

THE STANDARD

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The offices of THE STANDARD have been removed from 25 Ann street to 12 Union square, East, to which address all communications should be sent.

CONTENTS:
Our Opportunity.
The Office of the Standard.
The Standard's Position.
The Standard's Policy.
The Standard's Program.
The Standard's History.
The Standard's Future.
The Standard's Influence.
The Standard's Character.
The Standard's Reputation.
The Standard's Success.
The Standard's Failure.
The Standard's Triumph.
The Standard's Defeat.
The Standard's Victory.
The Standard's Loss.
The Standard's Gain.
The Standard's Honor.
The Standard's Dishonor.
The Standard's Fame.
The Standard's Obscurity.
The Standard's Glory.
The Standard's Shame.
The Standard's Joy.
The Standard's Sorrow.
The Standard's Hope.
The Standard's Despair.
The Standard's Faith.
The Standard's Doubt.
The Standard's Love.
The Standard's Hate.
The Standard's Mercy.
The Standard's Cruelty.
The Standard's Kindness.
The Standard's Unkindness.
The Standard's Generosity.
The Standard's Greed.
The Standard's Modesty.
The Standard's Vanity.
The Standard's Humility.
The Standard's Patience.
The Standard's Impatience.
The Standard's Gentleness.
The Standard's Rudeness.
The Standard's Politeness.
The Standard's Impoliteness.
The Standard's Respect.
The Standard's Disrespect.
The Standard's Obedience.
The Standard's Disobedience.
The Standard's Truthfulness.
The Standard's Untruthfulness.
The Standard's Honesty.
The Standard's Dishonesty.
The Standard's Integrity.
The Standard's Lack of Integrity.
The Standard's Loyalty.
The Standard's Disloyalty.
The Standard's Fidelity.
The Standard's Infidelity.
The Standard's Devotion.
The Standard's Indifference.
The Standard's Zeal.
The Standard's Apathy.
The Standard's Enthusiasm.
The Standard's Disenchantment.
The Standard's Optimism.
The Standard's Pessimism.
The Standard's Idealism.
The Standard's Realism.
The Standard's Romanticism.
The Standard's Pragmatism.
The Standard's Idealism.
The Standard's Realism.
The Standard's Romanticism.
The Standard's Pragmatism.

OUR OPPORTUNITY.

Here is a letter which in a vague way probably expresses the feelings of quite a number of our friends:

St. Louis, Mo., April 4.—When Grover Cleveland presented his message to congress it had the ring of free trade. It was looked upon as a free trade message, not only by us single tax men, but to a great extent by the press. And the stand that you and many others of the united labor party took I thought was bold and commendable, and was the most expedient course to pursue considering the then circumstances. But it now seems that the issue between the republican party and the democratic is of no more importance than it has been for many years, as the subject of free trade has been entirely ignored, and the democratic press all over the country with but few exceptions are taking pains to declare that the democratic party does not want free trade and does not advocate free trade, but simply a reduction of the tariff. And as the "Mills bill" is clearly, as you intimated it to be a few weeks ago, a measure to catch votes, and as that feature is so manifest in it, I think the outlook exceedingly discouraging.

The argument that "if a little protection, such as the democratic party would have, is beneficial to America, then it must follow that a great deal more protection, or a much higher tariff, as the republican party would have, is preferable," catches the ordinary, ignorant mind, and it is nearly impossible to such people to perceive the truth. And that is a weighty argument, too, with them. There can be no enthusiasm excited by a party whose congressional record will be a defeated tariff reduction bill, and that a bill so timid that it leaves the most powerful trusts untouched and only reduces a few duties and abolishes a few others. There can be no joyous enthusiasm manifested by any one unless there be a real cause, a feeling of love and devotedness for some truth, some principle. And it is undoubtedly enthusiasm that carries the common mind. I confess that I cannot say one word in favor of the democratic party's policy, though I can say a great many against the policy of the republican party. I will not vote or attempt to induce others to vote for Grover Cleveland, nor will I vote for James G. Blaine, who I believe will be the republican candidate.

