candidate for president, is a man of ability, and personally better fitted for the office of President than most men who are elected to it. He is an outright absolute free trader, and we can understand why western free traders should be tempted to give him their votes. But he cannot be elected; and if he could be, his election would signify far less regarding freedom of trade and the single tax than would the election of Mr. Cleveland. The important consideration with free traders and single tax men is not so much the personal views of candidates, nor even the express declarations of platforms, as the drift of the party as a whole. The drift of the People's party relates exclusively to the money question. The drift of the Democratic party is toward the freeing of labor; and in spite of its candidates, its managers, and its drafters of platforms, it will be carried on and on to absolute freedom of production and trade. This is not because it is any better than the Republican party, but because it is the one effective adversary of the Republican party. As that drifts toward restriction, the Democratic party must drift toward freedom. And as this drift goes on, the personnel of its management will inevitably change, as those who are opposed to restriction and want freedom are attracted to it. There is promise in this. There is no promise in the People's party. The only useful service it can render is the breaking up of old party attachments.

For free traders and single tax men to support the People's party is to give their votes to an organization that is as firmly opposed to real free trade and the single tax as is the Democratic party, to a party the movement of which, whatever political and economic opinions some of its members may hold, is not drifting as logically toward what we aim at as is the Democratic party, to a party that cannot succeed but which by drawing free trade and single tax votes away from the Democratic party tends to divide our forces and weaken our influence in national legislation. This may be interesting to those who do it, but it is not a wise policy if their object is to secure reform rather than to play at politics.

WHY I BECAME A SINGLE TAXER.

RALPH E. HOYT.

Perhaps the numerous readers of THE STANDARD may be interested in learning when and why I became a single taxer. Perhaps, also, the facts in the case may afford some encouragement to persons who have as yet only partially "seen the cat," but are honestly seeking for "the whole truth and nothing but the truth." This thought, whether well founded or otherwise, is my only apology for putting before the public an article so replete with personalities as this must necessarily be.

Up to the autumn of 1889 I knew little of Henry George and still less of the single tax theory. I had simply heard of Henry George as an aggressive reformer, an advocate of social changes, and the author of a famous book called "Progress and Poverty." I had never read any of his writings, nor had I any conception of what he believed and taught.

At the time mentioned I was a resident of Los Angeles, Cal., but was spending a few weeks in my old home, Chicago, Ill. I was president of the Illinois Association, of Los Angeles, an organization which made engagements with a few notable speakers for public lectures.

While in Chicago I received a letter from Henry Harrison, the secretary of the Illinois Association, who knew just about as little of Henry George as I knew. Mr. Harrison stated that as Mr. George was announced to visit the Pacific Coast, en route for Australia, some time during the approaching winter, it might be best for our organization to secure him, if possible, for one or two lectures.

His sugges ion was supported by Mr. F. L. Grosvenor, treasurer of our association. Thinking favorably of it, I immediately wrote to Mr. George, received a prompt response, and in a few days we had him under contract to lecture two consecutive nights in Los Angeles, under our management, the dates to be determined later on.

Soon after my return home I said to Harrison: "Well, Henry George is a noted character, but really I know very little as to what he believes, preaches or practices. Suppose we get a copy of 'Progress and Poverty' and read it together before he comes here." This was agreed to; we procured a copy of the book and read it, little at a time. It opened our eyes on the land and labor questions, and made us the more desirous of meeting and hearing the noted agitator and controversionalist. On the last evening of February, 1890, Henry George appeared before a large audience in Illinois Hall to deliver his first lecture in Los Angeles. Many of the leading citizens were present, and all were eager to see and hear the man of whom they had heard so much. As president of the organization it was

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Ralph E. Hoyt was born in St. Albans, Vermont in 1832. When he was less than two years of age the family emigrated to what was then considered the "far West," though no farther from New England than Pike County, Illinois. At an early age Mr. Hoyt learned the printing business, and for a year or more published and edited the Griggsville Independent. In 1861 he was admitted to the bar, practiced a short time in Central Illinois, and then removed to Chicago, where he remained most of the time for twenty five years. He practiced law in Chicago two or three years, but was most of the time engaged in journalism. Six years ago he removed to California, where he has been actively engaged in colonization enterprises Los Angeles is yet his home, though he expects to spend most of the ensuing eighteen months in Chicgao, in the work of encouraging emigration to California.

Mr. Hoyt has done a vast amount of public speaking, having begun before he was nineteen years old and kept it up ever since. He has delivered either lectures or political speeches in at least fourteen different States. He has always felt a lively interest in politics; not as a partizan but as an honest advocate of what he believes to be right. He is by nature and education bold, aggressive, and radical where principle is involved He demands even-handed justice for everybody, holding that where justice prevails charity is unnecessary, and that where justice is denied charity is a hollow mockery. He has been a Republican, though an independent voter, from Fremont's time to Harrison's, and has participated, as a speaker and writer, in every presidential campaign since 1860. He is now an uncompromising single taxer. The story of his conversion to the single tax doctrine, by Henry George, is told in the accompanying article.

my duty to introduce the lecturer, which I did with but few words. Let me say right here that I had already learned enough of Henry George and the truths he promulgated to make that occasion one of the proudest in all my experience.

Mr. George spoke for an hour and a half on "The Social Problem." He was heartily applauded by many and carefully listened to by all. I have heard nearly every noted public speaker in the United States who has been on the stage of action within the past thirty years, but I can truthfully say that from no one else did I ever learn so much worth knowing as I learned from Henry George that night. His address was at once profound and brilliant, logical and witty, forcible and eloquent. It was a masterly arraignment of our present social system in all its hideous deformity, followed by an exposé of the protection superstition and an explanation of the single tax theory—so clear, so plain, so simple and straightforward that no honest investigator could fail to be favorably impressed. The next night George spoke for an hour directly on the single tax, and then devoted an hour to answering questions from the audience. At the close of the meeting he immediately resumed his journey to Australia. I have never met him since that hour, but he left behind him in Los Angeles abundant food for thought and discussion, besides several new converts, who will be staunch single taxers and free traders as long as they live—Henry Harrison and myself being among the number. Mr. Harrison, being a very intelligent man and an independent thinker, readily grasped the truths presented; and being also a lover of justice, with the courage of his convictions, he did not hesitate to openly avow his belief in the greatest of all reforms.

F. L. Greevenor is not yet an outspoken single taxer, but he is on the right road. He now reads and admires Henry George's writings, and being a man of noble impulses and an advocate of justice, his complete acceptance of Mr. George's views may be looked for in the near future.

For years prior to reading and hearing Henry George's arguments, I had been fully conscious that our modern social system was bad, and rapidly going from bad to worse. I had long been identified with reform movements, freely contributing time, labor, and means according to my ability toward helping forward what I honestly believed to be a good cause. But on becoming a single taxer I discovered that this is the foundation of all other reforms. It lies at the bottom of all truth and justice in the social structure, or rather, it is itself the very embodyment of truth and justice.

He who cannot understand the single tax theory, after careful investigation, must be exceedingly stupid. He who does understand it, and yet is unwilling to let the community take for its use that which the community itself creates, is a selfish, cold-blooded creature, a human shark, whose highest aim in life is to devour persistently the smaller fish and call it business. To my mind nothing is plainer than the proposition that the land belongs to the people for their use while they live, and therefore cannot be monopolized without the rankest injustice. Equally clear is the proposition that no tax whatever should be imposed on labor, nor on the products or processes of labor. If these two propositions are not sound to the core, then there is neither truth nor justice to be found on earth. They are the basic principles that underlie the single tax system. Every well posted single taxer can successfully defend these principles against "the world, the flesh and the devil." To deny them is equivalent to saying that the laborer is not entitled to what he earns; that the state acts wisely in doing all it can to discourage industry and offer premiums to idleness; that the speculator is entitled to greater consideration than the home-builder; that land monopoly, which robs uncounted millions of their natural inheritance, is a sacred system, ordained of God; that freedom of commerce is a crime, to be either restricted or entirely suppressed by law; that poverty and charity are twin necessities, inseparable from our social system.

Whoever denies the single tax principles must of necessity be driven to admit each and all of these monstrous propositions. There is no escape for him, though he may wriggle and twist like a fish out of water.

Single taxers do not want charity, either for ourselves or for anybody else. We simply ask for justice. Not justice for a few, but absolute, even-handed justice for all. And we are not begging for it, we demand it. We demand that access to land and the use thereof shall be as free as is the use of air, sunshine, or any of the other natural elements belonging to the people, because given to them by a wise creator, and without the use of which mankind cannot exist. We demand also that every burden, every restriction, placed by our laws upon industry shall be removed, and all necessary revenue be raised from land values. These things the single tax, if given opportunity, will accomplish. No other reform movement can effect one-quarter as much for humanity. In fact all others, so far as adopted, must redound to the benefit of the landowner. From the very nature of the case this cannot be otherwise. The single tax must come first. After that, various other reforms can be instituted, without becoming aids to land monopoly; because under the single tax system land monopoly will be impossible. Other reforms can then be beneficial to the people, just in proportion to the intrinsic merit of each reform.

Land monopoly is the overshadowing curse of the ages. Why, if you could take money monopoly, transportation monopoly, monopoly of personal property, and all other monopolies known to modern times except this one, and place them in one side of the scales; then put land monopoly in the other side; so sure as God's laws are higher than man's laws—so sure as the birthright of every human being is more sacred than are any laws or customs that rob humanity of that birthright—just so sure would land monopoly turn the scales, and outweigh all its rivals.

I sympathize with every honest movement for the betterment of our social conditions. I respect the men who from motives of philanthropy are earnestly endeavoring to push those reforms to the front. But believing as I do that land monopoly is the greatest monopoly of the age, and a more prolific cause of poverty and misery than are all other monopolies combined, I shall continue to fight against it, by advocating the single tax with what little ability God gave me, regardless of all other issues.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA TAXATION.

HENRY GEORGE, JR.

House bill 9,371, based upon the recommendation of the select committee to investigate tax assessments in the District of Columbia, was reported to the House of Representatives yesterday, Monday, July 12, and was considered in Committee of the Whole.

In order that the points of the debate may be properly understood, the bill is here printed in full:

A bill to create a permanent Board of Equalization in the District of Columbia.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that from and after the passage of this act there shall be a permanent Board of Equalization, composed, as hereinafter provided, with exclusive power to levy, increase, diminish and equalize assessments on real estate in the District of Columbia.

Sec. 2. That the said Board of Equalization shall consist of one president and one prosecutor, with such duties and powers as hereinafter provided.

Sec. 3. That there shall be a president of the Board, who shall hear publicly both sides of all questions of assessment, and decide from the evidence the amount at which each piece of real estate shall be assessed, and shall in every case determine the true amount in lawful money, under ordinarily favorable circumstances, that such real estate would bring if sold at public or private sale on the usual terms, one third cash and the balance in one and two years. He shall make all rules and regulations governing the Board, and as to the manner in which notice shall be given to property owners, and as to the manner of appeal by property owners for the equalization of assessments on their own or other property; and is empowered to require sworn reports as the value and rental of property by owners or agents, and shall hold all meetings with open doors. He is hereby empowered to send for persons and papers within the District of Columbia, and process therefor shall be served by the police of said District, and to examine witnesses under oath, but no witness shall receive compensation. The president of the Board shall also appoint and remove at his pleasure one clerk at a salary of one thousand two hundred dollars per annum, to keep a journal of the proceedings and to perform such other duties required of him. Said president of the Board shall receive a salary of four thousand dollars per annum.

Sec. 4. That the other member of the Board of Equalization shall be a prosecutor, who shall represent the interests of the District of Columbia and the United States Government in all applications made for the change of assessment, and, by his own motion or at the request of any citizen or member of Congress, shall call attention to all cases in which an assessment has not been made or is too low, and shall present to the president of the Board all attainable evidence. He shall appoint and remove at pleasure a draftsman at one thousand four hundred dollars per annum to make the maps hereinafter described, and perform such other duties as may be required. The salary of the prosecutor shall be three thousand five hundred dollars per annum. The president and the prosecutor of the Board of Equalization shall be appointed within sixty days after the passage of this act for the term of one year, by the President of the United States, who shall also fill, either temporarily or for the remainder of the term, any vacancy occurring in either office.

