

THE STANDARD

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A THIRD PARTY.—One of the arguments in favor of dividing the Democratic party by the insertion of a free silver coinage plank in its platform in 1892, is that otherwise a third party will certainly be formed. Well, what of it? The probability is that a third party will be formed, whether or no. The old Greenback leaders have evidently obtained the direction of the political side of the Farmers' Alliance movement. The hardship that the farmers are suffering presents itself to them in the simple guise of a lack of money. The Greenbacker says, "yes, that's the trouble, and the remedy is to make more money—plenty of money." He was shrewd enough to be first in the field, and to seize the opportunity offered by discontent among the farmers, while the Democrats, unfortunately, chattered about percentages instead of showing the farmers, how duties on imports shut them out of their natural markets, and increase the prices of all that they receive in exchange for their crops. The apparent simplicity of the remedy proposed by the Greenbackers, and the defective presentation of the true means of relief by the Democrats, has caused the currency question to overshadow the question of taxation in the minds of many of the farmers, and there is no doubt that the Greenback leaders have sought precisely this result. In some cases they have professed to calculate the exact reduction in an individual's expenses that would be brought about by such a scaling down of duties as was proposed in the Mill's bill, and they very naturally laugh to scorn the suggestion, that such tariff tinkering can prove an adequate remedy for the evils that the farmers complain of. These men are in dead earnest and perfectly sincere. They believe in a third party, and are determined to have one. We do not doubt that they will get what they want.

If they had the patience to wait, their Third Party would be a most formidable one; but they will not wait, and the result will be that it cannot amount to much. It cannot command the votes of anything like the number of men who will be inclined to accept its ideas. It will have to fight both of the old political parties, and it will in the course of the contest alienate many who would otherwise be attracted to it. Considerations that are aside from the issues that the new party will raise, will absolutely deprive it of support that it would certainly receive, if it could enter the field with the faintest reasonable hope of success. It cannot safely count even on Kansas. It has won no victories in that State without the aid of Democrats, and in a National contest it might not have Democratic aid. Grant to it, however, Kansas with its ten electoral votes, and add to these, if you will, the electoral votes of California, Oregon, Colorado, Nebraska, both Dakotas, both Carolinas and Missouri, and still it would have but seventy-nine votes. Add Texas, which is claimed by some of the wilder Third Party men, and still it would have but ninety-four electoral votes, whereas it requires two hundred and twenty-three votes to elect. We have included more states than any Alliance leader has thus far dared to claim, and no sane and honest man will attempt to name states that could possibly be carried by a Third Party that have together one hundred electoral votes.

The new party then must enter the contest facing an absolute certainty of defeat, for the purpose of casting "a conscience vote." This will not alarm the old Greenbackers. They are used to it, and rather like it.

The certainty of defeat will, however, have a tremendous effect on other people. There will be a great deal at stake in the next Presidential election. It will be no dress parade, in which men stand up to be counted, but a red hot fight from beginning to end. The Republican party will enter it knowing that it is engaging in a life or death struggle. If it loses, it loses all. If it wins, it will see to it that nothing shall be omitted in the way of force bills and similar legislation to prevent it from losing power again. The attitude of its leaders during the second session of the fifty-first Congress, shows that they care nothing for the expressed will of the people, and that if they have power they will legislate in the interests of privilege and monopoly in defiance of the people. The revolutionary defiance by the Republicans of the people's expressed will in the several States shows that the party is all of one piece, and that Tom Reed and his conspirators are its true representatives and natural leaders. This settles the attitude of the South. No Southern State will throw away, on a hopeless third party, any electoral vote that may be needed to prevent the restoration of the Republican party to power. Senator Hoar is of use after all. His economic policy has helped to make Massachusetts Democratic, and to him more than to any other one man belongs the credit of having put an end to any danger that South Carolina may drop out of the column of Democratic States. The persistent attempt to pass the force bill has rendered it impossible that any new party can receive any electoral votes in the South, until the Republican party is out of the way.

The South, including Delaware, Maryland and West Virginia, will give 159 votes to the Democratic candidate for President. It might be different if the third party had any hope of success; but that contingency cannot arise. To these Southern votes there will, with Tariff reduction as the issue, be added the Electoral votes of New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Indiana, 67 in all, giving a total of 226 Electoral votes, or three more than are needed to elect. This is a reasonable estimate of the Democratic vote with the Tariff, the issue, and a third party in the field. How is it with the Republicans? Grant them Kansas, which the People's Party has not yet been able to carry without Democratic aid. Grant them Illinois and Iowa, which have both recently gone Democratic, and add California, Colorado, Idaho, Maine, Nebraska, Nevada, both Dakotas, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Vermont, Washington and Wyoming, and they will then have but 157 votes, leaving the so-called doubtful States, that have recently gone Democratic in the Congressional elections, with Electoral votes as follows:

Massachusetts.....	15
Michigan.....	14
Minnesota.....	9
New Hampshire.....	4
Rhode Island.....	4
Wisconsin.....	12
	58
Add Montana, a Democratic State, stolen by Republicans.....	3
Total.....	61

Give all these States to the Republicans and they will have but 218 votes, or five less than the number required to elect. Then comes in the third party complication. That party can obtain no electoral votes in the South, and if it carries any State i

must be one in the West. Suppose it carries Kansas, that takes ten electoral votes from the Republicans, not from the Democrats. Suppose it carries Colorado, Idaho, Nebraska, Nevada and both Dakotas, that would make the defection from the Republicans thirty-five in all, which would be taken from the 157 votes they may otherwise reasonably expect. What have the Democrats to fear from a third party, that they should risk dissension and defeat in order to prevent one from being organized? No conceivable complication arising out of such a movement could threaten them with loss, except in Indiana, where a strong third party movement might give the State to the Republicans. Other than this a third party movement might throw the election of President into the House, where the Democrats have a sure majority.

It is simple folly, then, for the Democrats to think of changing the issue because of the threat of a third party. With such a party in the field their chances are vastly better than they would be if, by surrendering to the advocates of free coinage, they sought to prevent the organization of a third party. Nevertheless, the Democrats cannot afford to risk anything. States that have gone Democratic in local elections, have frequently turned back to the support of the Republican party in National contests. In the new Electoral College the Democratic party will need not only the "Solid South," but every one of the other states, counted as surely Democratic, unless it can draw something from the doubtful column. If the party leaders are wise they will promptly begin to "hustle" in Indiana and a number of Alliance States. They may need next year the votes that can be made this year. As matters now stand, the Republican party cannot accept either free coinage or tariff reduction. It must face the discontent of the farmer with no other promise of relief than the discredited system of protection. The new party will promise a large increase of the circulating medium, which, as we have said, is attractive to many. If the Democrats intend to do anything they must, therefore, present the tariff question more radically and show the farmers and workingmen that burdensome and ill-adjusted taxation is the cause of their troubles. Such a policy will hold those who are already Democrats to their party, and add recruits, while the failure of the Republicans, to promise any change, will enable the new party to draw its votes mainly from the Republicans. Under such circumstances a third party would aid the Democrats, whereas, if they are stupid and supine, it may cost them Indiana and give them nothing in return.

MEN WHO MUST BE HEARD.—United States Senators Pepper, of Kansas, and Kyle, of South Dakota, and Congressman Jerry Simpson, of Kansas, made speeches before a Citizens' Alliance meeting at Washington, on Tuesday evening of last week. Many people went to the meeting, expecting to be amused by the vagaries of uncouth clowns, but the whole audience seemed to discover, at the beginning, that they were listening to forceful and able men, who are to play an important part in public affairs, and whose utterances present food for serious thought rather than ridicule. All of the three men made a favorable impression, but it is evident from the local papers that Jerry Simpson was the favorite. The Washington Star's report says: "The supposed sockless and simple Simpson proved himself to be an orator of unusual powers, who not only secured the respect of his hearers, but excited the admiration even of those who had come only out of curiosity or to be amused. He made a truly remarkable impression." The Washington Post report says: "It is a question if any greater surprise was ever created than was experienced on listening to the address

of Hon. Jerry Simpson. * * * His natural eloquence is of a grade that may yet cause the polished Ingalls to look to his laurels. In his short address he gave every evidence of deep thought and education in the principles he advocated. * * * He simply captivated the 1,500 people gathered in the hall last night, and at the conclusion of the meeting a perfect ovation was tendered him."

Senator Pepper was the first of the three to speak, and he drew a most pathetic picture of the present condition of the Western farmer, and contrasted it with the prosperity he enjoyed immediately after the war, when there was nearly \$2,000,000,000 of paper money in circulation. He attributed the change to the contraction of the currency. He based his hope of relief on a large increase in the circulating medium. Mr. Pepper also discussed the Tariff question, and declared that the farmers and laborers demanded Tariff reduction. He sneered at the Democrats who had, in the Mills bill, merely proposed to reduce tariff taxes from an average of 47 per cent. to an average of 42 per cent., and he denounced the Republicans for adding 15 per cent. to the burden by the passage of the McKinley bill. He ridiculed the duties on grain and eggs, by which McKinley proposed to fool the farmers, and he denounced Blaine's reciprocity as a fraud and a humbug. The reason that Blaine does not offer reciprocity to Europe, instead of to South America, Mr. Pepper said, is because the latter will benefit the manufacturers, while reciprocity with Europe would benefit the farmers. "We must," he said, speaking for the farmers, "be treated fairly, or we will tear out the underpinning and let the Custom houses tumble into the sea." He suggested that Grover Cleveland, whose honesty he commended, may unite the Democratic and Republican parties east of the Alleghanies, and become their candidate against a candidate of the South and West. He closed by advocating the Governmental operation of railroads and the building of a public railroad from North Dakota to the Gulf of Mexico.

Senator Kyle said the new party in South Dakota was composed of poor men, and that many of its chosen representatives to the Legislature had to borrow twenty-five cents here and half a dollar there, or else sell their seed grain, to enable them to get to the State capital and pay a week's board until their pay began. More money was his plea; high tariff is bad enough, he said, but scarcity of money is worse, and, so the volume of money is increased, he did not care whether the circulating medium is gold, silver or paper.

Jerry Simpson said that in the convention that nominated him there was but one man who wore a white collar, and not one who wore a white shirt. They were poor men, weary of existing conditions, and determined on a change, and the result was that though the district had given the Republicans a majority of 15,000 two years before, he (Simpson) was elected by a majority of 7,400. He declared that the causes of the present social discontent dated back to fifty years ago, and that its expression had long been kept back with difficulty, until now it can no longer be restrained. The people themselves have been at fault, because they have not studied social questions, but the fact that the farmers, who are not quick to see disadvantages under which they labor, have become so thoroughly aroused, is a sign that the whole people have waked up and are now studying political economy. Mr. Simpson described the way in which the Republican party had kept alive sectional hatred in order to keep itself in power, and he emphatically declared that that party is now dead, and that the contest of the future is to be between the Democratic party, representing conservatism, and the Alliance, representing radical and advanced views.

Though Jerry Simpson is an Alliance Congressman,

and committed to the Alliance programme, he had the courage to say that he differed with the gentlemen who had preceded him as to the relative importance of the currency question, and he proceeded to argue—first, that the transportation question was, for Western farmers at least, as important as the currency question; and, secondly, that the question of natural opportunities was the most important of all. On this point he said: "You have foolishly allowed a few people to get hold of all the land and hold it out of use, and now you have got to pay them for the privilege of living on the earth. Where did they get their title? Can they trace it back to God Almighty? No, sir. If not, then it is not any more their land than it is mine. We should say to them, 'If you will hold this land out of use we will make you pay well for the privilege. We will tax you so that you will either have to make good use of it or let go of it. We will put the tax so infernally high that it will not be profitable to keep the land out of use. You will have to build houses on it, or make good use of it in some other way, to get your money back. Then there will be two houses to rent where there is only one now, and rents will go down.' There are millions of acres of excellent land in Kansas uninhabited," he continued. "What is the matter? Monopoly. There are countless tons of coal in the bowels of the earth, and the people of Kansas are burning corn for fuel. Those coal lands should belong to the people, so that the people could work them. If all this valuable idle land were thrown open to use there would be two jobs looking for one man, instead of, as now, two men looking for one job."

Mr. Simpson's speech was not adequately reported even by the men who praised it, and we are indebted for the above brief abstract of a portion of it to Mr. T. L. McCreary, who took notes for his own satisfaction. It leaves no doubt as to where Mr. Simpson stands on the land question. We think that the mistake he makes is in assuming that the Republican party is dead, and that the fight against the protected monopolists has been finally won. **THE STANDARD** believes otherwise, and hence it is engaged in trying to ossify the spinal column of the Democratic party, so that that organization shall strenuously resist all efforts to confuse the issue by taking up the currency question. At the same time we sympathize with the sentiment and ultimate purpose of these new representatives of a wronged people, and we sincerely hope that the Democratic leaders will have the sense to see that these are representative men who, if mistaken as to methods, are right as to purpose, and who have come into politics to stay till the grievance they complain of is righted. The Democratic policy, in dealing with these people, must not be to meet them with a club, but to show them that the hampering of exchange by tariff laws, rather than any real or supposed scarcity of currency, is responsible for that cheapness of all that they sell, and that dearness of all that they buy, which have together brought them to the verge of desperation and ruin.

THE FIFTY-FIRST CONGRESS.—Such is the official designation of the body that finally adjourned at noon one week ago to-day. It is more likely, however, to be remembered in history as the Congress of abominations, or the accursed Congress. It began its sessions with a narrow majority, obtained by the corrupt purchase of votes. It increased that majority by unseating representatives chosen by the people and seating defeated candidates in their stead by methods that were as revolutionary as they were immoral. It chose as its chief a blustering bully, who threw precedent to the winds and defied all law and decency, and whose conception of the duties of a presiding officer was

to browbeat his friends and insult his opponents. It signalized its first session by the passage of the monstrous measure to add to the taxes of an overburdened people, in order that the monopolists who contributed the money by which the majority that had obtained power might recoup themselves, by levying new taxes for their private benefit. Its conduct was overwhelmingly rebuked by an indignant people at the polls, and yet, during its second session it persisted in defying popular will, as thus expressed, and a large proportion of the Republicans in the Senate made a determined effort to pass the infamous Force bill, enacted by the House at its first session.

The majority of the Congress owed to corruption the power it exercised in defiance of the known will of the people. It gave itself up to riotous extravagance, shameless favoritism and reckless defiance of the popular will, such as has never before been known in the history of our country. Its appropriations reached the monstrous and unprecedented figure of a thousand millions, and the majority crowned its infamy by a partisan vote of thanks to the insolent Speaker, who earned, as the chief of this band of conspirators against free and orderly government, the commonly accorded title of Czar. As the body adjourned there rolled out from the press gallery the good old doxology, "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow," and for once, at least, the Washington correspondents of the press expressed with vigor and unanimity the sentiments of the American people. Let the song of praise be supplemented by a determination on the part of all true Americans to see to it that no such gathering of reckless revolutionists ever again assembles at the national capital, clothed with the power to legislate and to rob.

ONE THING AT A TIME.—Mr. William G. Sellers, of San Francisco, protests in this issue against **THE STANDARD's** resistance to the attempt to commit the Democratic party to a demand for the free coinage of silver. Mr. Sellers thinks we are wrong in opposing co-operation between the Democrats and the Alliance men. We do not oppose such co-operation. The question is, what shall be the policy in behalf of which they are to co-operate? Mr. Sellers does not think that either the tariff question or the money question can be side-tracked. Perhaps not, as questions of discussion, but, as the test issue in practical politics, the money question will side-track the tariff question. As matters stand to-day, Democratic victory means tariff reduction, as soon as the Democrats obtain control of federal legislation, and every man who desires tariff reduction, whatever his views on the currency question, can vote the Democratic ticket without thereby committing himself either for or against free coinage or the greenback idea. Until the tariff question is disposed of, this situation ought to remain unchanged. So long as it does remain unchanged the tariff is the supreme issue, everywhere. If the currency question is brought in, it will be the supreme issue in many States, and in all States it will render it impossible for a free trader who does not believe in free coinage, to vote for tariff reduction without stultifying himself.

Mr. Sellers believes that a large majority of the Democrats are in accord with the alliance on the currency question. We do not. It may be true in California. It is not true in New York. But what if it were true? That fact would not warrant the Democratic party in forcing an issue that would drive away a minority of its members, and an enormous number of its other supporters at a time when, without adopting such a policy, it would be sure of a victory that would enable it to carry out the policy to which it is already committed, and which can only be carried out through its success.

Let us assume that tariff reduction, free coinage of silver, and the substitution of greenbacks for national bank notes are all good things: does that offer any reason why we should attempt to accomplish all of these good things at once? Do not common observation and business experience prove that the man who takes up one thing at a time, and finishes that before taking up a new task, is the man who, in the long run, accomplishes something? Without entering elaborately into these minor questions, **THE STANDARD** has contented itself with insisting on this policy of one thing at a time. Since we are united on the tariff question, let us settle that, by killing the protection superstition. That once accomplished, we can tackle the other questions, and, like sensible citizens, form new political combinations, if need be, with a view to incorporating our ideas into law.

Mr. Sellers expresses an opinion that the Farmers' Alliance intends to force the Democratic party to declare itself on the silver question. Substituting for "the Farmers' Alliance," the "old Greenback party leaders," who have obtained control of the new party movement, we agree with Mr. Sellers. Seeing this we counsel the Democratic party to resist this attempt and to positively refuse to subordinate a winning issue to what we regard as a losing one, and all admit it is a doubtful one. A third party has no terrors for us, and a third party with Senator Stanford at its head would be a positive boon. Mr. Sellers and Mr. Bellangee, and other friends who are just now criticising the attitude of **THE STANDARD**, would be compelled to take the stump for the party of tariff reduction against such a new party, and the result would be a campaign of education, which compared with that we have already had, would be as Harvard to a cross road school. Nothing else that we can imagine would do so much to clear the brains of the oppressed and indignant farmers of the "parlous" stuff, with which they are filled.

As to our figures Mr. Sellers probably forgets, as **The New York Times** did in copying them, that they were based on the hypothesis that the Democratic surrender be made so complete, that there will be no serious third party movement. What the situation would be with a third party in the field, we have considered in another article in this issue. For the purpose for which they were made, our figures will stand criticism. They were mostly based on the actual votes of the respective States on the tariff issue, and not on guesswork, and the only departures from this method were in the way of concessions to the Republicans.

THE INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT LAW.—

Nothing could more plainly show the hollowness of the claim that protective tariffs are framed for the benefit of labor, than the persistent refusal of our Protectionist legislators and their employers to pass an international copyright law. Our authors, who are laborers pure and simple, have never asked for "protection" for a monopoly of the home market; they have simply asked that foreign authors shall be allowed to sell their work here on the same terms as American authors, so that Americans shall not have to compete with stolen labor. They have been perfectly willing to work under conditions of free competition. But while we have had a duty on printed and bound books, for the benefit of the manufacturers of books, the publishing houses, we have allowed them to get their literary matter, the labor of foreign authors, without paying a cent for it and, competing at home with labor for which nothing is paid, our authors have had their own work stolen by foreign publishers.

Out of very shame, however, Congress has at last been compelled to make a step in the direction of

justice. The International Copyright Law just passed, which will go into effect on the first of July, gives the advantage of American copyright to authors and artists of any foreign nations that will reciprocate by giving our authors the same advantages. But in order to get the bill through a Congress that passed the McKinley tariff, it was, of course, necessary to do something for the publishers, whose vested rights to rob foreigners were thus curtailed. So the law provides that every foreign work copyrighted must be set in type and printed in this country, and any foreign editions are positively prohibited from being sold here. At present all foreign editions of foreign works can be sold here on payment of 25 per cent. duty; under the new law, as all new English works, at least, will probably be copyrighted here, our publishers will have an absolute monopoly: no foreign editions of new books will be sold here at all. Moreover, all issues of foreign periodicals which contain part or all of any works copyrighted here will be absolutely excluded. Prevented from robbing the authors, the publishers are thus allowed to recoup themselves at the expense of the public at large. However, the recognition of the rights of authors to common justice is a great step in advance; the protective features of the law can be taken care of in the future.

HAMILTON FISH ON PROTECTION.—When a descendant of Alexander Hamilton throws protection overboard, it ought to set some people to thinking, for there is a good deal in a name; and if that descendant was also a Republican secretary of State, there is more reason why it should excite attention. The following utterance of Hamilton Fish therefore is worth reprinting, for he is a lineal descendent of the author of the first protective tariff, and was Secretary of State under Grant. In an interview, in which he was asked his opinion on reciprocity, he said:

To consider that the imaginary line which stretches along a parallel line of latitude dividing two peoples of common language and common interests, should be an actual line of custom houses to hamper trade between the two countries, is an idea unworthy of the western world of trade and commerce in this age of enterprise and progress. I am in favor of reciprocity in the broadest, fullest sense of the term, reciprocity which means trade and benefit to the people. I have always been in favor of a certain measure of protection to infant industries. But the child grows and the industries do not forever remain infants. There comes a time when protection ceases to be a necessity, when industries do not need to be fed on pap.

