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THE STANDARD.

HENRY GEORGE, Editor and Proprietor.

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

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

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

EDITORIAL.

The following circular was received too late for publication last week:

SINGLE TAX LEAGUE,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 30, 1889.

Dear Sir: This league is of the opinion that there should be convened as soon as practicable, a national convention or conference of those who believe that the appropriation of ground rent to public uses should be the paramount issue in politics.

We invite your opinion, and the opinion of any single tax or kindred society with which you are connected, as to the desirability of such a gathering, the time and place for holding it, the qualifications of members or delegates, the subjects to be discussed, and the proper parties to call the convention and make all preliminary arrangements.

Should the replies which we may receive indicate a general desire for a convention, a sufficient agreement as to its scope and details, and a prospect of a large and representative gathering, we will so inform you, and place the matter in proper hands for bringing it about.

Please favor us with a prompt reply. Address: Secretary Single Tax League, 1719 G street N. W., Washington, D. C.

PAUL T. BOWEN, President.

WM. A. GEDDES, Secretary.

CHAS. FREDERICK ADAMS,

JACKSON H. RALSTON,

Committee.

My opinion is that a national gathering of single tax men for the purpose of exchanging views, making each other's personal acquaintance and taking steps for the more efficient promotion of the common object, would be a good and pleasant thing; but that any conference or convention looking to the formation of a separate party would be a bad thing. I believe that the appropriation of ground rent to public uses ought to be the paramount issue in politics, and that the day is fast coming when it will be. But I do not believe that day is to be hastened by any premature attempt to force it into politics through a third party. Since the shameful ending of the united labor party I have a wholesome dread of little parties that may be used as catspaws by the politicians of the great parties.

But I have no idea that the Washington league contemplates anything of this kind. There is doubtless the idea, so natural to us all, that a national gathering would be both pleasant and profitable. The great difficulty in a way of this is the size of the country and the cost involved in coming together in any one place from all its various sections. National conventions of the political parties can easily be held so long as there is money in politics; the pecuniary interests involved can bring national gatherings of manufacturers of various kinds together; and Odd Fellows, Masons, the various religious denominations, the Knights of Labor and trade organizations are able to hold national assemblies because the expenses of the delegates are defrayed from some general fund or by local organizations. But, except in some few cases where our clubs might be able and willing to pay the expenses of a representative, we could only expect the attendance of the comparative few who, in a matter from which neither directly nor indirectly any pecuniary return can be expected, could personally afford the time and expense involved.

For this reason a national conference is much more easily talked about than held, and wherever held is not likely to consist of many more than our friends of the vicinity and of such single tax men from a distance as are able to combine with their attendance some other errand of business or pleasure. On this account

the notice ought to be a long one, so that as far as possible such errands could be arranged to coincide with the time of the gathering.

As for place, Cleveland, Chicago, Cincinnati or St. Louis would be nearer the geographical center. But I am inclined to think that the largest attendance could be secured in New York, which not only has the largest population within easy distance, but is the point to which errands of business or pleasure lead the largest number of Americans. Even from Texas or the Pacific coast there are probably more people who come to New York during the year than who come to any one of the cities named.

As for time, I am inclined to think that if a national gathering is to be held shortly, that some time next summer or early fall would be the best. There is not merely more traveling at that time of the year, but a vigorous declaration for absolute free trade might have an inspiring effect on the general discussion of the tariff question, which is certain to be the great issue in the congressional elections which will be held soon after. And the attendance ought not of course be restricted to this country. If we can get some of our Canadian friends, and even a few from the other side of the Atlantic, to come, it would add much to the interest and dignity of the gathering.

As for the proper parties to call such a gathering, I do not think it makes much difference who calls it so long as the call meets a general desire and has general assent. The most important thing is to find out who would come, and where the majority of those who would come would prefer the meeting to be held. For the correspondence necessary to this the enrolment committee, which is the only thing in the nature of a general committee that we have, has probably the best facilities. If it could find out what place would best suit the majority of those who would be willing to attend from some distance, the call might be made either by the presidents of the clubs or by a few well known men from various sections, such as Ring of Texas, Maguire of California, Williams of Missouri, Garrison of Massachusetts, Johnson of Ohio, Furbish or Bailey of Illinois, Powderly of Pennsylvania, and so on. If we could get a few such men as Saunders of England, McGhee of Scotland, Davitt of Ireland, Toubeau of France, Flurschein of Germany—and we have friends now in all the European countries—agree to come, it would greatly add to the interest. The veteran Sir George Grey of New Zealand has been for several years contemplating a trip home, with a stop in New York, and might time his journey so as to be with us. At any rate, with sufficient notice, we would be certain to have some prominent single tax men from abroad.

I would like to see such a gathering if it can be made large and representative, but if not, we can get along without it. Our real work just now is not that of organization, but that of propaganda, and organization is only useful as it helps that on. Our real strength today lies outside of organization, and our real progress is in the wonderful rapidity with which our ideas are infusing general thought. When such organization as we had was broken up and abandoned, foolish newspapers said we were dead,

but since that time our ideas have made greater progress than ever before, and in literature, in the press, in the churches, in the labor organizations and in the political parties, are everywhere indications that our leaven is steadily and rapidly leavening the whole lump. The Australian ballot system owes its initiative in the United States to us. To make it the general system seemed at the first as difficult and not-to-be-hoped-for-in-our-time a thing as the putting of all taxes on land values. Yet already its adoption all over the whole United States is only a question of a few years. This has not been accomplished by organization, nor by our efforts alone, but by the reasonableness of the proposition, the awakening of thought on the subject, and the aid of men who do not sympathize with and are even bitterly opposed to the end with which to us the Australian ballot is the means.

So it is with our larger aims. Our single tax organizations are comparatively small and poor, but the Knights of Labor has become virtually a single tax organization; the great democratic party is being rapidly leavened by our spirit, and the republican party undermined by it, while tariff, or taxation, or the future of politics cannot be discussed anywhere without the single tax coming up as a factor. As one indication out of many of the manner in which the single tax is forcing itself on public attention I may mention that I have recently been requested by the three most influential publications in the United States in their several lines to make a statement of single tax principles in their columns—the World, for its almanac, the Christian Advocate, the official organ of the Methodist church, and the Century magazine. The gentlemen of the Evening Post, who have buried us over and over again, cannot possibly let us alone, but are forced regularly and with increasing frequency to dig us up and expose our "fallacies" again. Even Mark Twain's new book, "A Connecticut Yankee at King Arthur's Court," shows to whoever merely turns its leaves the growth and diffusion of our ideas, for from almost every other illustration gleams either a paw of the cat, the head of the cat, or the full, fair body of the cat. And every day and wherever I go I hear of men who have never identified themselves with our organizations or made any public sign, who are thorough going single tax men. When time and opportunity are ripe and single tax principles do come into practical issue, the sudden burst of strength which they will show will seem like the rush of a Conemaugh flood.

For the present our great work, besides that of exciting thought and diffusing our ideas wherever we can, is that of pressing the Australian ballot wherever it has not yet been adopted and urging the fight for tariff reform into a struggle for free trade.

The meeting in St. Louis between Powderly, Wright and Beaumont of the Knights of Labor and the officials of the Farmers' alliance and kindred organizations seems to have resulted in establishing relations which will aid in the interchange of views and the gradual concentration on mutual aims, without much definite immediate result. Anything better than this was, however, hardly to be expected, for the strength of these

organizations is among the farmers of the west, who from their situation are behind in new matters of discussion. Though the land resolution adopted does not amount to anything in itself, it at least serves as a peg on which to hang discussion, and the platform recognizes the land question as one of the great questions to which effort is to be directed. One of the best things done was the adoption of a resolution in favor of the Australian ballot, and while all sorts of reforms, or alleged reforms, were indorsed, money, land and transportation are the three matters which it was agreed that the farmers and the workingmen should strive to press to the front. As has been seen in the Knights of Labor, the land question, as the discussion proceeds, must steadily come to the lead.

The land resolution is as follows:

We demand the passage of laws prohibiting the alien ownership of land, and that congress take early action to devise some plan to obtain by purchase all land now owned by aliens and foreign syndicates, and that all lands now held by railroads and other corporations in excess of such as is actually used by them be purchased by the government and held for actual settlers only.

Not much for a beginning, but still a beginning. The discussion of alien ownership of land inevitably carries with it the discussion of ownership of land; and any discussion of such a scheme of purchase will quickly develop the idea of the single tax as a cheaper and better way of securing land to actual users.

The financial demands of the platform are: (1) The issue of a sufficient amount of fractional currency to facilitate exchange through the United States mails, (2) The free and unlimited coinage of silver.

The first of these demands is eminently just and wise. For the withdrawal of the fractional currency from circulation there was no manner of valid excuse. It was simply a little job of the contractionists, silver men and express companies at the expense of the great body of the people, and has inconvenienced the farmers, who must go some distance to a post office to get a postal order, more than any other class. But it is an inconvenience to all, for no system of postal notes or postal orders can be as convenient for small remittances as was this fractional currency. And it is a loss to the people of the United States as a whole, since in the fractional currency a considerable part of the public debt was kept in a non-interest bearing form. That much of the fractional currency was dirty and ill-smelling was no argument against it, any more than the dirtiness of a shirt is an argument against the wearing of shirts. It would be easy to keep fractional currency almost as fresh and as clean as Bank of England notes, if the same policy were adopted of always paying out fresh currency from government offices and depositories.

But while the first resolution is entirely good, the second is utterly bad. What does the free and unlimited coinage of silver mean? It means simply that the government mints shall impress on any amount of silver which anyone may bring them for the purpose, that official stamp or "flat" which now enables seventy-two cents worth of silver, or its representative, to pass current among our people for a dollar. So far as this stamp or "flat" would add any value to the silver, its effect would be to enable the owners of silver mines, like the Windoms, the Joneses, the Mackays, the banks and the owners of silver in foreign countries to make forced sales of silver to the masses of our people at more than its market price. But the speedy and inevitable result would be the depreciation of our cur-

rency and the driving out of circulation of everything but silver and silver notes.

Now it may seem to those who owe money, and it certainly does seem to a good many of the farmers burdened with mortgages, that this would be to their advantage, since they could pay off their debts with a less valuable currency. But nothing is more certain than such a depreciation—like the subsequent appreciation, which sometime would be sure to follow—would really be to the relative benefit of the rich and to the injury of the men who work for a living. The moneyed class can always best guard against and take advantage of any impending change, and, as we all know by experience, when any form of currency begins to depreciate, that is the currency which is forced upon wage workers and which they are the least able to refuse. With the deliberate idea of depreciating the currency there is also mixed some idea of retaliation for the forced contraction of the currency after the war. But two wrongs do not make a right, and in wrongs like these the poorer and most helpless class are always sure to suffer most.

Secretary Windom's proposition that the government should go even further than it yet has into the business of buying silver, is simply an attempt to use the administration for the benefit of the members of the administration, which is a hundred-fold worse than anything John Wanamaker has attempted or apparently thought of. Mr. Windom, according to a Colorado correspondent of THE STANDARD, is the owner of some two hundred silver claims, which might be somewhat increased in value by the government going into this business. But the farmers might as well ask that the government should buy up wheat as the silver men ask that the government should buy up silver. Any debating club that should discuss the question, Which is the most useful silver or wheat? would quickly decide in favor of wheat.

In this issue of THE STANDARD we give place to a condensation of a long communication from Mr. Alfred B. Westrup, of what styles itself the "Mutual Bank Propaganda," in reply to a criticism by Thomas G. Shearman upon a circular issued by that concern. As to the article itself it is hardly necessary to say much. Who would profit if everybody were allowed to issue money? Evidently the richer class, who could start banks and issue money, and the large employers of labor, who could in many cases force money on their employees.

Lee Merriwether, the active and efficient labor commissioner of Missouri who recently made an exposure of how the Mendotta mining company was working the "free money racket" on its employees by paying them in checks, has recently investigated similar cases in the southern part of that state. Here are some samples:

Holladay has a store, and if his employees do not wish to purchase his goods they get no wages at all. One of his employees, an intelligent German, whose board shanty, although meagerly furnished, leaky and full of cracks and holes, was scrupulously neat and clean, stated to me that last August, on the so-called pay day, he went to Mr. Holladay and asked that the wages due him be paid in cash, as he wished to return to his old home in Michigan. 'I was feeling very poorly,' said this employee, 'and told Mr. Holladay that I wanted to go back to my old home to die. Mr. Holladay said to me: 'You can die here just as well as in Michigan.' I can't give you anything except checks.' The checks are only good at his store. The railroad won't take them, so I cannot go. My lungs are weak. I want to go to Colorado, but do not see how I shall ever get there, as I am never paid in money.' The wife of this man, who at the time I saw him looked weak and consumptive, told me that although \$17.17 wages were due her husband, she could not get enough money to buy a pair of shoes. She talked simply, not complainingly, as though it were the usual and proper thing to

be paid in pasteboard, as though Mr. Holladay, in refusing to give her husband his wages in money, merely refused a favor.

While one of my agents, Mr. C. N. Mitchell, ex-mayor of LaPlata, Mo., was in the office of the lumber mills, an employee entered and asked for his wages. The cashier handed him a check. Mr. Mitchell heard the employee ask for money. The cashier refused. The employee said he wanted to leave town, that he was tired of working for pasteboard. The cashier coolly replied that he could walk out of town if he wanted to go, that he (the cashier) was authorized to pay only in checks. On another occasion when an employee who had just received a check for his wages asked for cash, the cashier refused, saying: "I have paid you your wages, but if you want me to buy that check, that is another thing. I will give you \$4 for it." The amount of the check was \$7.20. The postmaster of Williamsville buys checks from employees for seventy-five cents on the dollar. Sometimes all that the employee can obtain is fifty cents on the dollar. I have a number of other statements of Holladay's employees to the effect that they had applied for their wages on pay day, but were refused payment in cash and were compelled to accept checks on his store. One man says that he waited at the office until eleven o'clock at night to see Holladay and get his wages in money. During this time Mr. Holladay remained locked in his private office. At eleven o'clock the clerks forced the employee to leave in order to close the office. He went the three following days, but with no better success and was finally obliged to accept checks in lieu of lawful money of the United States.

If the free money people had their way Holladay's pasteboard checks would be lawful money of the United States, and pretty much every large employer would constitute himself a bank and begin issuing this sort of money.

The truth of the matter is that the power to issue money is a valuable privilege which, to secure the best circulating medium and to put all citizens on a footing of equality, ought to be retained by the general government, and to be permitted to no one else, either individual or corporation. The greenbackers, who have insisted that national bank notes should not be permitted, and that all money should be the direct issue of the government, are in the right.

It is a pity that so many greenbackers permit themselves to be used by the silver men, instead of insisting on their own principles. If we want two millions of notes issued every month, let them be greenbacks, and let the two millions now expended in buying silver be saved. Nothing can be clearer than that the silver notes now in circulation do not derive their value from the silver which is supposed to be corded up in the treasury to redeem them. For they circulate at one hundred cents on the dollar, whereas the silver that is supposed to be lying in the treasury vaults for their redemption is only seventy-two cents' worth. They would circulate just as well as if there were no silver in the treasury, and we might as well sell that silver off or put it to some more sensible use than hoarding it—say, for the construction of long-distance telephone wires for the post office department. And what is true of silver is true of gold. It is the credit of the government that furnishes the real basis for our paper money, not any deposit in government vaults.

The New York Times has become lately a sort of army and navy gazette, and has taken large part in booming our new navy, with never a word against either the far worse than useless waste of the people's money for which this navy is being made an excuse or against its aristocratic organization. But in a recent issue its naval editor drops into a little truth telling. Apropos of the apprentice system by which the sons of the common sort of Americans are educated for sailors while the sons of more influential Americans are educated in the Annapolis academy to become an aristocratic class of commissioned officers, he says:

One often wonders, when listening to so many remarks about scientific naval edu-

cation and the like, how some officers can bear even the presence of sailors about them. But how often has been heard the order go forth from the bridge during a gale of wind, "Send a seaman to the wheel!" or "Send a seaman here," or "Send a seaman there." It is when a ship finds herself in a tight place that scientific education often avails little. It is then that seamen are needed, and unless there are good seamen on the decks and a good seaman on the bridge mischief may result to even the staunchest and finest ships.

The Times goes on to tell how the United States steamer Idaho, one of the finest ships of the new navy, was returning from China, having on board a non-commissioned officer—a boatswain named Leeds—who had been sentenced by a court martial for some trivial infraction of regulations, and was being carried home a prisoner, when she was caught in a gale, which gradually developed into a typhoon. The rest of the story is best told in the words of the Times:

The magnificent ship was again and again knocked down, recovering herself each time, until finally, however, it was seen that a few more such blows would end her career. The crew became panic stricken, the executive officer lost his head, the younger officers became demoralized, and the captain fled to the cabin, fell on his knees, and prayed for the safety of his vessel. Every one lost his head but one man, and that one man was Leeds. Bursting into the cabin, he confronted the terror-stricken captain and asked to be given charge—absolute control.

"Do it," said Leeds, "and I can save the ship." His proposition was accepted. Leeds himself went to the wheel. Calling a couple of seamen who had become reassured at the sound of his voice, he ordered a tarpaulin to be placed in the weather mizzen rigging. The effect was like a charm. With no other rag showing save this piece of tarpaulin laid flat against the after shrouds, the big ship responded to the pressure of her helm in an instant. Up came her head to the sea, and there she hung, riding it like a duck, with Leeds handling her to perfection.

Throughout the whole twenty-four hours that the typhoon was at its height Leeds handled the ship, and when it was all over the grand fellow stepped down from the bridge, turned over his command to the captain, and once more became a prisoner of war. But let it be said to the credit of the whole service and the "powers" that were, Leeds's return to the United States was also the occasion of his full restoration to his old rank. But had not the case of the Idaho occurred, the navy would have lost not only one of its finest seamen, but a man it could ill spare.

Here is a pretty picture for the American people who are paying over forty millions a year for a navy—forty millions collected in ways that make it cost the taxpayers at least one hundred and twenty millions. The commissioned officers panic stricken, the captain in his cabin saying his prayers, and a boatswain taking command and saving the ship by setting a tarpaulin in the mizzen rigging—a device known to every real sailor.

The man who saved the Idaho has been restored to his rank as boatswain, for seamen are needed in the navy—it wouldn't in fact be safe for the commissioned officers to go to sea without them. But the rank of boatswain, which is looked down upon with contempt by the lowest cadet who graduates from the naval academy, is the highest which, under the aristocratic organization of the American navy, he can ever aspire to. He is not really an officer, in the sense in which it is common to speak of "the officers of our navy." He is merely a warrant officer—a foreman of sailors, sharing their social status and outside of the aristocratic caste of the commissioned officers.

The Times goes on:

There will be many a time in the future when just such men as Leeds will be needed. It will well pay our navy department to see that nothing ever deprives the navy of seamen, no matter how far this loud cry of "scientific education" may carry us. One of the commonest remarks heard from officers nowadays is the expression, "I am not cut out for a sailor. I hate the life and shall never make a seaman." The whole trouble seems to come from the system of instruction now in vogue at the naval academy. Cadets learn to believe that seamanship is the least important and most readily acquired study they have to deal with. In consequence the whole thought of

the embryo officer is taken up with abstruse subjects having little or no bearing on the needs of his profession. As a result, the young man goes to sea with a curious idea of what constitutes seamanship.

The trouble is not with the system of instruction in vogue at the naval academy. It is with the naval academy itself, and the aristocratic system on which it is based. It is preposterous to expect to get sailors by running boys through a sort of young gentlemen's academy where standing and promotion depends on scholastic examinations. The qualities which make the sailor are not to be pumped into boys by professors of French, of dancing and of mathematics, or to be discovered by any system of written examinations. They are quite as likely, if indeed not far more likely, to exist among the boys who lag at the foot of their school classes than among the boys who keep at the head. The true way of officering our navy would be to have all officers "come in at the hawse hole," that is, as common sailors, coal passers or firemen, and afterward, as they showed aptitude and received promotion, to let them go, if need be, to the naval academy, to receive special instruction in the scientific branches incident to the profession. And it is the only way consistent with the theory of our government. It is as undemocratic to educate certain favored boys for officers of the navy and army as it would be to educate certain favored boys for civil officials. It is the aristocratic and monarchical system that survives in army and navy.

The best thing that could be done with our navy to-day would be to discharge every warrant officer and enlisted man—they are mostly foreigners anyhow—with appropriate extra pay or pensions, and then to send as many ships to sea as would be necessary to employ all our officers, manning the ships completely with them. A few naval vessels, with cadets for boys, ensigns for ordinary seamen, lieutenants for able seamen, commodores for watch officers, and admirals for executive officers and captains, would not only give ample employment to all our naval officers with one tithe of the cost of now finding them something to do and give them a practical acquaintance with all the duties of the seaman, from tarring, holystoning and firing, up, but it would give us a distinctively American squadron, which we might send to European waters as something unique and worthy of the great republic, instead of the slavish imitation of all that is bad in the aristocratic systems of Europe which we are now sending.

So with the army. We have commissioned officers enough to do the duty of privates in all the army we require.

The full text of the opinion of the Court of Errors and Appeals of the state of New Jersey, in the matter of the Hutchins bequest for the distribution of my works, has just been filed. It will be printed in THE STANDARD of next week, together with a history of the case. I have no information yet as to when the bequest will be available, but presume it will not be long now.

Rev. Dr. Thackeray's book, "The Land and the Community," is selling well and doing good work. Rt. Rev. Dr. Huntington, Bishop of Central New York, says in a note to me:

I have read Dr. Thackeray's book through with care. Its statements, its reasonings and its explanations make a strong impression. It ought everywhere to follow or accompany your own treatise, "Progress and Poverty." Indeed in the present posture of the discussion I can think of nothing so sure to set the single tax movement forward, far and wide, as this strong and clear presentation of the subject. It seems to me a forcible point is made in the possibility of

an extension of the time of the change for the landlords over twenty-five years.

One of our single tax lawyers, S. W. Clark of New York, has sent a hundred copies of "The Land and the Community" to prominent clergies and laymen of the Episcopal church.

C. B. Hemmingway of Washington, D. C., writes to THE STANDARD objecting to such statements of the object of the single tax as that it is to make land common property or to abolish private property in land. I do not think there has been any disadvantage in the use of such terms as I have used them, and as they have been used by single tax men, for they have always been accompanied by an explanation of what is really meant. And their use is of value in the presentation of the ethical side of the subject. Mr. Hemmingway's statement of what the single tax would really do is, however, well worth printing.

On last Saturday I addressed a large and intelligent audience of women gathered together by the Saturday Morning Club of New Haven. On Sunday evening I spoke for Rev. Mr. Halliday in his church (Congregational) on Herkimer street, between Rockaway and Stone, in Brooklyn, and had a large audience; and on Monday I addressed another audience, composed exclusively of women, called together by the Women's Club of Brooklyn. I think this was the first time in my experience in which I addressed audiences composed exclusively of women—for neither the New Haven club nor the Brooklyn club ever permit a man to attend their meetings on any pretense, except occasionally a single one as a lecturer. Both audiences seemed to me particularly intelligent, and were quick to ask questions. On Monday next I speak at Youngstown, Ohio; on Tuesday at Johnstown, Pa.; on Wednesday at the meeting of the teachers' institute at Pottsville, and on Thursday I speak on "The Common Sense of the Tariff Question" at York, Pa. On the following Monday I address the Baptist ministers in Philadelphia in the morning, and in the evening speak at Vineland, N. J. This is about all the speaking I can do until I start for the west, about the middle of January. I am sorry to be forced to decline so many of the invitations I have received, but there is no help for it.

HENRY GEORGE.

IT WILL HELP, NOT HURT, THE FARMERS.

At a recent regular meeting of the Methodist preachers' association of San Francisco, Rev. C. V. Anthony read a paper on "Henry George and His Theories." He strongly opposed these theories, and declared, according to the San Francisco Examiner, "that if taxation was entirely confined to land it would be but an invitation to capitalists to invest their money in securities, such as bonds and stocks, and thus not only avoid the burden of land taxation but bring about a ruinous injury to the revenue of the country." What kind of bonds and stocks capitalists would find to invest in that would not represent land or productive agencies applied to land the reverend gentleman did not attempt to explain, but a California lady, writing from Vera Cruz, jubilantly calls our attention to the fact that even Dr. Anthony sees that the single tax would compel the capitalists to "let up on the speculation in land" which has been such a curse to California.

The Ledger of Mexia, Tex., mentions with evident regret that it recently published several appointments "for Rev. S. G. Mullins, who is traveling around delivering lectures on the single tax theory," and it indignantly charges Mr. Mullins with calling "his speeches 'lectures' to cover up their political nature." The Ledger thereupon gives a reasonably clear statement of the single tax idea,

complains that it exempts fine houses from taxation, and insists that under it the merchant, the banker and nearly all classes would escape taxation, and the farmer would bear the whole burden. The thought that if this were true the merchants and manufacturers and nearly everybody except farmers would be tempted to embrace the doctrine from selfish motives does not appear to have occurred to the Texan editor.

The Ohio State Journal rebukes the Knights of Labor for adopting the land plank that now forms part of their constitution, and it gravely informs them that many thousands of Knights of Labor who are the owners of homes that shelter their families, hold that land is already taxed too heavily and will repudiate the single tax theory, no matter how authoritatively it may be presented by their order. The protest against unduly burdening the farmer is a marked feature of many letters appearing in the Canadian papers since Mr. George's recent lectures in Toronto and Kingston. We could multiply instances of such expressions of opinion, but those given are of themselves sufficient to show how general and widespread is the delusion that the single tax will increase the already heavy burden of the working farmer.

Of course it is wearisome to single tax men to answer the same objections over and over again, but the duty is one that they cannot escape, since the delusion that farmers are the only people that use land seems almost universal, and the proposal to transfer all taxation to land values probably strikes the majority of men as equivalent to proposing that farmers shall pay the great bulk of the taxes. The fact that protests against such injustice are just now heard in so many quarters merely affords evidence that the single tax idea is rapidly spreading, and that new men are offering the stereotyped objections that have been met again and again.