Sec. 5. That the journal of the Board shall be open for inspection during office hours. It shall commence with a statement of the total assessment of land values in the District of Columbia on the first Monday in June, eighteen hundred and ninety-two, taking for that purpose, for the cities of Washington and Georgetown, the assessment now being prepared, and for the remainder of the District the last assessment. The journal shall thereafter be made to show the amount added to or taken from the aforesaid total assessment, so that the total assessed value of land in the District shall at all times appear. Forty days before the first of November and the first of May in each year the journal shall be closed, and the total amount of the assessment, less the amount assessed on land by law exempt from taxation, shall be reported over the signature of the president and prosecutor of the Board to the Commissioners of the District of Columbia, who shall determine and fix a uniform rate of taxation necessary to raise the revenue required, not exceeding one dollar and fifty cents for every one hundred dollars. The Commissioners shall transmit said report and the rate to the assessor and collector to guide them in the preparation of the tax duplicate for that period of six months.

Sec. 6. That there shall be kept in the office of the Board of Equalization two sets of maps under the direction of the prosecutor, one set showing the District of Columbia in not more than four sections, with all the subdivisions of squares and tracts in the outlying districts; and on each square and tract shall be marked the contents in square feet or acres, the total land value, and the average valuation per square foot or acre, according to the assessment on the first Monday in June, eighteen hundred and ninety-two. The other set of maps shall show each square or tract on a separate sheet in book form, designated by the number of the square or tract, which square or tract shall be subdivided into lots showing each separate ownership, and on each subdivision there shall be marked the contents in square feet or acres, the total land value, and the value per foot or acre, according to the assessment on the first Monday in June, eighteen hundred and ninety-two. And thereafter changes in assessments on land or new assessments shall be marked on the face of both sets of maps until such time as in the judgment of the prosecutor new sets of maps become necessary. On these maps all public grounds and government property on which no assessment is levied shall be indicated by a distinct color; and another color shall indicate all private grounds assessed, but by law exempt from taxation. The assessor shall turn over to the Board of Equalization all maps and plats now in his possession. All maps shall be open to the public inspection during office hours.

Sec. 7. That the Board of Equalization shall, within forty days after closing of the books, make an estimate of all taxable lands in the District of Columbia, showing the annual rental value of each square and tract, exclusive of improvements, ascertaining as nearly as possible the annual rent that land would bring if put to its best use. The amount of this annual rental so ascertained, with a statement of the amount of the taxes levied upon the land represented by it and showing what percentage of the annual value is taken by taxation, shall be reported by the president of the Board to the Commissioners of the District of Columbia for publication in the annual report.

Sec. 8. That the Commissioners of the District of Columbia shall furnish the Board of Equalization with suitable offices in which to meet.

Sec. 9. That from and after the passage of this act the Board of Assistant Assessors as provided for in paragraph two of an act making appropriation for the District of Columbia, approved March third, eighteen hundred and ninety-one, is hereby abolished; all laws or parts of laws inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed.

Mr. O'Ferrall, of Virginia, was in the chair. Tom L. Johnson had charge of the bill, and was in splendid humor. As soon as the bill was taken up it was apparent that there would be filibustering, Mr. Atkinson, of Pennsylvania, making the point of no quorum, and it required a call of the House to demonstrate that there was a quorum. Mr. Atkinson then wished the original report of the committee, comprising 150 pages, to be read, but as there was only two hours allowed for general debate, Mr.

Johnson objected to this. At last Mr. Johnson got the floor, and opened the debate with a brief explanation of the provisions of the bill, and a good deal of questioning followed. He said:

This House, Mr. Chairman, appointed an investigating committee to look into the question of tax assessments in the District of Columbia last March. That committee met, and after working three months, we agreed on a report, which is numbered 1469, and the bill we reported to the House. The bill before us now is in keeping with that report, which was unanimously agreed to by the committee. Briefly the facts are these: The assessments of property in the District of Columbia are made by three assistant assessors, who secretly, without any evidence whatever coming before them, make an assessment of all the property in the District—land and improvements. On the 1st day of June, the Board of Equalizers, which is composed of the same three men with the addition of the assessor, meet and revise their own work. The result of the work of your committee shows that while the assessment for 1889—the triennial assessment—formed a total of $149,000,000, this new assessment will show $272,000,000, and the real, true value of the property in the District of Columbia is about $500,000,000. So that, as a matter of fact, only 47 per cent. of the value of the land and improvements—real estate—is subject under that scheme of assessment to pay taxes. The great bulk of the property in the District is assessed at *from 70 to 90 per cent. of its value*—that is to say, the bulk of the property, worth from $2 a foot and under, and the small houses; whereas, the most valuable property in the District is assessed at 25 to 35 per cent. of its value, as appeared during the discussion in the Senate in the last few days, with a tax rate of $1.50 per hundred, there will be raised this year under the new assessment some $2,000,000 more than the District will need for its share of the expenses.

Mr. Heard, of Missouri: You mean under the proposed assessment?

Mr. Johnson: Yes. The Senate now proposes, by an amendment to the Sundry Civil bill, to reduce the rate of taxtion so as not to raise too much money. Notwithstanding the fact that two hundred millions and over of property is not assessed, or placed on the taxable list, (there ought to be two hundred and twenty-five millions more than there is), yet with that amount unassessed there will still be, at the rate of taxation now prevailing in the District, $2,000,000 more raised than is necessary for the expenses of the District.

Mr. Outhwaite, of Ohio: How many compose the proposed Board of Equalization?

Mr. Johnson: It is composed of two members, a judge and prosecutor—the same plan that is pursued in the Court of Claims, where the question presented is how much the Government owes to its citizen. In the District this question is reversed, and becomes how much the citizen owes to the Government. We provide the same machinery, and, as I have said, the citizen can appear in person, or by attorney, and have his interest represented, while the District is represented by a sworn officer. This is really a provision on the side of the smaller property owners, who are interested in keeping assessments down. They are the people who now pay the great bulk of the taxation, as their property is assessed to within 10 per cent. of its value, whereas the owners of valuable property have sufficient time to go before the Board of Assessors and prevent large assessments. In the past there has been a steady increase in the rate of taxation on the less valuable property, and very little or no increase, as compared with the value on the more valuable property. The question that is presented, then, is really two-fold: First, as between the two classes of property owners in the District, and the assessments should be on a more equitable basis as between them. If two-thirds of the property in the District is assessed at two-thirds of its value, all of it should be so assessed.

But the plan now proposed provides for keeping down the assessments so that the rate may be high, and that system was in the interest of encouraging Congress to continue to pay one-half of the expenses of the District. The rate of taxation has been kept up, therefore, at $1.50 per hundred for years past. But even among themselves they were not fair in the division, because they cut it down on some property to 10 per cent., and kept it up at the rate of 90 per cent. on other property. Now this bill goes to the correction of that evil. It proposes a plan by which you can have an equitable assessment, and let the rate be what it will, to raise the necessary revenue. In the Senate an amendment was proposed, and although there was a fight made upon it, it was finally adopted, proposing that this assessment which has just been made, and which your Investigating Committee have criticised as being bad, should not be adopted as the basis, but that they should go back to the assessment previous to that and lay the next year's taxes on that assessment, which is worse than the present one. The old assessment of land values in the District was $145,000,000. The new assessment amounts to $272,000,000; so that the new one is $120,000,000 better than the old, and is more equitably divided. Rather than get so much money in the treasury, the Senate was willing to go back to the assessment of two or three years ago, levying and collecting the taxes from the citizens of the District on a plan that is manifestly more unjust than the one we criticised.

Mr. Watson, of Georgia: Your bill proposes to raise a very much larger sum of money than is raised at present, does it not?

Mr. Johnson: Our bill leaves the question of the sum of money to be raised to the District Commissioners.

Mr. Watson: At the present rate it would raise a good deal more money than we need?

Mr. Johnson: The bill provides a way by which the property can be assessed uniformly. This bill proposes to adopt a plan of assessment upon the full cash value. If after the report is made to the commissioners it be found that there are five hundred millions of property in land and improvements in the District, the commissioners are then to determine what rate is necessary to raise sufficient revenue.

Mr. Blount: Is there anything in the bill providing for assessments for the extinguishment of the District debt of over twenty-six millions?

Mr. Johnson: This bill does not deal with that. It proposes to assess realty equally. To raise the present revenue this rate would be about 50 cents in $100. It is entirely competent for Congress to limit a point below which the rate shall not go, or to provide that a certain portion of it shall be used as a sinking fund for the payment of the District debt.

Mr. Blount.—Is my friend under the impression that we are getting too much revenue under the present system?

Mr. Johnson.—I do not think we are; but we started out to cure the evil of the inequality in assessments, and we leave to the House the question of settling how much revenue shall be raised from taxation.

Mr. Sayers, of Texas.—How often does this bill contemplate that the assessment shall be made?

Mr. Johnson.—This bill provides, instead of a triennial assessment, that there shall be a continuing assessment, starting with the present basis and raising the valuation, or putting it down, as the case may require.

Mr. Atkinson, of Pennsylvania: I wish to ask the gentleman from Ohio the meaning of Section 7?

Mr. Johnson: That is simply for statistical purposes. We inserted the provision to which the gentleman refers for the purpose of getting information on the subject of land values.

Mr. Atkinson: The bill provides that it shall be done every year within forty days after the closing of the books. What is the reason for repeating the estimate so often?

Mr. Johnson: Because the value may change every six months.

Mr. Atkinson: Is it not the purpose of this provision ultimately to bring the District under the Henry George system of taxation?

Mr. Johnson: I do not think so. The question came up and that feature was suggested by gentlemen who were not, as I am, an advocate of the Henry George idea. This bill corrects inequalities in the assessment, but it does not embody the single tax, of which I personally am an advocate.

Mr. Blount, of Georgia: Will the gentleman tell us why personal property is not to be taxed?

Mr. Johnson: The committee did not have that subject under consideration—it was dealing with reality alone—the subject with which the three assistant assessors deal.

Mr. Babbitt, of Wisconsin: Mr. Speaker, I understand the gentleman from Ohio to say that he is in favor of the single tax. I have in my mind two lots, one worth, with improvements, $250,000; the other, directly opposite, of the same value, but with no improvements of any account upon it. These two lots are owned, one by a merchant prince, the other by Mike. Will the gentleman please explain what he means by an "equality" of the single tax in such a case?

Mr. Johnson: I should be very glad to enlighten the gentlemen, but I do not think it is fair to take up the time of the House on that subject now.

After Mr. Washington, of Tennessee, one of the members of the committee recommending the bill, had spoken ten minutes, Mr. Atkinson, of Pennsylvania, yielded ten minutes of his time to Mr. Bergen, of New Jersey, who showed at once that he was filibustering by attacking not any vital part of the bill but only Section 7. He thought that could be of no use unless in the interest of the people to-day advocating the Henry George idea. It was plain now that a number of men on the floor were not *opposing the bill on its merits*, but were consuming time to prevent another bill against the interests of the Pennsylvanian railroad from coming up, not one really serious objection being raised. At length, after an hour and a half of the allotted two hours had been consumed, the committee rose to hear some conference reports that have right of way, after hearing which the House adjourned, leaving the debate to be taken up again on the next District of Columbia day, two weeks hence, if Congress should then still be in session.

AUGUSTE DESMOULINS.

W. T. M'CRACKAN.

GENOA, Switzerland, June 25th.—I have just had the very great pleasure of calling upon Mme. Desmoulins, the widow of the late Auguste Desmoulins, who was undoubtedly one of the principal representatives of the single tax in France. At the moment when I was announced Mme. Desmoulins was writing a letter to THE STANDARD, in order to rectify and amplify some of the statements made in the obituary notice which appeared in the issue of May 18th. She has asked me to undertake this task for her, and I consider her request in the light of a privilege.