As a matter of fact, however, there is every reason to believe that if Alexander Hamilton were alive to-day, he would be one of the most vigorous denouncers of the suicidal policy which his party has adopted. An aristocrat, and an advocate of special privilege, he was nevertheless a far-sighted and shrewd politician, and while he did not believe that "the people" were able to govern themselves, he believed that they must be well and justly governed if the State is to exist at all. So after all it may be some of the old blood showing itself after many years.

AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION.—A convention is now being held in Australia to consider the advisability and possibility of forming a great federation of all the Australian colonies. At present the colonies are as entirely independent of one another as were the American colonies before the war of the revolution, and at the same time they are almost entirely independent of the British Government. Of course, they show their independence by passing tariff laws to restrict their own intercolonial trade as well as to regulate their trade with foreign nations.

The convention meets in Sydney, New South Wales, and the scheme of federation, that is being considered, comes from Sir Henry Parkes, the premier of that colony. He proposes that a Federal Parliament be established,

composed of a Senate and House of Representatives; that free trade be adopted throughout the Federation; that authority to impose custom duties be vested in the Federal Government and in Parliament, and that the military and naval defenses be entrusted to Federal forces under one command.

Such consolidations of small principalities, like the federation of the German principalities and dukedoms, into one Empire, and the unification of the petty States of Italy into one kingdom, do much to advance the cause of Free Trade and civilization generally. The division of peoples united by all the ties of interest and common ancestors, into wretched little separate political units, whose inhabitants look on everybody outside their borders as enemies, is one of the bulwarks of protectionism and aristocracy.

FREE TRADE vs. RECIPROCITY.—There was a significant first-page cartoon in last week's Puck. Thomas Jefferson is on a pedestal made in one piece, inscribed with the legend, "Free commerce with all nations; entangling alliances with none." Blaine is building a pedestal for himself alongside that of Jefferson. He is using a lot of misfit stones, labeled "Alliance with Yahoo," "Reciprocity with Liliput," etc., which he is trying to hold together with the mortar of "expediency." It is a first rate picture, and shows exactly the present political condition of affairs. More than this, it shows the rapid drift of public opinion toward Free Trade. A year or so ago Puck was not disposed to advocate Free Trade sentiments. The sentiment that it attributes to Thomas Jefferson, and which may have been his, appeared in the platform adopted by the Congressional caucus (national conventions not having then been invented) that placed Jefferson in nomination for the Presidency. It is a straight out Free Trade declaration, for "free commerce with all nations" can have no other meaning. It is true that many men of that day who accepted this idea committed themselves to the idea of "protecting infant industries" as a temporary expedient; but they looked to Free Trade as the natural and ultimate condition of affairs, and they would have laughed to scorn the suggestion that their concession to the protective notion should be made the precedent for a permanent policy of trade restriction by a great and growing people for all time. It is well that we are so rapidly coming back to the Jeffersonian idea of "Free commerce with all nations" that even the Protectionist fakirs are advocating Free Trade on the installment plan.

FREE LODGING HOUSES.—A committee, representing a number of the charitable societies of this city, intend visiting Albany for the purpose of getting a law passed making it mandatory on our city government to carry out the provisions of the law adopted in 1886, providing for free municipal lodging houses. The lodging houses proposed by that law are to be in a measure self-sustaining, and are to provide a warm bath, a clean bed and a good breakfast to every applicant for their shelter. In return for this the beneficiary is to return in labor for what he has received, and the products of his labor are to be turned in toward the sustenance of the establishment. This effort is inspired by a commendable desire to relieve a great hardship, and it is a gratifying sign that existing conditions are appealing effectively to the conscience of well-to-do people. As a measure of temporary relief it has merit, but as a permanent system it tends to pauperize the people and to aggravate existing evils. There are an enormous number of people in this city to whom "a warm bath, a clean bed and a good breakfast" are unusual luxuries, and many people would be glad

to work regularly several hours a day for such things and take their chances for dinner and clothing. If the legislature should apply the law of supply and demand in this case it would probably find it necessary to compel the city to speedily erect one lodging house in each block. The tendency towards socialism is nowhere more apparent than in the legislation recommended by charitable societies and trade organizations.

THE SUB-TREASURY SCHEME.—It is more than possible that the Sub-Treasury scheme, now incorporated in the Alliance platform, will become the immediate cause of division between those members of the Alliance who desire the formation of a third party and those who oppose such a proposal. The recent election of U. S. Hall, the Missouri State President, as a member of the legislative committee of three, whose duty it is to draw and present bills to Congress in behalf of the Alliance, has much significance. Mr. Hall was elected after a sharp fight in place of Dr. C. W. McCune, who was last year president of this committee. McCune is understood to have been an ardent advocate of the Sub-Treasury scheme and a determined third party man, whereas Hall is opposed to the Sub-Treasury scheme and a Democrat, who has just been appointed by the Governor of Missouri, as the result apparently of a deal which, from this distance, does not appear to be highly creditable. Whether his acceptance of a public office will cause his resignation as a member of the Alliance legislative committee we are not informed, but his election over McCune appears to give evidence that the element in the Alliance that is opposed to impracticable schemes of legislation has obtained very considerable power in the organization.

AT HOME AGAIN.—Henry George returned home by the Bermudan steamer that reached this port last Sunday. He is looking and feeling well—better, in fact, than he has felt for the several years during which he has been under a constant strain. He will resume writing gradually, but not undertake any wearying work, like lecturing, for a good while to come. Mr. George, however, is no longer an invalid, and is able to go about as freely as ever, and his bicycle experience has made him almost an athlete. He is welcomed back with enthusiasm by all of his friends, but uncertainty as to his condition of health prevented any attempt at a public demonstration.

WISELY REJECTED.—The Brussels treaty for the suppression of the slave trade and traffic in spirits and firearms in Africa was defeated by the Senate on the last day of the recent session. The majority against it was very large. We are glad of it. The Jeffersonian declaration in favor of "free commerce with all nations, entangled alliances with none, and little or no diplomatic establishment," is an excellent one throughout, and in full accord with sound Democratic ideas. What has the United States to do with the compact made by European nations as to the conditions under which they shall, in concert, steal the soil of Africa from the natives of that continent.

THE PARIS INCIDENT.—We appreciate the sense of wrong that animates the French people when they recall the forcible seizure of Alsace and Lorraine by Germany. The fact that the people of these provinces speak the German tongue, probably gave as much color of right to the German seizure, as did the historical fact that they were once a part of Germany. They never would have been seized, however, had France not tolerated and accepted the rotten and inefficient government of Napoleon III. To that they owed the

weakness that compelled them to surrender Alsace and Lorraine, and the remedy, from their standpoint, as a warlike people, is to patiently gather the strength that will enable them to take back their provinces, by force. Meanwhile any attempt to take revenge by insulting the mother of the present German Emperor, is as disgraceful as the conduct of the boy who told another, "I can't whip you, but I can make faces at your little sister." A far nobler and more effective revenge would be for the French people to establish such perfect liberty and permanent prosperity, that all Germany would seek to enjoy like conditions, and look to Alsace and Lorraine to lead the way in imitating France.

DID HE SAY IT?—Andrew H. Green is reported as saying that the bill incorporating the New York and New Jersey Bridge Company, a corporation of which Mr. Green is the leading spirit, practically gives to that corporation power to build underground railways in this city, under the guise of approaches to the bridge. We do not know that Mr. Green has said any such thing, and we hope he has not, for even if such provisions were found in the act they would be the result of shameless fraud, either practiced on the Legislature or practiced by the Legislature on the people.

LIGHT IN A DARK PLACE.—The Australian ballot system had its first trial in Burlington, Vt., on Tuesday of last week, and under it the first Democratic Mayor in twenty years was elected, receiving 363 majority over the Republican candidate. Though the result was largely due to the strife in the Republican party, it is certainly a marvellous sign of change that a Democrat could under any circumstances have been elected Mayor of the chief city of Bourbon Vermont.

"CONSPIRACY."—All of the principal labor leaders in the coke regions of Pennsylvania have been arrested at the instigation of coke operator Rainey, who is having a bitter contest with the United Mine Workers. The arrested men gave bail for hearings on March 14th. Of course, the object is to intimidate these men into abandoning the support they are now giving to the workmen who are on strike to obtain better wages from Mr. Rainey. We suppose that nobody dreams of such a thing as arresting the conspirators who are associated with Mr. Rainey in an organization for keeping up the price of coke to consumers. We should abolish all conspiracy laws, or cease this one-sided enforcement of them.

MCDONALD'S VIEWS.—Ex-Senator McDonald, of Indiana, is reported as saying that he is glad that Mr. Cleveland wrote his letter on the silver question, because he believes that Mr. Cleveland is right, and because "it is better to be right than to succeed on a false basis." This is sound doctrine, but in this case the Democratic party assures its own success, instead of inviting failure, by refusing to change the issue.

WANTS A PUBLIC HIGHWAY.—Austin Corbin has offered the State of New Hampshire one million dollars for its interest in the Concord Railroad, provided the Legislature will secure to the new corporation the same rights now held by the present stockholders, and that the Supreme Court be empowered to transfer to the purchasers the properties now owned by the corporation on payment to the existing stockholders of one and a half million dollars and arrears of dividends. What the crowd of men now posing as the Legislature of New Hampshire, who obtained power by felonious methods, will do with this propos-

ition, no one can say; but if the Democratic Legislature, chosen by the people of the State, were in session we should earnestly advise it to refuse to consider any proposition looking to diminishing the State's control over any railway within its limits.

THURBERESQUE.—Some time ago there appeared in THE STANDARD an article from Captain Codman, headed, "Bounties for Beggars and Thieves." This article was briefly alluded to editorially, and it called forth from Mr. F. B. Thurber a somewhat foolish and certainly spiteful rejoinder. Mr. Thurber's letter was printed in THE STANDARD, commented upon editorially, and subsequently answered by Captain Codman. There the matter ended. We discover, however, that Mr. Thurber has had the first three articles printed on a leaflet, on which there does not appear even an allusion to the fact that his own letter has called forth any reply. Mr. Thurber, we believe, regards himself as a great business man, and a man of honor. In this performance, however, he gives a curious illustration of the fact that many men, who fully recognize ethical considerations affecting their own business, have not even a rudimentary sense of honesty when they come to deal with other matters.

A CALIFORNIA VIEW.

Having read with interest the editorial in THE STANDARD of February 11th, under the caption, "Can the Democrats win in 1892?" I wish to say that I think you are wrong in your conclusions as to the policy of co-operation between Democrats and Alliance men. In the first place, I do not think such co-operation would involve the relegation of the tariff question to the rear, as the Alliance is as strongly opposed to the "robber tariff" as the Democratic party itself. It will be impossible to side-track this issue, and I believe it will be just as impossible to side-track the money question. I believe that a very large majority of Democratic voters are in accord with the Alliance upon that question, so far as to favor free silver coinage and the substitution of greenbacks for National bank currency, and this latter is in accord with the United Labor platforms upon which Mr. George stood in 1886 and in 1887 in New York.

The Democrats have lost immensely by their vacillating policy upon this question. The Farmers' Alliance will now force them to take action upon it, and I believe the sooner they do so the better. To antagonize the Alliance on this question will be to divide the Free Trade sentiment of the country into two hostile camps and give the protectionist monopolists the victory. The Republicans have apparently adopted the policy of cornering or bulling silver in the interest of mine owners and of the creditor class. If the Democrats and Alliance can combine upon the policy of free coinage and the issuance of greenbacks in place of National bank paper, in the interests of justice to the whole people, especially to the mortgaged farmers and other debtors, who are being robbed by the constantly increasing burden of their debts caused by the increasing value of the dollar based upon the single gold standard, I am satisfied that they will sweep the country in 1892. To give the advantages of free coinage to the debtor class, instead of to mine owners, it would be necessary for the Treasury Department to adopt the practice of paying bonds and interest upon them, and all other Government obligations, including redemption of greenbacks, in silver, instead of in gold, as long as silver is the cheaper, thus making silver the standard, and for this either a positive law requiring it would be necessary, or the election of a President in favor of that policy.

There is evidently a strong effort being made to induce the Alliance to take up Mr. Stanford as their candidate on the strength of his land loan scheme. If the Democrats refuse to co-operate in a reasonable and fair adjustment of the money question by means of remonetization of silver, etc., there is, I imagine, great danger that this scheme will succeed, and, if the farmers can be fooled into such a course, we shall be likely to see an unnatural alliance between them and the Republican monopolists that would be hard to beat, and all the benefits of which would accrue to the plutocrats with Stanford at their head, and none to the farmers.

This Stanford scheme of government loans upon land values, irrespective of improvements, is the most infamous and dangerous scheme imaginable. It would immensely increase the evil of land monopoly and land speculation, which we, Single Taxers, are trying to lessen and ultimately destroy, and yet, from the point of view of a land owning farmer who is paying exorbitant interest upon a mortgage, it is very taking, and even the tenant farmer and the laborer who has imbibed the idea that it is interest upon capital that robs

labor, can be bamboozled into its support, though its effect would certainly be to make land more difficult of access, and thus lower wages.

I think your table, giving estimated vote of the various States, should be revised, by placing the following additional ones in the column of those, the Democrats can carry on the combined issues of tariff and money reform: California, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin, Michigan. This would give 319 electoral votes, including the 200 you estimated upon that side, without counting a single eastern State, and I very much doubt whether New Jersey, New York, and every New England State would go Republican upon those issues, for the tariff will surely be the most prominent issue at stake in any event.

San Francisco, Cal.

W. G. SELLERS.

SECRETARY TRACY AND COMMANDER REITER.

Having some business lately in the office of the Christian Union, the Barrundia question came under discussion, and I was referred to an article in that paper of January 15, and to another of January 29, which read consecutively as follows:

We read with great satisfaction the letter, bearing date December 31, by Secretary Tracy to Commander George C. Reiter, of the navy, who commanded the *Ranger* at San Jose at the time of the killing of General Barrundia, and who has been relieved of his command and ordered to return to the United States for the incompetence, not to say moral timidity, shown upon that occasion. The claim of the *New York Evening Post* that the commander of the *Ranger* had no right to afford protection to General Barrundia, and that he should have been surrendered to the authorities, because if our authorities in New York City should seek to arrest a man on board a German or British steamer in our port, the attempt would not be resisted, is based upon the false idea that we are to act, in dealing with half-civilized governments of Central America, where revolutions are of semi-annual occurrence, exactly as Germany or Great Britain would deal with a stable and responsible government like that of the United States. Law is organized for the maintenance of justice and the protection of life and liberty, and to surrender General Barrundia to the government which demanded it, or to stand idly by while he was taken from under a United States flag, was practically to give him up, not to trial by due process of law, but to assassination with or without its forms.

Commander Reiter has asked for a court-martial, and the Secretary of the Navy has refused it. The grounds of this refusal appear to us to be entirely unanswerable. The object of a court-martial is to determine either what are the facts or what is the law applicable to those facts and how it is to be applied. In the case of the Commander of the *Ranger* there was no question of fact to be determined, since the decision of the Secretary of the Navy was based upon the statement of facts made by the Commander himself: and there is no question of law or its application to be determined, since the Secretary of the Navy is the highest authority in the Navy on questions of law. He has already made his decision, and from that decision there can be no appeal to a subordinate tribunal. The demand for a court-martial at this time is like a demand for a jury trial after the Supreme Court of the United States has passed upon a case submitted to it upon an agreed statement of facts. We repeat our hearty approbation of the course of the Secretary of the Navy in this case. We do not hesitate to say that if Liverpool were under the control of a mob, and, under whatever cover of law, an attempt were made to take a foreigner from the protection of the American flag in the harbor of Liverpool and hand him over to certain assassination, it would be the duty of any commandant of a naval vessel to interfere and protect, at every hazard, the person so threatened. The fact that there was in the port of San José no government capable and willing to protect General Barrundia from violence and give him legal trial, was a fact of which the commander of the *Ranger* was bound to take notice, and was a sufficient fact to call for his action to defend General Barrundia from arrest, and our flag from the stain of blood which has been left upon it.

Upon asking if after the triumphant vindication of Commander Reiter on the floor of the House of Representatives by Mr. Dalzell, any retraction of these hasty conclusions had been made, I was told that no further notice had been taken of the matter.

I have heretofore held General Tracy in the highest esteem, his political creed not detracting from it in the slightest degree: I honored him for his noble defence of Mr. Beecher, and when he came into the Cabinet, in common with other Democrats, I welcomed him as a worthy successor of Mr. Whitney. He could have no higher praise from us, but his action in this Barrundia affair has forfeited the esteem of many of his friends, and until he reverses his decision we can never have the same regard for him that we have entertained before.

I trust the editor of the Christian Union will pardon me for my astonishment that a Christian gentleman and the Editor of a Christian newspaper could "read with great satisfaction the letter" of the Secretary, which was intended to cast a stigma on the reputation of a brave and meritorious officer of the Navy, to whom the

Christian Union attributes "incompetence, not to say moral timidity?"

What is the reputation of a naval officer? It is his life, that and no less, but much more. The veriest wretch on the street has a recognized right to defend his life from assassination, and yet by the *ipse dixit* of the Secretary of the Navy, so recklessly approved by that Journal, this common right of humanity was, and still is, denied to Commander Reiter. If it is sure of its position, General Tracy is sure of it himself, what would be the harm of granting Commander Reiter the Court of Inquiry, for which he asks?

The truth is that the Secretary dared not do it. It would inevitably have reversed his decision: and he knew it. Commander Reiter was condemned by him for not going out to sea to intercept the *Acapulco*. Even if he had supposed himself gifted with a roving commission to waylay ships on the high seas for the purpose of offering an asylum under the American flag to all traitors and conspirators against their governments, he had not sufficient notice of Barrundia's neighborhood to enable him to do so. When Barrundia took passage on the *Acapulco* he knew that ship would touch at a Guatemalan port, and he voluntarily took his chances, asking for no protection or rescue by an American Man-of-war. When the ship arrived in port, Commander Reiter was not called upon to visit him, yet he attempted to do so, and Barrundia positively refused to see him. How then could he have provided him with an asylum, unless he had broken into his stateroom and taken him by main force on board the *Ranger*? The Christian Union admits that Commander Reiter's non-interference would have been proper if the German or British Government had been concerned instead of that of Guatemala, which it classes among the "half civilized." Half civilized! Is not Guatemala a "sister Republic," one of the sisters who lately sent their envoys to the Pan-American Congress, one of the sisters with whom we are to have treaties of reciprocity in distinction from that appendage to monarchy in the North? Was Commander Reiter to insult this "sister Republic" by telling her that she was "half civilized," and, therefore, as she was unable to take care of her own business, he would take care of it for her? If he had done so, he would not have been obliged to ask for a court of inquiry: he should have had a court martial without demanding it, and he would have deserved to be cashiered. "The demand for a court martial at this time is like a demand for a jury trial after the Supreme Court of the United States has passed upon a case submitted to it upon an agreed statement of facts." Not so. It is a demand for a trial by a court of Commander Reiter's peers after his character and reputation have been attacked by an official assassin. Is that harsh language? Yes, but it is the truth.

New York, February 28, 1891.

J. C.

A DANGER THAT MUST BE MET.

I fear that in the East the threatening aspect of the silver craze is not fully appreciated. If it were, I am sure that some effort would be put forth to counteract an influence which cannot be otherwise than dangerous to the great free trade cause.

The truth is, that in Illinois and throughout the West, the anti-protection idea is rapidly being overshadowed by the silver phantasm, the latter growing and spreading with the spread and growth of the farmers' movement, which is sweeping over the agricultural regions as the K. of L. swept over the manufacturing and mining centres a few years ago, bearing all before it.

Strangely enough, perhaps, the "money question" is the paramount one among the farmers. They fancy that the cause of their distress lies in the monopoly of the currency: and in the free coinage of silver they see, or think they see, a ready means of relief, as well as a happy instrument of revenge. They hate Wall street and the gold bugs with all the fervor of unreason and blind prejudice: and every issue is lost sight of in the presence of this one, to which they attach an importance that would be amusing were it not so portentous of danger to all real reform.

Thus far the tariff question has been presented in the West with a timidity that is at once a reflection on the intelligence of the people and on the courage of those opposed to the Protection humbug. The fiscal side of it has been kept in view, to the exclusion of the moral side, and the farmers especially have been slow to grasp the true inwardness of that system of indirect taxation which, pretending to protect and stimulate industry, is actually the enemy of labor and the destroyer of capital.

