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THE STANDARD

HENRY GEORGE, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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TARIFF DEBATE.

The debate on the Mills bill is going along bravely in the house, democrats and republicans speaking alternately. Or rather, it should be said free traders and protectionists alternate, for it is evident in the house, as through the country, that political distinctions that for some time have meant nothing are passing away, and that the real political contest this year is to be between protection and free trade. Mr. Foran of Ohio is the first so-called democrat to break away in the debate from the tariff policy of his party. His place in the coming campaign will, of course, be with Blaine.

The protected trusts and combines are more and more alarmed. The fact that the Mills bill is in reality more protective than the highest protective measure before the war passes for nothing with them—even with those of them that it leaves for the moment untouched. They realize that the attack upon their privilege of robbing their fellow citizens is just as deadly as though the bill proposed to sweep away every protective duty at one blow. Nor does the protectionistic ornamentation which the president thought it prudent to drape around the essential free trade parts of his message get him any more consideration than if he had left it out. "As well might the surgeon, having announced his intention to remove the heart of the patient, seek to allay his fears by the assurance that he would not disturb his circulation or impair his physical energies," snorted Mr. Burroughs of Michigan. "The passage of this bill will mean the death knell of protection," said Mr. Goff of West Virginia. And so it will. Not that its provisions really go to the heart of protection, but that they will break the protective line—the combination based on the principle, "You help me rob the people and I'll help you." From steel rails to peanuts there is not a single protected interest that would not be eager to abolish all other protective duties if it could be assured that the duty which enables *it* to tax American citizens could only be maintained. Even the peanut "industry" knows that if all other duties except that of one cent per pound on peanuts in the shell and one cent and a half a pound on peanuts out of the shell were abolished American children and American theater goers could buy more peanuts, while the money the peanut growers sold their peanuts for would buy more of everything else. But each protected industry knows that it is only one in a line of bricks stood on end.

Talking together some time before the president's message about the evident rise, especially among workingmen, of an anti-protectionist spirit, a Pennsylvania iron millionaire said finally to a Detroit man, who has made a number of millions in grabbing land and selling stumpage, "Well, if the worst comes to the worst, we can throw over the lumber duty as a tub to the free trade whale."

"Will you?" retorted the Michigander. "When you do, that tub will be hooped with Pennsylvania iron."

Mr. Goff of West Virginia declared, however, that he was grateful to the president, and in his gratitude we who want the death knell of protection sounded as soon as possible, can cordially concur. The president's message, said Mr. Goff, has made it impossible for democratic speakers in the next campaign to go through Pennsylvania and West Virginia claiming that Cleveland is as good a protectionist as Blaine. He is right. The days of double dealing on the tariff question are over, and the Randalls and the Danas must soon betake themselves where they belong. And the tariff discussion in the house shows as yet no disposition on the part of democrats to shirk the issue. All the democratic speeches yet made, except that of Mr. Foran, who was outspoken on the other side, have followed the keynote struck by Mills and have gone straight for the vicious principle of protection without hesitation or equivocation. It is not little details of "tariff tinkering" that are being debated in the house, but a great principle—restriction versus liberty—protection against free trade. And so must it be before the people. Let the politician who is not ready to go heartily with one side betake himself to the other. The democratic party has rallied to the true democratic standard unfurled by Cleveland, and has burned its ships.

"I do not intend that this issue shall be dodged or evaded in the coming canvass, at least not in Indiana," said Senator Voorhees last week. "While these halls are vocal from day to day, and from week to week, with eulogies on the protection afforded to labor by the present tariff, yet the hard, clear, bold, determined fact that labor has no protection at all under the present system of tariff taxation confronts each successive speaker, and mocks, derides and stares him out of countenance."

This is the spirit that is everywhere rising in the democratic ranks, and this is the spirit that will give victory.

The New York *Sun*, the ablest of all the Blaine journals, but which is just now appropriately printed on very blue paper, "views with regret" the enthusiastic indorsement which Cleveland is receiving from the organizations of his party all over the country and the certainty of his nomination by acclamation at St. Louis, and attributes it all to patronage and the prospect of patronage. The truth is that the democratic party has at last found a leader bold enough to proclaim democratic principle. For years the democracy has been a mere party of opposition, with no better rallying cry than "turn the rascals out." Now, under Cleveland's leadership it is starting forward on an aggressive campaign. And if the party crows and camp followers discern the omens of victory it is because they see that this aggressive policy is bringing to Mr. Cleveland the enthusiastic support of masses of men who feel for the first time the joy of contest for a real principle. Had the democratic leaders had the courage and the honesty to make an aggressive fight when the cry of danger to protection was raised in 1880, Hancock would have been president of the United States.

One hundred iron and steel workers of Pittsburg were to go to Washington this week to work with members against the Mills bill. Their expenses are, of course, paid by the steel combine, which, with the millions of blackmail that the tariff enables it to wring annually from the American people, could easily afford to send a thousand.

But even if these steel and iron workers represented themselves—even if the tariff put into the pockets of the workmen, instead of into the pockets of employers like Mr. Andrew Carnegie, whatever profit is gained by making the American people pay far more for steel and iron than they ought to pay, they would deserve no respect or consideration.

For think of the callous impudence really involved in a lot of steel and iron workers going to congress to ask that a tax shall be kept up on the whole people to maintain *their* wages. Are steel and iron workers any better than wood workers, or brick workers, or dirt workers, or any other workers, that the wages of other workers should be diminished to increase *their* wages?

Yet this is what in such a case the steel and iron workers would be asking. What they are asking, as a matter of fact, is more preposterous still. They are asking that all workers shall be taxed, in order, not that the proceeds shall be paid to them to increase their wages—but that the proceeds shall be paid to such men as Andrew Carnegie, in the chance that he, as a matter of sheer benevolence, may increase their wages. In truth, what they are asking is even worse than this. They are asking that the steel and iron combines shall themselves have power to levy the tax upon the whole people, on the chance that this combine may let them have some of the crumbs.

Money is the mere flux and counter of exchanges. Men really work, not for money, but for the things which the money they may in the first place get for their work enables them to procure—for food, clothing, shelter and the thousand and one articles of necessity and convenience for which, through this intermediary of money, their labor is exchanged. And wages are just as effectually reduced by increasing the cost of these things as by a reduction in money wages. It is characteristic, moreover, of all indirect taxation, and especially of the indirect taxation which, like that of our protective tariff, has for its prime object the increase of prices, that it falls ultimately with greatest weight upon the poorer class—the working class. Thus what in reality these iron and steel workers are asking is that the wages of all workers shall be reduced in order that the profits of Andrew Carnegie *et al.* may be increased. This is what in their ignorance and selfishness they call legislation for the benefit of American labor.

But the laws of competition with which the steel and iron workers at least must be acquainted make it impossible that they should by any taxing of labor increase their wages. Even if the benefits of the net sums wrested from the rest of the American people by taxes which make iron and steel artificially dear in the United States went to the workers in the steel and iron industries and not to their employers, the competition of labor from less favored industries would soon so reduce their wages that what they got would not exceed what could be earned by labor in other vocations requiring equal skill and application. What then can they hope for from taxing the people of the United States for the benefit of a combination of employers? While these employers have been rolling up their millions, the steel and iron workers, in order to get what they consider half decent wages, have been forced to combine and to carry on long and bitter strikes. At this very time Andrew Carnegie, after his great mill at Braddock has lain idle for months, has started it up again with non-union men, guarded by Pinkerton detectives, and the "protected" steel and iron workers formerly in his employ are left to take their chances for work among the unprotected masses.

Andrew Carnegie and his fellow employers are not to be blamed. In all the long roll of manyfold millionaires who by the operation of our laws have been created there is no more generous man than Andrew Carnegie. Pittsburg, New York, Edinburgh, and his little native town in Scotland have all received from him splendid donations, and his money flows freely to help causes in which he is interested. But he doesn't, as a matter of business, pay more money for what he can get for less money, which is the very thing that the taxes that these steel and iron workers want to keep up compel the American people to do. Nor, no matter how much it hurts the people generally, no matter how much it represses other industries, would the tariff on steel and iron do Mr. Carnegie and his fellow steel and iron masters any permanent good did they not by combination and in other ways secure monopolies which enable them to restrict the manufacture of steel and iron in the United States, and thus secure protection, not merely against foreign industry, but against home industry as well.

Whoever else may profit by protective taxes, labor cannot profit. The whole benefit of protection goes ultimately to monopoly. What labor needs is freedom.

The value of protectionist facts and figures is well illustrated by the following preposterous statement made by Mr. Osborne of Pennsylvania in the tariff debate:

> A careful compilation of the statistics furnished by our consular and other authentic reports, recently furnished by Mr. J. H. Walker of Massachusetts, show that the fair average difference in the cost of the yearly supplies of a family of four persons in Italy, Belgium, France, Germany or England, and a like family in the United States is about $14, including tariff duties. These supplies include twenty-one different articles which enter into the consumption of the humblest American household. The wage earning is computed on the basis of two workers—a man and woman, or a man and boy—to each family. The wage rate in each country is the other factor in the problem. What is the result?
>
> This table shows that a laborer's family of four persons, with two workers, can not possibly save in Germany over $11.70; in Belgium, $4; in France, 57.90; in England, $123; in America, $534, in a whole year.
>
> A weaver's family can save in Germany nothing; in Belgium, $70.50; in France $144; in England, $284; in America, $584.
>
> Take the highest paid workers, it shows that the possible savings of the family of a locomotive engineer in Germany are $450.33; in Belgium, $498; in France, $516.40; in England, $432.40; in America, $1,334; and the possible savings of carpenters, blacksmiths, tin smiths, etc., range between these extremes in each of the countries named.

It is evident that Mrs. Harris (for it is clearly she who gets up protectionist statistics under the *nom de plume* of J. H. Walker), is getting ready to strike hands with Elliott F. Shepard in his efforts to boom Chauncey M. Depew for president, for it was he who first pointed out the giant power of locomotive engineers' savings.

Mr. O'Neill, another Pennsylvania protectionist who indulged in the same kind of spread eagle laudation of the magnificent prosperity of the American workingman under the protective tariff, also quoted some figures. The report of the Massachusetts bureau of labor statistics shows, according to him, that while the expense of maintaining a weaver's family of five in Lancashire, England, amounted to $6.73½ per week, the cost in Massachusetts was only $7.99½, a difference of $1.26, whereas the wages paid in Massachusetts would give the family an income of $10.30 as against only $6.96 in England. This magnificent net difference of $2.08 per week Mr. O'Neill attributed entirely to protection to American industry. Unfortunately for his own case, his speech, as printed in the *Congressional Record*, gives the full statement of the Massachusetts bureau of labor statistics. This is the statement as to wages:

The Massachusetts weaver earns per week	$5.64
Two children in weave room, each average per week $2.33	4.66
Total income per week of the family	$10.30
The Lancashire weaver earns per week	5.28
Two children in the weave room, half-timers, each per week, 84 cents	1.68
Total income per week of the family	6.96
Excess of weekly income in Massachusetts	$3.34

From this it will be seen that the difference in the earnings of the family is almost entirely due to the labor of the children, who, under the factory laws of England are not permitted to work as long as in Massachusetts. The highly protected Massachusetts weaver gets on this showing only thirty-six cents more per week than the "pauper" English weaver, which would leave him, according to the table of necessary expenses just $1.26 per week worse off than the "pauper" Englishmen, were it not for the longer toil of his children. But this table of expenses is made up solely of food and an allowance for rent, and does not embrace clothing, or any of the other items which are much cheaper in England than they are in this country.

The real truth is, as has been stated officially by the Massachusetts bureau of labor statistics, and is a matter of common notoriety, that in the highly protected industries of Massachusetts the family of the highly protected American laborer could not live were it not for the work done by women and children, while in the whole civilized world it is doubtful if there is to be found a condition of labor really nearer to pauperism than in the highly protected industries of Pennsylvania.

During the debate Mr. Ford of Michigan produced the following suggestive table, compiled by Mr. Philpot of Iowa. It is a list of some of the protected trusts, with a statement of the percentage of protective duty they enjoy, the percentage of bonus which this is calculated to permit them to collect from their fellow citizens, and the whole amount they pay for labor in each $100 of product:

Name of Trust.	Duties, per cent	Bonus in each $100 of product	Whole expense for labor in $100 of product.
Salt trust	50	$33	$25
Earthenware trust	56	36	40
Bessemer steel trust	24	45	9
Plow steel trust	45	33	29
General steel trust	45	33	29
Nail trust	45	33	22
General iron trust	45	33	25
Copper trust	24	22	22
Zinc trust	52	22	25
Tin trust	32	24	21
Lead trust	74	43	65
Glass trust	55	36	45
Soap trust	26	19	8
Linseed oil trust	54	35	5
Rubber shoe trust	25	20	24
Envelope trust	25	20	11
Paper bag trust	35	26	15
Cordage trust	25	20	12
Average	..	30	24

Mr. Russell of Massachusetts made some telling points in the house debate. He declared that the prosperity of the great boot and shoe industry of his district had been much stimulated by the repeal of the duty on hides, and that if all tariff duties were abolished, including the thirty per cent duty on boots and shoes, the American boot and shoe industry could not merely hold its own against all the world, but enormously expand. Mr. Russell gave a striking instance of the greater efficiency of American labor than European labor. He said the proprietors of an automatic soling and heeling machine invented in Massachussetts a few years since took out letters patent in Europe as well as in the United States, and, instead of selling the machines, leased them for a royalty on each boot or shoe sewed on them, the number being indicated by a self registering device. Mr. Russell continued:

> After that machine was started in this country they went over to Europe with it and introduced it into the great boot and shoe manufacturing establishments not only of Great Britain, but also of Germany, and at the end of the year they were very much surprised to find that their royalties from the machines in use in England reached only 47 per cent of what they collected in the state of Massachusetts. They were alarmed and suspicious. They knew that from the accurate construction of the machine and the certainty of its registering power it could not tell any lie about its own work; so they sent over one of the ablest men in Massachusetts in the examination of patent matters to investigate.
>
> He came back and told them that they were getting an honest return from the foreign boot and shoe manufacturers, and that the explanation was that the best labor of England could not produce with those machines more than forty-seven per cent of the amount of work that was produced by the Massachusetts operatives upon the same machine. That meant that the American mechanic, with his enterprise and his ambition, standing at those machines, worked more hours a day at a greater rate of speed than did the "pauper labor," as it is called, of Great Britain; it meant that the Englishman quit work on Saturday afternoon and did not come back to work until Tuesday morning; it meant that he would not work as many hours or stand to his work as well as the Massachusetts workman, and there is the whole difference between "pauper labor" and free labor.

I spoke for free trade last Friday night at Brockton, one of the shoe towns of Massachussetts, and found the people there waking up fast on the subject. On Saturday night I spoke in Tremont temple, Boston. A gentleman in the Tremont temple audience asked me how, if protection was the robbery and fraud I said it was, that we of the north, after putting on ourselves such a high protective tariff, were enabled to conquer the free trade south. I replied that it was because, while we protected ourselves by a highly protective tariff, we at the same time protected the south a good deal better; that we bought and built ships, put fighting men aboard of them, and sent them down to cruise off every southern harbor, and thus fully protected the home markets of our southern brethren. One of the Boston papers says that this was flippant. It was not. But for our blockade of the southern ports the north would certainly have had a much harder and much longer job in conquering the south. And what we do to our enemies in time of war in blockading their ports and preventing goods from entering, is just what protectionists tell us we ought to do to ourselves in time of peace. The difference between a blockading squadron and a tariff is merely one of degree.

HENRY GEORGE

Representative Nelson of Minnesota may not be one of the thirteen single tax men who are said to be in congress, but he uses single tax spectacles to look through the fallacy that protection makes high wages. High wages in this country, he says, are not due to protection, but to the fertile and cheap lands open to settlement here which make wages tend to equal the amount obtainable from such lands. That is it, exactly. Cheap land makes high wages, and the cheaper the land the higher the wages. If we had but one tax, that on land values, all unused land would be cheap, and accordingly all wages would be high. Add to this exemption from all taxation on products which the single tax involves, and wages would be higher yet. It is true, as Mr. Nelson says, that wages tend to equal the amount obtainable from cheap land open to settlement; but the amount obtainable from cheap land is less than it would be if the land were cheaper and less than it would be if the amount obtainable were not burdened with taxes.

It is said of one Giles Williams, a Wall street broker who recently died, that years ago he bought a square of ground in the center of Chicago for $600, which he sold subsequently for $40,000. He was very proud of his bargain, as well he might have been, for his franchise to tax the people of Chicago had multiplied nearly seventy times. But if he were alive now he might not be so proud. He might want to be kicked for not reading "Progress and Poverty" before he sold. That same land is worth $18,000,000, or four hundred and fifty times as much as he sold it for. And yet all that land value, from nothing up to $18,000,000, is nothing in the world but the necessities of the people of Chicago capitalized.

This is the sort of thing the *Mail and Express* has brought upon itself by publishing a suggestion that we ought to encourage trade with the Argentine republic by readjusting the duty on wool. We clip it from one of those delightful "tariff talks" in the *Press:*

> "One of the loudest complaints of the free traders," said Mr. Moore to the *Press* tariff talker, "is that they are prohibited by reason of the high wages which the protective system gives rise to from entering into competition with England and other European countries for the South American trade. They are not content with the absolute control of the home market, the best in the world. They are willing to risk that and everything else for a chance to get into the South American melon patch. Bah! I've little patience with the dunces; have you?"

Fancy calling Elliott F. Shepard a dunce! A man who can quote a fresh text out of the bible every day in the year!

The course of democratic leaders in congress indicates that they will not shirk the tariff issue in the campaign; but even if the party should try to avoid tariff discussion the republicans will not let them. In this city arrangements are already making for protection meetings, and while protection democrats are openly going over to the republican party, republicans are warning the democratic party that it cannot again claim to be a protection party. The mills of the gods will be too much this year for wire pullers and platform makers.

Whenever in the interest of all the people some benevolent "dreamer" proposes something which will diminish values that are unjustly vested in a privileged few, the welkin is made to ring with discordant cries of "confiscation! confiscation!" But when, in the interest of a privileged few, "practical statesmen" propose to tax away the earnings of the people the cry of confiscation, like the voice of the turtle, is heard no more in the land. The commissioners of the district of Columbia recommend a tunnel under a portion of West Washington to carry the waters of Rock creek, the small stream that now separates Georgetown from Washington, into the Potomac, and to fill in the bed of the creek so as to make about fifty blocks of building lots where now there is a useless stream. This is excellent. But who is to pay for it? Since the owners of the worthless creek will be greatly enriched by the result, it would seem that they ought to bear the expense. But that would not seem in accordance with precedent. Therefore congress is called upon to disburse $600,000 for the project. Clearly it makes a difference whether we tax land owners for the benefit of the public or the public for the benefit of land owners. The one is "confiscation," while the other is "local improvement."

There is a way of rolling a little ball in the hand so as to cause the sensation of two or three rolling balls. Children often amuse each other with the trick. To make the deception complete the subject of the experiment must close his eyes and be ignorant of the number of balls he is rolling. In that case he is likely to declare that there are several balls, and, if he does not know the trick, certain to say there is more than one.

The Rev. Washington Gladden has made himself the subject of an experiment like this. Wishing to inform the readers of the *Chautauquan* of the causes of poverty, he made careful preparations by closing his eyes and acquiring a supply of ignorance both elaborate and complex, and then, as it were, began to roll the balls. This qualified him to announce dogmatically that there is no panacea for poverty, and to describe a variety of causes in which it originates. Among these causes—these balls he thought he was rolling in his hand, when in fact he was rolling but one—he named laziness, waste, mismanagement, extravagance, injurious indulgence and absence of resolute purpose. But toward the last, as his fingers moved more slowly, and his eyes opened, the sensation of several balls so distinct before, began to die out, and he found that there was only one ball after all; it was the remedy for poverty, which he described as "individual effort under equal laws." He was too tired then, however, to discuss that remedy, or we might have found that even the Rev. Washington Gladden believes in a panacea for poverty. It is indeed individual effort under equal laws that must cure poverty if it is ever cured. But experience tells us that we are not now lacking in individual effort. Go where poverty is most distressing, and there you will find individual effort doing its work. Experience also tells us that we are lacking in equal laws, and the unequal law which is the key stone of the whole structure of unequal laws, is that which empowers some men to withhold from others their share of the common inheritance. When laws permit some to draw incomes from the granting of privileges to use the earth and compel others to pay for such privileges or die, these laws are unequal laws, and no amount of individual effort can neutralize their poverty producing effects, for when one individual acquires a privilege under them he crowds other individuals out.

John Jarrett has returned from the thickest of the tariff fight and reports that all is well for the industries of the country. We should like to think so, but we fear very much that it isn't. Never since the war has there been such a determined, systematic and unscrupulous assault upon the tariff as is now progressing, and this fact should not be forgotten for a moment by the friends of our industries.—[Pittsburg Commercial Gazette.

This is the same John Jarrett who testified before the United States senate committee on education and labor that no matter how much the price of iron might rise the manufacturers would take all the benefit of the advance. "The wages of labor," said Mr. Jarrett, "can only be maintained at a living standard by the workingmen belonging to labor organizations." Now he reports "that all is well for the industries of the country." Of course what he means is that the labor organizations are flourishing. Either that, or—well, of course that's what he means.

He Did Not Raise Her Rent.

Detroit Free Press.

"Madam," said the landlord of a Park street house as he called the other morning, "I have come to tell you that—that"—

"That you are going to lift the rent five dollars per month," she interrupted.

"Well, y-e-s. Rents have sharply advanced, you know."

"Well, we won't pay it."

"No, I suppose not, and you will move the 1st of May."

"Yes, sir; and meanwhile, you can put a sign on the house. I shall be only too happy to show people through."

"Indeed, but you are very kind."

"Oh, no, I ain't. Our cat died this morning, and I'll chuck her body into a barrel down cellar and tell everybody that we are going to move on account of sewer gas."

"Eh! What!"

"And if one cat isn't enough I'll get another, and also add an old codfish!"

"Madame, do you like the house?"

"Fairly well."

"And is the present rent satisfactory?"

"Perfectly so."

"Then stay for another year. I prefer to keep a good tenant even if I don't get quite so much rent. Good day, madame, and if you want any repairs made please send me word."

Striking a Deadly Blow at the Fishing Industry.

New York Sun.

President Cleveland has interfered in the matter of the wholesale violations of the law forbidding the importation of foreign labor under contract in New England. About two weeks ago he wrote to United States District Attorney Galvin, saying:

"Information has reached the treasury department that a large number of foreigners have been brought into the state of Massachusetts under violation of the contract labor law for the purpose of manning American fishing vessels sent out from the ports of Gloucester, Boston, and Beverly for the purpose of taking fish along the Canadian coast. It seems to me quite certain that such foreigners have been brought in by parties in direct violation of the statute covering such cases, and I believe that the importation of such foreigners tends to the destruction of American labor. I am aware that many of those persons have, through the care of the officials, been returned to the country from which they came. I therefore enjoin on you the duty of a prompt investigation of these cases, and request that you confer with the collectors of the ports of Boston and Gloucester, that prompt and effective measures may be taken."

Figures Made to Order.

Congressman Browne's (Protection) Speech.

Well, I have the figures of Mr. Henry A. Brown, an ex-treasury expert, who has made these calculations in the interest of maintaining a protective duty on sugar. I am not responsible for his figures, nor for the figures the gentleman refers to. I find that figures are a very convenient thing. We make them in tariff discussions to supply the home demand. (Laughter.)

A PLEA FOR PROTECTION.

The Secretary of the Tariff Committee of the National Iron Roofing Manufacturers' Association Tells Why He Wants the Duty on Tin Plates Doubled.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 30.—Your criticism of April 14 on the protest made by the National iron roofing manufacturers' association against placing tin plates on the free list as suggested by the Mills tariff bill is more calculated to deceive than instruct by its attractive expression. The salient and vital points at issue, raised by me as well as those taken by Mr. Niedringhaus, you cover up by denials and glittering generalities, leaving the facts as they were. The association's asking for an equality of duties in the sheet metal schedule, you misinterpret as a plea for high protection. The present duty of one cent per pound on tin plates is an incongruity in the tariff—tin plates being assessed a less percentage of ad valorem rates than pig or scrap iron, and less than one-half the percentage placed on the sheet iron from which it is made—ninety-five to ninety-eight per cent of which composes its chief value. You seem to think that it is funny, that covering this iron with tin or terne should lower the value, considering the labor and material employed. Others have thought so too; but when it is known that tin plates pay one cent per pound duty, and the iron from which they are made nearly twice as much, it needs no painful effort to arrive at a conclusion. Now your method would be to lower the duty on sheet iron and reconstruct the whole metal tariff in conformity with an incongruity, and if this cannot be done to permit the inconsistency to continue, to the injury of other metal industries and the hopelessness of ever making tin plates here—every pound of which robs our workingmen of so much of the product of their labor. You would go farther. You would favor knocking off the one cent per pound duty on tin plates—give them free importation—still further widening the incongruity, and permit their free introduction to displace domestic sheet iron as stove pipes, coal hods, etc., and destroy our American industry of sheet iron roofing and siding, which alone uses about one-third of the present product of the mills. Admit tin plates free and our sheet mills would quench their fires and stop operations.

Sheet iron roofing and siding is made from plain black sheet iron, coated with a mixture of linseed oil and iron oxide, for durability. It is purely an American industry, developed during the past twenty years, and competes with tin plates as roofing. Under the present tariff law this black iron is assessed over 75 per cent duty, and tin plates about 22 per cent. Should tin plates enter free of duty, this industry, which consumes 50,000 tons of sheet iron annually, will be destroyed. Not only this: The output of the sheet mills will be lessened one-third by the destruction of this specialty.

It will do more. It will destroy the sheet iron and steel industry, that enters consumption as stove pipes, coal hods, bread pans, etc., by importing the black plates with the thinnest possible coating of tin that will permit them to pass customs. This would mean that our sheet iron and steel would be made across the water. Our labor could not meet the labor on the other side. If it could we would continue manufacturing. Notwithstanding your characterization of Mr. Niedringhaus's opinion on this point, it is true that in so far as sheet iron is concerned labor does not receive in Europe more than one-third the price per ton that our mill owners pay, and that the proportion of labor in making the sheet iron that we use is nearly one-half of the market price, taking it from the pig to the finished products. The difference between the cost of labor of producing a ton of sheet iron and its market price is principally expended for pig iron, scrap iron, freights, insurance, fuel and the usual cost of operation, breakages and delays, leaving a small percentage for the maker. There are certain laws that govern trade that are inevitable. If it is denied that labor receives the reward named, and if the manufacturer of sheet iron amasses such enormous profits, why does not capital rush to enter where such large percentages are obtained? Why are so many mills idle? Why are so many wrecked and their machinery sold for one-fourth to one-fifth of its value?