Desmoulins was born in 1823, and spent his youth in Paris. He was in no way related to Camille Desmoulins, the revolutionary hero of 1789, as is affirmed in THE STANDARD. After working as apprentice to a jeweler, at the age of sixteen he became a type-setter and immediately developed an extraordinary intellectual activity. Coming under the influence of Pierre Leroux, social reformer and author of a "Refutation de Malthus et la Ploutocratie," Desmoulins joined the former's experimental colony at Boussac. There he labored for the cause of popular awakening with single hearted devotion, as editor of the Eclaireur du Centre, the colony's organ, and as schoolmaster.

In 1849, having protested against the outrageous expedition of the French against Rome, he was arrested along with a comrade, Desages. They were dragged from prison to prison, Russian fashion, as far as Lyons, and after six months acquitted for lack of evidence. Desmoulins was fond of telling how, on the last day of their enforced pilgrimage, they were carried in a cart, contrary to usual custom. But when the drivers got drunk on the way and became helpless, (on a dangerous descent) Desmoulins himself took the reins. "Thus it was," he used to say laughing, "that I drove myself to prison."

Once free, the undaunted reformer plunged boldly into political life. He issued an address to the workingmen in which he developed the main features of that union amongst all laborers which was later, in 1864, momentarily realized by the great International Association of Workingmen inspired by Karl Marx and Engels. At the same time he addressed significant words to the agricultural laborers, showing his just comprehension of the land question.

Though essentially a man of peace, Desmoulins felt himself obliged to join the revolutionary party organized to resist the coup d'etat of 1851. Victor Hugo has described the labors of this brave group in his "Histoire d'un Crime." On the night of December 3, 1851, they placarded the whole city with a manifesto calling the people to arms.

Desmoulins was condemned to deportation, but escaped to Brussels, and then joined that noble band of exiles on the island of Jersey, amongst whom Victor Hugo and Pierre Leroux were the most noted.

A new life began here for the indefatigable reformer. Along with Desages he founded an educational institution in which he tried to realize his ideal of combined mental and physical culture. He wrote a great deal for the English and French papers, contributing not a little to a better understanding between the two nations. Soon after his arrival in Jersey Desmoulins married a daughter of his master, Leroux. Unfortunately this union was rendered unhappy by the gradual failing of the wife's mind. She died finally in an asylum, after he had nursed her tenderly for some twenty years.

It was not before 1869, after an exile of eighteen years, that Desmoulins returned to France, just in time to protest against the disastrous adventure of 1870. During the ensuing war his role was that of peacemaker amongst the factions which fought for the control of Paris.

From the moment of his return to his native land the former exile devoted himself as before unstintingly to the cause of social reform in all its phases. The list of his lectures delivered in various parts of France, in England, Italy, even at Philadelphia, Geneva, etc., is very long. As an apostle of international peace, of the rights of women, and of manual education, Desmoulins has left a distinct impression on the world at large.

His voice was heard at every congress convened for the cause of human progress.

In 1881 he was elected Municipal Councilor from one of the wards of Paris, and served his city five years, rising to the position of vice-president of the council.

The last ten years of Desmoulins's life were rendered happy by the companionship of the devoted wife, who is now mourning him with profound grief. It was in 1882 that he contracted a union libre with this lady, of Dutch nationality but of long residence in Paris. In her, at length, the long suffering hero discovered a worthy friend and help in his literary labors.

On the occasion of the International Agrarian Congress held at the Paris Exhibition of 1889, Desmoulins made the acquaintance of Messrs. Henry George, Saunders, Wallace, Flürnheim, and others. THE STANDARD of April 20, 1889, published an obituary notice of his upon Albert Toubeau, a noted French single taxer, and during the last months of his life he contributed a number of articles upon the land question to a provincial paper, which his widow hopes to collect in book form.

That the loss of this striking personality has been deeply felt in more than one quarter is shown by articles devoted to him in the Secolo, the principal Italian paper, and in the Concord, the organ of international peace, published by Mr. Hodgson Pratt, as well as by the number of letters received by Mme. Desmoulins.

At once man of letters, revolutionist, pedagogue, and public official, Desmoulins represents a type now grown exceedingly rare, if not become almost obsolete. Gentle yet bold, modest but unflinching in duty, ever harassed and still ever ready for self-sacrifice. These are the tributes of real greatness.

MONEY AND CURRENCY.

A. H. Stephenson and G. F. Stephens, of Philadelphia, have written a pamphlet with the above title, which may be procured of the Justice Publishing Company, 1341 Arch street, Philadelphia, Pa. It deals with the invention of money, standard of value, and private and government issues of money, and after discussing the best forms of currency, offers a solution of the money question.

The common error regarding the possibility of cornering gold is in this pamphlet clearly pointed out, as is the equally common and equally erroneous belief that the volume of currency fixes the price of commodities and governs the rate of interest. This suggests the solution of the money question, about which the most important point to understand is its unimportance. "What is the need," the authors ask, "of a better medium of exchange to a people who expect prosperity only as they prevent exchange by tariffs?" The one source of the money trouble is found to be the interference of government with the affairs of individuals. The pamphlet is a strong and brief presentation of the subject from the single tax point of view.

DOWN WITH PROTECTION.

E. Hilary Anderson.

The Republican party believes, or affects to believe, that the protective tariff is a benefit to the wage-earning class and an advantage to our industries. The Democratic party knows that this assertion is a pretense and a sham.

SOME OTHERS' WORK.

St. Louis Republic.

It was the single taxers who put the mortgage statistics into the census. It was the single taxers who printed a million copies of "Protection or Free Trade?" in the Congressional Record, and now these irrepressible agitators have asked the World's Fair Commissioners to label each foreign exhibit with a card giving the following information: Cost of goods at place of production; amount of duty, including customs brokerage; cost of transportation to Chicago; selling price in Chicago. The request is a reasonable one, and compliance with it will prove highly instructive.

NATIONAL STREET CAR UNION.

A convention for the purpose of forming a National Union of Drivers, Conductors, Motor Men and other street car employees, will be held under the auspices of the American Federation of Labor, at Masonic Hall, Indianapolis, Ind., at 12 noon, on Monday, September 12, 1892.

THE FREE TRADE PLANK.

San Francisco (Cal.) Examiner.

If that is "free trade" the protectionists are welcome to make the most of it. It is true, it is right, and it is the doctrine which ought to prevail in this republic. Republican protection is a fraud through and through, and imposes upon the wage-earners of the country the heaviest of the burdens under which they stagger.

THIS IS DEMOCRATIC DOCTRINE.

Andrew Carnegie in Triumphant Democracy.

Far be it from me to retard the march of the world toward the free and unrestricted exchange of commodities. When the democracy obtains sway throughout the earth the nations will become friends and brothers, instead of being as now the prey of the monarchical and aristocratic ruling classes, and always warring with each other; standing armies and war ships will be of the past, and men will then begin to destroy custom houses as relics of a barbarous monarchical age, not altogether from the low plane of economic gain or loss, but strongly impelled thereto from the higher standpoint of the Brotherhood of Man. All restrictions upon the products of other lands will then seem unworthy of any member of the race, and the dawn of that day will have come when

"Man to man the world o'er
Shall brothers be and a' that."

SINGLE TAX NEWS.

The Single Tax is a tax on land, regardless of its improvements and in proportion to its value. It implies the abolition of all other forms of taxation, and the collection of the public revenues from this source alone. It would be CERTAIN, because land values are most easily appraised; WISE, because, by discouraging the withdrawal of land from use and encouraging its improvement, it would expand opportunities for labor, augment wealth, and increase the rewards of industry and thrift; EQUAL, because every one would pay taxes in proportion to the value of the land, of right the common property of all, which he appropriated to his own use; and JUST, because it would fall not upon labor, enterprise, and thrift, but upon the value of a special privilege. It is more fully explained in the Single Tax Platform in another column; and in "Progress and Poverty," by Henry George, every point is discussed and every objection answered.

The underlying principle of the single tax—that the earth belongs equally to all, and that the best way to secure substantial justice is to tax the occupant an amount equal to the yearly value of the land—is sound.—Journal of the Knights of Labor, September 24, 1891.

We have no hesitation in declaring our belief that the ideal taxation lies in the Single Land Tax, laid exclusively on the rental value of land, independent of improvements.—New York Times, January 10, 1891.

The best and surest subject of taxation is the thing that perforce stays in one place; that is land.—New York Sun, August 26, 1891.

Every one of these taxes [on commodities and buildings] the ostensible taxpayer—the man on the assessor's books—shifts to other shoulders. The only tax he cannot shift is the tax on his land values.—Detroit News, November 1, 1891.

The Bee does not say that it will never be a full-fledged single tax advocate. It believes in it in theory now; it pauses only on the threshold of doubt as to the expediency under existing circumstances.—Sacramento (Cal.) Bee.

The products of individual industry should remain at all times untaxed. Take the annual rental value of land without regard for improvements, no matter what it amounts to. The community could put this fund to better uses than the individual landlords.—St. Louis Chronicle.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE SINGLE TAX LEAGUE.

The National Committee is carrying on the newspaper work of the Memphis committee in supplying news companies with single tax matter for their ready prints and plates.

Receipts for week ending July 12:

Thomas Hunt, Kennedy, O.	1 00
S. D. Guion, Brooklyn, N. Y.	50
Cash balance reported last week	31 42
Total	$32 92
Due from newspaper companies for single tax moulds	45 00
Liabilities	$77 92
Due A. N. Kellogg Newspaper Company for composition, etc.	78 75

GEO. ST. JOHN LEAVENS, Secretary.

PROGRESS OF THE MOVEMENT.

Little by little our leaven is working in the Democratic party. At the regular party convention of Knox County, Me., held on the 2d of July at Rockland, a series of resolutions in favor of absolute free trade for the nation and the single tax for local affairs was passed.

DEMOCRATS ADOPT THE SINGLE TAX.

The single tax resolution is as follows:

Resolved, That while we recognize the impropriety of a political convention assuming to take sides in a labor dispute, such as is now in progress in the granite industry, yet, in view of the fact that such dispute is paralyzing one of the leading industries of Knox county, we, as Democrats and believers in the doctrine of equal rights, protest against the continuance of that system that makes one man dependent on the will of a fellowman for an opportunity to fulfill the Divine command to earn his bread by the sweat of his brow. We hold that the granite deposits that abound in our county are a portion of those bounties of nature in which all living men have the equal right of use, and that no one has a moral right to monopolize them and prevent those who would by toil convert the raw material into any form of wealth from doing so. We, therefore, favor such a change in our system of taxation as shall require the owners of all such natural opportunities to pay into the public treasury an equitable tax on the value of the same, so they may be compelled to either utilize them by the employment of labor or abandon them to others, and that they may no longer deprive men of the right to an opportunity to work and to the full reward of their toil.

That is a specimen of the kind of platform the Democratic party will soon be turning out from its larger conventions.

STATE ORGANIZATIONS.

A state organization of the Single Tax League will probably be formed for Pennsylvania next month. At the request of the single tax clubs of Philadelphia, Pittsburg, Bradford, Pottstown, Reading, and Germantown, A. H. Stephenson, the national committeeman from Pennsylvania, has called a conference of the single tax men and women of Pennsylvania to meet at Reading on Saturday, August 6. Any resident of the state who believes in the single tax may attend the conference as a delegate and take part in the proceedings, and those who intend to be present are requested to notify Charles S. Prizer, 1011 Penn street, Reading, Pa.

Thomas W. Edkins, of Ilion, has been appointed to the state committee of New York, in the place of Geo. Rix, who is now abroad.

VARIOUS GATHERINGS.

The receipts at the Omaha single tax meeting amounted to $43.50, and the expenses were $28.50. The balance of $15 has been sent to THE STANDARD to be applied in the distribution of literature.

At the regular monthly meeting of the Manhattan Single Tax Club of New York, President McCabe told the story of the adoption of the single tax in Hyattsville, Md., as printed in last week's STANDARD, and the club had a jollification over the event. "When the rights of all men to the land shall be recognized," said Mr. McCabe, "many loving hands will point to Hyattsville as the town that blazed the way."