What is needed now is something more than mere tariff reform to arouse the farmers of the West from their strange dream of silver. Tariff reform will not and cannot arrest their headlong pursuit of a will-o'-the-wisp which is leading them far astray. Tariff abolition is the cry that will pierce their ears and check them in their course; and tariff abolition ought to become the watchword and the war-cry of the reform party. Otherwise, I believe the silver issue will split it wide open in the West, and make the success of Mr. Cleveland an utter impossibility.

Chicago, Ill.

WARREN WORTH BAILEY.

MENIAL SERVICE.

My salutations—if you please, through your medium—to Captain John Codman, who does me the honor to consider at some length my letter to you on menial service, and after shaking me up, takes occasion to express some altogether charming ideas of his own regarding special cases (cited) of reciprocal trust and love between maid and mistress, etc.; but which argue about as much against the position I take, as Mrs. Stowe's immortal picture of the love of Uncle Tom for Eva argued in favor of slavery. I would only say this further in defence: It does seem to me that Captain Codman is unfortunate in mentioning Him, the meek and lowly, in support of adhesion to titles of respect, and the stern methods of discipline he refers to, and then in the same breath, dilating on the virtue of a good sound laying about with knuckle-duster and belaying pin! Really, the spirit of Him, invoked by Captain Codman, seems to suggest other means of commanding respect and obedience.

But upon my word, sir, I did not expect one who had been through the school of the fore-castle, where belaying pin plies easy, to even regard my letter as worth any notice at all. And as for the admission, which Captain Codman practically makes in the first clause of his article, of the ethical justice of my position—I declare, I think it quite noble of him: and only proves, as does the whole tenor of his letter, his fore-castle education to have been widely supplemented elsewhere.

I suspect the expression of radical notions and doctrine never conduces to very graceful writing. I dare say J. S. Mill's essay on Women will never vie for charm with the Troubadours' songs to their ladies; and yet Captain Codman would doubtless admit that Mr. Mill did well to write his essay (though it was at first regarded as a dreadful "Jacob's ladder" by most people) and let the song of the Trouvere rest unsurpassed for him. I fancy one must take off gloves to pose a radical idea, and leave rough corners enough for it to be rolled over and still rest solid. I tried to do this and, presumptuous though I may be, I therefore think my letter needs no champion, and carries its own answer (for those who will see it at all) to Captain Codman, and leaves me to make my *salut du depart* to him in all serenity, though he thinks he annihilated me.

Wakefield, N. Y.

KENNETH CRANFORD.

THE SINGLE TAX IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Adelaide, January 21.—I feel ashamed that we in this colony have not given an account of ourselves before now, but we have been too busy with our immediate work even to think of our comrades in the warfare. We are not ignorant of the work done and the advance made in other places, but we are jealous lest any should get before us in our attempt to apply the principles which we have already begun to embody in our laws.

Since Mr. George's visit we have had a great revival. We have formed a Central League, with Mr. Charles Birks as president and Max Lewin as secretary. Mr. Birks is one of our leading tradesmen, cautious, capable and resolute, whose name and influence are of immense value to us. We have formed branches in the city and suburbs, which are doing splendid work in public meetings and discussions, and by the circulation of literature. We experience some difficulty in reaching the agricultural population, which is widely distributed; but Mr. G. Birks, who has control of the distribution of literature, never misses an opportunity of acquainting the farmers with the injustice they suffer and the true remedy.

The Rev. Hugh Gilmore, who presided at Mr. George's last lecture here, has already fulfilled Mr. George's prophecy, and has become a great strength to the cause. He is president of the Adelaide Branch. He also conducts, in connection with his own church, a Sociological Society, which has an attendance of about 100 thoughtful and earnest young men, and its meetings have attracted great attention. Mr. Gilmore's lectures and addresses in various parts of the city and suburbs have been very well attended. During the great strike he gave some addresses to the workmen, in which he pointed out the true remedy for the present social disorder and inequality. Voluminous correspondence followed in the newspapers, in which the Single Tax was thoroughly discussed. Messrs. John Birks, Berens, Liston and others have also been doing grand work by lectures. They are all eager, earnest and capable workers, and count no labor or sacrifice too great if they can advance the cause. A number of the young men have purchased and set up a press, and have taught themselves how to set up type, and publish fortnightly a Single Tax paper called *The Pioneer*.

The South Australian Register, our leading daily paper, is very favorable to our cause, but confines itself to advocating the plan proposed by John Stuart Mill—that is, to tax away the future unearned increment of land values, leaving to the landowners the present values. It, evidently, is afraid the people are not yet quite ready for our ideas. However, we have free access to its columns, and our letter-writers keep up a steady fire.

The time has passed here when to be a Single Taxer meant to be

looked on as a crank. There is scarcely a thinking man in South Australia, who would attempt to defend the present system of land-owning. The only question discussed is how to give all the people their rights, with the least loss and injury to the present owners.

At the last municipal election, the principal question was the taxing, or, as we say, "rating," of unimproved lands, and we had the most abundant proof of the spread of our principles in every ward. Some of our most embittered opponents were defeated, and some of our friends, Mr. Mackie and Mr. Rayment among the number, were elected. While Parliament was in session, a bill was passed in the Lower House to allow corporations to assess unimproved land values. The discussion was vigorous, the "farmers' friends" standing out for the present system; nevertheless, the bill was passed by a large majority. The clause was rejected by the Upper House, composed principally of landlords. The Lower House re-passed it and sent it back, but the landlords would not pass it. The government promised, however, to bring in a bill dealing with the same subject next session. During the discussion we had a good gauge of the hold our principles have taken and the strength we can rely upon. The advance made within the last few years is marvellous, and if we can make as great advance in the next few years, we will keep our proud place as leaders in the new reform. We have an election for the Upper House in a few months. The Trades and Labor Council will probably contest every seat. They are beginning to learn their power and how to use it, are co-workers with us. The landocracy are prepared to spend any amount of money to retain place and power.

In the other Australian colonies, we have the name of being slow, and possibly we are, but we are resolute, and a step gained is never retraced. We do not make much fuss or noise, but we keep pegging away, and won't be diverted.

We are all pleased to note the success of the Democrats at your recent elections, and also the election of Single Tax men to Congress. Ere this reaches you, you will, no doubt, have received the news from New Zealand, where twenty Single Taxers have been returned to Parliament.

S. T.

APPORTIONING TAXES ACCORDING TO POPULATION.

In THE STANDARD of February 11 Mr. Camm expresses a fear of the just working of our constitutional provision requiring direct taxation to be apportioned to the several States according to their numbers. The plan he suggests would do very well for proving the justice of our method at a time when fears were entertained that the burdens of national taxation were imposed in undue proportion to enjoyment of natural opportunities. But, in the first place, it is unconstitutional. Secondly, it introduces to a certain degree a wealth qualification for representation.

It is easy for one acquainted with the injustice of private property in land to understand why population is no longer an indication of wealth.

When our fathers established the rule for distributing representatives to the National Congress among the States they are said to have been profoundly influenced by the consideration of wealth as a basis for representation. This idea was derived from the customs of that age. But they inserted the word "numbers" into the Constitution, because they found that population was then a true index of wealth in dealing with the States. Comparatively free land was the reason that it was so.

It has since been shown that our Eastern States have a much larger ratio of wealth to population than the Western or Southern. This is not hard to understand when we consider the constant investment of Eastern capital in speculations, most of which have their foundation upon the ownership of land in the new States. That is, the older States have systematically used their surplus capital for getting a call on the earnings of producers in the younger ones. Meanwhile the associated industries of the country have, by tariff laws, reduced the price of the products of the newer communities. Little wonder that in older places there has been an increasing ratio of wealth to population as compared with the newer or more backward States!

We had a debate in our Single Tax club last Thursday, in which it was objected that States possessing great mineral resources would, under the direct National tax system, as expressed in the constitution, get off much cheaper than those which do not have such rich stores. They failed to see that one must not judge by present circumstances what would occur when all opportunities of Nature were free. For instance, the price of coal is made now by many causes of restriction, but what would it be under free lands and free competition of labor?

Nature's fairness stands out in the fact that no wealth can be had without work. If it takes a less amount of labor to secure a certain return in one place than to secure it in another, then under perfectly free conditions that place will get a larger amount of labor to share the extra gain, and so equalize the distribution. We need never be afraid of the operation of good principles. Bring in Nature's freedom, and all the opportunities will be equally shared. Population will then be an index of wealth, and direct taxation

by the national Government, apportioned to the State according to its numbers, will be fair. This may be extended to the relations of a State with its counties.

The mistake in basing the taxation, either National or State, upon valuation of any kind, is that it tends to create a temptation to tamper with values in order to evade taxes. Based on numbers, only a correct count is needful. When the land belongs to the people, in law as well as in fact, and the principle of local rights is embodied in government to the extent of allowing a county to decide for itself what kind of property it will tax, then we shall see some localities undertaking liberal schemes for public works, well able to carry them out by reason of their wisdom in appropriating all the rental value of land to public use.

Now, it is quite possible that some such districts may be more enterprising than others, and therefore fix the rental value higher or the rate of tax higher. Shall we, on account of their greater revenue, make them contribute more to the State? That would be doing what we all now condemn—taxing improvements.

Philadelphia.

T. WISTAR BROWN, JR.

THE SILVER ISSUE.

The Third Party movement has already been seriously proposed in our alliances here, and it is pretty safe to say that if the Democratic party does not squarely endorse the free coinage of silver and nominate candidates, that unequivocally endorse that measure, it will go to the wall. The day has gone by when the party can use the people; the people are going to use the party or cast it aside. Not only will the Democratic party leaders have to flatly endorse the free coinage of silver, but they must move a good deal farther in tariff reform; for the new party will go nearer Free Trade than the Democratic party has ever dared to go yet.

The danger with the Third Party is that it will propose some silly Sub-Treasury or fiat money scheme. Such propositions are receiving attention here now and are meeting with determined opposition.

WM. CAMM.

Murrayville, Ill., March 1st, 1891.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

Professor H. N. Martin, of Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, is an authority on oyster culture. He has been investigating the resources of the oyster beds of Chesapeake Bay, and says that not one-sixteenth of the area of the grounds fitted for oyster breeding is now used. The reason why the grounds are not used is because the men who would gladly take them and put them into condition for oyster breeding by covering the mud bottom with shells, bricks, stones, etc., will not do so on account of the present insecure possession. There is no efficient police service to protect them. If the State would provide an oyster fleet and insure the oystermen from loss, Professor Martin says, it could rent out these unused beds for a sum more than equal to all the present State taxes, while the grounds would yield hundreds of millions of dollars worth of oysters annually, and thousands and thousands of men would be making an independent living, and stimulating other industries by the demand they would create for their products. Only one-sixteenth of the oyster beds used, and yet men are leaving the State and going out West to find natural opportunities to employ their labor and capital. All the State taxes could be raised from the oyster ground rents, and yet the State is now taxing every form of property, every form of industry to meet its expenses. Could anything be more absurd?

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To whom it may concern: Scotch potatoes are now being imported into this country because of the potato blight of last Spring. They cost about thirty cents a bushel more than they ought to, because McKinley had a tariff of twenty-five cents put on.

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The Boston Globe tells us that more than 23,000 families were evicted by force in this city last year for non-payment of rent. This in our very midst, and "nivver a worrur" of warning from those Irish leaders, who every election time make the welkin ring from Tammany Hall's platform over the wrongs and sufferings of the people away off in Ireland, and thus bring the New York Irish vote into their camp every time. More than 23,000 evictions in this city in one year—vastly more than have taken place in any one year since British tyranny placed its foot on Erin.

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The Mormon exodus to Mexico, planned seventeen years ago, has begun. Within the next three months 2,000 Mormon families will have departed from Utah and taken up their homes in the Mexican State of Chihuahua, where the Mormon church has for a number of years owned a large tract of land. When the land boom struck Salt Lake a year ago we anticipated its early death, and were somewhat surprised that the Mormons did not stamp it out, as had always been their custom in the past when attempts were made to artificially increase the selling price of their lands, or to make corners

on food or other necessities. Now it is clear they permitted the land boom to live and grow so they could unload their holdings on the gentile speculator. The Mormons have long known that land values could not exist without population, and they know now that as they move to Chihuahua, they will take with them the values that the speculators have paid for.

* * * *

Our protective chickens are coming home to roost. Our friends of the McKinley faith have long pointed out that their main object is to keep from us the products of pauper foreign countries: so that our free American producers should not suffer from unholy competition with such products. This has been set forth in songs, verses, editorials, pamphlets and illustrations. Therefore, it is sad to see our own game played back on us. In the Canadian campaign, just closed, one of the most potent and convincing reasons given by the Tories, why that party should receive the support of the farming class, was set forth in an illustration, which showed the contrast in the conditions of the American and Canadian farmer. They are facing each other on opposite sides of a line, one side of which is marked "Canada" and the other "U. S." Here is the Canadian, standing on his native heath—a well-fed, contented looking person, and there is the American, a lean and hungry looking Cassius—so lean, in fact, that he would be a big attraction in a dime museum. Beneath the picture is the legend, "Prosperity and Despair! Will the Canadian farmer exchange?" The Toronto News considered the picture strong enough to print on its first page. It is thus the Protectionists of this country and their colleagues, the Tories of Canada and England, seek to keep the people apart. We warn our people against the foreign paupers, and the foreigners warn their people against our paupers, and both use the same illustrations.

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A petition and resolution of the State Federation of Labor, asking for the appointment of a special committee of the General Assembly to make inquiry into and report on the advisability of adopting the Single Tax idea in Illinois was introduced last Wednesday, and was made the special order for yesterday.

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The "hub" of the United States is the little town of Greensburg, Ind., which has been proven by the late census to be the exact centre of the population of the Union.

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At the urgent request of the Farmers' Alliance, the Legislature of California has passed the following preamble and resolution:

Whereas, the farmers of the Pacific Coast use about 35,000,000 grain bags each year; and, whereas, of that number only 5,000,000 are of local manufacture and do not affect the price of imported sacks; and, whereas, the tax upon materials of which these sacks are made is almost entirely collected on the Pacific Coast; and, whereas, the tariff tax imposed upon grain bags has not increased the amount of the local product, and has not increased the number of white laborers employed in such industry, and has not increased the wages of any employee, but has only resulted in an increase of the cost of the article to consumers; therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, the Assembly concurring, that our Senators and Representatives in Congress be requested to use all honorable means to have the duty on grain bags, burlaps, gunnys or gunny cloth abolished.

The Legislature of California is overwhelmingly Republican and Protectionist in both branches. The Farmers' Alliance there is as yet in its infancy, and not by any means the power it is in Kansas and other States. What could better show how easy it is for the people to secure the legislation they want, if they will only thoroughly make up their minds as to what they do want?

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"Last week," says the Pittsburg Commoner and Glassworker in its issue of February 28, "thirty carloads of machinery, made by Davey Bros., of Sheffield, England, arrived at Homestead, to be placed in the three new mills being erected by Carnegie, Phipps & Co., on the poor farm property. So the great Apostles of Protection practice what they preach. Protection to American labor, says Carnegie, before election; foreign machinery after the votes are in."

* * * *

Senator Ignatius Donnelly has given the Minnesota Democrats notice that hereafter the Alliance "will stand alone;" that is to say, will be "agin" both parties, and especially the Democrats. He made this declaration, so the papers say, while "shouting and white with rage," and must have reminded those who saw and heard him of the leader from the Saskatchewan who figures as the Caesar of his "Caesar's Column." Let us hope he will not put into practice the idea carried out in that book, of piling the dead Republicans and Democrats up and making of them a monument of human bodies and cement. It would be awful if he did.

* * * *

The unspeakable Dana quotes the Pittsburg Dispatch as saying that Cleveland and his erstwhile loved Hill are both out of the Presidential race of 1892. But Mr. Dana neglects to say that the paper in which this opinion is expressed is Republican in politics,

which makes all the difference in the world in the value of its opinion.

* * * *

The Sun has not favored us with a quotation from the St. Louis Republic, regarding Mr. Cleveland, lately. Here are a couple that may have been overlooked by Mr. Dana, and to which we specially invite his distinguished consideration:

Mr. Cleveland is the first New York leader in either party or any party of the past to make an honest attempt to nationalize himself. Because he has done so and has succeeded in nearly everything in the past, because he has thus given promise of succeeding wholly in the future, he stands in a class above all such New York politicians as Van Buren and Tilden. If from time to time he shows his New York education it is never as a politician. He is striving for what he believes to be the good of the whole country.

On a "straw ballot" of such members of the Missouri Legislature as had returned to Jefferson City on Monday, it was found that their choice for Presidential candidates was as follows: Cleveland, 35; Palmer, 10; Boies, 7; Bland, 2; Gray, 1.

* * * *

Here is something to think over. American condensed milk can be bought in China for less than it can be purchased right here in the country of its manufacture. The reason is (says the Tax Reform Advocate of Fargo, South Dakota,) that in China it has to compete with a Swiss brand of milk; but the Swiss competitors are kept out of this country by a duty of over 20 per cent., and the price here is raised the full amount of the tariff. This is a tax that falls heavily on the laboring classes.

* * * *

The late Congress appropriated, in all, \$1,006,270,471. The surplus has been "handled" out of sight. The next Congress will have to "handle" a deficit.

* * * *

The American Federation of Labor has issued a circular asking the "organized labor of America" to refrain from buying "Clark's O. N. T. cotton."

* * * *

The State of South Carolina took formal possession of the phosphate rock region last Monday week, and threw it open to the public; but on the following Friday the United States Court, at the instigation of the Crosaw Mining Company, issued a peremptory injunction restraining the State and the phosphate commissioners from working on the property in dispute. It is feared that this injunction will indefinitely close the most valuable mining property in South Carolina.

* * * *

Bills are before the Massachusetts and California Legislatures providing for the submitting to the people at the next election the question whether United States Senators shall be elected by popular vote.

* * * *

The California Farmers' Alliance submitted a long petition to the Legislature last week praying for the passage of the ballot reform bill now before that body. Despite the fact that it was endorsed by the officers of the strongest branches of the Alliance, it was thrown into the waste basket. The Republicans are opposed to it, and as they are in a majority in the Assembly, the probabilities are that the measure will be shelved. Oregon, Washington, Montana and Nebraska, have adopted the Australian ballot. It has been tried in the cities in Missouri, and it will be extended to cover the State. The Australian ballot system was tried in Vermont for the first time at Burlington last Monday week, and resulted in the election of a Democrat for Mayor for the first time in twenty years. The system was generally commended. The town elections in Massachusetts were held under it on the same day. The reform method of voting, based upon the Australian system, will soon be in force in seventeen States, most of them Democratic. Considering that it is not yet three years since the system was first adopted in this country, its progress has been rapid and gratifying. Pennsylvania will soon be enrolled in the list, and the expectations of the friends of free and honest elections everywhere will soon have been fulfilled.

* * * *

Charles Frederick Adams has started a little four-page paper in Washington called Suggestions, which is intended to advocate the extension and development of local self-government until the Federal and State service is performed, by what he calls a citizen militia as compared with the present standing army of mercenaries holding public offices. Suggestions will be issued from time to time, and will consist largely of extracts from works relating to the subject matter.

* * * *

The Torrens system of registration is in force in the city of Toronto, permissively. It was introduced three or four years ago by the provincial government of Toronto, and is working well. Any property owner can obtain a Torrens title for his property on taking the necessary steps and paying the necessary fees. The system is slowly but surely gaining ground. Suburban property newly put on the real estate market usually has the Torrens title.

CURRENT THOUGHT.

CHRISTIAN SOCIALISM.

"The control of opportunity means the subjection of the individual just as much as did the control of his energies. . . . We have applied the basic principle of Christianity to half the relations of life: the result has been personal liberty—the right of every individual to control his own energies. Is the world ready to apply the same principle to another field of human relations—the field of opportunity, as well as freedom of endeavor?"

So writes Judge Tourgee in the preface to his new novel,* which is written to show that there are men in the Christian church who are ready to apply the principle, and how they propose to go to work.

The principal character of the work is Murvale Eastman, the manly, active and earnest young pastor of the aristocratic and exclusive metropolitan church of the Golden Lilies, who one day startles his congregation and the community generally, by preaching two burning and eloquent sermons on the inequitable and unjust distribution of wealth and social advantages, showing the inconsistency of such a state of things with the teachings of Christ, and announcing his intention of devoting the morning services of a whole year to a consideration of this problem, from the point of view of a Christian Socialist. Socialism! The word acts like a galvanic shock on the millionaire pew owners of the Golden Lilies: but in spite of the storm which follows, and the resignation of many of his richest members, Eastman persists in his course, and a league of Christian Socialists is formed in connection with the church, based on his ideas. What Eastman's ideas are, may in part be gathered from this statement of a well-known lawyer, a member of the league, to a millionaire named Kishu. He says of Eastman:

He only insists that the church, which represents the religious force in society, should stimulate the social, economic and political forces to devise and adopt measures that will steadily counteract these evils, and should itself lead, inspire and promulgate thought upon the subject. It is a tremendously strong position, Mr. Kishu. One may antagonize the position of the Single Tax, or of "Nationalism," as it is called, as a remedy for these things, on the ground that they are impracticable and absurd, and all that you know. But you can't say it is absurd to keep on trying to find remedies for admitted evils.