What percentage of profit would the free trader allow the manufacturer of sheet iron on his costly plant? Would you allow him the same percentage as the importer of tin plates? If you will do that, the mill owners will contract their entire output for said deliveries. Try them. There is no trust or combine in the sheet iron and steel business; and if there were, what effect would it have other than a proper regulation of prices, preventing disasters following bankruptcy. More disturbances of trade have followed in the wake of wreckers in business pursuing a line of false economy and selling below cost than have ever been the result of an even and healthy uniformity of prices. The notion is false that trusts or combines secure permanent monopoly and its consequent hardships to the people. Should trusts or combines create enormous profits, how long would they hold them against new capital entering the lists and reducing prices to a proper level, or probably worse still, inflating and over producing, to the detriment of the combine? Operators have too much diplomacy to invite competition in that way. Hence, the apprehension that others will enter and claim the business is a sufficient guarantee against monopoly at enormous profits.

As you seem tender about paying the extra two cents for tin plates here, we will relieve your apprehension by stating that one-fourth of one per cent is all we will charge you on tin cans (that will last you several years) for costs increased by the customs in order to provide $15,000,000 annual wages for our workmen in making tin plates here—until such time as home competition will reduce the price—when coupled with the reduction of wages that the free trader desires.

Please reply to the following: Do you desire free importation of tin plates if it necessitates the lowering of wages here to the same level as across the water?

Can you point a way by which we can secure a share of the free traders' foreign trade without a uniformity of wages between here and England?

Are you willing that such uniformity should occur?

In what do our exports consist aside from the products of the soil and special articles, many of which are patented?

What is to prevent exportations if made low enough here?

How does the tariff interfere?

If wages were the same as those abroad, how would the tariff line interfere? That only interferes with importations.

Will you not find that the cruel land holders' iron ore and coal is cheaper here in the hills than in Europe, and that the excessive cost commences with the labor? for which we are thankful, as we do not want our workingmen reduced to the same position of labor slavery as that abroad.

You may reply that you propose to reduce the laborer's current expenses by low prices. What percentage of reduction will these expenses be compared to the present and future wage scale? Do you propose to carry the reduction equal? C. A. SCOTT.

THE NATIONAL TAX REFORM ASSOCIATION.

A Colorado Branch Formed and a Memorial to the Legislature Being Circulated.

DENVER, Col.—The Colorado branch of the national tax reform association has been organized in this state, with headquarters at Denver. The following gentlemen constitute the executive committee: C. G. Buck, president; G. H. Phelps, secretary, and H. C. Dillon, treasurer. C. G. Buck is vice-president and general manager of the Baker coal mining company. H. C. Dillon is one of the most prominent attorneys of the state and is widely known throughout the west. G. H. Phelps is connected with the coal department of the new Denver, Texas and Gulf railroad and has been an earnest worker in the cause of labor for years.

The following memorial adopted by this branch of the association, while substantially similar to that now being circulated in Texas, has been formulated so as to cover more specifically the mining, irrigation and grazing interests of Colorado:

To the Seventh Session of the General Assembly of the State of Colorado: The undersigned, citizens of the state of Colorado, including democrats, republicans, prohibitionists and independents, without regard to political parties or platforms, respectfully petition your honorable body to submit to the vote of the people, an act amending article X of the constitution of the state, so as to make said article X conform in letter and spirit to the requirements herein set forth, to wit: Improvements on land, personal property, and all products of human industry, including horses, cattle, sheep, and all other domestic animals, and all tools, implements and machinery, shall be exempt from taxation. And all taxes shall be levied on relative land values only. And all land shall be taxed according to its full cash value. The word "improvements," as herein used, shall be construed to include any product obtained by the application to land of human industry, such as from the breaking up of the wild sod, and from clearing land and reducing it to cultivation, as well as all buildings, structures, fences, reservoirs, canals and ditches.

It is urged in favor of this amendment:

First.—That its adoption, while increasing the tax on vacant lands held for speculative purposes, would result in reducing taxes on farms and homesteads from twenty-five to seventy-five per cent, without in any way increasing the burden of indirect taxation.

Second.—The farmers, merchants, mechanics and manufacturers ought not to be compelled to pay for the privilege of using land and thereby enhancing the prosperity of a community from two to five times as much in taxes as land speculators and monopolists are required to pay for the privilege of withholding land of equal value from use and thereby retarding the progress of a community. The farmer, merchant, mechanic or manufacturer, by placing a house or a factory on land, or by otherwise improving it, adds greatly to the value of the vacant land adjoining held for speculative purposes. But who gets the benefit of this unearned increment, the worker or the idler? Does the owner of the land hurt any one by improving it and giving employment to labor upon it? If not, why should he be fined for it by having his taxes increased? If any is to be fined by an increase of taxation, why should it not be the dog in the manger, who will neither use his land nor let others use it?

Third.—That he who is willing to create a demand for labor by opening up a farm, a coal bed, a mineral deposit, or by putting a residence or factory on land, ought not to be fined for his enterprise by the levying of a tax exceeding in amount that paid by the speculator and forestaller who is holding adjoining vacant lands and lots, and unused mineral deposits of equal value, in idleness for the purpose of drawing to himself an unearned increment produced by the common energy and enterprise of the entire community.

Fourth.—That the value which land has, exclusive of improvements on it, results from the presence of population, that it increases with the increase of population, and is produced by the common energy and enterprise of all, and that hence a tax on these values simply enables the community to appropriate for the good of all a portion of the values which have been created by all.

Fifth.—That the adoption of this amendment would render investments in the bounties of nature, for the purpose of forestalling capital and labor less inviting and less profitable; while the exemption from taxation of buildings, tools, machinery and all product of industry, would make investments in productive enterprises, giving employment to capital and labor, more inviting and more profitable, whereby business would be stimulated, a greater demand for labor induced, and the general prosperity and happiness of all the people vastly enhanced.

It is proposed to employ a general agent to devote his whole time to the work. Professor George S. Robbins, a graduate of Hamilton college, New York, who has during the past few months aroused such an interest in the new political economy in Denver, has been selected for this position. He is enthusiastic in the cause and thoroughly competent to present and defend the claims of the single tax system in all its bearings. To defray the expenses of printing such literature as may be necessary, and circulating and obtaining signatures to the memorial, the assistance of all friends of the single tax will be needed.

We heartily agree with the members of this association in Texas as to the inexpediency of forming a third political party, and deem it best to work through existing parties at present.

C. G. BUCK,
Chairman Executive Committee.

The "Australian System" of Political Meetings.

In Australia the old custom of having the various candidates for an office all speak at the same meeting is still observed, and it is customary for the candidates to answer questions from the audience at the conclusion of the regular addresses. At a recent meeting in Port Pirie, South Australia, four candidates for the legislative council appeared. One of the four, Mr. Wornum, was a land tax man and an absolute free trader; and of the others one advocated the purchase of all the wharf properties now owned by individuals and opposed the further sale of any government land, and the other two were in favor of a direct property tax and approximate free trade. When the time for questioning came all of the candidates anwered each questioner and were obliged to commit themselves on such matters as leasing government lands, how to meet any deficiency of revenue caused by free trade, the liquor liccuse question, the Sunday law, colonial federation and extension of the railway system. The report of the meeting given in the Port Pirie *Advocate* is most interesting and such meetings must have a great educational effect.

The Usefulness of the Sugar Duties.

Congressman Browne's (Protection) Speech.

We could buy, sir, the whole sugar crop of these states three times over every year with the money we pay out in duties and have some millions to spare. And the fact that these states are engaged in this business to a limited extent only proves that it is either not profitable or some other industry is more so. We have since the tariff act of 1861 paid out in sugar duties well nigh, if not quite, $1,000,000,000, and still the industry languishes.

THE SINGLE TAX LEAGUE.

A New Organization Formed for Purely Educational Work.

A movement which has been quietly on foot in this city during the past two months has now come to the light in the organization of the Single tax league. The gentlemen who have aided and promoted the movement are: Henry George, Hugh O. Pentecost, Louis F. Post, Edward J. Shriver, William McCabe, Read Gordon, Charles M. Hibbard, L. O. Macdaniel, G. St. J. Leavens, James L. Dunham, John R. Dunlap, William Gorsuch, Martin Battle, Dr. Walter Mendelson, Antonio M. Molina, W. O. Eastlake, A. W. Eastlake, Jerome O'Neill, Thomas L. McCready, W. B. Scott, Henry George, jr., P. V. Jones, Walter Carr, A. J. Steers and Benjamin Urner.

The league is formed to be what the anti-poverty society of this city was originally intended to be, purely educational and non-political in its methods of work.

Recent events have confirmed the views of many, probably the majority of men and women in our cause, that the progress of our ideas would not be best promoted by an independent party movement, and that the money and effort which would be spent in such a movement would be productive of better results if used in enlightening the people in the principles which we advocate without asking them to dissolve their present political affiliations.

The argument is, in brief, that the majority of the people, of all political parties, are honest and desirous of ascertaining and establishing sound principles in the administration of public affairs, and that if they err it is through ignorance. Of ignorance, knowledge is the cure, and if we can succeed in convincing the people that our views are true, and that their adoption would promote the public welfare, we need trouble ourselves little about the organization of or the name of the party which will be the instrumentality in giving the will of the people the effect of law. They have the power and will find the means. It should, therefore, be our care "how the people think;" they will care for the voting themselves.

It has been very common on the part of speakers and writers in our cause to allude to the old parties as corrupt. But this stigma properly applies to the machinery of those parties, and not to the American people as a whole, who, speaking broadly, are members of one or another of them. It is of the nature of political parties to become corrupt in their machinery, and this corruption grows fat when there is no vital principle agitating the public mind. New principles, new political ideas, are the angels which stir the stagnant waters of the political pool and restore its healing virtue; by their agitation they bring new men to the surface and destroy the power of the self-seekers who rule and riot in control when only the spoils of office and self aggrandizement are the objects of political action.

The constitution of the league explains the method adopted. It will be seen that the chief reliance is upon the personal work of members. These organize themselves into neighborhood groups, which adopt the means which seem best to them to work with upon the people whom they can most easily reach. It is left to the executive committee to formulate a plan by which the central organization can best aid the groups in their work, and to suggest methods of working when called upon by the groups. It is expected that the groups will find social influences available, where they are so situated that they can meet at the homes of their members and invite strangers to be present, and that they will use tracts, THE STANDARD and other available literature to supplement their personal influence and conversation. The groups form nuclei in their localities by means of which public meetings can be held to hear lectures and addresses according to their own plans or such as may be formulated by the executive committee. Occasional large meetings or anniversary gatherings of members may be held, somewhat after the plan of those of the anti-slavery society, which did such affective service in the struggle for the emancipation of the slaves.

The constitution is as follows:

NAME.

The name of this association is the "Single Tax League."

OBJECT.

Its object is to teach the necessity for abolishing all taxation upon the products of trade and industry, and the raising of the public revenue from that value attaching to land from the increase of population and the advance of civilization.

METHOD.

Its method of work consists chiefly of the formation of small neighborhood groups, which carry on the work of the league by such means as they deem best. The purposes of the league are purely educational, and its participation, or the use of its name, in political action is prohibited.

MEMBERSHIP.

Any person subscribing to the principles herein set forth will be admitted to membership unless the application be rejected by the executive committee.

DUES.

The yearly dues of members are one dollar, payable in advance.

MEETINGS.

The annual meeting for the election of an executive committee and other business is held on the second Wednesday in April. Special meetings may be called by the executive committee at any time.

GOVERNMENT.

The management of the league's affairs is vested in the executive committee, which consists of nine members, who hold their office for one year, or until their successors are elected. They have power to adopt by-laws for their own government; to elect such officers as they deem necessary; to fill vacancies in their own number caused by death or resignation; to appoint a nominating committee of five (outside of their own number) who one month before the annual meeting shall place in nomination the name of eighteen members as candidates for the executive committee, and any member whose nomination is requested by five per cent of the entire membership shall be added to the nominations of the committee. The executive committee shall be elected by ballot.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

This constitution is subject to amendment at any annual meeting by a majority of those voting, or at any special meeting called for the purpose by the executive committee. Proposed amendments are to be submitted in printed form to every member one month before said meeting, and ballots delivered to the executive committee either by mail or in person will be duly accounted.

Of the executive committee of nine, the league has so far elected the following five members: Read Gordon, J. R. Dunlap, L. O. Macdaniel, J. L. Dunham and Benjamin Urner, leaving four members to be selected from the future membership of the league. The executive committee has appointed Benjamin Urner its clerk, who has consented to serve in that capacity for the time being. He may be addressed, care of THE STANDARD, 12 Union square, east, or at 6 Harrison street, New York city.

It should be explained that the executive committee has as yet seen no occasion for any other officer than a clerk, and that it has placed upon him the duties usually devolving upon all of the officers of such organizations. BENJ. URNER, Clerk.

BIG PAY FOR LITTLE WORK.

The Officials of the House of Lords—Who They Are and What Wages They Get.

It costs nearly $220,000 a year to run the English house of lords. This does not include the keep of the lords—though one might think it was extravagantly sufficient for it—but only the charges for the officials who have to be in attendance, or play they are in attendence—it's all the same—when the hereditary legislators of Britain transact their business. The house of lords comes high, but the British tax payer has to have it. The empire would go down in chaos if a sacreligious hand were laid upon the house of lords.

To begin with, there is the clerk of the parliament, who gets $12,500 a year, and $2,500 extra for house rent. He isn't a real clerk, of course, being a relative of Lord Cranbrook, and so he has an assistant clerk, who gets $9,000. This assistant is a high toned individual, too, though not so sublime a creature as the head clerk. So he only gets a salary and no house, but to make up for it he isn't required to do any work. What little work there is to do is supposed to be attended to by a reading clerk at $6,000, a chief clerk at $6,000, a senior clerk at $5,000, another senior clerk at $5,000, another clerk at $4,000, another at $4,500, another at $4,000, thirteen other clerks lumped together in a sort of job lot at $30,000, a receiver of fees at $1,750, an assistant receiver of fees to do the receiving at $1,800, a job lot of seven messengers at $4,500, two temporary messengers at $450, a porter at $125, two reporters at $2,000 and $3,500 worth of copyists. As the house of lords sits on the average about twenty minutes a day and doesn't do much while it is sitting, it is probable that the reporters and copyists can do most of the work, leaving the rest of the gang to enjoy a noble leisure and send the porter out for lunch.

But the most delightful creature is the gentleman usher of the black rod. The present holder of that office is Admiral Drummond, an elderly gentleman of somewhat depressing appearance, whose chief duty, indeed only duty, is to array himself in black coat, knee breeches, take a rod in his hand, tap gently at the door of the house of commons, walk up the floor, and in an inaudible voice summon the speaker to attend a session of the lords. Twenty-two officials are attached to this department, and Admiral Drummond, in addition to his $10,000 a year, receives an emolument as admiral on the retired list, is provided with an official residence, and has certain fees belonging to his position as an officer of the order of the garter. He has a yeoman usher to help him, and has also a staff of servants at his disposal. The following is the entire staff of this department:

Black rod	$10,000
Yeoman usher of the black rod	5,000
Principal door keepers	3,000
Ditto	1,250
Assistant door keepers, messengers and porters, with salaries ranging from $450 to $850	11,125
Total	$30,375

Wicked men in the house of commons are beginning to ask impertinent questions about the cost of maintaining the house of lords.

Thus the Seed is Sown.

BROOKLYN, April 30.—Last month a friend of mine made a visit to Brooklyn. I tried to convert him to a belief in the justice of the single tax. The result may be seen from the following, written some weeks after his return to his home in Virginia:

"Send on THE STANDARDS. I've half way converted a preacher with the two you sent. By the way, how much does 'The Land Question' cost? I want to begin my missionary labors with that. A few days ago I found two farmers discussing taxes, and thinking it a favorable opportunity to begin work, I told them the proper way to do was to put all taxes on land values. You should have heard them howl. After quieting their fears, I proceeded to explain as best I could how it would work and what the result would be. When we parted they said there was a good deal in what I had said, and they would think it over. Thus the seed is sown." D. T. D.

Elizabeth Anti-Poverty Society.

The annual meeting of the anti-poverty society of Union county, New Jersey, will be held at the society's room, No. 20 Arcade, Bond street, Elizabeth, on Friday evening, May 4. An address will be delivered by Rev. William Rollinson, of Rahway, on "The Moral and Religious Aspects of the Anti-Poverty Movement." The public are invited to attend.

An Old Man Feels the Enthusiasm of Youth.

LAWRENCE, Kan., April 27.—Your plan of taxation seems to me the right one. I shall do all I can in the way of distributing tracts and other single tax literature. Yesterday was the anniversary of my eighty-second birthday. So whatever my hands find to do I must do it quickly.

Yours for the better coming day.

JOHN S. BROWN.

What the Duty on Copper Has Done for Us.

Congressman Bynum's Speech.

Take copper ore. We have the finest quality and the largest supply of copper in the world. We produce more than will supply our manufacturers, and yet the copper produced from our mines costs our manufacturers more than it does their foreign competitors.

In May, 1879, 10,000,000 pounds were sold at 14 and 14½ cents per pound; in October, 1878, 2,000,000 pounds were sold at 15½ cents, and in April, 1881, 7,000,000 pounds were sold at 15½ cents, the purchasers giving bond that the same would be exported, while American consumers were compelled to pay from 17½ cents to 19½ cents a pound.

We have, it will be seen, during the last five years exported over $12,000,000 worth of copper over and above our imports, and yet during all this time we have had a duty of from 2½ cents a pound upon copper ores to 4 cents upon plates and bars. What has been the effect of this duty? In the first place, it has almost extinguished our trade with Chili, where we used to sell large quantities of our manufactures. In the second it has, by fostering higher prices in this than in other countries, prohibited great industries from springing up and flourishing.

It has, however, been of incalculable benefit to the owners of the Calumet and Hecla mines, who, upon a capital of $2,500,000, have paid dividends since 1870 to the extent of over $50,000,000. Are workingmen to be longer deceived by this hypocritical cry of protection to American labor?

A Little of This Here would be Wholesome.

The following advertisement appeared in a recent issue of the Birmingham, England, *Daily Mail:* "Apology—To Mr. John Anarews, Lupin street metal works—Having on Monday, the 23d January last, unlawfully arrested and taken you into custody to the Nechells police station on a groundless charge of assault, I request you to accept the apology which I hereby tender to you for my conduct in the matter, and this expression of my regret for having caused you annoyance. Dated February 15, 1888. Frederick Booker, police constable, 93 Birmingham police."

PROGRESS AT THE ANTIPODES.

An Australian Newspaper Devoted to the Cause of Industrial Emancipation—The Contents of a Single Issue.

The *Enterprise and Australian Land Nationaliser* is a prosperous looking weekly journal of six large folio pages, published at Lithgow, New South Wales, and devoted to the cause of industrial emancipation through the imposition of a single and sufficient tax on land values. The uncompromising determination with which it enters upon its task may be judged by the following extracts from its statement of principles:

No such reform as that of which the Lithgow *Enterprise and Australian Land Nationaliser* will be the leading Australian champion has ever before been inaugurated. It will bring to labor its true emancipation; it will secure to the worker with hand or brain the full wages of his work, and place him highest in the social system, instead of being lowest. It will, by abolishing the iniquitous institution of rent, release the toiler from the infamous wrong of having to pay toll to the idler for the use of that which is not his. It will reduce all rents from their present monopoly rate to a normal one, and divert them from private coffers into those of the state, thus providing more than ample revenue for all governmental purposes, reducing the cost of government to a minimum, and releasing individual industry from all taxation. It will render poverty impossible to him who can and will work, and by doing this will purify mankind from the fierce selfishness which the constant dread of poverty has forced upon it, and the fruits of which have been deceit, fraud and crime in every grade of life. It will supply the social fabric with a new foundation—the bed rock of truth—and render the moral regeneration of the world certain. It is a doctrine worthy of Christ, and its teachings are His. And it is not visionary or doubtful. It is demonstrably true, perfectly practicable, and eminently just. If the whole population of New South Wales understood Henry George's scheme, in one year it could be made law, and from an unprosperous colony would suddenly grow such a nation as we have no record of—a nation great in peace, and industry, and justice, and morality.

The Pioneer league of the land nationalization association of New South Wales was formed at Forbes on the 26th of January, 1887, with seven members. It now numbers 350, and similar organizations have sprung into life in Sydney, Goulburn, Wagga, Wellington, Orange, Nymagee, Dubbo, Lithgow and elsewhere, and scarcely a town in the colony is without active workers who are spreading abroad its teachings. Briefly stated the platform of the land nationalist party is: To prevent the further alienation of crown lands; to resume by taxation the value of the lands already alienated, and ultimately to abolish all forms of taxation save one upon the value of land.

The forty-fourth issue of the *Enterprise*, dated Feb. 25, has been received at THE STANDARD office. A summary of its contents will give a fair idea of the progress our cause is making in one, at least, of the Australian colonies.

On the editorial page is a well written article in reply to an utterance of the *Western Post*, which latter journal seems to be doing good work for freedom by defending propoverty principles. On the same page is an account of a concert—the first of a series—in aid of the funds of the Lithgow land nationalization league, which was well attended, and seems to have been pecuniarily very successful. One of the features of the programme was a stirring address by the Rev. G. C. Percival, in which the religious principles involved in the crusade against poverty were strongly presented.

Another column tells of meetings held elsewhere. The Dubbo land nationalization league meets on February 10 and 17. The latter meeting was addressed by Mr. L. Rose of Lithgow. A lecture at Eugowra by Frank Colton was followed by the organization of a branch of the league, with the following officers: President, Mr. J. W. Messner; vice-presidents, Messrs. N. E. Osberg and S. J. Butler; treasurer, Mr. M. J. Dwyer; honorable secretary, Mr. D. Chesher. The Murrumbridge land tax association held its usual fortnightly meeting at Wagga, February 29, where a paper by W. Gilford of Byrock was read.

The remainder of the paper is devoted to answers to correspondents, in the style of the "Queries and Answers" of THE STANDARD, fiction, poetry, and extracts from various Australian papers, which support the proposed tax reform in whole or in part.

Altogether, the Lithgow *Enterprise and Land Nationaliser* is a paper of which Australians may feel proud, and from which we in this country may well derive encouragement. It testifies to the world wide interest of mankind in the cause of human freedom. Its success will hasten our triumph.

GIRARD COLLEGE.

Have Philadelphians a Right to be Proud of the Institution—How It is Supported—Its Chief Revenue a Tax on Industry.

He would be a bold man who should dare to suggest to the people of Philadelphia a doubt whether, on the whole, the great bequest of Stephen Girard to the city was really a public benefaction. Every Philadelphian has the story of Girard and the college by heart. Stephen Girard died in 1831, leaving an estate of $7,500,000—the greatest in America up to that time. The bulk of it was bequeathed in trust to the city of Philadelphia to erect, improve and maintain a college for poor white orphan boys. Two millions were set apart for the erection of the college. A magnificent structure of marble was accordingly built. It was not until 1847 that the institution was opened. In the forty years since that time it has cared for about five thousand boys. Despite the corruptions of local politics, the guardians of the estate have the reputation of having performed their work honestly. All a wonderful story.

A part of the estate that Girard left to the college was a tract of 20,000 acres of coal lands in Columbia and Schuylkill counties. It lay unproductive, or nearly so, for many years. In 1863 the output of coal from it had reached only 40,000 tons. But in 1887 the rents and royalties from the mines amounted to $435,000. The total expenditures for the maintenance of the college in the same year were but $466,000. The annual report for 1887 of the board of directors of city trusts, who have control of the Girard college estate, says: "Notwithstanding the strike of the miners employed by the Lehigh valley coal company since September . . . our income has been greater than that of last year. . . Should work at the collieries, now suspended by reason of the strike, be resumed at an early day, the production of coal from the estate will reach a million and a quarter tons next year. Eight of our twelve collieries are now idle." Mention of trouble with the miners is frequently made in previous annual reports.

During the non-paying period of the coal lands of Girard college, its revenue was derived chiefly from Philadelphia improved property. The total income of the estate in 1850 was $176,786; in 1860, $186,833. The Philadelphia rents alone had risen in 1887 to $371,387, while the gross receipts from all sources were $1,156,631. The city real estate belonging to the college is being improved, and its possessions are constantly being enlarged from its own revenue. Nearly all the receipts beyond those coming from the coal lands can be employed in investments. The estate is now valued by the directors at $11,831,720. The college is valued at $3,150,000; the real estate in Philadelphia is assessed at $4,311,200; the coal fields are assessed at $1,362,150, and the balance is invested in securities. The true value of the estate cannot be far below $15,000,000.

So these are the operations of the great Girard bequest to-day. The sum of $6,000,000 is working for itself in real estate in the business part of Philadelphia; its annual income, with hardly any deduction, being promptly reinvested in real estate. Thirteen hundred boys and the administration of the great college are being maintained by the labor of a force of miners on strike a third of the year—fighting for enough of their product to yield them a little more than a bare living. Coal lands almost valueless in 1860 brought in 1887 a revenue of a third of their taxed value of $1,362,150. Girard college is in reality being supported, not by any posthumous charity of Stephen Girard, but by the forced contributions of laborers, who not only get no benefit from the college, but are unable, in many cases, to educate their own children.

The "Gombeen" Tax in Ireland.

The London *Times* publishes a letter from a member of the Irish land commission describing the manner in which the people of Ireland are made to pay tribute to the "gombeen man." It is worth noting that this tribute is, to a very considerable extent, a tax on industry in the United States, since it is largely by the aid of remittances from this country that the victims of the "gombeen man" are able to meet his exactions. The letter is as follows:

During the last week and since your action on the subject I have made careful inquiries among the smaller tenants whose rents I was fixing as to the part played by the local money lenders in the locality. I found that a very large proportion of the poor mountain tenants had borrowed what to them were large sums from the gombeen men. The interest charged was five per cent each quarter, or twenty per cent per annum. When a tenant required a little money for some temporary necessity, he used to go to the local money lender, who advanced him a sum of, say £5, getting as security the borrower and some neighboring farmer who "backed a bill" for the amount. The interest for the first quarter was then stopped out of the advance. When the end of the quarter arrived the gombeen man was never anxious to be repaid his money. He only asked for a second quarter's interest. The tenant in this way soon found it much easier to pay each quarter 5s. interest on the original £5 borrowed than to repay the original. If he ever made default in the interest both he and his surety were sued before the county court and put to costs, which added largely to the debt. Rather than incur this risk the surety as a rule would pay up on demand the interest due. The result is that the gombeen man in a few years is repaid his entire advance, and a good interest in addition, and still the farmer is liable for the full amount, and has to continue his annual payment of twenty per cent to the lender. As a rule I found there is little difficulty in getting a "surety" to "back a bill." If a man is asked he never knows when he may himself require a loan and a "surety," and to get accommodation he must give it.

The loan system, which I found very prevalent among the very small farmers, is very oppressive, yet its operation is almost silent. If the tenant requires relief from arrears due to landlords, far more does he require it from the leech-like exactions of the "gombeen man."

SOCIETY NOTES.

