

THE STANDARD

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STATE OF NEW YORK,
 CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW YORK, ss.

On this first day of February, 1892, before me personally appeared George Mosle, Adolf Pavenstedt and George R. Mosle, to me known and known to me to be the individuals described in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and they severally acknowledged to me that they executed the same.

EDMUND L. BAYLIES,
 Notary Public,
 New York County.

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER MADE BY THE HON. ROGER A. PRYOR, Judge of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the City and County of New York, on the 5th day of February, 1892, notice is hereby given to all the creditors and persons having claims against Joseph Zweigel, lately doing business in the City and County of New York, that they are required to present their claims, with the vouchers therefor, duly verified, to the subscriber, the duly appointed assignee of the said Joseph Zweigel, for the benefit of creditors, at his place of transacting business, No. 42 Maiden Lane, in the City of New York, on or before the 22d day of April, 1892.

Dated New York, February 5th, 1892.
 FREDERICK KAFFEMAN,
 Assignee.
 JOSEPH KOWLER,
 Attorney for Assignee,
 200 Broadway, New York City.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS IN AND FOR THE City and County of New York—John P. Hunt, plaintiff, against Hugh Finnan, Lawrence Finnan, Finnan, wife of Lawrence Finnan (her first name being unknown to plaintiff), James Finnan, Finnan, wife of James Finnan (her first name being unknown to plaintiff), Rose Godfrey (formerly Rose Finnan), William J. Godfrey, her husband, Mary Ann Finnan, Julia Finnan, Mary A. McGeogh (or McGeough), wife of Edward J. McGeogh (or McGeough), Agnes McCusker (or McCloskey), wife of James McCusker (or McCloskey), Bradley, widow of John J. Bradley, deceased, if he died leaving a widow, and the devisees (if any) of said John J. Bradley, deceased, and all other persons being or claiming to be the heirs at law of the said John J. Bradley, deceased, and the wives of such persons (if any), and the grantees, mortgagees and judgment creditors, and the heirs and devisees of said grantees, mortgagees and judgment creditors of such persons, or any of them, and all persons claiming under or through them, said persons being unknown to plaintiff, defendants.

To the above named defendants and each of them: You are hereby summoned to answer the amended and supplemental complaint in this action, and to serve a copy of your answer on the plaintiff's attorney within twenty days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service; and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default, for the relief demanded in the amended and supplemental complaint.

Dated February 6th, 1892.
 THOMAS C. ENNEVER,
 Plaintiff's Attorney.

Post Office address and office, No. 132 Nassau street New York City.
 To Hugh Finnan, Lawrence Finnan, Finnan, wife of Lawrence Finnan (her first name being unknown to plaintiff), James Finnan, Finnan, wife of James Finnan (her first name being unknown to plaintiff), Rose Godfrey (formerly Rose Finnan), William J. Godfrey, her husband, Mary Ann Finnan, Julia Finnan, Bradley, widow of John J. Bradley, deceased, if he died leaving a widow, and the devisees (if any) of said John J. Bradley, deceased, and all other persons being or claiming to be the heirs at law of the said John J. Bradley, deceased, and the wives of such persons (if any), and the grantees, mortgagees and judgment creditors, and the heirs and devisees of said grantees, mortgagees and judgment creditors of such persons, or any of them, and all persons claiming under or through them, said persons being unknown to plaintiff.

The foregoing supplemental summons is served upon you by publication, pursuant to an order of Hon. Roger A. Pryor, Judge of the Court of Common Pleas for the City and County of New York, dated and filed the 15th day of February, 1892, with the supplemental and amended complaint in the office of the Clerk of the said Court of Common Pleas in and for the City and County of New York, at the County Court House, New York City.

THOMAS C. ENNEVER,
 Plaintiff's Attorney.
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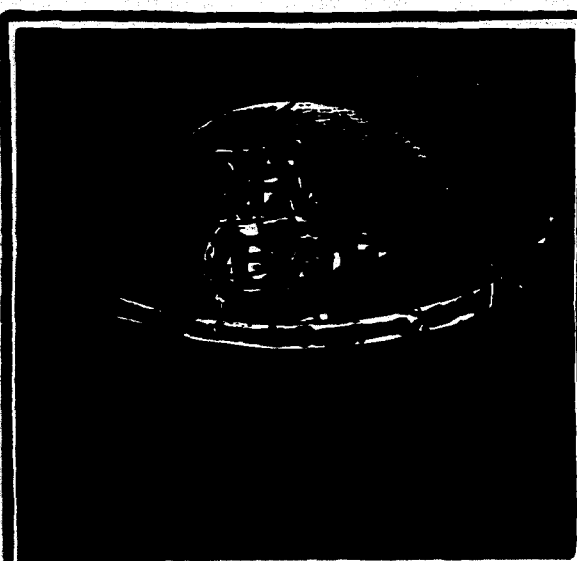
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THE STANDARD

VOL. XI.

NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1892.

No. 8.

THE NATIONAL BANK STEAL.—Replying to Congressman Watson's speech, asserting that the Government lends money to the banks at 1 per cent. which the banks lend to the people at higher rates, the New York Evening Post affably remarks that people who object to this system constitute a crop of fools, and argues that it is a matter of complete indifference to the Government whether the interest on its bonds, which the banks deposit as security for their circulation, is paid to banks or to private persons. Since the Government must pay interest on these bonds in any event, the Post concludes that it is better off, in consequence of the banking law, to the extent of the 1 per cent. tax on circulation. This is certainly a cross-eyed manner of looking at the question. By guaranteeing the promissory notes of banks, and thus making them pass as money, the Government actually places wealth at the command of banks. This is the tenor of Mr. Watson's charge, and it is the fact. Nor is that result changed by the further fact that the banks give Government bonds as security. If the Government continues to pay interest on these bonds, the wealth thus placed at the command of the banks is a pure gift. The 1 per cent. tax diminishes the value of the gift—nothing more. The national bank steal, however—for steal it was—is now practically a thing of the past. But it has left a troublesome legacy in the logical excuse which it affords for the Sub-Treasury scheme advocated by some leaders of the Farmers' Alliance.

DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN WAGES.—Our good friend, Roswell G. Horr, of the Tribune, who calls upon free trade papers to answer his explanation of the theory of protection, should first prove the fundamental fact upon which he relies. If we understand him, the doctrine of protection rests upon the notion that, on account of higher wages here, it costs more to manufacture in this country than abroad, and if it were not for protection we should be obliged to lower our wages or abandon manufacturing. Mr. Horr does not prove his case. He fails to show that American wages are higher than foreign wages. It is not sufficient to prove that daily, weekly, monthly, or yearly wages are higher; he must prove that the labor cost of products is higher. Now, if Mr. Horr will name a few American products the labor cost of which is higher than that of similar foreign products, his proposition will be in form for debate.

THE STATE DEMOCRACY OF NEW YORK.—The Democratic party of New York is now in process of reorganization. The Committee of Fifty appointed by the mass meeting at Cooper Union, and empowered to confer with Democrats throughout the State with a view to securing a State Convention composed of delegates selected at open and fairly called primaries, appeared before the State Committee, at Albany, and requested a reconsideration of the "snap" convention call. The request was promptly tabled, as might have been expected, and Mr. Hill's caucus proceeded to elect the delegates of his selection, and to recommend him for the presidential nomination. The Committee of Fifty then repaired to a neighboring hall, and, together with a large representation from different localities, organized a provisional State Committee, and issued a call for a convention at Syracuse on the 31st of May, to be composed of delegates chosen at open primaries held not earlier than the 1st of May and upon not less than five days' notice.

Outside of the State a notion is current that, even if the Hill convention was called for an unseasonable date, yet as four weeks' notice of it was given, there was sufficient time for the Democrats who opposed Hill to rally. The statement that four weeks' notice was given is intended to deceive. Such notice of the convention was given, but not of the primaries at which delegates to the convention were to be elected. These were held in most cases very quickly after the call, and in anticipation of the call the Hill faction, which controlled the call, prepared for them in advance, while everybody else was taken by surprise.

A rumor has also been set afloat to the effect that the opponents of Hill were prepared to protest against a late convention had a late convention been called, but, as the convention was fixed for an early date, that they were obliged to shift their position. This rumor is baseless. It is contradicted by all the circumstances. The precedents for twenty years favor late conventions; an early convention could have told only in favor of those who had control of the machinery; and, above all, the opponents of Hill were preparing for a tariff reform campaign throughout the State, with a view, by public discussion, of influencing the convention when it should meet. It was this contemplated campaign, probably more than anything else, that inspired the early convention. Speakers had

been engaged, and dates were being arranged. No attempt at secrecy was made, and of course Hill knew of it. He knew, too, that open discussion is the one test that his methods cannot stand; and hardly had he learned of this campaign when, under his orders, the State Committee, without debate, called a convention to be held so early as to make public discussion of party policy impossible.

But the Democratic party of this State will now consult, and the result of its consultation will be made known at Syracuse on the 31st of May. Three weeks later the national organization will be invited to decide between the masses of the party in New York and the ring that, through the machinery which it has grasped, is endeavoring to strangle the party. Responsibility for party purity will then rest upon the Democrats of other States.

THE BLAND SILVER BILL.—This bill, upon which a favorable report has been made by the Coinage Committee of the House, and over which Democratic Representatives have for the past week or two been distracted, embodies four propositions: First, silver and gold, in the ratio of 16 to 1, are to be coined free of charge and without limit for any person who demands it and offers bullion to the value of \$100 or more, the dollar of silver so coined to consist of 412½ grains, and that of gold to consist of 25 8-10 grains. Second, holders of bullion may, in lieu of coin, receive coin notes ranging in denomination from \$1 to \$1,000, redeemable on demand in either silver or gold coin at the option of the Government; and holders of coin may exchange it for such notes. Third, both the coin and the coin notes are to be legal tender in payment of all debts, public and private. Fourth, as soon as France reopens her mints to the free and unrestricted coinage of silver at the rate of 15 of silver to 1 of gold, the silver dollar provided for by the bill is to be changed to the same ratio, and thenceforth to consist of 100 instead of 412½ grains.

The exact results of such a law cannot be stated, but its tendency is as plain as that of the hands on a clock, and the actual effect may be foretold with sufficient exactness for all practical purposes. Twenty-five and 8-10 grains of gold bullion can be now exchanged for about 550 grains of silver bullion. If the proposed law were enacted, a new silver market would be opened—the Treasury of the United States—where 25 8-10 grains of gold bullion would be given for only 412½ grains of silver bullion; and no silver owner who could reach this market would any longer give 550 grains of silver for 25 8-10 grains of gold. He would give no more than 412½ grains, plus compensation for the trouble of getting his silver to the new market. If this were the whole of the process, gold and silver would be practically at a parity, and the coin notes redeemable in either, being a more convenient form of currency than coin, would go into the hands of the people; while gold and silver would pile up in our Treasury vaults, whence it would seldom be called forth except to supply material in the arts.

But before this stage of the process was reached, other tendencies would have set in. The fact that gold, when it once got into the Treasury in exchange for coin notes, could not be withdrawn without the consent of the Government, together with the reactive influence of all other markets than the new one established by Congress, would generate a tendency to deposit silver and not gold in exchange for notes. As this tendency strengthened, gold would cease to flow into the Treasury, and the Government would soon be compelled to redeem with silver alone. Then the coin notes would in effect be only silver notes. They would have neither the fiat, nor the credit, nor the taxing power of the Government behind them, but only the particular commodity which they would then exclusively represent. Their character would be simply that of an order for the delivery of 412½ grains of silver; and they would have the value of 412½ grains of silver bullion, neither more nor less.

Meantime, a decline in the value of silver bullion relatively to the value of all other commodities, gold included, would have begun. Its expression might have taken the form of a premium on gold and higher prices for commodities other than the precious metals, but the form would not alter the essence of the change. A slight counter effect might for a time be felt, caused by a demand for silver with which to pay old debts, since under the new law 412½ grains of silver bullion would pay a debt for which nearly 550 grains are now necessary. But old debts would soon be paid; and, as new ones would be created in new circumstances, the legal tender quality regarding private debts would cease to be a factor. It may be supposed that the legal tender quality regarding public debts would still be effective. This would be true of a paper currency redeemable in taxes and judiciously regulated in volume by

the appropriations. But paper of that kind, being really an advance receipt for current taxes and not a marketable commodity as silver is, would disturb no values. With such a currency as the Bland bill would give us, however, all values would rise, for an arbitrary increase of the value of any great marketable commodity raises the value of all other commodities; and though the Government received that currency at par for taxes, taxes would be higher in consequence of the higher prices of commodities, and the currency would be a legal tender only in name. It would yield in taxes but a fraction of the commodities necessary for the support of Government; the remaining fraction, raised by increased taxation, would be equivalent to a discount from the nominal value of the currency.

Inevitably, therefore, despite the legal tender stamp, silver would resume its market relations to other commodities, and the coin notes would pass at a discount, or, what is the same thing, gold would sell at a premium, measured by about the difference between the actual value of silver bullion and the nominal value of silver coin. That this condition has not attended the present system of silver coinage argues nothing. Under the present system, certain quantities of silver are bought by the Government at general market rates; under Bland's system, it would be bought in unlimited quantities and at a fixed price.