Eastman, we learn, would simply care for to-day, without putting a yoke on to-morrow. He thought that the moral tendency, from which amendment must arise, was a fact; specific remedies were at best but dreams, as all the Utopian schemes of the past had shown. Methods depended entirely on circumstances. To bear each other's burdens was the great duty of all men, especially Christians, and Christian Socialism, he says, simply "expects a man to use his surplus to promote the general welfare and prosperity."

As soon as the rich men of the congregation begin to realize what a harmless thing Christian Socialism is they recover from the shock and proceed to take an active hand in the League work.

Of course, "theorists," with far-reaching remedies, have no place in the League. It is too busy taking care of to-day to bother with theories about the possible future. It devotes itself to practical work. It finds that the managers of a corporation have adopted a rule that none of its employees should wear a beard. One of the employees takes cold and dies on account of this order. The League circulates a million leaflets, asking Christian men and women not to patronize a company guilty of such pagan cruelty, that is, it institutes a fashionable boycott. Another corporation makes its employees buy uniforms at an excessive price. The League calls attention to this as a piece of robbery. Meantime, the members individually accomplish great things by using their surplus for the benefit of others. For instance, Mr. Townley, a millionaire, devotes himself to encouraging profit sharing. He buys out factories and businesses, and then sells them to the employees on easy terms. He says that if he lives ten years he will change 10,000 wage-workers into 10,000 working proprietors. Millionaire Kishu, who is the pillar of the church and is only converted to the new ideas after a long struggle, determines to create a "temple of industry," in which a multitude of small shop-keepers and profit-sharing concerns shall run independent businesses, and be able to compete with the great concerns. He proposes to "help more men up the ladder of independence than half a dozen of the largest establishments in the city can drag down."

This is Christian Socialism according to Judge Tourgee. Its strength consists in the fact that it proposes no specific remedies, but trusts to the general spirit of brotherly love and the development of altruistic qualities. But if, as he says, the great pressing question is, how to equalize opportunities, why does he not show what the opportunities are to which all men have the right to an equal share? If this question were answered, we would soon know whether there was no specific remedy. There was a specific remedy for chattel slavery; it was to give men their natural right to go free. Have men no other natural rights that are still denied them?

As a story and a picture of contemporary life "Murvale Eastman" is perhaps the best of Tourgee's books, and even though it

*MURVALE EASTMAN; CHRISTIAN SOCIALIST. By Albion W. Tourgee, New York, 2 Fords, Howard & Hurlbert.

does not solve the problem he puts so clearly in the preface, it is a book that will do good in drawing people's attention to the social question. Looked at simply as a plea to the strong, wealthy and the influential, to do something to improve the condition of the poor and the weak, it is one of the most powerful books that have yet appeared.

A FANTASTIC STORY.

"The Blind Men and the Devil," by an author who signs himself "Phineas," published by Lee & Shepard, Boston, is a story that aims to picture the fearful struggle for existence and the battle of life in allegorical form. It describes a great, dark valley, into which not a ray of light penetrates, inhabited by a race of Blind Men. The occupation of these people is crushing stones, out of which they get a pulp which furnishes food and clothing; but this pulp has to be taken out of the valley and up to the surrounding plains for preparation, whence part of it comes back to the men as finished product. On the plains and the surrounding hills live the fortunate men, who have by one means or another accumulated sufficient money to buy their way out of the black depths below and establish themselves in business or live at leisure on the heights.

A few men, some of whom have been fortunate enough to be born with the use of their eyes, own the crushing machines, and control the money (which is called Devil, by the way,) used by the poor blind wretches in the valley in producing the raw pulp and trading for the finished products made by the people on the plains. The strange thing is that the stones in the valley from which the pulp is taken are entirely free and the Blind Men appear to be perfectly able to make the great stone crushing machines themselves, if they choose to, but the author, nevertheless, makes them entirely dependent on the machine owners and the money controllers, whereas, it is perfectly obvious they could live in abundance if they only applied themselves to the free natural opportunities and began to work for themselves and bartered their raw products for the finished goods of the people on the plains.

The description of this curious race of Blind Men, toiling away at the great crushing machines in the Cimmerian darkness of the valley, competing with each other for the mere privilege of making the barest living, is a weird, gloomy, and fantastic one, marred, however, by an utter lack of coherence or clearness, like the economic ideas of the author.

AN EARLY LAND REFORMER.

"Nationalization of the Land as First Presented," is the title under which the Arena is printing an essay by Prof. J. R. Buchanan, the first part of which appears in the March number. This essay was originally published in 1847 in the Herald of Truth, a Cincinnati paper, but, as the Professor says in a footnote, was an announcement of doctrine for which the public mind was unprepared, and it produced no effective response. 1847 was a well-chosen year, however, for as we know that year and the "year of revolutions" which followed, witnessed great changes in opinions and social adjustments. The essay, or that part of the essay given in this issue of the magazine, is a most remarkable one, and in addition to its intrinsic excellence, it possesses the same interest which attaches to the writings of men like Dove, Spence, Bishop Nulty and others, as showing how men in different ages and countries arrived independently at the same fundamental ideas and general truths, which are the basis of the teachings of "Progress and Poverty."

The question he proposes to discuss in the essay, Prof. Buchanan says, turns upon the law of the distribution of wealth. For the great question is, Whether the fates of men shall be so unjust or unequal as to present us with one class, with a hereditary right to the enjoyment of ease and power, and another class with no hereditary right but that of toil and want, degeneracy and death? But the distribution of wealth, the proceeds of labor, involves another and fundamental measure—the distribution of the things which are not the proceeds of labor—the air, the sunshine, the water and the earth, which man receives direct from God. Air can not be bound up; sunshine distributes itself; water flows too abundantly to be altogether monopolized; but land is early held in possession—land is distributed not as God distributes the sunshine and the breeze, but by the avaricious passions of man, the arbitrary decrees of government and the resistless power of brute force. That it should be so distributed is *prima facie* evidence that our land system is unjust. For land is a gift to all men and should be received and rearranged as a great and inestimable fund confided to our charge—not only for ourselves but for the benefit of posterity.

The conservative says land is already justly distributed: it is owned by those who have paid for it; it must be thus owned to secure to a man the reward of his industry. Land is distributed like any other property under free conditions of purchase and sale. Any attempt to change the distribution of land is an assault on the sacred rights of property. These objections, Professor Buchanan says, are very plausible, and many conscientious men will feel their force and turn away from the land question as a hobby of corrupt politicians

and brawling demagogues. Far different will it appear if we look at the matter a little deeper with fearlessness and a regard to justice—justice in its fullest sense.

This he proposes to do, and he begins by laying down these four propositions, as the basis of his argument:

1. The earth is an original gift of God to man, and, as such, belongs, of right, to the human race in general, and not to the individuals of the race, separately.

2. The exclusive proprietorship, in fee simple, of any given amount of land, by an individual, is an infraction of the common rights of the race, unless a general consent has been given by the community to this monopoly.

3. The rights of individual proprietorship are consequently factitious or conventional, and based, in reality, not upon government edict or immemorial usage, but upon the will of the people.

4. Antecedent generations have not an unlimited power to prescribe the legislation of posterity. Each generation, therefore, has the right, in itself, to establish its own conventionalities, and recreate those institutions which depend upon its own consent for their legitimate existence.

The development of the first proposition, which he says, although a self-evident truth has been lost sight of, is the purpose of his essay: for it is one of the most important practical bearing: it is at the foundation of society, justice, law, and government. "It is a truth upon which we must act. Its tendency is eminently benevolent and just, and wherever men shall be ready to base their social institutions upon this great fundamental truth, there will be the grandest and most beneficent revolution in government and society which has ever yet taken place."

In eloquent and stirring language, Professor Buchanan, as a preliminary to his discussion of the remedy, proceeds to picture the unjust conditions that arise from the infraction of this great law, by which we have established a class of men privileged to live by levying "a heavy tax upon the remainder of society," a class "who contribute nothing to the welfare of society as a return for their wealth; but simply monopolize a portion of the common heritage; and for this the human race becomes tributary to them." Pointing to Ireland, where a starving tenantry send away as rent to absentee landlords the food for lack of which they are actually dying, he says: "Who, that looks upon society in its true light, can see with any complacency this horrible machinery of death fastened upon the vitals of the great Anglo-Saxon republic, in which the hopes of good men have centred as the chosen home of liberty and justice for the oppressed." For, he says, though the Exile of Erin finds at this time (1847) an opportunity to escape from death and ruin by emigrating to America, his escape is but temporary. "He but flies from the smaller to the larger and looser meshes of the net," and yearly the meshes are growing smaller; for the web of feudal landlords has been spread over this country as well as in Europe, and though the newcomer may be here but slightly bruised and cramped at first, the day of crushing and death is but postponed a few generations.

Forty-four years—almost a half century—ago, when the West was an unknown country and the area of unoccupied land seemed like the immeasurable seas in magnitude, before the days of railroad land grants or million-acre cattle ranches, such a statement must have fallen on unsympathetic ears. But it was the language of a prophet: but, as he says, he is optimistic. Utopian, even, in his ideas and beliefs. Seeing the evil of private property in land, and foreseeing its dreadful developments so clearly, he nevertheless believes it can be remedied. He asks, Can we not abolish it? Can we not substitute right for wrong? Is it impossible to base our institutions upon the principles of abstract right?

The question, he says, is not one of the disposal of the unappropriated national domain: it is not a question of a limited scheme of social regeneration. "Justice to all humanity is our aim, and in this country we demand a regeneration of the land system alike in reference to occupied and unoccupied territory." And he adds: "Shall we then propose to restore each man his birthright by annulling existing titles to land and dividing the whole soil of the United States, occupied and unoccupied, equally among the citizens? Far from it. Such a scheme would be a ruinous climax of folly and injustice, fit only to render the great principle odious and ridiculous." But here he adds something which hardly corresponds with the principle he lays down. He says: "There are 'vested rights' in the soil which we must reverently approach and not rudely destroy. The man who has purchased and paid for his tract of land would regard any invasion of his title as a robbery, not less felonious than that which assails his purse or in any other way deprives him of the fruit of his toil. It would, in many cases, deprive the owner of the only reward he has received for years of honest toil. * * * Yet if such titles are defective (and we maintain all such titles are defective, when the nation wills that they no longer exist) there must be some method of going back to primitive justice which our conscience can sanction."

Here ends the first division of this essay. It looks as though the remedy he will propose would be some system of buying out the landowners, which would appear to be a somewhat lame and impotent conclusion in the minds of many people who have progressed beyond that idea. But the essay is, nevertheless, a remarkable one.

The statement of the problem, in the preliminary part, is so clear, the depicting of the evil so vivid and startling, and the appeal so earnestly eloquent and inspiring, that the wonder is that a man who could write so well and think so clearly, should have been content to simply see his essay appear and—disappear. In a footnote he says he would have devoted himself to propagating this idea, had he not been engaged in scientific and philosophic work of another kind, founding the Eclectic School and System of Medicine. He adds that he proposes to present with the essay on the land question a proposition for "an equally radical and indispensable reform," which he does not specify.

In another part of the STANDARD is printed an extract from this article.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

A FRENCHMAN'S PROTEST.

To Editor of THE STANDARD.—SIR: I take exception to your article "French Folly," especially as it appears as an editorial. You say, in substance, that the people of France have earned the contempt of civilized nations, and refuse to promote good relations with Germany. This is hardly a discussion for such a paper as THE STANDARD, still, as it has cropped out, I hope you will give it a little more space. In the first place, good relations can be re-established with France by Germany at any time she chooses to return Alsace and Lorraine with their one and a half millions of French people, protesting for twenty years at every election against their forcible incorporation into the German Empire. What was done two hundred and fifty years ago, does not concern the living generation to-day, and it seems to me that Single Taxers especially are in a position to recognize the rights of the people of those two provinces to the land, to the choice of their government. As far as the incident is concerned of the Empress' visit to Paris, it was not incognito, but official.

Three incidents occurred to mar the good that such a visit might have done. Firstly, the inconsiderate visit of the Empress to St. Cloud and Versailles to refresh her souvenirs. Those very souvenirs were the creation of the "German Empire" on the ruins of French territorial integrity. This published in all newspapers, roused the feelings of the people. Second, the taking away by a "French" official of a wreath deposited on the statue of a French painter, who died fighting the Germans in 1870, seemed an act of cowardice from French authorities to conciliate the German Empress' mission to French painters. The third incident was the savage attack of the Gazette of Cologne that appeared in Paris on Thursday, and the declaration in German papers, that not to exhibit at Berlin was to insult the German Kaiser, etc. The affair was due to a want of tact all round, but I have failed to meet any opinion amongst even the Germans of New York, such as expressed in THE STANDARD.

78 West Forty-eighth street, N. Y.

A. E. BARINGUE.

IS THE FACTORY LAW A DEAD LETTER?

Editor of THE STANDARD.—SIR: The condition of wage-earning women and children in the city of New York has been for some time now a fruitful theme for pulpit eloquence and platform exhortation, and, latterly, a favorite field for charitable effort. Mitigation of that condition by legislative enactment is, as every intelligent Single Taxer knows, provisional at the best, and in the end must prove abortive. Nevertheless, as under present conditions, such mitigation can be effected only in this way, the effort is thereby justified as a drowning man is justified in catching at a straw. The attitude of the constituted authorities when the effort is made, however, is a matter of public concern, and is deserving, therefore, of a more than passing notice. Two weeks ago the Working Women's Society, 27 Clinton place, had a first hearing at Albany on a bill drawn up by them for the purpose of extending the provisions of the Factory Act to mercantile houses, the object being mainly to compel such houses to make better provision for the health and comfort of their employees, the great majority of whom are outrageously underpaid, and to prevent altogether the employment in them of children of tender age. The delegates sent to present the bill were treated with marked consideration, both by the members of the Assembly Committee and by that of the Senate, many of both gratuitously acquainting the delegates with their conviction of the justice of the bill in question. The State Factory Inspector, however, who was present at both hearings, opposed the bill openly, and, as has been noted in THE STANDARD already, volunteered the information that his sense of justice had compelled him to rule that the Factory Act has become already, in important particulars and in some cases, a dead letter.

Last week the delegates were given another hearing. Not less than thirty of the largest retail stores, principally those of New York City, had representatives on the ground to oppose the bill, the previous opposition of the State Factory Inspector having been strengthened in the meantime by the declaration of one of his

deputies in New York that the original Factory Act was only possible as a measure of justice by having mercantile houses at hand as a sort of refuge in which provision could be made for the children taken out of factories by its enforcement. If this statement is true it intensifies the gloom of the industrial situation. It was noticeable, further, that the entire time of the last sitting at Albany was consumed in hearing only one side—that of the mercantile houses. Still more significant, however, was the declaration with which their spokesman opened his address: "I represent more than \$40,000,000 of capital." Here was a perilous opening of his guard which an adroit opponent might have tellingly improved by some such counter-thrust as this: "I represent a half a million human lives." There was no time for this, however. The committee hastily adjourned to run down to New York to take their places in the Sherman obsequies. Putting all the facts together, there would seem to be a certain inexplicable something about the whole proceeding.

New York.

DAVID L. THOMPSON.

SILVER OR TARIFF, WHICH?

Editor of THE STANDARD.—SIR: Your editorial in THE STANDARD of March 4 on Free Coinage appears to me to be a sound and sensible treatment of a matter of practical politics. Tariff reform, meaning tariff reduction, has won success for the Democracy, and tariff reform, meaning Free Trade, is the means that Single Tax men as a whole have decided to be the best to advance their political interests. For the Democratic party to be tempted into another course, whereby Tariff Reform shall be relegated to second place, would alone be a calamity. But to adopt as a leading issue a series of proposals, of which, speaking mildly, it may be said that they are not only untried, but are opposed to the experience and judgment of financiers and business men throughout the civilized world, would be at this particular juncture the height of folly. I refer to the proposed change of base, not by way of criticism upon the truth of the principles advanced, but simply as a matter of practical politics. Therefore, I am in full accord with Mr. Cleveland, and I commend the firm and positive stand which you have assumed, and which, I trust, you will adhere to whatever may betide.

Brooklyn, March 5.

ALFRED J. WOLF.

IT WAS HEADED "A LYING ANSWER."

Editor of THE STANDARD.—SIR: If not too late, allow me to congratulate you upon the greatly improved appearance of THE STANDARD and upon the good affect of giving it a wider range. I see in its pages not only our own Single Tax cat, but glimpses of the larger evolutionary cat.

In your last issue you permit the Chicago Tribune to say that "most of the cranks" who advocate the Single Tax, "are, as a rule, landless and propertyless." I wonder if the Tribune expected the Jay Goulds, Astors, Russell Sages, etc., to take up such a reform? If all the landless and propertyless, instead of aping the rich and truckling to monopolists, should espouse the cause of free competition and the Single Tax, there would be no demand for such mendacious journals as the Tribune.

Yours truly,

DAVID E. CRONIN.

New York, March 3.

THE "PRESS" AND HAY.

Editor of THE STANDARD.—SIR: To-day's tariff picture in the Press is too rich for anything. The farmer is told that a bale of hay is worth \$11.24 in any of the manufacturing States, when in reality eight bales of hay can be bought for that price. I, with four other Single Tax men here in the Ninth Ward, have to-night sent as many postal cards calling the attention of the paper to its palpable error, and we will watch to see if it will try to wriggle out of it. A bale of hay averages between 200 and 250 lbs., and is worth from fifty to seventy-five cents per 100 lbs., according to quality, right here in New York. So it does not require much investigation to prove the falsity of this tariff picture. The boys at school with me used to draw a catch picture on their slates of a jackass on one side of a river, a bale of hay on the other, and ask how the jackass would get at the hay without crossing the river, and when you said you "gave it up," they would answer, "that's what the other jackass did." See if the Press does.

New York, March 4.

R. J. WILLIAMSON.

PROPHECY AND "THE STANDARD."

Editor of THE STANDARD.—SIR: As THE STANDARD is really a standard about which those may rally who love righteousness, two texts in the Bible seem peculiarly appropriate to it. They are both in the book of Isaiah. One is 59:19: "When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him." The other is 62:10: "Lift up a standard for the people."

Undine, Mich.

GEORGE W. WOOD.

HOW MR. MYERS CAN INCREASE THE CITY'S REVENUES.

The New York Metropolis a short time since undertook the task of finding out what property was owned by this city; and found, as has been the case in many previous instances, that it was a hard task. The Comptroller, who is supposed to be in charge of such property, referred the Metropolis reporter to the bureau of city revenue for information; the chief of the bureau referred him to his deputy, and the deputy said he knew very little about it, but "he was very sure that his books did not show anything like a complete list of the public property now under lease to citizens." Some of it is claimed by the Park Commissioners, who apply the income to their own uses; a large amount of property is controlled by the Aqueduct Commissioners; the Board of Education claims, and refuses to surrender, abandoned school property, while the Fire Department is equally tenacious about property which it claims is under its control. There is other city property of which all record has been lost, so that the books show but a moiety of the property owned by the city and under lease to tenants; but, nevertheless, they do show an income from various properties, such as ferries, houses, ground, etc., of \$433,853.50, while there remains uncollected (and forever lost) nearly \$600,000. These are largely legacies of bygone years. Castle Garden is included among them; the remaining amounts are due from private parties (presumably with a political "pull") and a number of charitable homes, hospitals and asylums. One ferry company alone—the Long Island Ferry—managed to pile up an indebtedness of \$304,500 for rent before it went out of business in 1869. Considering that its rent was only \$36,000 per annum, there must have been sad lack of business methods or considerable "politics" in the city's financial department, when a tenant would be allowed to run so far behind. The estate of the late George Law—whose son is so lavish in his gifts of diamonds and money to sporting men—has owed the city \$19,600 since 1864. Delinquent stall owners in the markets owe nearly \$59,000. More "politics." And so the Metropolis goes on. However, the present administration gets credit for collecting rents very closely, though the deputy did know of a number of cases in which "favored people" got considerable city property on lease, and then sub-leased at a handsome profit, in many cases getting double what they paid the city. More "politics."