The Monroe and the Carleton Economic Reading Circles of Brooklyn had an outing together on the 9th, at the McCabe Cottage, Sheepshead Bay, L. I. Robert Baker was toast master and the toasts were: "Aims and Objects of the Economic Reading Circle," "Education in Relation to Economics," "Ethics of Political Economy," "Woman's Influence in Economic Education," "The Old and the New Political Economy," "Inefficacy of Reform Not Based on First Principles." Responses were made by Martin Battle,

Ellen F. Kenyon, John Filmer, Eva Turner, Gustave W. Thompson, and Jennie Rogers, and Joseph McGuinness and C. H. Govart gave recitations.

At the last meeting of the Battle Creek (Michigan) Club, the Rev. Preston Barr, rector of St. Thomas's Episcopal Church of that town, delivered an address on "The Basic Theory of the Single Tax as I Understand It," and surprised the single tax men in his audience as much by his complete understanding of the subject as by his outspoken advocacy of the reform.

SINGLE TAX LETTER WRITERS.

As the supply of acceptable targets this week is not equal to the requirements of the corps, I will ask members and friends to devote their time to collecting and sending me suitable names instead of giving it to their usual weekly letters.

Although the work of this branch of the propaganda necessarily attracts but little public notice, it is nevertheless important and productive of good, and should not be overlooked by single tax workers amid the distractions of politics, "St. George" distribution, etc.

If friends will keep the corps supplied with targets it will undertake the labor of bringing the single tax to their attention.

New York, P. O. Box 471. MARIAN DANA MACDANIEL, Secretary.

A FORTUNATE PHILOSOPHER.

Albany (N. Y.) Press and Knickerbocker.

Mr. Henry George is the most fortunate living example of the philosopher in politics. True, he could not be elected Mayor of New York, but he sees his pet economic hobby in the Democratic platform, and his single tax theory has just been endorsed by the Omaha aggregation.

PLAIN AND COURAGEOUS.

East Oregonian.

The tariff plank of the Democratic platform, as amended, is plain and to the point, courageous and fitted to the spirit of modern democracy..

WHY NOT TAX THE FOREIGNER.

New York Herald.

A one hundred and ten-ton gun can fire two fifteen hundred-dollar shots a minute. Such guns would not do in this country. After half an hour's fighting the gunners would have to sit down and wait for another appropriation from Congress.

PROTECTION AT HOMESTEAD.

Toledo Sunday Journal.

No free trade orator can voice, no free trade writer can present, no free trade advocate could imagine such potent arguments against the prevailing fallacy of the dominant party as are being flashed over the wires in the regular course of the news by the Associated Press from Pittsburg.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.

——P. Cameron, of Westbourne, Manitoba, Canada, asks how many landowners there are in the United States, and also whether it is true, as he has somewhere read, that people are taxed for the light of the sun in England.

We know of no trustworthy statistics as to the number of landowners in the United States. In the sense in which Mr. Cameron understands it, people in England are not taxed for the light of the sun. It is true, however, that in England, and in every other place where land is treated as a commodity, people are taxed for the light of the sun. Sunlight is a factor in determining the desirableness of locations, which in turn determine the rental value of land.

——James Bartley, of Amsterdam, N. Y., asks if the relation of the volume of money to the volume or quantity of actual wealth has anything to do with fixing or regulating the price or selling value of that wealth.

It has to do with the price of wealth, but not with its value. A rise in price, due to scarcity of money, raises all prices and thus preserves the equilibrium of values. But the volume of what is distinguished as money has very little to do even with prices. To the extent that money scarcity impedes trade it raises prices; but inasmuch as over 90 per cent. of all trading is done by means of checks, drafts, and the like, and less than 10 per cent. by means of money, a scarcity of money can have but very little effect upon prices in trading.

——E. H. Rockwell, of Farmington, Iowa, writes that his town has a cigar factory, employing from six to eight men, and asks how free trade will help that factory.

It will enable the proprietors to obtain better tobacco for lower prices, in consequence of which they can sell a better cigar for less money, thereby increasing their sales and enhancing their aggregate profits. And since increased sales will require more workmen, their demand for help will lessen the glut in the labor market and raise wages. But as an increase in wages generally increases all wages, their own income for the work they do will also be enhanced. In other words, free trade will increase their own wages as workmen together with the wages of their men. If they lose by free trade it will be not as workmen, but as the beneficiaries of a special privilege—as monopolists.

We are here assuming that cigar-making is a profitable business in this country, requiring no government aid for its continuance. If, however, cigar-making here is so unprofitable that it must have government aid or stop, the cigar industry in Iowa would disappear with the advent of free trade. In that case all our cigars would be imported, and we should pay for them with the products of other forms of industry. The cigar makers of Farmington would then open cigar stores, or engage in some of the numerous more profitable occupations which free trade would benefit. No free trader claims that free trade would benefit mononopolists as such; what we claim is that it would benefit workers as such. It would increase the profit of all home industries that flourish under free competition, and abolish all home industries that are dependent for their existence upon government aid.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

DOMESTIC.

Cyrus W. Field died on the 12th.

The House passed under suspension of the rules the bill admitting tinned plate free after October 1, 1894, the bill reducing the duty on silver lead ore and admitting free the lead contained in silver ore, and the bill limiting the amounting of clothing imported free by individuals to $100 in value.

The pavers' strike in New York has ended in a surrender by the workmen.

The Free Silver bill, which has passed the Senate, was tied up in the House Coinage Committee for a time by the action of filibustering anti-silver men, but will be reported to day.

Wm. Waldorf Astor, head of the house, is reported dead in London.

Kansas Democrats have nominated as electors for President the ten persons nominated to the same offices by the People's party. This action is in accordance with the advice of Wm. M. Springer, of Illinois, who urged that if Kansas Democrats should do this their example would be followed by the Democratic conventions of Iowa, Minnesota, Ohio, and Pennsylvania, and the result would be to make Harrison's election impossible, and to throw the election into the Democratic House of Representatives in case Cleveland failed to obtain a majority of the electoral college. The state nominees of the People's party also were endorsed.

FOREIGN.

Fire at St. John's, New Brunswick, destroyed 600 buildings, and left 15,000 persons homeless. The loss is $20,000,000.

Ravochol, the Anarchist, was guillotined in France.

The French Minister of Marine has resigned because of a defeat in the Chamber on the Dahomey question.

Cholera is raging at various points in Asiatic Russia, has appeared in European Russia, and is semi-epidemic in the environs of Paris.

Revolutionists in Honduras have overthrown the government and captured the President.

SOMEWHAT ASTRAY.

Knights of Labor Journal.

The Philadelphia Telegraph has the following:

Henry George's journal, THE STANDARD, says that "single taxpayers"—viz.: all those who would limit taxation to the soil—"should help to welcome the nominees and platform of the Minneapolis Convention with hospitable hands to bloody political graves."

The Telegraph also says that THE STANDARD "speaks to and for a large and largely representative labor audience." The Telegraph is a thoroughly representative journal—representative of the class of people who are ever ready to talk learnedly and stiltedly upon the subjects they know least about. THE STANDARD is not Henry George's journal. He has no proprietary interest in it, and has not had for a long time. "Single taxpayers" is a new name born of the Telegraph's learned ignorance. Limiting taxation to the soil is a somewhat clumsy way of describing a single tax on land values. The editor of the Telegraph does well to read THE STANDARD; if, while reading it, he would divest himself of his owl-like I-know-it-allativeness, he would do still better. THE STANDARD is not and does not pretend to be a labor paper, nor does it speak to or for a labor constituency. It is an advocate of a single tax on land values, and advocates the abolition of all other forms of taxation. It is, therefore, and consistently, a free trade paper. In its zeal for free trade it for some time has been in great danger of sinking to the level of a Democratic organ; but, in spite of that, it continues to be the best authority on the great question of land reform. And if the Telegraph editor will read THE STANDARD and study it as well, he will perhaps in time get rid of that conceited ignorance which has so often misled him into confounding land reform with communism, anarchism and the other isms with which old women of both sexes are wont to frighten themselves and each other.

NOT IF FREE TRADE GETS A HEARING.

Pittsburg (Penn.) Chronicle Telegraph.

Henry George is explaining how protection was knocked out of the Democratic platform. In November he will have an opportunity of explaining how free trade was knocked out at the polls.

OBJECT LESSONS.

This department contains facts, gathered from all parts of the world, that are of current interest and permanent value, and illustrate social and political problems. Information from trustworthy sources is solicited.

THE FOREIGNER PAYS THE TAX.

John S. Maclean writes from Columbus, Ohio:

I have been having no little fun out of a lot of Canadian pine lumber, which I bought lately for use in our factory. First, the dealer from whom I bought is a Republican. In the customary dickering before the deal he stated that among other items of expense he had to pay $1,000 duty.

"Well, but," said I "you don't mean to try to make us pay that. You're a McKinley man, and McKinley says the Canadian pays the tariff?"

"McKinley be d——d," said he. "Let him try to bring over some lumber, and he'll find out who pays the tariff."

Well, the short and long of it is we paid the tariff, and although my partner (the head of the firm) is a strong Republican, he has been unable to devise any means of getting it back from the Canadians. I have referred the matter to dozens of tariffites, but begin to think that my only hope is to have our Governor himself show how the trick is done. In the meanwhile I fear we shall have to charge it up to the protected carpenters and builders of this city and vicinity.

"Great God!" exclaimed Mr. McKinley in his debate with Campbell at Ada last fall, "does a man need a chart to see who pays the duty?" Not at all, my dear Governor. Just buy a car of Canadian pine, and you'll have some "tariff" knowledge that'll stick to you better than "Jimmie Campbell's chart."

PERSONAL.

Judge S. S. Davis, of the Superior Court at Creston, Iowa, was born near Central Illinois July 17, 1854, and educated in a printing office, which he entered as an apprentice at the age of 14 years. Going to Creston, Iowa, he purchased the Creston Democrat and ran it until 1882. Admitted to the bar in 1879 he has followed law and journalism ever since, except while postmaster. He was Democratic-Greenback candidate for Congress in 1884 against Colonel W. P. Hepburn, the present solicitor of the treasury, and was one among the first Democrats of Iowa to boldly advocate free trade on the stump. He believes that the only true tariff reform is to wipe out the whole system. He was defeated that year, but he ran ahead of his ticket 600 votes. President Cleveland appointed him postmaster at Creston in July, 1885, and he resigned April 1, 1890, to go on the Superior Court bench, to which he was elected for a four years term. He has been a frequent contributor to the Chicago press, and occasionally to periodical literature.

President Andrews, of Brown University, commenting on the statistics of Giffen and his kind, which show a wonderful increase in the prosperity of workingmen, says that when reading them we "sometimes really pity the mill owners and wonder why they do not take work as hands in the mills."

A. H. Colton picks up the glove for the single tax in the columns of the Religio-Philosophical Journal, and makes it lively for his adversaries.

Will Kennedy, editor of the Boulder Age and the leading single tax man of Montana, has been nominated for Governor by the People's party.

The Iowa Tribune states that Tom L. Johnson has introduced a bill in the House for the election of Congressmen by the quota system.

John Russell Young, formerly American minister to China, contributes this interesting bit to the history of "Progress and Poverty:"

"That estimable gentleman, my dear and honored friend, Henry George, had written in those years a book which he felt, as Whiteman and Carlisle before him, to be a solemn message to mankind. Composed under depressing circumstances in California, he had managed by heroic sacrifices to put it into type. Now, if only some one would read his book! Henry George was then unknown beyond the threshold of his Pacific home. I was going to England, and took a dozen copies to peddle for him. I tried an old-fashioned bookseller at the Haymarket, who had exalted people for customers—a royal highness, Lord Beaconsfield, and the like. In a few days I called only to see the books on the shelves, and the bookseller debating with his conscience as to whether he should not go to the Old Baily and plead guilty to the condonement of a conspiracy for overturning society. All that was left was to take the volumes and ask the ever-willing Smalley, of the Tribune, to name some advanced thinkers of the 'crank' species at whom I might throw them, and have the rubbish well out of the way. This book was 'Progress and Poverty.' In a short time its sale in London had reached to sixty thousand a year. It gave its author world-wide fame as one of the foremost men of the time."