When the value of silver bullion had thus readjusted itself, the Treasury vaults would be full of silver dollars, pledged for the redemption of notes and therefore unavailable for public expenses, while the notes would be circulating among the people at a reduced purchasing power. What desirable object could such a condition serve? Even if it did no harm, it could do no good. And during the earlier transition stages, while silver was rising in value, who would be benefited? During the later stages, when it was falling, who except speculators would not be injured? Debtors, in some degree, though only at the expense of creditors, would be benefited while the metal ranged above its normal value; but the principal difference between the present market value of silver and any value it might acquire under the Bland bill would be a generous present by Congress from the property of the people of the United States to the owners of silver mines throughout the world.

This class would profit most, even if the wildest expectations of those who advocate the bill were realized, and silver actually came to and remained at a parity with gold. That could not possibly be unless gold fell relatively to other commodities, or other commodities rose along with the rise in silver values; and if either happened, free coinage would be a gift conferred by law upon silver producers at the expense of other producers. Silver would then buy more of other commodities than it can buy now.

The Bland bill is not a fiat money bill, nor does it involve any of the essential principles of fiat money legislation. It is not even a step in the direction of a fiat money policy. It is simply an attempt, in the interest of silver producers, to arbitrarily increase the value of their commodity; and that would be its effect if the attempt were successful. Nothing of the kind is involved in making paper money a legal tender, for the value of paper could not be perceptibly affected thereby. There would be an analogy if the fiat money idea contemplated the stamping of certain qualities of paper, of certain dimensions and little value, with dollar marks, for the benefit of paper manufacturers, or if the Bland bill provided for the stamping of 75 cents worth of silver, in reasonably limited quantities, with the dollar fiat, for the benefit of the common treasury. But, as the Bland bill stands, so far from being a step in the direction of fiat coinage, it is a step away from it. Not only does it propose to give the difference between the value of the money and the value of the material of which it is made to the producers of that material, but it also aims to strengthen the "hard" money notion that there can be no paper money without a deposit of precious metals to secure its redemption.

If the bill is not a measure in the direction of money reform, what kind of a measure is it? It is a protection measure. And every free trader who looks upon it with favor should be ashamed of his intelligence. Were it proposed to coin nickel and gold, in the ratio of 20 to 1 when the market value was 200 to 1, free of charge and without limit for any person who demanded it and offered the material, and to issue coin notes redeemable in either metal for any deposit of either metal, it is obvious that, if the attempt thus to place nickel and gold upon a parity failed, it would produce a series of distracting fluctuations, and that, if the attempt succeeded, it would be nothing but a measure of protection for nickel producers. What is true of nickel is essentially true of silver. Any difference is only a difference in degree. Now, the supporters of Mr. Bland's measure for bringing silver and gold to a parity do expect the attempt to succeed. They can make no effective argument in favor of their bill upon the hypothesis that it would place gold permanently at a premium. And if it does succeed, it is a measure of protection for the owners of silver mining stock. If it were enacted, nothing more would be necessary to make it a perfect protection law after the McKinley pattern than to exclude the pau-

per silver of Europe by placing imported silver in the tariff schedules at from 30 to 35 per cent. ad valorem.

SINGLE TAX PROGRESS IN ENGLAND.—Whoever reads in the single tax news of this issue the account of the movement in London, will learn for the first time how completely our reform has effected a lodgment in the practical politics of the British capital. In one of his excellent letters to the New York Times, Harold Frederic remarks that the London "County Council leaders are much more advanced politicians than those who shape the policy of the Liberal party in Parliament," and predicts that "if they win their struggle a few weeks hence, the effect will be to force the pace of the whole organization, and commit it to sweeping reforms of taxation and local self-government;" but it is seldom that we get in our newspapers even a suggestion of the enormous strides that English single tax men are making, and which are described in our report.

Among the men who lead the movement there are Lord Monkswell, whose name is thus far best known on this side of the Atlantic in connection with the international copyright agitation, and William Saunders, a prominent business man, who was a member of the last Parliament, and will in all probability be a member of the next. After Parliament had established the County Councils, of which our foreign newspaper correspondents seldom give us any real information, these men were elected to that of London, along with a long list of others who either were or have since become intelligent supporters of the single tax reform. By a very large majority they have adopted a recommendation that Parliament invest the County Councils with power to meet the expense of local improvement by means of a tax on the value of land irrespective of improvements, or, as they express it, by a tax on ground value. This recommendation is now the principal issue upon which the single tax members will go to the people of London for re-election to the County Council at the approaching political struggle to which Mr. Frederic refers in his Times letter. What their hope of success may be is thus foreshadowed in the same letter:

This huge metropolis is politically very queer. It will vote for the Tories and it will vote for Democrats. What it will not stand is milk-and-water Whiggism. It supported Lord Salisbury heavily in 1886, largely because it believed he and Lord Randolph Churchill, in some undefined way, intended to give things a general shaking up. But that vision of a Tory Democracy never came to anything, and London has swung to the other side. It will give the Liberals tremendous majorities if they only make their platform strong enough against the landlords and corporations.

Here is another striking indication of the great strength that the single tax is gaining. Ignorant of the political undercurrents in England, for accounts of which sufficient space is seldom left in London letters to American papers after social scandals and superficial politics are dished up, we have supposed that the single tax agitation there is of the land nationalization order. But it now appears, and it will surprise single tax men here, as well as those who oppose us, that the fiscal reform is fully under way in London, and may soon be expected to lay deep and firm in that city the foundations of the only social reform that can rescue the masses of men from hopeless poverty and the evils that poverty breeds.

HOW A STATE WAS STOLEN.—Judge Cullen, of the Supreme Court of New York, has rendered a decision which Democrats all over the country should ponder before saddling their party with such a Presidential nomination as that of Senator Hill would be.

Storm Emans, as county clerk, was clerk last year of the board of election canvassers, of Dutchess County. The election returns from that county were filed in the offices of the Governor, of the Secretary of State, and of the Comptroller, showing that the Democratic candidate for State Senator had been elected by a small majority. Subsequently, in a legal proceeding before a Democratic judge, it was held that these returns were false; and Mr. Emans was commanded by a mandate of the court to file amended returns, showing the election of the Republican candidate for Senator. Mr. Emans obeyed. But learning afterward that another judge—Judge Ingraham—had stayed the court proceedings, he recovered the amended returns, after they were actually in the proper State offices and had legally taken the place of the original returns. For doing this he was prosecuted for contempt, and Judge Cullen, who is a Democrat, has just rendered the decision of the court, holding that what Emans did was unlawful, but acquitting him of contempt because he acted in obedience to superior official instructions. Here is the language of the Judge's opinion on the point:

At the time of mailing the returns the clerk did not know of the granting of the order of Justice Ingraham. The Governor referred him to the Attorney-General, who was counsel for the Board of State Canvassers and for its individual members, and instructed him to do as that officer advised. What passed between that officer and Emans does not appear save by the affidavits of Mr. Emans, who states that he was advised to obtain possession of the returns if he could. This certainly constituted an implied authority from the Governor to Emans for the action taken. The third return was taken from the Comptroller's office, not by Emans nor in his presence, by Judge Maynard, the Deputy Attorney-General, who, the evi-

dence shows, was the Comptroller's counsel. The fact remains that the return was not taken by Emans nor, so far as the evidence shows, by his procurement. The returns were not before the Board of State Canvassers, not because of any defect in their transmission nor of a disobedience of the orders of the court, but because by the action of the Secretary of State, the Governor, and the counsel of the Comptroller, the returns were taken from the several public offices where they had been properly received, and were given to Mr. Emans. The motion to punish for contempt is therefore denied, but as there was good grounds for instituting this proceeding, the denial will be without cost.

The Governor at that time was David B. Hill; the Deputy Attorney-General was Maynard, since appointed Judge of the Court of Appeals by Governor Flower, pursuant to political arrangements between the retiring Governor and his successor; and the Secretary of State was Mr. Rice, who recently became a volunteer aide-camp on Hill's political staff. The act of taking the amended returns from the public offices—where, as Judge Cullen says, "they had been properly received," and for which Mr. Emans would have been punished by a judge of his own political party but for the higher authority in obedience to which he acted—left only the old returns before the State canvassers; and upon them the certificate of election was given to the Democratic candidate for Senator, to whom it did not belong, and who could not have received it but for the robbery of the public offices in which the amended returns had been properly deposited.

Although Mr. Emans is exonerated, a crime was committed, and Senator Hill took part in it. The only possible question, so far as he is concerned, is whether in taking part in it he had guilty knowledge of the nature, purpose, and effect of his act. On this question the evidence of Mr. Emans is on record that Hill instructed him to do as Maynard advised. True, that in itself is not evidence of criminal intent, for Maynard was an official adviser. But the evidence of Hill's office boy is also on record, and he testifies that when, immediately after Emans had abstracted the amended returns from the Governor's mail, he informed Governor Hill, the Governor assured him that he had done right. Official advice will not excuse here, for Governor Hill must be presumed to have known that no official advice can justify the unauthorized abstraction of a public document from a public office. But further, Mr. Hill has taken credit for having secured control of the State Senate. He could not have been ignorant of how he secured that control; and since it appears that he secured it by the unlawful abstraction of public documents from public offices, by what manner of explanation can he avoid the charge of having conspired with the men who actually committed the offence?

Does the Democratic party care to go into the campaign with a candidate whose only defence against charges of having committed a high crime must be that he did not know it was a crime, especially when that defence will be met with evidence such as that which is indicated above? Does it care to have that man's name identified in any way with its national organization, its national candidates, or its national policy? Can it afford to leave any room whatever for the accusation that its candidate is in the slightest degree under the influence of such a man? Parties that hold overwhelming majorities might indulge in such boldness with impunity for a time, as the Republican party did some years ago; but parties that depend for success, as the Democratic party now does, upon attracting and holding the support of men whose party ties are slender, cannot afford to outrage public opinion in that way.

WHO GRINDS THE FACES OF THE POOR?—We recently stated that "it is true and plain that rich men do not grind the faces of the poor." No one misunderstood us except the Knights of Labor Journal, which, since it has fallen under socialistic management, has acquired the "fatal facility," so common among socialists, of formulating ill-considered opinions. It attacks our statement by showing that the new Astor baby will have an income which, through monopoly, must be kept up by the unrequited labor of some thousands of poor men. Inasmuch as the burden of our argument was that it is monopoly, not rich men, that grinds the faces of the poor, we must be excused for failing to see the point of our socialistic contemporary's criticism.

AUSTRALIAN AGITATION.

JOHN FARRELL.

SYDNEY, N. S. W., December 23th, 1891.—After a month of more than usual Parliamentary excitement the Christmas recess has brought a cessation of the fiscal fight in this colony. Early in January the battle, to which a truce has been called at its most critical stage, will be resumed. Whether the iniquitous burdens which the monopolistic interest, standing behind Mr. Dibbs and his colleagues, has placed upon the people without any warrant from the votes of a majority, are to be retained or discarded is the question that must be decided before any other public business can be gone on with. Speculation as to the issue is active in the other colonies, and the general hope is that the attempt to establish protection here will be overthrown. This hope is largely the result of an awakened comprehen-

sion of the advantages of intercolonial free trade, arising from the prospect of federation. Just when the policy of protection has been proven by the long experience of Victoria to be a disastrous failure, and when every one of the Australian colonies that have experimented in that way begins to feel the effect of burnt fingers, it is not pleasant to them to see the one comparatively free trade colony of the group erecting a barrier against the proposed reciprocal freedom of trade.

By the narrow majority of eight votes, won through the treachery of the protectionist section of the Labor party, the Dibbs government now holds power. The opposition, under the leadership of Mr. G. H. Reid, sought to dislodge them by a motion of censure regarding their fiscal proposals. The Labor party in the House, after much heated debate in caucus, decided to support Mr. Reid's motion with the addition that the settlement of the fiscal question should be remitted to a plebiscite. This addition the speaker ruled out of order on the ground that during the current session the question of taking a plebiscite had already been discussed. There is no doubt that this ruling was gladly received by one section of the Labor party, as a kind of excuse for breaking their pledges. In the most shameless manner, notwithstanding their agreement not to permit the raising of the fiscal issue and their acceptance of the platform of the Labor Electoral League with its distinct proviso for land value taxation, sixteen of the thirty-two Labor members traitorously went over to Mr. Dibbs, thus giving him a small majority. By the grace of this kind of support the tariff resolutions have been approved, and so the matter stands at present.

The fight over the bill itself will be a desperate one. The protectionists are jubilant over the unhoped for manner in which the cause of restriction has been rushed to the front, and are confident of victory. The appearance of success which their side can now show is attracting to it all the place-hunters and time-servers. The Opposition does not present anything like the united front that might have been expected. This is largely due to the inexplicable conduct of Sir Henry Parkes. After his defeat by the Labor party's vote, Sir Henry professed his unwillingness to retain the leadership of the Opposition, assigning as a reason physical inability to sustain the work and worry appertaining to the position. Nevertheless, he appears to have resented the appointment in his stead of Mr. Reid, and from his place in Parliament has attacked that gentleman in a manner so undignified and apparently groundless as to fill his own life-long supporters with disgust and regret. This action of Sir Henry Parkes, while amounting to political suicide, has undoubtedly tended to strengthen the position of the Dibbs ministry. Mr. McMillan, ex-treasurer and a man of considerable ability on the free trade side, also shows a disposition to rebel against his new leader. That leader, however, has proven himself to be possessed of considerable tact, and it is certain that he will have a compact following, among whom, for the first time in any Parliament of this colony, are nearly a dozen genuine free traders. The discussion on the tariff proposals should prove to be a political education for the colony.