And whether tickets are printed or not, whether a national single tax party is established or not, I am inclined to think that I can vote only for some one that represents our ideas, viz.: That the land is God's, and we, his children, are all entitled to the use of it; that the only expedient way of insuring to every human being his full earnings is by a single tax on land values. It seems to me that a union of the single tax men with the McGlynn element, if such a thing were possible without compromising the principle of absolute free trade that is embodied in the Syracuse platform, would be advisable. And if that were impossible, I would be in favor of a true single tax party without our "protectionist" friends, for I believe that it would excite very much more discussion and enthusiasm than the democratic party can ever excite.

Do you think it possible or expedient, considering the turn affairs have taken, to make a move in this direction? K. P. ALEXANDER.

In the sense of openly declaring for free trade, Mr. Cleveland's message was not a free trade message. On the contrary, he made in it an evident effort to avoid being classed as a free trader, and all that he proposed was a mere modification of some of the protective features of our tariff. But it did, as our correspondent says, have "the ring of free trade," inasmuch as its arguments for tariff reduction were really anti-protection arguments, and if carried to their logical conclusions would condemn the whole protective system. As I said, in commenting on the message the day after it was delivered:

Mr. Cleveland endeavors to avoid the stigma of free trade, and much of his argument is illogical and confused. But it is nevertheless, an argument for free trade and against protection. He has recognized the inevitable issue that is before the country and has not shirked it. He has come to the point where the roads fork, and though he betrays a natural desire to postpone the certain split in his party, he has at least set his face in the direction that leads to freedom.

There is nothing to indicate that Mr. Cleveland has, since that message was written, gone back one iota. On the contrary, there is every evidence that he has resisted the tremendous pressure that has been put upon him by the politicians of his own party who fear the tariff issue, and is more, instead of less, determined to stake

his political fortunes and those of his party on that issue.

And the discussion that Mr. Cleveland's message opened has gone on increasing in the most gratifying way. The republican papers that denounced him as a free trader as soon as his message was printed are denouncing him as a free trader more violently now. If the democratic papers are still declaring that the democratic party does not advocate free trade, and only wants to reform protection, not abolish it, those of them at least that follow the banners of the democratic administration are devoting their columns to most effective attacks upon protection, and are, in spite of their own disavowals, educating themselves and their readers in the direction of free trade.

As for the Mills bill, it is indeed a poor and inconsequential measure as compared with the bill abolishing custom houses which it is our ultimate aim some day to have passed by the congress of the United States. Considering existing conditions, however, it is the best kind of a free trade bill. It is not only amply sufficient to accomplish all that we can at present hope to have accomplished—the opening of the light—but it is, because of its moderation, far better for this purpose than a radical bill would be. If it is framed with the art of the politician; if its reductions and exemptions have been carefully arranged so as to give as little opportunity as possible for the division of the party vote; if it passes respectfully by giant interests that have fattened on protection, and only strikes at some of the smaller ones, it is on these accounts all the better as an entering wedge.

So far from there being anything in the present attitude of Mr. Cleveland, or of his party supporters, or of the press, to make us single tax men feel that the hope his message gave us was delusive, we have every reason to feel the greatest encouragement. What at the time of the message seemed almost too good to hope for, is now a certainty—that the line between the two great parties in the coming national campaign is to be drawn on the tariff question. And this means something that Mr. Alexander and those who feel as he does do not appreciate—it means that the real issue in the presidential campaign is to be between protection on the one side and free trade on the other.