The first thing to be done is to impress it on the minds of farmers that they are not only not the only users of land, but that they do not own the most valuable of all properties—the lands out of the monopoly of which great fortunes are made. These latter are generally mining and city lands, and in some states great water powers. Let the farmers think for a moment and they will see for themselves that so far as city and mining land is concerned, few farmers own any of it, and that such land is constantly increasing in value, while farming land increases slowly, if at all. Without touching the subject of farming and timber land held out of use by speculators, any thoughtful farmer ought to be able to see that if the whole taxation of a state were apportioned according to the selling value of land, exclusive of improvements, the proportion of taxation borne by the farmer would be less than at present, and it would constantly tend to decrease as cities grow larger and mines are developed.

The next thing to do is to convince the working farmer that his interests as a laborer and as an owner of stock, machinery, tools and other capital are greater than his interest in that possible future rise in value which has in the past played an important part in most farmers' hopes of prosperity. The working farmer may or may not own his farm, but so long as he looks to farming for his living his interests are never on the side of the mere land owner. This is admirably illustrated by the story of Cozy Murphy, as told in the twentieth chapter of "Social Problems," which is as follows:

There lived in Dublin, some years ago, a gentleman named Murphy—"Cozy" Murphy, they called him, for short, and because he was a very comfortable sort of a Murphy. Cozy Murphy owned land in Tipperary; but as he had an agent in Tipperary to collect his rents and evict his tenants when they did not pay, he himself lived in Dublin, as being the more comfortable place. And he concluded, at length, that the most comfortable place in Dublin, in fact the most comfortable place in the whole world, was—in bed. So he went to bed and stayed there for nearly eight years; not because he was at all ill, but because he liked it. He ate his dinners, and drank his wine, and smoked his cigars, and read, and played cards, and received visitors and verified his agent's accounts, and drew

checks—all in bed. After eight years' lying in bed, he grew tired of it, got up, dressed himself, and for some years went around like other people, and then died. But his family were just as well off as though he had never gone to bed—in fact, they were better off; for while his income was not a whit diminished by his going to bed, his expenses were.

Cozy was a typical land owner, and nothing but a land owner. "Now," continues the chapter, "let the farmer consider what would become of himself and family if he and his boys were to go to bed and stay there, and he will realize how much his interests as a laborer exceed his interests as a land owner."

Of course the argument addressed to the farmer does not end here. As soon as he sees that the single tax is not a scheme for adding to his already onerous burden of taxation he will be ready to pay attention to the general argument against tariff taxes and all other indirect taxation. The powerful array of facts and arguments in Mr. Shearman's speech before the Ohio legislature demonstrates beyond all question that the farmer and the laborer are the chief victims of all the futile attempts to levy an equitable tax on personal property. If agricultural journals and the leaders of the alliance would study these facts they would find that there is a perfect identity of interest between the farmers' organizations and the labor organizations in the great question of taxation.

SENATOR VOORHEES'S RESOLUTION.

The resolutions offered in the senate last week by Senator Voorhees aim at no practical result, and they are confessedly presented and laid on the table for the express purpose of affording the Indiana senator an opportunity to make one of those "ringing" speeches that have won for him the title of "the Tall Sycamore of the Wabash." The resolutions, of course, do not go further than to demand a tariff for revenue only, or as Mr. Voorhees puts it, for "revenue and for nothing but revenue." There is, however, a notable absence of the customary pretence of solicitude lest the wages of the American workmen be reduced by any change in tariff duties.

The significant thing about the proceeding is that Senator Voorhees thus goes out of his way to gratuitously attack the protective superstition and to pave the way for a speech on the subject. But a few years ago, certainly no longer ago than Mr. Cleveland's first nomination for the presidency, the Indiana senator was one of those democrats who insisted that the only hope of their party lay in the avoidance of the agitation of the tariff question, and who persistently fought all attempts to commit the democratic national convention of 1884 to a declaration in favor of a tariff for revenue only. Furthermore, Mr. Voorhees's professed indignation and alarm at the charge that the democratic party was tending toward free trade was one of the potent causes in making the Indiana democracy—once heartily for free trade—"shaky" on the tariff question.

That such a man should now lug the tariff question, neck and heels, into the United States senate, in advance of the presentation of any bill in either house, for the express purpose of making an opportunity for a speech against the whole policy of protection, is most gratifying evidence of the rapid and remarkable change of public opinion in the direction of free trade.

THE PRESIDENT'S PASTOR SEES PART OF THE TRUTH.

When President Harrison is at home in Indianapolis, he attends the First Presbyterian church, of which Rev. Dr. M. L. Haines is pastor, and it almost goes without saying that the pastor voted for his parishioner for president. Dr. Haines devoted his recent Thanksgiving day sermon largely to rejoicing over the peaceful revolution that has overthrown monarchy in Brazil, and he urged Christians to pray for such a mutual understanding and such "close fraternal relations between the seventeen nations of North and South America as will forever put them above the necessity

of maintaining standing armies to preserve an artificial balance of power." The good doctor declared that the wicked system of standing armies must be avoided, and spoke of the vast resources of South America, and especially of Brazil, which resources he said ought, by the natural laws of trade, also to be of great benefit to the United States.

It would not be fair to assume from this that Dr. Haines has abandoned the policy of restriction, mis-called protection, but the utterance does show that when such men as he are lifted by their theme to a higher plane of thought their vision and sympathies broaden so that they catch some faint glimpse of the truth that free trade, "the international law of God," is a part of the gospel of "peace on earth, good will to men."

Why is it that such men cannot burst, once for all, the bonds of the inconsistent patch work creed of selfishness and greed that holds them to a political policy which narrows their spiritual perceptions and clogs their natural aspirations for the coming of God's kingdom on earth? Surely it must be painful to Dr. Haines to limit his hope of good understanding and fraternal relations to the nations of these two continents. Can he not see that the natural laws of trade that ought to enable us to share in Brazil's prosperity, and Brazil to share equally in ours, are not confined in their operation to the two American continents? Why should Christians not pray for mutual understanding and fraternal relations between all the nations of the earth?

Dr. Haines has the horror that all Christians ought to have of standing armies, yet he does not see that the narrow and selfish ignorance that puts up artificial barriers to prevent the people of different nations from trading freely one with another is one manifestation of the very spirit that causes the maintenance of standing armies. This world will never see swords beaten into plowshares and spears into pruning hooks so long as the nations are kept apart by hostile tariffs. There is much in this idea on which a Christian minister can profitably meditate, and we hope that Dr. Haines will continue the line of thought aroused in his mind by the revolution in Brazil. If his church celebrates the festival commonly observed by the whole Christian world, Dr. Haines may in less than a month be able to urge his people to pray and work for free trade as a means toward promoting mutual understanding and fraternal relations between all the nations of the earth, so that they may dismiss their standing armies and "learn war no more."

A RACK-RENTING BRAZILIAN PRINCE.

It is generally known that the recent revolution in Brazil was not due to personal hostility to the ex-emperor, but that profound dislike of his son-in-law, Count d'Eu, played a very prominent part in the overthrow of the monarchy. Count d'Eu is a Bourbon prince and the husband of the crown princess, the recognized heir to the Brazilian throne. The princess is represented as a woman whose piety tends toward bigotry and whose chosen associates are clericals and reactionaries. This would of itself cause the Brazilians to dread her ascension to the throne, but it does not necessarily account for the bitter feeling against her husband.

A Paris correspondent of the New York Tribune probably assigns the true reason for Count d'Eu's unpopularity. He says the count went into real estate speculation, and became the owner of a large tract of land in the city of Rio that promises, in time, to become very valuable. In order that it might yield him a revenue while he was holding it for a rise, he built on it quite a town of hovels for negro workmen driven to the suburbs by advancing rents in the city, and he employed a hard-hearted agent, who rack-rented his miserable tenants, and remorselessly exacted from them every penny of rent under penalty of summary eviction.

This certainly was hardly "princely" conduct, if princes are to be judged by

their professions, and it was reasonably sure to arouse contempt for the prospective consort of an empress. The Brazilians did well to hustle the Bourbon out of their country, but they probably failed utterly to do anything whatever to reform the system that enabled the count to play the part of a rack-renting landlord, and which, if continued, will enable the new owners of the count's land to do precisely the same thing. In fact it is more than probable that the Count d'Eu still holds this suburban property, and that the same hard-hearted agent will continue to rack-rent these negro wharfingers and laborers just as unmercifully for the benefit of the count, now that the latter is in Europe, as he would have done had Count d'Eu remained in Brazil.

Getting rid of monarchs, if the movement stops at that, does not amount to much. The mission of democracy is the abrogation of the laws and customs that enable the few, call them by what name you will, to live in luxury and idleness off the products of the labor of the toiling many.

Such sermons as that preached by Rev. John Baltzley in the English Lutheran church, at Indianapolis, do good. The preacher has evidently failed to give close attention to proposed remedies and has probably got no further than the conclusion that something must be done, but it is a great deal to have the pastor of a prosperous congregation tell his congregation that there is a great social problem to be solved. This is the first step.

Single tax men seem to be very much alike the world over. They know exactly what they want and rarely miss a chance to work toward their object. They are animated by the zeal that is a part of a noble enthusiasm for a definite doctrine. This is illustrated by the interesting item of Australian news printed elsewhere, showing how our friends at Newcastle, New South Wales, sprang to the rescue and helped the election of a free trader to parliament in that colony.

Mr. James Malcolm of Chicago mails us copies of Missouri papers containing articles on the single tax, which are prepared and sent out by the St. Louis single tax league. Messrs. Malcolm, Place, and probably others of the Chicago club, are contributing articles and some have been contributed by Mr. Shriver of this city. The work is an excellent one and our friends could not do better service than send brief and pointed items to the St. Louis league.

The Lynn fire has served to demonstrate the indestructibility of land values. Several persons who have been burnt out find that their land is worth more than before the fire. One man said to Mr. Clarkson Pauls that, wishing to secure a location, he found that the ground rent had advanced about ten per cent, the increased price being due to the fact that advantage will be taken of the fire to widen the streets. This is a neat illustration of the manner in which everything, whether it be a public improvement or a public calamity, tends to increase the opportunities of the landlords to exact tribute from labor and capital.

It has been judicially decided that there is no constitutional objection to sending a fool or ignoramus to congress. Mr. C. E. Belknap, a republican candidate for congress in Michigan, made a speech during the recent campaign, which was reported in the Grand Rapids Democrat, in which he declared that Mr. Belknap had not the ability to grapple with such subjects as the tariff because he was not "built that way." Mr. Belknap sued the editor for libel. Counsel for the defendant demurred, and asked that the case be dismissed because no attack had been made on the plaintiff's character while the intelligence of a candidate for congress is a proper matter for discussion by a public journal. Judge Grove of the Michigan supreme court, in sustaining the demurrer, said "the constitution has fixed no grade of mind which is neces-

sary to qualify a person for a seat in congress," and he declared that there is nothing libelous in the imputation that "a candidate for congress is ignorant, uneducated and mentally disqualified to represent the people of his district in that body." The decision is sound. Better submit to tariff taxation a while longer than deprive the people of protectionist districts of the right to be represented by the men of their choice.

"For the Right" is a monthly paper published at Fordham, in this city, and it proposes to discuss the interests of the working people from the standpoint of Christian socialism. Mr. J. E. Raymond of Fordham is its publisher. Though THE STANDARD cannot agree with the views of "For the Right," it admires the spirit that animates the new journal, and we reprint from its columns, under the title, "Where is the Crow's Nest?" an article by Walter Rauschenbusch which contains an admirable suggestion as to the first work of true social reformers—and that is to search until they find the real cause of the evils they seek to eradicate. We believe that if our Fordham friends will look for the crow's nest with sufficient persistence they will not only find it, but that at the moment they do so they will also "see the cat."

The Journal of the Knights of Labor declares that the plank recently adopted by the order is not a new departure, but is simply the old plank so worded as to give the world a correct idea of the views of the Knights of Labor on the land question. We are glad to see this announcement, because single tax men have always insisted that the old declaration carried to its logical conclusion involved the acceptance of the single tax. The Journal is mistaken, however, in supposing that the small body of people who think that they believe in what they call the vacant land theory, are likely to accept the plank. Single tax men have always insisted that no men should hold land out of use for speculative purposes, but they have at the same time pointed out that the transfer of taxation to land values, exclusive of improvements, and the ultimate taking of the full rental value in taxation, would remove the temptation on the part of any speculator to hold land out of use. The men who propose to prevent land speculation by calling land holders "thieves," insist that any taxation on land is absolutely wrong, and of course the new platform of the Knights of Labor could not possibly be accepted by them.

The American federation of labor began its annual session at Boston on December 10. It is composed of earnest men who are not yet convinced that under existing conditions it is impossible for organized labor to hold its own against organized capital. Therefore, instead of trying to change conditions in any radical way, they are proposing to perfect and compact the trades unions into one powerful body, and while demanding the passage of the eight hour law and other regulative legislation, to depend in the main on the strength of the unions in perpetual contest with the employers to prevent any serious reduction in wages.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

WILMINGTON, Del.—It does not seem to me that under the single tax the public revenues would amount to more than at present. Under a system of taxing nothing but economic rent, only improved land could pay taxes, for no one would hold vacant land. If the amount realized now from taxing an improvement and its site value together, equals or exceeds the amount that would be levied upon economic rent alone, the single tax certainly could not yield the present revenue. Under the present system an enormous amount in the aggregate (though nothing to what it should be) is collected for vacant land; we also have revenue from the tariff, from internal revenue, and from a thousand and one other taxes, in addition to the tax on improvements. Of course I understand that under the single tax ability to pay would be greater than now; but that does not solve my difficulty. Neither does it satisfy me to say that, no one being able to hold land idle, improvements would increase and cities be more compactly built; that would increase economic rent, but the increase would fall on the improver because no one would own vacant land.

Another thought occurs to me that will take most single tax men by surprise. Unimproved land in cities would be below the margin of cultivation, while farming land in use many miles in the interior would be above it. For under the single tax only land in use will bear rent. In any city, under the single tax system, land close up to that city, or even in its limits, can bear rent only as it comes into use, and such land then, as now, will be building land, for we hold that if a man wants to farm on city land, he must pay to the community its value as a natural opportunity. To recapitulate: If, under the present system, we take from improved land more than the economic rent (counting taxes on the improvements, of course), besides a large amount in the aggregate from vacant land, and taxes from many other sources, how, under the single tax, which will largely reduce land values, can we meet governmental needs without resorting to some other mode of raising revenue.

GEO. W. KREER

We do not now take from improved land more than its economic rent. In the great majority of cases, perhaps, real estate taxes are greater than the economic rent of the land to which they relate; but those taxes nevertheless fall in part upon the improvement and in part upon the economic rent of the land; and the part that falls upon economic rent is much less than the rent. The remainder is a burden upon industry. The single tax would abolish the part that falls upon the improvement and increase the part that falls upon the land.

What apparently misleads you is the fact that in some cases an improver might pay as high a tax under the single tax as he pays now, because, though his improvements were exempt, his land would be taxed enough to equalize this exemption. From this you infer that such a taxpayer would be no better off. But he would be better off. Though he might pay the same amount, the increase would fall upon his privilege of occupancy, and the exemption would remove obstructions from his path as a producer. Without appropriating any more valuable land, he might largely increase his production. His productive power would be set free; and though he might be worse off as a land owner, it would be as a land owner only, for he would be far better off as a land user.

You seem to be confused, too, about the freeing of vacant land. Vacant city lots would not be absolutely free, because they would not be absolutely valueless. Nor would city lots be below the margin of cultivation when outlying farms were above it. The cheaper city lots would merge into the dearer agricultural land. When city lots were not in demand for building they would be in demand for gardening, and city values would grade downward from those of the most desirable locations to those of contiguous farming land. A vacant lot in the heart of a city would have as high a value as the improved lot by its side, but it would not long remain vacant. The effect of the single tax would be to force the improvement of land for which the demand is greater than the supply of it, and to free land the supply of which is greater than the demand for it. Land of which there is an insufficient supply would bear rent potential, and therefore would have a value and pay a tax; but land of which there was an adequate supply would bear no rent, either actual or potential, and therefore would have no value and pay no tax. And this is irrespective of whether the land is improved or unimproved.

Whether, when the single tax is adopted, it would yield a deficient revenue can only be known when the times comes. So far as statistics show, it appears that land values would yield more than all taxes combined now yield. It is true, however, that land values would fall as the single tax choked speculation. But it is also true that they would rise again as the single tax encouraged production. And it is true, too, that public expenses would be curtailed. There would no longer be the same necessity for them as now. You are mistaken in supposing that the single tax would make cities more compact and consequently increase the necessity for policemen and firemen. It would prevent congestion of population on the one hand and sparseness on the other. Crowded tenements would disappear and vacant lots would be built up.

It may make the matter clearer to you if you imagine the case of a real estate owner whose improvements are of the same value as his land. For simplicity eliminate all taxes but real estate taxes. Then, if his improvement tax were shifted to his land value, he would pay the same tax as at present. That may

seem to make no difference to him either as a land owner or a laborer. The difference will be apparent, however, if you imagine that two men, instead of one, own the real estate—that one owns the land and the other the improvements. Under the present system each pays half the real estate tax. But if the single tax were adopted the improvement owner would pay no tax, even though he increased his improvements tenfold, while the land owner would pay a tax so high that at best there would not be left to him more than enough as wages for seeing that a just rent was paid by the occupant. Obviously, the improver would be better off than now. You may reply, however, that land values would fall, and as a result there would be a deficient revenue. If the necessities of the government remained stationary or increased, this would be true; but they would fall also. And even if they did not, the deficiency would be only temporary, for the improvement owner would be induced to produce more, the land owners would have to produce more, and people who are now neither land owners nor improvement owners would be glad to produce more, all of which would make new demands for land and increase its value. Nor would the increase of land value and resulting increase of taxation burden improvers; they would pay more, but they would also produce more with less labor, and what they paid would be the price of a special privilege, whereby the rights of the owners of the privilege—the whole people—would be equalized.

The damaged cotton oil trust is to be reorganized that it may take a new grip on consumers.

Pittsburg is to have something like an ice trust. A firm of contractors has just purchased fifty acres of water, so to speak, near the suburban town of Ligonier, and is looking for more. This firm has formed a combination with the Chautauqua ice company, the firm's only large competitor, by which the Chautauqua company will handle all the ice sold in the city at retail from the Booth & Finn lakes, and the big contractors will handle the wholesale trade themselves. Several hundred thousand dollars have been invested in the plant, and it is expected that the business will be conducted on a mammoth style.

Mr. John C. Bender, St. Joseph, Mo., referring to a society note appearing in THE STANDARD of November 16, says that Mr. Schuster, the large clothing dealer referred to, is a man who has the respect of the whole community, and that the clerk alluded to as being arrested for stealing, had been discharged some time before on account of drunkenness, and it was to this cause doubtless, that he owed his downfall.

NEW YORK.—In looking over an edition of John Stuart Mill's "Principles of Political Economy," edited by J. Lawrence Laughlin, Ph. D., assistant professor of practical economy in Harvard university, and published in 1887, I find the great attention that "Progress and Poverty" has received, accounted for in an introduction, by "the increasing interest in social questions, and the general lack of economic training which prevents a right estimate . . . by people in general" of the reasoning of the book. And at page 243, the following passage occurs in a note: "Henry George admits Ricardo's law of rent to its full extent, but very curiously says: 'Irrespective of the increase of population the effect of improvements in methods of production and exchange is to increase rent.'" Now, I want to ask two questions:

1. If people in general lack the economic training necessary to rightly estimate the reasoning of "Progress and Poverty," why does not Professor Laughlin, utilize his economic training for the benefit of people in general, by exposing the fallacies of the book?

2. What is there so very curious about Mr. George's statement that improvements increase rent?

ONE OF THE PEOPLE IN GENERAL.

We of course cannot undertake to answer these questions. Our correspondent, as well as any other "people in general," might get the information, if they are sufficiently interested, by communicating with Professor Laughlin.

W. S. P. Shields has purchased all the available land between Gray's Ferry road and Forty-ninth street station, on the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore railroad; also, all the land between Greenway avenue and Forty-ninth street and Chester avenue, and the vacant ground between the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore railroad and Woodland avenue, all in the city of Philadelphia, for \$80,000, and on this land he will at

once begin the erection of 400 two and three-story houses. It would be interesting to know the present assessed valuation of this land and to watch the assessment rise as the buildings go up.

Judge James G. Maguire of San Francisco contributes a three-column article on the single tax to the Pacific Rural Press.

A lot 44x100, fronting on Saline street, Syracuse, was sold the other day for \$40,000. The same lot in 1865 was assessed as "stone land" at \$4,000. The unearned increment, of course, has gone to the land holders instead of the community.

Daniel Cavanagh, secretary of the West side single tax club, tells in the Remedy an interesting story of his discussion with a physician who was troubled lest the Standard oil company should suffer by the application of the single tax.

Judge Jacobs of Seattle, Washington, holds under a decision of Chief Justice Marshall of the United States supreme court that tide lands in the state of Washington have always been held in trust by the United States for the state, and are not open to occupancy under federal land laws or grants by congress. This decision, Judge Jacobs contends, sustains the contention of the protestants against the scrip filings.

M. Pobedonozzeff, tutor and close friend of the czar of Russia, has published in a semi-official Russian magazine an article urging the adoption by Russia of something nearly equivalent to the homestead law of the United States. He urges that each peasant family that will be permitted to occupy 200 acres of good land in some thinly settled territory of European or Asiatic Russia; that all property below \$1,000 be exempt from taxation; that the land of the peasants be unalienable; that communal land ownership be encouraged and protected and that peasant emigration be made easy. The article attracts much attention in Russia.

The labor commissioners of the various states are gradually being compelled by force of public opinion to pay more attention to questions of taxation, indebtedness, etc., and the distribution of landed property. Thus, the Ohio bureau has been investigating mortgage indebtedness on real estate, with rate of interest and assessed valuation, and number of mortgages given annually in each township. The Indiana bureau has been collecting statistics of real estate transfers and mortgages, land and lot owners, etc. Iowa's next report will discuss taxation, especially municipal taxation. In Connecticut's report there will be a "farm schedule" giving acreage under cultivation, etc., and there will be an investigation of rents and expenses of living.

Smith, Gray & Co.'s Monthly for December sends out a colored supplement entitled "Miss Modesty," which is an extremely pretty bit of lithography.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

No Tax At All.

To the Editor of The Standard—Sir: It seems to me that the single tax idea that the taking of ground rent for public use is no tax at all should be advocated more generally. Every genuine Henry George man knows this, but in my opinion our teachers do not explain as frequently as they should that the single tax is no burden, either directly or indirectly, but works just as any other natural law, gravitation for instance, would. If the single tax were a tax at all, and could be shifted from one to another, leaving it for consumers to pay, it would be but little better than the present barbarous and unjust system, which fines a man for his frugality and discourages consumption as if it were a sin to produce and consume.

E. D. FLANAGAN.
Lincoln, Neb. Dec. 1.

Specific Duties are Growing Ours.

To the Editor of The Standard—Sir: Since the close of the war the tariff has been revised and to some extent ostensibly reduced. Has it been reduced in fact? Upon most things the levy is not ad valorem (so much per pound, per yard, per gallon). In the lapse of time, with the development of discovery and invention, and with production upon a larger and larger scale, the prices of many articles

have been very much reduced, causing the specific duty to be equivalent to a much higher ad valorem one. When, for instance, the price of steel rails in England was \$150 per ton our import duty of \$17 was equal to an ad valorem duty of less than 12 per cent. Now that the price in that country is, say, \$25, the same duty, \$17, equals 70 per cent. In like manner, but not to the same extent, the percentage has been greatly enhanced upon carpets, woolen goods of most kinds, machinery and all manner of metal goods, sugar, and perhaps upon the greater part of the very long specific list. Under valuation and smuggling, causing great loss to the treasury, induced congress early in the war to abandon, in the main, ad valorem duties. But as a growing impediment to international commerce, are not specific duties, unless often revised, still more objectionable.

JAMES LANE.
Burlington, Iowa, Dec. 1.

In Hotel Reading Rooms.

To the Editor of The Standard—Sir: While not aware that you are imitating the example of a big contemporary and giving prizes for available ideas, I beg to submit the following for what they are worth.

At the hotel at which I regularly put up I observe that everything on the reading room table is industriously read, not to say devoured. Now, why cannot every single tax club have what may be termed a hotel STANDARD supply committee, and set aside a fund toward subscribing for one or more dozens of your paper at the usual discount. It would be an easy matter to prepare a list of the hotels in any city where a club is located, and have an active member or two devote one evening a week to seeing that each hotel regularly had its STANDARD on the reading table; and incidentally this might net a few stray subscribers. This plan of individual distribution would be better than mailing direct from your office, as in the latter case the copy would be very apt to lie unopened. This sort of ammunition would hit a particularly wide awake class of citizens—the traveling public.

A. H. MACKINNON.
Portland, Ore., Nov. 22.

Another Straw from England.

To the Editor of The Standard—Sir: Here is a copy of a resolution that a friend of mine (Mr. Draper) and I carried last night at the meeting of the central committee of the Hampstead liberal and radical association:

Resolved, That this committee is of opinion that owners of land (in London) benefited by improvements shall contribute to the cost of these improvements by means of a tax upon the annual ground values.

You see it is only the thin edge of the wedge; but this is the first time the land value taxation question has come up at our association, and we thought it well to be cautious. To our surprise and delight we carried the resolution.

My avowal of the single tax faith, and my opinion that this was by far the biggest question before the country, were well received, as also my pointing that the resolution covered the case of vacant lots.

Mr. Figgis, liberal candidate for the borough, voted for the resolution. It is simply extraordinary, the rapidity with which this question has come to the front.

JAMES F. MEURHEAD.
London, Eng., Nov. 27, 1889.