Certainly, the imposition of the new duties has already been a practical lesson to thousands, especially in the city electorates whose "labor" members have renounced their obligations. In these electorates for the most part the votes have shown a great free trade majority. That they will do so again at the next election, and that the traitorous members who now misrepresent them will be promptly fired out, there is no doubt whatever. While the usual sophistry has been talked in Parliament and on the stump about the foreigner paying the duty on imported goods, some striking proofs have been given to New South Wales consumers that they have to do the paying. Even in this early stage of the nefarious game, small fortunes are being made by merchants in extorting from customers increased prices to cover duties that have not been paid. The cost of many necessities has been raised in a way there can be no mistake about. The papers are filled with correspondence calling attention to the rascalities being practised under the new system, and directing public thought to the only logical method of taxation. The single tax men are everywhere seizing the opportunity to impress their doctrine upon others, and listeners are easily found. The growth of a public sentiment in favor of taxing away land values has been very marked during the past year or so. In Parliament a number of those who would shudder in their conservative woodenheadedness to be thought single taxers, are beginning to insist that land values should contribute fairly to the public revenues.

They but reflect the change that is taking place outside. The publication here of Henry George's reply to the Pope's encyclical letter has had a marked effect in many quarters. It has deeply impressed those who regard the moral aspect of social and economic questions, and has been the subject of stirring sermons from several pulpits. Among the labor bodies, divided as they now are by the bringing up of the fiscal issue, the subject is being threshed out vigorously, and wherever that process goes on our side is gaining all the time. The defection of the labor members is likely to result in the death of the Labor party as a political organization. That is to say, the Labor Electoral League can only henceforward be regarded as a free trade organization, the chief purpose of whose existence will be to oppose any advance towards protection. It will be confronted by a so-called Democratic association composed of labor renegades of the protectionist persuasion. There is also being established, with difficulty and under pain of dismissal to employees, a National Association, whose chief purpose is to keep labor in that state of life in which it has pleased land monopoly and the devil to place it. This is a sort of antipodean Primrose League, and will be a very harmless affair. The fight is to be between the forces of protection and single tax, a fact which is being recognized on all sides. In my next letter I should be able to give THE STANDARD readers a pretty fair idea of how it is going on.

In the other Australian colonies very little of consequence has taken place. Queensland is considerably agitated over the question of importing Italian laborers for the sugar plantations and other tropical work, and there is every prospect that in that colony the next election will prove to be a more blind and bitter struggle between labor and capital than any we have yet witnessed here. In Victoria the proposal that all persons

shall have equal voting power has been rejected by the Upper House on the plea that property owners should have an extra vote for "thrift." This will be one of the issues for decision at the next election. Victoria is in a very bad way altogether just now. Her highly protected industries go to smash one after another, and there is more depression than has existed for years before. The woolen mills, which have been such a terrible burden on the taxpayers, go one after another into liquidation. The jam factories put up their shutters. There has been a great epidemic of failure among building societies and mushroom financial concerns, both in Melbourne and Sydney.

These are the result of dead and gone land booms, combined with rascality on the one hand and credulity on the other. New Zealand appears to have taken a turn towards prosperity, which is inducing many of those who emigrated from her shores to return, one of the causes of which is the increased settlement which goes on under the easy and excellent conditions of the Perpetual Leasehold bill. South Australia is not doing anything particular, legislatively, just now, the attempts of her law makers to dish the single taxers by all manner of ridiculous and dishonest proposals regarding landed property showing no promise of fruition. Federation is everywhere in abeyance, and all eyes are fixed on this colony.

JUSTICE.

GENEVIEVE M. SHARP.

This great watchword, this underlying principle of the single tax movement, is, perhaps, the last to reach the sensibilities of the majority of those to whom its advocates wish to make it plain. At first this seems incomprehensible; but after all it is not strange, but rather the natural outgrowth of the system of government to which our nation has so long been subjected. A Briton once said: "The very children (of America) draw in liberty with the air they breathe." It might now as truly be said that their first lesson in practical life is the necessity for injustice; that in order to "rise," as it is commonly expressed, the golden rule must become a dead letter, and for its substitute—Do unto others as they would do to you under the same circumstances.

With every added import duty, the soul-uplifting dream of universal brotherhood is farther removed from reality and from the understanding and appreciation of the masses; and with every tax on the products of industry, every confiscation by the Government of that to which it has no right, an object lesson is given in injustice. The natural effect is plainly seen in the increasing injustice of its citizens to their fellowmen, and the degradation to which our people are hastening at such an appalling rate. The so-called "protective" system of the so-called Republican party is one of the most gigantic lessons in unadulterated selfishness ever given by a government to its people; its greatest, in fact its only, power lying in the skillfulness with which its injustice is covered. The people are being systematically robbed of the fruits of their honest toil, and at the same time made to believe that they are under the wings of a mighty "protecting" power! Out upon such deception! What right have we—descendants of old world ancestors, receiving our country as a heritage from those who were willing to endure untold hardships, to spill their hearts' blood for justice and liberty, and, above all, only equal claimants on the bounty of an infinitely just God—to prate of "foreigners" and our duty to "our own" country. Let us rather look to it that we keep pace with the progress of these "foreigners," that "our own" people do not become hopelessly enslaved while those of other lands rise to liberty and justice.

It is our privilege, our sacred duty, handed down to us by liberty-loving fathers, to keep our land true to liberty, justice, and brotherhood; to break the bonds which are holding the masses down from the heights of manhood and intelligence. Our country, if her destined end were reached, would become a beacon light to guide the oppressed of all nations to that liberty which, as Henry George says, is the panacea for all evil.

Disciples of the single tax, forward and God speed! Our principles are the right ones to lead our own country and all others to liberty, justice, and brotherhood. In the words of our Quaker poet:

"On then, my brothers! every blow
Ye deal is felt the wide world through;
Whatever here uplifts the low,
Or humbles Freedom's hateful foe,
Blesses the Old World through the New."

THE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM.

JOHN CODMAN.

I can take little exception to THE STANDARD's mild criticism of my article on Public Schools in the issue of January 13. It is fully balanced by the approving letter of Colonel Parker, which appeared in a subsequent issue, wherein he brings this still more serious charge against State methods of education as his chief objection to them:

First. The school system in our States has grown up into a huge machine, with the Board of Education at its head and ramifying through teachers' institutes, local school boards, school superintendents, and teachers, into every hamlet in the State. It takes every opportunity to enlarge its own sphere of action and to increase its own power.

I happened to know Colonel Parker personally, and I know of the esteem with which he is regarded by his fellow citizens of Boston, who, whether they agree with him or not, are always ready to credit him with sincerity in his utterances. He was a member of the Massachusetts Senate when greatly increased demands for educational purposes were made upon the State, which he consistently opposed for the reasons assigned in his letter. He knows whereof he speaks when he says that the Board of Education has become a political machine in Massachusetts. If this is true in that respectable commonwealth, how absolutely certain it is to be true in the State of New York, which is notoriously a territory of political plunderers. It needs but a glance at the report of the New York Superintendent of Public

Instruction of 363 pages to satisfy us of the opportunities at least that are offered, in an annual expenditure of \$20,473,669.92, for political pickings; and we all know from long experience that when opportunities of this kind are offered in New York they are seldom rejected.

THE STANDARD may regard the "three R's" as "insufficient teaching," but in them there is confined more honesty than in the means employed to promote "the higher branches."

I have said that in his message Governor Flower, when deploring the falling off in the attendance in public schools, did not take into consideration the Roman Catholic immigration. I did not mean to say that this accounted for the whole of the deficiency which, I apprehend, is mainly due to private as well as parochial schools. Indeed, there are comparatively few children in the community who do not get an education of some sort. Such institutions, for instance, as Prof. Packard's Business College, naturally and deservedly draw away many pupils from the public schools. The present generation of young people possess a mania for "going into business," and to get into it as soon as they are fledged from the country schools where the "three R's" are still chiefly taught, they abandon their father's farms and rush to the city, where they get the precise knowledge that they desire, and as it is a knowledge that must be paid for they appreciate its value vastly more than if it was bestowed upon them by public charity. To quote Col. Parker again:

Second. Of old, the youth who had in him a burning desire to acquire knowledge was, as a rule, obliged to obtain his education at the cost of hard, bodily work and great self-denial on his own part, and this often had to be supplemented by an equal self-sacrifice on the part of his family. Such an one knew what education had cost him, and he therefore knew its value; but besides the number of those who were willing to pay that price—to undergo what he had borne in order to get learning—was comparatively small, so that when he had obtained it he found some reward in the distinction that learning gave him.

We very well know the objections that the Roman Catholic Church has raised against public schools, and most Protestants are apt to think that they are unreasonable. I do not think that they are so. They are right in the assumption that religion should be the basis of education, and that every sect should have money to support the schools of its own denomination. But they are not justified in the methods by which they propose to obtain it. They raise no objection to taxing the people of the State of New York this enormous sum of \$20,473,669.92, but they say that having paid their share of it they are entitled to a division of it pro rata. Of course this is preposterous. There could not be a division between Protestants and Catholics, for the Protestants differ from each other as much as they differ from the Catholics, and the Jews, Mahometans, Buddhists, pagans, and infidels would be entitled to their shares. But under the system of "the three R's" their object and the object of all religionists would be equally well, if not better attained. Instead of encouraging this great political machine, and spending over twenty millions of dollars, we should raise enough by taxation simply to support really "common" schools, such as our forefathers thought amply sufficient to make good citizens, and of which people could avail themselves of their choice; then all the religious sects would save most of the money which they now are forcibly made to contribute, and they could devote it to religious and secular education combined in their own way. For one, I think it is immaterial what varieties of religious faith may be taught in the schools. They would all acknowledge the existence of God, and our accountability to Him.

It is in a great measure because His name can never be mentioned in the public schools that with all their "higher branches" they cannot turn out such good citizens at \$19.22 per capita as they did forty years ago at \$2.26.

THE OWNERSHIP OF AMERICAN HOMES.

In the Cleveland Press Henry George, Jr., has an interesting and valuable article, based upon the census statistics, regarding the ownership of homes and farms in the United States. He says:

With a view to getting some light upon this most important matter, the Single Tax Club, of St. Louis two years ago drew up a petition to the Superintendent of the eleventh census to collect data to show what percentage of the people own their own homes and farms; what proportion are tenants; of those who occupy their own homes and farms, what proportion have their property free from debt; and, of the homes and farms which are under mortgage, what percentage of the value is so mortgaged?

This petition was adopted not only by all the single tax clubs throughout the United States, but by all the Knights of Labor Assemblies, all the Farmers' Alliance Associations, and other farmer and industrial organizations. So strong was the demand, indeed, that Congress passed a special act extending the investigations of the Census Bureau to this work and made an appropriation of half a million dollars. The Census Bureau accordingly set about its task, which was found at the outset to be a gigantic one. No such work had ever been undertaken before in this country, and it was a problem to know how to proceed. At length a very simple plan was decided upon—that of sending out printed lists of questions into selected districts that seemed to be representative of larger regions. The idea was to make a thorough canvass by sending to every occupier of a home or farm within the selected district the list of questions, asking, among other things, whether he owned or hired the home or farm, whichever it might be, upon which he resided; and if he owned it, whether it was mortgaged, and if mortgaged, to what extent.

This information has for some time been coming in, but it is only now beginning to be tabulated. In a few weeks a bulletin will be issued showing tabulated returns from two districts, representative of a large part of the western country. By the kindness of the Superintendent, Mr. Porter, and of the expert in charge of this division of the census work, Mr. Holmes, I am able to give some idea of the remarkable conditions shown by the returns in these two districts.

One district consists of a group of ten neighboring counties in Kansas, a little west of Topeka. Kansas was selected because it seemed to be attracting more attention than any of the other States in that part of the country. The other district embraces ten counties in the southwestern part of Ohio and includes the city of Cincinnati. This district, covering the manufacturing Miami Valley, was thought to show the average condition prevailing in the State.

It was ascertained that there were in the ten Kansas counties 18,879 farms. Reports were returned from all but 1,305 of these, or about 7 per cent., which is about the percentage of farms in Ohio not heard from and of the homes in both States not reported. The number is so inconsider-

Mr. Holmes formulates results in the following clear manner:

That is to say, extending the same percentages over the whole of Kansas as are found in the ten counties investigated, it would be found that out of every nine farms two were owned free of debt, three were worked by tenants, and four were occupied by owners subject to an incumbrance of 38 per cent. of their value.

In Ohio, on the basis of these returns, out of every eight farms four are owned free of debt, three are worked by tenants, and one is occupied by owner subject to an incumbrance of 37 per cent. of its value.