We read the Metropolis article with considerable interest, in the hope that it would give some detailed information; but it lumped the various sources of rent into classes, and only specialized in the case of some of the prominent delinquents. We wanted to learn, for instance, if it is true that the city land on which a certain newspaper building was erected, facing Tryon row, is leased to the owner of that paper for ninety-nine years at one dollar a year; if it is true that the land on which Leggett's Hotel stands pays the city only \$147 a year; if that entire strip bounded by Centre and Pearl streets and Park and Tryon rows is all city property; and, if so, what the revenue to the city is; if it is true that the land around Tompkins square, running into the surrounding property one hundred feet, is the property of the city, and, if so, how much rent it pays; if it is true that what is known as the "Old Aqueduct" property running from, we think, Fifty-seventh street up to the Bloomingdale Asylum grounds, between Tenth and Eleventh avenues, still belonged to the city, and, if so, how much revenue comes from it, not to speak of the hundreds of pieces lying all over the city and leased at nominal figures to private hospitals, asylums, etc. The air was full of rumors of this kind in 1886, when Mr. George ran for Mayor, and it was more than once hinted that the people interested in these leases fought with might and main, through both the dominant political parties to defeat him, because they feared that, if elected, he would cause an examination to be made that might result in the city's taking the good money which they were pocketing and turning it into the city treasury. It was also hinted in the same year that, if honestly administered, the rents from the various classes of property belonging to the city would come very near paying the expenses of our city government and its dues to the State. If that is so, what a tremendous amount of the public money must go into private pockets! Of course "politics" is at the bottom of it all.

In October last the City Comptroller told a representative of the Record and Guide that valuable city franchises had been frittered away under the Tweed-Tammany regime, and lately he has reiterated that statement. He believes the corporations now holding franchises pay ridiculously small prices for the privileges they enjoy, but that the city has no control over them—such matters being settled at Albany. The Record and Guide has been looking the matter up and it finds that the steam heating company paid last year only \$15 for the use of our streets, with the privilege of occasionally blowing a man or two into the air. The Standard Oil Company paid \$319 for the privilege it enjoys of having an oil-pipe run across our island from the East to the North River. The total receipts from all the surface and elevated railroad lines were \$225,990. The Equitable Gas-light Company paid \$431.21, the other companies paid nothing; the electric light, telephone, tele-

graph, messenger and cable companies pay nothing. The revenue from vaults under the streets was \$104,945.

In speaking of this matter of renting under the streets, Mr. Myers thought the specific charge of 75 cents per square foot of superficial area was wrong, for it was "manifestly unjust to charge the same per square foot on an unimportant street in Harlem or on Second or Tenth avenue as is charged on Broadway." He thought "a rate should be made according to the *value of the space*," thus showing that he had seen at least a photograph of the "cat." The Comptroller is opposed to the municipal ownership of gas, water and similar necessities, but believes that they ought to be made to pay their fair share of the cost of carrying on government.

What the Comptroller wants is to increase the city's revenues. All departments of the city's finances are under his control and he knows when the city gets its just dues and when it does not. His eyes are open so far as franchises are concerned; the bureau of city revenue can tell him about at least some of the city's landed property. Stories have been circulating for at least five years concerning some of it that does not pay what it should.

Public confidence in him last Fall seemed to be so strong that no candidate was nominated against Mr. Myers. Let him examine the books in his revenue bureau. Let him inquire how the "favored people" got leases of valuable land at half their value. Let him ask the legislature to compel the corporations which use our streets to pay fairly for the privilege, and when all this has been done to the satisfaction of himself and the people, if he wants to increase the city's revenue still further we can tell him to do it.

THE CANADIAN ELECTION.

The result of the Canadian elections, held last Thursday, was the return of the Conservative government to power with a working majority of 26 votes. When the last Parliament was dissolved the Conservatives had a majority of 51; so that the result is really a victory for the Liberals. The gains of the Liberals were made in the great, populous provinces of Ontario and Quebec, while it is to the outside provinces that the Government owes its life. The poorer rural districts, where the brevity of the campaign made it impossible for the educational work to have its full effect, went as did our agricultural States in 1888, for the "old party." Sir John Macdonald, the Conservative Premier, is re-elected, but two, or, as it may turn out, three members of his cabinet have been defeated, this being the first time that such a thing has occurred since 1878.

The election is universally acknowledged to have been the most exciting and bitterly contested political struggle ever held in Canada. The main issue was whether Canada would favor unrestricted reciprocity—that is Free Trade—with the United States, which involved, of course, a uniform tariff with the United States against the rest of the world. This is the "Commercial Union" policy of the advanced liberals and has been growing rapidly in favor. Against it was the National Policy of the Tories, which in tariff legislation as well as management of fisheries and railroads, has been protectionism carried to its last extreme. The issue was at first confessed by Sir John declaring the Tories to be in favor of "partial reciprocity," by which he meant reciprocity in farm products. But this policy was quickly thrown aside, and the Tories appealed again to the protective and so-called Nationalist sentiment. They said that Free Trade with the United States meant practically annexation, and violently denounced the Liberals as traitors to Canada and England. Against the Liberal candidates were brought to bear all the patronage of the government, which in Canada is enormous, and the coercion and influence of all the protected interests. The time chosen by Sir John to dissolve Parliament and precipitate the fight was admirably adapted to his purposes, for then the districts were about to be reapportioned in accordance with the census returns, and if that had occurred the government machine would have been completely disarranged. Of the total vote cast, the Tories have received but the barest majority; practically one-half of the people have declared for the Liberal platform. But here, again, the fact that the reapportionment of seats had not taken place saved the Tories; for the populous Liberal districts have at present nothing like the number of representatives they are justly entitled to. Hence the government has a majority of twenty-six where it should not have a majority of more than one.

How the Tories view the results of the election may be gathered from the fact that a Tory newspaper, the Montreal Star, has already announced authoritatively that the Canadian manufacturers must begin to prepare for Free Trade, for the Government cannot maintain the protective policy much longer; and the first act of the Government since the election has been to call a Cabinet meeting to consider the reciprocity question, with a view to opening negotiations with the United States at once. The Tories are entrenched in power for a few years, but their triumph is like that of our Republican party in 1888. The fight has only commenced, and as it goes on they will either have to adopt the platform of their opponents, or, persisting in the old policy, be swept out of power at the next election. Everything looks as if they would choose the former and wiser course.

TAXATION THE BURNING QUESTION.

Ex-Governor Hoadley, of Ohio, was in town last week. He gave to a reporter of the Mail and Express these views on taxation: "In my opinion, the only proper subjects of taxation are real estate, tangible personal property, such as stocks of merchandise, steamers and ships, flocks and herds, pictures and the like, and also franchises conferred by legislative authority, which secure to the holders privileges beyond those permitted to all. The difficulty in taxing personal property, in my opinion, grows out of the fact that there is a large class of instruments of commerce, which the law and lawyers call 'property,' which strictly are only representatives of property, being methods by which property is owned and controlled, and the taxation of which, therefore, involves double taxation."

Tax Commissioner Coleman has sent a letter to the taxation committee of the Assembly, in which he protests against the passage of the Linson "listing bill," for the reason that it will drive out of the city millions of personal property.

Comptroller Myers is opposed to the "listing bill" also. He has found by inquiry that the effect of the passage of such a bill will be directly opposite to that anticipated by its advocates. President Harding, of the Citizens' Association of Boston, wrote the Comptroller an exhaustive description of the operation of the law there. Among other things he said that the amount of taxable personal property had, under the "listing law," decreased from \$244,000,000 in 1874 to \$202,000,000 in 1890. In Vermont and New Hampshire, where the provisions of the law were most strictly enforced, the effect had been a slight increase in taxable personal property.

The Committee on Taxation of the Massachusetts Legislature gave a hearing on February 25 to what a Boston paper calls a number of "would-be revolutionists." The parties that appeared seemed to be bent on doing away with the present exemptions from taxation in that State. Selectmen Fiske and Cutter and Assessor Lake, of Wellesley, testified that out of a total acreage of 5,700 557 in that town were exempted, a large proportion of this being the grounds of Wellesley College; so they favored a limitation of the exemption to 5 per cent. of the total acreage and valuation. J. F. Foster, of Boston, in arguing against the exemption of church property, said that, in 1880, \$25,000,000 of property was exempt in Massachusetts, and \$1,500,000,000 in the country.

The Judiciary Committee of the Rhode Island Senate, on February 27, heard Doctor Baker, George D. Liddell, Robert Grieve and others on a bill now before the Legislature, introduced by Senator Garvin, to amend an act on taxation. Mr. Grieve made the principal address, but the speeches of all the gentlemen were strongly in favor of the Single Tax. An attempt is being made to repeal an act which provides that the Assessors shall make up their list of ratable property of a town in three separate columns, showing land, improvements and personal estate. All Single Tax men in Rhode Island are strongly urged, by all means in their power, to prevent that repeal. The Single Tax men of Providence call on all friends to write to their Representatives in the Legislature on the matter, and to use all influences at their command to keep the law on the statute as it now stands. The bill to repeal is now in the hands of the Judiciary Committee, of which George H. Utter, of Westerly, is chairman. Write to this committee.

THE SINGLE TAX AND THE FARMER.

R. G. Brown, of Memphis, has an admirable article on "How the Single Tax Would Affect the Farmer" in a recent number of the St. Louis Journal of Agriculture. Explaining the difference between land and land value and the value of improvements, Mr. Brown shows how taxing land values alone would relieve the farmer from the burdens that now oppress him. To the supposed question of the farmer as to whether the Single Tax would not destroy the value of his farm, Mr. Brown says it would destroy the land value but would not affect the improvement value nor the usefulness of the farm. He takes the following case to illustrate this point:

John Smith owns a farm of 60 acres, which, under the present system of taxation he can sell for \$40 per acre. Adjoining this farm is a plot of woodland equally fertile as Smith's farm, owned by Old Money-bags, the speculator, who paid \$1.50 for it some 20 years ago, and who now holds it for \$15 an acre, owing to the fact that Smith, Jones and Robinson have cleared the land around his woods, made roads, built a school house, put up a church, and in short, "made the wilderness blossom like the rose." Is it not as clear as that two and two make four, that the difference in value between Smith's 60 acre farm and old Money-bags' 60 acre woodland is the value of Smith's improvements? Is it not evident that \$900 of Smith's farm is land value, and \$1,500 is improvement value?

Where Smith lives money is worth 6 per cent., and if the tax rate there were 6 per cent. every year, the land value of his farm would be wiped out, since no one would give him anything for a \$900 land value upon which the purchaser would have to pay \$54 taxes every year. Smith's farm would, therefore, sell for only \$1,500. But is he hurt by this? Not at all! Old Money-bags' sixty acres of woodland would be taxed \$54 every year, and as it would be bringing in nothing, the owner would let it be sold for taxes, and Smith could get it for a nominal sum and on undertaking to pay the taxes in the future. Then he could spend his \$1,500 in improving it and would

be in exactly the same condition as he was before he sold his old farm.

He shows how a personal property tax bears heavier on the farmers than on any other class of the community. He says:

In my county (Shelby County, Tenn.), although we have \$1,000 worth of personal property exempt by law, which entirely covers the amount of personal property owned by the average small farmer, the personalty in the country amounts to 27 per cent. of the total valuation, while in the city, Memphis, which is the distributing point for a territory of a one-hundred mile radius, the personalty is only 16 per cent. of the valuation.

Mr. Brown estimates that a general farmer has on the average about \$1,000 of personalty and \$1,500 of improvements for \$900 of land value. He then shows how a 6 per cent. tax on this \$900 of land value, or \$54 a year, would be far less than the taxes he now pays, which, including the enhanced prices of goods occasioned by the tariff, would be at the lowest possible extent at least \$70 a year. He points out how the cities, New York for instance, where land has sold for \$300 a square foot, or \$13,000,000 an acre, would pay the bulk of taxation under the Single Tax. The benefit of exempting improvements in stimulating industry, and the evil of indirect taxation, taxes on goods, on production, on houses, tariff duties, which increase prices, stop consumption and lessen the demand for the farmers' products, are clearly shown. Mr. Brown asks the readers of the Agriculturist to look into this question, and as secretary of the Memphis Single Tax Association he offers to supply literature to anyone who asks for it.

THE PEOPLE'S MUNICIPAL LEAGUE REORGANIZED.

The People's Municipal League is getting into shape for the next campaign. At a meeting of its executive committee, held at the Coleman House last week, officers for the League were elected as follows: President of the League, Wheeler H. Peckham; vice-presidents, Carl Schurz, Charles S. Fairchild, Henry A. Oakley and Dorman B. Eaton; secretary, John G. Agar; treasurer, Gustav H. Schwab; chairman of the general committee, George L. Rives; executive committee, F. H. Betts, W. S. Opdyke, S. H. Ordway, Dr. R. H. Derby, Julien T. Davies, A. J. Steers, C. C. Marshall, the Rev. R. Heber Newton, J. W. Hayes, J. J. Chapman, Horace E. Deming, R. F. Cutting, P. Knauth, R. W. G. Welling and W. C. Le Gendre. Messrs. L. L. Delafield, H. E. Deming and S. H. Ordway were appointed a sub-committee on district organization. They will arrange for a regular organization in every Assembly district.

THE LAND QUESTION AS PRESENTED HALF A CENTURY AGO.

The following extract is from Professor J. R. Buchanan's Essay on Land Nationalization, printed in 1847 in the Cincinnati Herald of Truth, and now being reprinted in the Arena.

The race of men is morally and socially, as well as physically, diseased. If we believe in the recovery and future health of the patient, that is no reason why we should be insensible to his corroding ulcers, and fearful chronic derangements of his vital organs. We do believe in the *vis medicatrix nature* of humanity; for we believe that in the most interior life there is health. Regeneration has commenced in the interior of the soul. The spirit of America and Europe is undergoing regeneration, and will regenerate the grosser body of society. In the mind of the Caucasian race, there is a soul-centre, in which truth, purity, and genuine life exist. From this centre the mentality of the race is regenerating, and, as it regenerates, the body is regenerated by its diffusive power. The putrescent accumulations, caused by the moral poison and malaria of past ages, will be excreted from the body of society, and a beautiful rejuvenated humanity shall rise before us.

Of all the acrid poisons that shall be thus expelled from the constitution, the most potent, permanent, metallic poison, is the land law. This law, disguise it as we may, is a relic of despotism: it perpetuates an ingenious system of serfdom, not less pernicious than the vileness of the feudal ages. If human ingenuity can devise any plan by which the present land system can be made compatible with the principles of democracy, by which it can be made to result in anything else than the establishment of corrupt arrogant wealth on the one hand and pauper-like degradation on the other, we may acknowledge that it is not inevitably a social poison: but until that has been done, we shall assume that it is a terrific poison, and that the great duty of the political physician is to eliminate it entirely from the social system? How, then, shall we accomplish the abolition of the land system? Let it be abolished by justice—not merely by simple destruction, but by the substitution of the right for the wrong; by constructive, and not by destructive philanthropy. Is it impossible to be just? Is it impossible to base our institutions upon the principles of abstract right? Is obedience to justice beneficial or injurious to a nation?

Believing that duty and happiness are associated, that not only individuals, but nations, are capable of attaining their highest destiny only in obedience to the laws of justice and true religion, we have no disposition to shrink, or even hesitate in the pursuit of our national duty. The national duty is the abolition of a pernicious land system, and the creation, in its stead, of a system compatible with justice and philanthropy.

Justice affirms that all men are born free, and equally entitled to the favors which heaven has extended to man; that all men are joint tenants of the globe, with but one landlord, "who is in heaven," to whom we owe, at least, as heavy a rental as ever a terrestrial landlord has exacted. We owe to Him the rental, not only of the soil, but of the running water, the sunshine and the breeze, and of the mortal frames in which we are now dwelling.

To Him are we bound to consecrate all the usufruct of the earth, beyond the necessities of a proper existence. We are bound to see that the fulness of the earth's productions shall not be diverted from the service of their legitimate proprietor, to be employed in supporting the selfishness, the profligate waste, the idle luxury and the arrogant pomp which constitute a large part of the machinery of death in civilized society. Just in proportion as we permit this diversion, are we guilty, whether we divert these means of good to our own selfish aims, or tolerate their appropriation, by others, for unholy purposes. The means for human happiness and regeneration—the means of rendering earth a paradise—have been given to man in ample abundance. The fertile earth returns, for his toil, twice the amount that is necessary for his subsistence. Let him not, then, complain of his destiny. Ample has he been furnished with the means of elevation to the highest sphere of felicity in which material life can flourish. The means are in his hands; it needs but his will to use them.

But ah, how vainly has this benevolence been lavished upon us! How blind have we been to our own interests! Inspired by the spirit of evil, we have constructed a system of society and law ingeniously contrived to violate forever each duty that we owe to God and man. We have contrived that the vast surplus of wealth beyond the support of the human race, shall be employed, not for the benefit of the race, not for the fulfilment of any duty, not even for the alleviation of the want and suffering which our shocking injustice allows to exist; but shall go to add to the mass of evil; shall go to build up distinctions and wide separations in society; shall go to foster idleness, selfishness, avarice, sensuality, profligacy, vanity, arrogance and despotism. How long, oh fellow-countrymen, shall this be permitted? How long, fellow-laborers, will you bow down a willing neck to this galling yoke which civilized society has provided for you and your posterity forever? How long shall we surrender an unquestionable right which we have both the right to assert and the might to maintain, and submit to be repaid by the scorn of the opulent and the neglect of our rulers? How long shall we continue to yield our birthright for the miserable mess of pottage which civilization has given us? How long shall we surrender silently our great estate, and see our children kept down for ever, for want of the opportunities and education to which we and they are entitled? How long shall the honest and good poor man sit down in threadbare garments to a scanty meal and teach his children to reverence the institutions of society, which have provided for the sons of poverty a very rugged path, and which have secured their unalterable degradation, by a combination of physical toil and artificial ignorance, which render hopeless their attempts to rise?

Let us arouse, Americans! The great Republic has not yet fulfilled her mission, or thrown off all the chains of despotism. The heaviest manacles yet remain. Let us assert our rights, put away the cup of bitterness which has been prepared for us and claim the destiny which justice awards us. Let us demand justice—justice to all men, to each individual, to ourselves, to the future! Let us call for the birthright of humanity! But in what form shall we demand it? The highest practical wisdom and purest philanthropy will be required to overcome the difficulties presented by this question.

This question is surrounded by a thousand difficulties. Avarice, prejudice, passion and self-interest stand in the way of every possible adjustment. No matter what the solution, there must be a host of evil passions roused. No matter what the arrangement we propose for the restoration of human rights, there must be, of necessity, a mighty power of wealth, of social and numerical influence arrayed against it. No matter what the motive of the change, we may expect that the whole force of the present moral machinery of society will be at first arrayed against it. But "we, the people," have the power not only to execute our will, but to raise up the proper organs for its expression. We approach this great question with an earnest desire for the adoption of some practicable scheme by which the principle may find a worthy embodiment. We entreat all who agree with us as to the inherent right of man to the soil, to give their earnest and impartial thought to the practicability and probable results of the principle, when rightly embodied. Were the earth an untenanted wilderness, or were we discussing this question simply in reference to the unappropriated national domain of the United States, its decision would be much more simple. But we aim at no limited scheme of social regeneration. Justice to all humanity is our aim; and in this country we demand a regeneration of the land system, alike in reference to the occupied and unoccupied territory.

THEY WANT A PIECE OF THAT PIE.

Local Assembly 1,562 K. of L. of Brooklyn, better known as the Advance Labor Club or "Neversleeps," wants the Government to do for its members what is done for the protected manufacturers and silver mine owners. The "local" has forwarded a petition to Senator Hiscock, to be presented in the United States Senate and to Congressman Clancy, to be presented to the House, which demands that the Government purchase enough of the products of the members of the club for a year's supply. For instance, it might purchase enough standard shoes for a year, and issue corresponding certificates, to be honored in gold, silver, greenbacks or shoes, unless an emergency arises to make this impracticable, in which case they will be payable in shoes only. This, the petitioners say, would exactly correspond to the silver laws now in operation, excepting that the investment would be much less in proportion than that made in silver, and that the industry thus to be supported is vastly more useful than silver mining. The same plan, the petition urges, might be adopted for tailors, hatters and builders. Standard machinery for various trades, standard books for various purposes and innumerable other articles might be thus purchased and stored in houses built to foster the building trades. The Government, according to the petition, might establish warehouses, and advance 80 per cent. of the

values of their products, as suggested by the farmers in respect of potatoes, pork and beans, or other of their products. Instead of the two ways above mentioned, the Government might grant a direct subsidy of 25 per cent. on the value of each day's work, being duly certified by the presiding officers of their respective organizations. The Assembly comprises hatters, tailors, shoemakers, carpenters, coopers, machinists, engineers, journalists and printers.

The New York World thinks this a Utopian scheme. Why? The Government assists the silver mine owners by buying \$4,500,000 worth of the silver bullion every month, and it gives the sugar manufacturers a bounty to assist them; and it puts a tariff on other things in order that manufacturers may not have competitors from other countries, thus keeping up the price of their goods. All the Advance Club asks is that the Government do for the people who make things, what is now being done by it for the people who sell things. If there is any Utopia in this country to-day, the manufacturers and silver men have pre-empted the whole of it, to the exclusion of the producers; and that is what the Advance Club objects to—hence the petition.

A NORTH DAKOTA PAPER.