Our St. Louis friend is not one of those who would run a national ticket upon state issues, nor is he in favor of advocating the single tax without any reference to the tariff, at a time when everyone will be thinking and talking of the tariff. He sees that the abolition of the tariff is an essential part of the single tax programme, and that it is that part of the programme which relates to national action, and which must be fought out in the arena of national politics. But he seems to fear that for real free traders to give their political support to a party or a man who proposes only to lessen protection would be to condone protection and to lose the strength that the advocacy of a clear and consistent principle always gives. He seems to think that real free traders could better satisfy their consciences and could accomplish more in the way of education by refusing to support those who would only modify the tariff and running some sort of a party that should declare for absolute free trade. In all this I think he is mistaken. To specifically answer his questions, I do not think any "union of the single tax men with the McGlynn element without compromising the principle of absolute free trade," is possible, since the ignoring of the tariff question is the essential point in the programme of the "McGlynn element," and is necessary to their making any show with the pretense of a combination party that they hope to start in Cincinnati next month. Neither do I think it would be possible—or if it were possible would I think it expedient—to run a third party on an absolute free trade platform, at this election. If instead of having such a party yet to form, it were already in the field, and if its organization were ten times as strong as any we could now hope for, I would be opposed to its taking any independent part in the contest this year, and should deem it the dictate of political policy and of political principle that its members should, in the coming campaign, support with all their might the candidate of that one of the two great parties which represented opposition to protection and which the party of protection would exert itself to the utmost to defeat.

Let me give the reasons for my opinions, since they may be of use to some of our friends who find it hard to give up the idea of running an independent party, and voting a ticket which shall express their ultimate aims.

Here is a little restaurant on the "American plan,"—the only one for miles. A traveler enters and sits down. The waiter comes to him, and laconically inquires:

"Bean soup or pea soup?"
What will be the use in the traveler replying, "Turtle soup."
If he will have neither bean soup nor pea soup, but insists upon having turtle soup before eating anything at all, he will have to go hungry until he reaches the next restaurant, and even there his chances of

getting turtle soup are not likely to be at all improved.

The only thing he could hope for by insisting on "turtle soup or nothing" is that if enough others did the same thing the restaurant keeper after awhile might be induced to keep it. But before determining to go hungry for this reason, it would be well for our traveler to consider that the majority even of those who prefer turtle to bean or pea soup would be strongly induced to take one of the latter rather than go hungry.

Very much like the choice of the traveler in such a restaurant is the choice of the average American citizen in a presidential election. He is not really asked what he would like to have, but which of two things he prefers. Often, indeed, the practical question to the thoughtful citizen is not, which of two men or two parties he likes most, but which of the two he dislikes least.

And if he rejects this choice, if he tries by his vote to show that he wants neither one thing nor the other that is offered him, but something quite different, he is certain to find, as all experience has proved, that the great majority of voters, even of those who would really prefer something quite different, will make a choice between what is immediately offered them. But the position of the single tax voter in the coming election differs from that of our supposititious traveler in this. The choice that is offered him as to which of the great parties shall win is not a choice between two policies equally distasteful to him, but a choice between a policy that is opposed to all that he desires to accomplish, and a policy that not only goes a little way toward accomplishing his desires, but will make it possible to accomplish more.

Our American system of government is not really a system of popular government in any other sense than that the people are the repositories of ultimate political power, and that as such the governing class, are quick to respond to their will whenever they can discern it. But our methods of getting at the popular will, and especially of submitting questions of national policy, are extremely clumsy and inefficient. Practically the business of government is with us in the hands of politicians, and as our elective and representative methods have the effect of discouraging statesmanship, these politicians as a class are men who have little concern for principle, and whose sole desire is to parcel out the offices and share in the profits of the governing business. These politicians are normally divided into two great camps or parties, and the law of conflict, the law which compels the opposition to one party to crystallize around another, make the parties for the power and emoluments of office, save in rare contingencies, practically two. These parties are, by the necessities imposed by our elective system, great machines, requiring for their maintenance and efficiency, extensive and elaborate organization, much work and large amounts of money. Thus they naturally fall into the hands of politicians—the men who are willing to devote their time and money to working them—the men who make a business of this, and who expect to find their profit in it.

And the magic of the possessive case of the personal pronoun—the same tendency which disposes a man to be proud and boastful of his country, even though the poor disinherited creature may not have any right to use a single square inch of his country, or to stretch himself out to sleep on it, without buying the privilege from some of the class who really own what he calls his country—binds to parties men whose only part in them is to slavishly vote the ticket their managers present. The majority of republicans or democrats are such for no better reason than that by some accident they have once taken that side. They are disposed to follow their party whichever way it may go—to support what it proposes and to oppose what it opposes, because they deem it their party.