A Protest Against a Phrase.

To the Editor of The Standard—Sir: The single tax proposes to take the rental value of land. This will reduce the price of land to nought, and reduce rents from the present speculative altitude. Using the word in the popular sense, this taking of rent may be equivalent to confiscation, but it is the same kind of confiscation that any taxation is, only it is justifiable as applied to rent, and is not as applied to anything else. But in the strict sense it is not confiscation—the "turning into the treasury as a penalty." (This may be held to be a quibble, but I have not quibbled.) The reduction of the price of land to nought is not confiscation in any sense. Landlords would have simply been rendered powerless to take from others something they would otherwise have had power to take. But no material thing would be taken from them; nor would any material thing be given to anyone else. The only thing that would be "confiscated" (and that in the popular sense only) is, not land, but the landlord's monopoly power.

The taking of all rent will make rent

common property, but will not make land common property. Apart from the rent, land has a further value when used, and this value, together with the land to which it attaches, will remain private property. Any land may be private property in the full and strict sense in which we use the words, and the taking of the full rental value will no more abolish the "private ownership" of land than the taking of a part does to-day. The fact that it will not be profitable to hold land out of use has nothing to do with the question.

The popular conception of anything as "common property" consists in application to common use—as the streets, public parks, etc., and whenever we talk to the average citizen about "making land common property," the impression we usually cause in his mind is that of abolishing private and individual use, and leaving things in a generally chaotic condition.

I don't think the single tax will confiscate land, or abolish private ownership of land, or make land common property, and I think that when it is asserted that it will, whether by friend or foe, that is asserted which is not true. I believe that the use of these terms has done more to prevent consideration of our proposal than anything else, and I believe that all progress that has been made among honest minds has been made in spite of the confused presentation, said minds accepting the truth on the presentation of the other side of the question, or realizing, either consciously or unconsciously, that the real effect would not be as stated.

Let us drop the use of such terms hereafter, and state the question as it really is—a method by which all monopolies may be broken up. C. B. HEMINGWAY.
Washington, D. C., Dec. 7.

Rev. Dr. DeCosta on The Unheeded Messenger.

To the Editor of The Standard—Sir: I have read the article on "The Unheeded Messenger" in your issue of December 7, and while, unfortunately, too large a portion of it is truth, I view another portion as travesty. I think that the first thing we have to do is to show fair play to bishops as well as other people, and I beg you to allow me to say that, while recognizing the good intention of the writer of the article in question, he puts too low an estimate upon their actual work. The bishops of the Protestant Episcopal church have spoken decidedly on several of the subjects neglected by the convention. For instance, three years ago, in signing the "White Cross Declaration," they touched the tenement house and the wages of women, where they call for careful attention to "the domestic environment of the poor," and say that we must guard women "in their industrial pursuits that purity may not become a temptation to sin." Please let your readers know that the bishops are alive to the situation. B. F. DeCOSTA.
December 7, 1889.

PERSONAL.

William Henry of Caversville, Ill., had an admirably written article in the Journal of United Labor on "The New Unionism." It was part of an address which he had written for his local assembly and explains the broader lines on which labor organizations must work in the future. The article appeared before the recent change in the land plank of the constitution.

E. Tideman of 169 E. Congress street, Detroit, Mich., has translated the tract, "How John's father saw the light" into Swedish. He offers it to anyone who will publish it. Mrs. Tideman recently translated Mr. George's sermon, "Thy Kingdom Come," into Swedish and sent the translation to some friends in Sweden. As a result some half a dozen persons have become deeply interested in the land question and are going to read "Progress and Poverty."

W. H. Van Ornum of Chicago has had great success with his paper, the Home Seeker. After five months' life as a monthly the paper is to be made a weekly and somewhat enlarged. From the first issue the Home Seeker has been an outspoken single tax paper, and has done splendid work among building and loan association members.

Does the Ledger Really See the Cat?

Philadelphia Ledger.

One land question will settle itself before long in this country—that of disposing of public lands, which are now being disposed of at the rate of over 12,000,000 acres per annum. Then, when all the land of the continent has passed into the hands of individuals or corporations, we will be ready for the other land question that agitates Ireland and various European countries.

THE TRUST CRAZE.

Another of the object lessons in political economy of which this industrial age is so prolific, is afforded us in the recent serious crippling, if not total collapse, of the cotton oil trust—a combination of the great majority of mills in this country which grind oil from cotton seed, organized in close imitation of the Standard oil trust, and to a considerable extent owned by the same people. Unlike that successful monopoly, however, and in common with the other great trusts whose contemporaneous formation has drawn so much attention to this style of corporation—the distillers', the sugar refiners' and the white lead corrodors' trusts—it committed the grave error of watering its capital from the outset, issuing more certificates than represented the actual value of the works and other forms of property turned in to the combination, with the idea that the promoters could thereby reap profits out of the lambs of the stock market by manipulating the certificates rather than from the power of monopolizing the production of cotton seed oil. On the surface, this was the chief blunder committed, and as the immediate cause of the check given to the trust's operations was the loss incurred in handling those certificates, the superficial critics of the press see nothing deeper of the inherent weakness of the combination, and are as ready as ever to inveigh against what they imagine to be its supreme power over one great branch of industry. In reality, no such power exists, except so far as undue advantage is given to any aggregation of money capital by the monopoly of natural resources which forbids to labor the chance of employment except with the assistance of capital, and all these gigantic pools stand upon a footing which is different in each case, but precarious in all.

The history of the Standard oil trust is a peculiar one. Based upon a natural monopoly of the most exclusive kind, it has never been the absolute owner of the monopoly which it has merely served so well as to become its master. Bad as are many of its features, it has yet rendered a legitimate service to the community, and the shrewdness with which its managers have refrained from greatly abusing their power is the real secret of its supremacy. It is not so much the oil wells as the railroads which first gave them their advantage over all other refiners; for the Standard oil trust is a refiner, not a producer, of crude petroleum. Through discrimination granted it by those who monopolize the transportation of the country, it was placed in such a position as to be the best customer of the well owners proper and thus gradually assume the character of an actual lessee of the wells, though nominally only a purchaser of their output. Once in possession, through these means, of the usufruct of a great natural monopoly, it has maintained its advantage solely through superior adroitness in serving the public at such low cost as to forestall extensive competition, and to that extent has performed a genuine public duty.

The cotton oil trust had no such field for its development, but from its very inception was the subject of such potential competition as must wreck it in attempting more than the task of meeting public demand for cheaper oil through the legitimate saving of labor consequent upon extensive co-operation of industry. The cultivation of cotton could always be extended to new plantations to a vastly greater degree than the production of petroleum could be expanded by the sinking of new wells, and there was therefore in the one case no such natural monopoly as in the other, with which to form a substantial partnership; and had there been, the means of forcing the scattered primary producers to terms through monopoly of transportation was greatly fettered, if not entirely destroyed, through the interstate commerce law, weak as that is. There was nothing for the trust to depend upon but the artificial power of capital, created by monopoly of natural opportunities in other directions; and while this might aid it in the fight with competitors, it could not help it to impose exorbitant burdens upon the public which of themselves would widen the margin for competition. In the same category comes the distillers' trust, and in reality the white lead trust also; for although the latter is the largest single buyer of pig lead, there are other channels of demand for the metal, which give to the producers of the latter—the lead mine owners—the power to retain

in their own hands all of the taxing power which they derive either through controlling one of nature's gifts or through the prohibitory lead tariff. The sugar trust, again, as has been often pointed out, is a creature of the tariff on sugar, the abolition of which would not only subject it to foreign competition, but also greatly reduce the amount of capital needed by domestic competitors; while the old steel rail combination was powerful only because it owned certain patents, the expiration of which has forced the lowering of prices for rails to a fair margin over pig iron, to ward off the building of new mills; the effect of the tariff being here largely nullified by the existence of a capacity to manufacture more than can be disposed of at high figures.

Reduced to its final elements, the invention of the trust has given no real power to its expectant beneficiaries that they could not have exercised as individuals. The talisman of secrecy, which was expected to be at once so dangerous and so profitable, has proved a drawback, and is already abandoned by one organization, and its abandonment discussed in others. The increased profits as the result of combination, with which dividends were promised on increased capitalization, have not been realized. So far as the founders of a trust have possessed a monopoly, either of natural growth or sprung from the artificial causes of tariff or patent laws, they have reaped its benefits; but no greater ones than would have come to them without combination; and the little devilish have even to some extent, been protected from the big ones in retaining their share of such spoils as accrued to the monopoly as a whole.

It has again been demonstrated, in short, that capital of itself is comparatively powerless and must always bow to the superior power of true monopoly; that the owner of machinery and money is nowhere beside the owner of valuable land, and only a step in advance of the owners of plain muscle or brain. And another most wholesome demonstration that these trusts have made for us is that of the limitations of human intellect to direct great enterprises. With the most concentrated power of direction possible, they have failed to secure either efficient management or harmony, even though diversity of interests was apparently forestalled through the exclusion of small shareholders from the councils. We may well wonder what would have been the results, what the bickerings and miscalculations, if the workmen in the factories had also joined in the attempt to manage an entire branch of industry from one center—as is the dream of our socialistic friends. It has been clearly proven that the affairs of men as a whole, even in single branches of industry, are too great to be managed without the checks of competition, unless by the rarely found genius of a Rockefeller or a Vanderbilt; that combination does not necessarily mean strength, and may even mean weakness, when it transcends the ability of average men to direct.

For such lessons as these we might even thank the would-be monopolists who built up their houses of cards in the hope of levying tribute upon the public. If they have not greatly benefited their own pockets, they have added to the experience that is part of the world's knowledge; they have taught us anew that socialism would probably bring failure as well as tyranny in its train; that it is not aggregations of capital that we need combat, but the power through control of natural opportunities to permit or deny at pleasure the natural right of men to employ themselves and to enjoy the fruit of their labor. EDWARD J. SHRIVER.

A PAINFUL CASE.

One of the curiosities of the time is the attitude of the Nation toward the single tax movement, and the disordered condition of its reasoning faculties consequent upon the agitation of the question. Its state of mind is shown by its frequent calls upon single tax men to settle upon abandoned lands in New England and elsewhere; its firm conviction evidently being that if the single tax theory be correct it follows that single tax men can live on land which will not support other men. The complacent air of triumph with which it exhorts the "followers of Henry George" to prove their faith in this way will amuse those to whom the Nation is no more than other journals; but to one who has become accustomed to look to it as the one paper on which he could

always depend for sane, vigorous treatment of important questions, its mental decay is by no means pleasant.

A few weeks ago Mr. A. M. Paul of Hartford, Conn., who I suppose is one of those who, like myself, have become accustomed thus to regard the Nation, wrote to it inquiring why it had commended one of these "opportunities to acquire land and fairly comfortable building on the easiest terms," especially to single tax men. The editor replied that his reason was "that the whole George philosophy goes on the assumption that land owners have better chances to make a living than people in general." The case of New Hampshire, it added, "would seem to refute the idea that rent tends to increase with the increase of productive power; for it will be admitted that productive power has increased in New Hampshire, while rent has been decreasing."

This is not mere fooling; it is serious, sober argument—or intended for such. The statement that the George philosophy goes on the assumption that landowners have better chances than others to make a living will surprise those who have got their notions of Henry George's philosophy from his books. What it does go on is the well known fact that making a living is easier for landowners whose land rises in value than it is for others. Ordinary men, gifted with average sense, know that land values fall as well as rise; and that such cases as that of New Hampshire confirm instead of refuting "the idea that rent tends to increase with the increase of productive power." When land is abandoned, it is of course because its relative productive power has fallen so low as to make its occupancy unprofitable. Most people agree that a proposition is strengthened by the discovery that the converse of the proposition is true; it is left for the Nation to maintain the opposite—to argue that the rent of land does not rise with the rise of its productive power, because we see that the rent of land falls with the fall of its productive power. To piece out this "refutation" it adds the statement that rent has been decreasing in New Hampshire. It appears to have no basis for it. The commissioner's report, which it quotes, deals only with certain farm lands, not with rent in towns, or with the aggregate of lands in the state. The statement is apparently pure assumption, and probably grossly untrue.

It is not my purpose to pursue the subject as a matter of argument—to gravely point out that when the Nation compared productive power in New Hampshire with rent in New Hampshire, it is bound either to compare all rent and all productive power, or the rent of particular land and the productive power of that land; for the editor evidently does not mean to be dishonest. The trouble is not with his intentions, but his ability—he is no longer capable of a clear, plain view of this question. Nor do I mean to waste space and time by dwelling on the fact that as productive power can only be exerted on land, the possession of the land enables its owners to absorb most of the increased production; for this fact is shown in every day life, and is plain to everybody except the Henry George editor of the Nation—if I may use the term; and it is doubtless as plain to him as to the rest of us when he buys or sells lots, or speculates in railroad stocks, or transfers his investment from Vermont to Colorado—it is only when he is writing articles on "Georgeism" that it is hidden from the view of his mind. Unreasoning opposition, impenetrability to argument, misconception, misstatement, misrepresentation, are, or at least have been, an old story to single tax men; they have characterized the attitude of many, if not most, ordinary journals—though common sense is fast resuming its reign. But the Nation has not been an ordinary journal. Its "specialty" has been that, as I heard a friend say of it some years ago, "it is the one paper that never goes insane on any subject." This can no longer be said. On one subject its discussion, its statements, its comments, are utterly worthless. There is little to be said about it. I speak of it merely as a remarkable fact, a "singular case." The only moral that I can perceive is that "all-round" wisdom and good sense are not to be expected in any one, and that it is unwise to accept any man's opinions, or place implicit reliance on his mental integrity. Probably few of your readers are accustomed to read the Nation, or have contracted the habit of reliance upon it for mental food of a certain sort,

so that they are not likely to appreciate the mixture of vexation and disgust excited in an old reader of that journal by finding that one dish that is set upon his weekly table is sure to be filled with trash.

In the same number of the Nation with the letter mentioned above is an article on "A New English Weekly," written with all of its old time vigor and raciness, which is a curious instance of the inability of a doctor to diagnose his own case. Speaking of the London Spectator it says: "In politics, until the Irish question came up, it rendered the inestimable service of looking at both men and measures with great impartiality, of getting at the point of view of its antagonists and doing them justice. This remarkable intellectual integrity it has in a great measure lost since the home rule question arose. It . . . adopted, and still produces with wearisome persistence, that view of home rule which deprives all its advocates, both of ordinary political sagacity and of ordinary morality."

For "Irish" and "home rule" substitute "single tax," and a better description of the Nation's own course cannot be written. Such notions, it most truly adds, "preached week after week, become very wearisome and very destructive of the preacher's highest powers. It has ended by alienating a very large body of the Spectator's old admirers without regard to their political sympathies." I know nothing of the effect of the Nation's peculiar weakness on its circulation, but I presume it excites in others, as it does in me, the peculiar feeling, half pity and half disgust, with which one realizes that a dear and honored friend is growing old, and that when a certain topic is brought up there is nothing to do but listen in respectful silence, and as soon as possible to gently change the subject.

HENRY FERRIS.

RURAL LIFE FOR A CITY MAN.

"Liberty and a Living," published by G. P. Putnam's Sons, is "a record of an attempt to secure bread and butter, sunshine and content, by gardening, fishing and hunting." The author, Philip G. Hubert, was for years a newspaper writer and musical critic, and he has not entirely abandoned that work. Wearying, however, of the heat, dust and turmoil of a great city, and having children to whom he wished to give the advantages of a healthy out-door life, he began to look about to see if there was not some work that did not require the daily routine in a city office by which he could make enough money to maintain himself and family in a simple way of living. Accordingly he moved to a place on Long Island, and determined that, without subjecting himself to the grinding toil of a farmer's life, he would try to produce enough to enable him to live in the country on his fixed income of \$50 a month. Of course, to most people a greater problem than that under consideration would be the securing of the fixed income of \$600 a year, but Mr. Hubert is not sure that even if his \$50 a month were suddenly cut off, he should not attempt to make that amount by doubling or quadrupling the size of his garden, and go into raising small fruits and chickens for market, while he boldly declares that if he were forced to choose between giving up the short time he now spends in the city and giving up the longer time he now spends in the country, he would deliberately forego music and the drama, and live in the country the whole year round.

Mr. Hubert describes somewhat in detail the very simple and wholesome fare which satisfies him and his family. He gives the following summary of his expense account, kept with scrupulous care, for the eight months beginning at the 1st of May and ending with the 1st of January:

Rent for the whole year	\$160 00
Wages	100 00
Grocer's and butcher's bill	128 00
Expenses upon garden, boat, house, including tools, paint, repairs, seeds, etc.	35 00
Coal and wood	25 00

Total \$448 00

This shows an average expenditure of \$56 per month, against which he can only show as coming from the place \$43 (during the eight months) obtained from the sale of surplus eggs, and other produce, and he takes no account of the expenditures of himself and family for clothes, books, etc. These, however, he states are not great, and are of course met by the proceeds of such literary work as

the author still engages in. In addition to this Mr. Hubert is able to come to New York for four months in the year, and maintains himself and his family while here by literary and newspaper work. This is probably not possible for many.

But for a man possessed of these opportunities and enjoying a fixed income, to solve out of his own experience the grave problem of healthy and comfortable living for the masses, is impossible. He certainly does suggest, however, a mode of life that will interest and perhaps allure thousands of fairly well-to-do people, who have grown weary of the turmoil and excitement of a great city. Mr. Hubert's diary of a week, giving a description of his work in the garden, and his fishing expeditions on the Great South bay; his record of stings and sweets, of failure and success in inducing Italian bees to store up in patent Yankee hives honey drawn from American flowers, and his final summary of what he loses and what he gains, are attractive reading for all who are capable of enjoying the delights of country life and at the same time sharing his appreciation of the advantages the city offers to the man and woman of cultured tastes.

THE LARGER HOPE.

In a letter to Henry George, Dr. Henry A. Ellis of Sydney, New South Wales, says:

I have only recently read any of your books, "Protection or Free Trade?" being the first. But I had arrived at a similar conclusion by a different path a considerable time previously, having come to regard land as properly belonging to the people. I had, however, until reading your book, no idea of the grandeur of the idea nor the depth of the movement. The way by which I had come to my conclusion was on sanitary grounds, seeing that the high price of land was very injurious to the health of a community, as limiting the size of houses and the grounds around them, especially in the suburbs; so I began to look on high priced land as militating against the public health, especially where it is kept up by more than usually artificial means—that is, the natural outlets being shut up by large holders and the price thus kept up. I had felt, however, a great despair of the possibility of amelioration of the condition of labor as the world advanced so much as to make the thought of what is termed advanced civilization dreadful. After reading your book new hope is inspired as the position is changed. It is no longer attempting to ameliorate a growing evil itself. It gives something tangible to hope for, to hope for—I might almost say, to live for, in preventing a surrounding of oneself with a selfish, egotistic philosophy of becoming willfully blind and in concentrating one's powers on self culture alone, as the only reasonable good to be found in the universe, so that, as all could not live, it was better the survivors should be those of the highest evolution.

WHERE IS THE CROW'S NEST?

In a gulch in Nevada three miners lived in a single cabin. They had built the cabin together. The ceiling wasn't frescoed and the upholstering hadn't been put on the chairs yet; still, it was a pretty nice sort of place to live in, and as time passed they managed to make it more and more comfortable.

They took turn and turn about in tending to the housework. Each one had one day of scouring the pans and boiling the mush, and then two days of pick and shovel.

One day it happened to be Grinning Jim's turn to tend to the chores. The boys called him Grinning Jim, not because he did a great deal of grinning himself, but because he was always advising others to do it. Whenever anybody struck bad luck, Jim said, "Grin and bear it, my boy; grin and bear it." Now, on that morning Jim got up first and started the fire and put on the kettle to make the coffee, and the pan to fry some bear's steak. But somehow the fire wouldn't draw. He put on more kindlings. He got on his knees and made a bellows of himself, but the fire just smoldered and the cabin filled up with smoke. The other men began to grumble in their bunks and to rub their eyes, and the tears began to run down their cheeks as if they were thinking of their past sins. And when they sat down to breakfast and found the coffee lukewarm and the steak half done, they just swore. But Jim didn't swear.

He was a Methodist and had religion. He just said, "Grin and bear it, boys, perhaps it'll be better bimeby." It was the same way at dinner and at supper, and to look at those men, you would think their best friend had gone back on them.

The next day it was Mad Tom's turn. He was a terror. He would fret and howl and stamp when anything went wrong, till you would think creation was out of joint. He had vowed any number of times the day before, that if he had the thing to do, there wouldn't be any more smoke in that cabin.

So after breakfast he went at it. They had an old stovepipe to their stove, which they had bought of another miner who had quit his claim on the other side of the gulch. It went through the wall in an elbow joint and stuck straight up outside, and they were rather proud of it. Now Tom investigated the stovepipe.

He found a little hole way up where the smoke was coming out and he plugged that with some chewing tobacco. He thought that would settle it, but it didn't. Now the smoke came out of a crack a little lower down and there was an awful smell of burnt tobacco. I forget what he stopped the crack with, but it took him about an hour to do it, and by that time the hole was open again and the smoke as bad as ever. When the other two came home at noon they found Tom very grimy and very mad, and nothing to eat but some cold mush. Tom kept at it most of the afternoon. He stopped the cracks. He fanned the fire. Once he poured on some kerosene, but he concluded he wouldn't do that again. Finally he got so mad he hit the stovepipe a terrible whack with a stick of wood, and started off for the grocery at Dead Horse gully. When the other two came home at night they found nothing to eat and a big dent in the stovepipe.

The next day Old Silence took his turn. His real name was Silas, but it was handy to call him Silence, because he never did say very much. However, he did a powerful lot of thinking. He didn't much believe in Jim's grin and bear it policy. He said he guessed it was all right to be patient under the dispensations of providence, but he didn't see that it was the Lord's fault that the smoke kept coming into the cabin. He didn't take much stock either in mad Tom's plan of stopping the cracks, and he started to tell Tom so, but Tom turned the air so blue that Old Silence shut up. But when the men were gone, he lit his pipe and thought the thing over.

"Every weed has got some root," he said to himself, "and you haven't got the weed out till you've got the root out. It ain't natural for smoke to come down instead o' goin' up."

"There's somethin' a stoppin' up that flue. If I kin git that out, the smoke will act all right, and if that don't come out, that 'ere smoke will pester us forever and ever, amen."

He got up and laid down his pipe. He found out the topmost crack where the smoke came out. He climbed on the roof and looked down, but he only got a cinder in his eye and saw nothing. It must be in the elbow-joint of the pipe. He would get at that thing, if he brought all the soot west of the Rocky mountains into his cabin. He twisted the joint out. Down came the soot, over the floor and over his overalls, but he stuck to the job. He put in his arm. He felt something. He pulled it out. It was a big chunk of dirt and broken sticks and feathers. He looked it over carefully and then he chuckled. He went outside and looked into the old pine tree over the cabin. Sure enough, the old crow's nest had come down at last and part of it had fallen plumb down the pipe.

Old Silence guffawed, and then snickered. He laid the crow's nest carefully by the stove, knocked the soot out of the pipe, hammered out Mad Tom's dent, put the pipe up, swept the floor, kindled a roaring fire, and got a glorious dinner for Jim and Tom. "Boys," he said, pointing to the nest, "the Lord made fires to draw, and when they don't draw, look for the crow's nest."

Dear beloved reader, let me entrap you into swallowing a moral. This earth is a pretty nice place to live in, and we can fix it up so that it will be nicer all the time. But of late the fire doesn't seem to draw any more, and there's so much smoke that it has made the eyes of a good many women water badly, yes, and of some men, too.

There are hard times off and on; it's hard to get a job; you're laid off every now and then; coal is high, and so is

sugar; rents are getting worse and worse. We all agree that there is something the matter, but we don't all act alike about it. Some of us, like Grinning Jim, try to be patient, and to hope that somehow, we don't know exactly how, but somehow, it will be better by and by. And some of us, like Mad Tom, try to stop the cracks where the smoke comes out. We get bills passed forbidding all sorts of things, forbidding prisoners to work, forbidding workmen to come to this country, forbidding foreign goods to be brought in, forbidding men to combine their capital, forbidding this and forbidding that. But whenever one crack is stopped, the smoke comes out of another. And finally Tom gets mad, and leans over the saloon bar and swears, and goes on a strike, and smashes things up generally. But that doesn't help things either.

Now wouldn't it be better to do like Old Silence, and find what stops the flue? Things don't need to be this way. The Lord Almighty didn't make the earth so. It isn't his fault if the fire don't draw. There's some crow's nest stopping things up. What is it and where is it and how can we get it out? Suppose we find that out and then go to work at it. Very likely there will be some soot flying around, if we do. Perhaps we may get some ourselves. But it is better to suffer a little while than to suffer forever. Where is the crow's nest? Suppose you send in your answer to the editor of For the Right.

Let us put our heads together, and then get to work.—[Walter Rauschenbusch in For the Right.]

MUTUAL BANKS.

Mr. Alfred B. Westrup, corresponding secretary of the "Mutual bank propaganda," writes a long letter to THE STANDARD, replying to Mr. Shearman's article printed in this paper on October 5. Mr. Westrup accuses Mr. Shearman of evading the first question, viz.: "Does the prohibitory tax of ten per cent, imposed by congress on any issue of paper money, other than is issued by the United States treasury, limit the volume of money?" He says that Mr. Shearman disposes of the second question, "Whence did the state originally derive the right to dictate what the people should use as money?" by saying that he does not think it is of any practical importance. Mr. Westrup says:

Mr. Shearman classifies checks as money, and notwithstanding the fact that the statutes of this state, and I believe every other state, has a similar restriction, imposes a fine of from one hundred to one thousand dollars for uttering or passing any bill, check, etc., as money, other than what is established by law, and that congress passed a law levying a tax of ten per cent on anything that should be used as money, except such as is issued from the United States treasury. He maintains that the state does not restrict or dictate what the people shall use as money, because he and his friends can exchange checks on banks established by law; and hence does "not know that it is of any practical use to inquire whether the state has the right to dictate what the people shall use as money, or, if it has, how it acquired that right." With equal good "reason" could he maintain that there is no monopoly of the telephone business, because one can always hire a messenger boy.