The Tax Reform Club of North Dakota has issued the first number of a paper called the Tax Reform Advocate, of which already 10,000 copies have been sold and distributed. Devoted to showing the monstrous injustice of our present system of raising Federal revenues, which taxes "shivering backs and hungry stomachs," restricts industry, and robs the many to enrich the few, it is a paper that will do much to show the farmers where the real cause of their impoverished condition lies. "Some just and simple form of direct taxation must, sooner or later, take the place of our present tariff system," it says. Some idea of what the club means by tax reform may be gathered from the fact that it is pushing the sale of the cheap edition of "Protection or Free Trade?" The paper is published at Fargo, the capital of North Dakota, and the subscription price is fifty cents a year. Several original contributions that appear in this first number are exceptionally good, especially those by Single Tax men Walter Muir, of Hunter, N. D., and Edw. J. Hodgeson, of St. Paul. The club is not a Single Tax organization, but has some active Single Tax men in it, notably the secretary, S. W. Bradford, of Ayr. The Single Taxers in that region will do good work in helping to push the circulation of this paper.

WHEN BLAINE WINKS THE OTHER EYE.

Say Blaine, whatever do you mean

When you wink the other eye?

Say don't you think we're awful green

When you wink the other eye?

You talked about the tariff, and you told us it would bring
Health and wealth and happiness, we thought it quite the thing.
But when you got us on the string,

Then you winked the other eye.

Say, Blaine, whatever can it be,

When you wink the other eye?

You gave us reciprocity.

Then you winked the other eye.

We took our little ballots, and how gayly did they speed!

Oh, what becomes of Ingalls, Quay, and little Tommy Reed?

Oh, Jeems, we're on to you, indeed,

When you wink the other eye.

ILLINOIS AND THE TARIFF ISSUE.

Chicago Herald.

The New York STANDARD has prepared a table showing its conjecture in regard to the electoral votes of the several States in 1892 upon the assumption, first, that the silver question is made the principal issue, and second, that the tariff question is kept to the front. According to its conjecture, the Republicans would win by 44 majority with silver as the issue, while the Democrats would win by 156 majority with the tariff as the issue.

THE STANDARD thinks that Connecticut, Indiana, Iowa, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island and Wisconsin would go with the Republicans on the silver issue, but with the Democrats on the tariff issue. On the other hand, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota and Wyoming, THE STANDARD classes as Democratic on the silver issue, and Republican on the tariff issue.

The New York Times regards this as a conservative estimate, and perhaps it is. But the Herald is inclined to think there is no more reason to suppose that Iowa and Minnesota are Republican on the silver issue, but Democratic on the tariff issue, than there is to suppose that Illinois is in the same category. And yet, THE STANDARD gives Illinois to the Republicans on either issue. The result of the election last November hardly supports this estimate. There is little reason to doubt that the Republicans would carry the State on the silver issue, but the Democrats certainly have a good fighting chance on the tariff issue. But, upon the most conservative estimate, it appears that it is not "good politics" for the Democrats to go into the contest on the silver issue.

NOTICE TO MR. DANA.

Boston Globe.

Mr. Cleveland may or may not be the next Democratic nominee. No declared enemy of his, however, will get the nomination.

SINGLE TAX NEWS.

SINGLE TAX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE,
42 UNIVERSITY PLACE, New York, March 10, 1891.

The National Committee is circulating a petition asking the United States House of Representatives to appoint a special committee to make inquiry into and report upon the expediency of raising all public revenues by a Single Tax upon the value of land, irrespective of improvements, to the exclusion of all other taxes, whether in the form of tariffs upon imports, taxes upon internal productions, or otherwise. It will send blank petitions on application to any address, and Single Tax men are urged to obtain petitions and solicit signatures as a most convenient and effective way of starting the discussion of our principles.

It has also taken up the newspaper work of the Memphis committee, and is now engaged in circularizing newspapers in every State, calling their attention to the wide-spread interest now shown in the subject of the Single Tax, and urging that they call on the press companies supplying their ready prints and plates for Single Tax matter.

ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND FORTY-SIX signatures to date; six hundred and forty-four since our last report! This is well, but not well enough. Draw on us for petition blanks, and make the returns at least fifteen hundred for the next week!

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

J. J. Ryan, Sharon, Conn.....	\$3 00
A. J. Bostwick, Sharon, Conn.....	3 00
Chas. Merriam, Meriden, Conn.....	3 00
Ed. Callahan, Meriden, Conn.....	3 00
E. Chaffee, Meriden, Conn.....	3 00
Wm. Parks, Meriden, Conn.....	3 00
James Cowing, Meriden, Conn.....	3 00
B. Post, Meriden, Conn.....	3 00
C. E. Skidgell, Meriden, Conn.....	3 00
W. S. Brewer, Meriden, Conn.....	3 00
	\$30 00

Subscriptions previously acknowledged..... 1,551 20

Total..... \$1,581 20

Cash contributions for same period are as follows:

Ignatius Ferlin, Virginia P. O., Cal.....	\$1 00
Chas. Fischer, New York City.....	25
Thos. H. McGeoch, New York City.....	20
"W. M." (additional), New York City.....	5 00
"Uncle Tom," Bryn Mawr, Pa.....	10
W. B. Scott, New York City.....	5 00
P. J. McLean, Gem, Idaho.....	1 00
	\$12 55

Contributions previously acknowledged..... 1,446 29

Total..... \$1,458 84

The enrollment now stands as follows:

Reported last week.....	100,302
Signatures received since last report.....	644
Total.....	100,946

For news budget, see roll of States.

GEO. ST. JOHN LEAVENS, Secretary.

TO NEW YORK STATE SINGLE TAXERS.

The chairman of the Agitation Committee of the Manhattan Single Tax Club has been overwhelmed with inquiries about the confidential circular letter which the committee has sent out. It is impossible for him to reply to them individually, and he therefore hopes this published explanation will be acceptable. The main difficulty appears as to what is implied by the phrase "home rule" or "local option in taxation." The system of taxation at present embraces the whole State. No county, no matter how unanimous its demand, could exempt improvements or personal property from taxation. The purpose of the present agitation is to give the State representatives to understand that such option is desired by the counties; otherwise they would not pay the slightest attention to the bill when it was introduced, because no one was interested enough about the measure to make his opinion manifest. The subjoined is a draft of the act which we aim to have enacted. A careful perusal will make further explanation unnecessary: An Act to regulate assessments and to permit counties to collect taxes from different classes of property.

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. It shall be the duty of all assessors and officers performing the duties of assessors, in assessing real property of any kind, to assess the value of land separately from all improvements thereon, and to state, in separate columns, the assessed value of the land and of the improvements.

Section 2. The Board of Supervisors in each county may, in its discretion, levy all taxes upon and in proportion to the assessed value of land alone, exclusive of improvements and of personal property, or upon the assessed value of both land and improvements exclusive of personal property, or upon the assessed value of personal property alone, or upon the assessed value of land, improvements and personal property together, as at present.

Section 3. Nothing in this act contained shall be construed as diminishing the proportion of the State tax, which any county might be required to pay into the State treasury, under existing laws; but the State tax shall be apportioned among the counties in the manner and proportions now provided by law.

Section 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

This is the most important work the Single Tax men of this State can at present direct their attention and energies to. While it is not the Single Tax, it is a necessary reform in methods of taxation, which must precede the adoption of the Single Tax. It will interest many who are now opposed to us and who believe the Single Tax is a scheme of confiscation. It will teach them that the only practical and rational tax reformers are the Single Taxers, and give us a sympathetic hearing for our advanced methods. We can confidently expect that when each county has the responsibility of levying its own taxes, in its own way, that it will not be slow in discovering which tax is most expedient.

Farmers in this State imagine they can lighten their burden by piling

taxes on all tangible wealth and on the shadows of dollars. As long as they hold such ridiculous notions they must blindly stumble along, injuring the cities, and more directly themselves. If each county was privileged to determine for itself how it would levy its taxes, the Governor and those who believe with him, could experiment in Chemung County with their crude plan of taxing collar buttons until none remained, after which they could immortalize themselves by offering a bounty for the sight of one. The large and influential trade organizations in the State are much exercised about the Linson bill, which proposes to make each individual itemize his wealth for purposes of taxation, and to swear to its accuracy. They will, without doubt, join with us in this home rule agitation. We beg of each and every Single Taxer to write to his representatives and newspapers until this question becomes as paramount an issue as was ballot reform.

The chairman of the committee would esteem it a favor if all matter appearing in the newspapers, whether letters or editorials, on this subject, be sent to him. Fraternally,

BENJAMIN DOBLIN, Chairman Agitation Committee, Manhattan Single Tax Club.

The bill mentioned above was introduced in the Assembly, Monday, by Meyer Stein, of the Twentieth District of this city.

NOTICE.

Attention of Single Taxers is called to a circular dated February 23, and signed by William Lloyd Garrison and others, requesting answers to certain questions, to be sent to Miss S. M. Gay, West New Brighton, Staten Island, N. Y. It was mailed to the secretaries of all clubs on the new and old lists published in THE STANDARD. Ninety-four of those on the old list have failed to join the League. Will the secretaries of such, who have changed their addresses since September 10, 1890, without notifying THE STANDARD, please call at the post-office for their circulars. It is earnestly requested that all clubs holding meetings will take action on the circular, and hold discussions, formal or informal, on the lines suggested in it, and send full reports thereof to Miss S. M. Gay.

STILL AT WORK IN SOUTH DAKOTA.

CANTON, S. D., February 28.—I spent most of the time from Monday morning until Wednesday noon in writing—giving the letter writing corps a lift. Wednesday afternoon, February 25, I took the train to Canton and then walked out two and a half miles to Jere Gehon's, who helped me map out my appointments for Lincoln County. Although sixty-seven years old, he is an active reformer, lecturer of the County Alliance. He was a Democrat until last year, but is now a staunch Independent. He is a Free Trade greenbacker.

Thursday, I returned to town and sent notices out for two week's appointments, and met a few leading Alliance men. I returned at night to Mr. Gehon's, and hearing of an Alliance meeting three miles west, went to the next neighbor's to get a ride over, but the roads being icy and it being a little late, he would not go.

Friday, the 27th, I tried the business men with my petition and got into quite a number of lively discussions. Of enclosed signers No. 1 and No. 2 are ex-editors and much inclined to the Single Tax. No. 3, is editor of the Farmers' Leader and also inclined to it. No. 4, is a Protectionist who ordered "Protection or Free Trade." No. 5, is a Protectionist who thinks the Mosaic land laws the best ever devised, and that land should not be bought and sold. After giving him some straight Free Trade arguments, he signed. No. 6, is a school teacher and she is much interested in the movement. No. 7, says he has preached what is now called the George doctrine ever since he was a boy. No. 8, is a lawyer who says he has been a Single Taxer for several years, but does not have time to agitate it any.

Saturday afternoon I spoke in the Court House in Canton to quite a bunch of farmers and a few citizens. There were so many other attractions, auction sales, caucuses, board meetings, etc., that the crowd was much smaller than it would otherwise have been. Enclosed find thirty-one names.

W. E. BROKAW.

SINGLE TAX LETTER WRITERS.

We are asked to write Rev. William Robertson, care of Commoner and Glassworker, Alleghany, Pa. He is described as groping in the dark for matches. Shall we lead him to the light? Uncle Tom, of Bryn Mawr, writes that Thomas B. Jones and Joseph H. Childs, Sr., both of Wayne, Pa., were recently elected assistant assessors. He wants them fairly flooded with letters, in the hope that we may save them from the sin of perjury and prevent them from violating their oaths of office. Additional assessors are in Detroit, Michigan: Chas. M. Garrison, 604 Second avenue; Jeremiah D. Long, 377 Fifth street; John I. Perrin, 698 Croghan street; and in Boston, Mass: Thos. Hills, City Hall; Joshua S. Dunclee, 59 Chestnut Hill; John J. Murphy, 136 Hudson street; John Pierce, 25 Glendale, Dorchester, and Frank A. Drew, 5½ Beacon.

Letter writers are requested to enclose Tract Extra No. 36 in their regular correspondence, so far as possible. These tracts will be furnished free for distribution in this or any other way.

42 University place, New York.

W. J. ATKINSON.

NEW YORK CITY.

Mr. Post presided at the regular meeting of the Manhattan Single Tax Club last Thursday evening. There was a large attendance, drawn together by the fact that the club was to consider an amendment to the constitution that would make Single Tax women eligible to membership. When that particular paragraph was read it seemed as if it were going through in a perfunctory way, but one member, after some hesitation, arose and said he felt that he was in a hopeless minority, but yet he had views in opposition to the amendment which he felt he ought to present. He presented them, and the result was one of the most interesting meetings ever held by the club. The whole question was gone into thoroughly, with the result that when motion was made to "approve of its form," it was adopted without a dissenting voice. At the next monthly the amendment will come on its final passage, and will be adopted.

There was some discussion over the amendment to create a fifth class of members—associates—but it was adopted. Mr. Doblin, chairman of the Agitation Committee said the lecture by Julien T. Davies had been printed in pamphlet form, and copies of it would be soon mailed where they would do the most good. He said, also, that the single tax clubs and workers of the whole State had been addressed by the committee in regard to a bill shortly to be offered, to assess land and improvements separately. Those addressed had been asked to write themselves and get all their friends to write to the members of the Legislature in favor of the passage of the bill. The work of the club has necessitated a considerable expenditure of money lately, rather exceeding its receipts, and the financial committee called for assistance, which was generously responded to.

Sunday evening Mr. Louis F. Post delivered a most interesting lecture on Kansas, from which State he returned only last week. The first part of his lecture was historical and the second political. He said that just now the free silver coinage question was at the front, and would remain there unless the Democratic party boldly took the bull by the horns and made a campaign in that State in favor of absolute Free Trade. The Kansans did not care to bother with a mere question of tariff reduction.

After THE STANDARD went to press last week a letter was received by Mr. Doblin in answer to the one he sent to the American Protective Tariff League, inviting it to send a speaker to a meeting of the Manhattan Single Tax Club. The League has accepted the invitation, and next Sunday evening has been fixed upon as the date for the lecture.

The usual lecture will be given next Sunday evening.

BROOKLYN.

G. W. Thompson.—The regular monthly business meeting of the Brooklyn Single Tax Club was held Monday evening, March 2, and after transacting routine business passed the following resolutions:

Whereas, The Brooklyn Single Tax Club holds, first, that all public franchises are the property of the whole community; second, that, as such, the community should never part with them in perpetuity because of their surety to increase in value and because their holders are thereby granted special privileges; third, that when individuals or private corporations become in possession of these franchises their possession should be conditioned upon the payment to the community of an adequate rental and the rendering of a satisfactory service; therefore and

Whereas, the Board of Aldermen of the city of Brooklyn at a recent meeting gave to the Union Elevated Railroad Company a valuable franchise without compensation to the city, said franchise consisting in the exclusive right to extend their road in the Eighth Ward, against the earnest protest of Alderman Leech, of the Seventh Ward; and,

Whereas, we believe that said grant to said railroad should not have been given without due compensation to the city; therefore be it

Resolved, that we unqualifiedly condemn the action of said Board of Aldermen, both as a matter of principle and from a business point of view, and we heartily commend Alderman Leech for his able and conscientious defence of the people's property and rights, and urge upon him a continuance of the good work he has undertaken in behalf of the community in securing to the people the value of all public franchises.

On Wednesday evening last O. F. Burton spoke on the "Money Question," arguing for greenbacks. To-night Henry Nichols will speak on "The Evils of Trusts."

George R. Gage, Eastern District.—The Eastern District Single Tax Club held the first of a series of monthly meetings, in Eureka Hall, on Tuesday evening, 3d instant. Mr. Croasdale delivered a very able address upon "The Single Tax and Free Trade." His arguments, clearly demonstrating the impossibility of separating one from the other, were thoroughly appreciated by an audience much larger in numbers than was anticipated, considering the inclemency of the weather. Vocal and instrumental music by Miss Lillian Headifen, baritone solo by Mr. Fred Deverall and duets by Mr. Hatcher and his little daughter were encored. A feature of the advertising plan of this club is the distribution of handbills with the "Single Tax Platform" printed on the back, which are very effective. In addition to those furnished by the club, 5,000 were printed at the personal expense of Mr. Horatio Camps, one of our most enthusiastic members, who also spent several afternoons distributing them, with a request to the recipients to take them home and read the platform. The next public meeting will be on Tuesday, April 7.

NEW YORK STATE.

S. T., Ithaca.—C. C. Platt, the Democratic candidate defeated last week for Mayor of this city, is a successful young business man and a sturdy Jeffersonian Democrat, who knows how to accept defeat, and who can afford to await that recognition almost certain to come to those who persistently and discreetly continue to advocate measures for the welfare of the masses. The conditions of his nomination were somewhat discouraging. A People's Municipal League ticket had been put in the field, which proved to be very satisfactory to the Republicans, and which received their hearty endorsement, but which appeared to many of the good Democrats to be "cut bias," and to contain about the usual number of unhatched political promises; hence they concluded to make up a straight Democratic ticket, and asked Mr. Platt, who had done good work for Tariff Reform in Tompkins County during the last Congressional campaign, to head the ticket. Whether wisely or unwisely, Mr. Platt felt justified in accepting the nomination. Besides being an ardent Tariff Reformer and Free Trader, Mr. Platt is a thorough Single Taxer, and was president of the United Labor Club at Ithaca in 1888. He is a business man who takes time to study economic and social problems, and to work for the uplifting of mankind.

T. G. Drake, Long Island City.—Fifty-four petitions, gathered by the members of our club. The Long Island Star reported our last monthly meeting nearly in full.

William Mcnehan, Owego.—Thirty-eight petitions. At the last meeting of our club we collected \$3 for the National Committee to help carry on the good work. Will send you more in the near future. We have received quite a number of subscriptions for "Protection or Free Trade?" Mr. Joseph Guinani, one of our most enthusiastic workers, has ordered 100 copies, and I have no doubt but we can duplicate the order in a short time. The scheme is a good one, and the book should be read by every voter, especially by every workingman. But there are lots of thick heads around

here, that wouldn't read anything more than an almanac, unless they were paid for it.

MASSACHUSETTS.

S. T., Boston.—Notwithstanding the severe snow storm, a good sized audience, several ladies being present, attended the discussion of the Single Tax, between Edwin M. White, chairman of the Boston Single Tax Club, and Thomas Hills, chairman of the Boston Board of Assessors, in Barnard Memorial Hall, last Wednesday evening. Mr. White commenced the discussion and Mr. Hills followed, after which short talks were indulged in by many of those present.

John Lavis, Dorchester.—At our last meeting it was voted to hold public meetings once a week for the spring; and the committee on a reception to James A. Herne reported arrangements all made, awaiting the pleasure of Mr. Herne, who is to write to the committee when his open dates will permit. We are in hopes of doing some active work this spring. We Single Tax men have done our share in making this Republican ward of Boston elect a Democratic alderman, and one, too, who knows something of the present unjust system of taxation; and this year he is chairman of the board.

Edward E. Collum, Haverhill.—We have formed a single tax club here, and elected the following: President, George W. Pettengill; recording secretaries, H. E. and E. E. Collum. The membership of the club is small, but we hope to increase it. There are plenty of people in Haverhill, who are more or less in sympathy with the question of "single tax," or "free land," but cannot be persuaded to come out and openly espouse the cause. We expect they will in time.

PENNSYLVANIA.

"Uncle Tom," Bryn Mawr.—At last! at last! at last! the 100,000 mark is reached. To commemorate the event find enclosed ten cents—all I have—one cent for each 10,000. Your suggestion that each of our workers "procure one signature a week for the thirty-eight weeks between now and December 1," is not a good one, because some of the lazybones who call themselves "workers" will think that by sending in thirty-eight signatures, either at once or one a week, their duty is done. Let each worker send in all the signatures he possibly can get and be quick about it too. Supposing the number of workers to be 2,000, if every one sends in three signatures a week we can easily have 228,000 more signers by December 1, or 328,202 in all. Let us make it at least 350,000 while we are at it.

LOUISIANA.

William Mitchell, Lake Charles.—I have not been quite idle since I came here last Christmas from my home in Saginaw. I have stated discussions on the Single Tax in the Lake Charles Echo and the Daily Times, of Rapideau Parish. The prevailing idea here seems to be that to get this State settled it is only necessary to give all the land to syndicates. I shall try to correct that error.

TEXAS.