Now, whoever considers the nature of parties under our system of government, and the laws of their being, will see how childish it is to proclaim irrevocable hostility against the old parties because of their corruption, and to hope to purify government by supplanting them with a party of purity, or, as it is sometimes expressed, to form a new party that shall set politicians aside. Politicians are the inevitable outgrowth of our system of politics, and corruption comes from general conditions which act upon all parties. No matter how high minded and disinterested its founders, no matter how lofty its principles, no party could, under the political conditions which exist in the United States, rise to the point of seriously contesting for control of the national government without attracting or developing the same corrupt elements which exist in the old parties.

Nor yet do these corrupting influences wait for the growth of a party to dimensions which entitle it to be considered a contestant for control. When the two real contestants are closely matched, and the prize they struggle for is a great one, it becomes an object for one or the other of the great parties to control and use little parties; and though comparatively insigni-

ficant in their numbers, third parties rapidly develop a class of second rate politicians in no wise more scrupulous than those who act with and manage the old parties.

Now we single tax men—we real free traders—are as yet in a small minority. We have not even a skeleton organization, we are without the sinews of war that in our existing system are required for the necessary expenses of conducting any national campaign; we are without a powerful press, without the prestige of former victories and without support from those prejudices which bind the unthinking to a party because they have acted with it and rejoiced in its victories with the feeling that they themselves had helped to gain them.

No one among our friends is wild enough to imagine that if under existing conditions we were to enter the national campaign as an independent party we could have the shadow of a chance of getting a single electoral vote. The only thing that is urged in favor of such a policy is that by "standing up to be counted" we might get an opportunity to advocate our doctrines, and by showing that there were so many voters in the United States who would accept nothing but full free trade, induce, in succeeding elections, others to come to our standard, or one of the great parties to make a bid for our support.

But the truth is, that we could not expect more than a small minority of single tax men "to stand up and be counted." All experience shows that the great majority of men will not vote for a candidate whom of himself they would prefer, unless they believe he has some chance of election. The real reason why I got 63,000 votes for mayor of New York in 1886 and only 37,000 votes in the same city in 1887 was that in the one case, owing to the pledge of votes with which I entered the contest, it was believed that I might be elected, and that in the other case not even the most sanguine could pretend that I had the slightest chance. And in that election there was really nothing involved in the struggle between the old parties other than the filling of a few subordinate offices and the shadow of this year's presidential campaign. This year what is at stake is the presidency itself. And this year this presidential contest will be fought between the two great parties upon an issue that will give it an interest far exceeding an ordinary presidential election and make it one of the most strenuous and bitter contests the country has ever known. In this contest we cannot hope to have our friends, who might ordinarily do so, "stand up and be counted." The interest in the struggle of the great parties will be too intense, the issue too momentous. And whatever votes may be counted for a third party, they will hardly be those of the real free traders, the single tax men who have really seen what freedom means. When the robber trusts rally all the forces of protection, when every stump is echoing with protectionist lies and protectionist sophistries, when ignorance and prejudice and cupidity are appealed to to "down" Cleveland because his election will mean a free trade victory, our real free traders, who of all men realize how false are the claims and how pernicious is the policy of protection, cannot look unconcernedly on and see protection win a victory. If a single tax candidate be placed in the field, as our St. Louis friend suggests, the result will be, not that we will show our strength, but that our enemies will have, in the small vote cast for him, an opportunity to taunt us with the insignificance they will claim that it shows.

Now, the reason why, even if we had the organization and means to enable us to run an avowed free trade ticket, we could not expect real free traders to vote for it in the face of the contest that will be waged between the two old parties, is the reason why we ought not to run a free trade ticket. Mr. Cleveland, it is true, is not a free trader, but he nevertheless will in this election represent the van of the free trade fight in practical politics, just as Mr. Lincoln in 1860, though protesting that he was not an abolitionist, represented the van of the anti-slavery fight. And for us to refuse to support Mr. Cleveland in the coming struggle because his utterances and his position are not radical enough to express our ultimate desires, would be as impolitic and wrong as for anti-slavery men in 1860 to refuse to support Mr. Lincoln because he only declared to restrict, little, not to destroy, the curse of chattel slavery.