As to homes, the returns shows as follows:

Or, to put the same thing in another form, out of every ten homes in the ten Kansas counties examined, three are owned free of debt, five are hired, and two are occupied by owners subject to an incumbrance of 39 per cent. of their value.

In the ten counties in Ohio, including Cincinnati, out of every fifteen homes, four are owned free of debt, ten are hired, and one is occupied by the owner subject to an incumbrance of 43 per cent. of its value.

In the ten counties in Ohio, outside of Cincinnati, out of every twelve homes, five are owned free of debt, six are hired, and one is occupied by the owner subject to an incumbrance.

In Kansas the farm mortgage averages \$1,422, on which the interest is \$114 a year. The Kansas home mortgage averages \$856, on which the interest amounts to \$74.

In Ohio the average farm mortgage amounts to \$1,422 and the home mortgage to \$1,354. The average interest paid on the Ohio farm mortgage amounts to \$85 a year, and on the Ohio home mortgage \$97 yearly. The lowest interest paid in any of the twenty counties was found to be in the county containing Cincinnati, where it was 6.08 per cent. The average interest on the Kansas farms was 8.12. It should be said that these interest figures represent not only the legal interest stipulated for in the instrument of the loan, but also the fees and exactions of the loan agents.

Details of tenancy are presented as follows:

The ominous importance of these figures grows as the figures are weighed. What is true of ten average counties is true more or less of a whole State, and to say that nearly a third of the farms of Kansas, and nearly a half of the homes are rented, and that over 60 per cent. of the other farms, and over 40 per cent. of the other homes, are heavily mortgaged, is to show that the tariff has not been such a blessing to the western farmer as its supporters have given us to believe, and also that the talk about plenty of free land or cheap land to be had in Kansas is a delusion and a snare. These figures mean, in plain terms, that the people of Kansas are being divorced from the soil and are becoming renters; that the process of divorce is rapidly accelerating, it having increased 150 per cent. in ten years, and that before many decades, if present conditions prevail, there will come to pass much the same order of things as exist in deeply-sympathized-with Ireland, where few are owners and the mass are tenants or the hired servants of tenants. Indeed, there would be a great difference to the disadvantage of the American tenants; the eviction laws are much harsher in America than in Ireland, and American citizens could, and can to-day, be more cruelly treated with the sanction of the law than can be shown has been the case in any one instance through the protracted period of the Irish agrarian agitation.

Doubtless when the tabulation of the returns of some of the northwestern States commences, an even worse condition of things will be discovered, as the recorded mortgage indebtedness which has already been investigated was found to be heaviest there. There are other States in the West that will probably present a better showing than Kansas and Ohio, but it is certain that these two States cannot be far from representing the general condition throughout the West.

When the investigation comes East, it is the expectation that a very much worse state of things will be revealed, for there concentrating tendencies have been longer at work. In such a State as Massachusetts, for instance, it is certain that landownership has become highly concentrated, since the population has been packing into the cities at an accelerated speed. When examination comes to the great cities it will not be surprising if the condition discovered resembles that known to have existed in Rome when the landed nobles bought the suffrages of the landless, impoverished, and embroiled masses with bread and circuses. The work of tabulation will be rapidly pushed, and the results will be made public in bulletins as fast as they appear, just as the counts of population were made known.

All those who wish details of information should write to Superintendent Porter, or to expert G. K. Holmes, Census Bureau, Washington, D. C., and ask for them.

The New York branch of this league has issued the following address:

The Democratic Free Trade League has been formed in the belief that the rapid growth of the free trade sentiment in the Democratic party has not yet been fully appreciated by the official leaders of that party, and that it is all important to success in the coming national campaign that the Democracy should show itself courageous and aggressive on the tariff question. The purpose of the league is that of concentrating Democratic opposition to protection, and of giving to it such expression as will show to politicians that they need not fear to be too radical in taking ground against the robbery of the masses through the custom house, but that on the contrary they cannot move forward toward free trade faster than the people are ready to support them.

It proposes to demand of the Democratic party this year that it go at least as far in the direction of free trade as to declare in the national platform for the abolition of all duties on raw materials, and for a corresponding reduction of duties on the manufactured articles into which such raw materials shall enter.

A general committee for the County of New York has been formed, and the league now calls upon all citizens who believe that the prosperity of the country depends upon freer interchange of commodities with the rest of the world to join it, and by the force of their numbers to impress on the managers of the Democratic party the necessity of adopting these views and of nominating as candidates men who have already proven their loyalty to the masses as against the protected classes.

The league proposes a campaign of enrollment. Neither large organizations nor public meetings are contemplated, but by an extended canvass it is hoped to show how many there are of the citizens of New York who are anxious for radical action on the tariff question.

If you are in sympathy with the aims and objects of this league you are invited to send your name and address (and your Assembly District), and such contribution as you may feel able to make toward helping the work along, to the Executive Committee of the league, at 73 Lexington avenue.

DOMESTIC.

The steamship **Indiana** started from Philadelphia on her errand to the famine-stricken districts in Russia with 3,000 tons of supplies on board. Fifty thousand people lined the wharves and bade the steamship a bon voyage.

Louisiana Democrats have made peace, and a primary next month will nominate a compromise State ticket.

D. D. Withers, a noted American turfman, is dead.

The United States Senate has passed a bill to extend for ten years the present law excluding Chinese from this country.

FOREIGN.

Mr. Balfour has introduced his Irish Local Government bill in the British House of Commons. It was received with contemptuous comment, and ironical cheers by the Liberals and the Home Rule Irish members. The bill provides for district and county councils with solely administrative functions, the grand juries retaining their judicial and quasi judicial functions. In elections for such councillors, members of the House of Peers and rate-paying women would have votes, while illiterate and defaulting rate-payers would not. The minority would have the protection of cumulative voting, and a certain number of official members would be appointed to the councils. Twenty rate-payers might ask a judge to remove a councillor deemed guilty of disobedience of the law, malversation, or oppression. The judge could try and remove such councillor and his place could be filled by a nominee of the Viceroy. A joint committee of the county council and the grand jury could veto oppressive acts of the majority of the council.

Premier de Freycinet, of the French cabinet, has resigned because a combination has defeated the Government in the Chamber by a vote of 304 to 212 on the Associations bill. The bill was said to be directed against Catholics. The first article provided that the right of association may be enjoyed without any previous authorization, but a declaration must be made as to the name and object of the association, its list of members and headquarters, and a full statement must also be forthcoming as to its foreign members or correspondents. Every member of an association shall have the right to withdraw at any time, and to demand that his contributions be paid back, and to this demand the association shall not have the right to offer any opposition. The law also enjoins that no real estate shall be owned, except such as is absolutely necessary, that hospitals shall not have a larger fund than is needed for their maintenance, and shall not be used to house the association. Foreigners are further prohibited from acquiring any kind of property, and from receiving gifts and heritages. For every infraction of the law the offender was to be punished by imprisonment. It is explained that the Government had no intention of passing the bill, but used it to arouse the Bishops. Clemenceau, Radical leader, forced the Government to show its hand, and then managed by union with Royalists and others of the Right to bring about the defeat. The fall of the Government is irretrievable.

Mrs. Anne Margaret Montague, daughter-in-law of an Irish lord, is under arrest on charge of killing her own daughter, aged three. The child was locked up in a small, totally dark and unventilated room, and tied to the wall by her mother. When the room was entered, three hours later, the child was found strangled to death. The little one's body bore evidences of cruelties recent and remote.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

—Apropos of Thomas G. Shearman's argument that direct taxation by the Federal Government either upon land values alone or upon real estate values generally, would at this time be useless and hinder the progress of the single tax ideas, John S. Watters writes from Memphis, Tenn.: While it is true, as Mr. Shearman states, that land values are greater in proportion to population in the East than in the West, this is in large part due to three things: First, the tariff on imports, which taxes the West and South for the benefit of the East, and consequently makes the East a better place to do business in than the West or South. This discrimination would be removed by the removal of the

tariff. Second, the fact that land values are affected by the scope or radius of trade; in other words, just as farming lands adjacent to large cities are more valuable than farming lands of the same population and quality further removed, the value being given them by the facilities for trade with the population of the city, so are the values of land in those parts of the country directly tributary to and interested in foreign trade increased by the population of the foreign countries concerned. Third, the variation in method of assessment in different parts of the United States, which makes statistics dangerous to argue from on the present valuations. The lands of Illinois are assessed about on the basis of 50 per cent.; those of Texas are assessed at; those of Mississippi are assessed in classes, and little or no attempt is made to get at their true value, which is evidenced by the fact that farming lands assessed at \$30 an acre, which by law is the highest rate at which any farming land can be assessed, are valued at \$40 an acre by mortgage and loan companies—very much more reliable assessors than the official assessors can be, inasmuch as they make a specialty of it, while nothing short of omniscience would enable one of the officials to carry out his oath.

The payment of the full rental value of land would be no hardship to those who paid it, being simply in all cases a payment for value received, or no tax at all. Consequently, I do not agree with Mr. Shearman that in the event of a direct tax levied on land values the Western collar would be taxed higher than the Eastern, if either the full rental value or any proportion thereof were taken in taxation, since neither would be taxed at all.

I believe that a direct tax in lieu of the tariff levied on the States in proportion to land values would be a fairly equitable method of supporting the Government; but it is open to the same objection that are most schemes of taxation based on Adam Smith's axiom, that each should pay in proportion to his ability to pay, which I consider sheer nonsense, and the foundation of all schemes of taxation of wealth generally, incomes, personalty, privilege taxes on average business done, and all other cumbersome and impossible methods of raising revenue, except the tariff, which is not based on any axiom or principle whatever. They all defeat the very object aimed at by inducing under-assessment and attempted evasion.

I believe that the single tax, in operation by the State governments, with the tax for the support of the general Government levied on the States in proportion to population, would be ideal. This Government should represent equally all the people, and all the people should have an equal interest in it. Every one should pay his pro rata. While, of course, with the single tax in operation, since all taxes would come out of land values, and consequently no one would in reality pay any at all, the underlying principle of our constitution, equality before the law, is best satisfied by the constitutional provision of per capita tax as expressed in the levy on the States in proportion to population. It would meet with less objection than any other, for once root out the socialistic notion that the Government has any right to the property of the individual, and no one would wish to pay less than another, since that would be a confession of inferiority.

I do not think the tariff can be overthrown and the single tax introduced by working on the general Government. It must be a development. It will come by the institution of the single tax in some locality, and from that radiate, by natural growth, from the demonstration of its superiority and the advantage the locality adopting it has over other localities, all over the world. This will lead to the overthrow of protective and revenue tariff schemes by easy growth of public opinion against any socialistic interference of the Government with private enterprise and restriction on trade.

—Thomas W. Williamson, principal of the Williamson Classical School of Lexington, Va., suggests this plan of single tax work: Let each single tax man send to the member of the National Committee for his State his name, address, occupation, and any facts helpful to a knowledge of himself, ability, etc., and also what he is willing to do for the cause. Then let him report to the State member of the committee at intervals what he has done. The latter can from time to time briefly report progress in his State to the National Committee, and sometimes to THE STANDARD. This will tend to make all single taxers more generally acquainted with each other, and in any emergency, our leaders would know whom to rely on for certain work in each locality.

Some can speak in public, some can influence papers, magazines, and people, others can distribute literature, books, etc., all can do something; and yet some must let certain work alone or suffer loss of work necessary to their family support.

Names of National Committeemen should be published every now and then so as to facilitate communication.

OBJECT LESSONS.

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

PUNISHED FOR ENTERPRISE.

Augusta G. Chase, of Doverville, N. H., writes: In regard to the present system of taxing labor in New Hampshire, I will relate one instance that came under my observation.

While a farmer of Webster was at work haying for a neighbor, a few years since, I had a conversation with him regarding the hard times farmers were having to maintain their families and save anything for the future. He made the remark that it was on account of the taxes, and said he would tell me how it had been in his case. He owned a rocky farm on which he and his father had toiled hard and only made a living, until his father died. He said he had thought that when his son got old enough to help him he would experiment a little and see if he could improve some part of the farm so that he could get more income from the land. They began with a piece of land by the side of the highway, near the house. They first picked all the rocks that they could handle, and drew them off and made a stone wall. Then they dug holes and sunk all the large rocks that they could.

They drew on earth, they fertilized it, and sowed it with grain. The next year it produced a fine crop of grass. It looked beautiful. His neighbors admired it. People passing noticed it, and complimented him. But the next year, his taxes were increased, so much so that he thought it a mistake, and went to see the selectmen of Webster about it. He was told that by his labor he had raised the value of his farm, and they must tax it accordingly.

"And now," said he, "I have to work out to get money enough to pay my taxes, for I cannot get it from my farm. I am discouraged."

He added that he did not ask the highest price for his work, as he had broken down his health and did not expect ever to see a well day again. This proved true. He was soon prostrated with sickness, from which he died at about middle age.

SINGLE TAX NEWS.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE SINGLE TAX LEAGUE.