Mrs. Paran Stevens, the American millionaire, who has just come to London, began life as a waiter girl in a restaurant, while her husband started out as a stable boy.—[London Star.

Great excitement is afoot in Parisian upper circles in expectation of the next annual performance of the Cirque Molier, M. Molier's private amateur circus. A pantomine will be added this year, in which the supes only will come from the upper circles, and the chief characters will be taken by professionals.

Timothy Hurley, a newsdealer of Midleton, Ireland, was recently sentenced to fourteen days' imprisonment for displaying a copy of the "plan of campaign" in his show window.

Now that the rush to Europe has fairly set set in the Protestant churches will soon close to allow their pastors to get away before the warm weather commences. Sermonizing in the heat of the summer is dull enough work, to be sure, and the pastors display excellent taste in preferring a trip to the old world. As to their parishioners—well, they cannot all get to Europe, but Coney island with its attractions is at hand and the theaters remain mercifully open for those that must have declamation in their amusement. When the pastor returns he will preach them some sermons on the Holy land, which will amply compensate for his absence all summer.—[New York Herald.

The coaching club has made up its mind to visit Mr. W. K. Vanderbilt's place at Oakdale, L. I. The visit will take place on the last Saturday but one in May, the regular parade occurring a week later. The distance to Oakdale is fifty-five miles, and there will be eight changes of teams on the way. By the time they get there the merry party will be in a condition to appreciate the good things of the new Vanderbilt chef, although for serious criticism they will have to await another opportunity more propitious for a calm judgment. After driving fifty-five miles one could pass a favorable opinion on a railway sandwich.—[New York Herald.

The Rev. Dr. William F. Morgan, for over a quarter of a century rector of St. Thomas's Episcopal church, at Fifth avenue and Fifty-third street, whose age and failing health have recently rendered it imperative that he should abandon the active management and duties of his fashionable parish, has resigned the active pastorate of the church and been made rector emeritus by the vote of the vestry. He will receive a salary of $7,500 a year, and at the same time be relieved of all the duties and prerogatives of the office of rector emeritus.

August Williams, a young man twenty-two years of age, living with his parents in Cohoes, made a desperate effort to end his life. He went into the cellar of the house ostensibly for the purpose of bringing up stairs some kindling wood. Soon after he reached the cellar two shots were heard and his father, who rushed down the stairs, saw him lying on the floor with blood streaming from two wounds in the region of his heart. The wounded man was removed to a bedroom up stairs. William has not been employed since a few days before the recent election in Cohoes. He was employed as a spinner at the mill of John Scott & Sons, and for some reason was discharged. Idleness caused despondency, and while in a fit of the blues he is supposed to have made the attempt on his life.—[Amsterdam Record.

In parasols we have what would seem a contradiction of terms, a transparent lace which does not keep the sun off at all. In fact it makes the lady look so pretty that it would attract a far colder god than the sun. Lace tops over marcelline silk, or over gauze with highly ornamented silks can be bought for $79. Parasols to match the dress are very stylish. There are, however, many in satin and brocaded stripes, checks, plaids and shot silks, which do keep the sun off. Red parasols are very fashionable for the sea shore. They become the gray of the sea. Parasols in pale yellow muslin trimmed with lace are very pretty and ornamental, but of no use as parasols. They blind the eye even more than no sun shade at all. The handsomest and most useful sun shades are of black Spanish lace over black silk.—[Mrs. John Sherwood.

FOREIGN NOTES.

Your Englishman is a curious creature. At once the most radical and most conservative of men, he will oppose to the death any proposal to abolish some time honored nuisance, like the house of lords or the London coal dues; and just as you have made up your mind that it is useless to talk reform to one so wedded to precedent—behold! he calmly walks up to some moss covered idol that you thought enshrined in his very heart of hearts and smashes it into flinders in a matter of fact way, as though iconoclasm were an every day thing with him. So Peel repealed the corn laws; so lord John Russell carried the reform bill; so Disraeli extended the suffrage. It would be too much to say that the unexpected always happens in British politics; but it is certain that the unexpected happens very often.

One of the most revolutionary measures ever proposed in a British parliament is the county government bill, lately introduced by Mr. Ritchie, and now under consideration. It is a home rule measure of the most radical kind. It gives to every county in England—the act will not apply to Scotland or Ireland—the right, within very wide limits, to manage its own affairs. The unpaid magistracy and quarter sessions are to be swept away, and the County Council is to take their place. Nor is this all. The proposed bill recognizes the principle of female suffrage, and gives every woman an equal voice with every man in the affairs of the county in which she lives.

The bill provides for the establishment of county councils, three-fourths of whose members are to be elected by the rate payers, male and female, triennially. The remaining one-fourth are to be chosen by the councilors themselves from among the rate payers, and are to hold office for six years, one-half of them retiring every three years. The county councils are to be, in effect, local parliaments, with jurisdiction over all local institutions except the poor law and the police, concerning which, however, they will have an advisory voice. All the existing administrative powers of the justices in respect to county rates and financial business will be transferred to them, as will county buildings, county bridges, the provision and management of county lunatic asylums, the establishment and maintenance of reformatory and industrial schools, the granting of licenses for music and dancing, and for the sale of intoxicating liquors, the division of the county into polling districts, the cost of the registration of voters, and the power for executing the acts relating to explosives, the contagious diseases of animals, the adulteration of foods and drugs, weights and measures, market tolls, water supply, tramway acts, and various other matters? For these important functions the English councils will have a yearly income of £5,600,000—£3,000,000 of which will come from liquor dealers' and other licenses, and the remainder from the imperial treasury.

Many of the most earnest friends of reform in England hail the county councils bill as a step in the right direction, and hope great things from the breaking of the power of the squirearchy. With the secret ballot, female suffrage, and issues sufficiently local to interest at least a large majority of voters, it should seem as though the real voice of the people must certainly be heard at last. Yet it is an ominous circumstance that the squirearchy show signs of offering but a feeble and merely formal resistance. The old adage of the Grecians and their gifts is as forceful now as in the days of Priam and Æneas. A tory measure of reform is always to be looked on with suspicion.

The county councilors are to serve without pay. This alone will prevent any but men of leisure, and consequently of wealth, from offering themselves as candidates. And outside the squire class it would be difficult to find many men of leisure in an ordinary English county. Nor is it by any means certain that the landlord's influence has been entirely destroyed by the secret ballot. There is, of course, less chance of absolute bribery; but there are many ways of influencing an elector short of absolutely offering him money for his vote. Besides, suppose, as may be very possible, that the elector's choice lies between one squire and another squire? What difference will it make to him which squire is elected? What real difference will it make to the squires?

A writer in the *Fortnightly Review* for April, Mr. Thomas Gibson Bowles, claims, indeed, that the county councils bill is actually a step to the rear, a direct retrogression from the principle of self government. What should be done, he claims, is not to enact more laws, but to undo those mischievous ones already passed. The true legislative unit, he tells us, was the English parish as it existed under the common law of England:

It is perhaps necessary to say that the parish is by no means an ecclesiastical, but essentially a secular and civil division of the land, and that it is the most ancient division of all. The parish is the first and, out of all comparison, the most important unit of self government, on which all the rest of the fabric is based. The area of a parish is large enough to furnish matters of importance to men living together in community, yet not so large as to prevent all the inhabitants from readily coming together to consult upon the management of their own affairs. In such an area every inhabitant may readily attain, and will ordinarily possess, sufficient knowledge of the local wants and local capacities to deal with them in an understanding spirit; and those who fancy that the tendency of modern times is to render our system of government more "popular," and who preach "extension of the suffrage" as a new doctrine, will perhaps be surprised to learn that by the common law of England every parishioner has the right to, not an indirect or occasional and casual, but a direct, constant, and certain voice in the management of his parish affairs, and that every man is a parishioner who has lived in the parish for a year and a day as an inhabitant householder.

In short, according to Mr. Bowles, the English parish was the prototype of the New England town meeting, than which it would be impossible to find a more successful self-governing unit.

Well, the parishes have been swallowed up in the unions, and now the unions are to be swallowed up in the county councils, and the trail of the landlord is over them all. He has had his way with the parishes, he has had his way with the unions, and he seems, on the whole, pretty confident of having his way with the county councils. Why shouldn't he? For what have parishes, and unions, and county councils, and parliaments to do but help him adminster his estate? When, indeed, it ceases to be his estate—when Englishmen claim England as *their* country, and no their landlords' country—then, indeed, the landlord may lose his hold. And when that day comes, Englishmen will not be long deciding just what sort of legislative unit suits them best.

Protectionist are apt to describe England as doing everything in her power to ruin the commerce of the United States. In their excited imaginations the United States swarms with secret agents of the Cobden club and other nefarious associations, lugging bags of British gold around, and secretly dispensing glittering bribes. It will be news to these gentry to learn that England is the one European country that has on its statute book a law expressly designed for the protection of American industry.

Tobacco can be grown in England as easily as in Connecticut. Until very lately it has not been grown, because the government made it a penal offense to import tobacco—just as we do to import clothes—and could detect offenders much more easily if nobody could get any tobacco unless he either imported it himself, or bought it from somebody who *had* imported it. Latterly, however, the revenue authorities have been giving permission to a few favored individuals to raise tobacco under certain restrictions.

But now steps forward a man learned in the law and shows that by the act of parliament the planting of tobacco in England is absolutely forbidden, no matter how much the revenue people may assume to give permission. The act was passed in the reign of Charles II. It was passed expressly for the protection of American tobacco planters, and it is a perfectly live law to-day.

The tariff league had best take a leaf out of the Cobden club, and send a bag of gold to England, or the unscrupulous British legislators may repeal that law.

The little king of Spain has a birthday this month, which will be celebrated by a fete to the Madrid school children, who will be regaled with meat pies, cakes, oranges and candy, and have little medals with the baby king's portrait on them. The grown up children will be amused with fireworks, bits of ribbon, and parchments entitling them to nicknames of various kinds. Everybody will shout God save the king in Spanish, and a special force of police detectives will be on the look out for any symptoms of discontent, and arrest anybody who may be unpatriotic enough to insinuate that things are not as nearly perfect as they can be this side of heaven.

The London *Truth* tells of the development of a new industry in London. A syndicate, consisting of a woman of title, a man of fashion, and a wine merchant, have taken a large house in an unexceptionable quarter. Any wealthy gentleman or lady, not in society, but desiring to get there, can hire the entire establishment for a ball, at a fixed price to cover everything. The woman of title provides the fashionable female guests, the man of fashion brings the society men, and the wine merchant furnishes the supper, servants, and so forth. The enterprise is said to be a success.

Why shouldn't our own Ward McAllister give us something of this kind here in New York. He could probably get a woman of title to go in with him, and he must know at least one wine merchant. It would be a real boon to a great many people who want to get into society and don't quite know how. With his command over the gallant four hundred, he might assort his stock of guests, as Baltimore dealers do their terrapin, into "counts"—strictly members of the four hundred class; "culls"—guests just a little lower in the scale and only asked to large balls; and "cullantines"—the ordinary hodge-podge of artists, literary men and fellows of that sort, and arrange his scale of charges accordingly. It would be a great scheme.

The English law of distraint is peculiarly cruel. It confers on the landlord peremptory power not only to evict the tenants of a dwelling, but to seize and sell his effects, or those of anybody else that may be found on the premises, down to his kit of tools or the clothing of his wife and children. Even the privileges of a bankrupt—who may retain wearing apparel and property to the value of £20—are denied the man who owes his landlord anything. A bill has been introduced in parliament by Mr. Robertson of Dundee, placing the tenant debtor on the same footing as the bankrupt. It ought to become a law; but the prospect is that the landlord influence will be too strong for it.

The protection craze rages in the old world as in the new, and involves its victims in full as many absurdities and perplexing situations. There is sugar for example. They're in trouble about sugar.

The continental nations have been worried about sugar. Every one of them wanted to develop the sugar industry. So they went to work in true protectionist fashion, clapped a heavy fine on anybody wicked enough to import sugar, and, on the protectionist principle that it's right to encourage your neighbor to do what it's wrong to do yourself, paid stiff bounties to refiners on all the sugar they exported. This led to a funny situation. England refused either to pay a bounty or impose a duty, so naturally every continental refiner shipped as much sugar as possible to England, took the bounty out of the pockets of his own countrymen and sold his sugar to the unprincipled Englishmen at considerably less than the cost of production. The sugar refining industry of England has been ruined in the same way that a housekeeper's industry of sweeping is ruined when she gets a servant. But other industries, into which refined sugar enters as a raw material, have been immensely developed. Great Britain has become the maker of jams, jellies and preserves for the world. The New York housewife, when she buys a pot of marmalade or damson jam for seventeen cents, wonders how they manage to make it for the money, and, if she has a protectionist husband, is perhaps told a lot of rubbish about pauper labor. The truth is that the French people and the Germans have been helping us pay for our damson jam, and helping pretty roundly, too.

However, it's going to come to an end. The governments of continental Europe have concluded that it doesn't do to tax their people for the benefit of other nations, and the sugar refiners of England have persuaded the tory legislators that the industry of jam making ought to be destroyed and the thousands it employs thrown out of work. So there're having a congress, and there seems every probability that the sugar bounties will disappear. We shall feel it in the United States; and our wives, when they find themselves compelled to get out the old brass kettles, and break their backs, and burn their faces, and spoil their tempers putting up preserves, will never realize that political economy is at the bottom of their trouble.

Thirty million dollars' worth of bullion—a part of the French indemnity—is kept locked up by the German government in the fortress of Spandau. Once a year the custodians assemble, each with his key, unlock the doors of the treasure chamber, count the twenty-mark pieces, and solemnly lock things up again.

After all, Bismarck is not as shrewd as folks think him. If, instead of locking this $30,000,000 up in that ridiculous fashion, he had just bought some Alabama with it, he would have done something worth while. In that case he could go to war with France again, using his Germans to do the fighting, and making his Americans work extra hours to pay the expense.

Some day the Bismarcks will learn wisdom. In place of trying to conquer a country, they'll simply go to work and buy it.

If the *Pall Mall Gazette* tells the truth, one of the most highly paid classes of skilled laborers is likely to find its scale of wages very materially reduced. Mr. Mayall, an English photographer, has at last succeeded in photographing colors. This is what the *Gazette* says of a visit to his studio:

In truth, there was something of which to be proud. And the wonderful part of it all was that here was a beautiful photograph, with the softest and most delicate tints, of so permanent a character that it might be cast into water without injuring the colors; of a large size that fetches some five or six guineas in trade, produced in a purely mechanical way; and positively finished, if necessary, in half an hour. "Ah, sir," said Mr. Mayall in a pleasant, confidential kind of way, patting our representative on the shoulder, "I'll tell you what I have done: I have caught nature napping, and I now can tickle her up as I like." If so, that certainly is a tolerably good show for fourteen years' work. But Mr. Mayall is an ambitious man, and unsatisfied withal, for he says that before he has done he will "give us all the colors of a Turner in a mechanical process of a few minutes' duration."

Perhaps the time is coming when a few weeks' instruction and a moderate priced outfit will enable a man without any special art training to travel through the country, producing at a dollar or so each landscapes and portraits such as now command hundreds of dollars. It seems hardly possible; but how much are we doing to-day that a hundred years since it would have seemed ridiculous to talk about? The painters must dree their weird with the weavers and the seamstresses. There is no special providence for art.

M. Pasteur's proposal to rid the Australian colonies of the rabbit pest by inoculating the animals with a deadly disease, has started some other scientific men on a curious line of thought. A recent writer in the London *Medical Press and Circular*, speaking of the Pasteur proposal, says:

If carried out successfully this will certainly be the most striking instance of the application of science to warfare. By diverting a natural force into this channel we have more or less under our command (the extent of which remains to be proved) a devastating agent compared to which Gatling guns and mitrailleuses are mere popguns, and although, so far, it is only proposed to deal with rabbits, the future is pregnant with new and unthought of possibilities in this direction.

In plain English, this "scientific gent" coolly proposes that in the event of a war between England and France, British science should be called on to provide the British war department with some quick spreading and deadly contagious disease, whose introduction into France should depopulate that country!

Another scientist, Mr. Weston, the electrician, is more humanely disposed. He suggests the use of nitrite of amyl in warfare. The drug possesses the power of causing insensibility very quickly in a human being breathing its fumes. The effect is equivalent, temporarily, to a paralytic stroke. Nitrite of amyl being plentiful and cheap, Mr. Weston would fire shells filled with it instead of gunpowder. A few gallons of the nitrite dashed on the deck of a war ship would render her crew helpless, and before they recovered their senses the enemy could come on board and tie them hand and foot.

Some studious Englishman has discovered that the figures of the year 1888 added together make 25; and has written about it to the princess of Wales, who has just been celebrating her diamond wedding by getting a lot of presents from everybody who could be persuaded or bullied into subscribing to pay for them. And the princess has commanded her private secretary to write to this studious Briton, expressing her thanks for his interesting information, upon which the studious and loyal Englishman overflows in a letter to the *Times*, feeling it his duty to let the general public share his joy, and pointing out that "this century gives three such years, 1879, the present, and 1897; there will be four such years in the next century—viz., 1969, 1978, 1987, and 1996; but, *mirabile dictu*, the like cannot occur again for over 600 years—viz., 2,599."

It's very delightful to be a princess, no doubt. But if she of Wales has ordinary horse sense, she must get a little tired sometimes.

General Boulanger has done so well that the comte de Paris thought he might as well try to imitate him. So he has issued *his* little manifesto, suggesting that this republic business has gone far enough, and the French people had better give the old-fashioned monarchy a trial again. But the count is not a Boulanger, and the French people just go on never minding him.

The city of Mexico is terrible agitated in its fashionable circles. Not another revolution—the fashionable circles don't get excited over revolutions. But there is a dreadful rumor that Prince George of Wales is in the city incognito; and society is divided between the fear of missing a chance of eating and drinking and talking with a real live prince, and the awful dread of being imposed on by some unprincipled scoundrel who looks like the prince, and says he is the prince, but really isn't the prince at all, you know.

Professor Hofmann is a noted German chemist, who has just celebrated his seventieth birthday. His sovereign desired to bestow on him some recognition of his service in the cause of science, so he sent the professor a piece of paper authorizing him hereafter to call himself *von* Hofmann. What would have happened if he had called himself von Hofmann before he got the paper, goodness only knows. Something dreadful, no doubt. It would have been worse than plain Smith presuming to sign himself Smythe.

WILL SOME PROTECTIONIST PLEASE ANSWER?

Have you ever seen a laborer who cared a nickel whether he worked for a protected or an unprotected employer?

Have you ever seen a laborer who expected to receive more wages from a protected than an unprotected employer?

Have you ever seen a protected manufacturer who paid higher wages than he was compelled to?

Have you ever seen a very wealthy firm pay more wages than a moderately wealthy one?

Have you ever given more for anything than you were required to?

No; and, furthermore, if you should, you would call yourself a fool.

If, then, the unprotected manufacturer pays just as high wages, and still is able to make a profit, by what method of reasoning do you arrive at the conclusion that the protected manufacturer pays higher wages because of protection?

And if the protected manufacturer does not pay more than the unprotected one, what becomes of your protection theories?

Is it your answer that protection raises all classes of wages in all occupations?

If that is it, then, as labor is not protected from foreign immigration, you must of course include the raising of all wages in all countries. Now, if that is true, then how about the pauper wages of Europe?

If you say capital will not be invested unless it is protected, how do you explain the fact that it is being invested in unprotected industries?

If protection prevents us from selling in foreign markets, does not protection make less work instead of more?

If there is free trade in labor, and high protective prices for those things which laborers must buy, is not the laborer being robbed instead of benefited?

If protectionists desire to pay high wages, why do they always employ the cheapest labor they can find?

If wages are increased by protection why do these protected manufacturers indorse protection, and spend large sums of money to uphold it?

If unprotected industries pay the same wages as those that are protected, are they not as valuable, and if so, why burden them by making them pay heavy taxes to the protected ones?

We begin to see that the whole scheme of protection is nothing but the giving of a monopoly that protects the manufacturer from competition, and all who use the goods protected by this monopoly must pay more for them just in proportion to the protection. This increased cost to us who buy fills the pockets of the protected manufacturer. But when he needs laborers he goes out into the open markets of the world, in which he receives the bids of the low priced Chinaman, the pauper of Europe, and the starving American laborer. The price established by this competition in this open free-trade-in-labor-market is the price he must pay, and the only price he will pay. The protection is to the man who receives the bids and not to the men who compete for the chance to labor. And when we see that these laborers have been deluded into allowing themselves to be taxed on everything they eat, drink and wear, because the protected receiver of bids has told them that he could not employ them if he was not allowed to rob them, does not protection appears in its true light, a delusion and a snare?

ROBERT H. COWDREY.

Florida Has Its Real Estate Boom, Also.

ST. AUGUSTINE, Fla.—This ancient city is at present suffering from a real estate boom, with the result that mechanics and laborers who cannot afford to pay exorbitant prices for wretched quarters in the city proper, are compelled to tramp through tracts of waste sand to the suburbs beyond.

The other day I met the owner of some of the most valuable vacant land in the city. He was standing, pencil and paper in hand, figuring on what price he should ask for his lots next winter when the tide of fashion sets hitherward.

I am glad to say that there are some STANDARD men here who are spreading the light.

H. P. B.

Cleveland and Mills!

NEW YORK.—Your nominee for vice-president on the Cleveland ticket meets my view exactly. What a canvass we could make with Cleveland of New York and Mills of Texas! Yours, A. L. EARLE.

WHAT WILL THE HARVEST BE?

High Rents Drive Thousands of People From New York City—Shop Keepers' Business Seriously Injured and Little Building Doing.

"There have not in twenty-five years been so many houses, floors, flats or apartments to let in New York as the last two weeks of this April witnessed." These words were uttered by an old New Yorker and have found general confirmation. Here, there and everywhere were, and are still, announcements of places to let. Even in sections where there have not been empty houses for years such signs were common.

What does this mean? Simply that a multitude of people could not afford to pay the increase in rent demanded for the coming year and have moved away. But where have they gone? A few may have squeezed themselves into quarters already crowded, but the mass certainly have not. They have gone elsewhere.

"A great many people seem to have moved out of the middle and lower part of the city and passed through Harlem out into Westchester county," said a boss truckman. "All my orders were to move families to the outskirts of Brooklyn," said another truckman; and an old employe of one of the East river ferries said he had never witnessed so much moving from New York to Brooklyn.

These are not exceptional reports, but truly represent the general condition of affairs. From Jersey City, from Hoboken and from Staten island comes the same kind of testimony. Empty houses in these places have become scarce and rents have advanced.

In the newly built parts of Harlem are rows of empty houses. In West Ninetieth street, for instance, nine-tenths of the houses have never been occupied. The real estate boom, started by the opening of the elevated railroads and progressing until within two years ago, increased the value of lots ten fold. Such land was too expensive to build small renting houses upon, and large houses were consequently erected. But the owners were never able to get tenants willing to pay the heavy rents demanded, and so the houses have remained empty. People who would probably have been glad to take them at lower rents were compelled to pass on to localities where, though there were not as many advantages, rents were more moderate. A case illustrating this is that of a builder who, realizing the effect of this land speculation, keeps his rents low. The consequence is, that although all around him stand blocks of empty houses, his houses are always tenanted.

This boom in land values has now stopped. The value of residential building land has gone beyond the point at which builders, by erecting buildings, can hope to make a profit, and general building operations are about to come to a standstill. Banks and building associations are beginning to refuse money on the ground that these investments are no longer safe. Work on building after building is being stopped for want of funds, and there is almost certain prospect of stoppage everywhere. This will throw thousands of workmen in the building trades out on the streets. This time last year nearly all workmen of that class were employed, and projected improvements seemed to guarantee plenty of work for this season. The large opportunities induced men to come from other states, and even from Europe. But to-day, when the building operations should be most active, thousands of men are already looking for work. What may next be expected is that the banks and other money lenders will call in their loans. A lot of builders will then go under, and more workmen will be thrown out of employment. Competition for employment will grow keen, and the general rate of wages will consequently fall.

Small storekeepers also are loud in their lamentations about the condition of affairs. They are not only confronted by a prospect of diminished trade, but have also to pay increased rents. An east side Harlem real estate agent admitted that rents in that locality were much too high for business prosperity. Storekeepers, he said, on one or two blocks on 125th street might have something left after paying their rents, but elsewhere in the vicinity they would not be able, from present prospects, to pay those rents and at the same time get out of their business a fair living. Not a few storekeepers have declared that they would close up their business and try some other way of making their living, if it were not that there is already an army of men seeking employment. And so they recognize that they can do no better than to stop where they are.

The situation then is that thousands of people have moved away from New York, leaving behind them empty houses; that building operations are being paralyzed and thousands of workmen are being thrown out of employment, at a season when they should be busiest; and that trade is being crippled. And all of this is in consequence of permitting speculation in a natural element which all the people living in New York are compelled to use. Land has increased in value until a large part of the population could not afford to use it and have had to move away, while another large part, for the privilege of remaining, must stint and strain to pay the comparatively few individuals who claim ownership of the land on which New York is built.

Harlem's High Rents.

Evening Sun.

The discontent among tenants of stores, flats and houses in Harlem, caused by the excessive rents demanded by the property owners, is increasing every day. The feeling among the tenants is that the landlords are holding their properties at false valuations, estimating them at prices they will not reach for at least ten years, yet they are compelling their tenants to pay rents fixed on these fictitious values. Another complaint is that houses and flats are rented as a rule on one year leases and that the landlords raise the rent regularly on good tenants. The rent of one store on 125th street was recently raised from $1,300 to $2,400 per year. The lessee being unable to stand the jump vacated the premises. The incoming tenant said yesterday, "Store rents on this street are far more than the business of the throughfare warrants. That I can make a living at the rental I pay is all I hope to do, but in a few years, when the section has built up more, I believe this store will be worth the rent I pay. Should the owners discount this future by raising the rent still higher I'll have to drop out. I believe a league should be formed among the storekeepers to prevent, if possible, the landlords charging rent in excess of fair prices."

That rents are too high for the business value of the locality was the opinion of every retailer visited. One tradesman said that after closing up his books last year, although he had done a brisk trade, he had found that his profits were only $75 per month, not as much as he paid for clerk hire. The rent took all the profits.

The dullness in flat and house renting continues. There is really no prospect now for the real estate men and property owners to find tenants for ten per cent of the vacant buildings. Most of the empty houses and flats are new and have never been occupied, a state of affairs caused by the collapse of the building boom. If another dwelling was not erected for three years Harlem would be able to give house room to the increase of population, yet there would still be plenty of "To let" signs visible on the outer walls. In face of this fact rents are held at firm figures, prices too high for the accommodations furnished.

One effect of this obstinacy on the part of the owners is that many tenants will remove from Harlem flats to flats between Sixty-first street and Ninety-sixth street on or before May 1. The hegira has already commenced. At Timmon's storage rooms, van and express office, in West 124th street, it was said yesterday that while as a rule their business was about even in regard to the number of families moved in and out of Harlem this year they noticed a great increase in the number of removals to the vicinity of Ninety-sixth street from points further up town.