J. L. Caldwell, Amarillo.—I have recently changed my local habitation from Mart to this place. I am in the heart of what is known as the Pan-handle of the State. Most people here come to take up school sections of land. They are sold to bona fide settlers at \$2 per acre on forty years time, with five per cent. interest. These are alternate sections, other sections are held by private individuals, who have bought certificates and located upon them—not themselves, but located their certificates—most of them owned by syndicates, many of them Scotch and English, and all by non-residents. This is going to afford the finest field for the Single Tax in America. You see the bona fide settlers are on alternate sections and they will all be taken in another twelve month. That throws them two miles apart, and of necessity the country for some time will be sparsely settled, and those few will want taxes. They can plainly see that they give as much value to the adjoining land as they do to their own. Now, don't you suppose they will soon see the justice of taxing all alike? They will, and oh, won't they make the non-resident syndicates squirm. The "bona fiders" will have the additional reason for taxing them heavily; that of hurrying the land into the market at a cheap price. I find no trouble in making converts; but would like to have a few of our original Single Taxers help. Cannot a few of THE STANDARD readers see it to their interest to come and "take up a section?"

J. B. Wallace, Sanger Station.—Forty-seven petitions. Have been ably assisted by Mr. W. E. Partlow, our leading merchant here, and Mr. J. W. Butler, of Hawkeye, who is one of the most intelligent residents of this county of Denton. At least one half of the signers are members of the Farmers' Alliance, and I am convinced that one of the lines of least resistance is through this body. I am sure our principles are steadily honey-combing the land.

OHIO.

William A. Cronenberger, Cleveland.—Three petitions. I got them signed during a noon-hour discussion.

ILLINOIS.

Warren Worth Bailey, Chicago.—It has been fully determined that we will celebrate Jefferson's birthday, April 2, and invitations will be sent out in a few days to distinguished Jeffersonians throughout the country. We expect to have a very successful meeting. Our petition for a special committee to investigate the expediency of abolishing the taxes on the products of labor and the substitution of the Single Tax on land values has been presented in the Legislature by Representative John T. Norsworthy, of Coomi, and its consideration has been made a special order for Tuesday, March 17, when a delegation from our club, including John Z. White, F. W. Irwin and probably Mr. Kellogg, Mr. Darlington and Mr. Taylor will go down to Springfield to urge our cause. I am encouraged to believe that we will get the committee. At our meeting last night the semi-annual election was held, the following officers being chosen: President, Warren Worth Bailey; vice-presidents, Miss Leonora Beck, Joseph T. Ripley and John Z. White;

secretary-treasurer, Frank W. Irwin. The Australian method of voting was used. Edward F. Sweet, a prominent real estate man, was the speaker of the evening. He entitled his address "The Fallacies of Progress and Poverty," but if the gentleman pointed out any fallacy I failed to see it. On the contrary, he seemed to accept every material doctrine of the book, sticking only on some minor points, such as that Mr. George exaggerates the amount of rent, and the part it plays in absorbing the results of labor. In replying to him, Mr. Edward Osgood Brown said Mr. Sweet was almost a good enough Single Tax man for membership in the club, and the sentiment was applauded. Mr. Sweet's speech was fair, honest and candid; and his sole difficulty seemed to be that he had tripped himself upon certain points that really have very little to do with the main principles of the Single Tax. He was given a very hearty vote of thanks at the close of the meeting.

E. F. Fellows, of Indianapolis, one of the Indiana delegates to the conference, visited us last night. He has been traveling extensively, and he tells me that everywhere the progress of the movement is encouraging. Mr. Fellows is an exhorter, and from what I can hear he knows how to stir up the brethren in the amen corner while arousing the scornful in the back seats. Mr. John Z. White has been invited to address the Young Men's Library Association next Thursday evening. On April 7 Mr. Edward Osgood Brown will address the Iroquois Club, the most influential Democratic organization in the West. Both will speak on the Single Tax by request.

Announcements.—March 12, Miss Leonora Beck, "A Single Tax Woman;" March 19, the Equal Suffrage Association, Mrs. Ahrends making the principal speech; April 2, Jefferson's birthday celebration.

J. W. Avery, Peoria.—We have organized a club here by the election of James W. Hill as president, and myself as secretary and treasurer. Ours is the second city in the State, and so we propose to rate our standing in the Single Tax movement. Our organization was effected on short notice, but we have got splendid material for propaganda work. We have advanced and torn up the bridges behind us. There is no retreat until all tariffs and subsidies and legal robberies are squelched.

TENNESSEE.

R. G. Brown, Memphis.—Inclosed find one recruit for subscription. It is for an active, energetic business man here, with whom I had a discussion of the Tax question this afternoon, and from whom I obtained a promise to subscribe for THE STANDARD if, upon trial, he was pleased with the paper. He sees the whiskers and tail of the cat now, and I have strong hopes of showing him the entire animal in the near future. He is public spirited and pugnacious, two fine qualities for a Single Tax man, and I count on him as one of the workers in a short time. John S. Watters, formerly of New Orleans, will make his home in Memphis from now on. Mr. Watters will be a valuable man in our work, possessing, as he does, a facile pen, fluent tongue and engaging address. He is located in the Appeal Building, along with Bolton Smith and myself. Visiting Single Taxers will find us shoulder to shoulder, and the latch-string always out. E. F. Fellows, of Indianapolis, was with us about two weeks ago, and Single Tax love feasts were held nearly every night. He is on the road most of his time, and it is instructive, as well as amusing, to hear him tell of the many strange ways in which the "cat" has become the topic of conversation in hotel parlors, trains and steamboats. More power to his elbow!

MICHIGAN.

Ferdinand Amos, West Detroit.—Inclosed find petition. The question of taxation is getting a great shaking in Michigan, in the direction of the greatest burden on land values.

IOWA.

Frank S. Churchill, Burlington.—Our morning paper in reporting the proceedings of the City Council at their regular meeting, contains the following:

A resolution was introduced which will warm the hearts of the Single Tax advocates, and shows the effect of the published arguments of the local adherents of the theory. It was introduced by Alderman Mercer, and reads as follows: "Resolved, That the Assessor of the city of Burlington, Iowa, be and is hereby directed and instructed to mark his books before presented to the City Council, so as to indicate which lots have improvements and which are vacant, so that the Council, when acting as a board of equalization, may act intelligently and place upon vacant lots held for speculative purposes their share of municipal taxation." The ordinance was adopted without dissent.

Our Single Tax men feel that they have not labored in vain, and we will now do our best to drive home the wedge and aid the City Council in placing upon vacant lots "their share of municipal taxation."

MISSOURI.

Percy Pepon, St. Louis.—At our State conference, held in Jefferson City, February 25th, a State Committee was formed, and the National platform indorsed by resolution. It was a success, and all who attended were very much encouraged. The State Committee is composed of one member from each Congressional district and three members at large. The officers are: Henry H. Hoffman, 207 1/2 Pine street, St. Louis; secretary, Percy Pepon, 3507 Easton avenue, St. Louis; treasurer, Wm. W. Rose, Kansas City.

H. W. Allen, Kansas City.—Five petitions. I am very positive that a majority here would willingly sign the petition. Am confident that with opportunity for expression, Kansas City would declare for free trade and the single tax. Few from here were present at the State conference last Wednesday.

THE STANDARD relied on some one of the delegates to the Jefferson City Conference to send in a report of the proceedings. None having come, it presents the report as printed in the St. Louis Republic of March 1:

The delegates to the Single Tax Conference held at Jefferson City last Wednesday have returned, and are highly pleased with the results. A good number of delegates from Missouri districts were present, as were also quite a number of persons from other States. The Single Taxers' adherence to principle and indifference to form is evidenced by the fact that no complex, cumbersome organization was formed—simply a State committee,

consisting of a member for each Congressional district, of which Henry H. Hoffman, president of the St. Louis Single Tax League, is chairman. Percy Pepon, vice-president St. Louis League, was appointed secretary, and W. W. Rose, of Kansas City, treasurer. The committee will push the petition for a constitutional amendment, and arrange to have Single Tax speeches made in all parts of the State, and take such other steps as are best calculated to educate the people on economic questions. The conference, which, by the way, is the first since the organization of a national league, indorsed the platform adopted by that body.

The crowning event of the conference was the mass meeting held in Representative Hall in the evening. H. Martin Williams called the meeting to order and introduced as chairman of the evening Wilbur F. Tuttle, Speaker of the House, who, he said, was "neither afraid nor ashamed to be known as a Single Taxer." The first speaker, Mrs. E. A. Meriweather, made an able address, logical and clear, but full of that defiant and aggressive spirit which is characteristic of the woman. She indorsed unqualifiedly the Single Tax, pictured with clearness and force the existing condition, caustically reviewed the monarchical spirit exhibited in legislation of the past, and derided the tendency at the present time toward paternalism, etc., as out of harmony with our alleged American independence. At the close of her address, which received close attention and frequent applause, John Z. White, of Chicago, was introduced, and for nearly two hours the audience, many of whom were legislators, listened to such a speech as is (according to some of them) seldom heard even in legislative halls. Mr. White first told the audience some of the things Single Taxers do not believe in, such as "dividing up either land or property, taxing all land alike, etc." He said the Single Taxers' dislike of the present system of taxation was because it amounted to "dividing up." He demonstrated that the property right pertained to and sprang from the right to life, and that any violation of it by either government or individual was wrong. He argued that if the country belonged to the landlords they should pay the expense of managing their own property. Mr. White's points for Free Trade were met, as the newspapers say, by enthusiastic applause on the Democratic side.

COLORADO.

H. C. Niles, Denver.—Forty-one petitions. Enclosed find forty-one signatures to petitions. They are more results from Knights of Labor meeting referred to in former letter. The outlook for an order for probably 5,000 "Protection or Free Trade?" for distribution among the hide-bound Protectionists of this State is very good, and will very likely be sent in as soon as the lists are prepared. The anti-free lead "cranks" tried to hold a convention here last week, but could not get a quorum together, and adjourned to March 12. They have probably made up their minds to allow Blaine to offer them and their hobby as a sacrifice toward accomplishing Mexican reciprocity.

MINNESOTA.

C. J. Buell, Minneapolis.—Fifty-one petitions. All but one are students of the State School of Agriculture, at St. Anthony Park. The one exception is Mr. S. S. Dunn, a St. Paul business man, who lives in this city. In sending literature to these signers, you can mail it all to Torgen A. Hoderstad, who is president of the class, and who is quite interested in the Single Tax. These names were obtained Friday evening, February 27. By invitation of the class I gave an address on "The Single Tax" for about three quarters of an hour, and then answered questions for about as much longer. Most of the students seemed highly interested and put many intelligent questions. Professor Pendergast, who is principal of the school, gave an address before our League Monday evening, February 23, on "The Effect of the Single Tax on the Farmers," which we are about to have published. Will send you one, when they are out.

NORTH DAKOTA.

S. W. Bradford, Ayr, Cass County.—I called a meeting of Free Traders in Fargo, and we organized the Tax Reform Club of North Dakota, with the following as officers: President, O. J. de Leadrecie; vice-president, J. Pickton; secretary, S. W. Bradford; assistant secretary, J. MacSmith; treasurer, L. H. Haynes. We have issued 10,000 copies of a little eight-page paper, in which our ideas as to the abolition of the tariff are explained. We hope to issue it at least quarterly. I hope to meet Mr. Frosid shortly, and to talk with him as to the advisability of organizing a Single Tax organization. If we just make a good winning in '92, then will be the time to make a break for the Single Tax, after we get Free Trade in sight.

A. S. Frosid, Hatton, March 4.—A Single Tax club was organized here yesterday, which adopted the declarations of principles made by the National Conference. President, A. S. Frosid; secretary, T. E. Nelson, and treasurer, M. F. Hegge. The name of the club is Hatton Single Tax Reform Club.

SOUTH DAKOTA.

W. E. Brokaw, Hiram.—We have recently lost two active Single Taxers in South Dakota. Professor E. H. Evenson, County Superintendent of Lake County Schools, and who ran for Commissioner of School and Public Lands on the Democratic State ticket last Fall, has gone to Seattle, Wash. He intends locating on a small farm in that State. He has done very much, both by tongue and pen, to stir up the Norwegians of this State to the necessity of Free Trade and the Single Tax. Nearly everywhere I go among them they speak of him. As they have heretofore been Republicans, his work will bear good fruit. He is a tireless worker.

The other one who has left us is W. L. Johnston, who ran for Commissioner of Labor on the Independent State ticket last Fall. He was a member of the executive board of the Dakota Knights of Labor, and secretary and treasurer of the same, and for a time editor of their paper. He has gone to Monroe, Oregon. Ever since he read "Progress and Poverty," some eight or ten years ago, he has been something of an agitator on those lines.

If a few more of our active Single Tax men go to those two coast States they may be able to so leaven the lump of superstition out there as to place those States in the doubtful column in '92. But if they do they must rustle, for it seems as though "protection" has grown upon them as moss has upon their trees. We are sorry to lose such workers from this State, where "the field is white unto harvest, but the laborers are few," but we hope that they will not hide their lights under bushels in their new homes, but continue to let them shine as they did here.

WASHINGTON.

John Preston, Anacortes.—Inclosed find petitions. I am not able to do as much as I would like for the cause, as it takes about all my time hus-

ling a living, but I let no chances to talk for Single Tax go by. They have organized a club in Seattle, of which Mr. W. E. Lockard is president, and Mr. Wells, Secretary.

OKLAHOMA TERRITORY.

Isaac McCloskey, Pawnee Agency.—Four petitions. I have got at least some of these officials to thinking. One of them, Mr. Frank Record, the farmer of this place, asks for reading matter bearing on the Single Tax. I write many letters and do all I can in every way. Owing to confinement, caused by a badly cut foot, and decline of material, my number of petitions to report this time is a little shorter than common.

CANADA.

S. T., Toronto.—The Single Tax Association of this city has sent a memorial to the prison commissioners on crime and its causes, and asks them to investigate some of the facts presented in the document.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Alexander Hamilton, New Westminster.—Professor Bryce, member of the British House of Commons [of whom THE STANDARD made mention last week as having introduced a resolution in Parliament giving the public free access to all uncultivated mountain and moor land], is a first cousin of Mr. J. C. Brown, Mayor of this city, and member of the Provincial Parliament. Although Mr. Brown doesn't call himself a Single Taxer, he is nothing else, and is one of the most able and influential advocates of it in this Province. Professor Bryce visited his cousin here a few months ago, and that may be the reason why he thinks the Single Tax is taking hold in the west.

THE HAND-TO-HAND CLUB EDITION OF "PROTECTION OR FREE TRADE?"

The first twenty-five copies printed of this Hand-to-Hand Club edition have been carefully laid aside, and will be presented to those sending in the largest lists of subscribers. Number one to the highest, number two to the next, etc. These copies will contain Mr. George's autograph, and also, if desired, those of the officers of the Hand-to-Hand Club. As the house to house canvass of so many cities and towns, with the distribution of so many thousands of Free Trade tracts, promises to shake up the politics of the country as the Mayoralty campaign in '86 aroused New York, these books will be highly prized by the winners. About five thousand a day of the new edition are now being shipped to prepaid subscribers. All subscriptions, accompanied by cash, received this month will be filled, at least in part, from this first hundred thousand. We hope to get out the second hundred thousand either in April or early in May. As ten cents per copy leaves no margin for bookkeeping, we must ask that all subscriptions be accompanied by the cash. Sending the subscription at one time and cash at another, not only gives needless trouble, but gives opportunity for errors. Please remit by check so far as possible, as this makes a receipt unnecessary. Receipts will only be sent on request. Checks may be drawn either to the order of W. J. Atkinson, or of Henry George & Co.

William Gornall, Taunton, Mass.—Canvassed my shopmates to-day, with better results than I expected. Find enclosed \$4 for forty books.

H. K. Chadwick, Gardiner, Me.—Five dollars for fifty copies. The subscribers are from all classes and of all political affiliations in this hot-bed of Republicanism and pigheadedness.

L. E. Brickell, Watertown, S. D.—Cash enclosed for twenty-nine additional copies. Our club will stamp their books, "Compliments of Single Tax Club of Watertown, S. D.; when read, please pass to some friend who will read."

Arthur P. Davis, Washington, D. C.—Ten dollars enclosed for one hundred copies. Please enroll my name as a member of the Hand-to-Hand Club.

Ulrich Christian Munch, Philadelphia, Pa.—Ten dollars additional enclosed. Will soon send more money and orders.

F. W. Irwin, Secretary Chicago Single Tax Club.—Fifty dollars enclosed for five hundred copies.

P. E. Plunkett, New York.—One dollar enclosed for ten copies. It's a fine stroke for '92 and for freedom a little later.

Gus A. Menges, St. Louis, Mo.—Eight dollars additional. I think I can send orders right along in the future, in small lots at a time.

Edward Quincy Norton, Daphne, Ala.—Two dollars and fifty cents for twenty-five copies. Will be in New York in a few weeks.

O. L. Long, San Jose, Cal.—Money order within for fifteen copies. Am confident there will be a big demand here as soon as a few are introduced.

Carl Aken, Milwaukee, Wis.—Ten dollars for one hundred copies.

We will gladly send one or more copies of tract No. 36, extra, to any addresses furnished of those likely to subscribe. Will also furnish these tracts by the thousand, free of charge, to clubs or individuals wishing to make a house to house canvass of their neighborhood. The world is now easily within our reach.

42 University Place, New York.

W. J. ATKINSON, Secy.

MICHIGAN SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Additional copies of "Protection or Free Trade?" have been ordered from Michigan, and paid for, as follows: L. H. Ford, Jackson, 1; L. H. Hock, Adrian, 562; J. J. Sourwine, Escanaba, 10; F. H. Gage, Olivet, 5; H. P. Whitney, Adrian, 157; J. W. Clement, Blissfield, 5; G. A. Spaulding, Detroit, 2; F. D. Clark, Midland, 25; Wm. Rymer, Detroit, 4; B. Shous, Grand Rapids, 7; J. A. Hawley, Grand Rapids, 2; G. Schretter, Jackson, 3; Davis, Clinton, 48; A. M. Low, Detroit, 1.

PERSONAL.

Oliver T. Erickson, of Minneapolis, is wrestling with the Rev. M. D. Shutter, of the Church of the Redeemer. The reverend gentleman does not believe in the Single Tax, and said so with some asperity in an epistle in the Minneapolis Tribune. Immediately Mr. Erickson jumped for him in an epistle in answer, but more dove-like in tone, in defence of the Single Tax. Mr. Erickson has, so far, the best of the discussion, and he hopes in

the end to at least show the reverend gentleman the road he should travel if he desires the good of humanity. The Tribune takes, indirectly, a hand in the discussion. It sticks out its tongue and makes faces at Mr. Erickson, and says that while he "pretends to be a Single Taxer, tax eater would more correctly express his vocation. Not a Single Tax eater, either, but an omnivorous tax eater." Which is very sad.

* * *

A. C. Woodruff spoke before the Pomological Society of Michigan, on February 28, at South Haven, on the advantages of the Single Tax, which resulted in an animated debate.

* * *

T. V. Powderly spoke in this city last Wednesday evening at a meeting held in honor of the one hundred and thirteenth birthday of Robert Emmet.

* * *

Sir Richard Cartwright, leader of the Liberals of Ontario, Canada, in the campaign lately closed, was likened to a buzz-saw, so energetic and biting were his addresses.

* * *

Mrs. Lease, of Kansas, is a farmer and lawyer. She is described as being tall, with straight black hair, which she keeps brushed back from her high forehead. She speaks with a strong, eloquent voice, more like a man's than a woman's. Masculine in style of address, she speaks like a true orator. Her efforts as the champion talker and worker in the interests of the People's party during the last campaign in Kansas has made for her great fame. She entered political life two years ago, stumping the State for the Union Labor party. Her business as a lawyer has engaged her, when not actively working in politics, but it is probable now, owing to the great demand upon her to enter the lecture field, that she will not go back to the practice of her profession. Her husband is living, and shares the popular enthusiasm over his wife at their home at Wichita, Kan. Mrs. Lease is Irish born, and possesses a native trait to perfection, quickness of repartee, which, in connection with a natural eloquence, enables her to both entertain and convince her audiences.

* * *

A correspondent writes from Spartanburg, S. C., asking for the full name and address of our correspondent at Herndon, Va., who signs his letters to THE STANDARD "K. B." We have not the full name of our Herndon friend, and we cannot make out the name of our Spartanburg correspondent. "K. B." will confer a favor by sending his full name and address, and our Spartanburg friend will please do the same; then we will be able to put the two into communication.

AND THE TARIFF DID IT.

Evening Telegram, February 21.

The high tariff penny whistle from which Robert P. Porter was temporarily detached is addicted to printing tariff lessons which are about as trustworthy as Porter's census figures. It cultivates the comparative method by indicating results in parallel black rules. Wherever any agricultural, commercial or industrial growth of any sort can be shown, its magnitude is exhibited in the aforesaid black rules and is triumphantly attributed to the blessed Tariff. Has a crop anywhere improved, has there been a larger export of any product, has any trade obtained better wages, have additional miles of railroad been built or thousands of new houses erected—all these things are cheerfully assumed to be benefits conferred by the Tariff.

Well, the Telegram feels that it can do something in this line itself.