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

Contributions for running expenses of office for week ending February 22 are as follows:

Henry W. Allen, City of Mexico.....	\$1.40
"Cash," Paterson, N. J.....	.50
"S. T.," Paterson, N. J.....	.50
	2.40
Balance reported last week	\$8.91

Total.....\$11.31

Contributions to special fund for preparing petition for presentation for week ending February 22 are as follows:

"Cash," Paterson, N. J., 50c.; Billy Radcliffe, Youngstown, Ohio,	
\$2.50; James R. Carrer, Boston, Mass., \$10.20; total.....	\$13.20
Previously acknowledged.....	132.50

Total.....\$145.70

The enrollment stands as follows:

Reported last week.....	115,354
signatures received since last report.....	12

Total.....115,366

GEO. ST. JOHN LEAVENS, Secretary.

ENGLAND.

LONDON.—An election of the utmost importance to the single tax agitation is now pending here. New members of the London County Council are soon to be chosen, and the question of taxing ground values is the issue.

At a recent conference Lord Monkswell, who took the chair, explained the situation regarding public improvements in the city, substantially as follows:

The making of public improvements is not merely a question of policy, it is also a question of money, because, until the County Council can get money by taxation out of the landlords, they will have to be more niggardly than they like to be in forwarding London improvements. These improvements are all for the benefit of the landlord, who contributes very little towards them. The change proposed in the law is in two directions. First, a division of the rates between the owners and the occupiers, and second the placing of a separate tax on the value of land, as distinguished from the value of buildings. The first object had the sanction, he believed, of the entire Liberal party, and was a foremost plank in their platform. In the separate taxation of ground rents it would be quite impossible for the landlord to put the screw on the tenant or to shift the burden on to him. Landlords would not on that account be able to raise the rents; the effect would be to lower them. In conclusion, he did not think it lay in the mouths of the dukes and other ground landlords of London to talk about a policy of confiscation.

This conference was held for promoting the objects of an address issued last autumn by the Executive Committee of "The United Committee for the Taxation of Ground Values in London," of which society Lord Monkswell is president, and Frederick Verinder is secretary. The address is what in the United States would be called a platform. It was issued in contemplation

of the approaching County Council election, and it declares the principles upon which the single tax men of London appeal for increased support. Here is the text:

The prominence now given to the demand for the taxation of land values in the programme of the Liberal and Radical party is at once a testimony to the value of the work done by the committee in the past and an incentive to increased exertions in the future. To secure the ground which has already been won, and to give greater definiteness to the current proposals of reform, much educational work, involving a considerable expenditure, will be necessary.

Moreover, this question is becoming more important and more urgent than ever in connection with almost every department of local government. Recent legislation on the housing of the people, supplemented by pressure from the Government and from public opinion, is tending to increase the expenditure of local bodies for sanitary purposes. The demands for better schools, better education, public libraries, baths, wash-houses, open spaces, and the like, are increasing the amount and aggravating the burden of the rates. Meanwhile, the increased value which all these public improvements confer upon the land of the towns goes into the pockets of the landlords, who, as landlords, contribute nothing directly to the rates by whose expenditure they are so largely benefited.

The London County Council has refused to proceed with some of its more costly improvement schemes until it shall have the power to rate ground landlords to their cost. Every local body has to face a similar difficulty; and no doubt many of them, failing a reform of the incidence of local taxation, will follow the example of the London County Council.

Either the most urgent public improvements must be neglected; or the burden of their cost must be added to the already unjust burdens of the occupier; or the reform advocated by this committee must be adopted by Parliament.

This was signed on behalf of the Executive Committee by Lord Monkswell, J. F. Torr, J. Fletcher Moulton, and Frederick Verinder.

A pamphlet recently published by William Saunders, a member of the London County Council, and lately a member of Parliament, describes the agitation which led up to the address. The issue—as he states it—was this: "Builders or occupiers of premises have to pay rates; the value of land created by the expenditure of rates goes to the ground landlord. It is contended that the ground landlord, who obtains the value, should contribute to the rates by which the value is created." This proposal is called the taxation of ground values. When the County Council was elected, the question of taxing ground values excited great interest, and while it was admitted that the Council had no control over the methods of rating, that authority resting in Parliament, it was insisted that when recommending expenditures for city improvements it was the duty of the Council to suggest methods for raising funds. The agitation began, however, long before the election of the first County Council. It was caused by the rapid increase in rents and rates between 1863 and 1890, and the question was first raised in the report of the Royal Commission on the Housing of the Working Classes. This report showed that, though the capital value of available building land was very great, it produced but a small return until let for building, and that it was rated for taxation not in proportion to its real value, which was high, but to the actual income which until let for building was very low. That enabled the owners, so the Royal Commission reported, to keep the land out of market, and thereby to abnormally raise its price; and meantime, public improvements, to the expense of which these owners contributed but a small proportion, still further increased the value of the land. For a remedy, the committee recommended that a four per cent. rate be levied on the selling value of land. They argued that this would compel the owners of all valuable property to contribute to public expenses, thus diminishing the burden on occupiers, and that owners of building land would be forced to offer their land for sale, thus bringing down the price of land. Incidentally, it was said in the report that the "ground rent or price paid for land" is not a recompense for any industry or expenditure on the part of landowners, "but is the natural result of the industry of the town's people themselves."

In February, 1886, after the report of the Royal Commission, Mr. Saunders, then in the House of Commons, moved in that body "that no system of taxation can be equitable unless a direct assessment be imposed on the owners of ground rents, and on the owners of increased values imparted to lands by building operations or other improvements, as recommended by the Royal Commission on the Housing of the Working Classes." An interesting debate followed, but the resolution was referred to the Town Holdings Committee, where it was pigeon-holed.

In the following year, 1887, "The United Committee for the Taxation of Ground Values," which now issues the campaign address quoted above, was formed; and in the same year it issued a leaflet, to which the name of the first president, Lord Hobhouse, was subscribed, and in which the following statements were made:

That buildings, and not land, are liable for taxation is evident from the fact that when buildings are removed, or destroyed by fire, taxation ceases, although ground rent continues to be paid to the owner.

Land cannot be lessened in quantity by taxation, but building is restricted thereby.

The evils of overcrowding, the stagnation of trade, and the general want of profitable employment are thus directly traceable to the paralyzing and unjust effect of the exemption of land from taxation, which causes heavy burdens to fall on buildings.

The object of the United Committee is to substitute the taxation of land for the taxation of buildings. Land should be taxed according to its value. A ground rent may represent the whole or only a part of the value. The actual value should be taxed whether the whole remains with the landlord or in part belongs to the occupier.

At that time the value of the land in the Metropolitan area of London was £418,000,000 (equal to about \$2,000,000,000), while the value of buildings was only £212,000,000 (about \$1,060,000,000), and yet the owners of land paid only £500,000 (\$2,500,000), inclusive of income tax, while the occupiers of buildings paid £7,000,000 (\$35,000,000).

The effect of the agitation of the United Committee was felt at the election for members of the present London County Council, several who were more or less radical single tax men being elected. Among these were Wm. Saunders, Lord Monkswell, and Lord Hobhouse. Upon the organization of the Council a Committee on Land Valuation was appointed which soon disposed of the frivolous objection, so often heard, that the value of land cannot be distinguished from the value of improvements. Some of

the most experienced real estate valuers of London were examined, and from them it was learned that it was their usual practice in valuing property to separate land from buildings, even where a statement of the values separately was not required; and as a result of its investigation, the committee reported that the values of land could be distinguished from those of improvements, for purposes of taxation, without difficulty or increased expense. The same committee also took into consideration the effect on overcrowding of rating vacant land, and reported that the chief cause of overcrowding is the dearness of building land, which would be modified if it were taxed according to its selling value instead of according to its actual income; and it recommended a detailed plan of bringing "all land, irrespective of buildings and improvements, into the rate books for assessment under a separate valuation."

When this report came into the Council it was opposed by the landlord interest on technical grounds, and an apparently innocent motion to defer its consideration until the report on the same subject of the Local Government Taxation Committee should be considered, was carried. But that motion was not so innocent as it appeared. It placed the question under the control of the Local Government Committee, which kept it in a state of suspension for more than two years.

That committee finally made a long straddling report, however, concluding with a recommendation that the Council accept the report as an exposition of many questions relating to local taxation in London, and as propounding principles of reform worthy of the attention of Parliament. On the part of the advocates of ground value taxation in the Council an amendment was offered, "That the Council is of opinion that the existing system of local taxation in the metropolis unduly favors owners at the expense of occupiers, and that it is urgently necessary that this injustice should be redressed." The amendment was carried by the decisive vote of 59 to 17.

A motion that in redressing the injustice it should be "subject to equitable arrangement as regards existing contracts" was lost. A further motion to give landowners a direct representation "adequate to the immediate interest in local expenditure which they will acquire"—in other words, to increase the voting power of landlords in proportion to the increase of their land value taxation—was also lost, the vote being 20 for the motion to 48 against it. At this stage the question now rests, and it will rest there until after the next election.

It must be remembered that the County Council has no power to establish methods of taxation. It can only recommend to Parliament. But if the County Council candidates of the United Committee are returned at the approaching election, the next Parliament will be officially advised by the County Council to authorize the adoption of the single tax for London; and if, at the Parliamentary elections now so near, the Liberals succeed, London will soon inaugurate the single tax for all purposes of local improvement.

NEW YORK.

BROOKLYN.—The Economic Reading Circle has made an auspicious start. The Monroe Circle, organized a few months ago, has held four classes. The attendance at each was as follows: The first 10, the second 19, the third 21, and the fourth 35. At the last class there were present ten men and twenty-five women. This is about the proportion attending each class.

This movement was started without any trumpet blast or elaborate plan of organization. Its only rules are those that were adopted at the first regular class of the circle, as follows: It was mutually agreed that the circle should meet as a class at stated times in the homes of its members. That it should not be composed of more than twenty persons. When more than that number had given in their names, a second circle should be formed in another locality. The circles were to be under the direction of Miss C. Estella Bachman, of Mauch Chunk, Penn., who is general secretary of the Economic Reading Circle. The plan of conducting the meetings of the circle would be as follows: They are to be called classes. At each class a moderator will be elected, whose duties shall be to maintain order and keep the discussion as closely as possible to the lesson. The lessons shall be such as the advisory board may adopt, and such other articles and questions as may be included in the programme prepared by the general secretary. Classes to remain in session at least one hour, after which light refreshments may be served, followed by vocal and instrumental music and social chat, or dancing when the host may consent and the members desire it.

The first three classes were held at the residence of Martin Battle, the fourth at Mrs. A. D. Morgan's. The next will be held in the parlors of Mrs. Meer, 806 DeKalb avenue, on Saturday evening, March 5th. Persons desirous of attending may communicate with Mrs. Elizabeth Burns Battle, secretary-treasurer, Monroe Circle, 319 Monroe street, Brooklyn. The lesson of the day for the next class is "What is Capital?"

—Alfred J. Wolf writes: At the regular meeting of District Assembly 220, K. of L., on February 21st, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, Bills have been introduced in the Legislature of the State of New York which grant a franchise to certain parties to build bridges across the East River,

Resolved, That District Assembly 220, K. of L., declares that the passage of such bills would be contrary to public policy, and destructive of the rights of the people.

Resolved, That when the building of a bridge between the cities of New York and Brooklyn shall become necessary, it should be done by the people of those cities, and for their own benefit.

SINGHANTON.—John H. Blakeney writes: At the last meeting of our Social Science Club chapters ten and eleven of "Protection or Free Trade?" were read and discussed, and four new members were enrolled.

When P. J. McGuire, general secretary of the carpenters, spoke here to a fairly good audience of working men, he said of the land question: Great injury is done labor by speculators who get possession of land they do not want to use, and hold it for a rise in price. Other people improve and build upon adjoining land and this gives value to the land of the speculators and monopolizers without any labor on their part. And all the time this is going on the improvers are taxed for their energy and enterprise, while the

vacant landowner is scarcely taxed at all. Thus do our laws and customs line the industrious for the benefit of the idle speculator. When labor wishes access to the land held by these idle monopolists, a value made by this very labor, and not at all by the holder of the vacant land, has to be paid.

PENNSYLVANIA.

PHILADELPHIA.—George E. Chase writes: A large audience assembled at Musical Fund Hall on the 16th to listen to Henry George's well-known lecture on Moses. Though the prices of tickets were 50 cents, 75 cents, and \$1, the audience numbered fully five hundred people.

The rooms of the Philadelphia Single Tax Society not being large enough to accommodate all who desired to meet Mr. George, Miss Paul generously opened her large and commodious residence, at 1317 Filbert street, where a reception was tendered to Mr. George. The daily papers here the next day published interesting accounts of both the lecture and the reception.

MASSACHUSETTS.

WORCESTER.—E. K. Page writes: At the February meeting of the Worcester Single Tax Club Levi H. Turner, of Boston, delivered one of the most interesting and convincing addresses on free trade and the single tax ever given before our organization. We have heard of several "inquirers" for the single tax gospel who became converts as the result of Mr. Turner's preaching.

Our next meeting, on March 3d, is to be addressed by Mrs. Eliza Stowe Twitchell, on "Wealth and its Factors." The following were elected officers of the club for 1892: President, T. J. Hastings; vice-president, Rev. John Gregson; treasurer, H. L. Dunnell; secretary, E. K. Page; financial secretary, J. H. Cooney; executive committee, Messrs. Hastings, Page, and Cooney, with Dr. E. Ellinwood and Thomas Roach.