The writer asks if Mr. Shearman is ignorant of the fact that checks cannot be passed among people who are not assured of the credit of the drawer. Mr. Shearman tells us that he is not. He adds that he does not favor having any paper passed among people who are not willing to take it. He further says that he and others exchange checks on banks which are not established by law. Mr. Westrup proceeds:

Mr. Shearman, and our opponents generally, fail to see that if the people are left free to choose the money they will accept in exchange for products, and the state does not interfere with banking and the supply of money, there would result more competition in banking (including the supply of money) than there is in any other business now, because the present monopoly of money gives an undue advantage to large capitalists, and is an insurmountable obstacle to co-operation on the part of the small ones—they are defeated by monopoly of credit. Competition under the present arbitrary limit to money is limited competition, whereas with no state interference it would be unlimited competition. Prohibition alone prevent borrowers from co-operating to supply themselves with money; hence, as already stated, when restrictions are removed or public sentiment consigns them to the limbo of superstition, the fiercest competition ever known in any business will bring to the surface every possible defect, both of the present as well as all new systems that may be proposed, and the people will thus be able to decide as to what constitutes a safe and equitable monetary system, if such a system can be devised, and that is what we claim the Mutual bank is.

Mr. Westrup insists that the only way

to find out what is the best system is to permit experiment, and asks Mr. Shearman if he thinks the state is both infallible and immaculate. He then goes on to say that the various departments of the federal government are under the control of the moneyed classes, whose interests are antagonistic to those of the working classes, and insists that a monetary system that will suit one will not suit the other. He declares that Mr. Shearman utterly fails to understand the "mutual bank system," and defies him to show that Arkansas adopted a system like it in 1835, or at any other time. Mr. Westrup says:

The Mutual bank proposes to issue (not loan that which has been previously issued) new money every time it "loans," hence there will be an increase in the volume of currency for every new borrower, whereas the loaning of money as it is done now has nothing to do with increasing its volume. With every new enterprise there is an increased demand for machinery, tools, etc., and more of these articles are made to meet the demand. Why not an increase in the volume of money to meet the increased demand, arising from more people, more enterprise, more commerce? Clearly, the necessity of restricting the volume of money, if it is honestly and seriously entertained by one, is a superstition and nothing more.

Mr. Westrup says that this is not a new idea, but that it has been in print in this country for forty years, and the only people not familiar with the idea are those who fail to read radical matter and the class which reads nothing but nonsense. This shows a sad state of affairs among the American people; for no one, except Mr. Westrup and his little circle of friends, is familiar with this idea. He says that the reports of the comptroller of the currency show that for the first twenty years of the existence of the national banks, the losses of depositors in them averaged over \$100,000 a year, and for the succeeding four years a million dollars a year. He quotes Mr. Burrows, president of the National farmers' alliance, as saying that the various interest bearing debts of this country amount to \$30,000,000,000, the interest on which is \$1,800,000,000, and thus concludes:

Under free trade in banking, which would necessarily result in a universal mutual system and the complete abolition of interest, this stupendous robbery would cease as surely as without the centralizing power of state interference it would never have existed. This is our thesis. We have waited in vain for an anti-thesis that is based on reason. It will never come. There is not a correct statement in print that can invalidate our position, and Mr. Shearman will find it a tough old job to formulate one and will finally have to give it up.

OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

The Preparations for Disposing of the Surplus—Extravagance in All Directions.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 10.—Of the 330 members of the present house of representatives but 199 occupied seats in the preceding congress. The democratic majority of twelve has changed to a republican majority of eight, though this can not at all times be counted on was shown by the defeat of the caucus candidate for chaplain.

The new speaker, Thomas B. Reed, of the lumber protected state of Maine, has a strong contempt for "revenue reformers," as such, and, in his speech against the Mills bill last session, made sport of those men, who, lacking the courage to come out as altogether opposed to something which they described as dreadful, were ready to compromise with the evil for three or four per cent.

There is little probability of any legislation this session looking to reduction of the tariff. It will continue to flourish notwithstanding its glaring monstrosities, some of which are artlessly exhibited in the report of the secretary of the treasury, to which the president, with child-like innocence, refers approvingly.

The president deprecates the enormous surplus accumulating yearly in the national treasury, as it imposes an "unnecessary burden upon the people," and is a "disturbing element in the conduct of private business," and he shows that the revenue might be reduced some \$37,000,000 by knocking off the internal revenue taxes on tobacco and alcohol used in the arts, but on the other hand he makes recommendations which, if acted upon, will require the continuance of the present volume of revenue to meet the greatly increased governmental expenses. His suggestions for building more ships for the navy, for subsidizing steamship lines and creating a naval reserve, for building coast defenses and increasing the already gigantic pension

list will, if adopted, make short work of the surplus without the aid of the smaller special appropriations. And that it is generally expected that there will be no curtailment of the revenue is evident from the rush of bills in both houses of congress providing for the dissipation of the surplus. Among the bills presented are two by Senator Hale of Maine, one providing for an increase in the navy and the other for the formation of a naval reserve. The first authorizes the president to have constructed by contract eight battle ships of 7,500 to 10,000 tons displacement, two armored coast defense vessels, three gunboats of 800 to 1,200 tons, and five first class torpedo boats. Discretion is given to the secretary of the navy in the matter of premiums to be allowed for speed in excess of contract requirements. The secretary may build the vessels at the navy yards in case he cannot contract for them at a reasonable price. The eighteen vessels here provided for are in addition to the twenty-six vessels already authorized and appropriated for, but which have not yet been built, and will, if the provisions of the bill are fulfilled, raise the effective naval force of the United States to twenty-one armored and thirty-nine unarmored vessels. The introduction of this bill seems to be in furtherance of Secretary Tracy's scheme for the erection of two fleets of battle ships, of which eight shall be assigned to the Pacific and twelve to the Atlantic; and also for the building of twenty coast defense craft, carrying the thickest of armor and the most powerful of guns.

Supposing all these plans carried out. How long will these ships continue to be effective? It is not such a long time ago when the monitor steamed into Hampton roads to engage in her memorable fight with the Merrimac and revolutionized the whole method of naval construction. Since then millions upon millions of money have been spent in building ships growing out of her designs. Yet now the bureau of construction reports to the secretary of the navy that single turreted monitors without reconstruction are "worse than useless." "The only use to which these vessels can advantageously be put," says the secretary, "is to assign them to service as practice ships for the naval reserve in those states which have created such a branch of the militia, should they be desired for the purpose."

The other bill which Senator Hale has introduced authorizes the secretary of the navy to have steamships engaged in lake, coasting and foreign trade, sailing under the United States flag, examined with a view of ascertaining their availability as cruisers in case of war. These vessels are to be enrolled upon the naval register and subject to immediate call by the government. All vessels are to be constructed in accordance with the requirements of the secretary of the navy, and must be capable of mounting not less than two rifled guns of modern pattern. The owners of the vessels are to receive an annual compensation not exceeding eight per cent yearly for trouble and expense incurred in complying with the conditions of the government. No compensation is to be paid for any vessel whose average trial speed is less than fifteen knots for a six hours' run if engaged in foreign or coasting trade, and not less than twelve knots for those on the lakes.

Senator Cameron of Pennsylvania comes to the support of the president's recommendations for subsidizing steamship lines with a bill he introduced in the last congress. It divides American owned vessels engaged in the foreign trade into three classes, and provides that compensation for vessels of the first class shall be paid at the rate of four cents a hundred tons for each mile traveled between a United States port and any foreign port on both the outward and inward passage; second class, four and four-tenths cents, and third class five and three-tenths cents. These vessels shall carry the mails whenever called upon, and the government shall have a right to purchase them.

Then come the various sea-coast-defense-surplus-eating plans. Senator Dolph of Oregon presents a bill, as recommended by a board appointed to select ports at which fortifications are most urgently needed. The ports specified are New York, San Francisco, Boston, the lake ports, Hampton roads, New Orleans, Philadelphia, Washington, Baltimore, Portland, Me.; Rhode Island ports in Narragansett bay, Key West, Charleston, S. C.; Mobile, New London, Conn.; Savannah, Galveston, Portland, Ore.;

Pensacola, Wilmington, San Diego, Portsmouth, N. H.; Cumberland sound at Fort Clinch, the Kennebec and Penobscot rivers, New Bedford and New Haven. The bill appropriates for the purpose \$126,877,800, to be expended over a period of twelve years. Floating batteries and torpedo boats are to be constructed under the supervision of the secretary of the navy. The bill also authorizes the expenditure of \$1,000,000 by the secretary of the navy in the erection of a factory somewhere on the Pacific coast for manufacturing the most approved pattern of guns and gun carriages for the army.

Theodore R. Timby, of this city has long been in the field with elaborate plans for coast defense that have the sanction of Rear Admiral Ammen and many others "who ought to know." Mr. Timby is himself an authority on such matters, having been the original inventor of the revolving turret introduced by the monitor. He asserts that it is a waste of money to build and equip a navy, and that the better course is to distribute powerful guns, protected by impenetrable steel shields and turrets, along the shore.

This much for the new navy, the naval reserve, steamship subsidies and coast defense, which taken together call for a tremendous expenditure; yet there remains the important question of pensions. The best comment perhaps was the remark of a man, wearing the dark blue uniform and brass buttons of the Grand army of the republic, whom I met in the elevator after coming from the gallery of the senate chamber, where I had listened to the reading of the message. "The message is all right," he said. "It takes good care of us veterans. We are already getting a third of the revenue of the country. Soon we'll get it all."

The total estimated cost of the government for the fiscal year of 1890 is in round numbers \$293,000,000, of which \$104,000,000 are to be paid out in pensions, and half a dozen bills have already been introduced in the senate, some of which increase, but none of which lessen this pension expenditure.

All of this wild extravagance is but the fulfillment of a prediction made by Thomas G. Shearman, a few hours after there was no longer doubt of the result of the presidential election of 1888, to a little group of disappointed men gathered at the headquarters of the Single tax Cleveland and Thurman committee in New York. The incoming republican administration, he said, would not dare meddle with the tariff, and that while the internal revenue might be reduced the more likely cause to be pursued was the dissipation of the surplus in pensions and in other wasteful and harmful ways—a policy, which, he declared, would do more for the early triumph of the cause of free trade than had the party demanding a few per cent reduction in the tariff been victorious at the polls.

A democrat, Senator Voorhees of Indiana, is determined not to allow the tariff question to slumber, and another democrat, Senator George of Mississippi, has introduced a bill well calculated to excite further tariff discussion. It is leveled at the trusts, and provides that where the president is satisfied that any arrangement, trust, contract or combination has been formed, and that in consequence thereof there has been an enhancement of the price of any article of merchandise, "he shall have power, and it is hereby made his duty, to issue his proclamation suspending the collection of all customs duties or import taxes on similar and competing articles, when imported into the United States from any foreign country."

HENRY GEORGE, JR.

Yes, this country has raised too much. There may be something in the over-production theory after all. There is an over product of mortgages. There is a crop that no insect has ever yet attacked; drouth has not withered it, nor floods drowned it out. The money power has planted it on the richest soils, cultivated it with the most assiduous care, and copiously watered it with the scalding tears of humanity.—Arkansas Economist.

In Arkansas the proportion of farmers in debt in the cotton region is 75 per cent, and in the grain and grass region 25 per cent. The most of the labor is performed by the tenant or share-hand farmer. He rents the land at from \$6 to \$10 per acre, or works for part of the crop. The risk on him being great, the merchants score him from 50 to 100 per cent; in other words, it costs him two-thirds more to live than if he had cash.—(Memphis Appeal.

THE SOCIAL PROBLEM.

A Cry for Subsidies.

"Our Commercial Marine" is the title of an article by H. K. Thurber in the December Forum. It is a long protectionist wail for our vanished ships, and a cry for subsidies that others may take their place. Mr. Thurber shows that from 1860 to 1888 the tonnage of American vessels engaged in the foreign trade decreased from 2,379,304 tons to 919,382 tons. He traces this to England's alleged dexterous use of subsidies when the change from wooden to iron ships came about. Mr. Thurber gives figures to show that England granted in 1853 what he is pleased to call a steamship subsidy of \$2,500,000 per year for fourteen years; that in 1867 she renewed the contract with the great Peninsular and Oriental company and guaranteed a dividend of eight per cent per annum on its stock; that the Royal Mail steam packet company at some date unnamed obtained "a contract" of about \$1,350,000 annually, and that in 1868 this contract was renewed and an eight per cent dividend guaranteed on a capital stock of \$4,500,000. Mr. Thurber omits to indicate the value of the service rendered by the companies in return for these so-called subsidies, and he adds in an irresponsible and indefinite manner characteristic of protectionist arguments, "Other subsidies were granted that I cannot give the details of, but England paid from 1853 to 1886 about \$150,000,000 as subsidy or mail contracts to her shipping."

This policy, he insists, is responsible for England's commercial greatness, and a reverse policy for the decrease of our foreign shipping. Mr. Thurber then preaches subsidies as the only method of reviving the American merchant marine. In 1827, he says, our wooden ships threatened England's maritime supremacy, and he is of the opinion that we can build iron ships quite as well as we once built wooden ships. Mr. Thurber, singularly enough, omits to indicate the exact number of millions expended in subsidies by our government to bring about our marvelous maritime prosperity in 1827. Surely if subsidies are needed for iron ships, they were needed for wooden ships.

An Other-Worldly View of the Case.

The Rev. H. C. Hay, in a recent lecture of the labor problem, set forth the attitude of the Swedenborgian church on the question of poverty, and the relations of employer and employed. The New Church Messenger quotes with approval this passage of Mr. Hay's lecture. He affirms that labor is not a curse and poverty not a blessing; that capital is to be held as God's interest; that the laborer has a right in it, as a child of God, as truly as the capitalist; that the aristocracy of the church, like the aristocracy of heaven, should be determined by the ascending scale of usefulness. "Whosoever of you will be chiefest shall be servant of all," are the Lord's words, and they ennoble labor. Of course neither the New Church Messenger nor Mr. Hay points out any method of enacting a law that shall make a man love his neighbor as himself, and of course until some one does it is difficult to see how the social problem is to be solved on the line of such Christian socialism as is here indicated.

Mr. Bellamy Once More.

William J. Potter discusses Bellamy's Vision in the December issue of the New Ideal, a Boston publication devoted to the presentation of social problems, mostly from the socialistic point of view. Mr. Potter finds in the widespread attention which Mr. Bellamy's book has attracted evidence that men of all sorts realize that there is a social problem. This fact he thinks hopeful, so long as poverty and other social ills are accepted as in the course of nature there is little hope, but when they are recognized as part of the social disorder in which we live, the next step is a remedy.

Mr. Potter thinks state ownership of most things not incompatible with individual ambition and suggests as a reward for efficiency in the future socialistic society, a "life tenure in landed estate. Possibly a man working a farm under a master might produce a larger crop for the owner, the nation; but will he not be a larger, happier, more self-respecting man if he can after a time cultivate the acres as his own in his own way? And, after all, it is of more importance to produce the larger man than the larger crop."

Mr. Potter somewhat tritely affirms that selfishness is the root of human evils, and quite as tritely notes that this same selfishness originates in the necessary instinct of self-preservation. He hopes for a time when this instinct shall be made to serve the general good. "Then the salvation of human society will be assured; the commonwealth of man will have become the kingdom of God."

"The Failure of Democracy."

Clinton Furbish writes in the November issue of Belford's Magazine concerning what he calls "The Failure of Democracy." He opens his article with the much neglected fact that the British government, despite its monarch and its hereditary upper house, is in its administration far more democratic than our own. He finds it, too, "significant of the difficulty with which Americans deal with problems of government, that they always attempt to cure evils which oppress them by

the adoption of reforms which must intensify them." Mr. Furbish complains that the suggested remedy for corruption in presidential elections is to lengthen the president's term, and thus to make more attractive the prize for which money is corruptly spent. He says apropos of this: "As long as we allow the pecuniary rewards to flow into the pockets of legislators from the treasuries of corporate monopolies intrusted with and made rich by the exercise of governmental functions, so long will each year witness a steady increase in the expenditures in political campaigns and the subsequent debasement of the public morals."

Returning to a discussion of the contrast between Great Britain's system of a cabinet dependent for its lease of power upon the favor of the people, as represented by the majority in the house of commons, and our system of an executive independent of the legislature, Mr. Furbish shows what would have been the workings of the former system in several important crises of our political history. He makes it plain that under such a system parties must be organized on principles, and not for spoils alone, and shows how useless in such a canvass would be the stock in trade of the ordinary stump speaker.

He quotes with approval the provisions of a constitutional amendment for the purpose of providing this country with a federal parliamentary system. It was proposed by a senator some years ago, but was received with indifference. Mr. Furbish believes that it would have corrected the evil of a de-throned democracy, and offered substantial promise of a practical civil service reform. The amendment provided that every member of the cabinet should be a member of the house of representatives, and should be sponsor and defender of every legislative act proposed by the administration; that a defeat of an administration measure should necessitate the summoning of a cabinet from the opposition; that upon the failure to form a cabinet or the defeat of one formed, congress should be dissolved and a general congressional election should take place; that regular elections for congress should take place as now; and that president and vice-president should be elected for six years and be ineligible for re-election.

Dr. Hale's Pretty Plans.

Edward Everett Hale's department of "Social Problems" in the December Cosmopolitan is headed with "A merry Christmas to you all." Dr. Hale finds much to rejoice at apropos of Christmas a d of Him in whose memory it is kept. He thinks that the coming of Christ has made the lives of children happier, and illustrates the idea by citing the more wholesome and humane system of school discipline prevalent in the recent decades of the Christian era. He neglects to explain, however, while the world has been so slow in practicing in this particular field, the teachings of Him who said: "Suffer little children to come unto me." Dr. Hale insists that the spirit of love is making its way in the world, and instances in proof various organizations for the aid of down trodden humanity. He suggests as a wise and helpful thing the building of houses similar to the "residential flats" of London with a view to making it possible for young women living the lives of "bachelor girls" in cities to find, safe, cheap and comfortable homes.

The scheme he outlines looks to a partial system of co-operative housekeeping. The idea is doubtless practical, but of course Dr. Hale knows that such a scheme will not reach those who are most in need of what he would provide. An organization of chagitable women in Brooklyn finds that some of the girls whom it has sought out, and whose lives it has brightened, live together as many as eleven in a single room, where all sleep and the one hot meal of the day is cooked. And these women, their kind helpers sorrowfully admit, are by no means the poorest of Brooklyn's thousands. Co-operative housekeeping may save some thousands of women from degradation, but it will not do the really necessary thing to solve the problem; that is, make it possible for men to face the responsibilities of marriage and furnish those women with husbands and homes.

The Unearned Increment.

New York World.

A two story frame house with a barn and some little yard around it, was one of the pleasing little pictures of semi rusticity which greeted the eyes of "L" passengers on the Harlem trains six or seven years ago, near the corner of Ninety-fourth street and North avenue. The property rented then for \$30 a month, barn, yard, and all. Its present rental value is \$110 a month and the yard has been partially sliced off to make another building lot. Some blocks further down Ninth avenue is a four-story brick flat house, one of the first small flat buildings put up in that part of town. An apartment, a good apartment, too, as the house went, rented several years ago in that house at \$11 a month. The price of the same apartment now is \$32 a month.

Please Rent Us Again.

Dayton, Ohio, Journal (rep.).

The republican congress of 1889-90 will knock the stuffing out of the democratic tariff reform platform, and compel that party to plant themselves squarely on a free trade platform. The tariff will be so revised that no democrat but one who is hypocritical will be able to find a peg upon which to hang a criticism. And yet the tariff will be protective.

BALLOT REFORM.

THE NEW YORK BALLOT REFORM LEAGUE.

A Strong Organization Started in This City—All Parties Represented

In the issue of THE STANDARD dated Saturday, October 12, appeared an editorial article insisting that ballot reform should be made an issue in the campaign then in progress, and urging that the Reform club and kindred organizations should take the matter up, not so much from the hope of accomplishing anything directly at the November election, but in order that an impetus might be given to the movement after the election was over. In its next issue of October 19, THE STANDARD printed interviews with R. B. Bowker, Walter H. Page, Edward M. Shepherd, Louis F. Post, George Foster Peabody, Thomas G. Shearman, John Brooks Leavitt, Wheeler H. Peckham, Edward J. Shriver, Daniel H. Chamberlain and Lawrence Dunham, all members of the Reform club, and several of them members of that organization's committee on ballot reform. Most of these gentlemen expressed their sympathy with the demand of THE STANDARD for immediate action, and all of them declared a strong desire to do whatever might be practicable to further the effort. Meanwhile the Excelsior ballot reform league, an organization chiefly composed of Knights of Labor, had begun holding meetings to advocate similar action, and the Manhattan single tax club tendered this league the use of its rooms and invited its speakers to take part in the cart-tail campaign it was then carrying on.

On Monday evening, October 28, a special meeting of the Reform club was called to take action. A set of resolutions was presented by the ballot reform committee of that club, setting forth the essential principles of true ballot reform. The meeting was an unusually large one, and the resolutions were unanimously adopted, as was another instructing the club's committee to ask the co-operation of other organizations, and especially organizations of workingmen, toward some joint effort in behalf of the reform. Immediately after the adjournment of this meeting, the Reform club's ballot reform committee met and issued an invitation to the Manhattan single tax club and the Excelsior ballot reform league to join them in conference as to further work. The committee also resolved to hold a mass meeting in Cooper union, on Saturday, November 2.

Despite inclement weather the large hall of the Union was filled by an enthusiastic audience. Horace E. Deming presided, and addresses were made by Richard A. Dana of Massachusetts, who described the then untried Massachusetts law, and by Wheeler H. Peckham, George Cary Eggleston, William M. Ivins, Henry George and C. W. Hinrichs.

Since the election the joint committee has continued its work of preparation, and other clubs have joined those starting the movement. The outcome has been the formation of the New York ballot reform league, which consisted at the time of its organization of the various clubs named below, represented by delegates whose names are given, and who constitute at the start the general committee of the league:

Reform Club.—H. E. Deming, W. S. Logan, Lawrence Dunham, William M. Ivins, Lucien Oudin, Wheeler H. Peckham, Abm. Bernheim, Louis F. Post, Richard R. Bowker, J. Hampden Dougherty, J. Brooks Leavitt.
Commonwealth Club.—Hon. Carl Schurz, R. W. G. Welling.

Republican Volunteer Association.—Oliver Sumner Teall, J. William Beckman, Herbert P. Brown, Henry L. Burnett, Julian T. Davies, William Jay, H. W. Cannon, Herbert L. Satterlee, J. Lyon Henry, Charles H. Leland.
City Reform Club.—James W. Pryor, Charles Wheeler Barnes, Rignal D. Woodward.

Manhattan Single Tax Club.—William T. Crossdale, A. J. Wolf, Benjamin Doblin, James G. Qualey, Charles P. Kelly, A. J. Steers.

Ballot Reform League.—Patrick Rock, William McCabe, Maurice Nugent.
Lincoln Club.—Lucas L. Van Allen.

Amity Association.—Joseph Leggett, Daniel O'Connor, John Lane.

Excelsior Labor Club.—C. F. J. Doody, James Albertson, Thomas F. Kenny.

Federal Club.—J. H. Phipps, H. D. Hunt.

From among these an executive committee has been appointed, consisting of W. S. Logan, W. M. Ivins, Patrick Rock, C. F. J. Doody, John Lane, R. W. G. Welling, James W. Pryor, Oliver Sumner Teall, A. J. Steers, J. H. Phipps, Lucas L. Van Allen, Horace E. Deming, Lawrence Dunham.

The following sub-committees have also been appointed:

Finance.—Wheeler H. Peckham, Abm. C. Bernheim.

Agitation and Printing.—Wm. M. Ivins, R. W. G. Welling, John Lane, J. H. Phipps, Lucas L. Van Allen.

Committee on Enrolment.—Oliver Sumner Teall, James W. Pryor, A. J. Steers, Patrick Rock, C. F. J. Doody.

As rapidly as assembly district organizations are formed each association will be entitled to choose three additional members to the general committee, and from among these further additions will be made to the executive committee. The league is pledged

to the following principles as essential to an official measure of ballot reform.

1. All ballots shall be official and shall be printed and distributed at the public expense.
2. The names of all candidates for the same office shall be printed on the same ballot.

3. All ballots shall be delivered to the voter within the polling place on election day by sworn public officials.

4. Only official ballots so delivered shall be voted. The voter shall be guaranteed absolute privacy in preparing his ballot, and the secrecy of the ballot shall be made compulsory.

5. Voters shall have the right to nominate candidates by properly certified petitions.

The entire management of the affairs of the league will be in the hands of a general committee, and an executive committee will take the active management of affairs, under the direction of the general committee.

The executive committee has appointed from its members a committee on agitation and printing, which will take charge of the dissemination of information in regard to ballot reform, organize such meetings as are deemed necessary for the furtherance of this object, keep the executive committee informed as to public sentiment in regard to the movement and take charge of all printing required by the league; a committee on finance, which shall raise the money necessary to carry on the work of the league; a committee on enrolment, which shall have general charge over the work of the committees of the assembly districts, and shall be empowered to instruct the committees of the assembly districts as to how their work is to be performed, and by keeping in constant communication with the chairmen of the executive committees of the assembly districts be thoroughly informed as to the condition of the work in the assembly districts.

A committee will be appointed in each assembly district to take charge of the work of the league in that district. The assembly district committee will appoint a subordinate committee in each of the election districts of the assembly district. The election district committees will notify each week the executive committee of the assembly district as to the condition of the work in its election district; and the assembly district committees will notify each week the committee on enrolment as to the condition of the work in their assembly districts; and the committee on enrolment will be prepared at each meeting of the executive committee to furnish a complete and exact report of the condition of the work throughout the city.