Thomas G. Shearman, now abroad, has written a long letter to the London Times on the approach of free trade in America. Mr. Shearman states his belief that the adoption of the free trade plank by the Democracy at Chicago renders it certain that within five years America will adopt absolute free trade, and that American commerce will double within a decade.

Jacob Aberbanell, the well-known literateur and single tax advocate, and Miss Cornelia L. Eaton were married on the 30th.

The splendid speech of Congressman F. E. White, printed in THE STANDARD a few weeks ago, can be obtained in quantities, ready directed and franked, for $1.75 a thousand. This is a document that can be used to good advantage, and it should be widely circulated.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

—H. R. Bisbee writes from Ainsworth, Neb: The demand of single taxers for Mr. Johnson's District of Columbia bill has been so unanimous that I dislike to disturb the harmony of the family circle; and yet, as a single taxer, I see danger to the cause in this measure. It is a fair presumption that exempting personal property and improvements in the district from taxation will cause a large influx of capital and population, and a corresponding rise in land values. The district is limited in area. The bill provides for the limited single tax, not for taking the annual rental value of land nor for proportionately increasing the tax as land values increase. Why will not land owners reap the benefit? To accomplish beneficial results when tried on a small area, we must have the single tax unlimited. A partial failure to accomplish what we claim for it, in its first few trials, will prove disastrous to the cause.

Another objection to the bill is that it is not supported by public sentiment in the district. The people who are to try it do not understand it or believe in it, and, like any other law, to be successfully enforced it must be understood and supported by the people who are called upon to administer and obey it. Experience has conclusively demonstrated that no law is a success when opposed by a majority of the people. For these reasons I fear that a trial of the limited tax in the district at the present time would prove disappointing. When we try the experiment it should be tried on a large area, or with the single tax unlimited, so land monopoly will not be able to reap the benefits of increased capital and population.

At the present time propaganda work is much more important than political. I heartily approve the work done by the single taxers in this Congress, and it is about the only thing this Congress has done that does commend itself. The fact that the single tax has been granted a hearing by the Congress of the United States and been presented to the country by members of that body, is cause for congratulation. It marks an epoch in the movement. Hereafter it is to be discussed, not dismissed with a contemptuous reference to helping yourself to all the land you want. I fully appreciate the work done by our members of the House, and as propaganda work the introduction and discussion of Mr. Johnson's bill is all important, but the next bill should go further.

—N. Cree writes from Kansas City, Kan.: In your review of my book, "Direct Legislation by the People," you suggest that the chapter touching a federal initiative and referendum without a constitutional amendment is "peculiarly pregnant." A little reflection will convince any one that the initiative by ballot, as there proposed, would soon become common. The aggressive force of Democracy, and the immense weight that a deliberate expression of opinion in favor of a law by a majority would carry with it, would soon result in the initiation of all important laws in the manner therein proposed. Under our existing systems, with party machinery, the majority cannot be heard; it is without an organ of expression. As to the constitutionality of the proposed initiative by ballot there can be no doubt. Think for a moment of its far-reaching effect, and of the force of a popular will so expressed as to become practically a mandate to legislative bodies!

The proposed federal referendum might be objected to as unconstitutional, but I think it is not. Think what a popular discussion we would have upon a reference of such a law as the McKinley bill to a popular vote, and of the advantage of ascertaining the real majority concerning such laws! We cannot do that under party systems. I admit that popular law making is not a sure security against tyranny, but it would tend to prevent extreme legislation, and would thus cut off much opposition now suffered from the power of ultra men in partisan legislative bodies.

—C. Reeves, of Darien Centre, N. Y., writes: Why oppose liberal pensions; as the money is raised by duties on imports, foreigners pay the pensions. Let us pension everybody and collect from foreigners.

ALIEN LAND OWNERSHIP.

Portland (Ore.) East Oregonian.

A great many newspapers are howling about alien land ownership. This is no greater a damage to the people than the ownership of large bodies of land by Americans. It makes no difference whether monopolizers of land are of home or foreign birth, the result is just the same; the producing people have to share the fruits of their toil with them without receiving anything of value in exchange. There is a great deal of buncombe in the cry against alien land ownership. It is the cry mostly of demagogues, who imagine a thing done by a foreigner is a great wrong, while the same thing performed by an American is a virtue.

PUBLISHER'S NOTES.

THE STANDARD is a weekly paper of sixteen pages, and is the leading single tax and free trade periodical of the world. Its subscription price is $3.00 a year, payable in advance.

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CIRCULATION OF "THE STANDARD."

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Sales, etc	500
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Total circulation, issue of July 13	6,725
Less exchange and free list	325
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THE HOUSEHOLD.

SOME SUMMER VEGETABLES.

ALICE CHITTENDEN.

One might devote an entire paper to the subject of preparing egg plant without giving an exhaustive treatise. We will content ourselves, however, with a few of the easiest and best modes of cooking it.

Fried.—The most usual way is to fry it. Pare the whole vegetable, cut it rather less than over a quarter of an inch thick and pile on a plate with salt between each slice; insert a small tin plate over them and put a weight on top. After an hour they will be ready to fry; the liquor that drains from them is unpleasant to the taste, and the bottom slices must be carefully wiped dry. Now you may dip each slice in flour seasoned with salt and pepper, or you may beat an egg with a tablespoonful of water; dip the slices in this and then in crumbs, or you may dip them in a batter made with one egg, a gill of milk, salt, pepper and a very little flour. Beat the white separately and add it last. About three tablespoonfuls of lard dripping or cattaline should be made very hot; put in as many of the slices, prepared in either of the foregoing ways, as will lie smoothly in the pan, brown on both sides and lay on brown paper for a moment while you fry others. They should go to table very hot.

Baked.—Put the whole vegetable over the fire in boiling water; as soon as tender, which will be in from thirty to forty minutes, cut it in half and take out the soft portions, but avoid breaking the skin. Mash this fine, seasoning with butter, pepper, and salt and adding some very fine bread crumbs; put this back into the skin; dust with fine crumbs and brown in the oven.

A simpler way is to cut the egg plant in two, score both sides, season with salt and pepper and bake in an earthen dish, allowing a tablespoonful of butter to each half. Baste with the gravy that runs from it and send to table in the same dish in which it was baked.

The French of Provence cut small egg plants in two, score the cut sides, season with salt and pepper, baste with oil and broil until soft. They are dished with the inside up and covered with a tomato sauce, to which a small fried onion and a clove of garlic has been added. Shredded anchovies, minced parsley and a little lemon juice are sprinkled over the top.

Americanize this by basting with butter instead of oil; omit the garlic, and onions also, if you wish, and you will have a really delightful dish easily prepared. American palates will be quite as well suited if the anchovies are also omitted. Sliced egg plants are nice broiled and served with melted butter.

In Italy they are broiled until soft, the inside mashed and mixed with a little finely minced salt pork, some minced onions and mushrooms, salt, pepper and bread crumbs; the shells stuffed with this mixture and then sprinkled with crumbs, parmesan cheese grated over the top, basted with sweet oil and browned in the oven. This experiment is only worth trying if you have mushrooms growing in the fields near you, as canned mushrooms are not desirable, besides being expensive.

Lettuce.—This vegetable is used principally as a salad and will be treated of under the head of salads. It may be mentioned that among both English and French they are stewed and sometimes stuffed. Take good sized heads of cabbage lettuce, trim off the stalks and outer leaves and boil for ten minutes; drain and when cold season with salt, cover with stock, add an onion stock with two cloves, a bunch of parsley and a sprig of thyme, and stew for two hours. Dish on a slice of buttered toast, pour the gravy over and serve.

Another way is to first boil them until tender, then chop slightly, put into a saucepan with pepper, salt and a little gravy; dredge on a little flour, pour over a gill of gravy (for four lettuces) simmer fifteen minutes and dish with bits of toast around. Squeeze over a little lemon juice at the last.

Mushrooms grow so plentifully in many parts of the country, and may be cooked in so many delightful ways that they will require a paper by themselves, but as they are not in season until early fall they will receive attention later.

Okra.—No garden, however small, should be without this delicious vegetable. Pick them while young, cut off stems and a bit of the tips and boil in salted water until tender; drain, add butter, pepper and salt and serve hot. Okra should always be cooked in granite or porcelain-lined ware.

Okra with Tomatoes.—Cut a quart of okra into thin slices, add a pint of sliced tomatoes and a level teaspoon of salt; simmer for half an hour and season with butter and pepper to taste.

Sometimes corn is added to this dish, or young lima beans and okra in equal quantities are stewed together.

Okra, Southern Style.—Fry half a pound of ham cut in small dice and put it over the fire with a quart of sliced okra, a pint of tomatoes, one red pepper cut in small pieces, one onion sliced, and a pint of stock. While this is cooking, wash and boil half a pint of rice. When the okra has cooked half an hour season with salt and pepper and add a tablespoonful of sassafras leaves, dried and powdered; boil up once, dish and put the rice around it as a border.

Peas.—It may seem useless to give directions for cooking peas, but there are a few points which if attended to will add to their excellence.

Cook them in plenty of water, boil very rapidly and as soon as they are done drain and season with butter, pepper and salt. Do not shell them until you are ready to cook them if possible, as after shelling they soon loose much of their sweetness. A gill of cream may be added to a large dishful of boiled peas, if cream is plentiful.

Sugar Peas.—String these like green beans, break in inch pieces, boil until tender in as little water as will keep them from burning, and season with butter, pepper and salt.

UNEARNED INCREMENT.

DROP YOUR BUCKET WHERE YOU ARE.

S. W. Foss in Yankee Blade.

"Oh, ship ahoy!" rang out the cry;
"Oh, give us water or we die!"
A voice came o'er the waters far,
"Just drop your bucket where you are."
And then they dipped and drank their fill
Of water fresh from mead and hill;
And then they knew they sailed upon
The broad mouth of the Amazon.

O'er tossing wastes we sail and cry,
"Oh, give us water or we die!"
On high, relentless waves we roll
Through arid climates for the soul;
'Neath pitiless skies we pant for breath
Smit with the thirst that drags to death,
And fail, while faint for fountains far,
To drop our buckets where we are.

Oh, ship ahoy! you're sailing on
The broad mouth of the Amazon.
Whose mighty current flows and sings
Of mountain streams and inland springs,
Of night-kissed morning's dewy balm,
Of heaven dropt evening's twilight calm,
Of nature's peace in earth or star—
Just drop your bucket where you are.

Seek not for fresher founts afar.
Just drop your bucket where you are;
And while the ship right onward leaps
Uplift it from exhaustless deeps;
Parch not your life with dry despair;
The stream of hope flows everywhere.
So, under every sky and star,
Just drop your bucket where you are.

PARAGRAPHS.

Impertinence deserves rebuke, and one man got it handsomely. Revamping an old saying, he remarked that if he were so unlucky as to have a stupid son he should certainly make him a parson. A clergyman who heard him replied: "You think differently from your father, then."—Christian Inquirer.

"I wonder," said Sapson to the barber, "what makes it hurt so to shave my upper lip. It seems very tender." "I dunno," replied the old colored man, as he smiled at himself in the looking-glass, "but I spec yoh got one of dese hyur ingrowin' mustaches."—Washington Star.

He: "Well, we won't quarrel about it any more but just let it go as it is, eh?" She: "Yes. But, George, dear, for the sake of the future—and a harmonious future—I think you would better acknowledge before we drop it altogether that you were wrong. Don't you, dear!"—Puck.

Mr. Welfedde: "Tut, man! Why don't you brace up and go to work? It's all nonsense to say that the world owes you a living. Put forth your powers, exhibit industry, foresight, prudence and thrift, and you are bound to succeed." Mr. Seedey: "Very good advice, sir. Follow your example, you mean." Mr. Welfedde: "Exactly. You couldn't do better. You see how I have succeeded." Mr. Seedey: "I would be glad to do it if I knew how to begin. Will you kindly put me on the right track?" Mr. Welfedde: "Most willingly. It is perfectly simple. All you have to do is to inherit some valuable land from your father, and then show a business-like capacity in collecting the rents."—Toronto Grip.