OHIO.

YOUNGSTOWN.—"Billy" Radcliffe writes: We have put in a single tax weekly here that is sure to awaken the people, and will have a tendency to make them STANDARD readers. Both our local papers gave us a nice notice, and from the outlook I think the paper will be a grand success.

In my hand to hand combats with the enemy I find the easiest part of my job is to get them right on the single tax as to State issues; then the tariff as a system of taxation falls; then the tariff in a protective sense goes down, and I have them right up to the Democratic fence; but when they peep through the rails and see the Hills, Gormans, etc., they turn on their heel and away they go. In vain I show them Cleveland, Mills, and the freer trade Democracy. They still hold out and seem bound to wait until Democracy purifies itself.

I find any number of Democrats here who say they will not vote for Hill. In fact, the Democrats about here seem to be all Cleveland men.

I have about made up my mind that if Hill gets the nomination I will go into New York State and Indiana and use my blackboard against him.

Mr. West, a canvasser, and, by the way, an interesting talker who hails from Brooklyn, has just been put through our single tax free trade mill. He takes to land value taxation all right, but still sticks on some tariff points. I sometimes think he is thoroughly converted, but his hatred of Hill Democracy keeps him back. Last week, in sending a merschaum pipe by mail to Chicago, he would have me put some single tax decorations on the outside, and as I had no printed stickers at hand I printed with a pen "Single Tax will Raise your Wages," and when he gave it to the stamp clerk, saying "pipe," the clerk, after reading the inscription, said, "eight cents—four cents for the pipe and four cents for the single tax." He paid it and the single tax went on to Chicago.

Kicking taxpayers cause the "cat" to peep out in the Pittsburgh Dispatch occasionally, but a close observer can see it in almost every issue of the Cleveland Press.

J. G. Parsons, of the Reform Club, was here last week trying to arrange for a talk by W. B. Estelle; but the weak-kneed Democrats in this strong hold of protection did not take hold. I guess they are still sticking to the still-hunt theory.

MICHIGAN.

GRAND RAPIDS.—The Unity Club, an annex of Unity (Unitarian) Church, Rev. Miss Mila F. Tupper, pastor, had a most interesting discussion Tuesday evening. The subject was "Single Tax Symposium," Wm. M. Hathaway in charge; and Temple Emanuel was filled with thoughtful, earnest men and women of all classes—merchants, manufacturers, doctors, lawyers, teachers, men from the factories and shops. Mr. W. F. Cooling, of the Chicago Single Tax Club, opened with an hour's address, which most effectively commended the single tax doctrine to all who heard it, by its candor and cogency; after which, objections being invited, Mr. Cooling answered numerous questions propounded from the audience. Rev. F. W. N. Hugenoltz, pastor of the Holland Free Church (Unitarian) followed with a fearless, clear-cut paper on the single tax, considered chiefly from the religious and moral standpoint, while Mr. Alex. Fyfe closed the regular exercises with an admirable paper on "How the Single Tax will Raise Wages." It being 10 o'clock, it was proposed to adjourn; but the audience wanted more questions answered, and a running discussion was kept up for half an hour longer. Mr. Edward Taggart, one of the ablest lawyers of the city and State, Mr. J. C. Parker, and Mr. H. Lenten, an ardent protectionist, led the attack of the opposition, while Messrs. Cooling, Andrew Fyfe, and others "repelled boarders." It was 10:30 when Chairman E. G. D. Holden adjourned the meeting, and then a goodly proportion of the audience gathered in groups and continued the discussion until the janitor began turning out the lights. The meeting was in every way exceedingly satisfactory, the only drawback being the absence of Mayor L. W. Hoch, of Adrian, who was kept at home by the grip, but sent a letter of regret, speaking strong words for the cause.

On March 1st the club will discuss "Municipal Ownership of Street Railways, Gas and Water Works," when the outlines of "the cat" are certain

to be again clearly brought out. We hope to have Mayor Hoch here then, as his promised address on "The Single Tax in Minneapolis" will just fit the subject.

ILLINOIS.

CHICAGO.—Warren Worth Bailey writes: Since the accession of Thomas W. Hanford, the powerful orator, to our ranks there has been none more important than that signalized at our meeting Thursday evening when Joseph Adams, the eloquent Independent minister, in a ringing address on "The Will of God Concerning the Ownership of Land," declared his adherence.

His exposition of the subject was clear, strong, and complete. Not a shred of doubt was left to obscure either God's will concerning the ownership of land or the speaker's concept of the doctrine of the single tax. In every view the address was masterly, and more than once Mr. Adams felt obliged to check the enthusiasm of the audience. Less than six weeks ago a copy of Mr. George's reply to the Pope was placed in his hands by our Mr. McFarlane. Before reading it he had some views on the land question, but that little book made him a thorough single taxer and he was no longer able to hold his peace. He felt bound to proclaim the great truth which Henry George had made as clear as God's sunlight.

Few speakers that have ever addressed the club have stirred it as Mr. Adams succeeded in doing. His delivery is slow and impressive, yet singularly pleasing. Ordinarily a level tone is maintained, but occasionally there comes a burst that fairly electrifies, and the audience gives quick response.

The discussion was opened by Mr. Kellett. The Rev. A. J. Cleare followed in a neat and eloquent ten-minute talk, supplementing the address of the evening with a telling sermon of his own on God's will concerning the ownership of land. His illustrations were peculiarly happy. Then came Captain J. F. Waters, formerly of Kansas City, now a resident of Chicago. It was his first visit to the club, and he quickly won favor. He replied to a question raised by Mr. Kellett, and did it neatly. The last speech was from Robert Holloway, of Morris, Ill. He was a stranger, but he wanted to say God bless the single tax. In two minutes he captured the audience.

Next Thursday evening we shall have the Rev. A. J. Cleare. He will speak of "Property and Personality."

March 3d Captain J. F. Waters will make his formal bow to the club. He comes with the reputation of a powerful speaker, and much interest is felt in his forthcoming address.

On March 10 comes that prime favorite, Thomas W. Handford, whose previous addresses before the club were masterpieces of oratory. He will speak this time on "Henry George's Reply to the Pope."

Future dates are open, but Judge Samuel P. McConnell, who is an avowed single taxer, has been invited, and is expected to speak not far hence on "The True Functions of Government." His appearance before the club will be taken as one of the most promising signs of the times.

The semi-annual election of officers for the club will take place Thursday evening, March 3.

IOWA.

DUBUQUE.—W. Edwin Brokaw writes: February 14, I attended the Dubuque Labor Congress, composed of delegates from the various trades and labor organizations of the city. Its sessions are open and it discusses public questions. Mr. T. W. Graham was expected to address the Congress upon the single tax, and there was a larger attendance than usual. After over two hours devoted to "the regular order of business," in which many phases of the labor problem came up for discussion, Mr. Graham was introduced. He presented me as a substitute, and I gave a brief explanation of the single tax, making frequent reference to the discussions I had been listening to.

Mr. Graham has been circulating a paper containing a statement of the single tax principles, and a promise to contribute the amount opposite each name, monthly, for at least one year, and in all other ways possible to assist in the spread of those principles. Several members of the Congress signed it. At the close of the Congress some twenty of the signers got together and elected the following officers: J. Zangmeister, president; W. T. Graham, secretary; D. Drummond, treasurer. They adopted the name of the "Dubuque Single Tax Association."

February 17, a public meeting was held in the Universalist church. The pastor, Rev. A. Crum, opened the meeting with a few well chosen words, expressing his sympathy with all research for truth, and introduced Mr. J. Zangmeister as chairman. After a few remarks by the chairman, Mr. F. Thornely read the national single tax platform. Then Mr. T. W. Graham read some "distinguished testimony" upon the right of all men to the use of the earth, a list of prominent men who have identified themselves with our movement, and of papers that support it. Then I explained the single tax for about an hour and answered questions for a half or three-quarters of an hour more. A big man in the rear of the audience "fired" a long string of questions at me, covering the usual stock objections. He began in the strain of a self-important lawyer, grew sarcastic, and then dropped into a humorous vein. After contending a point with me briefly he would admit my explanation as satisfactory, but soon bob up with another objection. "Now," he said, "my friend here bought a lot that was taxed twenty dollars, and built a house on it for me to live in, and the assessor came around and fined him, as you say—just as if he had got drunk—so that he now pays \$100 taxes. Now, does he pay the twenty dollars as landlord; that is, does it come out of his pocket or mine?" When he compared taxing the building to fining a man for drunkenness he "brought down the house."

At the close of the meeting I went down the aisle and was introduced to my questioner, M. L. Hostetter, of Des Moines, one of the most earnest single tax men in Iowa. He played his part well, and carried the audience with him clear around to an appreciation of some of the beauties of the single tax.

The members of the Single Tax Association met after the public meeting and elected me a delegate to the St. Louis Industrial Conference.

CANADA.

Toronto.—Robert Tyson writes: It was a rousing meeting that gathered in St. Andrew's Hall upon a call of the Mayor in response to a requisition signed chiefly by single tax men. Its object was stated to be "for the purpose of discussing a petition to the local Legislature praying that municipalities be granted the option of relieving from taxation all buildings, machinery, crops, and other products of industry, and of raising their revenue by a tax on the values of land; or the option of raising their revenue in any manner they may deem best."

Alderman Carlyle, a good single tax man, presided. The meeting turned out to be chiefly a labor meeting. The Trades and Labor Council was represented by T. W. Banton, its president, and F. C. Cribben, its secretary. The District Assembly of the Knights of Labor was represented by David Carey, the president, and Robert Glackling, the secretary. Three of these gentlemen spoke heartily and well in favor of the main resolution, which was as follows:

Resolved, That this meeting is of opinion that it would be greatly in the public interest to grant to municipalities the option of relieving from taxation all buildings, machinery, crops, and other products of industry, and of raising their revenue by a tax on the values of land, or the option of raising their revenue in any manner they may deem best; and that this meeting heartily endorses the recent action of the Executive Committee of the Toronto City Council, in conference with the local members of the Ontario Legislature, asking legislative powers for the City of Toronto in the above direction.

Alfred Jury, Alderman George S. Macdonald, W. A. Douglas, S. T. Wood, Stewart Lyon, David Boyle, and others spoke. The speeches were straight to the point, and elicited frequent applause. The resolution was passed amid rousing cheers and by a standing vote. The chairman had called for objectors but no one spoke.

All the Toronto daily papers had good reports, and the temper of the meeting may be judged from their remarks. The World (Tory) said: "St. Andrew's Hall was like an ice box, and the audience sat with top coats on, but nothing could chill the enthusiasm of the single taxers." The Empire (Conservative organ) said: "After last night's meeting there can be no doubt that the single tax question is a live issue in Toronto."

I should have mentioned that an event of the evening was the frank announcement of Alderman George S. Macdonald that he was a single taxer. He said he had come all the way from the other end of the city to tell it to the meeting. Alderman J. O. Orr also sent a letter expressing himself in favor of the object of the meeting; also Rev. John Burton.

A deputation was appointed to wait upon the city council and the provincial Legislature with the resolution.

SPAIN.

Madrid.—S. M. Burroughs writes: The Duchess of Medina Cete is comfortably off for Spanish people, where such a large part of the population are beggars, and all the rest, excepting the landlords and protected manufacturers, wonder how they are going to find a job or a meal next month. She has stored up a snug little sum out of her ground rents and sales of natural grown timber from her forests and salt from her mountains. Of the incomes from her protected monopolies, for instance, there are \$2,500,000 in the Bank of England, the same in the Bank of France, and how much in Spain it is difficult to say. The whole of Spain is "owned" by a few hundred people practically. The land in some counties—the most prosperous—is in the hands of many people; that is, it is much divided. While other counties are "owned" by a few people, as in Andalusia, Castilla, and others, who are as well off as English dukes. There is a standing popular grievance that the big landlords in Spain do not pay their share of taxation, and that much land is not put to its best use. Land in towns and cities is very dear to buy or rent. It usually costs more to buy the lot than to build the house. The people are like bulls in the arena: they don't think, but they kick and hook wildly.

SINGLE TAX LETTER WRITERS.

Divisions A and P—Rev. George C. Lorimer, Tremont Temple, Boston, Mass., one of the most prominent men in the Baptist church, is willing to investigate the single tax. Reads tracts and letters. Has written a book called "Studies in Social Life."

Divisions B and O—Evening Item, of Richmond, Indiana. This paper was the target for divisions J. and P. on February 10. It acknowledges in an editorial the receipt of letters too long and too numerous to publish, and further says: "The ownership of land represents labor; somebody has worked to earn the money to buy it; somebody has worked to redeem it from its wild state. This property right having been acquired in good faith and respected by both civilized and savage men, is as sacred as any other right of mankind and its destruction without consideration, whatever the motive, would be a cruel injustice, a flagrant outrage."

Division C—Mrs. Geo. T. Powell, Ghent, N. Y., director of Farmer's Institutes. Try to interest her in the single tax, as she would be a valuable ally in directing the farmers' attention to this movement.

Division D—J. E. Hammond, Cuba, N. Y., is a lecturer for the Farmers' Alliance of Alleghany Co., and strongly opposed to our present land system. Knows but little, if anything, of the single tax, and could probably be most successfully attacked from the farmer's standpoint.