An important feature of the league's work will be to circulate in each assembly district a petition to the legislature praying the enactment of a ballot reform measure on the lines indicated in the league's declaration of principles. It is expected that this petition, with many thousands of signatures, will be presented to the legislature early in its approaching session.

In response to a call sent by the general committee of the league to a number of known sympathizers with the movement, a meeting was held in the small hall of Cooper union on Monday evening.

Horace E. Deming, chairman of the ballot reform committee of the Reform club, presided, and after a few introductory remarks, asked Secretary Dunham to read the report of the committee on organization.

The committee proposed as general officers of the league:

President, Wheeler H. Peckham; vice-presidents, Chauncy M. Depew, Henry George, Carl Schurz, Wm. M. Ivins, Wm. J. Coombs, James Redpath, Chas. W. Dayton, Samuel Gompers, Julien T. Davis; secretaries, Lawrence Dunham, A. J. Steers, L. L. Van Allen.

Speeches by Louis F. Post, William M. Ivins and H. DeForest Baldwin followed, after which Wheeler H. Peckham, the president of the league, who had entered and taken a place on the platform, made a few remarks.

On motion of C. F. J. Doody the meeting directed the executive committee to make arrangements for a large mass meeting to be held as soon as possible. Mr. A. J. Wolf suggested that a good object lesson could be given by having booths, such as are used in the Australian system, placed on the platform at the mass meeting and large tickets printed and displayed.

After short speeches by L. L. Van Allen and William M. Ivins, W. T. Crossdale moved that the meeting approve and accept the plan of organization reported and ratify the selection of officers made by the committee. The motion was carried, as also was a motion that the league invite such co-operation as would make the movement general throughout the state.

Oliver Sumner Teall, Mr. Hamilton and Mr. Abarbanel of Jersey City then spoke, after which the meeting adjourned.

BALLOT REFORM IN BROOKLYN.

A Non-Partisan Meeting Held in the Single Tax Club's Rooms—A Letter From Grover Cleveland.

Last Monday's meeting of the advocates of ballot reform at the rooms of the Brooklyn single tax club brought together a larger gathering than the previous meeting. Several more letters were read from prominent men in favor of the action contemplated of arousing the people of Brooklyn to a knowledge of the need of this great primary reform. The reading of the following letter elicited warm applause:

Edwin A. Curley, Esq., Chairman—Dear Sir: I have just received your invitation to attend this evening the meeting of your provisional committee, constituted in the city of Brooklyn for the purpose of advocating the cause of ballot reform. I shall not be able to attend the meeting, as requested, but I beg to assure you of my hearty sympathy with the movement thus inaugurated.

I hope that the state of New York will soon join, with a just and useful ballot reform law, her sister states already in the field.

GROVER CLEVELAND.

In the absence of a representative of the Ballot reform league of New York, who was unable to be present, the chairman, Mr. F. W. Hinrichs, briefly outlined the course that he regarded it as wise to pursue, of forming a central committee of ten or twenty, after officers had been elected, who should arrange for a number of large public meetings to be addressed by men of national reputation of both parties, who had taken an active part in the effort to secure ballot reform in this and other states.

After a general interchange of views, the meeting went on record as demanding the five essential features of true ballot reform which have been frequently printed in THE STANDARD.

This committee on organization will report at the next meeting, Monday evening, December 16, at the same place, when a permanent organization will be effected.

GOVERNOR HILL UNEASY.

He Still Opposes the Official Ballot, but Would Like to Make Terms.

Governor Hill has said to a correspondent of the Tribune that so long as reformers insist upon an exclusively official ballot he cannot come to terms with them, as he regards such a provision as unconstitutional. He insists that a multiplicity of candidates in Massachusetts at the next election will surely make trouble, and says that booths for marking ballots should be so inclosed that no one can see in. The governor then said:

I have all along had a belief that if I could have a frank talk with three or four fair minded republican leaders of the legislature we could draw up a ballot reform bill which would end most of this corruption at the polls, but they have spent their time hitherto in drawing bills which I would not sign. Perhaps it may be otherwise the coming winter, although I have my doubts. One thing a ballot reform law should have, and that is a provision that all employers should give the men in their employ two hours on election day in which to cast their ballots. The democratic vote is cast in the cities between twelve and one o'clock—this it comes with a rush. I can suspect that under the proposed Australian system some unscrupulous republican leaders would station their voters at the polling places just before twelve o'clock, and continue by a pretext of not understanding the new system to use up the hour before the democratic voters could get in their ballots. If we adopt the Australian system we should also pass the Massachusetts law giving workingmen at least two hours in which to vote.

The governor denies that he has insisted upon a registration system for the whole state, but says that if the Australian law is enacted such a system will be necessary. The governor is reading everything about the reform ballot that he can lay hands on, and is especially studying the laws of the Australian colonies.

GENERAL PROGRESS.

The Question Agitated in Many States—Several Bills Preparing.

The New York Herald of Monday last gave up nearly a page to a review of the progress of ballot reform in many states. The Herald's Albany dispatch indicates what most persons expect, a coming struggle in the legislature between advocates of true ballot reform and advocates of its counterfeit. The dispatch says: "The den and throughout the state seems to be for a strict registration law, and an official ballot to be prepared and voted as the Australian system provides. The first would purge the registry lists of thousands of fictitious names which are regularly voted on by hired roustabouts. The second would give absolute secrecy to the ballot and put an effectual stop to bribery. Mr. N. C. Moak, a well known lawyer who has already done much to secure laws for purifying the elections, offers to draw a registration law in five sections which will cover every debated point."

Governor Green of New Jersey has said to the Herald correspondent that he believes the principle of the Australian system good, but thinks the system as a whole too cumbersome for New Jersey. He would favor a modification of the Australian method, and will make such recommendation to the legislature. He further said:

No other plan seems to offer so many advantages as the complete isolation of the voter in preparing and casting his ballot. In order to make this isolation complete the tickets should be printed at public expense and given to the voter by a public officer just before voting. The names of all the candidates being printed on this ticket, the voter can strike off the names of those for whom he does not wish to vote. Space can also be left on the ticket to be filled with the names of those for whom the voter wishes to vote, but whose names have not been printed thereon. No ticket being valid unless it be one of those furnished at the polls by the public officer the voter would be absolutely free to vote for whom he chose.

According to the correspondents New Jersey democrats will oppose the reform be-

cause they fear it would disfranchise many of their party. Governor-elect Abbott, who is to be inaugurated in January, is not quoted by the correspondent, but the dispatch closes with this declaration:

Doubtless Governor Abbott, with his almost unlimited resources, will be able to keep his party from falling into an abyss of unpopularity over the matter. That some scheme or other of ballot reform will be adopted there seems a strong hope. Neither party can afford to ignore the popular clamor. The republican senate will present a bill of its own, so will the democratic house.

In Rhode Island the Australian system will go into effect at the election of state officers in April next. The idea is popular, and the measure was brought about by those who had successfully agitated for manhood suffrage.

Governor Lee of Virginia is quoted as having expressed satisfaction with the working of the Massachusetts law. He was inclined to think that a modification of the system might suit Virginia. Senator Daniel said about the same thing; Attorney General Ayres is said to look favorably on the reform; J. T. Ellyson is for the Australian system if it will not operate against the whites, and Alexander Cooke, lawyer and member of the Powhatan club, says the legislature must be made to enact such a law.

S. U. Finger, state superintendent of public schools in North Carolina, likes the system, as does J. C. L. Harris, secretary of the republican state executive committee. R. H. Battle, formerly chairman of the democratic committee, thinks it should and will be adopted. E. P. Moses, superintendent of Raleigh's public schools, says "It is the salvation of the people."

Governor Taylor of Tennessee believes that the Australian system of voting is excellent, and one that will result in securing a more accurate expression of the will of the people than any other system that has ever been adopted and tried when stripped of its defects. It has not yet had a fair trial in the state, only one or two elections having been held under its provisions; but it has been sufficiently demonstrated that it was a good law, and would eventually be adopted in every state of the Union. It ought to be universal in its application, and he had no doubt it would be, as it would purify the ballot box and make fraud almost, if not altogether, impossible. The disfranchising clause will doubtless be repealed at the proposed extraordinary session of the legislature, and it is not improbable that the Massachusetts law will be substituted therefor. Other state officers speak in like fashion.

Governor Jackson of Maryland would not talk, but the Business men's democratic association of Baltimore will try to force the Australian system on the corrupt democratic machine. It is said that every newspaper in the state will back the movement.

Governor Foraker of Ohio, whose opinions do not count for much these days, is opposed to the system for his state because he thinks the present law accomplishes the desired ends of the reformers. Secretary of State Ryan favors the system and looks for its adoption. A bill to establish the reform was defeated last year, but will be renewed at the next meeting.

In Delaware the masses are not yet acquainted with the reform, and Governor Biggs naively confessed to a like ignorance. City Solicitor H. C. Turner of Wilmington, who held friendly relations with the local democratic machine, thinks the next legislature, which meets in 1891, will adopt such a measure. Every Evening of Wilmington, an independent paper, and the most influential publication in the state, is a constant advocate of the reform. Only one paper in the state opposes the measure, and democrats are anxious for its adoption, while many republicans are of like mind.

Michigan's compromise measure will be treated practically at the spring elections. There are fears that it is not workable, partly because of the provision as to printing at the state capital and partly because of the great length of the ticket. The law will be amended at the next session of the legislature.

Public sentiment at Jackson, the capital of Mississippi, is in favor of the reform, but the correspondent thinks the Australian system would have to be modified. Politicians favor it for the whole south.

The legislature of Missouri adopted the Australian system of voting last spring. It applies only to cities having five thousand inhabitants or over. The first election under the law will take place in November, 1890. The measure met with the approval of the leading men of the two dominant parties, but prohibitionists think it discriminates against a third party.

Iowa will adopt the reform this winter. The democratic platform declared for it, and so did Governor Bies's letter of acceptance. The defeated republican candidate for governor opposed it. This lost him much of the labor vote. The state master workman of the knights came out in strong opposition to him, and the issue cut quite a figure in the campaign. Since election, however, not even the republicans oppose the movement. Governor Larrabee has expressed himself in strongest terms in favor of the proposition.

Governor J. P. Eagle of Arkansas favors the Australian ballot system, and thinks that its adoption by nearly all the states is

only a question of a few years at most. The Herald representative has also talked with the state officers and supreme judges and found them practically a unit in favor of the system. A bill embodying some of its features developed strength in the last legislature and much popularity throughout the state. It is believed that there would be no opposition to such a measure in the next legislature. Leading state papers are friendly.

Minnesota has the Australian law, but it applies only to cities of 10,000 or more inhabitants. It has been tested in Minneapolis and Duluth with applause from managers of both parties. Governor Merriam thinks it the best device extant, but says:

There is probably one flaw in the law as adopted in Minnesota. If a voter put a cross opposite the name of the first candidate of any party and opposite no other the vote is counted for all the candidates of that party. It would take more time, but would be less confusing, and a better expression of the will of the ballot, if he were required to put a cross opposite the name of each candidate for whom he wished to vote.

California needs a reform system. Only a few days ago the grand jury of San Francisco county, made a strong recommendation in favor of it, and there seems to be little doubt that it will be adopted at the next session of the legislature.

The strong popular sentiment which has sprung up in favor of the Australian system in Maine is shown by a canvass just completed by the Portland Advertiser. It prints the letters of the mayor of every city in the state, and all strongly indorse the adoption of the new law, while among the numerous replies from other state officials there are only four who have objections to it.

Governor Wilson of West Virginia will recommend to the legislature a reform of the election laws. He is said to favor the Australian system, though the correspondent gathers this from reports of conversations and letters. Senator Lucas is not familiar with the Australian system, but favors some reform. Congressman Pendleton is of like mind.

The Herald has nothing from Massachusetts and Connecticut.

HOW IT WORKS IN CAUCUS.

Republicans of Ward 11, Boston, Try the New Ballot System and Like It.

The republican caucus of Ward 11, Boston, voted by the Australian system when candidates for common council were nominated and members of the new republican city committee elected. It was the first caucus ever held under rules which made as wide a departure from the ordinary methods, and therefore more than the usual interest attached to it. These rules provided, in brief, that the caucus should be opened at 4 p. m., and that the polls should be kept open until 9 p. m.; that a ballot should be provided by the ward committee on the Australian plan, bearing, in alphabetical order, the names of all candidates proposed by at least ten republican voters of the ward, and filed with the committee not less than twenty-four hours before the opening of the caucus; that the check list should be used; that the names of the persons indorsing each nominee should be furnished to the voters, and that in every way possible the voters should have the greatest opportunity for a full and free expression of their wishes.

Soap boxes borrowed from the adjacent grocery and piled one on another, took the place of the historic rail, and among them were two ordinary ballot boxes. In one corner were a couple of the voters' marking shelves required by the new ballot law, and near by was a table on which were indorsements, ballots and a paper for the signatures of those who approved the new caucus methods, asking the new city committee to make needed modifications, and then insure the perpetuation of the system. The candidates and their proposers were printed on a large sheet of paper, headed "Candidates for the common council—(arranged alphabetically.)"

The ballot was headed: "Ward XI.—Ballot printed by the ward committee. A star indicates present incumbent of the office." Then followed a regular Australian ballot, the stars announcing that of the common council candidates Messrs. Dyar, Lowell and Moore are present members, while all the ward committee sought re-election. For an hour the voting progressed slowly, some seventy-five ballots being cast in that time; but the polling place was never empty, as those who came lingered to discuss the new system, and in nearly every case to express hearty approval of it. After five o'clock, when the business men began to come up from their offices, the ward room assumed a lively appearance. Occasionally a stranger from some other ward would drop in to see how the thing worked. Ex-Sheriff Clark loudly proclaimed that it was the best thing that was ever gotten up.

At 6:30 p. m. about one hundred fifty votes had been cast, and after that there was more or less of a lull for an hour. Then the voters came in rapidly, and when the polls were closed at ten p. m., the time having been extended ten minutes, the number had reached 315, far in excess of the usual number. In fact, 175 or 200 votes when there has been a contest for the nomination has been considered a large caucus, and an increase of fifty per cent when there was no especial struggle was considered a strong point in favor of the new system.

The paper which indorsed the new method reads: "The undersigned, republican voters of Ward 11, approving the new system under which the caucus is this day conducted in this ward, request its continuance with any modification that experience may suggest, and respectfully ask of the republican city committee such modification of their rules as will admit of its use at future caucuses." It had 219 signers. The committee had prepared for signatures this document: "We desire a continuance of the old caucus system in place of the one on trial to-day in this ward." There were no signers.

The Boston Journal says of the experiment: "The good judgment of the energetic and efficient ward committee which instituted the reform was fully vindicated. It is certainly to be hoped that the experiment of Ward 11 may commend itself as worthy of imitation hereafter by the republicans of other sections of the city."

VIRGINIA IS AWAKE.

A Ballot Reform Conference Brings Out a Strong Sentiment for the Secret Ballot.

Fifty men, including some members of the legislature, met at the Powhatan club, Richmond, Va., a few days ago to discuss the question of ballot reform. Views as to the necessity for changes in the law were expressed by Mr. W. T. Atkins of Mecklenburg, Lieutenant Governor John E. Massey of Albemarle, Hon. R. C. Marshall of Portsmouth, Delegate Shepperson of Charlotte, Second Auditor Ruffin, Mr. Duke of Elizabeth City, A. B. Guigon, President Belvin, Jackson Guy, esq., and Mayor Ellyson of Richmond.

Letters containing suggestions were read from R. T. Barton of Fredericksburg, James L. Gordon of Albemarle, Senator T. H. Barnes, Major Baker P. Lee, Mayor C. F. Collier of Petersburg, Secretary of the Commonwealth H. W. Flournoy and A. M. Bowman of the Ninth district. It was resolved that changes in the law are necessary, but the conference did not reach any conclusion as to the exact form they should take. This was ordered to be referred to a committee of two from each congressional district to be named by the chairman, Mayor Ellyson. When the bill is framed it will be submitted to the general assembly, when it will undergo such further revision as may be necessary, and then adopted or rejected.

James C. Lamb, member of the Richmond city democratic committee, in an interview with a reporter of the Dispatch declared a change in the Virginia law necessary, and said: "The principle upon which any change in the law should proceed must be the protection of the voter. The ballot must be made both free and secret. At present it is not free because not secret. It is true that suffrage is not free in this state, but it is not (as the northern liars would have the world believe) because the whites will not permit it; it is because of race tyranny among the negroes. The negro who dares to vote anything but the republican ticket is ostracized by his race, is dismissed from the church, expelled from societies and refused aid and succor in time of need."

Workings of the Connecticut Law.

A correspondent of the Evening Post describes the operation of the Connecticut ballot law at the recent city election in New Haven. The correspondent was an envelope booth tender in one of the largest wards. There was no difficulty in polling the full vote, and only two out of 2,000 envelopes were defective. The correspondent suggests these changes in the law: Make the placing of party ballots in each booth compulsory; have the envelope booth tender stamp instead of write his name or initials or envelopes; exclude those who cannot vote from the envelope and ticket booth inclosure; provide a second system of checking voters' names at the entrance of the inclosure last named; in populous voting districts provide a bar or rope to reduce to single file the line of voters passing before the envelope and ballot booths.

The correspondent adds: "With the foregoing methods in practice, only one of which involves a necessary change in the law, the Connecticut ballot act seems to pledge fairly well a compulsory secret ballot. It does not avert the evil of split tickets if a schemer dares to risk the penalty; but this of late years in Connecticut has not been a serious vice. It does not thwart the 'Tasmanian dodge,' but neither does the Australian system. Of course it falls far behind the Australian method in that it does not supply a real official ballot and compel the voter to an intelligent and discriminative electoral act when he select the names of candidates."

The Monday evening club of Pueblo, Col., has declared for the Australian ballot, and urged its adoption in Colorado. The discussion of the subject was opened by the Rev. E. T. Lee, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, who is a single tax man.

If the Dortch ballot reform bill in Tennessee shall be declared unconstitutional, the decision will be based on a singular defect in the law. The constitution of the state prevents special legislation, and has been interpreted by the supreme court as forbidding legislation giving cities certain rights not attainable by other communities. The Dortch bill provides that the act shall apply to counties having a population of 70,000 and over,

and to cities of over 9,000, "computed by the census of 1880." According to this, literally interpreted, other towns and counties in the state, however populous they may become, will not obtain the benefits of the existing bill because the census of 1880 is the only rule for deciding the question laid down in the act itself.

Press Opinions.

If every labor organization in Ohio would pass resolutions favoring the American ballot and petition the legislature to pass it, we think it would be made a law. Let the Central labor union take the initiative.—[Cleveland, Ohio, Truth.]

The Leader has favored concessions by the legislators of both parties, but it does not believe that the exclusive official ballot is a vital principle in a good election law. It is fully awake, however, to the fact that the people demand a wise reform of the existing laws, and it is willing to admit that even an exclusive official ballot could not be peculiarly detrimental to the interests of the democracy.—[Binghamton Leader.]

The Wallace law is working satisfactorily. Though there are some technical defects which will have to be remedied by the next legislature, yet its virtues so far outweigh these that there is no comparison. The Australian system of balloting is being gradually introduced into all the states, and to this the country owes a debt of gratitude to Henry George, to whom, more than any other man, the credit for the good work is due.—[Louisville, Ky., Times.]

The operation of the Australian system will also have a depressing effect on the business of "Blocks of Five" Dudley.—[Savannah Journal.]

NEW IDEAS, METHODS AND INVENTIONS.

Seeing 'Round a Corner.

An English architect named Farr has patented an instrument which he calls a "Farrscope." In a pamphlet issued by the inventor the instrument is described as of three parts—a collector, a conductor and a receiver—each containing revolving mirrors. Its object is to transmit the reflection of a room or anything in a room to some other room—or generally to transmit reflections from one place to another, regardless of intervening obstacles. The collector is that portion of the instrument applied to the apartment under examination by the visitor, and contains a double revolving mirror, regulated by a couple of small knobs in the front of the table, connected wires in front of the receiver, which operates in the chamber under the inspection. The receivers are about twelve inches by eight inches, and can be formed of wood or metal, and when fitted to a writing table, desk, or any convenient recess, present a handsome and by no means cumbersome appearance. The glass face referred to is a neatly contrived door about eight inches by six inches, and through the glass in the aperture the looker-on can take a glance into the interior of any particular room that he or she desires to inquire into, if connected by the "Farrscope." The unexplained portion of the instrument is the conductor or transmitter, by which the image is delivered into the receiver. The fixing of the "Farrscope" can be accomplished without inconvenience. The invention can be worked at night; messages can be flashed by it, and managers of all kinds of large establishments (banks, theaters, warehouses, newspapers, etc.), by its aid, can see into any room in the building which is in "Farrscope" communication with their desks without leaving their chairs. It is claimed that it can be used in mines with equal success.

The Future of the Slot Machine.

One of the latest varieties of the slot machine is one which stands on the table of the writing rooms of hotels, and for a nickel delivers two postage stamps, which are clean and not stuck irretrievably together, as they usually are, when the traveler undertakes to carry them about with him. The machine thus makes an honest penny for its owner, and at the same time affords a real convenience to the traveler. By this perhaps more than by any other use which has so far been made of the principle in this country, it is seen that the machine has passed the ridiculous stage, and must be considered as something which is to bear a part in the serious affairs of life. There is no telling how many salesmen have been displaced by the machine, but it is easy to see that it is destined to occupy a place in the work of distribution which will be by no means despicable. One writer connected with a country paper, after a visit to New York, where he was confronted at every turn by a new variety of slot machine, gave the rein to his imagination, and predicted a time when the only people in the city who would have any work to do would be those who should go around and collect the money from the machines. That ought to be a fine condition of affairs for the machinist, only the question arises where the money which was put into them would come from? But in the meantime, before that question becomes a serious one, it seems probable that the machinist will reap no inconsiderable harvest from the construction of them, and of the tools and machinery for making them. And when the money thus made jingles in his pocket, let him reflect and learn not to despise the small things nor the man who proposes to accomplish what seem like small things by machinery.—[American Machinist.]

Compressed Air as a Motive Power.

The experiments that are being made abroad with compressed air as a motive power are apparently successful. In Nantes, where this system is in use, the British consul re-

ports that the street railways worked by the system referred to give entire satisfaction. The cars, he says, are comfortable and run smoothly, with very little noise. They do not interfere with the general traffic in the streets, and their immunity from accidents is remarkable. The average speed is about eight miles an hour, but it can easily be increased or moderated, and in case of need an almost instantaneous stoppage effected. The inventor says that his system is far more economical than horse traction, the cost of coal per machine equal to eight or ten-horse power being only \$1, which is cheaper than electricity or steam, and that the machinery is simple and requires no skilled mechanic to work it. Of course the compressed air is carried in a suitable tank, capable of resisting its high pressure, and does its work by operating something analogous to a steam engine. To fill these tanks power is required at some central station, and it is this power, temporarily stored in the compressed air, which drives the car. The alleged advantage over electricity grows out of the fact that the cost of an expensive overhead plant is saved, and that a greater proportion of the original power used is made available than when reconverted first into electricity and then reconverted into power.

A Chain of Stations Across the Atlantic.

Captain J. P. Walker, a retired army officer, and ex-chief engineer of the Rio Grande valley water company, has outlined a plan for establishing a chain of stations in the Atlantic ocean between this continent and Europe. "The general idea of the stations," says Capt. Walker, "is that they would start from the simple basis of the light beacon, or bell buoy, and pass onward to the lighthouse, the floating light-house, to the grand floating ocean hotel or house of refuge, and deep sea or inter-ocean grand harbor of refuge, with its wharves, storehouses and docks, where ships, tempest tossed and broken, could take refuge from the storm and be refitted and repaired almost if not quite as well as on shore; and where travelers could stop, if it pleased them, and take the benefit of sea air for an indefinite period, until finally, in the process of time and in the grand progress of man in conquering to his use and control the forces of nature, in that grand future which is coming—it may be in the next century or some later one—the ocean will be bridged and the iron horse may ride the sea as swiftly, or more so, and as safely and surely, as he now careers over terra firma."

FULL OF THANKFULNESS.

Why the Rancher's Heart is Saturated With Gratitude.

San Francisco Examiner.

"Thankful? Oh, yes. I've got a heap to be thankful for. I'm just biling over with gratitude," said a San Joaquin rancher who had just stepped out of a lawyer's office on Montgomery street. "Look here, young man, did you ever try to run a ranch with one pair of mules and a mortgage? No, I supposed not. When I took up my quarter section I had to mortgage it to start. The first year was a bad one and the wheat crop failed. Then I had to go into debt for seed and grub, and the interest piled up on the mortgage. I've been wrestling with that mortgage ever since, but it downs me every time."

"Last spring when the wheat came up it looked first rate, and my wife and I watched it growing as you'd watch a youngster, if you had one. We worked hard, got along without help most of the time, and went to bed plumb tuckered out every night. We hoped to get a little ahead of the mortgage this year, but it would have to be a big crop and a big price to pull us out of the hole."

"Well, the crop was just fair. Bags cost a good deal more than anyone had a right to charge, taxes were high, and I have got only a middling price for my wheat. While we were waiting for harvest time we used to figure up once in a while to see how we'd come out. My wife would be tired most to death with her work, for you must remember that a woman's work on a ranch where she does all the cooking, washing and mending, and takes care of two or three children, isn't any picnic, and my back would be aching like I was breaking in two, but we'd just sit down and figure. It was close calculating, but we allowed that a good price for the crop would just about make both ends meet for the year."

"When a letter came up from the commission man telling in ten words that all our year's toil was going to bring us only debt and tough wrestling for grub over again, we just looked at our roughened, stiff-jointed hands, and wondered whether it was worth while raising stuff for other folks to eat and going hungry ourselves."