In truth she was a pretty lass
Who gazed into the looking-glass
She murmured as she gazed again,
"I'm sure I was not made in vain!"
And echo answered, "Maiden vain!"

Baggs: "A funny thing happened to me the other evening. I talked to a lady half an hour thinking it was my wife." Jaggs: "Well, that is funny. How in the world did it happen?" Baggs: "Well, it was my wife."

Undertaker (to dying editor): "What epitaph shall we place on your tombstone?" Editor (feebly): "We are here to stay."—Atlanta Constitution.

A DUEL WITH A GHOST.

E. Sparrow, in the Evening Post.

THE CHALLENGE.

Joe Dumalin, Hugh Shannon and Bentley White were the names of the most promising young representatives of the three professions in their native town of Larchvale. The closest of friends in their boyhood, they found it their chief joy during the college vacations to associate together and to recall their boyish doings. It was the revival of one of their old pranks that was the starting-point for the events of the following remarkable history.

It related to their school days, when a man named Chopston was the village pedagogue. "Old Chop" had shown for some time a marked partiality for a sweet girl in the upper class. One day the three youngsters, who had loitered near the school house after dismissal, saw him starting out with Lulu as if he intended to walk home with her. In a moment they formed the plan of hiding in the trees of a woody path, through which the pair must pass, and giving a war-whoop, just by way of a mild criticism of the teacher's favoritism. The danger was slight, provided they escaped unseen. However, the luckless Joe, now the doctor, straddled a young tree in his blind flight, and the eye of vengeance detected him. The next day, on account of a slight mistake in spelling—he spelled caught c-o-u-r-t—he was invited to stay in his seat until after school for a private interview. The interview was of a forcible and impressive nature, which Joe felt in his heart was entirely unwarrantable.

"I knew with every thwack that it had nothing to do with the spelling," Joe remarked, in relating the story. "It was the meanest piece of punishing I ever heard of, and I resolved then that if I ever got the chance when I grew up I would give that thrashing back."

"Would you do it now?" queried Hugh, the man of law. "Chopston must be old and feeble as anything by this time."

"I don't care," said Joe; "I was young and feeble then."

"Suppose Chopston is dead," said gentle Bentley, the theological student. "Wouldn't you forgive him if you knew he were dead?"

The others laughed at this solemn proposition. Joe replied: "I suppose that would be the only thing to do, as I would have lost for ever the sweets of just revenge."

They were at Bentley's home, and when they had finished the evening, Joe and Hugh left together, and went some distance in company. A cemetery lay on one side of their path, and, as they were passing it, Hugh said: "Suppose old Chop's ghost were to step out of this graveyard, and challenge you to give him that licking; what would you do?"

"I would accept," said Joe promptly.

"Well," said Hugh, "I would like to be your second."

Both laughed, and presently they parted.

A little later Joe was in his favorite chair in his own room, devoting an hour to a book and taking a final smoke before going to bed. Closing the volume on his thumb, and looking at his watch, after a few chapters, he observed that it was ten minutes to twelve. From a tendency to square things off, he opened the book again to read out the ten minutes. He was interested, and the minutes passed beyond the allotted number.

Presently he noticed a strange pressure and coldness on his shoulder. It commanded his attention by degrees. He noticed it, and dismissed the impression several times before his attention was particularly fixed by it. Finally, in a slow and puzzled tone he said, "What the dickens!" and raised his hand to feel of his shoulder.

"Young man," said a voice.

Joe sprang to his feet, and turned fully around; there stood Chopston—or, at least, his ghost.

Like others who have seen ghosts without having previously believed in them, Joe recognized the character of his visitor immediately. In musing on the bare possibility of their existence, he had thought it would be rather interesting to meet one, and in all reason he did not see why an embodied spirit—in other words, a man—should fear a disembodied one.

"Why, Prof. Chopston!" he exclaimed, "this is a surprise. How do you do? Take a seat Shake hands."

The ghost did not extend his hand, but in a hollow, grating voice replied: "Young man, to shake hands with me would curdle your blood."

"Oh, I think not," said Joe carelessly, "people's blood don't curdle unless they are very much frightened."

Chopston did not reply, but eyed Joe with a look that reminded the latter of the old days at school when the same individual used to ask him what he meant by his impudence.

Joe was not disconcerted, and he repeated his invitation to "take a seat."

His visitor's shadowy features wore a troubled look. He seemed dumbfounded by the young man's bold front. At the third invitation to be seated he sank into a chair with the unsteady swaying motion of a cloud of gun smoke subsiding upon a hillside on a damp day.

Joe and his strange visitor eyed each other, the former to mark the effects of his bold policy, and the latter perhaps to determine a better way to assume the offensive.

"I heard you inveighing against me," the ghost at length said.

"Well," said Joe.

"I have come to challenge you," said the ghost.

"Oh ho! with all my heart," laughed the rather reckless young man, "but I shall be surprised if you persist, Mr. Ghost. You are only a spirit, while I am a spirit and a body combined. I should think it would have occurred to you to consider the odds.

Joe had observed the good effect of his self-assurance at the outset of this interview, and considered it a proved means in dealing with this apparently malignant being.

However, his visitor seemed elated rather than troubled at his reply. He sprang to his feet with a bound that sent his ephemeral person far up until only the soles of his feet appeared dimly below the ceiling. So sank again gradually, and at length reached the floor and stood before Joe.

"You have accepted," he cried, pointing an impressive finger at Joe. "I will come again to-morrow night. You must be prepared."

With these words, Chopston's ghost opened the door and went out, as if renewing associations with flesh and blood had made him forget that he could have as easily passed through the partition.

THE PREPARATION.

In spite of himself Joe felt strangely affected by the voice and appearance of the apparition, and a vague feeling came over him that he had committed himself in consenting to engage in a combat with his strange challenger. He thought of his claim to superior odds, and remembered that the ghost had not disputed the theory.

"I shall come out all right anyway," he said to himself; "there is no need to be uneasy. I must get Hugh to be on hand with me to-morrow night. Ha, ha! He will be surprised when he finds I actually need a second to fight a ghost. No need of other preperations. Pistols or swords would be of no use in fighting a phantom—and—what would? I cannot hurt him anyway, and neither can he hurt me. Ha, ha! The affair is a queer one, but not alarming."

Joe's thinking apparatus always had a tendency to elevate his spirits when he reviewed his own dilemmas, and he laughed now at his half-formed apprehensions. Next morning, after a fairly sound slumber, he felt that the whole thing must be an illusion, and he smiled to think of his purpose to summon Hugh to his assistance. On turning the matter over half-a-dozen times, however, the flavor of reality returned, and he decided in the affirmative as to the matter of getting Hugh's company. Of course if he were really going to engage in a duel, he would need a second.

He took an early opportunity to drop in on his friend. He found him studiously engaged with his books, as he entered and announced that he had something important to ask him.

"Important!" said Hugh turning around in his revolving chair. This word always excited interest in the young lawyer, who considered himself specially qualified to grapple with matters of importance. He laughed heartily at Joe's story, and harder still at his friend's serious assurance that it was true.

"Well, I will not urge you to believe," Joe at length said, "but come and spend the evening with me, anyway, and to-morrow you may form any opinion you like about the state of my mind."

"Is Bentley in this?" asked Hugh.

"No, I have told no one but you," replied Joe.

"Well, I believe there is fun for somebody," said Hugh. "I'll come."

The early evening found Hugh on his way to see Bentley. On arriving he told him Joe's story.

"That is a good one," said Bentley.

"That is what I say," returned Hugh; "I thought I would just ask if you were in the game?"

"No," replied Bentley, "and I am thinking I will leave it to you two, seeing I am not required."

Hugh now started on his mission, as he called it, of guarding the remains of his friend's shattered mind.

It was in the autumn, and the two young men found it pleasant to place their chairs near the fire in Joe's room. Hugh had lingered long in the parlor to discuss the matter with Joe's sprightly sister Amelia. He had always treated her with playful impertinence, but a new view of the situation had occurred to him that evening; and when they finally settled down in Joe's den, he became absorbed, and appeared to be making specially careful observations on the forms and motions of tobacco smoke. The fact is, he was considering the novel sensation that stirred in his heart, which organ he had been in the habit of designating the pebble.

The smoke floated and whirled before his eyes, and seemed to take form. He followed its evolutions and tried to detect pleasant pictures in it with the aid of his imagination, an art that afforded him much pleasure in his reflective moments.

"Ah, the fair form!" said Hugh to himself, as the misty coils seemed to settle and pile themselves in a graceful human-shaped column. "No, it looks more like a man. Jupiter, it's Chopston!" With this exclamation he leaped to his feet, and instinctively barricaded himself behind his chair. Joe likewise sprang up, and faced towards the direction Hugh was looking, quite as startled as his friend, whose disbelief on the subject of the ghost's possible visit had seemed to have the weight of a majority in regulating his feelings; since the presence of a bodily man in light mood seemed to preclude the possibility of a stern and ghostly being appearing on the same scene. But now that very material man had been the first to perceive the apparition and declare its presence.

There stood Chopston's ghost glaring at the young men as if it were his habit to gain information by looking through people. Joe and Hugh looked at him, but their was no appearance of their stare having the same searching power, though, in fact, they could look clear through the ghost.

There was no word spoken. In a moment the ghost beckoned them to follow him. They obeyed, hardly knowing whether they did so voluntarily or not. Their conductor led them down stairs and out into the night. The party traversed the silent roads towards the graveyard. As they reached the cemetery Joe came to a sudden stop and remarked: "Our duel must be on neutral ground. I shall not fight you in your own domain."

"The duel shall be on neutral ground," replied the ghost but there are preliminaries."

"What preliminaries?" said Joe.

"You and I cannot fight in our present condition", replied the ghost, "any more than a dog and his reflection can fight. I must have my bones on in order to have something to hit you with, and something for you to hit."

"Why did not you bring them with you?" inquired Hugh, to whose mind this phase of the matter was rather funny; but the ghost made no reply. Hugh turned to Joe, with a low laugh, and said: "Old anatomy, you have got to knock out a skeleton, you see. Quite in your line."

Joe was used to skeletons, and fond of them ordinarily, but he did not feel his passion for such things arising in the present connection. The three now passed in among the graves.

Presently the young men perceived that Chopston's ghost was going towards a spectral comrade, who stood silently awaiting their approach.

"Chopston's second," whispered Hugh. "I suppose he is keeping the bones in readiness as an ordinary second would keep the arms."

Their conductor went up to the second ghost, which the two friends now perceived to be that of Max Von Bremen, a young man who had belonged to the wealthiest family in Larchville before his death, a few months back.

"Is the shovel all right?" said Chopston's ghost.

"Yes," replied Max.

Joe and Hugh now noticed that they were by a half-dug grave with a shovel in it left there, no doubt by the sexton.

"Take the shovel," said Chopston's ghost; "it is for digging up the bones."

Hugh took the spade, as he saw the unfitness of letting his principal make any of the preparations, and he did not care to argue with the ghosts about sharing the work. The party moved on, as the young man supposed, on their way to Chopston's grave.

"Dig here," said Chopston's ghost, stopping and pointing out one of the mounds.

Hugh fell to, and commenced to cut off the sods with his shovel.

Suddenly Joe exclaimed, "This is the wrong grave; see here," stopping to read the inscription on the headstone, "Max Von Bremen."

"That is all right," said Chopston's ghost. "I was killed in a railroad accident, and a good many of my bones are broken, and anyway my bones are so dry and brittle now that they would be no match for your green young skeleton. This gentleman has consented to lend me his bones; so it is all right."

As the matter was verified by the owner himself, there seemed to be no objection, and Hugh resumed without further hesitation. At length the coffin was reached and opened, and Joe, whose knowledge fitted him for the purpose, set the bones in Chopston's ghostly person, where they remained and formed a living, moving skeleton. Max had been just about Joe's height, but Chopston's ghost was somewhat taller; so that his second's bones did not fit him exactly, and he loomed a little above the material structure. This did not seem to inconvenience him, however; and the party started away after a few words, in which it was agreed that the duel should take place in Johnson's field.