Division E—Herald, Elgin, Ill. Paper recently started, and would probably like to publish letters on live questions.

Division F—E. Mendum, Payne Memorial Hall, Boston, Mass. Mr. Mendum is an earnest thinker, and would be an efficient aid to our cause if he could be interested.

Division G—Rev. W. J. Stevenson, D. D., 37 South Fourth street, Reading, Pa., is a leading Methodist of Pennsylvania. Letters should present the moral arguments for the single tax. He has publicly said that the Church cannot longer afford to ignore the social and economic questions of the day.

Division H—J. S. Folk, President Des Moines (Ia.) Electric Railway, is

quoted in the Des Moines Leader as saying that: "We are drifting toward one of two extremes—absolute anarchy or governmental control of all corporations."

Division I—D. S. Prentice, 118 Baldwin avenue, Findley, O., is favorably inclined, but objects to what he considers confiscation of land by the taking of its full rental value.

Division J—Hon. A. W. Smith, McPherson, Kan., was president Farmers Congress, Kansas, and a man of much influence among the farmers.

Division K—Enterprise, Athens, Ala., a paper recently started and might accept single tax articles.

Division L—Rev. J. S. Thompson, Los Angeles, Cal., of Unitarian Church. Mr. Thompson is studying economic questions and sees much good in the single tax, but is not quite converted.

Division M—The Wascoco Sun, The Dalles, Ore., is a tariff reform and liberal paper and supposed to be open to conviction.

Division N—E. Jameson, Thomas Block, Leavenworth, Kan., real estate agent, but unprejudiced and an enthusiast in what he believes.

1674 Broadway, New York.

MARIAN DANA MACDANIEL, Secretary.

PERSONAL.

Edwin Gladmon was born in Fairfax County, Va., February 27, 1859. His ancestors came from Scotland in 1658. Georgetown was named after one of them, George Beale, and in that town, now known as West Washington, Dr. Gladmon was raised. His first business experience was as a newspaper carrier, and by the time he was fifteen years old he had built up a profitable

business as a news agent. This he abandoned to enter the drug business.

He spent four years at the public schools, one at Georgetown Institute, and one at Linthicum Institute, where he won the first prize, a scholarship in the National College of Pharmacy. In 1880, as valedictorian, he was graduated a doctor of pharmacy, though, on account of age, he had to wait two years for his diploma. The whole time he was at college he was president of the students' association.

In January, 1883, Dr. Gladmon aided in organizing and was president of the Registered Drug Clerks' Association, whose object was to enforce the law in regard to employing inexperienced clerks. The object was won after a controversy of four months. In the same year he engaged in business for himself, retiring two years ago upon graduating in medicine at the medical department of the National University. At this place last year he was superintendent of the medical polyclinic. He led the fight against the late health officer of the District of Columbia, who was dismissed the 1st of last August. The contest was on both sides probably the most bitter ever waged in that city.

The doctor first became interested in the tariff question by reading the report of Secretary McCullough advocating free raw materials. From that he went step by step to absolute free trade, and then to the single tax. He is now president of the Washington Single Tax Club. In 1884 he married Miss Cassin, a granddaughter of the late Commodore Cassin, and he has two children.

Colonel Albert A. Pope is an enthusiastic supporter of the movement for good roads. He founded the department of road construction in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; and the Pope Manufacturing Company, of Boston, of which he is president, now offers \$10,000 worth of bicycles as prizes for boys and young men who write the best essays on any phase of the Good Roads subject. In making this announcement the company expresses the following eminently sound free trade doctrine: "Probably no element of civilization is of so vital importance as the unobstructed interchange of commodities. The farmer must have a suitable road on which to take his produce to market, and the merchant's business depends on the receipt of the produce. Make all the nooks and corners of the United States easily accessible, and every business enterprise in the country will feel the beneficial results." Why not all the nooks and corners of the world?

Prof. W. E. Norton, ex-superintendent of education of the Siletz Indian Reservation, has constituted himself a committee of one for the propagation of single tax economy. He has been re-elected county lecturer and organizer of the Farmers' Alliance, of Benton County, Ore., and is carrying the gospel with him. As a county delegate to the State Convention last July he said single tax right out "in meetin'," and was set down on—only temporarily, however, as it is slowly coming forward. At the same time he was invited to address the Young Men's Democratic Club, of Portland, which he did. He explained how Henry George had made an absolute free trader out of a protectionist in the person of himself, and how others in his section were veering around to the same position. He denounced the tariff as robbery from top to bottom. His most radical utterances were received with the greatest applause. This was probably accounted for by the fact that there are a large number of the Young Men's Democratic Club who are single taxers.

Prof. Henderson, who several years ago taught political economy at Philo-



scribe her? You know her, as does every one. I made my way to where she stood, by a big palm, in a dainty, white gown, which had, however, to my surprise, long sleeves to the wrist. I say to my surprise, for Mrs. X. has a famous arm, if I might say so—absolutely perfect, and she is very proud of it. "You are looking at my ugly sleeves!" she cried, with a beaming smile. I held her pretty fingers in mine as I greeted her. "Is it not wicked? That stupid John spilled a cup of hot bouillon on me at lunch, and my poor arm is frightfully scalded. It may be cruel, but I dismissed him. I simply cannot keep the clumsy creature after this last exploit." Suddenly Mrs. X., smiling, faded away, and I saw her in a negligee in her dressing room, her white face distorted with fury. Her husband's hulking figure was just passing out of the door, which crashed loudly behind him. She turned up her sleeve slowly from the wrist. On its white surface were the purple marks of brutal fingers.

Then Mrs. X., waving her great fan of snowy ostrich feathers, stood by me again.

"Have you met Miss K.?" she asked. "No? Take me to her and I will present you. There is such a romance about her. They say she is about to enter a convent. She is so devoted to religion. Fancy, with over a million—but, then, if one is pious—"

We had reached Miss K. at the conclusion of my hostess' whispers. She stood, a tall, dreamy faced girl, in a simple gown, talking to an old man by the piano. Grave peace was written on her smooth brow, and seemed to abide in the serious violet eyes that were raised to mine. She looked like a snow maiden—an odelweiss flower. I could well believe the world did not charm her.

What a sky, what golden, riotous sunlight!—and the olive tree's gnarled branches in the corner of the old garden. It must be Italy. And Miss K., paler even than now, in a traveling gown. She cannot leave that sunny corner. She kneels—it seems a long time. And when she goes, I find among the high grasses only a little mound, scarcely a foot and a half long.

The Devil laughs. I hear him distinctly, but I—"Are you ill," asks Miss K., solicitously; "pardon, but you seemed so white just then—perhaps the heat—"

"Yes, it is the heat," I reply hastily; if you will excuse me one moment, I think I will go out to the air."

"I like society," says my Devil blandly in my ear; "let us go in society often, will you? I have not seen so many people I could take to my heart since we came over."

I made no reply. I fancied I was hardened and cynical enough to meet any such revelations with composure. If not, it was time I should be.

Returning to the drawing-rooms, I was button-holed by my old friend S. He was excessively gay, and looked prosperous. "Well, where have you kept yourself?" said he; "I want you to come over to the island and dine with me Sunday. I tell you I have the sweetest wife and baby in the world. Want to show you the boy. Why didn't you marry, yourself? Oh, there's nothing like marriage, old fellow. Yes, the world uses me finely—making lots of money. Ta-ta till Sunday."

A moonlit sleeping room. A little child crying long and loudly in its cradle. A woman's form lying half-dressed, with flushed face, across the bed. A brown stream of brandy from an overturned decanter trickling across the carpet.

Not at present, S. No marriage for me. And my Devil echoes savagely in my ear: "No marriage for you!"

What? There in the chair talking to a bejeweled, bewigged old dame, is M., stouter than of old, but with that same air of perfect rectitude, that expression of dignified frankness that is so engaging, and, after all, a bank president should be a portly, solid-looking gentleman to inspire the trust and respect of depositors. I will go over and speak to him.

Before I can reach him he is in a small dark room with heavily barred doors, the safe is open, he is fingering a pile of envelopes irresolutely, his face is sickly, yellowish, evil. So, so. The die is cast, and my dear M. is no longer an honest man.

No. I stop in disgust. I do not care to grasp his hand in mine. I will go home. I have had enough of my fellow men—swine! Bah, I loathe

them all—all. Let me go out of this—the sooner the better.

"Oh, do not go home," pleads my Devil, plaintively. "I was just beginning to enjoy myself so thoroughly! This is a great city, and I tell you I never met pleasanter people at home. Don't go, there's a good fellow!"

But I turn resolutely, sick at heart. In the hall I catch a glimpse of myself in the great mirror, and pause. I am ghastly white, which is not, perhaps, strange, and—what!

She is lying, prone on the polished floor, senseless from the blow of my cruel words, in the circle of light cast by the rose-shaded lamp, and I—I pause to look at her just one moment, and then I turn like a coward and steal away, leaving her forever with her past—such a past!

We got home somehow, my Devil and I. He has been trying to console me; he tells me it is much pleasanter here than in some other places, but my pistol is lying temptingly close to my hand on the table, and I rather think before dawn that I shall have left life and perhaps my Devil both behind.

A WARNING.

John Kendrick Bangs.

He formed a certain plan to make him great,
Which rigidly he followed all his days;
And when he breathed his last—a common fate—
He, dying, got a mighty lot of praise.

A decade subsequent to this his name
By all mankind was totally forgot.
His spirit reading o'er the scroll of Fame,
Wept sore to find that there his name was not.

And now he sits dejected on a cloud,
In dark oblivion, and constant grieves
To find himself one of the common crowd,
And deep sad sighs his spirit bosom heaves.

"I might have known that immortality
Can be achieved by scheming," so he wails,
"No more than robins can be caught—ah me!—
By putting salt upon their little tails."

And when I heard him make this sage remark,
It seemed to me—who still am but a youth—
In its veracity 'twas truly stark;
In other words, a bit of naked truth.

And I resolved upon that very day
That scheming for the laurel is not best.
I'll press whatever buttons come my way,
And let relentless Fate do all the rest.

TRADERS ARE PRODUCERS.

Peoria Herald.

People that do not think have a notion that the trader is not a producer, and that, consequently, traders should be abolished. The Ohio wool raiser clips his wool, the Ohio merchant or commission man buys it and ships it to Boston. The manufacturer buys it, makes it into cloth, and ships the cloth to his factor in New York. The factor ships it to the merchant in Indiana or Illinois, and from him the consumer buys it. With cheap rates of transportation and improved communication, the fewer hands an article passes through the better, provided the consumer gets what he wants, where he wants it, and gets as cheap and good an article as he can get anywhere.

To accomplish these results is what the wise and shrewd men of all ages have been trying to do, but at no time has there been more marked progress in this direction than in the past few years, and the results have always been better when governments have ceased to interfere and left their citizens free to do as they pleased in the matter. Trade naturally seeks the most economical channels, and if a government will keep its hands off it will find and use them. The success of the trader depends upon the extent to which he can offer to the consumer greater inducements than his neighbors. The trader is a producer. To discourage the trader is to increase the cost of the product to the consumer.

FINES FOR BUILDING.

St. Louis Chronicle.

Detroit's assessment of land has increased \$17,000,000 in four years, while in the same time its assessment on improvements has increased but \$3,000,000, though there have been \$20,000,000 worth of improvements made. In Detroit the fine for building a house is light, and speculators do not get all the increase in the value of land.

OYSTERS ON TREES.

Harper's Young People.

The other day I heard somebody speak of "oysters hanging upon the branches of trees on the borders of the Chesapeake Bay."

"That sounds like a fairy tale," thought I to myself.

I determined to investigate. So I said: "I always supposed oysters grew under the water. I never knew they hung in clusters on tree branches like apples. Curious sort of oysters those must be which grow on trees along the banks of the Chesapeake!"

"Chesapeake Bay has the finest kind of oysters," said the Talking Man. "The reason they are sometimes found growing on tree branches is this. The spawn of the oyster floats about in the water, tossed by wind and waves. It has the quality of attaching itself firmly to any solid substance it touches. Sometimes it might be the bottom of a ship, a rock, or a tree branch. You know the bottom of a ship often needs scraping on account of the shell-fish adhering to it.

"Now, the branches of trees often droop into the water. They do it along the borders of the Chesapeake, the same as on the banks of any other river or bay. At high tide such branches will be covered with water, and when the tide goes back, the branches come to the surface again.

"The spawn sticks on those boughs when they are beneath the waves. In a few days the tiny oysters begin to develop, and before long at every low tide the branch can be seen hanging out, with little oysters growing all over it.

"Sometimes a branch which is often under water will be nearly covered with small oysters. It looks very odd, of course, but it's a common enough sight down there.

"Grow? they don't grow very large, to be sure. To attain perfection an oyster must be always under water, and these hang half the time out of it. When they are exposed too long to the hot sun they die. Their weight often causes them to fall off.

"Little oysters are sometimes transplanted. Not off tree branches, but from the beds at the bottom of the bay. They are planted in oyster beds in other places, where, in a couple of years they grow to maturity."

"It sounds funny to talk of picking oysters off trees," said I, "or even of seeing them grow there."