"It just meant that our back had ached that somebody else might take things easy. It meant that the kids would have to get along with the same old duds for another year. Do you know, it seemed to me for a moment that if I took a shotgun and went out on the stage road I wouldn't be doing any more than the chaps who live on mortgages do, and, mebbe, it would be just a little squarer and more man-fashion way of getting what doesn't belong to one. Still, as I wasn't brought up to that business, I didn't think of it long."

"You work like a Chinaman all the year, work till you ache all over, raise wheat enough to feed a small village for a year, and then find that you've worked yourself deeper into debt, and see if you don't have some queer notions bobbing in your head. Then you go up to a fellow who sits in an office, wears good clothes and never does a lick of work that's of any use to anybody, hand over to him the money that your wife and children need, almost get on your knees to beg him for the favor of being robbed by his mortgage for another year, and tell me if you feel your heart just bursting out of your shirt with promissious all-around gratitude."

THE FREE TRADE FIGHT.

WIMAN ON RECIPROCITY.

He Says That Domestic Free Trade Is the Source of Our Prosperity.

Erastus Wiman of New York spoke at Kingston, Ont., a few days ago in favor of commercial reciprocity between the United States and Canada. Mr. Wiman declared that the prosperity of the United States was largely due to "freedom of trade between vast territories, and from that argued the wisdom of disregarding in commerce the imaginary line that divides this country from Canada. He spoke thus of the egg trade as protected by absolute free trade:

The freedom in the egg trade has enabled the hens of Canada to illustrate, in a higher form than could the statesmen of the continent, the benefits of freedom from restriction and taxation. The growth of this trade is almost phenomenal. Springing from little or nothing, it has now reached the proportions of a regular and systematic business all over the country. No less than 14,000,000 of dozen of eggs were gathered in all Canada last year and sent to the United States. No less than \$2,000,000 was received back by the farmers for this product.

SOUTH DAKOTA.

A Remarkable Change of Sentiment Among Farmers on the Tariff Question.

BRISTOL, S. D., Dec. 6.—As I have already written you, I attended the annual meeting of the Dakota farmers' alliance at Aberdeen on November 26 chiefly to push the resolution in favor of leasing instead of selling the state's school lands and incidentally to work for the single tax.

There were fully 450 delegates present, representing both of the Dakotas, but the North Dakota men retired in order to organize a state alliance of their own, and the remaining delegates formed the South Dakota alliance. There was a small body of politicians among the delegates who attempted to elect a candidate of their own as president of the South Dakota alliance, and not succeeding they withdrew from the convention.

The president of the convention, Mr. H. C. Loucks of Clear Lake, opened the proceedings with a remarkable address, in the course of which he said that three years and a half ago, when they began to discuss the political situation, the farmers found they had practically no representation in the halls of legislation. When they demanded such representation they were laughed at, and then assured that they were seeking class representation. Other classes, however, have always been represented and the interests of the farmers ignored, until now from every state comes the cry of depression of agricultural interests, and the once independent farmers are rapidly becoming tenants. "Even here in South Dakota," said Mr. Loucks, "where but a few years ago we received our farms free, we are rapidly becoming tenants. One firm alone had this year five hundred farmer tenants." He declared that an examination of the results of the last election shows that South Dakota is not yet ready for statehood, for if it had been it never would have sent four lawyers to congress to represent an almost purely agricultural constituency.

Reviewing their whole agitation, he declared that the farmers have gained comparatively little in legislation but much in the way of education. He says that the capital fight in the new state was perhaps the most demoralizing of all of the evil influences brought to bear in the first state election, and that money placed in the hands of unscrupulous politicians to secure votes for capitol sites, was undoubtedly used corruptly. He complained bitterly of the abuse the alliance received at the hands of the organs of the republican party during the last campaign. He says the farmers worked diligently in the interests of that party, and were by its organs lied about more maliciously than were the democrats. Hereafter he advises them to vote for whatever party may come nearest to adopting their platform of principles, though he advises that the organization remain non-political until some national party shall adopt its platform. He complained at length of the ignoring of all questions of interest to the alliance, and suggests that all the local alliances be made literary societies, and a regular educational campaign be begun. He paid a high tribute to the mugwump as the representative of true manhood and American citizenship, and declared that he is doing more for the purification of politics than both old parties combined.

Speaking of national politics, Mr. Loucks declared it a difficult matter to remain silent on so important a question as the tariff, despite the fact that it has become a partisan question. He urged that the alliance should demand that sugar be placed on the free list, and in return concede that wheat should be similarly treated. He proposed to further concede that corn should go on the free list in exchange for putting farm machinery there, and that beef and pork be treated similarly on condition that lumber and coal are admitted free. He said that this was the way to procure equal protection of farm interests, for no increase of tariff could help the farmers so long as they raised a surplus. "What can we do," said Mr. Loucks, "to make those here prosperous and happy so that we can conscientiously advise others to come to Dakota? With such suffering as we

have in Dakota, it is cruel to allow real estate sharps to go on and swell the ranks of the destitute." He dwelt at length on the money question, and insisted that the lack of a sufficient circulating medium was one of the main causes of the farmers' distress. He predicted that when our principles are once discussed the people will begin to think, and thought will be followed by action, with the result of compelling the politicians to work for a living.

The convention adopted resolutions favoring a constitutional amendment forbidding the sale of educational lands and providing for a proper system of leasing, resolving to support no party that does not incorporate a substantial part of the principles of the alliance in its platform, and pledging themselves to prepare for a political campaign in which they will refuse to support any man who will not definitely pledge himself to their principles. Other planks demanding incorporation of trades unions, that lands forfeited by railroads shall be open to actual settlers, the extinguishment of the public debt by operating the mints to their fullest capacity and tendering gold and silver without discrimination for the payment of bonds; the substitution of legal tender treasury notes for the issues of the national banks; and now that there is a department of agriculture, they demand that the bureau of labor statistics be attached to it, and that the government secure by right of eminent domain the railroads, telegraph and telephone lines, and operate them through a new department of transportation.

Mr. Loucks is not only president of the South Dakota alliance, but is vice president of the national body. His address was interrupted many times by applause and laughter, and his references to the tariff were especially applauded. The radicals are on top in the alliance now, and a great revolution in sentiment has taken place among the farmers within the last three months. Our state elections open many of their eyes. Several of them have told me that they have always been republicans, and voted that ticket in October, but that now they were done with the party forever.

One delegate told me that he had been an independent since 1872, and had been abused by both parties, while the members of his own local alliance constantly opposed him. This fall, however, they elected him a delegate to the convention because he was a mugwump, this being the first recognition he had ever received at their hands. The machine republicans froze the alliance men out of their nomination convention, and as one of the latter said to me, "they have been making us democrats as fast as they can." I have no doubt that South Dakota will send free trade men to congress in 1890, for we are sure to have either the Australian or Rhines system adopted this winter, most likely the latter. I was surprised at the warm reception I met, and to find so many who have always been republicans who are now outspoken in favor of free trade or a great reduction of the tariff. There are a number of democrats here who heartily endorse the single tax, and say that they are ready to boom it, but that they must wait until the masses are better educated.

The surprise in Iowa this fall, is nothing to that awaiting the grand old party next fall in South Dakota. During the coming winter the farmers of both Dakotas will study and discuss the tariff question, and by next fall they will be ready for free trade. This meeting of the alliance is the most significant and important event in the northwest this year and its action probably the most important taken by a body of farmers in America. They elected delegates to attend the meeting in St. Louis on Dec. 3, and among these were several radicals. Some of these hope that the meeting will result in the formation of a national party.

The convention at Aberdeen welcomed delegates from the Knights of Labor and allowed them all the privileges of the convention except that of voting for officers.

President Loucks expressed himself at the meeting in favor of abolishing the state senate and thought the United States senate also should cease to exist. He referred to the success of the one house plan in Canada, especially in Ontario, his old home, and said that Quebec is the only province in Canada having the old two house system.

W. E. BROKAW.

LOOKING FORWARD.

Protection's Perfect Work as It Might be Realized in 1976.

C. Howard Wilson contributes to the December issue of Belford's Magazine a clever skit entitled "Looking Forward: A. D. 1976." Mr. Wilson opens with the session of the International council at Constantinople. This year representatives from Uganda and China are to ask admission, and it is common talk that a native of the Unknown Land has escaped from its borders and will speak before the council. The Unknown Land is the United States, which country, by a logical development of the protection policy, has isolated itself from the rest of the world. The escaped stranger speaks to the council in an archaic language of mingled English, German and Norse. He told how the repeated success of the protectionists had made the great capitalists masters of the country, and famine threatened the continent.

The appeal for aid met a hearty response,

and the ships of all nations, laden with supplies, steamed for these shores. Some of them, however, were beaten off, and sunk by the great American war ship Protection, and congress, after brief debate, rejected the proffered supplies on the ground that to accept them would deprive our own people of labor, and eventually bring them to starvation. "Away with this temptation from the devil," was the cry of congress.

Meanwhile the congressional guard had been ordered out to disperse a mob gathered at the capital to demand the acceptance of the world's aid. The mob triumphed, however, destroyed the capital and killed several senators. It was believed, however, that the national army of 2,000,000 strong was ordered out to suppress the uprising for fear that from that time forth the Unknown Land was more inaccessible than ever, and the coast was more strictly guarded.

A Tariff For Revenue Only.

United States Senator Voorhees has introduced a preamble and resolution calling for the revision and reduction of the tariff. The resolution declares: For the collection of a sufficient amount of revenue to pay the expenses of the government, economically administered, the principal and interest of the public debt as they fall due, and liberal pensions, but not a dollar more. For the taxation of all articles of luxury at the highest practicable rates and for the reduction of taxes on all necessities of civilized life, such as salt, sugar, woolen goods, iron, steel and other staple commodities, to the lowest possible rates consistent with a tariff for revenue and for nothing but revenue. For the curtailment and overthrow, as near as possible, of all monopolies in trade by the enlargement of the free list to the full extent that the same can be done without impairing and endangering the necessary revenue of the government, having in view at all times and under all circumstances, a liberal policy of trade with the people of foreign countries and the establishment of equal and exact justice among our own citizens, with exclusive privileges to none.

M. V. Nichols, Kansas City.—I am a thorough free trader and an oldtime greenbacker. I assure you that the free trade sentiment is growing rapidly in Missouri as well as all over the west.

Kate Field's new weekly, Washington, to be published at the national capitol, will appear about the 20th of this month. Miss Field says in her prospectus: "I believe in Washington as the hub of a great nation. I believe that men and women are eternally equal and eternally different; hence I believe there is a fair field in Washington for a national weekly edited by a woman. I believe in home industries, in a reduced tariff, in civil service reform, in extending our commerce, in American shipping, in strengthening our army and navy, in temperance which does not mean enforcing total abstinence on one's neighbor, in personal liberty. The journal edited by me will reflect my opinions. Mistakes are probable. They will be born of ignorance."

Senator Washburn, rep., of Minnesota, has declared in one breath for shipping subsidies, hinted at a postal telegraph, and insisted upon tariff reduction. Of the last named he says: "The matter which is important above all others, however, is a revision of the tariff. The duties on many things must be cut down. The surplus must be reduced."

Peleg McFarlin of South Carver, Mass., has written an open letter to Congressman Morse, urging the removal of the duty from pig iron as a measure of relief to the iron industry of New England.

H. Martin Williams writes a long letter to the Mining Review of Rich Hill, Mo., to show that the democratic party has been consistently opposed to protective duties during the greater part of its history. He also argues the merits of the tariff question. The letter is a reply to some opinions expressed by the Hon. Jefferson Chandler.

"Tom Powers" writes from New York to the Chicago Herald: "The tariff fight goes on just as if there was a political campaign in progress. One organization alone will soon be sending out to all sorts of newspapers about five thousand words a week. The matter is prepared by a salaried editor under the supervision of a committee containing two newspaper men. Newspapers are anxious to obtain the matter and various patent concerns have taken it up *con amore*. The subject is under constant discussion wherever men meet, and the attitude of tariff reformers is marked by a boldness which few showed during the canvass of last year. Henry George's STANDARD has added tariff reform to its propaganda. Powderly's adhesion to the reform is regarded as of considerable importance, while the declaration of the Knights of Labor on the single tax, of course, in effect, commits them to the same policy."

The young men's democratic club of Canton, Ohio, has just celebrated the second anniversary of President Cleveland's tariff reform message with a banquet, a ball and many speeches. Mr. Cleveland sent a letter of regret, in which he said: "The constantly growing interest manifested by our young

men in the principles of the democratic party constitutes, in my opinion, the most reliable hope of their ascendancy. If at any time in the past it has with any truth been said that our party did not invite to its standard the enterprising and thoughtful young men of the country, to-day such an allegation shall be disputed. And these men, keenly alive to their country's welfare, quick to discover the needs of the present, and reared in the freedom of untrammelled thought to follow in the pathway of good citizenship, can be safely trusted with political responsibilities. Hoping your meeting will be very successful, I am yours, truly."

Representative W. C. P. Breckenridge of Kentucky finds in Secretary Windom's report a severe criticism of the republican tariff legislation of 1883.

Grand Rapids, Mich., has a new free trade club in the Sixth ward. Single tax men among the members will organize a single tax club.

Press Comments.

The people of Pennsylvania will demand free wool—first, because the most oppressive tariff taxes can't protect wool on Pennsylvania farms, as is shown by the reduction of our flocks; second, because a special tax of over \$18,000,000 to protect less than \$2,000,000 of gross product is simply atrocious, and, third, because even the wool growers of the state, as well as all others, would greatly gain by cheapened wools over all loss by free wool.—[Philadelphia Times (protectionist).]

"The United States bought over \$2,000,000 worth of eggs from Canada last year.—[Boston Journal.] Alackaday! We suppose the moral is, 'Give us protection for the American hen's infant industry!' At the same time, we dare say those Canadian eggs were worth all we paid for them. Let American citizens alone and they will get a good bargain 990 times out of a possible 1,000.—[Boston Globe.]

The man to whose mind the proposition that a tax on everybody for the benefit of somebody does not instantly appear as a grotesque fallacy is not only a fit subject for the sport of tyrants, but he is likely to be a dangerous instrument in their hands for the enslavement of others.—[Chicago Herald.]

With the articles necessary for consumption reduced in price, on an average, by fifty per cent, it is difficult to understand why the American workman, with all his conceded points of superiority, cannot make a respectable showing in competition with the English workman.—[Binghamton Leader.]

"The tariff is not a tax." People who live at the east end of Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence, go over to Canada and purchase Scotch twill for \$25. On this side the same article costs them from \$32 to \$35, according to the pressure of the negotiation. Some little risk is encountered in this operation, but if they are not caught, and they are not frequently, they manage to save from \$7 to \$10 by evading the tariff that is not a tax.—[Binghamton, N. Y., Leader.]

It is proposed to subsidize certain steamship lines; these lines run, or are to run, to the West Indies, Mexico, Central and South America. To these countries we export a considerable amount of manufactured goods, but little or no farm produce. The great bulk of our farm produce, which is itself the great bulk of our total exports, goes to Europe. We presume that the farmers of this country see the point. The government will be asked this winter to pay the freight for the manufacturers, but no one has suggested that it should pay the freight for the farmers of this country.—[National Democrat.]

The state department has recently published figures showing that wages in highly protected China range from six to fourteen cents a day. And still they tell us that protection makes wages high!—[Boston Globe.]

How is it that the English tramp steamers, which receive no postal subsidies, are the best paying ships of all? Commerce in the main is little affected by what the hungry subsidy hunters are contending for.—[Boston Globe.]

We say tariff for revenue only, as the constitution says, and let honest competition come in from whatever source, so it gives the masses of the people a chance in the battle for bread.—[Bonham, Texas, Farmers' Review.]

Let our country have free these materials, and the revival of American shipping will manifest itself in a very short time.—[Savannah Journal.]

A Site Out West.

New York Sun.
"You say you are from Dakota?" he queried of the man in the ulster.
"Yes, sir, right from Dakota."
"Plenty of good openings out there?"
"Lots of 'em."
"Man could do well, eh?"
"He could."
"Country growing all the time, I suppose?"
"Growing all the time."
"You—you have done well?"
"Very well, indeed. I went out there three years ago without a dollar and had to go to the poor house."
"You did! And now?"
"I'm superintendent of the same institution at \$500 a year and found: If you've got about a thousand dollars and lots of git up to you, there's an opening for a poor house in the next county which you can step right into, and I'll guarantee every inhabitant will be with you before spring."

SINGLE TAX NEWS.

THE PETITION.

SINGLE TAX ENROLMENT COMMITTEE,
36 CLINTON PLACE,
NEW YORK, Dec. 10, 1889.

Subscriptions toward the expenses of this committee's work for the week ending December 10, are as follows:

"Zur"	\$2 00
Arthur P. Davis, Washington, D. C.	10 00
Richard Eyre, Johnstown, Pa.	3 00
Robert Gammitt, D. Quinn, Ill.	6 00
Andrew Nesbet, Elizabeth, N. J.	5 00
John F. Winter, New York city	60 00
John F. Hart, Springfield, Mass.	6 00
Single Tax, Santa Barbara, Cal.	12 00
C. B. Cooper, New York city	12 00

Subscriptions previously acknowledged in THE STANDARD . . . 2,448 70

Total . . . \$2,564 70

The cash contributions for the week are as follows:

John Brosius, Carbonate, Dak.	\$2 50
Chas. E. Matthews, Beaverville, Ill.	1 00
Wm. T. Weir, South Henderson, Ill.	1 00
A. Fleming, Jackson, Cal.	1 00
F. S. Brettell, R. Chester, N. Y.	1 00
Thos. Taylor, Youngstown, Ohio	50
Mr. Lightheuser, Woodside, N. J.	35
John Rix, Hilo, N. Y.	1 00
Casa, Herkimer Co., N. Y.	4 00

Cash contributions previously acknowledged in THE STANDARD . . . 148 33

Total . . . \$160 68

The enrollment has now passed the 70,000 mark, and stands as follows:

Reported last week	69,580
Received during the week ending Dec. 10	435

Total 70,015

WM. T. CROSDALE, Chairman.

HENRY GEORGE IN BROOKLYN.

An Address to a Crowded Congregation in Rev. Mr. Halliday's Church.

The Tabernacle Congregational church at Rockaway avenue and Herkimer street, Brooklyn, was crowded Sunday evening to hear Henry George. The speaker, who was introduced by the pastor, Rev. S. B. Halliday, formerly assistant to Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, took the Lord's prayer for his text. He showed how the restoration of man's rights in the God-given soil was essentially a religious question, and that in no way could the followers of Jesus Christ do so much to bring about the time, when "the will of God would be done on earth as it is in heaven," as by working for the abolition of all taxes save one on the rental value of the bare land, thereby opening up those natural opportunities which the Creator of all things placed here for the use of all men. He showed that the prayer for "daily bread" was answered in advance when the Creator placed in the earth every element necessary for the satisfaction of human wants, and it needed but the application of man's labor, in bringing forth those substances to supply man's every desire, and that the poverty, misery, degradation and crime that afflict the civilized world to-day are not due to the niggardliness of nature, but to social maladjustments. The address, which partook more of the nature of a sermon, evidently made a deep impression upon the congregation, for although many could scarcely find standing room, every one listened with rapt attention throughout. Many remained behind, after the congregation was dismissed, to express to the speaker their earnest appreciation of what he had said. In manner and matter to many of them it was evidently a revelation.

ACTIVITY IN BROOKLYN.

The Central Club Growing and Good Work Being Accomplished in the Various Districts.

At the rate additions are being made to the club's membership it will soon be necessary to move into more spacious quarters. Six gentlemen whose names had been favorably reported by the committee on membership were elected Wednesday evening.

The attempt to organize ward clubs received renewed impetus Saturday evening, when a meeting was held at Nostrand and Myrtle avenues, the outcome of which will no doubt be the formation of a club in the Twenty-first ward.

The speaker for the regular Sunday evening lecture December 8 was Everett Glackin, secretary of Typographical union No. 6, who spoke on the relation of the single tax to trades unionism. Owing to the inclement weather the meeting was not as well attended as could have been desired, but what the meeting lacked in numbers was made up in interest. Some fanciful criticisms of what the speaker had said were made by a Mr. Woerner, who was ably replied to by Mr. Dalano and Mr. Peter Aitken.

Preceding the lecture those present were entertained with a solo by Mr. P. Aitken, Mrs. Aitken accompanying him on the piano. The following call has been issued:

A public meeting of the agitation committee of the Brooklyn single tax club will be held next Thursday evening, Dec. 13, at Adelphi hall, corner of Adelphi street and Myrtle avenue at 8 o'clock, for the purpose

of organizing a Twentieth ward branch of the King's county single tax league, and promoting the single tax cause in that ward. All single tax men are especially requested to attend and give us their moral support. R. C. UTREX, for Agitation Com.

At the Monday evening meeting in reference to a systematic organization of the various townships of Kings county, it was decided that where clubs had been formed in one-half of the wards and townships they should each send three delegates to a central county committee. Another meeting will be held on the 15th at the Central club. The meeting in the Twenty-first ward, on the 6th, was addressed by Messrs. Ed. Ferguson, P. Aitken and Rev. S. W. Laidler.

Joseph McGuinness, Brooklyn, E. D.—The increasing attendance of ladies at our Wednesday evening meetings has made it necessary for us to secure larger and more suitable quarters. Future meetings will be held in the large hall of the Bank building, corner South Third and Bedford avenue, which has about four times the capacity of the old hall. On Wednesday, the 11th, Mr. E. A. Curley will speak, and Misses Lillian Headforn and Maude Nelson will entertain with music and recitations. On the 18th a new constitution will be voted on, and officers for the ensuing year will be chosen.

Single tax men of the Eighteenth ward organized at the residence of Mr. Pettenkoffer, No. 18 S. Halter street, on Sunday, Dec. 8. Mr. Pettenkoffer was elected president, Mr. J. Nelson treasurer, and Mr. James Hamilton, 63 Kosciuszko street, secretary. The object of the organization is the discussion of single tax doctrines and all single tax men are urged to attend the meeting at Mr. Pettenkoffer's house on Sunday, Dec. 15, at 3 p. m.

Flushing, L. I.—The single tax club of this place has rallied to its aid, in opposing George Brandish's application for a grant of land under the waters of Little Neck bay, a strong public sentiment. Since the club obtained 118 signatures to a petition against Mr. Brandish's application, the town trustees of Flushing have employed counsel to go to Albany and oppose the application, and the "Citizens' union" of Bayside has also employed counsel to protest. T. E. Lane of Bayside has written a letter to the Long Island Times to show that if Mr. Brandish has his way he can demand rent of valuable oyster deposits now open to all resident oystermen.

HE SACRIFICED HIS BEER.

A Fireman Gives Up His Beer in Order That He May Save Money to Start a Single Tax Club.

The appeal of the single tax enrolment committee for contributions toward the necessary expenses of carrying on its work, has met with an encouraging response, though the amount thus far subscribed falls far short of the absolute needs of the committee. Nearly all persons subscribing express regret that they cannot contribute more liberally, and hundreds of letters have been received from single tax men and women explaining the circumstances that prevent them from doing their part of the work. Many of these letters are really pathetic, and evince a willingness to make sacrifices which show the deep religious fervor that animates many workers in the cause. One of the letters record a sacrifice that will doubtless be keenly appreciated by those single tax men who are not teetotalers. It is as follows:

SAGINAW CITY, Mich., Dec. 2.—Single Tax Enrolment Committee—GENTLEMEN: In answer to your circular permit me to tell you a little story. My business is that of firing in saw mills and planing mills. My wages are not just what the protected lumber men promised us last fall. Firing is very hot as well as very hard. During twenty years, that I have fired on this river, I have been accustomed to keep a keg of beer in the house. The first thing I did after returning home in the evening from the fire room, hot and tired, would be to drink a quart or more of beer. I thought it rested me and drove the heat out of my blood.

Now, I have been very anxious for more than a year past to help start a single tax club, but I didn't see how I could spare the funds out of my low wages to meet the demands that a club was sure to make on my flat pocketbook.

At last I saw an opening. My beer had to go. For the first time in twenty years I would try to fire without beer. My mind was made up. I made appointments with a few out and out single tax men to meet me at the store of a friend, who is also a thorough single tax man.

We met at the time appointed, and the following week we organized our club. When my keg of beer ran out I ordered it stopped, and stopped it is. But, if I can't help the single tax enrolment committee in funds, I do all I can to help the cause along. I have had between forty and fifty blank petitions signed, and perhaps can get more. Each member of our club could make good use of them if they had them.

I wish to state to your committee that there is a very large proportion of our population who are Poles. Most of them can read neither English nor German, but can read Slavonic. This race is scattered all over our republic, and very thickly in the cities. Whatever the Poles goes into, they go into to stay. They mean business every time. The Poles have their democratic clubs or societies in Saginaw City, East Saginaw and Bay City. Could we get such tracts as "Back to the Land," "A Lawyer's Reply to Criticisms," "The Case Plainly Stated," and a few more good ones in Polish, to circulate in those clubs, we would soon have them all.

They are all free traders now, yet THE STANDARD has nothing in Polish. In my estimation we need Polish literature even more than we do German. I meet no Poles who are socialists; but I meet many who are out and out free trade democrats. In fact a republican Pole is a "fara avis."

WILLIAM MITCHELL.

MILLIONAIRES' TAXES.

How the Personal Property Tax Affects the Rich California Landlords.

BERKELEY, Cal., Dec. 3.—It is said that the exemption of personal property from taxation would enable millionaires to escape burdens they are now bearing. The following extracts from the personal property assessment roll of San Francisco for the year 1888 are introduced in evidence:

Leland Stanford—Money, \$2,225; furniture, \$45,650; paintings, \$10,300; library, \$700; jewelry, \$1,500; piano, \$250; harness, \$500; vehicles, \$850; wine, \$100; fuel, \$50; sewing machine, \$50. Total, \$62,175.

Charles Crocker—Bonds, \$1,850; money, \$6,130; furniture, \$45,630; pictures, etc., \$4,850; library, \$700; jewelry and plate, \$2,000; piano, \$500; horse, \$1,400; harness, \$350; vehicles, \$1,500; fuel, \$50; sewing machine, \$50. Total, \$64,530.