A cheerful view of the situation is taken by Walter S. Richmond, the auctioneer of 301 West 125th street. He said: "I do not believe there has been an 'over production' of buildings in Harlem. The place is growing so fast that there will soon be tenants enough to go round. I journey to all parts of the city daily, and I notice as many houses to let in other quarters as in Harlem. The stagnation, if any, is equally divided all over the town. I believe, however, that more people are moving out of Harlem this year than ever before, for what reason I cannot say."

The representative of Stephen H. Prevost, the real estate dealer of 2214 Eighth avenue, said: "One thing that hurts the renting market is that owners will let from year to year. A good tenant will not take a house for a home when he has no assurance that he may not be raised or told to vacate in twelve months. I know a party who paid $900 last year for a house and expended over $150 in making it comfortable. This year he was notified that he must vacate, as the house had been sold.

"What I say applies also to flats. There are too many of them, and the rentals asked are too high."

The Harlem owners and builders believe that in a few years their section will be booming again, and until the good time comes they propose to stand firm and keep the prices and rentals up. One point that they overlook is that the opening of the new elevated roads in Brooklyn makes accessible a section of desirable homes that are held at far lower prices than Harlem rates. To compete with this new rival, and, indeed, to do business at all, the Harlem owners will have to reduce rents, grant long leases, and offer other special inducements; otherwise it will be a long time before their boom revives.

STRAWS WHICH SHOW THE WIND.

How can a party be pure while land sharks, usurers and monopolists are manipulating the party caucuses?—[Springfield, Mass., New Crusader.

Many landlords of this city have given notice to tenants that on May 1 rents will be advanced in some instances twenty-five per cent. As there is no indication of a proportionate increase in wages, the poor man's benefits from the introduction of cheap gas are likely to prove a snare and a delusion. 'Twas ever thus.—[Indianapolis Labor Signal.

Mr. Powderly asks: "Who owns the coal fields?" From appearances we should judge that Mr. Corbin, assisted by the Girard estate and a few others were rather in the front line. "Who ought to own them?" is another pertinent query. After the people have suffered a little longer, perhaps there will be an answer to the latter query.—[Craftsman.

Capitalists who are directly interested in the business of making steel don't appear to agree with Father Kelley that the business of the country is in danger of paralysis because of a possible enactment into law of the Mills tariff bill. Another big steel manufacturing plant is to be located at Chicago, and most of the stockholders in the enterprise are residents of eastern states.—[Philadelphia Record.

The Mills tariff bill is a lame and halting measure, and was framed from a distinct protection standpoint, and yet it could not have met more opposition and denunciation from the trust robbers if it had proposed entire abolition of customs duties. The Mills bill is anything but satisfactory to people who realize the true inwardness of the protection robbery, but it will excite just as much discussion as a better measure, and that is all we ask. Agitation and discussion are sure to lead the people in the direction of "the international law of God."—[Ceresco, Neb., Times.

The theory that God owns the land and that none should be allowed to hold more than they work, is fast gaining ground. A large majority feel that like slavery the land monopoly must go. That no one has a moral right to rent land to another, but that all should pay rent to the government according to the value if no improvements were on it. This plan would do away with the obnoxious landlord system wholly and remove all mortgages, thus giving every man a chance to get land to work or live on at a reasonable price compared with that paid by tenants under the present system.—[La Crosse, Minn., Cooperator.

The growing anxiety is not so much as to overpopulation, as to how we shall make good citizens of the population we are to have, and to protect the masses from the dangerous tendencies of enormous aggregations of corporate wealth, enjoying monopolies which jeopardize the rights of the people. It is upon the great problems of industrial and political justice that the civilizations of the past have split. These issues, on a scale of magnitude that the world has never yet seen, will come up for adjustment here, but we have faith that the resources of the coming mammoth republic will settle them peaceably and under the forms of law and of popular government—of the people, by the people and for the people.—[Boston Globe.

Washingtonians Buy a Job Lot of Shackles for Themselves.

National Republican.

The plan of the district commissioners, which involves the running of Rock creek through a tunnel and the consequent increase in area of valuable real estate in the vicinity, has commenced to bear fruit for some of the parties interested. The Metropolitan street railroad company owns nearly 600,000 square feet of ground in that vicinity, and the proposed improvement will greatly enhance the value of their stock. This has resulted in a marked increase in the demand for stock, and as things are at present it is estimated that the real estate now owned by the company will equal in value its capital stock. The plan as approved by the commissioners will result in modernizing a portion of Georgetown, and it may be but a matter of a few years when all the distinctions which mark and divide the nation's capital from its ancient suburb will be wiped out by a succession of unbroken streets and avenues.

Does Not Industry Pay for All This?

Philadelphia Record.

On the Pacific coast the real estate speculation during 1887 became ludicrous. Corner lots sixteen miles from St. Jose, Cal., a town of 22,000 population, sold at $300. Orchard land sold at $2,000 per acre in districts where irrigation had to be resorted to before crops could be raised. In Los Angeles, Cal., where the population increased from 11,000 in 1880 to 65,000 in 1887, the land bubble reached its most serious phase. The sales or transfers of real estate at that place averaged during some periods $6,000,000 per day, yet in Philadelphia, with a population of one million, the average transfers of real estate do not exceed $50,000 per day. It has been estimated that cash payments amounting to $50,000,000 will be due on land sales in southern California before the 1st of July next.

After All the Nest is the Essential Feature of the Programme.

New York Sun.

Little Girl—Mrs. Brown, ma wants to know if she could borrow a dozen eggs. She wants to put 'em under a hen.

Neighbor—So you've got a hen setting, have you? I didn't know you kept hens.

Little Girl—No 'm, we don't, but Mrs. Smith's goin' ter lend us a hen that wants ter set, an' ma thought if you'd lend us some eggs we've got the nest ourselfs.

THE STANDARD.

HENRY GEORGE, Editor and Proprietor.

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

THOSE TIN PLATES AGAIN.

In a letter printed in another column Mr. C. A. Scott, secretary of the tariff committee of the National iron roofing manufacturers' association, takes exception to THE STANDARD's views on the subject of the duty on tin plates, and states at length his reasons for demanding such an increase in the tin plate duty as will prevent the interference of the imported tin plates with the protected domestic industry of manufacturing sheet iron roofing.

We are glad to receive Mr. Scott's communication. His position as the selected champion before congress of the iron roofing industry gives an importance to his statements and a weight to his arguments that they might not possess if presented by a less prominent man. Mr. Scott has considered the situation maturely; his letter is dated from Washington; and we may assume that the facts and arguments presented to the readers of THE STANDARD are those which he has presented or will present to the congress of the United States. His letter therefore merits more than ordinary consideration.

In one particular we must correct Mr. Scott's statement of facts. He assumes that we real free traders are willing to reduce the wages of laborers, and that we are anxious to reduce the profits of capitalists. In both assumptions he is mistaken. We want to see the wages of laborers not at all diminished, but very largely increased; we want to see the earnings of capital in no way lessened, but very much augmented. We advocate the entire freedom of trade because we are satisfied that it will produce these results. We advocate the partial free trade which will follow the abolition of all custom houses and import taxes because we believe that it is a first and necessary step toward absolute freedom, and that, being a step in the right direction, it will necessarily benefit both laborers and capitalists. With this preliminary clearing of the ground, we proceed to the consideration of Mr. Scott's letter.

We are quite willing to admit that if protection is a good thing we cannot have too much of it. If the duty on sheet iron really is the reason why workmen in our sheet iron mills earn wages instead of standing idle, and why the capitalists who own the mills and machinery find profitable employment for their capital instead of letting *that* stand idle—if these things are so, then we are quite willing to concede, not only that the duty on tin plates should be raised to the level of the duty on sheet iron, but that the duties on tin plates, sheet iron and everything else, from Chinese tea to African peanuts, should be raised to the point of absolute prohibition, in order that all American workmen and all American capitalists may share the good fortune of the workmen and capitalists who make sheet iron.

But we deny that these things are so. We say that Mr. Scott, as a capitalist, and his workmen, as laborers, would all be a great deal better off if there were no duties on tin plates, or sheet iron, or anything else; and we would, instead of increasing the duty on tin plates, sweep it out of existence altogether, not because we claim to have discovered any flaw in Mr. Scott's argument, but because we hold that the postulate on which he builds his argument is altogether false.

Mr. Scott tells us that many sheet iron mills are idle, and that many others are wrecked, and their machinery is being sold for one-quarter to one-fifth of its value. Evidently the sheet iron industry is not in a prosperous condition. We admit that *post hoc, ergo propter hoc* is no argument, and we do not ask Mr. Scott to accept this state of things as evidence of the way in which protection blights and ruins industry. But on the other hand, he must not ask us to accept it as evidence that more protection is needed. It simply shows that protection, as far as it has been tried, is not a success. Mr. Scott, of course, may claim that it is only by virtue of protection that there is any sheet iron industry left at all. But that would be pure assumption on his part; and the lamentable condition of the sheet iron trade would be no more evidence in support of it than would be the fact that a man was struck by lightning. To determine whether protection aids or hinders capital and labor, we must dig deeper down.

Begin at the beginning: There being no protective duty on sheet iron but other things being as they are, let us suppose that Mr. Scott engages in the business of making sheet iron. Having erected his mills, he engages laborers and goes to work. His expenses of manufacture are for labor, and—we quote the words of his letter—"for pig iron, scrap iron, freights, insurance, fuel, and the usual costs of operation, breakages and delays." The difference between the total of these expenses and the price he gets for his sheet iron constitutes his own wages and the profits of his capital.

But when Mr. Scott puts his finished sheet iron on the market he finds he comes into competition with imported goods offered at a price that he cannot meet without more than wiping out his own wages and profits. Something must be done. Expenses must be reduced somehow or the mill must stop. He gets his freight, insurance, breakage and other minor expenses down to the lowest possible point, and still there is a chasm to be bridged.

Mr. Scott declines to consider any reduction of wages. There remains the raw material of his business—the pig iron. He must get that at a lower price.

Now, when Mr. Scott goes to the pig iron furnace he finds the iron men would be very glad indeed to sell him at a lower price if they could afford to. But they have to buy their ore and buy their coal, and unless they can secure these raw materials at lower figures they can make no reduction in the price of their product.

Mr. Scott goes on to the producers of iron ore and coal, and here he comes at last face to face with the men who own the earth. He finds them ensconced within a double wall—a little wall of protective duty on pig iron and coal and a giant rampart of private land ownership. All about them rise the everlasting hills, stored full with coal and iron ore; the market place is full of idle miners. Mr. Scott need but raise his hand to have a thousand men digging into the hills and snatching out coal and ore at a cost which would enable the pig iron men to give him his raw material at a quite sufficient reduction in price. It would be like the old rhyme, when the butcher began to kill the ox, the ox began to drink the water, the water began to quench the fire, and so on through the whole chain of recalcitrants, until the pig began to go, and the old woman toddled safely homeward. Mr. Scott would be back at his sheet iron mill again, putting in new machinery, raising wages, employing fresh hands and bundling the intruding British sheet iron man neck and crop out of the country.

But alas! Mr. Scott may raise his hand, and the idle miners may spring forward with their picks and drills; but the landlord bars the way, and bids them hold! "These hills," he cries, "are mine. God made them, but I own them!" And so the butcher finds that he can't kill the ox, and the old woman goes onward with her pig, and the moonlight shortens into midnight, and still she can't get home.

What now shall Mr. Scott do? He must bridge the chasm, or the sheet iron industry must die. He takes a leaf out of the mine owner's book, and presents himself to congress a suppliant for protection—an American claiming help because he is afraid of an Englishman—a pitiable spectacle, truly! How much protection? Well, seventy-five per cent will do. So thenceforward any man who dares buy sheet iron from an Englishman is punished by a fine of three-quarters of its value, and Mr. Scott goes back to his sheet iron mill contented.

What follows? Just what might be expected. Mr. Scott's mill begins to pay large profits. Other capitalists hasten to build other mills and manufacture more sheet iron. There is a margin for competition, and the price of sheet iron falls, and falls, until it reaches a point at which it will just pay to manufacture it. Meantime the demand for sheet iron has been inevitably lessened by the enhanced price. People who might have used it put up with some inferior but cheaper substitute, or use nothing at all. There is a stagnant market—Mr. Scott would say there had been an over production—and then there are "so many mills idle. . . . so many wrecked and their machinery sold for one-quarter to one-fifth its value." This is precisely the condition in which the iron roofing manufacturers find themselves to-day. We have Mr. Scott's own word for it. And now observe how they propose to get out of their difficulty.

Tin plates are made by coating sheet iron with a film of tin. We use a great many of them in the United States—not as many as we should if we were allowed to buy them without being fined for it—but still an enormous quantity. Last year we imported 572,220,397 pounds of them, which we might have got, according to the treasury statistics, for $16,910,890, but which really cost us $5,722,203.97 more, because a paternal government fined us one cent a pound for all we used.

There are no tin plates made in this country, and right here is where Mr. Scott and the National iron roofing manufacturers' association see their chance. If they can only force the American people to make their own tin plates, they can start their idle mills again, and repair the mills that are wrecked, and buy back the machinery that is being sold for one-quarter to one-fifth its value. Because to make tin plates the American people must buy sheet iron. And not only this, but there are some purposes, such as roofing, for which sheet iron is the next best substitute for tin plates; so that if home made tin plates cost more than we can afford to pay for them for these purposes, we shall be compelled, perforce, to fall back on sheet iron, and thus put money into the pockets of Mr. Scott and his fellow manufacturers anyhow.

And so the National iron roofing manufacturers' association coolly propose that we shall submit to an extra tariff tax of another cent a pound on tin plates so as practically to prohibit their importation and thus provide the roofing manufacturers with a market for their wares. This, they say, will set a large number of men to work at good wages, and thus stave off for a while longer the season of idle and wrecked mills, and machinery sold for one-quarter to one-fifth its value.

Well, if American industries are to be stimulated in this way, why should we stop at iron roofing? Why not go back to an older and more purely American industry—the making of shingles—and stimulate that? There are any quantity of cypress trees in the south and southwest, and plenty of people to cut them down and split them up. Why not enact that every man who sleeps under any other than a cypress shingle roof shall be fined $10 a night? That would set ten men to work where the tax on tin plates would provide employment for one. Think of the business it would give our railroad lines, our canal boats and our teamsters! And then remember, too, that shingle roofs catch fire easily. There would be ten houses burnt down for every one that is destroyed by fire now, and all these would have to be rebuilt. Why, the whole country would be transformed into a perfect hive of industry. And then, by way of diversifying employments and helping the poor farmers out a little, we might enact that gourds should be used in place of tin dippers, under penalty of the law. A gourd is a very nice thing to drink out of—clean, wholesome, easily broken—by all means let us give the gourd industry a chance.

Mr. Scott will probably tell us that this sort of talk is all nonsense, and that it would be ridiculous and sinful to legislate one industry out of existence for the sake of establishing another and a less economical. But this is precisely the sort of thing that he himself is trying to do. He wants to destroy the business of the men who import tin plates. He wants to discourage the industries of the men who manufacture tin ware, or use tin ware in their business. He is perfectly careless whom he hurts, so long as he can force us to buy more of his darling sheet iron. If he wants to know specifically how any industry would be affected by the granting of his modest demand, we invite him to study this utterance of Mr. Shaw of Maryland, made in the house of representatives on April 25:

> In a single county of the district I have the honor to represent in this house there were packed in the year 1882, and the business is much larger at present, 38,400,000 cans of hermetically sealed goods. This was the output of 300 factories, which gave employment to 16,000 persons. The product packed in that one county required 10,000 acres for tomatoes and 5,000 acres for corn, involving an outlay for agricultural labor of $200,000. One hundred and thirty thousand boxes of tin were used in making the cans, and $135,000 expended for labor, while a further expenditure of $900,000 was required for the other processes of preparation. The 130,000 boxes of tin cost my people in tariff taxes in a single year $171,600.

Will Mr. Scott pretend to say that if these Maryland canners were relieved of that tax of $171,000 a year they couldn't sell more canned goods? Will he pretend to say that if the tax is doubled they will not sell less? Will he deny that by the time that tax reaches the consumer of the canned goods it is more than doubled in amount? Whichever way he answers these questions will be equally fatal to his plea for more protection.

The simple truth is that the demand of the sheet iron manufacturers that we shall give up buying tin plates abroad, that they may be able to sell us more sheet iron, is a piece of brazen effrontery worthy of the days when French seigneurs protected home industry by forcing every tenant to have his corn ground at the seigneur's mill. It is an impudent demand, for which there is absolutely no justification. Even if it were granted it would do the sheet iron industry no permanent good. For the same cycle would repeat itself—unnatural activity, fierce competition, diminished consumption, over production, mills idle, machinery sold for one-quarter to one fifth its value, and back to congress again with another cowering plea for protection against the dreadful Englishman. And let Mr. Scott observe this, that no matter how high he may pile the protection on his sheet iron, the point round which prices will range and below which the mills will begin to stand idle is *not the price at which English sheet iron can be delivered in this country, plus the duty on sheet iron*, BUT THE PRICE AT WHICH IT CAN BE DELIVERED, PLUS THE DUTY ON PIG IRON. If the sheet iron manufacturers could secure the protection they ask for, or ten times that protection, the only way in which they could long continue to enjoy its benefits would be by pooling their earnings and limiting their production—in other words, by forming one of those trusts which Mr. Scott assures us have no existence in the sheet iron trade. It is the landlord's wall that Mr. Scott is strengthening, not the rampart of his own business. Profits of capital sink to nothing—wages fall to mere subsistence—mills are wrecked and workmen driven forth as tramps. But the landlord in his majesty stands firm—firm as the everlasting hills he impiously believes God made for him, and him alone! It is not before Englishmen that Mr. Scott need crouch and from whom he needs protection. The men who own the United States are his oppressors.

We want to pull down the outermost wall that shuts Mr. Scott off from access to the raw material of his production. Will he help us at the task? Or will he explain why he refuses?

MUNICIPAL HOME RULE.

A fresh illustration of the absurdity of the governmental relation between New York city and state has just been given us in the high license bill and the manner of its passage. The measure itself may be a good one, although the reasons have already been stated in THE STANDARD why in this, as in all other things, absolute freedom of trade is better than any restriction. But since it was confessedly designed to regulate the liquor traffic in New York city especially, surely the people of this city, through their representatives, are the best persons to decide the mode of regulation. Yet the city delegation in the legislature has been almost solidly against the bill, its only support from here coming from the men elected by the little strip of "brown stone" that arrogates to itself possession of all the wisdom and virtue of the metropolis. It is easy to say that the rumsellers control the primaries, and it is true, to a great extent; but politics are no purer in the Eleventh and the Twenty-first assembly districts than in the Twelfth or the Twenty-third. The plain fact is that, right or wrong, the great majority of the people in this city do not approve of high license; and in a republican government the majority should rule. Our morals may be bad, but we have a right to manage our own affairs according to our own standard of morality, good or bad; and it is an outrage that, even if apparently necessary, it should be possible to call in the aid of constituencies five hundred miles away. The population which is gathered around New York harbor is as distinct from the population of the Mohawk valley or the lake counties as that of any one state is from that of another. There can be no good reason why Manhattan island should be governed from Albany any more than from Hartford or Trenton; and if we send bad men to Albany it is to a great extent because of the wretched habit of dependence upon outside interference to which we have accustomed ourselves. A community only learns self control from the sense of responsibility; can only gain political as well as economic strength from freedom; and if this great community, which has spread out around the city hall, obliterating state as well as municipal lines in all except the arbitrary political arrangements, were set absolutely free of all superior power except that at Washington, it would not only gain the conveniences of home rule, but might also, perhaps, purify its politics in dignifying them.

AN AMERICAN EVICTION.

James City is a town of about two thousand inhabitants, situated on the Trent river, opposite the city of Newberne, in the state of North Carolina. It is a town of negroes, only two white people among the whole population. The inhabitants are said to be fairly industrious and frugal. They find employment in Newberne as waiters, servants, washerwomen, longshoremen, etc., and earn sufficient wages for their comfortable support. Until a short time ago they were a very happy and contented set of people. But of late a change has come over them. They have flagrantly wronged a fellow man, and are beginning to find out that the way of the transgressor is hard. They have done evil, and now they are likely to be called upon to suffer for it. The story of the wrong doing is interesting and instructive. The New York *Herald* tells it in a recent issue, and from the *Herald's* columns we condense it for the readers of THE STANDARD:

The wickedness commenced away back in 1862, when the Union forces were in possession of Newberne and the circumjacent country. A promiscuous lot of negroes, male and female, old and young, came flocking into Newberne, looking for freedom under the Stars and Stripes. They didn't come by single spies, but in regular battalions. There were thousands upon thousands of them. General Foster was puzzled what to do with them. Many enlisted in the army—others were employed in constructing fortifications—but still there remained a very considerable number, for whom something had to be done.

That was when the wickedness began. There was a sand ridge on the south side of the Trent river, known as Kimball's hill. Nobody lived on it, nobody was using it, nobody cared whether anybody else used it or not. General Foster transferred the surplus negroes to this sand ridge, built them a lot of slab houses, and furnished them rations until they were able to provide for themselves.

In this way James City was founded. The negroes stuck there, and when the war was over and southern commerce began to revive they found work, as before recited, along the wharves and in the houses of Newberne, and became a happy and contented lot of citizens.

But during all this time the James City negroes were wronging one of their fellow men—the owner, namely, of the sand ridge on which James City stands. We all know the old proverbs about the mills of the gods and about Nemesis, and now, the *Herald* tells us, the James Cityites are going to learn something about them experimentally. For the owner of Kimball's hill comes forward and says he's very sorry to inconvenience anybody, but he'd like to have his hill, which the unprincipled colored men have been using for pretty near a generation. He is a rich man, this owner of Kimball's Hill, and his name is James A. Bryan. This is what he said to the representative of the *Herald* who interviewed him:

> I don't wish to disturb the negroes. I would sell them the property if they could purchase it, with the exception of the river front. That is so valuable that it would be utterly beyond the ability of the negroes or any friends of theirs to purchase it.
>
> On several occasions they have been very violent and almost riotous in their demonstrations when I or one of my agents visited the place to serve notices of suit, or even to talk to them quietly about the matter. At such times I have always shown them a determined front, and have given them to understand that I was armed and prepared to defend myself. This had a proper effect, and generally quieted them.
>
> Everything there belongs to me, including the churches, houses, crops and all other improvements. Some of the houses there are worth from three or four hundred dollars upward to a thousand or two. Quite a nice little sum when you consider that there are nearly four hundred buildings over there. Suppose there was even a nominal rent on these of say fifty cents a month each, you can see that it would make a handsome income of some $6,000 or $7,000 a year.

And the most melancholy feature of the business is that the negroes, instead of quietly arranging to pay their rents and give up the river shore, pretend to think themselves ill used. They have issued an address, in which they say that the land was practically given to them by the United States authorities, that they have lived on it undisturbed for twenty years and have improved it from a sandy waste into a thriving little town with well cultivated gardens. And they claim that to take away their homes from them will be nothing short of confiscation.

After all, there is this to be said for these James City negroes—that it is a little ridiculous for us to refuse them the sympathy which, under similar circumstances, we extend to Irishmen so freely. If it is hard on the Irish tenant to be charged rent for his own improvements, it is just as hard on the James City negro to have to pay rent for the house and garden he has made himself. It will scarcely do to have one kind of moral law for white men in Ireland, and another for black men in North Carolina. Either the Irish tenant who declines to be evicted is guilty of a crime, or the James City tenant who refuses to vacate his house is innocent of wrong. Perhaps after all, when God bade the waves wash up from ocean's depths the sands of Kimball's hill He may not have been thinking solely of providing a way for Mr. James A. Bryan to live on other people's work.

Chicago is to have an elevated railroad. She has granted to the Chicago and South Side rapid transit railroad company the right to construct and operate an elevated railroad within the municipal limits, and to secure by purchase or condemnation, and to own, a right of way thirty feet in width along its entire route, except where intervening streets are crossed—greater widths being permitted where needed for stations. The company proposes to commence building at once, and is offering its stock and bonds for sale in Chicago, New York and Boston, the stock at ninety per cent of its par value, and the bonds, bearing six per cent interest, at 110.

It is said, and doubtless with truth, that the grant of the franchise is accompanied with conditions which will secure the most approved form of elevated structure, both for safety and permanence and the latest and best mode of equipment and operation. Three tracks are provided for, the third to be erected when the demands of rapid transit shall require it. This third track will permit the running of express trains at high rates of speed, so as to bring the suburban portion of Chicago within easy reach of the business center of the city.

In commending these securitites to the public, the promoters of the new company hold out the most glittering prospects, and predict that within a short time their shares will be selling at three times their face value. They instance the City cable company, whose shares have appreciated to that extent, and whose route, as they announce with the emphasis of italics, will be paralleled and divided by the new elevated structure.

What does all this mean when translated into plain English? Simply that the people of Chicago have bestowed upon a private corporation a franchise whose value will within a short time far surpass that of the material structure employed in operating it—a taxing power which may be expected to grow with years, and to whose ultimate proportions no limit can be assigned.

And this is the least of the evil things that Chicago has recklessly done in this matter. Even before the new road is completed land values in the suburb to which it runs will begin to move upward with a velocity which will increase as the road draws nearer and nearer completion. Men who have gone there in search of homes within the limit of their means will find themselves compelled to move wearily farther on. The mansion and the tenement house will replace the cottage with its garden. The men who own Chicago will levy heavier taxes on the people who live in Chicago, and the statisticians, computing the value of the vacant lots, will tell in figures how much the elevated roads have added to Chicago's wealth.

The chance of making money that the Chicago and South Side rapid transit company offer to investors in their securities is very tempting. They will probably have little trouble in disposing of their stock and bonds. But shrewd investors, who understand the true inwardness of things, will neglect the offers of the railroad company, and secure a mortgage on the labor of Chicago's children yet unborn by buying some of the land, for the mere privilege of living and working on which those children, grown into men and women, will be forced to surrender a goodly portion of their earnings.

FORESTRY IN FRANCE.

How a Great National Trust is Administered—A Lesson for Americans.

France has nearly 7,500,000 acres of forest, one-third of which is the property of the state, while the remainder belongs to communes and public establishments. The forests are not used as game preserves, but administered on scientific principles, to secure the greatest possible supply of timber, firewood, etc., without waste or denudation of the soil.

The French forests are first divided into cantonments, and then into about 500 inspections. In each inspection there is an inspector, a garde general and brigadier. Then come the conservations. There are thirty-five conservations. Over each there is a conservator, who has generally an assistant. Next we have the inspectorial regions, of which there are six. Each region has an inspector general. To unite and manage the whole is the central administration, which is attached to the ministry of agriculture, and under the charge of a general director. Besides these various grades of officials to look after the forest in a general way, there is a special *sercice des amenagements*, and, what is more important, a special service of reafforestation.