Joe and Hugh noticed that Max's ghost picked up the shroud, and took it with him, and surmised that it was to serve as a cloak for his principal during the time between the rounds; and, as the bones were really his own, it was not surprising that he provided for their comfort with such forethought.—[Continued in next issue.]

He: "Yes, darling, and it shall be the purpose of my life to surround you with every comfort and to anticipate and gratify your every wish." She: "How good of you, Harry! And all on $12 a week, too!"—Boston Transcript.

MASTERY THE WAGES OF SERVICE.

L. E. Wilmarth, in New Earth.

"Hard at it planting the garden, I see."

"Yes, uncle," said fourteen-year old Willie. "I'm bound to succeed this time. Father had his laugh at me last year. I didn't want to go to him and ask about every little thing, so I planted most of the seeds too deep. And just at the time the ground happened to be soaking wet, and when the sun came out it baked it as hard as a brick wherever I had touched it."

"Then you didn't get much of a crop, I'm afraid."

"No, indeed! Nothing came up. But I've been watching other people since, and I've studdied the books; so I know just how and when to do everything. I will conquer. I will make these things grow. I will be master. I will have my way." And he straightened up slowly, pressing very hard with the back of both hands upon the lumbar region of his spine.

"Come on to the piazza and rest a few minutes," said I. "I want to talk with you."

Willie readily consented, all the while mopping the streaming perspiration from his face and neck.

"I want to ask you," I began, "what it is that you are so determined to conquer."

"Why, that garden," of course," he quickly replied. "I want to compel everything in it to grow. No, not everything, for I don't want weeds. But I want to master everything, for I want to tell the weeds that they shan't grow, and the plants that they shall grow. I hate to be mastered by a lot of dumb things, stupid potatoes and the like."

"Bravo, my boy! The ambition to conquer and control, when confined to the prolific principles and the active forces of nature, is noble and proper, because it will lead you almost before you know it into the most eminent position a human being can attain to."

"What is that position, uncle? I want to gain it."

"Why, it is that of being a truly intelligent and willing servant," I answered.

"I don't want to be a servant," said the youth, with a disparaging emphasis on the last word. "I despise the word. I'm going to be master or nothing."

"Softly, Willie! Do you forget who it was who taught the Divine law, that whoever would be chief, must become a servant? Do you know that there is no other way of really becoming master, excepting by a willingness to remain a servant?"

"I don't see how that can be with things in a garden," objected Willie.

"Why didn't your seeds grow last year?" I asked.

"Because I didn't plant them right," he replied.

"Put it in other words, my lad, and it was because you didn't know what they wanted, and consequently you couldn't serve them."

"But I know this year. I've been studying Prof. Gray's book, 'How Plants Grow.'"

"And very likely after you have learned all their commands, you will be able to obey them much more intelligently than you did last year," I suggested.

"I don't like that way of putting it," said Willie, with a trace of impatience in the tone of his voice.

"Now, young man, take my advice and never quarrel about words. Try to get at ideas that lie back of words. Suppose some man should have all his orders written down in a book. And they should say to you: I'm not to be fooled with. If you expect any pay from me, you must work for it. First, I want you to get my bed ready. You may sweat and almost break your back in doing it, but it must be done! I want you to see that I am provided with plenty of food and drink. I can't do a thing for myself. I can't stir or move. You must do everything for me. You must trudge over to me wheelbarrowful after wheelbarrow of the food I like best. I know you think it is vile, ill smelling stuff. Can't help that. I must have it. And don't dare to forget that I must have sunbaths most all day long. I know the sunshine makes you puff and sweat when you are attending to me. But I can't let you off. Moreover, I want you to do all the fighting for me. I must insist that you defend me from all enemies and kill and cut to pieces my rivals. Now, Willie, suppose a man should talk to you that way and you were willing to do your best to obey him, which would you call master and which servant?"

"Maybe you are right, uncle," said he, springing up and preparing to resume work. "You may call me servant if you like, but I'm bound to gain the mastery over that garden."

"I'm glad, my boy, that you are willing to earn the mastery. For mastery is only the pay for service. No man ever became master of nature without becoming bond servant to its laws."

THE LOCAL REPORTER.

Wm. T. Croasdale.

With fingers inky and moist,
And eyelids heavy with sleep,
Our "local" sits in lazy despair,
And growls at the terrible heat.
Hot! Hot! Hot!
In office, in hall, and in street,
But hot as it is he still heats his blood,
Thus "blessing" the terrible heat:

Sweat! Sweat! Sweat!
Till collar goes down to a string,
And sweat—sweat—sweat,
Till your shirt is ready to wring.
'Tis oh! to be a frog,
Deep in some dark abyss,
Rather than cater to popular taste
For "locals" in weather like this.

News! News! News!
And copy for printers to set!
Yes, news—news—news,
Why, there's nothing moving but sweat.
'Tis oh! to be a Jew,
Compelled to make bricks without straw,
As well as just now make local hash
To cram the popular maw.

News—News—News!
You're bad as Athens, of old,
And news—news—news—
You must always tell or be told.
Go to France for your news:
That's the place for you yet;
As for Wilmington,—it's dry as punk,
Save where its moistened with sweat.

THE MONGOOSE OR ICHNEUMON.

Harper's Young People.

The long hair of the mongoose is barred alternately white and blackish-brown, which gives a speckled effect to the coat, somewhat reminding one of the coloring of a guinea-fowl. The body is thirteen inches in length, and the tail, which is very thickly clothed with long hair and tapers to a fine point, measures fully fourteen inches. When the animal feels cold it has the power of erecting every hair at right angles with its body, and it then greatly resembles a small porcupine. The entire absence of odor, its cleanly habits and docility when carefully trained, and its charming playfulness, all tend to make the ichneumon a very attractive pet.

The Egyptian species is much larger than the Indian, measuring about three feet from the head to the tip of the tail. The Greek name ichneumon, which signifies "tracker" or "hunter," was evidently given to the animal on account of its exploring and inquisitive habits. The generic term, Herpestes, denotes a "creeper," and both names are truly descriptive of the characteristics of the creature. It is impossible, for instance, to take Mungo for a walk in the garden; he will follow up every scent by the way, peer into every little crevice, sniff with keenest interest into every mouse hole, until at last I get out of all patience and put him on my shoulder for the rest of my ramble. Somehow he seems to have a great dread of being taken away from the house, for the moment he is released at some distance off, he immediately "makes tracks" at full speed to get back to his favorite basket by the fireside. The great use of the ichneumon in India and elsewhere is to clear the houses and compounds of snakes, rats and mice. By nature the little creature is as fierce as a tiger, even my specimen when caught in the jungle at four months old bit the native who captured him pretty severely when he tried to lay hold of him, and Mungo only became the gentle creature he now is after months of patient care and kindness.

THE GOLD-BUG.

BY EDGAR A. POE.

What ho! what ho! this fellow is dancing mad
He hath been bitten by the Tarantula.
—ALL IN THE WRONG.

[Concluded from last issue.]—"It left me also in the dark," replied Legrand, "for a few days; during which I made diligent inquiry, in the neighborhood of Sullivan's Island, for any building which went by the name of 'Bishop's Hotel;' for, of course, I dropped the obsolete word 'hostel.' Gaining no information on the subject, I was on the point of extending my sphere of search, and proceeding in a more systematic manner, when one morning it entered into my head, quite suddenly, that this 'Bishop's Hostel' might have some reference to an old family of the name of Bessop, which, time out of mind, had held possession of an ancient manor house, about four miles to the northward of the island. I accordingly went over to the plantation and re-instituted my inquiries among the older negroes of the place. At length one of the most aged of the women said that she had heard of such a place as Bessop's Castle, and thought that she could guide me to it, but that it was not a castle, nor a tavern, but a high rock.

"I offered to pay her well for her trouble, and after some demur, she consented to accompany me to the spot. We found it without much difficulty, when, dismissing her, I proceeded to examine the place. The 'castle' consisted of an irregular assemblage of cliffs and rocks—one of the latter being quite remarkable for its height as well as for its insulated and artificial appearance. I clambered to its apex, and then felt much at a loss as to what should be next done.

"While I was busied in reflection, my eyes fell upon a narrow ledge in the eastern face of the rock, perhaps a yard below the summit upon which I stood. This ledge projected about eighteen inches, and was not more than a foot wide, while a niche in the cliff just above it, gave it a rude resemblance to one of the hollow backed chairs used by our ancestors. I made no doubt that here was the 'devil's-seat' alluded to in the MS., and now I seemed to grasp the full secret of the riddle.

"The 'good glass,' I knew, could have reference to nothing but a telescope; for the word 'glass' is rarely employed in any other sense by seamen. Now here, I at once saw, was a telescope to be used, and a definite point of view, admitting no variation, from which to use it. Nor did I hesitate to believe that the phrases, 'forty-one degrees and thirteen minutes,' and 'northeast and by north,' were intended as directions for the leveling of the glass. Greatly excited by these discoveries, I hurried home, procured a telescope, and returned to the rock.

"I let myself down to the ledge, and found that it was impossible to retain a seat upon it except in one particular position. This fact confirmed my pre-conceived idea. I proceeded to use the glass. Of course, the 'forty-one degrees and thirteen *minutes*' could allude to nothing but elevation above the visible horizon, since the horizontal direction was clearly indicated by the words 'northeast and by north.' This latter direction I at once established by means of a pocket compass; then, pointing the glass as nearly at an angle of forty-one degrees of elevation as I could do it by guess, I moved it cautiously up or down, until my attention was arrested by a circular rift or opening in the foliage of a large tree that overtopped its fellows in the distance. In the centre of this rift I perceived a white spot, but could not, at first, distinguish what it was. Adjusting the focus of the telescope, I again looked, and now made it out to be a human skull.

"Upon this discovery I was so sanguine as to consider the enigma solved; for the phrase 'main branch, seventh limb, east side,' could refer only to the position of the skull upon the tree, while 'shoot from the left eye of the death's-head' admitted, also, of but one interpretation, in regard to a search for buried treasure. I perceived that the design was to drop a bullet from the left eye of the skull, and that a bee-line, or, in other words, a straight line, drawn from the nearest point of the trunk through 'the shot' (or the spot where the bullet fell), and thence extended to a distance of fifty feet, would indicate a definite point—and beneath this point I thought it at

least possible that a deposit of value lay concealed."

"All this," I said, "is exceedingly clear, and although ingenious, still simple and explicit. When you left the Bishop's Hotel, what then?"

"Why, having carefully taken the bearings of the tree, I turned homeward. The instant that I left 'the devil's-seat,' however, the circular rift vanished: nor could I get a glimpse of it afterward, turn as I would. What seems to me the chief ingenuity in this whole business is the fact (for repeated experiment has convinced me it is a fact) that the circular opening in question is visible from no other attainable point of view than that afforded by the narrow ledge upon the face of the rock.

"In this expedition to the 'Bishop's Hotel,' I had been attended by Jupiter, who had, no doubt, observed for some weeks past the abstraction of my demeanor, and took especial care not to leave me alone. But on the next day, getting up very early, I contrived to give him the slip, and went into the hills in search of the tree. After much toil I found it. When I came home at night my valet proposed to give me a flogging. With the rest of the adventure I believe you are as well acquainted as myself."

"I suppose," said I, "you missed the spot in the first attempt at digging through Jupiter's stupidity in letting the bug fall through the right instead of through the left eye of the skull."

"Precisely. This mistake made a difference of about two inches and a half in the 'shot'—that is to say, in the position of the peg nearest the tree; and had the treasure been beneath the 'shot' the error would have been of little moment; but 'the shot,' together with the nearest point of the tree, were merely two points for the establishment of a line of direction; of course, the error, however trivial in the beginning, increased as we proceeded with the line, and by the time we had gone fifty feet, threw us quite off the scent. But for my deep-seated impressions that treasure was here somewhere actually buried, we might have had all our labor in vain."

"But your grandiloquence and your conduct in swinging the beetle—how excessively odd! I was sure you were mad. And why did you insist upon letting fall the bug, instead of a bullet, from the skull?"