"Funny enough. But they do grow there. I've seen it lots of times," said the Talking Man. "That's the way queer stories get about. Somebody hears of a thing and doesn't understand the sense of it. And most people never stop to ask what it means. They either repeat the story for a marvel, or say they don't believe it."

A FABLE.

Henry Lloyd.

A fresh milch Cow was hard at work in a pasture when she attracted the attention of a Foreign Syndicate of Flies, who were traveling through the country in search of investments. "This is a sure thing," said the head of the Syndicate, who was a Model Merchant. "There are no flies on this Cow. Let us put our Trust in Her, and put Her in our Trust, for it is a poor rule that will not work both ways." The Cow gave her consent by silence, as is usual in such. Harmony being thus restored, the Flies settled themselves on her neck and drew their Dividends from her Circulating Medium.

The Cow began to run. When they were full those of the Syndicate who had talent for after-dinner speaking addressed the Cow on the questions of Reform.

One dwelt on the manifest Goodness of the Almighty, who had so ordered all things for the best, that the glad duty had fallen to them of giving employment to her otherwise undirected energies.

Another, who was versed in the science of Political Economy, pointed out to her the perfection of the law of Supply and Demand by which the faster they put their Suckers into her the faster ran the blood.

Meanwhile the Cow, feeling that the Destiny of Woman was something nobler than to be treated as a mere pasture ground, lay down and began to roll over on her back. The Model Merchant warned her that the Syndicate would withdraw their Capital and Plant and close their

works, if she persisted in this disregard of their vocal rights. The animal continuing to roll, he said to his fellow stockholders:

"This Cow is evidently a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and cares nothing for an honest currency, or the obligations of a contract. Let us withdraw and seek a better field for investment."

Essaying to follow this sage advice, the Syndicate found that their feet were so mired in the superfluity of the Blood they had been feasting upon that to escape or to rise by themselves without the Cow was impossible.

To uplift ourselves we must uplift the Mass, their leader cried, who in a previous state of existence had been a member of the Sunset Club. The Syndicate were just pluming their wings for a long pull and a strong pull to uplift the Cow to uplift themselves, when that animal, finishing her roll, finished the Flies.

Moral 1. Its jugular vein is not the best place to tap a Cow or a People.

Moral 2. Those who live upon others should not be too Philanthropic. They are likely to find that their anxieties, like Charity, will need to begin at home, and may end there.

RECREATION IN LUNG DISEASE.

Journal of the American Medical Association.

The recreations should be of a nature that will inspire an interest on the part of the invalid in their accomplishment. There should be an importance attached to them requiring some thought. The unemployed mind is a powerful depressant to the nervous forces. Let the daily walks and rides have some purpose, if nothing more than the performance of the domestic errands of the family. If he loves art and music, his tastes should be gratified. There should be a moderate indulgence in out-of-door sports, as bicycling, ball, surf-bathing when allowable, horseback riding, and skating. Our lady patients have their gymnastics—tricycle, horseback riding, and skating—and of great importance, their vocal gymnastics. This will expand the lungs and strengthen the pectoral and respiratory muscles, being a pleasant recreation, and at the same time a most excellent means of bathing the air-cells with oxygen and teaching the vocal organs the proper performance of their functions. After a few weeks of judicious practice the dimensions of the chest will be found to have increased from four to five inches.

Practicing at the piano, needle-work, or any employment which requires close application and necessitates contraction of the chest walls in its performance should be forbidden.

DICKENS'S LONDON.

Horace Townsend in New York Herald.

It is pleasanter to retrace our steps backward and strike westward into Leadenhall street, where, among the banks and steamship agents' offices, we may actually see opposite the old India House the very shop presided over by the little midshipman, who, as Dickens himself tells us, "he had to affectionately pat on one leg of his knee-shorts for old acquaintance sake," on his way as an Uncommercial Traveler to Wapping Workhouse one day. Old Sol Gill however, no longer presides over the fortunes of the establishment, which is now very grand indeed.

To find Brig place, where Captain Cuttle lived in awe of Mrs. MacStinger, we have to journey further afield, down Tower Hill again, through St. George's street, once memorable as Ratcliffe highway, through Shadwell and Stepney, until we come to Limehouse, where Dickens himself as a boy went to visit his godfather, a block-maker and ship's rigger. We can find easily enough Limehouse Church, St. Ann's, where John Rokesmith waited for Rogue Riderhood, and Limehouse Hole, also immemorably connected with Rogue Riderhood.

But night has fallen and we are in no fit neighborhood for twilight meditations, and so we strike for the far off West End, and as we drive homeward and reflect that scarcely a street or square or lane we pass that has not some association with some one or more of Dickens's characters, we can ungrudgingly accord to him the merit of not only knowing and loving the great city of London in its material aspect better than many a born Londoner, but of causing others to know and love it also, which is a much higher gift.

ODE TO COMMERCE.

Henry O'Meara.

Offspring of Peace and Progress, in whose name
Our city by the tributary sea
Once fanned her merchant patriots into flame,
We rear her traffic's temple to proclaim
The spirit of her fealty to thee.

Come, broad-souled Commerce—hear her proud
"All hail!"

Treasures of ocean and of soil unsealing—
Come on thy pinions swift of steam and sail,
Yet evermore by highway, river, rail,
With golden trade bear wealth of golden feeling!

Bear, with the weavings of our toil and skill,
A tie to bind us in fraternal band—
With offerings of the farm, the mine the mill,
A reciprocity of men's good will,
To hold earth's sundered peoples hand in hand;

With genius of thy enterprise impart,
To States whose claims touch every growth and
clime,
The impulse that would blend each throbbing
mart

In pulsing commerce of a Union's heart,
Unrent by section and untorn by time.

Should racial feuds or factions bode decay,
Let thy conserving intercourse appear—
Where that ordained by Nature's need holds
sway

Wars hide their heads, while discords die away—
That power is Peace and Culture's pioneer;
From realm to realm, O binding Commerce,
range—

Full as thy hope-wrought banner flies unfurled
Enfold each race that rending hates estrange—
Link hear s, as lands, in thy far interchange,
To knit the nations and to unify the world!

PUT OFF AT SYRACUSE.

Clothier and Furnisher.

"Now, see here, porter," said he briskly, "I want you to put me off at Syracuse. You know we get in there about 6 o'clock in the morning, and I may oversleep myself. But it is important that I should get out. Here's a five dollar gold piece. Now, I may wake up hard, for I have been dining to-night, and will probably feel rocky. Don't mind if I kick. Pay no attention if I'm ugly. I want you to put me off at Syracuse."

"Yes, sah," answered the sturdy Nubian, ramming the bright coin into his trousers pocket. "It shall be did, sah!"

The next morning the coin giver was awakened by a stentorian voice calling: "Rochester! Thirty minutes for refreshments!"

"Rochester?" he exclaimed, sitting up. "Where is that — coon?"

Hastily slipping on his trousers, he went in search of the object of his wrath, and found him in the porter's closet huddled up with his head in bandage, his clothes torn, and his arm in a sling.

"Well," says the drummer, "you are a sight. Been in an accident? Why didn't you put me off at Syracuse?"

"Wha-at?" ejaculated the porter, jumping to his feet, as his eyes bulged from his head. "Was you de gemman what guf ter me a five dollah gold piece?"

"Of course I was, you idiot."

"Well den, befoah de Lawd, who was that gemman I put off at Syracuse?"

LANDS A RICH DUKE OWNED.

Pall Mall Gazette.

The late Duke of Devonshire owned land in fourteen different counties: Derby, York, Lancashire, Sussex, Somerset, Lincoln, Cumberland, Middlesex, Notts, Chester, Stafford, Cork, Waterford, Tipperary. The estates extend to 193,000 acres, and the annual rental is something over £170,000. Much of the land in and about Eastbourne was the property of the Duke, and, like that in the vicinity of Barrow-in-Furness, has increased enormously in value of late years.

The Duke possessed no fewer than seven seats, the cost of keeping up which alone must have been considerable. They are Bolton Abbey, Chatsworth, Compton Place, Devonshire House, (Piccadilly), Hardwick, Holker, and Lismore Castle. The Duke has the patronage of over forty church livings, the annual total value of which exceeds £10,000 per annum.

The founder of the house was William Caven-

dish, commonly supposed (according to Mr. Evans's "Old Nobility") to be identical with that Cavenish who wrote the "Life of Wolsey," and who has been immortalized by Shakespeare. The fifth Duke was the husband of the Duchess whose portrait was painted by Gainsborough, and about whom there is a story similar to that of one of the Duchesses of Gordon, of her kissing tradesmen to obtain votes. It was the sixth Duke who formed the famous gardens at Chatsworth. The family motto, "Safe by being cautious," applies, most people will think, very fitly to the new Duke.

RIDING TO THE DEVIL.

The late Cardinal Manning was a tall, gaunt man, with a vigorous frame and a large head that was almost completely bald. He was a teetotaler, unlike many of his predecessors, and ate only enough to keep body and mind in a healthy condition. When he was made cardinal an influential member of his flock said to him: "I would like to see your eminence riding in something better than that shabby old brougham." "Ah!" replied the prelate, "when cardinals went about in fine carriages they generally went to the devil."

VOICE AND ART.

Vernon Lee in Fortnightly Review.

"Why in the name of all the saints," asked the master, "have you come back to Bologna. You, the most accomplished singer in the world?" "Because," said the pupil, "because—because, dear master, I feel that I don't yet really know how to sing." "My son," was the reply, "that is what none of us shall ever know on this earth; in the next world there may be more time. For when we are young we have the voice, but not the art; and when we are old we have the art, but not the voice."

THE CANT OF CRITICISM.

Maurice Thompson in Independent.

If anything in the world is worn thin and faded to colorless and diaphanous absurdity it is the theory which makes art, and especially literary art, something above the comprehension of the intelligent, educated, reading masses. The truth is that the consensus of the average mind is what determines in matters of art, while in the matter of technical artisanship the expert few are the only authoritative judges. The intelligent farmer knows upon trial the best agricultural machine; but he could not for the life of him give any machinist an intelligible technical reason for selecting a certain form of reaper, thresher, or grain-drill. What he well knows is that it does the work. If we look steadily at art for a moment, we see that its work is to touch the chord of absolute appeal to the human soul. The intelligent masses of women and men know when this chord has been touched; but they cannot dissect the instrument with which the touch has been made, or

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point out the artisanship which has entered into the instrument's making. The cant of criticism comes in when the critic loses sight of art in his admiration of artisanship and makes diction the chief end of literary endeavor.

SINGLE TAX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES.

PLATFORM

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The single tax, therefore, would—

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

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

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

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

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

With respect to monopolies other than the monopoly

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

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CONNECTICUT.

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

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

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

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

IOWA.

BURLINGTON.—Burlington single tax club. First Saturday of each month, 806 North 5th st. Pres., Wilbur Mosena, 920 Hedge av.; sec. treas., Frank S. Churchill.

ILLINOIS.

CHICAGO.—Chicago single tax club. Every Thursday evening at 204 La Salle st. Pres., Warren Worth Bailey, 319 Lincoln av.; sec., F. W. Irwin, 217 La Salle st., room 733.

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

MASSACHUSETTS.

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

MINNESOTA.

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

MISSOURI.

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

ST. LOUIS.—Single tax league.—Meets every Friday evening 8 o'clock in Bowman Block, n. e. cor. 11th and Locust sts. Pres. J. W. Steele Sec'y, L. P. Custer, 2717 Sheridan av.

NEW YORK.

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

OHIO.

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

PENNSYLVANIA.

GERMANTOWN.—Single tax club. Sec., E. D. Burleigh, 13 Willow av. Meets first and third Tuesday of each month, at Vernon Hall, cor. Main st. and Chelton av., at 8 p. m.

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

POTTSTOWN.—Single tax club. Meetings first and third Friday evenings each month in Weltzenkorn's hall. Pres., D. L. Haws; sec., Geo. Auchy, Pottstown, Pa.

READING.—Reading single tax society. Monday evenings, 723 Penn st. Pres., Wm. H. McKinney; sec., C. B. Priser, 1011 Penn st.

TEXAS.

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"Consider again what Consumption is. It is the growth and reproduction of this germ in the lung, when the lung is too weak to conquer it. The remedy is strength.

The adjustment of lung-strength to overcome germ-strength is going on all the time in us. Health for the lungs is fighting this germ with the odds in our favor. Consumption is fighting this germ with the odds against us.

What will cure consumption after you know you have got it?

You do not know you have got it until the fight has been going on against you for some time. It is serious now.

Before it began you were in poor health, and your health has been getting poorer all the time ever since.

The germs have got a good start, and your germ-fighting strength is a good way behind. The question is: Can you now, with the added burden of this disease, recover strength enough to conquer it?

You may or may not. The only way to find out is by trying. Whether you will succeed or not depends on how far along you are in consumption, and how carefully you can live.

Careful living has different meanings for different persons. Your doctor is the one to find out its meaning for you, and to point out the way to health for you. He will tell you that the food to fight consumption with is fat; and that the easiest food-fat is cod-liver oil when partly digested, broken up into tiny drops, as in Scott's Emulsion.—From CAREFUL LIVING.

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