The great training establishment is the celebrated National forestry school at Nancy, which has been in existence for over half a century. Here instruction is given regarding the culture and management of trees, in natural history, particularly as regards birds and the insects which infest trees, mineralogy, applied mathematics, administrative law, political economy, agriculture in its relation to forests, German and military drill. The school is supplied with an excellent staff of professors, and the instruction is essentially practical. The students are taken for excursions frequently, under their professors, to the forests of the Vosges, Jura, and Fontainebleau. Students must be between eighteen and twenty when they enter. There is an entrance examination, but favor is given to scholars of the Polytechnic and the National agronomic institute. The studies last two years, and the students pay 1,500f a year, besides an entrance fee for uniform, bedding, etc. There is a secondary school in France where a two years' course of instruction is given, and also an elementary school which supplies a simple course of eleven months. Then in addition to this, instruction is given in forestry at each of the numerous agricultural schools in the country, though not for the purpose of training officials.

Having finished his studies the young forester enters the service as a *garde general stagiaire* under an inspector, in order to get initiated into the business, and receives 1,500f a year. When he becomes a full garde general he earns from 2,000f to 2,600f and is allowed expenses. The under inspectors receive from 3,000f to 3,800f; the inspectors, from 4,000f to 6,000f; conservators, 8,000f to 12,000f; inspectors-general, 12,000f to 15,000f, and the director, 18,000f. A forestry official's lot is a very enjoyable one. He has not hard work; he has plenty of exercise in the open air, and he rides about comfortably on horse back.

The farmers in France are not deprived of the use of the forests. Only the other day M. Gabe, the director of forests, issued a circular urging the conservateurs to see that the farmers' stock got access to the forests in their communes, as the drought had made ordinary forage scarce. In the cases where the communes did not possess any wood lands the state forests were to be put at the disposal of the farmers.

The annual yield of the forests in France is over 35,000,000f, more than half of which is profit.

Educating Their Men.

RICHMOND, Va.—Land and labor club No. 1 is holding regular meetings and increasing its membership. Our only condition to membership at present is that the applicant shall read "Progress and Poverty" through. We find that this causes many to read the work that would not otherwise do so.

Our work at present is purely educational. We propose to excite thought by a free circulation of our literature.

William M. Ivins's "Machine Politics" sells like "hot cakes," and is making an impression. We too have a political machine in this city.

JOHN T. CHAPPELL, Sec.

The Standard Oil Company's Latest Enterprise.

CHICAGO, Ill.—The Standard oil company is actively at work—or to speak more accurately, has a lot of men actively at work for it—building a pipe line from the oil region around Lima, Ohio, to this city. The line, including right of way, will cost about two and a quarter millions of dollars. The Standard company has secured control of all the oil land about Lima, and when the pipe line is completed will be in a position to furnish Chicago with crude oil for fuel and to tax her industries pretty heavily for doing so.

Hurrah for Protection!

The Wilkesbarre, Pa., axle works has notified its one thousand employes of a reduction in wages, ranging from ten to forty per cent, to go into effect May 1. Cause, over production—the other protected fellows can't afford to buy axles.

Reducing Duties Will Not Reduce Wages.

Congressman Bynum's Speech.

Will a reduction of duties necessarily cause a reduction of wages? No greater fallacy was ever asserted. Labor does not receive all or any great portion of the protection given by the present law. The protection upon cotton goods runs from 42.30 per cent to 73.31 per cent, and yet the labor cost in these manufactures only runs from 12.57 per cent to 37 per cent. The protection on woolen goods runs from 52.07 per cent to 89.94 per cent, and yet the labor cost in these manufactures only runs from 16.36 per cent to 31.25 per cent.

Wages neither rise above nor fall below the standard. The standard is not fixed by the manufacturers in proportion to the rate of duties imposed, but is fixed by the prices paid in all the avocations and by the opportunities in independent pursuits.

An Infant Industry That Seems to Be Growing.

New York Times.

A trade journal in the course of some remarks about the spring trade in paints, says: "Linseed oil, which is a very important item, has advanced sixteen cents per gallon, and is now selling for fifty-six cents against forty cents a year ago." This advance of forty per cent has been caused by the National linseed oil trust, an organization formed upon the plan of the sugar trust and the cotton seed oil trust. A tariff duty of twenty-five cents a gallon (equivalent to fifty-four per cent) has enabled this ring to exact so large a tax from consumers.

MEN AND THINGS.

Mr. Brewer of Michigan seems to think New Jersey a sort of American Sahara, and evidently has never heard that farms in New England can often be bought for less than the cost of the improvements on them. Massachusetts potatoes and New Jersey vegetables are what Mr. Brewer talks about in congress—as, being from Michigan, he naturally would:

It is our protective tariff which has largely built up our varied industries, and which has tended to make us the most prosperous nation in the world. A protective tariff tends to aid and build up all our industries, to bring the producer and consumer nearer together, and thereby largely save the cost of transportation. This has made more valuable the farm and given a better market for its products. This is what has made lands near our large cities more valuable than those more distant. This is why the lands in rough and rocky New England and in sterile New Jersey are more valuable than our fertile lands in Michigan and Minnesota. Every farmer knows well that he cannot send to foreign lands his potatoes, vegetables, and many other things which he grows upon the farm, and that he must rely upon the home market for the same. Hence it is all important that he should feel a deep interest in the building up of manufacturing towns and cities near his home, where he can market his surplus productions.

This is all very fine, and would carry conviction to the most skeptical; but unfortunately Browne of Indiana, another protectionist statesman, had to go to work and say that the trouble with the farmers is that they can't afford to sell their potatoes and things cheap enough to command the trade of the protected consumers, notwithstanding the saving in the cost of transportation. He tells us:

The fruits of the garden and the farm come across the ocean and enter our markets and in competition with us. Cabbages come to us from Holland; potatoes from Scotland, Nova Scotia and Canada; rye from Canada; peas, beans, hay and eggs from Denmark and Norway; onions from Spain and Egypt; tobacco from Sumatra; wool from South America, South Africa, Australia and elsewhere, and cattle from Mexico.

We have imported 700,000 bushels of potatoes in a single month, and over 18,000,000 dozens of eggs in one year. Canada sells 3,000,000 bushels of rye in our markets annually, and last year our imports of food products, exclusive of sugar, tea, coffee and tobacco, were valued at over $57,000,000.

And so good Mr. Browne wants a lot more protection on the potatoes and eggs and cabbages and all the rest of them, so that the farmers, by having a protected home market for their produce, may be able to buy their blankets and clothing and plows and other things from the protected manufacturers, and thus keep *their* home market going.

It's queer, though, that manufacturers and farmers should both need protection. Is it possible that an American citizen can do nothing but twiddle his thumbs without assistance from the government?

The *National Builder* has been collecting some statistics on the subject of wages in the building trades, and discovers some curious variations in the earnings of labor. Pressed brick masons, for example, receive $6.50 a day in Kansas City, Mo.; $6 in Portland, Ore.; $5 in Boston, $4.80 (eight hours) in Chicago, $4.50 in Cincinnati, $3.75 in Jacksonville, Fla., and $3.50 in Richmond, Va. Carpenters receive $3.50 a day in New York, $3 in Boston, $2.50 in Richmond, $2.25 in Buffalo and $2 in Detroit. There is a like variance in the rates of wages in different cities in all branches of the building trade. Common laborers receive $2 a day in Chicago and Salt Lake City, $1.75 in Philadelphia and Boston, $1.50 in Richmond, $1.25 in Jacksonville and $1 in Chattanooga, Tenn.

Figures like this will give the protectionists some trouble, or would do so, if facts could ever trouble a protectionist. If it is the blessed tariff that secures the mason $6.50 in Kansas City, why doesn't it do as much for his brother in Detroit?

The Sands street Methodist church is a religious organization established in 1794, in the then insignificant village of Brooklyn. The purpose of its founders was to provide a building in which they might worship God after their own fashion, and a burying ground in which their dead might peacefully await the summons to the resurrection. So they bought a piece of land for a modest price, and for years thereafter the Sands street church was a flourishing institution.

But now, in 1888, the land has ceased to be of use to the Sands street congregation. Brooklyn has grown from a village to a giant city. The tide of business has risen around the Sands street church and forced its congregation to move to considerable distances. The land that once was useful for church and church yard is now suited only for warehouses and shops. The church must move away. It can't afford to stay where it is.

One would think that under these circumstances the Sands street congregation would thank the people of Brooklyn for allowing them to use that piece of land so long, apologize for not vacating it sooner, and offer in a Christian spirit to pay any expenses connected with the preparation of the ground for business use. But they haven't done anything of the sort. On the contrary, they have sold the land for a round sum, boxed up the bones in the church yard and transferred them to the Evergreens cemetery, and moved away to another neighborhood, where the same land speculating process will begin again.

The Sands street congregation would be horrified if anybody accused them of being a state church, supported at the public expense. Yet that is precisely what they are.

The assembly at Albany has passed the bill appropriating $1,000,000 for the improvement of the state canals, and unless the senate persists in its determination to have as little money as possible spent under the direction of a democratic official, the improvements will stand a chance of being carried so far along next winter as to make them available in 1889.

On the face of things it would seem folly to reduce the appropriation. For the improvements are of such a kind that until they are completed they will be of no service. The length of the shortest lock determines the available lockage length of the whole canal; and so long as a single lock is left unlengthened the lengthening of all the rest is practically useless. It is as easy to work on fifty locks at once as on two; if all the money necessary is provided at this session of the legislature, the work of improvement can easily be finished by the time navigation opens next year.

The republican legislators who oppose the appropriation do not deny this. But this is a presidential year; and although it will be impossible to do any work on the canal improvements until after election day, still they have an uneasy feeling that the wicked democrats will whip the devil round the stump somehow, and make the spending of that million dollars do good campaign service in one way or another. They would scorn to do anything of the kind themselves—that goes without saying—but of course the democrats are different. And the deuce of it is, that a great many men, who are only voters and not politicians, are obliged to admit that the republicans may be half way right. They have an undefined idea that somehow that million may do campaign service—not because the men who will have the spending of it are democrats, but because they are politicians.

The wrangle over the canal appropriation bill is a melancholy commentary on our polititical system. After all our investigating committees, and citizens' movements, and purifying panaceas of one kind and another, about the best we can say for the men who make and administer our laws seems to be that they haven't been found out yet. And the worst of it is that charges of corruption of one kind or another have become so frequent that it no longer hurts a man's reputation much to be accused of some specific act of malfeasance. "He's no worse than the rest," or "they say those sort of things about all public men," are frequent comments.

We don't need to look very far to find the reason for this. In every vocation the prize of wealth falls to the man who is smart enough to be dishonest without being found out—to get round the law without breaking it. The greed of riches is stimulated by precept and example and by the dread of poverty; and the various roads to riches are made hard, save that which trespasses on the rights of other men. Our politicians are the fruit, less of our political than of our social system. To secure honest legislators we must make it possible for men to be honest without incurring the penalty of poverty.

The legislature at Albany seems likely to do something to put an end to the Manhattan elevated railroad using its stations as stands for the sale of newspapers, books and fancy goods. As matters are at present the company rents out to another corporation a valuable franchise, to which it has itself no title whatever. The use of the streets was granted to the elevated companies for the operating of their roads, and for no other purpose. The newsdealers whose business is injured by the competition of the Manhattan news company are active in the matter and hopeful of success.

The opposition to the Brundage tax bill is an unconscious homage paid to the principle of the single tax by some of its bitterest opponents. The Brundage bill proposes simply to carry into effect the ordinarily received principles of taxation. Only that and nothing more. The only ground on which pro-poverty theorists can logically oppose it is that it may possibly be executed. It provides for precisely that system of taxation which they are never tired of saying is the only correct system.

If it is right to tax a man's house, it is certainly right to tax his watch, and his carriage, and his service of silver plate. If it is right to make a man pay tax on the house he buys outright, it is surely right to tax him for the house on which he holds a mortgage. If it be replied that to tax mortgages will prevent men from lending money on mortgage, the reply is ready that to tax houses prevents men from building houses. Any tax on industry will tend to check that industry. We all know that, though a great many of us are chary of admitting it.

The energy of the antagonism to the Brundage bill is prophetic of the triumph of the single tax on land values. One by one the various tax systems that throttle industry are being fiercely attacked, put upon their defense and found wanting. With Mr. Kelley displaying the hollowness of the protection theory in congress, and Mr. Brundage holding up the personal property tax for exhibition at Albany, men are daily more and more induced to turn their gaze toward the only taxing system that fosters industry instead of choking it, and develops wealth instead of poverty.

At a recent sale of ferry franchises in this city the franchise of the Houston street ferry was sold for five years for $5,000 a year; the franchise of the Cortlandt street ferry for ten years at $10,000, and the Desbrosses street ferry, ten years, for $7,000 a year. The Cortlandt street and Desbrosses street ferries, besides paying the rental in cash, are obliged to allow the city the use of their boats for extinguishing fires along the river front and to carry an equipment of hose for that purpose.

That was a pleasant little speech of a real estate operator to a representative of the New York *Herald*. The two were discussing the so called "depression" in city real estate. "Let those who talk of depression," said this man who knew whereof he spoke, "try to buy a piece of real estate, either improved or unimproved, and he will find that the value of land has not decreased. I know that some houses have sold very cheaply, but that does not affect the value of the land upon which they stand. A shrewd buyer does not consider what are called improvements; he looks at the value of the land itself."

Exactly. The improvements are a minor matter; it is the land that has the value. Yet the improvements, which are the result of individual industry, are discouraged by heavy taxation; while the land values, that result from the work and pressure of the whole community, are practically untaxed.

The guiding principle of an Irish faction is, when you see a head hit it. The chief canon of the modern taxation system is of much the same order: when you see an industry tax it.

The legislature of the state of Texas, in pursuance of this rule, are meditating the taxation of base ball clubs. Base ball clubs make lots of money and need plenty of police protection—especially to the umpire. Therefore base ball clubs ought to be taxed. There is no argument that can be adduced in favor of taxing houses and barns that will not equally apply to the taxation of base ball clubs. If one is made to pay, the other certainly should not be let go free.

The Austin *Statesman*, however, doesn't believe in taxing base ball clubs. It entreats the legislature not to think of such a thing. It says:

If the legislature desires to kill off this only summer sport known in Texas, to cut short what will prove a beneficial rivalry and intercourse between the five leading cities of Texas, then it could not pursue a more direct or certain course. This matter has not been looked at in its true light by those members of the legislature who propose to do this tax act. When it is known that such a procedure means the end of this amusement, we think the legislature will take the liberal view that the state does not want any such thing done.

The *Statesman* evidently wants to see base ball flourish in Texas and knows just what must be done to encourage it. Quite as evidently the *Statesman* isn't particularly anxious for the increase of houses and barns and horses and cattle and sheep and those sort of things, for it doesn't utter a word of protest against their taxation. but lets the legislature go on discouraging them in the same good old fashioned way.

How much interest the American people are taking in the tariff discussion is evidenced by the demand for public documents relating to the question. Of the president's message a million and a half of copies have been distributed, and Mr. Mills's speech has already reached a circulation of 160,000, with a rapidly rising demand.

On the other hand, only forty thousand copies of Mr. Kelley's speech have been called for, notwithstanding its vaunted effectiveness in exploding the free trade theory. There is a suspicion however, that the wiser heads among the protectionists look on the Kelley oration as rather a dangerous document to circulate.

A convention, at which representatives were present from eleven states, was held at Hot Springs, N. C., last week, for the purpose of devising measures for promoting immigration to the south. There was a good deal of enthusiasm and some very practical work and talk. It was decided to form an immigrant association, with head quarters at New York, and to request subscriptions from the various southern cities, counties and towns to pay the necessary expenses. The association expects to be in working order, with plenty of money at its command, by the first of July.

The object of this movement, of course, is to benefit the people who now live in the southern states. Whatever advantages may be offered to the immigrants will not be offered from pure philanthropy, but simply to induce them to come. But unless the association wants to see its purpose defeated, it will warn the southern people to make haste and buy each man some of his country before the immigration begins, and on no account to be in a hurry to sell it. There is many a southern family living in comfort and happiness to-day that will be broken up and crushed into poverty if there comes an inrush of immigration into the south. Lands will rise in value, fences will be built higher and higher, and the unfortunate landless ones, be they native or foreign, will be driven to compete for the privilege of work, and failing to obtain it, will have no refuge but the poorhouse.

New York is far from being a thickly settled state. There is plenty of uncultivated land within her borders—plenty of natural opportunities lying idle. Yet thousands upon thousands of New Yorkers, by birth and descent, have been forced to leave their native state simply because they can't afford to pay for the privilege of living there. If the southern people are not careful they will find themselves as badly off as the New Yorkers.

When Canada went into business as a dominion she was burdened with a debt of $75,000,000, against which she might fairly set public works estimated to be worth $17,000,000. Now she has a debt of $273,000,000, and the value of her public works has only risen to $45,000,000. Her exports have fallen from $102,000,000 in 1882 to $89,000,000 in 1887, and her imports from $132,000,000 to $105,000,000. The immigrants that land on her shores are mostly bound for the United States, and the most enterprising of her young men are swarming into this country. Speaking generally, Canada seems to be in a pretty bad way.

The simple truth is that Canada has been trying the protective plan, without being strong enough to bear it. We of the United States have the compensating advantage of free trade with 60,000,000 people to set against the burden of the tariff; but poor Canada has practically all protection and no free trade. To appreciate the dominion's unfortunate condition we need only suppose the state of New York protected against all the other states and forbidding her citizens to trade with Philadelphia, Boston or Chicago, save under penalty of heavy fines. The only wonder is that Canada should have been able to stand it so long.

The Pine Lumber Pool.

Congressman Bynum's Speech.

The pine lumber pool has succeeded during the past year in advancing the prices of lumber $12 to $15 per thousand, on the ground of high shipping rates and increased wages. The grounds for the advance are trivial, as the wages of the men are only $5 more per month and the running expenses of the vessels are no greater. The pool, which has adopted all the methods of newly invented trusts, has simply made the people of California pay about one and a half millions into its pocket. It controls ships and mills, and regulates the prices of pine lumber to suit itself.

THE CHICAGO CONFERENCE.

Letter from W. W. Bailey.

CHICAGO, April 29.—I wish to say, in behalf of the provisional committee of the national single tax conference, that affairs are progressing favorably and that indications point to a notable gathering on the Fourth of July in this splendid city.

The committee has been hampered in its operations by the fact that its members are men who have very little leisure, and so what has been done has been accomplished under disadvantages which all our friends who work for their living will readily appreciate. I can say, however, that the somewhat bulky correspondence has been attended to pretty thoroughly, that a good local committee has been set to work, that the necessary funds are being subscribed, that reduced railroad rates from every part of the country are being arranged, and that outside interest, notably among the newspapers, is developing under the stimulus of this event, which promises to be historic.

It is in the discussion which will precede and follow this conference, in the increased activity of our friends everywhere by reason of the interest which they must feel in the first national meeting of men whose object it will be to promote the spread of the single tax doctrine, that my great hope lies. I do not care so much for what the conference does in the way of whereases and resolves. I do care that it shall set men to asking themselves what all these earnest men mean who travel for distances not to shout for a candidate, not to view with alarm or point with pride, but to devise a means whereby certain economic truths may be the more certainly and speedily diffused among the people—not among this class of people or that, but among the whole people, great and small, rich and poor, wise and foolish. Men are already wondering that such a novelty should be contemplated as a conference of persons who propose to abolish poverty by means of a single tax. What will those men do when they see the conference itself? Not a conference of men with long hair, dirty collars and beer soaked hides, but of intelligent, well dressed, clean, sober and clear spoken gentlemen, each of them, perhaps quite self supporting in a worldly way and each with a definite, solid, irrefragable idea of what he wants and how it may be had.

I confess that from a certain very definite dread of this business that fell upon me so unexpectedly I was not consulted before Mr. Williams sent out his circular proposing to saddle the duty upon me which I have since tried to discharge. I am coming to regard it with a great hope of success. I have solicited the advice and co-operation of such men as Judge Maguire, Mr. Ring, Mr. Custer, Mr. Adams, Martin Williams, Mr. McCann and Mr. Atkinson, and they are entering cordially into the work which it is necessary to do, so I may be excused for gathering some enthusiasm as I go along, especially as the friends here at home—and they are increasing daily under the steady propaganda which is being maintained—are entering with zest into the work, confident of the great benefits which are certain to flow from a meeting of so much importance.

Already Mr. La Shelie, the excellent gentleman I was so fortunate as to get to act as secretary to the provisional committee, is receiving notifications from those who will be present. A delegation of thirty or more will come from Missouri. Indiana will send quite as many more. Illinois will have from fifty to a hundred. Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska, Michigan, Minnesota, Kentucky, Ohio, Wisconsin and New York are being heard from, and it is believed that the attendance will be worthy of so great an occasion.

I trust that every friend of the cause will feel it to be his duty to be present. Some sacrifices you can afford to make in a matter of such moment. It will be something to remember and be proud of that you shared in the work of the first great national meeting of true revenue reformers. Most of you will live to see this beneficent doctrine of ours practically applied. Most of you, God willing, will live to share in the benefits it will surely confer. It will be a glorious thing to tell your children that you were of that faithful band that gathered from widely separated points to begin the work whose results will be seen in happier homes, sweeter manners and purer laws. I would not miss it, I know, were it to involve walking, and even sharper sacrifices; and I am sure that the same spirit of devotion and hopefulness is everywhere the badge of those who have taken up the cross of the new crusade.

Then, friends, from Maine to California, from Minnesota to Texas, I bespeak and urge your co-operation, your earnest aid in making this conference not alone respectable, but commanding. Say to-day that you will be with us, and come, even if in coming you must deny yourselves, as I and others of us have had to do for lesser causes. Come, and let us send out from this city by the lake so strong, so notable and so earnest a cry that all the country will hear it and give heed to the meaning. We can challenge the attention of press and public. It were sinful if we failed to do it.

W. W. BAILEY.

THE PROTECTIONIST VIEW OF IT.

The Absurdity of Free Trade Sentiment Pointed Out.

HOPE VALLEY, R. I.—Permit me to say a few words in favor of our splendid protective tariff system.

The great mistake that free traders make is the assumption that consumers have any rights that producers should respect. Free traders are also guilty of holding such erroneous ideas as that abundance is a greater blessing than scarcity; that the results of labor are of more importance than the efforts of labor; that dearness is an evil; that cheapness is the poor man's luxury, and to clinch their arguments they emphatically claim that the chief end of man is not to pay taxes.

These assumptions are somewhat plausible, but have they practical value?

Let us suppose all men willing to do unto each other as, under like circumstances, they would like to be done by. Society could then dispense with nine hundred and ninety-nine lawyers out of every one thousand. Now, every man who pins his faith to the gospel of Frye, Platt, Morrill & Co., will declare such a result very bad for lawyers. For this non-observance of the golden rule furnishes just so much protection to lawyers in furnishing them means of gaining a living. Protected lawyers, as consumers, in their turn, give labor employment. The logical outcome of this view is, considered from the standpoint of orthodox protective policy, that the more wicked, fractious and quarrelsome men are, the more will the legal fraternity be protected.

The same kind of reasoning can be applied to ministers of religion and teachers of morality. If there were no sin or wrong doing in the world there would be no necessity for religious or moral teachers. As a protectionist I must say that the wickedness and immorality of men is a good thing, for it gives many men and women employment in our churches and other ethical institutions.

Equally applicable is this reasoning to education. If every person were a natural Solomon, our schools and colleges would go out of existence. It is therefore necessary, in order to protect college professors and school teachers, that ignorance shall prevail. I feel sure that iron and coal mine owners, lumber lords, the representatives of gigantic trusts, will agree with me in this respect.

Suppose that science should produce an unfailing remedy for all the ills and ailments that flesh is heir to, so that every one could be sure of living to ripe old age. Just consider what a terrible thing this would be. Of course free traders would say that such a discovery would be an inestimable boon to humanity—unless it should get into the hands of some trust—but the far-sighted protectionist would see it differently. For in the event of such a discovery the great question would be, What will keep doctors from starving? What will become of druggists and poor drug clerks? What will become of chemists who compound chemical substances, and the bottle makers who make bottles for patent medicines to be put in, and the pill box manufacturer with his employes and all the old women who gather medicinal herbs for a living? The list would be greatly extended, showing the amount of suffering that would result from such a great discovery. If any one should try to answer these objections by referring to the accrued good to humanity, I, as a protectionist, should say, "Oh! that's nothing but a free trade argument; I don't go in for any inventions, improvement or discovery that will put our free American doctors on a level with the pauper doctors of Europe."

And so all inventions and improvements in tending to lessen labor and cheapen production are a curse. Take an extreme case: Suppose heaven should rain down thousands of loaves of bread into the streets. The starving poor might eat and be filled, but what a terrible thing it would be for the business interest of bake shops and restaurants. How we protectionists, with Senator Evarts at our head, would fervently pray to be delivered from the grinding competition of heaven, in order that our baking establishments might be protected. Without protection verily life would not be worth living.

GEORGE H. HADLEY.

Oswego Men Active.

OSWEGO, N. Y.—The Pioneer land and labor club of this city is in a flourishing condition, and bids fair to become a power in the municipal affairs of our city and of our state government. We are gaining strength daily, and our meetings are well attended. Last fall we polled 671 votes for Henry George, and this spring, by indorsing certain candidates who were favorable to our principles, we succeeded in getting several single tax men elected to important offices. In order to spread the light we have decided to distribute copies of "Progress and Poverty" to all who will consent to read it, and we feel assured that good results will follow.

Our club recently sustained a severe loss in the death of Mr. John Sullivan, one of the founders of the Pioneer club, a stanch and zealous advocate of the doctrine of the single tax. He commanded the respect and esteem of all who knew him. Peace to his ashes.

JAS. C. MURRAY, President,
160 West First street.

No More Need to Hunt for Rubies.

Two years ago a process of making artificial rubies by fusing aluminate of lead with silica and adding a little chromium for coloring matter, was discovered. The stones were good although not so brilliant as the natural rubies, and it was not until the Paris syndicate of dealers in precious stones had declared they must be sold as artificial, that the trade in them was stopped. Since then a process has been perfected by Messrs. Fremy and Verneuil in France, whereby fluoride of barium is made to act upon aluminium, containing traces of bichromate of potassium. By this means rubies, rhombohedral in form, of the proper color, transparency and lustre which are as hard as the natural gems and cut like topaz—indeed, absolutely perfect stones—are formed.

In the Face of Inevitable Tariff Reduction.

Among the industries which have just been projected are a steam grist mill at Ashton, Me.; corn factory, Cherryfield, Me.; iron foundry, Southington, Conn.; sugar mill, Topeka, Kan.; iron foundry, Orange, Mass.; rattan factory, Wakefield, Mass.; optical instrument mill, Southbridge, Mass.; pulp and paper mill, Augusta, Me.; coffin trimming works, Essex, Conn.; stocking mill, Manchester, N. H.; foundry, Mechanic Falls, Me.; paper mills, near Erving, Mass.; grist mill, McCook, Neb.; cooper factory, Portland, Me.; woolen mills, Delaware county, Ia.; a lumber developing company at Portland, Me.; a large steel manufacturing plant at Chicago with a capital of $300,000; and a cotton yarn manufactory with a capital of $200,000 at New Bedford, Mass.