"Why, to be frank, I felt somewhat annoyed by your evident suspicions touching my sanity, and so resolved to punish you quietly, in my own way, by a little bit of sober mystification. For this reason I swung the beetle, and for this reason I let it fall from the tree. An observation of yours about its great weight suggested the latter idea."

"Yes, I perceive; and now there is only one point which puzzles me. What are we to make of the skeletons found in the hole?"

"That is a question I am no more able to answer than yourself. There seems, however, only one plausible way of accounting for them—and yet it is dreadful to believe in such atrocity as my suggestion would imply. It is clear that Kidd—if Kidd indeed secreted this treasure, which I doubt not—it is clear that he must have had assistance in the labor. But this labor concluded, he may have thought it expedient to remove all participants in his secret. Perhaps a couple of blows with a mattock were sufficient, while his coadjutors were busy in the pit; perhaps it required a dozen—who can tell?"—[The End.]

A SANCTIFIED GAME.

Boston Transcript.

A pious mother, who has carefully reared two sons in the tenets of Episcopalianism, was recently horrified by overhearing from their lips the following conversation: "O, pshaw, Ben, you know they'll knock the Holy Cross clear out of sight," exclaimed her sedate Joseph. "Well," responded Ben, "I'm not so sure of that; of course, they can wipe up the earth with the Trinity, but it won't be so easy to dispose of the Holy Cross." "Boys, boys," here interjected their mother aghast, "what are you talking about? Are you mad, to speak thus of sacred things?" It took fully ten minutes to convince her that they were merely discussing the relative merits of their baseball teams, and her faith in the efficacy of applying theological titles to boys' colleges is shattered beyond hope of repair.

THE SWINGING GATE.

Florence E. Pratt, in Harper's Weekly.

The twilight is full of sadness,
And the wind in its coat of gray
Skulks like a wolf thro' the shadows,
And will not be scared away.

Down at the foot of the garden
The gate is swinging slow,
As if invisible footsteps
Were passing to and fro.

And it seems to me, in my musing,
They are feet of my coming fate,
That will find their way to my threshold
And pass it like the gate.

O say, do ye bring good tidings,
Ye unseen messengers?
Or is it sorrow and boding
Of future griefs and cares?

The gate swings slowly, slowly,
And the shutters creak and start;
I sit in the glowing lamp-light,
But a shadow fills my heart.

HOW NAVAJOS KILL PRAIRIE DOGS.

Rocky Mountain News.

Living almost wholly on game as they do, the Navajos cannot be prevailed upon to taste either fish or rabbit I have known some very ludicrous things to happen when meanly mischievous Americans deluded Navajos into eating either of these forbidden dishes, and sometimes there have been very serious retaliations for the ill-mannered joke. Rabbits are wonderfully numerous in the Navaja country, being molested only by feathered and four-footed enemies; but the Indian who would fight to death sooner than touch a delicious rabbit stew, is greedily fond of the fat and querulous prairie dog. That whole region abounds in "dog towns," and they are frequently besieged by their swarthy foes. A Navajo will stick a bit of mirror in the entrance of a burrow and lie behind the little mound all day, if need be, to secure the coveted prize. When Mr. Tusa ventures from his bedroom, deep underground, he sees a familiar image mocking him at the front door; and when he hurries out to confront this impudent intruder—whizz! goes a chalcedony tipped arrow through him, pinning him to the ground so that he cannot tumble back into his home, as he has a wonderful faculty for doing, even in death; or a dark hand darts from behind like lightning, seizes his chunky neck safely beyond the reach of his chisel, shaped teeth, and breaks his spine with one swift snap.

EARNING HER OWN LIVING.

Kansas City Times.

A trimly built young woman, whose easily confident step and style announced her New York parentage, walked into the repairing-room of an east-side street railway a few days ago.

"How d'ye do, boys?" she said to the four mechanics within, whose dirt-environed eyes opened wide as they surveyed her. For a woman in a repair-shop is a novelty. The mechanics dropped their tools and saluted.

"May I use your soldering-iron?" continued the visitor.

"C-c certainly," gasped the master mechanic, as he fell over a cog-wheel in his haste to get it.

The young woman put the iron in the charcoal fire, and sat down on a box just as if she was at home waiting for the iron to heat. The mechanics made a pretext of going to work, but they didn't do much. They wanted to know what she would do with that soldering-iron.

When the iron was hot she removed her hat. About this time the car inspector came in. "Won't you hold my hat a minute?" she said. Would he hold it? He would have held it a week. Then she took the iron out of the fire, produced a hand-glass, and started deliberately to curl her hair with it; five men watched her curiously. After she had finished, she took up her valise. "You have been very kind to me," she said, "I want to ask you to do me one more favor. I have here something that I think would prove both amusing and instructive to you, your wives and children."

She deliberately opened her valise.

"Book agent, by ——," said one of the 'boys' to the other as he looked towards the door. But she was standing to near it for him to get away.

"It is entitled 'Down the Mississippi,' a full complete, concise and succint account of the history of the beautiful old river, and of the people who inhabit the valley."

And she talked on and on and the 'boys'—— when she left she had orders for five copies at $2 per copy.

LOCUST FLIGHTS IN MOROCCO.

London Times.

The British Consul at Mogador mentions, in his last report, that while on an excursion inland, about a day's journey from Mogador, he met flights of locusts. He says it was an astonishing and interesting, though painful sight, the air being in some parts so thick with them that they formed a dense living brown fog, through which he could hardly find his way, while they so completely covered the ground that the utmost caution was necessary in walking, as he could not tell whether he was treading on soft sand, hard, slippery rock, or what. Many birds feasted on the insects, including large flights of gulls from the sea, and beasts evidently enjoyed their share, for in the middle of the densest swarm he saw a fine red fox dancing about in the most frantic manner, leaping up and snapping dozens of the locusts in the air, until, seeing the stranger, he suddenly dropped on all fours and quickly vanished in the live fog. Not only did the barbel get their share of the novel food (the Consul used the locusts successfully as bait for them), but some of the fish of the Atlantic were found gorged with locusts which had been blown off the land by easterly winds. As usual, they were extensively eaten by the native population, both Mohammedan and Jewish.

AN INTERESTING STUDY.

Harper's Young People.

"I don't like this as much as I thought I would" said Harry, looking up from his algebra. "It's stupid. There's too many rules to learn."

"Things always seem so until we get through some of the drudgery," answered mamma, encouragingly. Mammas are always ready to inculcate moral lessons. "It will be more interesting after a while. Everything is so at first."

Harry looked solemn.

"I know one thing that isn't stupid from the beginning," said he; "you don't have to wait for it to be interesting."

"Well, what is it?"

"Eating ice cream."

FALCON LORE.

The Saturday Review.

No one can pretend to any acquaintance with English literature, or even with the English language, without being aware how deep an impress has been left upon them by the art and practice of falconry. Such words as "haggard," "eyrie," "news," "cadger," to "lure" to "stoop," to "reclaim," all belonged originally to the falconer's jargon, and were thence adopted into common parlance. A whole host of well-worn quotations, including the long misunderstood passage in "Hamlet" about the "hand saw" (heron shaw), can only be properly explained by reference to the falconer's craft, and several of the most picturesque metaphors used by our best poets derive their virtue from the hawking field.

A MODERN DANIEL.

Bluger Anzeiger.

Law Examiner—"I will state a case: Mother and daughter occupy the same bedroom with their two little boys. As the children strongly resemble each other, and were both dressed alike, the nurses exchanged the babies so that no one could tell which belonged to the mother and which to the daughter. How would you settle the point?"

Candidate—"Are you quite sure, Herr Professor, that the babies were exchanged?"

Examiner—"Why, didn't I tell you so?"

Candidate—"Well, then, change them back again."

HOW TO MANAGE A MINISTER.

Boston Transcript,

"I have heard of an orthodox minister who was thought to be a little too liberal," said a man who was not his parishioner, "and there was an agitation in his church. Ask him to leave? Give him a trial for heresy? No, indeed. The

richest man in his church has invited him to go to Europe to stay all summer. They are going to raise his salary when he gets back, and he is going to give them sermons telling them how much more he believes in the power of the love of the Lord than the hate of the devil. That congregation will enjoy a change from sermons about the size of the tabernacle and other non-doctrinal subjects that minister has felt himself forced to preach about while he has been growing."

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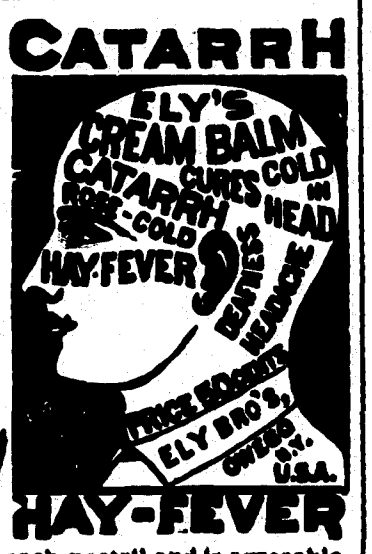

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SINGLE TAX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES.

PLATFORM

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

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

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

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

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

Since in all our states we now levy some tax on the value of land, the single tax can be instituted by the simple and easy way of abolishing, one after another all other taxes now levied, and commensurately increasing the tax on land values, until we draw upon that one source for all expenses of government, the revenue being divided between local governments, state governments and the general government, as the revenue from direct taxes is now divided between the local and state governments; or, a direct assessment being made by the general government upon the states and paid by them from revenues collected in this manner.

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

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

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

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

The single tax, therefore, would—

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

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

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

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

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

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

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MERIDEN.—Meriden single tax club. Meets second and fourth Fridays of the month at 7.30 p. m. at parlors of J. Cairns, 72½ E. Main st. President, John Cairns; secretary, Arthur M. Dignam.

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

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Washington single tax league. President, Edwin Gladmon; treas., R. J. Boyd; sec'y, Wm. Geddes, M.D., 1719 G. st., n. w.

IOWA.

BURLINGTON.—Burlington single tax club. First Saturday of each month, 305 North 5th st. Pres., Wilbur, Mosena, 920 Hedge av.; sec. treas., Frank S. Churchill.

ILLINOIS.

CHICAGO.—Chicago single tax club. Every Thursday evening at 206 La Salle st. Pres., Warren Worth Bailey, 319 Lincoln av; sec., F. W. Irwin, 217 La Salle st., room 733.

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

MASSACHUSETTS.

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

MINNESOTA.

MINNEAPOLIS.—Minneapolis single tax league. Every Tuesday evening, at the West Hotel. Pres., H. B. Martin, Woods' block; sec., Oliver T. Erickson, 2203 Lyndale av., N.

MISSOURI.

STATE.—Missouri single tax committee. Henry H. Hoffman, chairman. This committee is pushing a State single tax petition. Blanks sent on application. It is also forming syndicate for publication of local single tax papers throughout the United States at little or no expense. Write for circulars to Percy Pepoon, sec., 513 Elm st., St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS.—Single tax league.—Meets every Friday evening 8 o'clock in Bowman Block, n. e. cor. 11th and Locust sts. Pres. J. W. Steele Sec'y, L. P. Custer, 4233 Connecticut st.

NEW YORK.

BROOKLYN.—Eastern District single tax club. Monthly meetings on the first Monday of each month, at 94 South Third street, Brooklyn. Pres., Joseph McGuinness, 133 S. 9th st., Brooklyn, E. D; sec., Emily A. Deverall.

Brooklyn Woman's Single Tax Club meetings, third Tuesday of each month at 8 P. M., at 199 Livingston street. Pres., Eva J. Turner, 566 Carlton avenue; Cor. Sec., Venie B. Havens, 219 DeKalb avenue.

OHIO.

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

PENNSYLVANIA.

GERMANTOWN.—Single tax club. Cor. Sec., E. D. Burleigh, 13 Willow av. Meets first and third Tuesdays of each month at 4653 Main st., at 8 P. M.

PHILADELPHIA.—Single tax society. Meets every Thursday and Sunday at 8 p. m. Social meetings second Tuesday, No. 30 South Broad st. Cor. sec., A. H. Stephenson, 240 Chestnut st.

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