James G. Fair—Money, \$2,325; office furniture, \$1,500; two horses, \$360; harness, \$100; wagon, \$100; library, \$100. Total, \$4,425.

J. C. Flood—Furniture, \$42,000; library, \$1,500; piano, \$300; two horses, \$250; harness, \$150; four vehicles, \$1,600. Total, \$45,500.

Claus Spreckels—Furniture, \$3,000; jewelry, \$2,500; piano, \$200; three horses, \$600; three vehicles, \$1,000; harness, \$100; cow, \$50; library, \$600; watch, \$100. Total, \$8,150.

J. B. Haggin—Furniture, \$9,000; money, \$6,000; jewelry, \$5,000; watch, \$100; four horses, \$800; vehicle, \$1,500; cow, \$50; office fixtures, \$500. Total, \$22,950. (Mr. Haggin owns 500,000 acres of farming land in Kern county.)

Henry Miller, \$4,650; Charles Lux, \$12,025; Miller and Lux, \$18,550. (Miller and Lux own 500,000 acres of farming land in the San Joaquin valley.) S. E. MOFFETT.

TO RISK \$5,000 ON THE IDEA.

C. J. Buell Ready to Show His Faith in the Single Tax.

C. J. Buell, president of the single tax league of St. Paul, Minn., having announced that he would make a present of a house and lot worth \$5,000 to any one who can prove that the tax on the farmers of the state would not be less under the single tax idea than under the present system, C. B. Maben of the Free Lance has accepted the challenge on the following conditions: The house and lot must be worth at least \$3,000, clear from incumbrance, and a warranty deed from the same must be left at the First national bank, to be delivered to Mr. Maben, provided a committee of five—of whom one is to be chosen by Buell, one by Maben, one by the president of the Farmers' alliance, one by the master workman of the Knights of Labor, the fifth to be chosen by the other four—shall decide that Maben proves the farmers will pay more tax under the single tax system than under the present. He wants the committee to assemble about April 1 and listen to the debate. Mr. Maben specifies that no reference is to be made to the tariff issue, and the following points must be agreed upon at the start off:

First—That if all personal property, structural and other improvements are to be exempt from assessment, that the tax on land will be at least doubled.

Second—That only direct taxes shall be considered.

Third—That the assessments, etc., as found on the different county auditors' books for the year 1888, shall be the basis of calculation (1889 would do just as well, but the figures are not in shape to get at).

Fourth—That the "single tax idea" is to eventually take the full annual rental value of all land for taxes, and the ultimate aim is to have the government own it.

A STEP FORWARD IN OREGON.

The Portland Real Estate Exchange Condemns the Present System of Taxation and Publishes Its Secretary's Argument for the Single Tax.

"The mortgage tax and usury laws; why they should be repealed," is the title of a small pamphlet containing a report of a recent meeting of citizens of Portland, Oregon. The meeting was held last month in the real estate exchange, in response to a general feeling that some definite action should be taken with regard to mortgage tax and usury laws of Oregon. The vice-president of the exchange, Mr. Geo. L. Story, presided, and a large number of real estate brokers and business men attended.

The secretary, Mr. J. Carroll McCaffrey, read a report showing that the current of eastern capital had turned away from Portland; that city is not growing nearly as fast as it did; that large investments are being made in Tacoma, Seattle and other places in Washington and California, while Oregon, with the greatest city north of San Francisco, and with great natural advantages, coal and iron, lumber, silver and agricultural lands, is being neglected. Not only do eastern capitalists prefer the other states, but even Portland men are investing outside their own state. Oregon, "instead of ranking with California, is really falling behind rapidly in the race with Washington." The secretary claims that the cause of this state

of things is capital in its various forms is taxed to death, and that the mortgage taxation and usury laws keep capitalists from investing in Oregon. He goes on to show that under the laws which attempt to tax all forms of property and mortgages and which exempt a man from assessment to the amount of his alleged indebtedness, the grossest frauds are perpetrated.

In Portland the sum of \$5,000,000 out of an assessed total of \$21,000,000 is exempted for indebtedness. Presumably most of this indebtedness was mortgages. But when the list of taxed mortgages is examined it is found that only \$1,700,000 is taxed, so that some three or four millions of mortgages have disappeared on the way from the man who borrows and the man who lends.

The secretary says: "A glance at the assessors' books will show that it is not, in general, the smaller property owners who thus systematically rob their fellow citizens, but that the offenders are, in nearly every case, wealthy men, and especially those men who fatten by holding away from improvement large tracts of land within the city limits."

There are in the city of Portland, alone, 7147 acres (or about one-third of the entire area of the city) which are assessed as agricultural land, at the sum total of \$496,855, sharing, nevertheless, in all the benefits from the growth of the city and the expenditure of her revenue. The total assessment of lots is \$8,756,710, and for improvements thereon \$5,192,960.

If this so-called "agricultural" land were assessed at its proper market value, which is, at least, five times its assessed value, the present tax rate of \$1. levied on real estate alone, would more than yield the sum netted under the present system, and would free all mortgages, and other personal property, including mercantile credits, from taxation entirely.

What is better still, if this land, and all city lots improved or unimproved, were assessed at their actual market value (improvements being freed from assessment and taxation), a tax rate of less than fifty cents per hundred levied on such, alone, would have yielded the sum required, and would have freed all other classes of property, and every business enterprise from taxation, and, better than all, it would be paid by the persons whose duty it is to pay taxes, and by no one else on their account.

The unjust and fearfully unequal burden borne by the class of honest taxpayers we have cited, becomes more outrageous when we take into consideration the fact that they are compelled to assume all of the county, state, and other taxes, piled on top of the city taxes, pay mercantile taxes when they buy their household supplies, and pay for a license to obtain the privilege to pay taxes. The wonder is, not that the business of the state is decreasing, but that our merchants have any money left to carry on business at all.

The secretary concluded his address with an appeal to the taxpayers to figure out for themselves the actual effect of raising taxes from land values alone, with no exemptions.

This address was heartily applauded, and Mr. S. B. Riggan, the well known single tax man, followed with an address on the single tax, which was listened to with marked attention.

Finally a resolution was passed condemning the present system of taxation and the so-called usury laws as being of great injury to the agricultural, commercial and manufacturing interests of Oregon.

The exchange had the report of the meeting printed in pamphlet form and has since circulated it throughout the state.

THE ONE GREAT QUESTION.

A Southern Religious Paper on the Inequality of Wealth Distribution.

The Southern Churchman, published at Richmond, Va., and circulating largely among the Episcopalians of the south, quotes editorially Mr. Saeerman's figures on his recent article on the ownership of the United States, and says:

Talk about civil service reform and wanting the pulpit to pipe on this key, when 250,000 people own this country, and only 25,000 own over half of it! Here is where the thoughts of the people of the United States should be directed—to the amazing massing of wealth in the hands of the few and the terribly unequal distribution of it for the millions. Here is a question before which civil service reform is as nothing—how to wisely and justly distribute the wealth of the United States! All other political subjects, filed to the full with morality, pale before this. The greed of corporations, the greed of individuals, until a few thousands own the whole country! This is no new thing under the sun. Twenty-four hundred years ago the prophet Isaiah spoke out as a man who feared God: "Woe unto them that join house to house, that lay field to field, till there is no room, and ye be made to dwell alone in the midst of the land." Here is one tremendous element of sin and weakness, which will destroy this land as surely as it and other evils destroyed the Jews. Yet civil service reformers not seeing it, but seeing a little evil in comparison, want us prophets of God to move heaven and earth to kill a fly, while the vultures are eating our liver.

Here is the city of Richmond, for example; having about the worst system of street railways in existence. Who owns them? Richmond owns them not. Here are our large systems of railroads going north and south, east and west in Virginia. Who owns them? Virginia owns them not. Here are our vast mines of coal and iron. Who owns them? Virginia does not. Who does? At the rate we are traveling in thirty years twenty-five thousand persons will own the entire coun-

try, as they now own the railroads and the mines.

AN AUSTRALIAN ELECTION.

How the Single Tax Free Traders Carried a Parliamentary Contest in New South Wales.

One of the speakers at a meeting held in Sydney, Australia, in anticipation of Mr. George's visit, was Mr. James Curley, M. P. Mr. Curley had just been elected to parliament over a protectionist candidate in the coal district of Newcastle. The correspondent of the Sydney Evening News gives a most interesting description of this contest. He says:

We found at Newcastle that the excitement caused by the coming electoral contest was rapidly growing in volume and intensity. Voluble patriots stood in small knots and expatiated on the merits of their respective favorites, whilst individuals of a sporting turn of mind were recklessly offering two to one on the protectionist candidate with an enthusiasm which was fraught with sorrowful results to these ardent advocates of restriction, as the sequel proved.

The local free trade committee had communicated at an early date with the parent association, with a view to obtaining the help of several members of the house, including Messrs. G. H. Reid and Carruthers, as speakers at the various meetings held the night previous to polling day.

However, a compact was entered into that on neither side was any parliamentary influence to be used; but, with their customary disregard of anything like straight dealing, the restrictionist party broke faith and arranged for a surprise party at the last moment of several prominent parliamentary craters, who were to descend upon Newcastle and carry all before them.

However, a surprise of another sort awaited their nerves, for although the free trade association had taken no steps to secure speakers, the single tax league were on hand to the rescue—Messrs. Frank Cotton and J. L. Smith having come down as free lances to support Mr. Curley, on account of his outspoken utterances on the subject of land value taxation. A counter demonstration was hastily arranged, and the consequence was that the followers of Henry George found eager listeners to their democratic utterances, while the advocates of restriction had to wait for an audience who had found something more to their taste. Whilst fully 3,000 people listened attentively to the single tax speakers, a handful of sorrowful restrictionists waited despairingly a few hundred yards further up the street in vain, until a pouring deluge of rain later on in the evening sent the scattered remnants of the political surprise party gloomily home with dismal forebodings for the morrow. On the polling day the effect of this repulse was plainly visible in the lack of enthusiasm in the restrictionist ranks, whilst the single tax men, of whom there are a goodly number among the miners, were red-hot with enthusiasm whenever a protectionist attempted to rally a knot of followers. He was promptly challenged and a ring formed for an animated debate. The utmost good humor and fair play everywhere prevailed, and speakers on both sides, even in the densest portion of the crowd, always secured a fair hearing, any interference being promptly checked. As the afternoon wore on, the excitement became even keener, and the supporters of "Jimmy Curley" more aggressively enthusiastic and demonstrative, whilst the flagging energy of Mr. Grabane's supporters told that the day was lost. As soon as the last vote was recorded the canvassers retired to the various balconies, and the crowd, now numbering many thousands, fairly took possession of the street, and for about an hour and a half the sound of many voices echoed the party cries, and the miners indulged in reckless good-humored horseplay of an alarming type to the uninitiated. Finally the crisis came when Mr. Curley's name was announced as the successful candidate, and the city of coal echoed with the jubilant shouts of the victors. As a matter of form, the candidates spoke for a few moments each, but as far as the audience was concerned the words were lost in the cheers that went ringing heavenward from enthusiasts who could not be silenced. A rush was made for the Exchange hotel, from the balcony of which the single tax speeches had been delivered, and after Mr. Curley had returned thanks the crowd were victorious in their demands for "the boy," as the miner called Mr. J. Lesina. Speeches were then delivered by that youthful orator and the members of Mr. Curley's committee, and an adjournment was made for tea.

The Manhattan Club.

The meeting last Sunday evening was addressed by Professor Thomas Davidson, who had for his subject "Methods of Progress." He addressed himself mainly to showing how the cause could be advanced by appealing to its ethical and religious side. Mr. McDermott made a few remarks after the lecture was finished. On this Sunday, J. R. Ababneh of Jersey City will speak on "Manual training and its relation to the single tax."

The following nominations of officers and directors for the coming year were made. But five directors can be chosen: For president, Louis F. Post; vice president, A. J. Wolf; secretary, A. J. Seers; treasurer, W. D. Williams; directors, William T. Coatsdale, William McCabe, William H. Faulhaber, Benjamin D. Kim, Joseph McDermott, E. M. Klem, Thomas C. Myers, M. Van Veen and W. C. Spahr. The inspectors of elections are Messrs. Qualey, Everett, William Wolff, Powers and Kelly.

New York State.

J. S. Cogan, Brighton, Staten Island.—Our club has placed a neat transparency in front of our headquarters, illuminated by an

electric light, bearing the good news that the single tax will raise wages and reduce rents. We have a hall capable of seating 600 people. At our last public meeting, after an address by Mr. Steers, one of our leading politicians took the floor and after asking questions in relation to the single tax declared his intention to assist our club to get up another meeting. This is an important break, and I am confident that it will be followed by others. Several politicians have declared their intention of attending our next meeting. They see the intense interest that the people are taking in the question and are beginning to inquire into it themselves. As a means of propaganda, the transparency idea is a good one, as it provokes discussion concerning the inscription.

Pennsylvania.

Mark Roberts, Pittsburg.—We had a very lively discussion at our last meeting. We generally open with the reading of a chapter from "Progress and Poverty," and some poetry, and then an address is made on some phase of the social question. The subject for this meeting was, "Some fallacies of the single tax." It was read by the son of Rev. William Robertson. The reverend gentleman was to have delivered the address himself, but finding it impossible to be present sent his son with the written address. Mr. Robertson has come very near to seeing the cat, and we hope to soon have his name on the list as an advocate of our reform. He will be a valuable addition to our ranks. We had a real, genuine Spanish count get up in the midst of the discussion and try to show the "poor ignorant" single tax men that things as they are are all right, and it is only the improvidence and laziness of the masses that causes all the trouble, and that if some few men have most of the wealth of this country it is because of their superior intelligence and quality. He quoted from current political economy to prove his arguments, and advised all the members to give up their folly and go west. He was called down by Mr. F. P. McCloskey, a carpenter, who is not yet a single tax man, but as he had spent some time in the west he very easily knocked the props from under the "count's" arguments by giving him a few facts about the thousands of miles of bare land to be encountered there with wire fences around it and the small farmer starving and burning his corn for fuel, it being cheaper than coal, while men are going around idle in the cities who would gladly earn money to buy corn. He also showed the connection between these evils, but the "count" went away unsatisfied, and will come at us again and show us how improvident and lazy the masses of the American people are.

A single tax discussion has broken out in the Pittsburg Press. Mark Roberts and James D. McDadd are ably taking care of the single tax end of it.

Pottstown.—At the regular meeting of the Pottstown single tax club on Friday evening last, Mr. George Auchy of Pottstown gave a very interesting talk on the Malthusian doctrine. Mr. Auchy is a fluent talker, and although a novice in the art of public speaking, he handled his subject with much ability. Mr. Jos. Conner spoke on greenbackism and the national banking system. A good deal of discussion was aroused, which was taken part in by nearly all the members present. Our club is getting along nicely, and the members are all actively and earnestly at work.

D. L. Haws.

Connecticut.

Bridgeport.—Mr. W. J. Gorsuch made an address in the G. A. R. hall here on Monday evening, December 2. It was the first opportunity that this place has had to listen to a clear and eloquent enunciation of the single tax philosophy. Mr. Gorsuch is an effective speaker, and on this occasion he was at his best, and he eloquently pictured the era of plenty and prosperity that would follow the opening up of natural opportunities. As a result of the address there will be established a sociological branch of the Bridgeport scientific society where such subjects can be debated.

Rhode Island.

At a recent meeting of the Pawtucket, R. I. single tax association a committee was appointed to interview the members of the city council and find out how they stood regarding the single tax, and particularly to try and have a gentleman of the association's naming appointed as one of the city assessors. A short time ago the association was instrumental in having a resolution introduced into the council providing for the separate assessment of land and improvements. Mr. Farnell, the secretary, and several other members spoke before the finance committee of the council on behalf of the change, and the discussion attracted a great deal of attention.

Indiana.

Indianapolis.—Rev. John Baltzly, pastor of the First English Lutheran church, in his Thanksgiving day sermon, said "we may try to make ourselves believe that there is no misery in the world" deserving our attention, but he rebuked such efforts to juggle with facts.

It is idle to talk of men's having all equal chances in life. Even if all men were equals, so far as the outward chances go, the inborn

disabilities many of them labor under would discount that. Remember, a man is not responsible for having been born lacking the gift of money making. And I do not know that it ever has been taken as the sign of anything very precious in a man's character that he knows how to get rich. I do not find this dwelt on in the lives of the saints. But it is idle longer to speak of every man's having a fair chance, even so far as outward things are concerned. It is not true—at the least, it is true no longer. Such books as "Progress and Poverty" and "Looking Backward," however fanciful we may judge them, touching the remedies suggested in them, such books are but two of the many signs of a social wrong being.

When one sees the total wealth of this country piling up year by year almost beyond one's power to conceive of it, and sees at the same time the poverty spreading, and deepening, and deadening almost beyond hope; when one sees the great merchant crowding to the wall and swallowing up each his hundred small traders, and sees the hundred taking places at starving wages behind his counters; when one sees the former free men of the land made machines of, mere cogs in the great grinding wheel of modern industry, it is no longer possible to say much of a common wealth, or of social well being. It is a social wrong being. I do not mean to say that the great merchant is to be condemned; not at all. He is no more responsible for what has come to be than the man he swallows up. It is a drift, and we all are in it. Drift we must, except so far as we can manage to steer a little. But we may and should look around to see the facts. The people, as a whole, grow vastly richer year by year, and yet, somehow, there are ever more and more poor people; ever poorer and poorer, people. There is "Progress and Poverty." The rich are growing richer, and the poor are growing poorer. Make what you will of the fact, a fact it is. "The majority have never yet been able to buy enough of anything. The minority have too much of everything to sell." And we are told that overproduction is the cause of the trouble. Think of it—overproduction the cause of want; too much coal mined the cause of miners starving; too many yards of cloth woven the cause of people going in rags. What Ruskin said once of England is coming true of America faster than we like to believe: "Though England is deafened with spinning wheels, her people are not clothed; though she is black with the digging of coal, her people die of cold." All the people have more and more, and yet the increasing mass have less and less.

The reverend gentleman did not intimate whether he preferred the gospel of freedom preached in "Progress and Poverty" or the paternal system of "Looking Backward." Perhaps he has not made up his mind, but he is evidently thinking.

W. E. McDermut, Fort Wayne, Ind.—A meeting of single tax men of Fort Wayne was held on December 4, and a club organized under the name of "Fort Wayne single tax club." Officers were elected and a constitution adopted. The second article states the object of the club to be "to promote the political reform known as the 'single tax,' and to co-operate with other organizations to the end that the burdens of taxation may be taken from the shoulders of enterprise and industry, where they act as a fine upon economy and thrift and retard the best growth of the community, and placed upon the speculative value of land, raising public revenues from that value which is not produced by the owners of land, but which attaches to land by reason of the growth of population." The following officers were elected: President, W. E. McDermut; vice president, J. M. Schwerzen; secretary, Henry Cohen. The public meetings will be held at the Business men's exchange, an institution organized to promote the growth of Fort Wayne.

Tennessee.

S. P. Herran, Newcombe.—There are plenty of men all through the country who believe in the justice of the single tax, but who have never had an opportunity to express their views. I shall take a hundred petitions and give them this opportunity as rapidly as possible.

Missouri.

J. T. Raney, St. Joseph.—We have a debating club here in which we have been discussing the single tax question. I find that men who have always opposed the labor movement are now beginning to take an active interest in the single tax reform.

Wisconsin.

D. A. Kennedy, Minneapolis, Minn.—At Wmoma, Wis., where I am somewhat acquainted, I recently procured a few signatures to the petitions. Among the signers are some of the wealthiest men of the place and one leading republican newspaper man. I was astonished when I presented it to Tom Wilson, an ex judge and an ex-congressman. He freely admitted the truth of our position, but refused to sign. Mr. Earl S. Yoonas, one of the great lumber men of the place, says there is no doubt that it is the true system of taxation, but it is entirely impracticable. He is a free trader and a man of note in the state, and is largely interested in timber lands. Judge Wilson takes THE STANDARD, and admits the truth therein, but he will not sign the petition.

Minnesota.

Chas. H. Kohlman, St. Paul, Minn.—Economic discussion is on the increase in this city. We now have four clubs, nationalists and others, discussing political economy. These clubs are composed almost exclusively of pro-

fessional and business men. Last winter the single tax club occupied the field alone. I should think a club of subscribers for THE STANDARD might be secured at these meetings (single taxers attend them all), and I will speak to some of the active workers and endeavor to have them take hold of it. The first winter meeting of the single tax leagues has been held and the course will be continued throughout the season.

Texas.

James Fitzgerald, Dallas.—The declaration of the Knights of Labor in favor of the single tax has produced a sensation among the labor people here. The friends of our cause, of course, are jubilant, but some workmen here are ardent protectionists and they do not know what to think of Mr. Powderly's recent action. I tell them they are behind the times in giving ear to the fallacies of an exploded theory, and foolish in attempting to pick up the rag that the east is already willing to throw away. The Morning News, though not with us, printed an editorial on November 17, setting forth our theories very clearly and discussing the probability that they will be adopted in New South Wales, Australia. This is the club, as the News has much influence in the northern part of the state.

Colorado.

E. McAuley, Denver.—Single tax news is quiet here, although we have many sympathizers but few practical workers. We proposed sending THE STANDARD for six weeks to each of the assessors and county commissioners in this state. It may arouse them out of their ignorance, though to tell the truth many of them are not so ignorant as they appear. One seldom meets a man in this state who is in public life who has not a pretty clear idea of the single tax. It is not in politics just now, so they do not discuss it. If we can muster money and help enough we may undertake to do for Denver what the Buffalo reform club has done for that city.

J. W. Brentlinger, Pueblo.—I inclose signatures to the petition, obtained at the last meeting of a small Knights of Labor assembly here since they heard from Atlanta. Every one present signed. I will send you more from the other assembly here and other labor organizations as rapidly as they can be obtained.

Dakota.

This country, generally speaking, is very hard up at present, and I am no exception to the rule. I am doing all I can to help along toward free trade and the single tax, and have recently ordered for persons hereabouts five copies of "Social Problems." I think the book is better than "Progress and Poverty" for propaganda work, because it is easier to read. It ought to be advertised more conspicuously.

South Dakota.

Isaac Howe, Redfield, S. D.—I am arranging to attend the South Dakota educational association meeting at Yankton, December 26, when the best method of disposing of our school lands will be a leading topic for discussion.

Money in Spink county is difficult to get. Not over a quarter of a crop was raised, and most of that is sold and gone out of the country to pay interest on cut throat mortgages—of which we have over twenty large volumes of record. We have, too, over 20,000 chattel mortgages uncancelled. About 200 mortgages have been foreclosed at the court house steps since January 1, and as many more settled, and the former owners left in possession as care takers. One need not cross the Atlantic to see Ireland.

Secretary Windom's Silver Mining Claims.

P. C. Anderson, writing from Red Mountain, Col., says that it is difficult to get people interested in the single tax question out there; it is a silver mining region and the population, largely composed of speculators and prospectors, is scattered in small camps. He adds: "To show the beauties of our land system it may be interesting to state Secretary of the treasury Windom owns over 200 patented claims in the No. 10 mountains, on which not one stroke of work has been done since they have been patented, and a few others own the balance of the range."

A Challenge.

The following appears in the Connersville, Ind., Daily News.

I will "put up" \$100.00 or \$500.00 and affirm the "single land tax" question, debating it with any man on earth, leaving the decision to a vote of the house, composed of men and women (no boys or girls) voting under the Australian system. Who will or dare accept the challenge?

W. H. HART.

P. S. Debate to be held in the court-room in Connersville, Ind.

Mr. Herne's Reading in Boston.

Mr. James A. Herne will read "Under the Lion's Paw" in Chickering hall on Sunday night, the 15th. Hamlin Garland will also speak. Kenneth Cranford or William Lloyd Garrison will preside. It is designed to invite the leading literary and artistic people of the city to be present and hear about the single tax and to hear Mr. Herne read. It is the plan of the league to reach a class of people quite unfamiliar with the single tax, and Mr. Herne will issue special invitations to his theatrical friends.

SOCIETY NOTES.

Mr. and Mrs. John T. Parish of 70 Park avenue, gave a dinner the other day in honor of the Prince and Princess Brancaccio of Italy. It was a "color" dinner, and the color chosen was yellow. The table covering was of Brussels lace, under which was placed a yellow cut glass cloth. The table was set with rich cut glass and solid gold and silver, and was decorated with a mass of yellow chrysanthemums, placed in five handsome silver bowls. At each lady's plate was placed a magnificent bouquet of yellow roses and chrysanthemums, tied with wide yellow satin ribbon.

Carl Edward Strehlke, a book agent, killed himself by taking laudanum in the Coliseum lodging house at 39 Bowery yesterday. He was heard groaning, and admitted that he had taken poison. He came from Braunsberg, Koenigsreich, West Prussia, last July, and had not been able to secure work. Strehlke was taken to the Gouverneur hospital. He died an hour later.—[New York Press, Nov. 4.]

Millionaire Thomas Lynch, jr., of Chicago, has erected for his little four-year-old daughter a miniature house at a cost of \$3,500. It is a complete residence such as a pigmy might use. It has a little flight of steps leading up to the solid oak front door and an electric push-bell for the convenience of the baby visitors of the happy mistress of the house. On this door is the name of the proprietor on a silver plate, "Miss Lelia Lynch." There is a hallway lighted by a miniature gas lamp suspended from the ceiling, and it is finished in the choicest of hard woods. There are umbrella and hat racks of appropriate dimensions. Elegant draperies cover the parlor doors, and the parlor is fitted up in grand style. The furniture is all of white enameled wood, covered with white brocade silk. There is an elegant mantel filled with bric-a-brac of the choicest kind, and little lamps of the rarest patterns. A beautiful chandelier, furnished with real gas, hangs from the center of the room. Center tables, divans, easy-chairs, sofas etc., fill up the apartment. Dolls from Paris occupy positions here and there, just like real people. Then there is a drawing room furnished completely, with sideboards, china closets, etc., of rich design. The bedroom is a marvel of beauty, and is replete with all conveniences. The ceiling in every room is six feet two inches high, and the upper stories are just big enough for four-year-olds to move about comfortably.