Awakening Interest by Discussion.

BALTIMORE, Md., April 25.—Mr. John Salmon of the Baltimore anti-poverty society last night read a paper entitled "The philosophy of the George movement," before a colored society called the Monumental literary and scientific association, at the Madison street Presbyterian church. Thirty minutes was allowed for the address and twenty minutes final summary, with ten minutes speeches free to all. There were about five hundred present and speeches were made by Messrs. Dixon, Davis, Reed, Dr. Brown and Cummings of the association. Not a few converts were made and many became interested and want to hear more. We will follow this work up with a distribution of tracts.

L. T. JONES, Secretary,

Hold On, Land Owners, and the People Will Make Your Fortune.

An old New Yorker was asked what property was worth on the east side of Central park. "Well," said he, "it is quoted at a million dollars a block; but very few holders would sell at that figure. The truth is that those who hold on will be able in five years to get anything they ask for it—two, three, or five millions of dollars."

Personal.

Albert Smith has not taken charge of the Brooklyn *Free Press*, as was reported.

M. Charles Floquet, the new French premier, is an old-time radical in politics. During the empire he was one of the thirteen prominent republicans prosecuted by the government. He entered the chamber of deputies in 1876, and voted for amnesty to the communists. In 1882 he was appointed prefect of the Seine, but was forced to resign because of his advocacy of local government for Paris.

S. Shimado, editor of the *Mainichi Skimbun*, or Tokio *Daily News*, has arrived at San Francisco on a tour of observation and study in this country. His paper is the free trade organ of Tokio, and he is watching the progress of revenue reform in the United States with great interest. Mr. S. says the people of this country have no adequate conception of the immense progress made by Japan during the last twenty years.—[New York World.

PEN, PASTE AND SCISSORS.

It is the Omaha *Herald* which believes that while the grumblings of Matthew Arnold will be speedily forgotten, his "Light of Asia" will be read decades hence.

A young man wants to know how he can get into the best New York society. He will have to stand on the line and wait for some of the noble 400 to die off.—[The Epoch.

Norwich has a man who says the bridge across the Thames at New London is to be the biggest kind of a bridge. He has examined the plans and he declares that it will have five spasms.—[Norwich Bulletin.

The annual report of the city marshal says: "It has been our painful duty to lose by death two of our officers during the past year." The department ought to be relieved from such a duty immediately.—[Worcester Spy.

The Oil City *Derrick* says that 53,000 petroleum wells have been driven in Pennsylvania and New York. The product sold for $500,000,000, a profit of $300,000,000. The exportation of the oil was 6,231,102,923 gallons.

Watch dials are now made by photography at a mere fraction of their former cost. They all used to be painted by hand. Now a hundred are made in the time formerly required to produce one, and each of the hundred is better than the one would have been.

The trade in birds for women's hats was so enormous last year that a single London dealer admitted that he sold two millions of every kind and color. At one auction in one week there were sold 6,000 birds of paradise, 5,000 Impeyan pheasants, 400,000 humming birds, and other birds from North and South America, and 360,000 feathered skins from India.

Heavy machinery is now run by artesian well power in many parts of France, and the experience of the French shows that the deeper the well the greater the pressure and the higher the temperature. The famous Grenelle well, sunk to the depth of 1,800 feet, and flowing daily 500,000 gallons, has a pressure of sixty pounds to the square inch, the water being also so hot that it is used for heating the hospitals.

The managers of the Reading iron works have got the protective principle down to a fine point. After keeping more than a thousand men idle for several months, on the ground that trade was dull, they have now permitted them to go to work again at a reduction of seven and a half per cent in their wages. Meantime the local store keepers have had to do without the trade of this thousand idle men.

The all-pervading sense of dependence upon some one else which characterizes the office seeking class is illustrated by a brief conversation at the national capital: "Johnny," called out an anxious Washington mother, "jes' you stop flingin' stuns at them boys." "Why, ma?" demanded the young Philistine. "Becos their pa is your pa's indooence, 'n 'f you go to throwin' stuns yer dad'll be out'n a job."—[Youth's Companion.

A large party of officers and privates of the Honorable artillery company of London have applied for leave of absence to visit the United States this month, in order to be present at the 250th anniversary of the Ancient and honorable artillery company of Boston, that company being an offshoot of the London company. A large delegation from Boston attended the 350th anniversary of the London company last year.

The attention of the French academy of sciences has been drawn by M. Faye, the eminent astronomer, to the apparent geological law that the cooling of the terrestrial crust goes on more rapidly under the sea than with a land surface. From this he argues that the crust must thicken under oceans at a more rapid rate, so as to give rise to a swelling up and distortion of the thinner portions of the crust; in other words, to the formation of mountain chains.

Nearly a year ago some Japanese students at the university of California, impressed with modern republican ideas and institutions, and with our social economy, started a paper, the *Shin Nippon*, for circulation in Japan. By it they expected to enlighten their countrymen and influence public opinion, and they criticised the Japanese government without reserve. But the project was nipped in the bud. New laws against the press brought the *Shin Nippon* upon the black list, all the copies of it that could be found were seized and destroyed, and the paper was obliged to suspend.

There are between 15,000 and 16,000 school teachers in Michigan, about 4,000 male and 11,000 female. The average cost to the state for school teachers' wages is $45.37 per month for males and $31.45 for females. The total amount paid for teachers' wages in 1887 was, in round numbers, $3,000,000. The value of school property of the state is estimated at $12,174,599; number of children of school age in the state, 619,979; number attending school, 421,308. There are 7,018 school districts in the state, and the total sum expended for all school purposes throughout the state for 1887 was $5,067,804.74.

A Jerusalem correspondent writes that the holy city is fast becoming again the city of the Jews. In 1880 there were not more than 5,000 Jews there; now there are more than 30,000. Recent Russian persecutions have led thousands to make their homes there, and although the Turkish government forbids all Jews who are not residents of Jerusalem to remain longer than thirty days, yet a judicious application of bribes enables them to stay there as long as they please without molestation. Wealthy Jews have built hospitals and founded homes, and many of the refugees who are poor live from the charity of their brethren.

A teacher of Mississippi colored folks has been taking notes of queer expressions that she has heard from her pupils and in meeting, and the *American Missionary* publishes them. Here are a few: "Go the great physicianer." "I use consecrated lye." "She is a crippler." "O Lord, give us good thinking facticals." "The meeting will be in the basin of the church." "O Lord, throw overboard all the load we'se totin and the sins which upset us." "Jog them in remembrance of their vows." "I want her to resist me with the ironing." "I want all you people to adhere to the bell." "There will be no respectable people in heaven. (God is no respecter of persons.)" "I was much disencouraged." "It was said at the startment of this meeting." "I take care of three head of children." "We have passed through many dark scenes and unseens."

The big office buildings are creating a peculiar revolution down town. Old fashioned office buildings without elevators are in such poor demand that offices are very cheap, and with so few taken that the houses are being used as store rooms, work shops, and the like. In the mean time the office buildings are taking in banks, insurance companies, tailors, barbers, saloons, restaurants, telegraph offices, men's stores, and, in short, are becoming little cities in themselves. Though some demand rentals at the rate of $25 a square foot of floor surface, professional men who are ambitious feel that they must go into them. They complain about the prices, but the landlords, in turn, assert that the competition in attractions provided in big buildings, such as free light, heat, elevators, floor cleaning and the rest, has reduced the profit to five or six per cent. But most of the owners of the big buildings are corporations in business, and they get their own quarters free of rental.—[New York Sun.

He Was an Out and Out Protectionist, and Lived on Other People's Work.

New York Tribune.

Western Man—Stranger, the place where you now stand, surrounded by solid blocks, palatial residences and tall spires, a few short months ago was only a hole in the ground.

Tenderfoot—How was that?

Western Man—You see, an eastern man came along and started a cattle ranch here. But he encountered a streak of bad luck, and the bottom dropped out of the whole business; so he laid off a town and made a fortune selling corner lots.

God.

Gabriel Romanowitch Derzhavin. (Russian.)

O Thou eternal One! whose presence bright
All space doth occupy, all motion guide—
Unchanged through time's all-devastating flight!
Thou only God—there is no God beside!
Being above all things! Mighty One,
Whom none can comprehend and none explore!
Who fill'st existence with Thyself alone—
Embracing all, supporting, ruling o'er—
Being whom we call God, and know no more!

In its sublime research, philosophy
May measure out the ocean deep—may count
The sands or the sun's rays—but, God! for Thee
There is no weight nor measure; none can mount
Up to Thy mysteries; reason's brightest spark,
Though kindled by Thy light, in vain would try
To trace Thy counsels, infinite and dark;
And thought is lost ere thought can soar so high,
Even like past moments in eternity.

Thou from primeval nothingness didst call
First chaos, then existence—Lord! in Thee
Eternity had its foundation; all
Sprung forth from Thee—of light, joy, harmony,
Sole Origin—all life, all beauty Thine;
Thy word created all, and doth create;
Thy splendor fills all space with rays divine;
Thou art, and wert, and shall be! Glorious! Great!
Light giving, life sustaining Potentate!

Thy chains the unmeasured universe surround—
Upheld by Thee, by Thee inspired with breath!
Thou the beginning with the end hast bound,
And beautifully mingled life and death!
As sparks mount upward from the fiery blaze,
So suns are born, so worlds spring forth from Thee;
And as the spangles in the sunny rays
Shine round the silver snow, the pageantry
Of heaven's bright army glitters in Thy praise.

A million torches lighted by Thy hand
Wander unwearied through the blue abyss—
They own Thy power, accomplish Thy command,
All gay with life, all eloquent with bliss.
What shall we call them? Piles of crystal light—
A glorious company of golden streams—
Lamps of celestial ether burning bright—
Suns lighting systems with their joyous beams!
But Thou to these art as the noon to night.

Yes! as a drop of water in the sea,
All this magnificence in Thee is lost—
What are ten thousand worlds compared to Thee!
And what am I then?—Heaven's unnumbered host,
Though multiplied by myriads, and arrayed
In all the glory of sublimest thought,
Is but an atom in the balance, weighed
Against Thy greatness—is a cipher brought
Against infinity! What am I then? Naught!

Naught! But the effluence of Thy light divine,
Pervading worlds, hath reached my bosom too;
Yes! in my spirit doth Thy spirit shine
As shines the sunbeam in a drop of dew.
Naught! But I live, and on hope's pinions fly
Eager towards thy presence—for in Thee
I live, and breathe, and dwell; aspiring high,
Even to the throne of Thy divinity.
I am, O God! and surely Thou must be!

Thou art!—directing, guiding all—Thou art!
Direct my understanding then to Thee:
Control my spirit, guide my wandering heart;
Though but an atom midst immensity,
Still I am something, fashioned by Thy hand!
I hold a middle rank 'twixt heaven and earth—
On the last verge of mortal being stand,
Close to the realms where angels have their birth,
Just on the boundaries of the spirit land!

The chain of being is complete in me—
In me is matter's last gradation lost,
And the next step is spirit—Deity!
I can command the lightning, and am dust!
A monarch and a slave—a worm, a god!
Whence came I here, and how? so marvelously
Constructed and conceived! Unknown! This clod
Lives surely through some higher energy;
For from itself alone it could not be!

Creator, yes! Thy wisdom and Thy word
Created me! Thou source of life and good!
Thou spirit of my spirit, and my Lord!
Thy light, Thy love, in their bright plenitude
Filled me with an immortal soul, to spring
Over the abyss of death, and bade it wear
The garments of eternal day, and wing
Its heavenly flight beyond this little sphere,
Even to its source—to Thee—its Author there.

O thoughts ineffable! O visions blest!
Though worthless our conceptions all of Thee,
Yet shall Thy shadowed image till our breast,
And waft its homage to Thy Deity.
God! thus alone my lowly thoughts can soar,
Thus seek thy presence—Being wise and good!
Midst Thy vast works admire, obey, adore;
And when the tongue is eloquent no more
The soul shall speak in tears of gratitude.

MY BUTCHER WOMAN AND MY GROCERY MAN.

My butcher woman sold out her fixtures and closed her store last month.

The lock out (or close up) was sudden. I had gone over to get a steak for supper, and, though I had noticed while crossing the street that the doors were closed, I did not suspect anything until I got in front of the store, when I saw that no meat was hanging on the hooks inside. I opened one of the doors and poked my head in and said: "What's the matter—closed up?"

The butcher woman's eldest boy was standing in the store, with his hands in his pockets, looking toward the street. He answered, "Yeah!"

It was only about the middle of April, and I didn't think the close up was for good, when there were fifteen days to run before the first of May, so I said: "Run out of meat, probably. Be open to-morrow?"

"Naw!" answered the boy, still standing with his hands in his pockets; "mother says she's goin' to quit."

As no meat was to be got at that store, I went on down the avenue to another butcher store, got a steak and went home.

The next day I passed by the place again, and seeing the butcher woman inside I resolved to gratify my curiosity and find out what this sudden closing up might mean. So I stopped inside to have a talk. The butcher woman was not at all secretive. In fact, she was rather anxious to talk than otherwise. Part of her story I knew already. Now I learned the sequel, and understood her business history from beginning to end. It's a very commonplace every day sort of a story, but still it has its interest.

My butcher woman wasn't always a butcher woman. When first the little store was opened she was a butcher's wife. It is only of late years that things have been reversed, and the man she married has become a butcher woman's husband. There are people living in the neighborhood who, if you ask them how the change has come about, will tell you that it's all the butcher's fault. He was a good for nothing fellow, who neglected his business, took to drink, and has had to suffer the usual consequences. If he had been sober, frugal and hard working, he might have got along well enough. That is the verdict of the world on the poor butcher. It may be yours, too. But don't give it till you have read his story.

Fifteen years ago the butcher opened the store that my butcher woman closed last month. The neighborhood was not so thickly settled then as now; but, on the whole, the butcher thought that was no disadvantage. People were bound to come there to live, new houses would be built and new families move in, and he would have a chance to catch the new trade as it came along, and grow up with the locality. He looked forward to an increasing business, did the butcher. He had visions of his little store growing into a big store. In anticipation he heard himself spoken of as Johnson *the* butcher, with a delightful emphasizing of the article.

So the butcher rented the little store and the living rooms above it. The rent was pretty steep—thirty-five dollars a month for the store and ten dollars for the living rooms. Somehow the landlord seemed to have figured out pretty accurately just what a butcher could earn in that neighborhood, and wanted to take just so much of it as would leave the butcher enough for his living expenses, and no more. But the butcher was young and hopeful. He'd do more business presently; and of course, when he did, he'd be able to put some money by. He took the store and went to work like the energetic young butcher that he was.

For the next four or five years everything went on very nicely. The neighborhood didn't fill up quite as fast as he had hoped, but still there was an improvement. On the other hand his living expenses were increased by the advent of two children. But there was a good time coming—he felt sure of that—and in the meantime he lived comfortably and had no anxieties.

Then the lease expired of the ground on which the house the butcher rented stood, and the building passed out of the hands of the man who had built it and became the property of the landlord. This seemed quite natural and proper to the butcher, who looked upon landlords as a necessary and favored class, and saw nothing strange in their making money without working for it. But it affected him in a way he hadn't anticipated; for the landlord was a man who understood his business and paid attention to it. He was a hard worker, was this landlord. Though he never produced anything himself, he was marvelously industrious at getting hold of what other folks produced. He knew the butcher—had talked with him in a free and condescending manner that made the butcher really happy. He knew what the butcher was making, what it cost him to live, what his hopes of extending his business were, and all the rest of it. So when the ground lease fell in, and the house became his, this hard working landlord felt it his duty to raise the butcher's rent—ten dollars a month more on the store, and five dollars on the living rooms. The house wasn't any more valuable, but the privilege of living in that neighborhood was; and as the landlord owned that privilege, of course it was only right that he should charge the butcher what it was worth. It was funny—the butcher didn't try to figure it out, and had no very definite ideas on the subject, but in a slow going, puzzle headed kind of way he felt that it was funny. His customers' landlords raised their rents because there were butcher shops, and bakeries, and delicatessen stores in the neighborhood; and *he* had *his* rent raised because there were customers in the neighborhood. So the butcher "stoed the raise," and kept on thinking about the good time coming, though with somewhat diminished confidence.

Well, the good time really came at last. People moved in thick and fast. Tenement houses went up in every direction. The butcher's trade increased a little—not as fast as it might have done, for the butcher had saved no money to speak of, and couldn't enlarge his premises, and so other butchers came along and took a good deal of the business—but still it really did increase. But somehow the butcher was actually worse off for it. As his trade grew, his rent grew with it. It really seemed—though, of course, that was ridiculous—as though he were working for his landlord, and not for himself. First it jumped to $75 a month. Then it rose to $100. The butcher discharged his hired man, and his wife, in addition to the care of the children and living rooms, had to help him in the store, while the oldest boy was taken from school and employed to carry home the orders. There was something wrong somewhere.

I had many a talk with the butcher in those days. He used to tell me it was hard lines, that his rent had more than doubled while his business had increased only thirty per cent. He had spoken to his landlord; but all the answer he got was, if he didn't like it he could clear out, there would be plenty of men who would be glad to get the store at even a higher rental. This seemed like an unanswerable argument to the butcher, and indeed it was one.

I noticed about this time that the butcher was becoming a drinking man. I happened into the store one day when he was more than ordinarily under the influence of liquor, and evidently he and his wife—who, by the way, was a remarkably sweet dispositioned woman—had been having some words. I asked what was the matter, and the woman said that Jim was neglecting his business and drinking more than a man with a family should. The butcher retorted by saying that a man had to do something to brace him up. He was up in the morning at three o'clock, and had to be in the store till seven in the evening. He couldn't afford to neglect any customers or he might lose them; and with the big expense he was under he couldn't afford to do that.

But a man couldn't stick to work all the time. If he took a nip now and then it was more to keep him up and enable him to stand the long hours that he had to work.

Two years ago the butcher's rent was raised to $110. Last year it mounted to $120. That settled matters as far as the butcher himself was concerned. He lost heart completely, took to regular hard drinking, and gave up even the pretense of attending to his business. It was then that the wife became a butcher woman, carrying on the business with the help of the eldest boy, in order to support the other children and herself. Seven months ago the butcher disappeared altogether. His life struggle had exhausted him. He sank out of sight.

On the first of last month—queer it should have happened on April fool's day—the butcher woman received notice that her rent thereafter would be $135 a month. This broke her down completely and after a week or two of despairing struggle against the inevitable she sold her fixtures and closed her store. I don't know what she is going to do. Neither does she. There is a lady among her customers—about the one well-to-do customer she had—who belongs to a charitable society which makes work for the deserving poor. She may do something for her. God knows. Such is the story of the butcher and the butcher woman.

My grocery man and I were talking over the butcher woman's case the other night. He is a down east Yankee, sharp and shrewd. He used to deal at the butcher woman's, knew her story and had plenty of sympathy for her. But while he admitted that the case was a hard one, he didn't see that the landlord was at all to blame for carrying on his business on business principles.

"The butcher wasn't cute," said my grocery man; "neither was his wife. When I opened this store seven years ago I paid $700 a year rent. My business was light for a long time, and it used to be as much as I could do to kill time.

"I had a customer who used to drop in for a chat and his hobby was the rent question. He hammered away until I got interested, though I couldn't fully understand what he meant. One day he asked me if I would read a book on the subject if he brought it to me, and I told him, as I had plenty of time on my hands, that I would. He brought me "Progress and Poverty." I read it through, and then I read it again more carefully. It gave me the idea on which I have worked ever since.

"What a landlord really does when he rents me a store is to lay a tax upon my business. If the business grows and prospers up goes the tax; if it languishes and doesn't grow the tax remains light. If my landlord should find out that I am doing a money making trade he would clap on more rent; but as long as he thinks I am struggling hard to make a living he will be pretty apt to be easy with me. Do you see the idea?

"Look at this store. There's no display about it, such as you'll find at the other stores round here. Not much! When the landlord drops in on me and asks me how business is I shrug my shoulders and say nothing.

"You don't catch me getting up at four o'clock in the morning and rushing down town for green groceries. I don't keep them at all. I don't encourage one, two and three cent customers, for their tramping in and out would give things a lively appearance. No, sir!

"I have kept my eyes open for customers who order two and three days' and a week's supply. And I don't run a wagon or a push cart. I keep one boy, and he delivers the orders with a basket. When I get orders amounting to five or ten dollars or more, I have them made up at the wholesale house down town, and delivered from there.

"Decent people in this neighborhood are mostly poor. I cater to the 'fast' trade around here, and I supply them with all their groceries, wines and liquors; but none of those goods go from my store.

"Do I make money? Of course I do. I'll bet I do more business than any two grocers in the neighborhood; but I do the bulk of my business on the sly, taking good care the landlord doesn't get on to me."

"Here's the store. Looks about the same as when I first got you for a customer, doesn't it? Well, that's the way I intend to have it look while I run it.

"Does it pay me to do this? I should murmur. I have only had my rent raised two hundred dollars in seven years, while that chap over there has had his rent more than doubled in the same time. No, not *his* rent, for the man that was there up to three years ago was frozen out by his landlord raising his rent; and the new man will be frozen out, too. I'll bet he pays nearly double the rent I do, and I'll bet also that he don't do over half the business I do.

"You've got to fight the devil with fire. My landlord is my devil, and I propose to get the best of him as long as I can."

My groceryman's talk has set me thinking. If the landlord has a right to all the place is worth, isn't the grocery man cheating his landlord? Or, if he hasn't such a right, didn't the butcher woman's landlord cheat her? My butcher worked hard and told the truth, and now he's a drunkard and a tramp, and his family are beggars. My grocery man worked hard and lied, and seems to have thriven by the process. These things puzzle me.

WILLIAM MCCABE.

The Danger in Denying Man his Heritage of Earth.

Southey.

Whatever strengthens our local attachments is favorable both to individual and national character. Our home, our birthplace, our native land—think for a while what the virtues are which arise out of the feelings connected with these words, and, if you have any intellectual eyes, you will then conceive the connection between topography and patriotism. Show me a man who cares no more for one place than another, and I will show you in that same person one who loves nothing but himself. Beware of those who are homeless by choice; you have no hold on a human being whose affections are without a tap root. The laws recognize this truth in the privileges they confer upon free holders; and public opinion acknowledges it also in the confidence which it reposes upon those who have what is called a stake in the country. Vagabond and rogue are convertible terms, and with how much propriety may any one understand who knows what are the habits of the wandering classes, gypsies, tinkers and potters.

TAX LAWS IN PENNSYLVANIA.

Things Very Much Muddled, But the Railroad Corporations Manage to Wriggle Out, While the Poor Man Who Tells the Truth, Of Course, Gets Punished.

PHILADELPHIA, April 27.—A general revenue law enacted by the legislature of the state of Pennsylvania on the seventh day of June, 1879, by section 4, imposed a tax of three mills on each dollar of the value of the capital stock of corporations, to be paid by the treasurers of the corporations to the state treasury.

Section 17 of the said act provided that all mortgages, debts owing by solvent debtors, accounts bearing interest, shares of stock, and all other moneyed capital in the hands of individual citizens, with various exceptions, should be taxed at the rate of four mills on every dollar of the value thereof annually.

This section it was found necessary to revise and re-enact by the act of June 10, 1881, and again in the act of June 30, 1885, wherein directions were made for recording officers to make out list of mortgages, judgments, etc., to assist the tax officers to reach the same for taxation.

Section 6 of the latter "further supplement" to the state tax laws provided for a form of return which each citizen should make, under oath, of all his personal property subject to taxation under the various tax laws of the commonwealth. This provision was so efficacious in making some honest people disclose their property and pay tax, while the great mass escaped the infliction, and in its operation disclosed so glaringly the injustice which results from our laws which endeavor to tax "personal property," that on May 13, 1887, it was enacted, "That all taxes laid upon watches, household furniture, and pleasure carriages, be and the same are hereby abolished, and the laws under which said taxes are laid and collected, so far as they relate to the property herein mentioned, are hereby repealed." This show the trend of the taxing minds of our law makers. The tax dogs were called off to that extent. Thereupon arose the question whether the law applied to the taxes for the then current year, 1887. The tax officers attempted to collect them, but the courts decided that the law abolished them. Now the question is, What shall be done in the cases of those who had already paid such taxes for the year 1887 prior to the enactment of the repealing act. They want their money back.

Edward J. Fox and wife applied to court for an injunction to restrain the tax assessor of the district in which they lived from proceeding to assess them under the act of 1885, which is largely, as I have said, a revision and re-enactment of the seventeenth section of the act of 1879. One of the grounds of the application was that the act of 1885 was unconstitutional, not agreeing with that section of our state constitution, which provides that "all taxes shall be uniform upon the same class of subjects," among other respects in that it does not tax mortgages and moneys owned by corporations equally and together with mortgages and moneys owned by individuals and others.

In this case ("Fox's appeal") it was settled that the act of 1885 is unconstitutional in some of its provisions; but it is not so in this respect: that inasmuch as by the fourth section of the act of 1879, which I have above first mentioned, to which this act of 1885 is "a further supplement," a tax is imposed upon the value of the capital stock of corporations, the omission to tax the mortgages owned by corporations, as well as other mortgages, does not produce unequal taxation; and further, it was settled by this case that the mortgages owned by corporations are not subject to taxation under this act as are the mortgages of individuals. This conclusion was afterward reaffirmed when the question was directly raised by the corporations themselves against the tax officers.

The republican state convention included in its platform, which was adopted on Wednesday, the following: "Eleventh. We recommend such a revision of the revenue laws of the state as will impose upon corporations taxation equal in amount to that from which they have been exempted by judicial decisions recently rendered."

Here is further progress in escaping taxation by those who can best afford to bear it. The *Record* to-day says editorially:

Two recent decisions by the Dauphin county court threaten to overturn the present revenue system of the commonwealth. Judge McPherson's opinion adverse to the constitutionality of the state tax on gross receipts, because it applied to the interstate traffic as well as to the state traffic of certain common carriers, would, if affirmed by the upper courts, entail a loss of over one million dollars per annum upon the commonwealth. Judge Simonton's decision against the constitutionality of section 4 of the revenue act of 1885, on the ground of lack of uniformity in assessing the tax on money at interest, involves $600,000 per annum. Some of these tax moneys have not been paid by the corporations for three years, pending action by the courts, and it is estimated that the actual loss to the state because of the two decisions referred to will exceed four million dollars.

An attack is also to be made upon the constitutionality of the capital stock tax, which yields $2,000,000 per annum to the state, the initial move in that direction having been taken on Tuesday last at Harrisburg by a learned lawyer who acts for nearly all the powerful corporations of Pennsylvania. Altogether there are 300 corporation tax suits pending in the Dauphin county court, which has special jurisdiction in the settlement of such questions.