For instance—New York City has an area of forty-one square miles, while Chicago covers 185 square miles. Their respective areas are thus represented:



And the Tariff did it!

To John Brown, a prominent Republican of Scappawacken Centre, Pa., were born last week twin girls weighing sixteen pounds, while by a singular coincidence Nat Jones, a rabid Free Trader of the same town, became the father of a boy weighing only eight pounds. The difference in the Republican's favor may be saliently presented as follows:



And the Tariff did it!

While speaking of the Keystone State we may note that a Protectionist hen owned by Joseph Yeakel, of Zionsville, has laid an egg that measures 6 1-8 inches one way and 7 1-16 the other way. The average egg laid by a Free Trade hen in New York does not measure three by four inches. The difference in their contents, therefore, is at least fourfold, as indicated in the subjoined lines:



And the Tariff did it!

According to Mr. Porter's own census the 30,659 convicts in the State penal institutions of the country ten years ago increased to 45,233 in 1900. The growth may be caught at a glance, from the following diagram:



And the Tariff did it!

The next and last comparison is the most imposing of all. The short line shows the legitimate Republican majority in the present House of Representatives, while the long line depicts the anti-Republican majority in the coming House:



And the Tariff did it!

Now, children, run away. School is dismissed for the day.

DON'T BELIEVE THEM.

Hamilton, Ont., Times.

Don't be fool enough to believe a buyer of labor when he tells you that he wants to pay more than he is paying for labor.

Don't believe a seller of goods when he says that he wants to sell his goods for less than he has been getting. Don't believe that a highly protected manufacturer subscribes his hundreds or thousands to political campaigns with a view to paying more for labor and taking less for goods.

DEAR LAND MAKES CHEAP MEN.

Kansas Jeffersonia.

Dear land and cheap men are inseparable, for the former must inevitably produce the latter. All that land draws in rent must come from the wages of the worker, and low wages produce low men—and women too. This is why the grandest types of men and women are ever found in new and sparsely settled countries, where the landlord has no monopoly of the source of production.

SINGLE TAX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES.

LIST OF ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAVE ADOPTED THE DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES MADE BY NATIONAL CONFERENCE AT NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER 3, 1890.

(Secretaries of clubs are requested to send corrections, notices of the formation of new clubs or of requests for the enrollment of existing clubs to Geo. St. John Leavens, Secretary of the National Committee, at No. 42 University place, New York.)

ARKANSAS.

LITTLE ROCK.—Single tax club. Every alternate Thursday evening, 717 Main st. Pres., Sol. F. Clark; sec., Theo. Hartman.

CALIFORNIA.

LOS ANGELES.—Single tax club. Pres., Clarence A. Miller; sec., S. Byron Welcome, 523 Macy st.

OAKLAND.—Oakland single tax club No. 1. Meets every Friday evening at St. Andrew's Hall, at 1056½ Broadway. Pres., A. J. Gregg; sec., E. Hodkins.

SAN FRANCISCO.—California single tax society, room 9, 341 Market street. Pres., L. M. Munzer; cor. sec., Thomas Watson, 341 Market street.

COLORADO.

DENVER.—Denver single tax club. Every Thursday evening, 303 16th st. Free reading room open every day, 9 a. m. to 9 p. m. Pres., G. H. Phelps; sec., H. C. Niles, 303 16th st.

DELAWARE.

WILMINGTON.—Single tax association. Meets first and third Mondays of each month at 8 p. m. Pres., Geo. W. Kress; sec., Frank L. Beardon.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

WASHINGTON.—Chas. F. Adams' Scientific Council (No. 2) of the People's Commonwealth. First Tuesday evening of each month at 150 A st. n. w. Trustee, Chas. Newburgh, 64 DeFrees st.; sec., Dr. Wm. Geddes, 1719 G st. n. w.

GEORGIA.

ATLANTA, GA.—Atlanta single tax club No. 1. Pres., J. M. Smith; sec., J. Hensley Smith, 12 W. Alabama st.

ILLINOIS.

CHICAGO.—Chicago single tax club. Every Thursday evening, club room 4, Grand Pacific Hotel. Pres., Warren Worth Bailey, 335 Hudson av.; sec., F. W. Irwin, 217 La Salle st., room 335.

SPRINGFIELD.—Springfield single tax committee. Pres., John H. Hunsinger; sec., Chas. E. Matthews.

PEORIA.—Peoria single tax club. Meetings Monday evenings. Pres., Jas. W. Hill, 304 Madison avenue; sec., Jas. W. Avery.

QUINCY.—Gem City single tax club. Meets every Thursday evening at 7:30, room 4, second floor, n. e. cor. 5th and Hampshire sts. Pres., C. F. Perry; cor. sec. Duke Schroer, 524 York st.

INDIANA.

INDIANAPOLIS.—Single tax league. Pres., Thos. J. Hudson; sec., Chas. H. Krause. Every Sunday, 2:30 p. m., Henshaw Hall, cor. Washington and Alabama sts., room 12.

RICHMOND.—Single tax club. Pres., C. A. Schneider, 125 South 24 st.; sec., M. Riehl, 913 South A st.

IOWA.

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

KENTUCKY.

LOUISVILLE.—Progress single tax club. Open every evening, 504 West Jefferson st. Business meetings Friday. Pres., Christ. Landolf; sec., W. W. Daniel, 303 Franklin st.

LOUISIANA.

NEW ORLEANS.—Louisiana single tax club. Meets first and third Thursday night at 8 p. m. at 131 Poydras st. Pres., Jas. Middleton; sec., G. W. Roberts, 306 Thalia st.

MAINE.

AUBURN.—Auburn single tax club. Public meetings every Saturday evening, 3 River Road. Pres., A. C. Dunlap; sec., H. G. Casey, 32 Spring st.

MARYLAND.

BALTIMORE.—Single tax league of Maryland. Every Monday at 8 p. m., in hall 506 East Baltimore st.; Pres., Wm. J. Ogden, 5 North Carey st.; sec. sec., J. W. Havel, 28 S. Broadway; cor. sec., Dr. Wm. N. Hill, 1438 E. Baltimore st.

Baltimore single tax society. Every Sunday afternoon, 3 p. m., at Industrial Hall, 316 W. Lombard st. Pres., Jas. T. Kelly; sec., W. H. Kelly, 522 Columbia st.

MASSACHUSETTS.

STATE.—Massachusetts single tax league. Pres., William Lloyd Garrison; sec., E. H. Underhill, 45 Kilby st., Boston; treas., George Cox, Jr., 72 High st., Boston.

BOSTON.—Single tax league. Public meetings second and fourth Sundays of each month, at 2:30 p. m., at G. A. R. Hall, 616 Washington st. Pres., Edwin M. White; sec., Emily T. Turner, 5 Cambridge st.

DORCHESTER.—Single tax club. Meetings first Tuesday of each month at Field's building, Field's corner. Pres., Edward Frost; sec., John Adams, Field's building, Field's corner.

HAVERTHILL.—Havertill single tax league. Meets every Thursday evening, at 73 Merrimac st. Pres., Geo. W. Pettengill; cor. sec., Edward E. Collum, 4 Green st.

MALDEN.—Single tax club. Pres., Geo. W. Cox; sec., Edwin T. Clark, 100 Tremont st.

NEPONSET.—Single tax league. Sec., Q. A. Lothrop, Wood at court, Neponset.

NEWBURYPORT.—Merrimac single tax assembly. Pres., Andrew R. Curtis; sec., Wm. R. Whitmore, 236 Merrimac street.

ROXBURY.—Single tax club. Pres., J. R. Carrett, 39 Court st., Boston; sec., Henry C. Romaine, 959 Tremont st.

WORCESTER.—Worcester single tax club. Meetings first Thursday of month, at Reform club hall, 98 Front st. Pres., Thomas J. Hastings; sec., E. K. Page, Lake View, Worcester.

MINNESOTA.

MINNEAPOLIS.—Minneapolis single tax league. Every Monday evening, at the West Hotel. Pres., C. J. Buell, 402 W. Franklin av.; sec., Oliver, T. Erickson, 2203 Lyndale av., N.

ST. PAUL.—Single tax club. Pres., H. C. McCartney; sec., Geo. C. Madison, 339 E. 7th st. Second and fourth Tuesdays at 41 W. 4th st.

MISSOURI.

STATE.—Missouri single tax committee. Henry H. Hoffman, chairman; sec., Percy Pepon, 3507 Easton av. St. L.

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

KANSAS CITY.—Single tax club. First Sunday of the month, at 3 p. m., at Bacon Lodge Hall, 1204 and 1206 Walnut st. Pres., Charles E. Reid; sec., R. F. Young, Signal Service office.

ST. LOUIS.—St. Louis single tax club. Tuesday evenings at 307½ Pine st., third floor; business meetings first Monday of each month. Rooms open every evening. Public meetings first and third Thursday of each month at Bowman's Hall, 11th and Locust sts. Pres., H. H. Hoffman; sec., J. W. Steele, 2738 Gamble st.

Benton School of Social Science. Meets every Saturday evening at 6339 Waldemar avenue. Pres., Henry S. Chase; sec., W. C. Little.

NEBRASKA.

WYMORE.—Wymore single tax and tariff reform club. Meetings every Wednesday evening at Union hall. Pres., Julius Hamm; sec. and treas., H. C. Jaynes; P. O. Box 137.

NEW JERSEY.

CAMDEN.—Single tax club. Meets every Saturday evening at Filson hall, n. e. cor. Second and Filson sts. Pres., M. J. Flynn; sec., Wm. M. Callingham, 520 Lind st.

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

JERSEY CITY.—Standard single tax club. Meets first and third Thursday of each month at Assembly Rooms, 642 Newark av. Pres., Jas. McGregor; sec., Joseph Dana Miller, 223 Grand st.

PLAINFIELD.—Single tax club. Pres., John L. Anderson; sec., J. H. McCullough, 7 Pond place.

NEWARK.—Single tax and free trade club. Pres., C. B. Rathbun; sec., M. T. Gaffney, 211 Plane st.

PATERSON.—Passaic co. single tax club. Pres., E. W. Nellis; sec., John A. Craig, 192 Hamburg av. Meetings every Thursday evening at 169 Market st.

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

WASHINGTON.—Warren county land and labor club. Pres., A. W. Davis, Oxford; sec., John Morison, box 272, Washington.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK.—Manhattan single tax club. Business Meeting first Thursday of each month at 8 p. m.; other Thursdays, social and propaganda. Club rooms, 73 Lexington av.; open every day from 6 p. m. to 12 p. m. Pres., Louis F. Post; sec., A. J. Steers.

Metropolitan single tax association. First and third Saturday evenings of each month, 490 8th av. Pres., John H. O'Connell; sec., Fred C. Keller.

BROOKLYN.—Brooklyn single tax club. Business meetings Wednesday evenings; club house, 198 Livingston st.; open at all hours. Pres., Robert Baker; cor. sec., G. W. Thompson, 9 St. Marks av.

Women's single tax club. Meetings the first and third Tuesdays, 198 Livingston st. at 3 o'clock. Pres., Miss Eva J. Turner; sec., Mrs. Robert Baker, 884 Greene av.

East Brooklyn single tax club. Meetings every Monday evening, 408 Evergreen av. Pres., James Hamilton; sec., Jas. B. Connell, 445 Central av.

Eastern District single tax club. Meetings first and third Mondays, 284 Broadway. Pres., Joseph McGuin-

ness, 133 S. 9th st., Brooklyn, E. D.; sec., Emily A. Deverall

Eighteenth ward single tax club. Every Thursday at 8 p. m. at 253 Evergreen av. Pres., J. J. Faulkner; sec., Adolph Pettenkofer, 253 Evergreen av.

ALBANY.—Albany single tax club. Meetings Sunday, 7:30 p. m., Beaver-Block, cor. Pearl and Norton sts. Pres., F. W. Croake; cor. sec., Geo. Noyes.

OSWEGO.—Pioneer single tax club. Pres., James Ryan; sec., James C. Murray.

OWEGO.—Single tax club. Pres., Michael J. Murray; sec., Wm. Minehaw, 50 West Main st.

LONG ISLAND CITY.—Freedom association meets evening of every fourth Friday of the month at Schwabenberg's hall, corner Vernon and Borden avs. Sec., T. G. Drake, 215 Kouwenhoven st.

TROY.—Single tax club. Meetings every Thursday evening at 576 River st; Pres., Henry Sterling; sec., B. B. Martin, 576 River st.

NORTH DAKOTA.

HATTON.—Hatton single tax reform club. Pres., A. S. Forslid; sec., T. E. Nelson; treas., M. F. Hegge.

OHIO.

CINCINNATI.—Cincinnati single tax club. Every Monday night, 7:30 o'clock, Robertson's Hall, Lincoln's Inn Court, 227 Main st. (near P. O.). Pres., Jos. L. Schraer; sec., Dr. David De Beck, 139 W. 9th st.

CLEVELAND.—Central single tax club. First and third Wednesday evenings, 8 p. m.; rooms, 301 and 302 Arcade, Euclid av. Pres., Tom L. Johnson; sec., L. E. Siemon, 7 Greenwood st.

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

GALLON.—Gallon single tax club. Every Monday evening, residence of P. J. Snay, 103 South Union st. Pres., P. J. Snay; sec., Maud E. Snay.

HEMLOCK.—Single tax club. Pres., D. P. Sweeny; sec., James G. Hayden.

MIAMISBURG.—Miamisburg single tax club. Pres., H. M. Scott; sec., J. T. Beals.

YOUNGSTOWN.—Every Thursday evening, Ivorites hall. Pres., Billy Radcliffe; sec., A. C. Hughes, 13 Public sq.

ZANESVILLE.—Single tax club. Pres., W. H. Longheed; sec., Wm. Quigley.

PENNSYLVANIA.

BRADFORD.—Single tax club. Hevenor's hall, 41 Main st. Meetings for discussion every Sunday at 3:30 p. m.

GERMANTOWN.—Single tax club. Sec. E. D. Burieligh, 13 Willow av.

JOHNSTOWN.—Henry George club. Meets every Monday evening for public discussion. Pres., A. J. Moxham; sec., S. E. Clarkson.

PHILADELPHIA.—Single tax society of Philadelphia, every Thursday, 8 p. m., 1341 Arch st.; cor. sec., A. H. Stephenson, 210 Chestnut st.

PITTSBURG.—Pittsburg single tax club. Meets every first and third Sunday evening at 7:30, 64 4th av. Pres., Edm. Yardley; sec. Mark F. Roberts, 140 South 24th av.

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., Chas. S. Prizer; sec., Wm. H. McKinney, Mineral Spring road and Clymer st.

RHODE ISLAND.

PAWTUCKET.—Pawtucket single tax association. Pres., John McCaffrey; sec., Matthew Curran, 64 Main st.

SOUTH DAKOTA.

STATE.—South Dakota single tax association. Pres., Judge Levi McGee, of Rapid City; sec., John B. Hanten, Watertown.

BALTIC.—Baltic single tax club. Pres. T. T. Vrenne; sec., T. J. Questad.

WATERTOWN.—Single tax club. Pres. Jno. B. Hanten; sec., L. E. Brickell. Meetings every Wednesday night in basement Granite block.

TENNESSEE.

MEMPHIS.—Memphis single tax association. Pres., J. S. Menken; sec., R. G. Brown, Appeal building.

TEXAS.

EL PASO.—Single tax club. Meetings every Saturday evening, 200½ El Paso st. Pres., G. E. Hubbard; sec. and treas., M. W. Stanton; cor. sec., G. H. Higgins.

HOUSTON.—Houston single tax club. Meetings every Tuesday evening, 7:30, Franklin st. Pres., E. P. Alsbury; sec., E. W. Brown.

WEST VIRGINIA.

PARKERSBURGH.—Parkersburgh single tax league. Meetings every Saturday evening, at 500 Market st.; Pres., W. H. Curry; sec., W. F. Thayer.

WISCONSIN.

MILWAUKEE.—Milwaukee single tax league. Pres., L. B. Boston; sec. treas., Martin Johnson.

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By way of answering inquiries constantly received, we append a list of some economic and social works of various kinds, with prices, at which they will be forwarded post-paid. Any work not mentioned, procurable in New York, will be sent on receipt of publisher's price.

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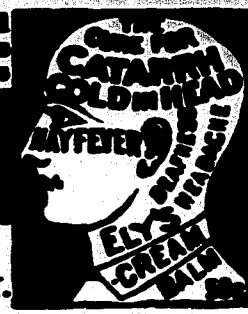
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We hold that all men are equally entitled to the use and enjoyment of what God has created and of what gained by the general growth and improvement of the community of which they are a part. Therefore, no one should be permitted to hold natural opportunities with out 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.

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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 on a 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 a blessing to all, and cause such an enormous production and such an equitable distribution of wealth as would give to all comfort, leisure and participation in the advantages of an advancing civilization.

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CONTENTS.

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<i>Free Coinage and Free Trade,</i>	- - - - -	<i>Thomas G. Shearman</i>
<i>The New Party in Kansas,</i>	- - - - -	<i>Louis F. Post</i>
<i>Not Afraid of a Third Party,</i>	- - - - -	<i>C. F. Perry</i>
<i>Farmers Interested in Single Tax,</i>	- - - - -	<i>R. G. Brown</i>
<i>Mr. George as a Wheelman,</i>	- - - - -	<i>W. E. Hicks</i>
<i>Equalizing Assessments,</i>	- - - - -	<i>Wm. Camm</i>

Notes and Queries.

Current Thought.

Not U. S. Hall.

The Question of Taxation.

Catholicism and Democracy.

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Dated New York, February 13th, 1891.
FRANK E. HIPPLE, Assignee.
H. B. WHITEBECK, Attorney for Assignee, 234 Broadway, New York.

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER MADE BY THE HON. ROGER A. PRYOR, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas for the City and County of New York, on the 16th day of February, 1891, notice is hereby given to all the creditors and persons having claims against Herbert S. Benton, lately doing business in the City and County of New York under the name of Herbert S. Benton, that they are required to present their claims with the vouchers therefor, duly verified, to the subscriber, the duly appointed assignee of the said Herbert S. Benton, for the benefit of his creditors, at his place of transacting business, No. 608 Cherry street, in the City of New

LEGAL NOTICES.

York, on or before the 25d day of May, 1891.
Dated New York, March 2d, 1891.

HENRY WELLINGTON, Assignee.

AMUNDSON & WARD, Attorneys for Assignee, 146 Broadway, New York City.

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER MADE BY HON. ROGER A. PRYOR, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas for the City and County of New York, on the 27th day of February, 1891, notice is hereby given to all creditors of, and persons having claims against, John A. Burchell and John E. Hodges, composing the firm of Burchell & Hodges, lately doing business in the City of New York, that they are required to present their claims, with the vouchers thereof duly verified, to the subscriber, the duly appointed assignee of said firm of Burchell & Hodges, for the benefit of creditors, at the office of the subscriber's attorney, George S. Hamlin, No. 18 Wall street, in the City of New York, on or before the 4th day of June, 1891.
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Dated New York, March 11, 1891.

WINTHROP PARKER, Assignee.
TOWNSEND SCUDDER, Attorney for Assignee, 206 Broadway, New York City.

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER MADE BY THE HON. ROGER A. PRYOR, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the City and County of New York, on the 19th day of February, 1891, notice is hereby given to all the creditors and persons having claims against Patrick J. MacKeon, lately doing business at Nos. 210 and 212 Sixth avenue, New York City, that they are required to present their claims with the vouchers therefor, duly verified, to the subscriber, the duly qualified and appointed assignee of the said Patrick J. MacKeon, for the benefit of his creditors, at his place of transacting business, No. 120 Broadway, in the City of New York, on or before the 14th day of May, 1891.
Dated, New York, February 24, 1891.

JAMES DUANE SQUIRES, Assignee.
E. V. THORNALL, Attorney for Assignee, No. 120 Broadway, New York City.

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER MADE BY HON. ROGER A. PRYOR, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, the 30th day of February, 1891, notice is hereby given to all the creditors and persons having claims against Charles H. Hamilton and William F. Bishop, or either of them individually, or as composing the firm of Hamilton & Bishop, lately doing business in the City 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 Charles H. Hamilton and William F. Bishop, individually and as composing said firm for the benefit of their creditors, at his place of transacting business, at the office of his attorneys, Taylor & Parker, No. 15 Wall street, in the City of New York, on or before the 33d day of May, 1891.
New York, February 26, 1891.

HERMAN AARON, Assignee.
TAYLOR & PARKER, Attorneys for Assignee, 15 Wall street, New York City.

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER MADE BY THE HON. ROGER A. PRYOR, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, on the 13th day of February, 1891, notice is hereby given to all the creditors and persons having claims against Edward H. Ammidown, lately doing business in the City 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 Edward H. Ammidown, for the benefit of his creditors, at his place of transacting business, No. 58 Worth street, in the City of New York, on or before the 1st day of May, 1891.
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