Oscar Richter was found nearly dead on November 30 in a little back room over Pedro's restaurant at 29 Duane street. He had taken carbolic acid, and beside the vial which had held the poison he left this letter, written in pencil on the remnant of a pass book:

"DEAR FRIENDS: I thank you for all you have done for me, and I assure me you have acted as friends always. It seems that it is impossible for me to get employment of any kind. I expected this week an answer from Scranton, but did not get it, consequently this hope is gone also. Notify N. Goldsmith, 116 North Commercial street, St. Louis, and he will send word to my brother in Germany. I owe my landlady for five weeks' rent for room, and have no money to pay for it. It is terrible if a man is in debt and is willing to pay and can't. With many regards to yourself and friends, I remain your thankful friend.

Oscar Richter.

"P. S.—Please have some Jewish society to bury me at a Jewish cemetery, as I don't like to be buried in potter's field. I think if I live under this strain I will go crazy, so I prefer death to life."

The address of a New York firm was on the paper.

Sixteen of the twenty-one head of moose, elk, deer and antelope purchased in Dakota and intended to stock Austin Corbin's hunting park in the mountains of New Hampshire were killed in a railroad wreck while en route east. The five animals that escaped death were more or less seriously hurt. Mr. Corbin was more fortunate with the herd of buffaloes, for which he paid \$13,000 in Manitoba. These animals have reached the park in safety, and the pleasure of killing them is thus reserved for the millionaire and his friends.

At a recent meeting of the Boston common council Mr. D. F. Barry, Mr. Keenan, Mr. Rosnosky, Mr. Hoar, Mr. Jenkins, Mr. Stevens and Mr. Fraser spoke in favor of the order that the board of police make arrangements for the distribution of soup to the worthy poor of Boston during the winter months; the expense attending the same not to exceed \$2,500. The order was passed by a vote of 47 yeas and 5 nays.

LIBERALS AT MANCHESTER.

Important Resolutions Adopted and Mr. Gladstone Heard Again.

Mr. Gladstone has made two more speeches before the Liberal federation at Manchester. In one he dilated upon the value of municipal institutions as among the best guarantees of social security. This, he said, was demonstrated by the improvement they have effected in the life and condition of the great masses of the people.

In the other he discussed the liberal policy. He said Ireland is the leading question of the day, and that the Tories would have been converted to the liberal view of the subject by this time but for the dissident liberals. The split in the liberal party, he said, would not have occurred except for the personal ambitions of some Tories and their allies, who desired more to form a national party than to do political justice. He severely arraigned the unionist leaders on this point, and said that the plan of campaign was a necessary consequence of the government's refusal to grant proper relief to Ireland. There was, he said, less crime in Ireland than in England. He was of opinion that the country had

clearly expressed the desire that there should be a change in the administration of Ireland, and the liberals might look to the future with confidence.

Mr. Gladstone quoted the recent speeches of Lord Salisbury and the marquis of Hartington as evidence that the unionist party is now forming plans in anticipation of a decisive defeat when the time shall come for a general appeal to the nation. The only reason for the existence of the dissidents as a party is an anti-Irish feeling. Furthermore, they had caused an enormous increase in the radicalism of the liberal party; they had advanced its political position. It behooved them to consider well their position in the light of the knowledge that with the settlement of the Irish question they will be extinct as a party.

The federation adopted a resolution to demand urgency at the coming session of parliament for a bill embodying the "one man, one vote" principle. Resolutions were also adopted favoring a shortening of the duration of parliament; a reduction of the period of residence enabling a man to vote to three months; compulsory power to acquire allotments; the abolition of the duties on tea, coffee and cocoa; a direct popular vote on the liquor traffic, and the disestablishment of the church of England.

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No. 36 Clinton place, Eighth street, New York. All single tax men visiting New York are cordially invited to make our rooms their headquarters while in town.

The rooms are open every evening from six to midnight, and from twelve o'clock noon to midnight on Sundays.

Lectures on economic subjects of interest to every citizen, every Sunday evening, and once during each month throughout the season, on a week-day evening.

Any information as to the club, its lectures, work, and objects can be had on application to the secretary, A. J. STEPHENS, 39 Nassau St., N. Y.

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SINGLE TAX ORGANIZATIONS.

(Secretaries of clubs are requested to send any corrections in the list below, and all newly formed organizations are asked to report promptly, either to the Enrollment committee or The Standard.)

ARKANSAS.

LITTLE ROCK.—Little Rock single tax club. Every alternate Thursday evening, 717 Main st. Pres., Sol F. Clark; sec., O. D. Hemming, 1910 Main st.

CALIFORNIA.

SAN FRANCISCO.—California single tax society. Every Sunday evening, 909 1/2 Market st. Reading room open every evening, 841 Market st. Pres., H. L. Pleace; sec., G. A. Hubbell, 1135 Mission st.

SACRAMENTO.—Single tax club of Sacramento. Every Friday evening, Dr. Thos. B. Reed; sec., C. W. Farnsworth, 1406 4th st.

OAKLAND.—Single tax club No. 1 meets every Friday evening at St. Andrews hall, 1056 1/2 Broadway. Pres., A. J. Gregg; sec., W. H. Messenger.

SAN DIEGO.—San Diego single tax county committee. Every Monday evening, 139 10th st. Chairman, Geo. B. Whaley, box 1088.

COLORADO.

DENVER.—Denver single tax association. Every Thursday evening, 1448 Lawrence st. Pres., Andrew W. Elder; sec., E. McAuley, 906 Holladay st.

PUEBLO.—Commonwealth single tax club. First and Fourth Thursdays at office of D. B. V. Reeve, Union av. Pres., D. B. V. Reeve; sec., J. W. Brentlinger, Pueblo Smelting and Refining Co.

GRAND JUNCTION.—Mesa county single tax and ballot reform club. Pres., James W. Bucklin; vice-pres., W. A. Pollock; treas., Thos. B. Crawford; sec., Geo. Smith.

CANYON CITY.—Single tax committee; sec., Dr. Frank P. Blake.

HAWKSHURST.—Plateau Valley single tax club. Pres., John W. Hawkshurst; sec., E. H. Parkenson.

CONNECTICUT.

NEW HAVEN.—Tax reform club. Every Friday evening, room 11, 103 Orange st. Pres., Willard D. Warren; sec., Alfred Smith, 105 Day st.

MERIDEN.—Meriden single tax club. 3 p. m. every Sunday, Circle hall. Pres., Wm. Hawthorne; sec., Wm. Willis, P. O. box 1342.

DAKOTA.

STATE.—South Dakota single tax association. Pres., Judge Levi McGee of Rapid City; sec., W. E. Brokaw, box 146, Bristol.

RAPID CITY.—Black Hills single tax league. Last Saturday in each month, Library hall. Pres., Judge Levi McGee; sec., Francis H. Clark.

MADISON.—Lake county single tax club. Chairman, Prof. E. H. Evanson.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

WASHINGTON.—Washington single tax league; always open; regular meeting Friday evening, 609 F street, N. W. Pres., Paul T. Bowen; sec., Wm. Geddes, M. D., 1719 G st., N. W.

FLORIDA.

PENSACOLA.—Pensacola single tax club No. 1. Tuesday evenings, K. of L. hall, corner of Zaragoza and Palafox sts. Pres., J. Davis Wolfe; sec., James McHugh.

TAMPA.—Thomas G. Shearman single tax league. First Monday in each month, business meeting; Sundays, public speaking. Pres., C. E. Amworth; vice pres., A. G. Baker; treas., H. R. Wells; sec., John H. McCormick.

GEORGIA.

ATLANTA, Ga.—Atlanta single tax club No. 1. Pres., I. M. Beath; sec., J. Henley Smith, 43 South Broad street.

AUGUSTA.—Augusta single tax club. Every Friday evening, Hussar hall. Pres., Ed. Flury; sec., George Haines, care of Loftin & Meyer.

ILLINOIS.

CHICAGO.—Single tax club No. 1. Every Thursday evening, club room 4, Grand Pacific hotel. Pres., Warren North Bailey; sec., T. W. Wittler, 426 Milwaukee ave.

SPRINGFIELD.—Sangamon single tax club. Pres., Joseph Farris; sec., James H. McCrea, 623 Black ave.

JACKSONVILLE.—Morgan county single tax club. Pres., Col. Wm. Camm of Murrayville; sec., Chas. W. Alexander of Jacksonville.

SPARTA.—Single tax committee. Sec., Wm. R. Bailey.

QUINCEY.—Single tax club. Pres., C. F. Perry; cor. sec., Duke Schroer, 237 S. Third st

INDIANA.

STATE.—Indiana single tax league. Pres., Henry Rawie, Anderson; vice-pres., L. P. Custer, Indianapolis; sec., Thos. J. Hudson, 155 Elm st., Indianapolis. State executive committee, Henry Rawie, Anderson; S. W. Williams, Vincennes; L. O. Bishop, Clinton; Dr. C. A. Kersey, Richmond; Chas. G. Bennett, Evansville; Wm. Henry, Connersville; W. E. McDermut, Ft. Wayne; T. J. Hudson, J. F. White, L. P. Custer, Indianapolis.

CLINTON.—Single tax club; Sunday afternoons, 3 o'clock, Argus office. Pres., W. V. Wells; sec., L. O. Bishop.

FORT WAYNE.—Single tax club. Pres., W. E. McDermut; vice pres., J. M. Schwerzen; sec., Henry Cohen.

INDIANAPOLIS.—Indianapolis single tax league. Every Sunday, 3 p. m., Mansur hall, n. e. cor. Washington and Alabama sts. Pres., L. P. Custer; sec., Thos. J. Hudson, 155 Elm st.

EVANSVILLE.—Single tax association. Pres., Edwin Walker; sec., Charles G. Bennett.

RICHMOND.—Single tax club. Pres., C. S. Schneider, 105 South Third st.; sec., M. Ritchie, 913 South A st.

IOWA.

BURLINGTON.—Burlington single tax club. First and third Wednesday of each month, 313 Jefferson st. Pres., Richard Spencer; vice pres., Robert Safely; sec., Wilbur Mosen, 920 Hedge ave.

DES MOINES.—Single tax club. Pres., H. B. Allison, box 4; sec., J. Ballangee.

COUNCIL BLUFFS.—Council Bluffs single tax club; second and fourth Sunday of each month, 2:30 p. m.; 724 Sixth st. Pres., Chas. Stevenson; sec., L. Kinnellan, 324 W. Broadway

ALLERTON.—Tax reform club. Every Thursday evening, Vest's hall. Pres., A. J. Morgan; sec., D. D. Shirley.

MASON CITY.—Single tax committee; 1st and 3d evenings of each month at Dr. Osborne's office. Pres., J. A. Seranton; sec., J. S. Mott.

KANSAS.
ABILENE.—Single tax club. Pres., C. W. Brooks; vice-pres., H. Charters; sec., A. L. Russel.

GROVE HILL.—Grove Hill single tax club. Thursday evenings, Grove Hill school house, Lincoln township, Dickinson county. Pres., E. Z. Butcher; sec., Andrew Reddick.

LOUISIANA.
NEW ORLEANS.—Louisiana single tax club. Second, third and fourth Thursdays of each month, at 205 Canal st. Pres., John S. Waters, Maritime association; sec., Geo. W. Roberts, 355 Dryads st.

MAINE.
AUBURN.—Auburn single tax club. Saturday evenings, room 3, Phoenix block, Main st.; reading room open every evening. Pres., Wm. G. Andrews; sec., H. G. Casey.
LEWISTON.—Single tax committee. Every Wednesday evening, 79 Summer st. Chairman, F. D. Lyford; sec., Joseph Walsh, 79 Summer st.

MARYLAND.
BALTIMORE.—Single tax league of Maryland. Every Thursday evening, 415 N. Eutaw st. Pres., Wm. J. Ogden; sec., J. W. Jones, 31 N. Caroline st.

MASSACHUSETTS.
BOSTON.—Boston single tax league, Wells's memorial hall. Pres., Hamlin Garland; sec., Edwin M. White, 27 Pemberton square.
NEPONSET.—Single tax league. Every Thursday evening, 389½ Neponset ave., Boston. Pres., John Lavis; sec., Q. A. Lothrop, 43 Walnut st.

ROXBURY.—Single tax club. Pres., Frank W. Mendum; sec., Henry C. Romaine, 250 Rugles st.

STONEHAM.—Stoneham single tax league. Pres., Dr. W. Symington Brown, Stoneham.

LYNN.—Lynn single tax league. Pres., Willard W. Gray; sec., T. P. Perkins, 14 South Common st.

WORCESTER.—Tenth district single tax league of Worcester. Friday evenings, Swedish hall, 32 Front st. Pres., Thomas J. Hastings; sec., Edwin K. Page, Lake View, Worcester.

LAWRENCE.—Lawrence single tax club. Every Thursday evening, Col. J. P. Sweeney's office. Pres., Col. John P. Sweeney; sec., John J. Donovan, city clerk's office.

HYDE PARK.—Single tax club. Sec., F. S. Childs, 40 Charles st.

ORANGE.—Single tax league of Orange. First Wednesday of each month, pres. and secretary's residence. Pres., H. W. Hammond; sec., Charles G. Kidder.

NEWBURYPORT.—Merrimac assembly. Saturday evenings, 48 State st. Pres., Dennis F. Murphy; sec., W. R. Whitmore, 236 Merrimac st.

MALDEN.—Single tax club. Meetings fortnightly at Deliberative hall, Pleasant st. Pres., Geo. W. Cox, Glenwood st.; sec. and treas., Edwin T. Clark, 100 Tremont st.

MICHIGAN.
STURGIS.—Sturgis club of investigation. Every Tuesday evening, C. Jacob's justice court room. Pres., Rufus Spalding; sec., Thomas Harding.

MINNESOTA.
MINNEAPOLIS.—Minneapolis single tax league, 502 First ave. s. Pres., C. J. Buell; sec., E. L. Ryder, editor Northwest Trade.

ST. PAUL.—Pres., H. C. McCartney; sec., R. C. Morgan, Northern Pacific railroad office.

MISSOURI.
ST. LOUIS.—St. Louis single tax league. s. e. cor. 8th and Olive, meets every Tuesday evening. Rooms open every evening. Pres., H. H. Hoffman; sec., J. W. Steele, 2224 Walnut street.

"Benton School of Social Science." Saturday, 8 p. m., 639 Waldemar ave., St. Louis. Pres., Dr. Henry S. Chase; sec., Wm. C. Little.

KANSAS CITY.—Kansas City single tax club. 3 p. m., 2d and 4th Sundays of each month, and also 1st and 3d Tuesdays, Beacon Lodge hall, 1204-6 Walnut st. (cor. 12th st.), third floor. Pres., Warren Wassen; sec., B. A. Birmingham, 16th and Woodland sts.

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

NEBRASKA.
OMAHA.—Omaha single tax club. Sunday afternoons, Gate City hall, cor. 13th and Douglas sts. Pres., Rufus A. Parker; sec., Cyrus F. Beckett, 411 N. 23d st.

WYMORE.—Henry George single tax club. Pres., H. C. Jaynes; sec., J. A. Hamm.

NEW JERSEY.
JERSEY CITY.—Standard single tax club. Public meeting every Sunday night at Humboldt hall, 186 Newark av.; business meetings every other Friday evening at the Avenue house, "Five Corners." Pres., E. N. Jackson, 23 Magnolia av.; sec., Joseph Dana Miller, 207 Grove st.

NEWARK.—Newark single tax club. Pres., Herbert Boggs, 82 Broad st.; sec., M. G. Gaffney, 43 Warren place.

PATERSON.—Passaic Co. single tax club. Pres., E. W. Nellis; sec., John A. Craig, 192 Hamburg ave.

S. ORANGE.—S. Orange single tax club. Pres., E. H. Wallace; sec., Henry Haase.

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

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

WASHINGTON.—Washington land and tax club. Pres., John Morrison; sec., W. H. Christine.

BAYONNE.—Single tax committee. Chairman, Wm. B. DuBois.

PASSAIC.—Single tax committee of Passaic. Pres., Oscar D. Wood.

NEW YORK.
NEW YORK.—Manhattan single tax club. Thursday, 8 p. m., business meeting; Saturday, 8 p. m., Cart-tail campaign; Sunday, 8 p. m., lecture. Club rooms, 88 Clinton pl.; open every day from 6 p. m. to 12 p. m.

Pres., W. H. Faulhaber; sec., A. J. Steers.
Harlem single tax club, room 3, 247 West 125th st. Business meeting every Tuesday, 8:30 p. m. Whist and social evening every

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THE STANDARD, 12 UNION SQUARE.

Thursday. Pres., Eugene G. Muret; sec., Chas. H. Mitchell.

THE WEST SIDE.—Single tax club. Every Thursday evening, 490 Eighth ave. Pres., Dr. David Wark; sec., Daniel Cavanago, 387 8th ave.

BROOKLYN.—Brooklyn single tax club. Club house, 56 Livingston st. Open every evening. Discussions Wednesday evenings. Business meetings Friday evenings. Lectures Sunday evenings. Pres., Geo. White; cor. sec., G. W. Thompson, 56 Livingston st.

THE EASTERN DISTRICT.—Single tax club. Wednesday evening, Oriental hall, 316 Bedford ave. Pres., John Britton; cor. sec., Joseph McGuinness, 215 Ross st.

BUFFALO.—Tax reform club. Every Wednesday evening, Yox hall, cor. Watson and Howard sts. Pres., S. C. Rogers; sec., H. B. Budenburg, 824 Clinton st.

ROCHESTER.—Rochester single tax union. Wednesday, 8 p. m.; Sunday, 3 p. m.; 80 Reynolds's Arcade. Pres., J. H. Bluntach; sec., J. M. Campbell, 30 Charlotte st.

ALBANY.—Single tax club. Tuesday evening, 8 p. m., 68 Washington ave. Rooms open every evening. Pres., Alexander Gregory; cor. sec., Robt. Baker, 178 Madison ave.

SYRACUSE.—Single tax club of Onondaga. 26 Butler block. Pres., F. A. Paul; sec., H. H. Perry, 149 South Clinton st.

POUGHKEEPSIE.—Single tax club. Every Thursday evening, 8 p. m., 226 Union st. Pres., W. C. Albrow; sec., F. S. Arnold.

AUBURN.—Single tax club. Mondays, 7:30 p. m., College hall. Pres., Dan. Peacock; sec., H. W. Benedict, 6 Morris st.

ELLENVILLE.—Single tax club of Ellenville. First and third Monday of each month, Canal st., over E. Bevier's drug store. Pres., Wm. Lambert; sec., Benj. Hull.

FLUSHING.—Single tax club. Pres., D. C. Beard; sec., Fred Sheffield.

NEW BRIGHTON.—Richmond county single tax club. Pres., J. S. Cogau; sec., A. B. Stoddard.

NORTHPORT.—Single tax committee. Sec., J. K. Rudyard.

OWEGO.—Single tax committee. Sec., Perry Hyde.

TROY.—Single tax club. Meetings weekly at 576 River st. Temporary pres., Henry Sterling; tem. sec., Frank H. King.

COHOKS.—Single tax committee. Pres., P. C. Dandurant; sec., J. S. Crane, 128 Ontario st.

GLOVERSVILLE.—Single tax committee. Chairman, A. P. Shude; sec., Dr. Wm. C. Wood, 30 S. Main st.

SCHUYLERSVILLE.—Schuylersville single tax club. Every Friday evening, residence of J. H. Bullard. Pres., J. H. Bullard; vice pres., John McMurray; treas., Thomas E. Bullard; sec., R. S. Wells.

JAMESTOWN.—Single tax club of Jamestown. Last Saturday evening of each month. Pres., Adam Storrer; sec., F. G. Anderson, 300 Barrett st.

YONKERS.—The Jefferson club, 85 Main st. Always open. Business meeting every Tuesday evening at 7:45.

OHIO.
STATE.—Ohio single tax league. State executive board: Chairman, C. S. Walker, foot of Evans st., Cincinnati; vice chairman, L. E. Siemon, 7 Greenwood st., Cleveland; treas., W. W. Kile, 35 E. 5th st., Dayton; sec., Edw. L. Hyneman, room 3, 348½ S. High st., Columbus.

CLEVELAND.—Cleveland single tax club.

Every Wednesday evening, 8 p. m., 144 Ontario st., room 16. Pres., Tom L. Johnson; sec., C. H. Nau, room 25, Standard block.

CINCINNATI.—Cincinnati single tax club. Every Sunday afternoon at Douglass Castle hall, cor. 6th and Walnut sts. Pres., David De Beck, M. D., 139 W. 9th st.; vice-pres., Jas. E. Jennings, 216 Main st.; sec., Wm. C. Wulff, 272 Vine st.; treas., Jos. L. Schraer, Newport, Ky.

COLUMBUS.—Central single tax club. Sec., Edw. L. Hyneman, 348½ S. High st.

TIFERN.—Single tax committee. Sec., Dr. H. F. Barnes.

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

ZANESVILLE.—Central single tax club. Pres., C. A. Potwin; sec., W. H. Loughhead, 47 Van Buren st.

DAYTON.—Free land club. Pres., John Birch; sec., W. W. Kile, 108 E. 5th st.

AKRON.—Akron single tax club. Pres., Jno. McBride; sec., Sam Rodgers.

MIAMISBURG.—Land and labor association of Miamisburg. Pres., C. F. Beall; sec., J. F. Beals.

MANSFIELD.—Mansfield single tax club. Pres., Dr. T. J. Bristor; sec., W. J. Huggins, 66 W. 1st st.

TOLEDO.—Single tax club No. 1 meets at 112 Summit st. every Sunday at 10 a. m. Pres., A. R. Wynn; sec., J. P. Travers.

YOUNGSTOWN.—Every Thursday evening, Ivorites hall. Pres., Billy Radcliffe; sec., A. C. Hughes, 6 S. Market st.

OREGON.
PORTLAND.—Portland ballot reform and single tax club. 2d and 4th Thursdays of each month, Grand Army hall. Pres., R. H. Thompson; sec., S. B. Riegen, 48 Stark st.

PENNSYLVANIA.
PHILADELPHIA.—Henry George club. Every Thursday, 8 p. m., 904 Walnut st. Cor. sec., A. H. Stephenson, 214 Chestnut st.; sec., O. F. Roller, 248 South Tenth st.

Kensington single tax club. Every Tuesday evening, 8 p. m., 2921 Frankford ave., Philadelphia. Pres., James Wright; sec., Jno. Moore, 2188 E. Huntingdon st.

PITTSBURG.—Pittsburg single tax club. 1st, 3d and 5th Sundays at 2:30 p. m., Union veteran legion hall, 77 Sixth ave. Pres., Edmund Yardley; sec., Mark F. Roberts, 147 24th st., S. S.

BRADFORD.—Single tax club, St. James place. Open every evening. Meetings Wednesday evening and Sunday afternoon at 3 p. m. Pres., Phil. D. Tangney; sec., J. C. De Forist.

READING.—Reading single tax society. Monday evenings, 402½ Penn st. Pres., C. S. Prizer; cor. sec., Grant Nagle, 208 S. Third st.

ERIE.—Erie tax reform league. Pres., W. G. McKean; sec., J. L. Babcock.

EDWARDSVILLE.—Jefferson ballot reform and single tax club. First Friday of each month. Pres., J. J. Smythe, M. D.; sec., J. P. Hammond.

LEBANON.—Lebanon single tax and land club. Pres., Adam Behny; sec., J. G. Zimmerman, 111 N. Fourteenth st.

SCRANTON.—Henry George single tax club. 1st and 3d Friday evenings of each month, Nook's hall, cor. Franklin ave. and Spruce st. Pres., Duncan Wright; sec., Arthur McGee, 914 Capouse ave.

SHENANDOAH.—Single tax club. Sundays, 3 p. m., 415 W. Coal st. Pres., Morris Marsh; sec., Thomas G. Potts.

UPPER MERION.—Single tax committee. Pres., J. B. Carr; sec., George McGee.

JOHNSTOWN, Pa.—Henry George club. Meets every Monday evening for public discussion. Pres., A. J. Moxham; sec., Richard Eyre.

POTTSTOWN.—Single tax club. Meetings 1st and 3d Friday evenings each month in Weitzenkorn's hall. Pres., D. L. Haws; vice-pres., G. J. Lafferty; sec., H. H. Johnson, 536 Walnut st.

RHODE ISLAND.
PROVIDENCE.—Single tax association of Rhode Island. Alternate Friday evenings room 22, Slade building, cor. Washington and Eddy sts. Pres., Dr. Wm. Barker; sec., Geo. D. Liddell, 145 Transit st.

PAWTUCKET.—Single tax association. Every Wednesday evening, Main st. Pres., Edward Barker; sec., Edgar Farnell, 220 Mineral Spring ave.

TENNESSEE.
MEMPHIS.—Memphis single tax association. Sundays, 4:30 p. m., Luehrman's hotel. Pres., Dr. T. J. Crofford; sec., M. H. McDowell, care of Townsend, Cowie & Co.

TEXAS.
STATE.—Texas tax reform association. Pres., H. F. Ring, Houston; sec., J. B. Cochran.

EL PASO.—El Paso tariff reform club. 1st and 3d Saturdays of each month, county court room, court house. Pres., G. E. Hubbard; sec., A. W. Thomas.

HOUSTON.—Single tax committee. Pres., H. F. Ring; sec., E. W. Brown, care of Germania house.

SAN ANTONIO.—Single tax club. Meets first and third Thursday in each month. Pres., Geo. Marks; sec., Theo. Kunzmann, 11 Crockett st.

WEST VIRGINIA.
PARKERSBURG.—Single tax league. Every Saturday night, 500 Market st. Pres., W. F. Thayer; sec., W. Curry.

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