What more is required by the candid thinker to show the injustice of our whole present system of taxation?

J. HENRY MCINTYRE.

The Population of Japan.

The *London and China Telegraph*, referring to recent publications on Japanese statistics, says that on Jan. 1, 1885, the Japanese empire had a population of 37,868,987, or an average of ninety-nine inhabitants to each square kilometer, which is about the same average as Italy and much more than that of Germany. But if the large area of Yezo and the Kuriles, with its small population, be deducted, Japan proper has a population of 131 to the square kilometer, while Great Britain had only 114. For various reasons peculiar to the country and the people the distribution of the population is by clusters. In eight administrative districts the density reaches 220 per square kilometer, for these include the fertile rice plains and the most productive fisheries. Japan is a country of small peasant cultivation, rice being the principal staple, hence the mountainous districts are very thinly inhabited. The average number of persons in a household is 3.91, while in Germany it is 4.7; but in urban households the average is much smaller than in the country or than that of European cities. Notwithstanding the density of the population, the small number of populous towns is very striking. Only five have a population exceeding 100,000—viz., Tokio, 902,837; Osaka, 353,970; Kioto, 256,408; Nagoya, 126,898, and Kanagawa, 104,330. Six only have a population between 50,000 and 100,000. This peculiarity in distribution is due to the circumstances that Japan is not an industrial but an agricultural country. Another peculiarity is the proportion of the sexes; there were 19,157,977 males and 18,711,110 females, so that, reversing the rule in Europe, the males preponderate. This is said to be due to the effect that there is a great preponderance of female mortality between fifteen and forty, Japanese statistics on this subject being wholly different from those of European countries. At the date of the census there were 8,898 Japanese abroad, their distribution being as follows: Corea, 4,356; China, 2,068; America, 817; Russia (mainly eastern Siberia), 671; Great Britain, 264; France, 164; Germany, 129, and the remainder in other countries or on the sea.

THE BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY.

How Free Land, Free Power and No Taxes Have Developed It in Small New England Towns.

The Lynn, Mass., *Bee*, commenting on a recent editorial in the *Boot and Shoe Recorder*, says:

The *Recorder's* theory is a very pretty one on paper; but there is a fatal defect about it; it don't hold good in practice; it don't protect the workingman or his wages worth a cent. The high protective tariff with the protectionists' cry that "it makes high wages," has attracted thousands upon thousands of skilled and unskilled European and Canadian laborers to our country, and the skilled laborers have entered our mills at a low rate of wages and have driven out the American laborers, until to-day there are over a million of laborers out of work.

"There is only one thing that will tempt capital to invest in factories," says the *Recorder*, "and that is profit. The greater the profit the more eager will capital be to invest." Was it a demand, in the sense in which the *Recorder* puts it, that led to the establishing of country shoe factories, or was it the inducement of greater profits held out by selectmen of the towns in free rent, taxes and power, and in getting a larger profit out of the protected workmen's wages? There was no real demand for those country shops, as the work could have been done in those already established had the manufacturers been willing to pay fair living prices and have recognized the right of workingmen to sell their wages at the highest price. The high protective tariff forces the workingmen to buy the necessaries of life in the dearest market and leaves the manufacturer free to purchase his labor in the cheapest market. And this is protection to labor.

"If, then," says the *Recorder*, "the tariff raises the price of an article, as the *Bee* holds that it does, the conclusion is as clear as logic can make it that this increased price is the very thing to induce capital to build factories for producing the article, the increased demand for workmen with its effect on wages follow as a logical sequence." There is such a thing as too much protection (taxation). Capital seeking investment, everything else being equal, will be attracted to the city or town where the tax rate is the lowest. The fare between Lynn and Boston is twenty cents, and the railroads do a fair business. Reduce the fair to ten or to five cents, and the railroads would be swamped with business. Just so it will be in knocking off the war taxes; there will be stimulation of trade, new markets will be opened up, and labor will be better rewarded, as it will be given steadier employment.

A Machine That Will Do the Work of a Stenographer.

Atlanta Constitution.

The stenographers who report the proceedings in congress for publication in the *Congressional Record* have in the past few days secured a machine to facilitate the work which has already proven of inestimable value. It is one of Edison's inventions, and is called the graphaphone. The machine very much resembles a lady's sewing machine and is worked in the same manner—by a pedal. The instrument is used in this wise: When one of the stenographers concludes his floor report, he goes to this machine, reads his report into a funnel connecting with the main cylinder, which is gutta-percha coated, and revolves while the point of a needle connecting with the tube from the funnel mouthpiece rests against it. When the stenographer finishes reading his report another operator attaches tubes to the cylinder, connecting with his ears, works the machine, and the words of the stenographer are repeated to him in the same tone of voice of the previous talker. The rapidity of the talk can be regulated, and the operator can thus with ease take down the exact words by the use of a typewriter or an ordinary pen. The machine is certainly wonderful, and enables a person with the assistance of a typewriter to do the work of two ordinary stenographers, who first have to take the report in shorthand and then translate it.

These gutta-percha cylinders can be stored away, and years after, if placed upon the machine, the same words used to-day will be repeated in the exact tone of the speaker. Thus should any record become destroyed these cylinders may be resorted to.

Another thing about this machine is that a person here can talk for an hour into one, mail the cylinder to Atlanta, where by the use of a machine the exact words used here will be repeated, thus saving the labor of writing long communications.

The German Freeman in the Early Times.

Green's "Making of England."

Land with the German race seems at a very early time to have become everywhere the accompaniment of full freedom. The freeman was strictly the freeholder, and the exercise of his full rights as a free member of the community to which he belonged became inseparable from the possession of his "holding" in it. But property had not as yet reached the stage of absolutely personal possession. The wood land and pasture land of an English village were still undivided, and every free villager had the right of turning into it his cattle or swine. The meadow land lay, in like manner, open and undivided from hay harvest to spring. It was only when grass began to grow afresh that the common meadow was fenced off into grass fields, one for each household in the village, and when hay harvest was over fence and division were at an end again. The plow land alone was permanently alloted in equal shares both of corn land and fallow land to the families of the freemen, though even the plow land was subject to fresh division as the number of claimants grew greater or less. It was this sharing of the common land which marked off the freeman or ceorl from the unfree or laet, the tiller of land which another owned. . . . In the modern sense of freedom, the last was free enough. He had a house and home of his own, his life and limb were as secure as the ceorls save as against his lord; it is probable, from what we see in later laws, that as the time went on he was recognized as a member of the nation, summoned to the folk-moot, allowed equal right at law, and called like the full freeman to the hosting. But he was unfree as regards lord and land. He had neither part nor lot in the common land of the village. The ground which he tilled he held of some freeman of the tribe, to whom he paid rent in labor or in kind. And this man was his lord.

Why They Leave the Farm Early.

Bangor, Me., Commercial.

Alton, Penobscot county, boasts of having two of the smartest youngsters in the state. J. D. Sargent has a boy and girl, aged respectively six and eight years, that have taken the most of the care of nineteen head of horned cattle, one colt and a flock of sheep. They turned them out every day, fair or foul, and pumped water for them. If any one can beat this, please let us have the names and places.

Why Not Give a Little Encouragement to the Men Who Are Going to Work in the Foundry.

Jackson, Ohio, Standard.

The people of Jackson should encourage the foundry people in perfecting the arrangements for the great works. These men propose to bring some fifty thousand dollars in money to invest in the manufacturing business here. Such men deserve a hearty reception by our people. There are no mere experiments projected. The company means business—a good, steady, paying business.

THE BEATING OF THE DRUMS.

By shutting off foreign competition the tariff deprives the people of their natural protection against monopolies, and such monopolies or trusts, protected by the tariff, can make the home price equal to the foreign price plus the duty. A prohibitory tariff is a direct encouragement to the formation of trusts.—[Philadelphia Call.

Among the most hopeful signs of the times is the interest, and even the eagerness, with which the economic and commercial questions involved in tariff reform are taken into consideration by the public. The issues of sentiment and prejudice on which an entire generation of men in politics were brought up have been driven out by this more wholesome and practical question, and the healthy enthusiasm with which its discussion is received demonstrates that the people can reason as earnestly as they can feel.—[Boston Post.

When it has been proposed to put copper on the free list the copper lords have pathetically described the ruin that would come upon their industry. In no other case have the monopolists been more impudent. Last year almost ten times as much copper was exported as imported. Nothing could more clearly prove that copper needs no protection, since all that was exported was sold in a free trade market. But the tariff of 2½ cents a pound on copper last year proved equal to a duty of 49.6 per cent.—[Philadelphia Call.

A heavy tax on "Rough on Rats" would add to the surplus in the treasury, and, like all tariffs, would help to spread general prosperity. With more taxes on manufactured and compounded articles of all kinds there would be greater prosperity, and therefore very few of the very poor in need of a cheap method of destroying their own lives. We leave the elaboration of this theory to the able logician of the *Tribune* who is able to prove that a farmer can add to his wealth by building an insurmountable stone wall around his farm.—[New York World.

There was little in Mills's speech that could be regarded as bellicose or calculated to provoke a party fight. He seemed rather to invite all republicans who would consent to a moderate, needed and carefully guarded revision of the tariff to join him in amending and perfecting the bill of the committee with these ends in view. How was this reasonable proposition met by the republican leaders? Simply by putting "Pig iron" Kelley forward to roar for free whisky, to oppose reduction of the sugar tax and insanely to denounce any and all reform of the tariff as meaning absolute "free trade, blight and ruin." No wonder many western republican members hung their heads in shame, and others hurried off in disgust to the cloak rooms before Kelley concluded his imbecile tirade.—[Chicago Tribune (Rep.)

One could concede that all the absurdities in the generalizations of the protectionists were eternal truths; that American labor needed a tariff on its productions to protect it against the cheap labor of other countries, which is all the time free to come here and compete directly for employment; that the tariff is added to the wages of the laborer and not to the profits of the employer; that the tariff makes goods dearer and at the same time makes them cheaper; that the tariff is the sole cause of the great prosperity of this country, while it fails to give prosperity to Germany, Spain, Italy and Mexico; that it is our only protection against the insidious efforts of Great Britain to ruin us—one might admit all these ridiculous and contradictory propositions, and yet the main points of Mr. Mills's speech remains an unassailable defense of the wisdom of tariff reduction at the present time as provided for in the Mills bill.—[Detroit Evening News.

Why Germany's Metal Industries Are Supplanting Those of England.

F. Leary in London Democrat.

Common justice recoils from lowering the wages of the workmen while by means of royalties the landlord gets an equal or greater share for doing nothing at all. The capital of the employer may go to the dogs, the workmen may starve, but the royalty owner must have his pound of flesh. It is estimated that about £36,000,000 is paid annually in royalties. How, in the name of common sense, can it be expected that this country can compete with the foreigner in the manufacture of iron when raw material can be get at 6d. a ton in Germany, and 8d. in France—which is paid to the state in both case—while we have to pay 8s. 6d. a ton in Cumberland to the landlord? To make 600 tons of pig iron it has been found that £202 is paid in royalties against £95 in wages. An iron master who has four furnaces standing idle, recently told me that if the royalties were reduced these would all be working. Many of our iron masters find it cheaper to import ironstone from Spain and Friesland than pay these royalties and work mines at home. On steel the royalties in this country amount to no less than 9s. 6d. per ton, and some of our fast American liners pay more for royalties on coal than for wages. In the county of Lanark the royalty on coal is 1s. 4d. a ton, while the wage of the miner is 10d. a ton. On the continent 2d per ton is paid to the state. A firm burning 500 tons of coal weekly pays about £1,250 a year in royalties for driving power alone; but the tribute does not end here; the bricks, stone, mortar, glass, slates, etc., of which the building is composed all bear royalty, as well as the machinery which fills it. Mr. Mason, M. P., instanced the case of a pit where £50,000 was spent in sinking and plant, when it was found that the mine could not be profitably worked, and as the landlord refused to reduce the royalty the money was lost. One gentlemen receives £11,000 per annum for mining royalties alone. When a lease expires, a "fine" is exacted for renewing the same. The royalty on the china clay industry ranges from 1s. 6d. to 4s. 6d., and in some cases it is as high as 18s. a ton. Can it be wondered at that trade is stagnant, profit disappearing, capital languishing, employment scarce, and people starving, when the whole industry of the country is taxed for the benefit of the privileged few? The question for solution is—are the landlords to abate their royalties, or is there to be a general reduction of wages throughout the land?

Honest John Sherman Believes in Free Ships.

Springfield Republican.

Do we want ships? Then why forbid American citizens from buying them where they can be bought cheapest, instead of classing them with obscene literature and counterfeit money, and prohibiting their entrance into the country? The Dunn bill would allow this, and would further allow the free importation of materials to be used here in ship-building. This is business-like—that is, if we really want ships. And fortunately we have so eminent a man as Senator John Sherman in favor of this plan. He declared in 1872, during a speech in the senate, that the admission of foreign built ships free to American registry "would be of more service to the commercial interests of the United States than all the subsidies that could possibly be voted." He went on to say that we could not possibly build ships in competition with England, and thus continued:

"Then why not admit them duty free, raise the American flag upon them, put American officers on their decks and have American lines instead of British lines? Why, sir, if that bill should pass, one-half of the lines between New York and England would be American lines in sixty days."

Why not, indeed, if we want ships! They will come to us fast enough when we cease to treat them like obscene literature or tax them out of existence like a pernicious drug.

They Couldn't Afford to Buy It in America

London Echo.

The Tees-side iron and engine works company have received an order for the construction of a complete blast furnace plant with all machinery, etc., for China. This will be the first blast furnace set up in the celestial empire.

The Church and the World.

Matilda C. Edwards.

The Church and the World walked far apart,
On the changing shores of time;
The World was singing a giddy song,
And the Church a hymn sublime.
Come give me your hand, cried the merry World,
And walk with me this way;
But the good Church hid her snow white hand,
And solemnly answered, Nay,
I will not give you my hand at all,
And I will not walk with you;
Your way is the way of endless death;
Your words are all untrue.

Nay, walk with me but a little space,
Said the World with a kindly air;
The road I walk is a pleasant road,
And the sun shines always there;
Your path is thorny and rough and rude,
And mine is broad and plain;
My road is paved with flowers and gems,
And yours with tears and pain.
The sky above me is always blue;
No want, no toil I know;
The sky above you is always dark;
Your lot is a lot of woe.
My path, you see, is a broad, fair path,
And my gate is high and wide—
There is room enough for you and me
To travel side by side.

Half shyly the Church approached the World,
And gave him her hand of snow;
The old World grasped it and walked along,
Saying, in accents low,
Your dress is too simple to please my taste;
I will give you pearls to wear,
Rich velvet and silks for your graceful form,
And diamonds to deck your hair.
The Church looked down at her plain white robes,
And then at the dazzling World,
And blushed as she saw his handsome lip
With a smile contemptuous curled.
I will change my dress for a costlier one,
Said the Church with a smile of grace,
Then her pure white garments drifted away,
And the World gave in their place,
Beautiful satins and shining silks,
And roses and gems and pearls;
And over her forehead her bright hair fell
Crisped in a thousand curls.

Your house is too plain, said the proud old World,
I'll build you one like mine;
Carpets of Brussels, and curtains of lace,
And furniture ever so fine.
So he built her a costly and beautiful house—
Splendid it was to behold;
Her son and her beautiful daughters dwelt there,
Gleaming in purple and gold;
And fairs and shows in the halls were held,
And the World and his children were there;
And laughter and music and feasts were heard
In the place that was meant for prayer.
She had cushioned pews for the rich and the great
To sit in their pomp and pride,
While the poor folks, clad in their shabby suits,
Sat meekly down outside.

The angel of mercy flew over the Church,
And whispered, I know thy sin;
The Church looked back with a sigh, and longed
To gather her children in.
But some were off to the midnight ball,
And some were off at the play,
And some were drinking in gay saloons;
So she quietly went her way.
The sly World gallantly said to her,
Your children mean no harm—
Merely indulging in innocent sports.
So she leaned on his proffered arm,
And smiled, and chatted, and gathered flowers,
As she walked along with the World;
While millions and millions of deathless souls
To the horrible pit were hurled.
You give too much to the poor, said the World,
Far more than you ought to do;
If the poor need shelter and food and clothes,
Why need it trouble you?
Go take your money and buy rich robes;
And horses and carriages fine,
And pearls, and jewels, and dainty food,
And the rarest and costliest wine.
My children they dote on all such things,
And if you their love would win,
You must do as they do, and walk in the ways
That they are walking in.
The Church held tightly the strings of her purse,
And gracefully lowered her head,
And simpered, I've given too much away,
I'll do, sir, as you have said.
So the poor were turned from her door in scorn,
And she heard not the orphan's cry;
And she drew her beautiful robes aside,
As the widows went weeping by.
The sons of the World and the sons of the Church
Walked closely hand and heart,
And only the Master who knoweth all,
Could tell the two apart.
Then the Church sat down at her ease and said,
I am rich, and in goods increased;
I have need of nothing, and naught to do
But to laugh and dance and feast.
The sly World heard her, and laughed in his sleeve,
And mockingly said aside,
The Church is fallen—the beautiful Church—
And her shame is her boast and pride!

The angel drew near to the mercy seat,
And whispered, in sighs, her name;
And the saints their anthems of rapture hushed,
And covered their heads with shame.
And a voice came down, through the hush of heaven,
From Him who sat on the throne:
I know thy work, and how thou hast said,
I am rich; and hast not known
That thou art naked and poor and blind
And wretched before my face;
Therefore, from my presence I cast thee out,
And blot thy name from its place!

CAPTAIN KIDD.

The name of Captain Kidd is as familiar as the hero of a nursery rhyme, but how few there are who know his story. He was a pirate who roamed the seas, scuttling ships, murdering seamen, plundering cargoes and burying treasures; who was captured as a pirate, tried as a pirate, hanged as a pirate, and who righteously stands as the type of all that was at once most dreadful, most mysterious and most romantic in piracy. This, in brief, is his commonly accepted biography. And yet Captain Kidd was neither tried nor hanged for piracy, and there is grave reason to doubt that he was a pirate.

In the latter part of the seventeenth century William Kidd, a Scotchman by birth, was captain of a packet ship plying regularly between New York and London. He was a man of comfortable means, and one of the most respected inhabitants of New York. In 1692, after marrying the widow of a sea captain who had left a considerable estate, he took up his residence in Hanover square, where he remained until the land in the vicinity of Nassau and Liberty streets was laid off into building lots, when he purchased a lot there and built a mansion upon it, in which he lived at the time of the voyage that was destined to make him so unhappily famous.

At this period New York was a market for piratical plunder. Her merchants, under cover of legitimate commerce, trafficked along the African coast with the pirates of the Indian ocean; and so profitable was this traffic that efforts to suppress it aroused intense feeling here and ultimately became an absorbing topic of political debate. In 1695 Robert Livingston of Albany was a passenger with Kidd, and during the voyage to London the captain and his wealthy passenger frequently discussed the subject. Later in the voyage their discussions took a practical turn, and it was agreed that they should organize a cruise under the king's commission against the Indian sea pirates, their compensation, in lieu of government pay, to be a share of the plunder captured from the pirates. The plan was proposed by Livingston.

On their arrival in London the earl of Bellamont was interested in the scheme, and Lord Chancellor Somers, the earl of Romney, the duke of Shrewsbury, the earl of Oxford and even the king, became partners in the enterprise. A written agreement was made, in which it was provided that Captain Kidd should be commissioned to act as a private man of war; that he should take one hundred seamen and go in search of pirates, bringing his prizes to Boston; that the crew should ship for "no prize, no pay;" that the earl of Bellamont should pay four-fifths of the expense of fitting out the vessel, Kidd and Livingston to pay the other fifth; and that of the prizes taken one-fourth were to go to the crew, and the other three-fourths to be divided into five parts, one of which was to belong to Livingston and Kidd and the remainder to Bellamont and his associates. In case no prizes were taken Bellamont was to receive £5,000, in consideration of which the ship was to vest in Livingston and Kidd; but if Kidd delivered £100,000 worth of prizes to Bellamont the ship was to belong to Livingston and Kidd without other compensation.

It was not until the winter of 1696 that the expedition was fitted out. When all was in readiness Kidd resigned his packet ship to the owners and went aboard the Adventure galley with about seventy men. He sailed for New York, expecting to capture some prizes on his way, but in that both he and his crew were greatly disappointed. In the following summer, having recruited his men from New York, he sailed for Madagascar. The remainder of his story is told by the late David T. Valentine, one of the historians of New York in an old manual of the city now out of print:

"Whether from want of direct communication, which might enable him to find the pirate ships or the depositaries of their spoils; or whether the pirates had received notice of his approach and had avoided him, it seems he was unable to effect the object of his expedition. There is also the alternative reason, which is that commonly ascribed to his conduct, that he found piracy more profitable than war with the pirates; and therefore adopted, from mercenary motives, the profession of those he was sent to subdue. But, judging from probabilities, we infer that his own story may have been the correct one, and that his lawless crew, disappointed in prize money from captured pirates, forced him to a course of conduct as foreign to his own designs as it was to the objects of the distinguished characters by whose authority he acted. They took three or four vessels, the most valuable of which was a ship of four hundred tons, called the Quidah Merchant, laden with treasure and East India goods. With the Quidah Merchant, Kidd (having abandoned the Adventure galley to a portion of his crew) commenced his return to America. He was aware, however, that under the best explanation he could give of his conduct he would be greatly censured. He, therefore, in the first instance, made the Danish island of St. Thomas, and solicited protection, which was denied him; thence pursuing his course toward an island called Moona, between Porto Rico and Hispaniola, he met on the way a large sloop commanded by one Henry Bolton. He hired Bolton to proceed to Curacoa to purchase provisions; and having in the meantime deliberated upon the course of conduct most judicious to pursue, he resolved to purchase Bolton's vessel, in which to proceed to New York, and there ascertain the sentiments of government with respect to his proceedings, before closing his voyage. He purchased the sloop of Bolton and left that individual in charge of the Quidah Merchant to await his return. He, however, carried with him many valuable goods and considerable treasure.

"About the first of June, 1699, Kidd entered with his sloop and about forty men in Delaware bay. He sent his boat ashore at the Horekills, where he was supplied with what he wanted, and the people frequently went aboard his vessel, giving him information of the actual state of things then existing in the colonies. Some of his men left him at this place, but several were afterward taken—some of them at Burlington, New Jersey, and others in Pennsylvania and Maryland. Kidd then, with a fatuity which seems unaccountable, unless we suppose he thought himself able to vindicate his conduct, took his sloop and treasure to the east end of Long island, from which locality he designed to open negotiations with Lord Bellamont.

"Having given notice of his arrival to his friends in New York, one of them, named Emott was sent to him, through whom he opened a correspondence with Lord Bellamont, then in Boston. Through Emott, Kidd made known to Bellamont his existing circumstances at Long island; that he had left the Moorish ship Quidah Merchant in a creek on the coast of Hispaniola, with goods of the value of £30,000; that he had bought a sloop, in which he was come to make his terms, having on board of her several bales of East India goods, sixty pounds weight of gold dust and ingots, about one hundred weight of silver, besides other things which he believed would sell for about £10,000. He protested his own innocence, and asserted that he would make it appear that his men forced him, locking him up in the cabin of the Adventure galley whilst they robbed two or three ships, and that he could prove this by many witnesses.

"The earl of Bellamont answered Kidd's agent (Emott) that Kidd might safely make his appearance in Boston, if he could make his innocency appear; and gave further appearance of his pacific intentions by writing a letter to Kidd to the same effect, which letter he dispatched by a Scotchman named Campbell, resident in New York, and a personal friend of Kidd, who, at the latter's request, had visited Boston with a view to intercede for him and procure him a fair hearing.

"Three or four days subsequently Campbell returned, bringing Kidd's answer, in which, after reiterated protestations of his innocence, he promised to bring his sloop to Boston without delay. Kidd arrived in Boston on the first of July, 1699, and appeared, upon request, before the earl and the provincial council, where he underwent a series of examining interviews. The nature of these does not transpire; but on the 6th of July Kidd was sent to prison, and a commission was appointed to take charge of his effects.

"Information of his arrest was sent to England (where the matter was then the subject of great political excitement), and it was suggested that piracy, not being a capital crime in America, Kidd and other captured pirates should be sent for and tried in England; to which end orders were soon after dispatched, and a ship of war, under Rear Admiral Benbow, was dispatched to bring the pirates across the ocean.

"It is supposed that by this time Kidd was forced to appreciate his position and to foresee his danger, for he was on all sides surrounded by enemies. On the one hand, Lord Bellamont, who had involved the stability of the great whig party in England by bringing its leading members, and even the king himself, into direct pecuniary connection with an expedition which had beyond doubt resulted in a piratical voyage, could not encourage Kidd in any manner without laying himself open to the taunts and animadversions which were already thrown at him from his opponents; and on the other hand were the opposite faction even to admit the possibility of Kidd's innocence, they would lose the political capital thus afforded, the strength of which depended solely upon Kidd's personal guilt, as it was with him alone the great functionaries had held correspondence.

"Admiral Benbow left America about the 1st of June, 1700, with his prisoners, nine in number, among whom were Captain Kidd, Robert Bradenham, his surgeon, one Brown (a piratical adventurer, who had married a daughter of Governor Markham of Pennsylvania), David Evans and Tariagh Sullivan.

"Kidd was not put upon his trial for piracy, but was indicted and convicted of the murder of William Moore, one of his seamen, whom he struck with a bucket for insubordination, and death resulted from the blow. Whether policy dictated this form of prosecution from the fear of the character of the disclosures which might result from an indictment for piracy, in which the nature and origin of the whole expedition would be open to examination, and thus additional fuel might be added to the popular excitement which had already so greatly harrassed the government party, or whether there were reasonable doubts of the ability of the prosecution to convict Kidd of piracy, is a question of surmise. It is certain, however, that if the sacrifice of Kidd was determined on, the probability of his conviction for the murder of Moore, where the question was simply with what intent the blow had been struck, was almost a certainty, before a jury of a country where the prejudice was strong against him, and who could readily infer an intent, which should construe the crime into a fatal one to its perpetrator.

"Captain Kidd was hanged at Execution dock, in the city of London, on the twelfth day of May, 1701."

Taxation Makes Speculators Drop Unused Land.

San Francisco Echoes.

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This week Mrs. Sherwood talks to us about salutations—the art of greeting friends and acquaintances. It's a grand subject, and Mrs. Sherwood makes the most of it. She makes a column and a third of solid type. At $5 per column—but this is another digression. What we mean is, that Mrs. Sherwood has a good deal to say.

Recognition should be quick and salutation gracious. To be complimentary, salutation should be even more than this; it should be flattering, courteous, dignified, and suited to the position of the person addressed. To an old person it should be truly respectful, for there is no such crown as a crown of gray hairs. To a young person it should be reassuring; to a person who is under the pressure of calamity it should be as especially kind, as cordial, as we can make it. But it should always be dignified. We must not give too much. Remember Shakespeare's line, "He bows too low." Do not be servile in your salutation.

How much this tells us, and in what simple language. The seven dollar a week clerk who meets his employer at Delmonico's lunch counter will, if he has read Mrs. Sherwood, repress the impulse to throw a bread pill at him and say "ah there!" He will bethink himself that his salutation should be "flattering, courteous, dignified and suited to the position of the person addressed," and will simply touch the old man lightly on the shoulder, wink his left eye, and murmur in flattering, courteous and dignified accents, "Have a ball with me before you hash, old fellow?" What the employer will do we are not quite able to determine from Mrs. Sherwood's essay, but it is to be presumed that his reply will be suited to "a person who is under the pressure of calamity." At all events he will not be "servile in his salutation."

Mrs. Sherwood goes on to comment on the difficulty many people have to remember faces:

There is to the dwellers in cities a trying confusion as to degrees of acquaintance, if the memory for people and faces is not extraordinary. Therefore people who are near sighted or who have not a memory for faces cannot be quick at recognition. They are always in doubt.

Mrs. Sherwood might have added that they are also very frequently in debt. There is nothing that tends to make a gentleman or lady near sighted, or to destroy their memory for faces so quickly as an assortment of unpaid bills. We knew a lady once who had a tailor made—but again this is a digression.

The poor young wife, who by this time has wriggled into society, and discovered whether her poor young husband is most agreeable drunk or sober, must be careful about her salutations.

Let at least the passer by read in your face your desire to be courteous. If you cannot remember him, at least give him a pleasant bow if he bows to you. Such salutations hurt nobody, not even a lady, who, if alone, must be circumspect. In the polite bow of a lady, full of gravity and good will, masked with dignity and respect, the man of irregular life finds as profound a check to insult as in the haughty disdain of one who, perhaps, overestimates his admiration.

There is no armor like a sweet dignity. It seems to be one of the best qualities of woman, and it teaches her how to bow, how to smile, how to receive her friends, and how to dismiss a bore. Women whose manners are too familiar never have much power. People do not care for that which they gain easily; and yet cordiality is a necessary adjunct to good manners. A woman who can express the true shade of cordiality by a bow is very fortunate.

What dreadful consequences may befall the woman who *can't* express the true shade of cordiality with sufficient definiteness is illustrated by a touching little anecdote:

A gentleman confessed that he had fallen in love with a beautiful girl, but at the moment of his tenderest emotion he heard her shout in stentorian tones, "How are you, Charley?" to a passing youth, and his love turned to bitterest hate. It would have pleased him better had she saluted Charley with a spice of maidenly reserve.

That's a delightful little story. So suggestive in its indefiniteness. Like the patent gate on a North river ferry boat, you have only to give it one little shove and it expands to the most astonishing length and particularity. The tragedy occurred, mind you, at the moment of the gentleman's tenderest emotion. *What was that moment?* A vision rises of a moonlit beach patrolled by two figures, male and female, who might claim to be a pair of Siamese twins, so close they stand together. The balmy summer breeze is like a kiss from heaven. A golden path of moonbeams stretches out across the sea, inspiring poetic images in the gentleman's mind. The wavelets gently plash upon the shore. A soft murmur of voices. At intervals a sound of mild explosion, as though a teeny weeny cork had been extracted from a teeny weeny vial of affection's choicest extract. The Siamese illusion becomes more marked. The moonbeam's path wobbles in the gentleman's sight. All his soul rushes to his lips and comes out in little disconnected pieces: "Angelina! may I—can I—dare I—is it possible that you—" "HOW ARE YOU, CHARLEY!" bawls Angelina "in stentorian tones;" and the Siamese business stops right there. No wonder his love "turned to bitterest hate." We should think it would.

We cannot agree with Mrs. Sherwood, however, in her theory that "it would have pleased him better had she saluted Charley with a spice of maidenly reserve." Even a casual "Ah! come off there, Charley," would, it seems to us, have been *de trop* under the circumstances. However, Mrs. Sherwood understands society, and we don't. If the young woman was one of the Vanastorbilts, perhaps she might have thrown a whole box of maidenly reserve spice at Charley without disturbing her lover "at the moment of his tenderest emotion."

As for the kind of salutations we should make when addressing our masters and mistresses, our patrons and patronesses, we have much to learn in this country. They do these things better abroad. Mrs. Sherwood tells us:

In Europe the salutations of servants and shop keepers, of couriers and maids, are so much more respectful than here that an American woman is astonished. No doubt, there is very much in the polished etiquette of all society abroad which is very grateful to Americans, particularly to women. They like ceremony, politeness and deference. They like the service, so easy and so marked. They like the definiteness of European etiquette. They like fixed social usages. Even a lazy servant affects an American favorably. "He also serves, who only stands and waits."

If Mrs. Sherwood will only organize a personally conducted excursion to Europe, with special facilities for "getting on to" the salutations of servants and shop keepers, of couriers and maids, and will write the prospectus for it herself, we promise that THE STANDARD will give her one of the prettiest reading notices she ever saw.

NEW APPLICATIONS OF ELECTRICITY.

One of the latest applications of electricity is in the making of wine. It is said that if an electric current is sent through a barrel of wine the liquid loses its rawness, gains in bouquet, and in every way takes on the qualities that used to come only with years of age. It is not yet decided whether or not electricity will keep wine from changing its condition afterward.

In electric motors, new inventions and improvements are being made every day. George M. Hopkins gives, in the *Scientific American*, a full description of how to make a simple electric motor without the aid of fine tools or expensive patterns, castings or materials, at a cost of less than four dollars. It is of sufficient power to run three sewing machines or an ordinary foot lathe. The energy is supplied by an eight cell plunging bichromate battery, each cell containing one zinc and two carbon plates, 5 by 7 inches, at a merely nominal expense.

The motors used on the eight electric tramways which were in operation in England last year, were three of them run by steam, two by gas and two by water. One road, the Bessbrook and Newry, is three and one quarter miles long; the power is supplied by a turbine or peculiar kind of water wheel, and the current is conveyed through a central rail insulated on blocks of paraffined wood. A most remarkable fact is that the total cost of this line and equipment, including two locomotive cars was only $12,260.

Science says in a recent issue: "It is probable that the ultimate sources from which electrical energy will be derived are natural sources of power—waterfalls, etc., and coal; the conversion in the latter case being direct. For the former a perfected storage battery is necessary; for the latter some means of oxidizing the coal without the production of heat, the energy being converted directly into electric currents." This subject has been treated by Willard E. Case, in a pamphlet just issued. He experimented with carbon in various forms, producing currents of a low electromotive force, but the results satisfied him that the whole potential energy of coal or carbon in other forms could be converted into electrical energy without the use of heat. He concludes by saying: "Undoubtedly the direction of experiments in the future will be to find some cheap substance which will absorb oxygen from the air and give it up to the carbon; in fact, acting as a carrier of oxygen, so oxidizing it without heat." Of course if a large amount of energy can be cheaply generated in this way, the ordinary dynamo which involves a steam engine or some motive power will no longer be used.

In Kansas City an electric time company has been formed for the purpose of giving subscribers in the business portion of the city a uniform standard time at moderate cost. Clocks are put up in the offices and connected by wires with two "master clocks," which are regulated daily by observatory signals. This current passes through the wires for one-third of a second only in each minute, causing the hands of each dial to advance just one minute.

The current is sent out at exactly the sixtieth second of each minute, so that, although seconds are not indicated, a watch can be regulated by it to the exact second by simply watching until the hand moves.

In an Unguarded Moment the Transcript Makes a Sweeping Confession.

In reviewing a work entitled an "An Inquiry Into Socialism," by Thomas Kirkup, the Boston *Transcript* makes the statement that Mr. Kirkup "makes the mistake of supposing capital can oppress labor, and that capital should, like land, be under joint control. Like all advocates of a definite socialistic scheme, capitalism is made to bear the iniquity which springs from landlordism alone. Capital cannot oppress labor if labor has free access to land (natural resource.) It is the monopolization of land that produces the results which the socialist lays at the door of capital and land ownership jointly. All that Mr. Kirkup says of capitalism is true when taken together with the unrestrained private ownership of the earth, but make resource free and capital must make terms with labor.

"It is true that 'the British proletariat is a landless class, and that America is rapidly producing a like landless class.' It is true that the present system is divorcing the laborer from the land, making him more and more dependent; but manifestly the thing to do is not to rely on state control of land and capital, and a vast and intricate organization of associated laborers, but to make all men share in the profits arising from the use of land, not by confiscating land, but by confiscating rent."

If the Land Values Keep Rising at That Rate There'll Be a Tide of Emigration Instead of Immigration.

New Orleans Times-Democrat.

There is no need to write articles or make speeches to show the advantage of immigration with the case of Calcasieu before us. That parish, which fifteen years ago was regarded of little value, has bloomed into one of the richest and most prosperous sections of the state. A steady tide of immigration has poured in there. At first, the parish was supposed to be rich only in its timber, and its agricultural and horticultural possibilities were not rated high. With the western immigration that has been moving there in the last five years there has been a marked change of opinion in this regard, and it is now recognized that Calcasieu is adapted to almost any kind of crop produced in either the south or west.

There have been planted in the state millions of fruit trees, thousands of tons of hay are produced, cattle are raised in great abundance, and few parishes show a greater variety of productive crops.

The net effects of immigration are shown in the increase in the assessment of the parish from $1,000,000 to $3,000,000 in five years; in the increase in the price of land 500 per cent; in the springing up of innumerable and flourishing towns, and in general prosperity. The other parishes of Louisiana have only to glance at Calcasieu to see what immigration accomplishes.

AMERICAN SAILORS.

Their Disappearance and the Reason for It—Protected Out of Existence.

What has become of the American sailor?—the bold, free handed, saucy Yankee tar, whose very name, a generation since, was a synonym for all that was plucky and audacious—who loved his flag, cheered lustily for "free trade and sailors' rights," and had a serene confidence that he could thrash two Englishmen, three Frenchmen, and any number of "dagos?" The *Times* has been trying to find an answer to the question, and gives an entertaining account of its researches. This is what it says:

An inspection of the crew of the average American vessel, either arriving at or leaving this port, will convince any one that the American sailor does not now exist to any great extent. The American shipping laws require that a sailing vessel under the American flag shall be officered by citizens of America.

But all American citizens are not representative Americans. This rule is as self-evident on the quarter deck of the average American vessel as it is in the aldermanic chamber of the average American municipality. It sometimes happens that the captain of the American vessel gives his orders to his mate in strong German accents. The latter delivers them to the second mate in Norwegian accents, while the latter turns them over to the third mate in words which strongly smack of the Celtic tongue. And yet all four are American citizens, as they can easily prove by the naturalization papers in their respective chests. The crew consists of Germans, Irish, English, Norwegians, Swedes, Dutch and Finns. The steward and the cook are Chinese, while the carpenter is an Austrian. Occasionally an American vessel leaves port under the command of a captain who is American by descent, and who has under him a mate of the same description. But the chances are that the other officers are of foreign birth, as well as all the seamen before the mast. If there is among the latter a genuine Yankee he is something of a curiosity.

There was a time, however, when the American sailor was numerous enough to be regarded as an institution. And his character was clearly defined. He was bold, chivalrous, and trusty. No matter what happened to him he always managed to make a landing, and right side upward at that. In foreign ports he was always ready to boast of the glory of the American flag and to maintain this with his might. If any disturbance occurred the Yankee tar was on the spot, and he never left it until matters had been settled beyond a question. While it lasted he was as ready with his purse as with his right arm. Of course, he had a few faults, but these did not tend to rob him either of his own respect or of that of others. Of all the men who sailed the sea, thirty or more years ago, the Yankee tar stood pre-eminent. Written and unwritten records, and in more tongues than the one in which we speak, testify to this fact. Perhaps it was because he was too good to last; but at any rate he has gone. Unfortunately there can be no doubt about that.

Of the men who leave this port on American vessels about two-fifths claim to hail from the United States. Some of the captains and other officers are undoubtedly of American parentage. But of the seamen who claim to be Americans the vast majority are of foreign parentage. On the ship's articles the nationality of each man is given. Such Celtic names as Patrick McGinnis and such Norwegian names as Peter Olsen are frequently marked as American. If the names of these so-called American sailors do not smack of this country their tongues still more clearly define the fact that this land is theirs by adoption only. And many of them who have adopted America have done this in an informal manner, not deeming it necessary either to take out naturalization papers or to file their intentions to do so at some future time. Even in the American navy very few of the seamen are of American parentage, and of these none bear any striking resemblance to the old time Yankee tar. British men-of-war are manned entirely by British seamen. The same rule is followed by the other European powers. America's neglect to follow this rule is not owing to the fact that she does not wish seamen of her own race, but because she is unable to procure them. British merchant vessels are officered almost entirely by British. There is no law which closes offices of trust on British merchant vessels to Americans. It is possible for the American youth who does not wish to become president of the United States to grow in time into a captain of a Cunarder. Persons who have sailed on Cunarders say that the position of captain of one of these vessels is a truly exalted one. Yet no American youth has yet aspired to fill one of these positions.

It rarely occurs that an American becomes an officer on a British merchant vessel, or of a vessel of any other nationality, with one exception. This exception, which goes a trifle toward rousing the drooping spirits of those patriots who desire to see American vessels manned by Americans, is made by Belgium. The principal Belgian line running to this port is known as the Red Star line. One-half of the captains in its service are Americans, and a number of its other officers are also Americans. Although the captains of British steamers coming to this port are, as a rule, Englishmen, several of them have brought their families to this country. Many subordinate officers of British vessels have placed their families in the vicinity of New York. As a rule, however, they remain strongly English in their sentiments. The steamers of continental nationalities are officered and almost entirely manned by their own people, with the exception referred to. There would be little chance in these services for Americans, although our service is largely indebted to them for the means of manning its vessels.

There was an American steamship line a few years ago. This ran between Philadelphia and Liverpool. The vessels were named after American States, and were officered by genuine Americans, who were as patriotic as they were able. And they occasionally had the pleasure of ordering about genuine American sailors, who unfortunately resembled the old Yankee tars about as much as the inhabitants of Greece of to-day resemble the heroic Greeks of old. The American line, however, did not flourish. Perhaps it was overmanaged. At any rate it declined and fell. Some of its old officers are now in the employ of the Red Star line. Two of its vessels are now run by the Inman line. Although this line is British the two vessels sail under the American flag, and are officered by men who are American, if only by adoption. These vessels, however, ship their crews in Liverpool, as it can be done cheaper there than in New York. Under this free trade method few American seamen and firemen are obtained, but probably no larger a proportion would be secured if the shipping were done in New York.

Our coasting steamers employ a few Americans, but the great majority of the orders given on these vessels are thrown out with foreign accents. There are a few old-fashioned, down east skippers still in the American merchant service, but they seem to lack the more striking characteristics of the men who commanded the American clippers and packet ships of thirty or more years ago. Probably the worthiest successors of the old time Yankee sailors are the men who handle the down east coasting schooners. These men are largely real Yankees. They would not consent to sail under any other flag than their own, and they sometimes go so far as to express patriotic sentiments.

"I have very rarely been able to find of late a genuine out and out American sailor," said an old skipper, who remembers the palmy days of the Yankee tars. "I took a great interest in one of them who sailed with me a few years a ago. He went by the name of Bob, and he came from New Haven. His family, I have been told, were fairly well off. His only brother, who had a good position in a merchantile house, objected to Bob's following the sea, on the ground that he might do better on shore. Bob had considerable sense, and if he had tried he might have risen to be a captain. But whenever he got ashore he took to liquor, and the result was that before he had reached a condition of sobriety he had shipped before the mast on some outward bound vessel. Bob was very vain, not only of the fact that he had some ability, but also of his propensity for drink, which stood in the way of his advancement. I never could make out whether he was prouder of his ability or of the fact that he had rendered this of no avail by his drinking. Bob, however, was of the old fashioned Yankee tar type. He loved the American flag. It was his boast that he had never sailed under any other colors. He could not have been hired to work on the Fourth of July. No sailor in the crew could compare with him in strength, endurance or agility. He was worth double the pay that he received. None of the other sailors, who were all foreigners, by birth at least, would have dared to tackle him in a fight. He had the greatest contempt for all foreign born sailors who claimed to be Americans. I used to speak of Bob as the 'last of the old Yankee tars.' I would be satisfied to sail any time with a crew of half the usual size, provided that they were all of the same sort as Bob.

"But somehow American boys don't seem to care to go to sea nowadays. I can remember the time when people of good family would send their sons to sea on merchant vessels. I remember the case of a sailor lad whose father was a general in the United States army and a member of the first class that ever graduated from West Point. This lad was sent before the mast on a merchant vessel. He stuck to the sea, although he never became anything higher than a common seaman. Whenever he was paid off in an American port, it was his custom to go to the house of his father, whose circle of acquaintance was both high and large, and here he would stay while his money lasted. No one seemed to object to his shifting his cud of tobacco from one cheek to the other, or to his hitching up his trousers, both of which acts he performed in as decent a manner as possible. Just imagine the son of a general of the army doing this sort of thing nowadays."

The truth is the American sailor has been protected out of existence. He never asked to be protected—it was his peculiarity that he was pretty well able to protect himself—but protection was given to American industries and the American sailor had to take his share with the rest. And protection has been fatal to him. First his chance of deep sea voyages vanished. His countrymen deliberately shut themselves out from the markets of the world, refused to go to market where things were cheapest, and so, of course, there were fewer foreign voyages to be made. Then the American ship builder had to be protected by making it impossible for him to build ships as cheaply as foreigners could do it, and so, of course, what little foreign trade was left was done in foreign vessels, which naturally employed foreign sailors. The coasting trade remained, but the coasting trade has been checked by the cost of building ships in protected ship yards and the ever growing competition of the railroads, while the American sailor who sought to engage in it found himself thrust aside by the foreigners who were willing to work more cheaply than he cared to do. Even the Yankee fisherman has disappeared. The Nova Scotia blue nose has swept him aside and masquerades as an American fisherman in his place.

Wages in a Lancaster, Pa., Cotton Mill.

Correspondence Philadelphia Record.

Let us now glance a moment at the wages paid for particular kinds of work in these factories. For example, the number of hands and their wages per day in the card room:

1 second hand	$1 50	1 card tender	$0 85
1 stripper	1 00	2 drawing fr. tdrs., ea.	90
1 picker tender	1 00	3 slubber tenders, ea.	85
1 open tender	80	5 speeder tenders, ea.	70
1 card tender	65	1 overseer	3 00

Leaving out the overseer, who receives $3 per day, the average daily wages of these hands is a fraction less than 70⅓ cents per day, or $4.22 per week, if they worked every one of the fifty-two weeks in a year. But as there are in all these factories but 399 working days in a year, the average weekly salary would be but $4.18, or something less than $18.12 per month. Nor are those who receive much less than this mere children. The opener tender, who receives 60 cents per day, is nineteen years of age; the card tender, who receives 65 cents, is seventeen; the two drawing frame tenders, who receive 50 cents each, are between eighteen and twenty, while some of the slubber tenders, who receive 55 cents per day, are old enough to vote. Let us hope, for their sake, that their first ballots in a national election will be cast against protection.

The following table exhibits the wages paid and the number of employes in some of the other rooms of one of these factories. The wages per day paid to ring spinners:

2 girls (each)	$0 78	2 girls (each)	$0 45
4 girls (each)	72	2 girls (each)	42
2 girls (each)	51	1 girl	36
3 girls (each)	48		

There are six female doffers who are paid 40 cents each per day, and three boys, one of whom receives 60 cents, one 40 cents and one 30 cents per day.

The twisters, spoolers and reelers are paid as follows:

1 second hand	85c. per day
2 twisters, 4 sides (each)	85c. per day
6 spoolers (each)	75c. per day
3 spoolers (each)	65c. per day
3 reelers (each)	60c. per day

Fighting Four Years to Retain the Southern States in the Union, and Giving Away More Territory Than They Contained.

Z. M. Beaberlin in Chicago Express.

The first land grant made by congress to a railroad was made to the Illinois central, Sept. 20, 1850. The total number of acres conveyed was 2,595,000, and from that time up to 1861 nearly 12,000,000 acres had been donated by congress to different railroads. But from 1861 to 1867 occurred the grandest land steal since the devil attempted to bribe the Savior with the whole world. During that period more than 100,000,000 acres were stolen from the people. While the government was fighting to retain eleven of the southern states in the Union, it allowed itself to be swindled out of more land than was comprised in the whole of the seceding states. The following figures, taken from Spofford's American almanac for 1885, by A. G. Desmond, will show something of the people's loss:

	Acres.
Land given by congress to different states in aid of railroads	36,000,000
Land given by congress direct to railroads	136,000,000
Total	172,000,000

This amount of land, if in one body, would be but little less than the whole of the thirteen original states, and would be larger than the whole of England and France combined!

Just as Though Free Trade and Not the System of Landlordism Was Responsible For the Crofters' Troubles.

New York Telegram.

In the land of Adam Smith prosperity touches the poor crofters so lightly that emigration to Canada is hailed as a blessed relief from penury and starvation, and yet the mugwumps and the malcontents and the easy chair theorists would foist free trade upon us here, where emigration is not even spoken of yet as a possible contingency.—The Press.

Now don't go so fast. There has been a good deal of emigration, on the part of American laborers, from Passaic, New Jersey, where they find it impossible to live in competition with the hordes of imported Hungarians employed in the woolen mill of E. H. Ammidown, Esq. By the way, Mr. Ammidown is president of the "American protective tariff league"—a republican concern, sworn to see that American labor is not injured by "paupers."

If the poor crofters from Scotland can't get a job in Canada, no doubt Mr. Ammidown will crowd out a few more Americans to make room for them in his mill.

The Proper Thing Would Be to Lay an Embargo on the Barbed Wire.

Philadelphia Record.

We are sending large quantities of barbed wire to fence in sheep and cattle ranges on the plains of Mexico and the pampas of South America. A double profit might be made out of this transaction if the vessels that carry away the wire could bring back wool and land it on our wharves without paying a thirty-six per cent fine for the privilege.

"CONFISCATION."

A British Parliamentary Commission Calmly Reduces the Value of "Property" in Scotland, and Says No Word of Compensation.

The British crofter commission has been reducing rents in the highlands with a free hand, and without the slightest suggestion of "compensation" to the landlords, whose "property" in many cases is thus reduced in value one-half or more. To appreciate the extent of this outrage it is only necessary to suppose that a commission appointed by the legislature of New York should confiscate half of every vacant lot in this city. The duke of Argyll has been one of the victims of the commission, though by no means the greatest. Commenting on his case, the London *Church Reformer* says:

It would be very interesting to know how his grace the duke of Argyll felt, and what he said, when the first report of the crofter commission was put into his hands. For the commissioners have been prying into his grace's estates in the island of Tiree, and they have eke laid violent hands on his grace's rents in the said island: and in long columns of dry figures the said commissioners express an opinion of his grace as a landlord which flatly contradicts his grace's own account of himself. Thus the rents which he exacted of his tenants for 126 holdings in 18 townships were incontinently reduced by the commissioners from £1,251 18s. to £922 12s., being a reduction (as the commissioners point out with a painstaking accuracy which his grace's scientific mind will appreciate) of exactly 26.304 per cent. Now the commissioners with characteristic impudence call the rents after this reduction "fair rents," implying that his grace—but no, we decline to follow the commissioners in their impious insinuations. It is only in keeping with their former proceedings, and will occasion no great surprise that the commissioners, greatly daring, have cancelled no less than £1,191 2s. 10½d. out of arrears amounting in the whole to £2,717 19s. 4½d.—"just debts" due to the duke; and in their cold blooded way they inform us that this "cancelment" represents a percentage of 43.824. And here it is to be noted that in no less than 125 cases out of the 126 the commissioners found it necessary to reduce the rents in order to entitle them to be called "fair" (in the one exceptional case they left the rent untouched), and that in ten cases the arrears which the duke considered to be "due" to him were cancelled altogether.

And, Pray, Didn't the Fellows Who Bought the Imported Clothing Have to Do Any Work to Pay for It?

Philadelphia Daily News, April 16.

The Mills bill proposes to lower the tariff upon ready made clothing fifteen per cent. The duty is already too low. It is so low that the importations of ready made clothing last year were worth $1,461,243, a sum large enough to have furnished good wages for twelve months to two thousand American tailors.

LOAN WANTED.

WANTED $3,000.—THE ADVERTISER owns, free and clear, three (3) lots in Rutherford, N. J., convenient to Erie railroad. He wishes to build thereon a house to cost about the sum named. Any person willing to lend same at 6 per cent per annum for seven (7) years on the security of house and land, will please address J. J. BARNARD, Passaic, N. J.

CHICAGO, ILL., APRIL 6, 1888.—To Single Tax Advocates, Greeting—By virtue of the authority invested in me by letters on file in my office from the several states and territories, a call is hereby issued for a national conference of the single tax advocates of the several states and territories and the district of Columbia of the United States, to convene in the city of CHICAGO, Ill., at ten o'clock a. m., on WEDNESDAY, JULY 4, 1888.

All persons who believe that the public revenues should be raised by a single and direct tax upon relative land values are invited to attend and take part in the deliberations.

The following is the general committee on arrangements:

Chairman, Warren Worth Bailey, No. 281 South Hoyne avenue, Chicago.

Secretary, M. K. LaShelle, Times building, Chicago.

Treasurer, Robert H. Cowdrey, 169 Quincy street, Chicago.

Judge James G. Maguire, San Francisco, Cal.
H. F. King, Houston, Tex.
H. Martin Williams, St. Louis, Mo.
L. P. Custer, Indianapolis, Ind.
Benjamin Adams, Charleston, S. C.
Freeman Knowles, Ceresco, Neb.
C. A. S. Higley, Minneapolis, Minn.
Thomas A. McCann, Detroit, Mich.
Richard L. Atkinson, Philadelphia, Pa.
E. Q. Norton, Mobile, Ala.

WARREN WORTH BAILEY,
Chairman Provisional Committee.

Chicago, April 8.—All those who contemplete attending the national conference of single tax advocates, to be held in this city July 4 will confer a great favor on the committee by notifying the secretary of their intentions as soon as possible. The work of the committee will be made much easier if it may know about how many visitors to expect. Where a number of persons will come from any club or organization let the names be given. Where there is no concerted action it is requested that each person will write, saying that he will come. This will enable the committee to proceed in its arrangements intelligently, and also be a great aid in bringing the conference prominently before the local public.

Address all letters to M. K. LA SHELLE, Secretary Provisional Committee, Times Building, Chicago, Ill.

"THE APPAREL OFT PROCLAIMS THE MAN."—*Shakespeare.*

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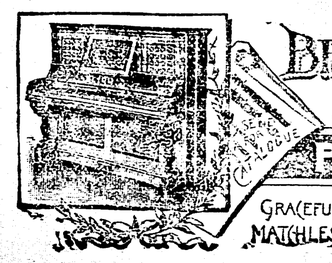

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