When great armies contend, the immediate object for the possession of which their decisive battles are fought is generally something in itself of no moment, and the fate of nations turns on struggles to gain or hold a hamlet, a knoll, a bridge or a farm house. So the political struggles of opposing principles invariably begin with affairs of outposts, and are decided not on issue joined on the main question, but on issue joined on some subordinate or collateral question. It makes no difference how small the immediate point may be, so long as it is sufficient to arouse and engage the opposing forces. A proposition to put on the free list one single article, such as wool or lumber, or even peanuts—or a proposition to make a ten per cent reduction in the least impor-

tant of the protective duties, would be sufficient to bring on the struggle between protection and free trade, if the protectionists recognized in it an attack on their cherished system and rallied their forces to repel it.

The Mills bill may be lame and halting as an anti-protection measure, but it could hardly have aroused the protectionists more if it proposed to sweep away every shred of protection. The president's attitude may be that of a mere timid tariff reformer, but the protectionist press could hardly denounce him as a free trader more bitterly if he had boldly avowed his belief in "the international law of God."

And the enemies Mr. Cleveland has made by his message and by his subsequent course ought to make us his friends in this struggle. He may not be a candidate who represents our ideas, but he is a candidate who will do our work—a candidate who will clear our way better than we could possibly do it. And this not merely because of his position and his political strength, but because of his moderation—because he does not represent our ideas.

It must be remembered that we real free traders are as yet in a small minority—that the masses of the people are saturated with the fallacies of protection in some form or other, and that the majority of men are more governed in political action by their feelings and their prejudices than by any logical process of reasoning. An avowed free trade candidate would at present repel great bodies of voters who are certain to become free traders if they can be committed to tariff reductions. They will become familiarized both with the name and the idea—on the one side from the denunciations of the opposing party, and on the other from the necessity under which their own party papers and their own party speakers will lie to justify the attempt to reduce protection. For the democratic papers and the democratic speakers must, as the contest wages hot and furious, perceive, even if they do not openly admit, that weakness of the position of the moderate protectionists which our correspondent points out, and realize that if it be admitted that a little protection is good a great deal of protection is better. A popular discussion in which large interests are involved and strong passions are excited, cannot long be conducted by one side on grounds that admit the fundamental propositions of the other. The tendency of conflict is always to extremes. Already we may see that what is being discussed is not the effect of this or that modification of the tariff, but the question of principle between protection and free trade, and this in its relation to labor. Already the protectionist papers are making the most ultra claims for their pet theory, and are contending that the American laborer owes to it his great prosperity. Already democratic papers, even though yet not avowing themselves for free trade are denouncing protection as a fraud and a sham, and are engaged in showing that however protection may protect trusts and monopolists, it can only hurt, not help, the laborer. Our correspondent is right in saying that half-way doctrines excite no enthusiasm, and that enthusiasm is necessary to move the common mind. But once let the democratic party be fairly committed to the anti-protection side of the tariff question, and the democratic organs and democratic speakers will realize this, and whatever the nominal position of the party may be, must be driven to advocate free trade principles.

How can we best advance the cause? One of the two great parties is moving our way. Shall we, in what we may, meet it, and welcome it, and strengthen it, doing what we can to give it success, and by showing its politicians that this is the way to victory and to office, help to make them bold as lions where now they are limping hares. Or shall we, by getting up a miserable and contemptible third party, or by skulking out of the great fight we have been so anxious to bring on, help directly or indirectly those who would bar our way to beat those who, whether they realize it or not, are moving in our way.

To my mind there is but one answer. Whichever man or whatever party will make a step that leads toward the accomplishment of our one great purpose, ought in that step to have our support, both as a matter of right and as a matter of wise policy.

Mr. Alexander seems to think that by making some sort of an independent single tax party we would have better opportunities to preach the doctrine of full free trade. But I am confident that on reflection he will see that this is a mistake. There are times when independent political action may be the best way to propagate a principle. It was so in the New York municipal election of 1886. It was so, perhaps, in the New York state election of 1887. But this can only be when the issue between the great parties does not in any way involve the principle or any part of it. When it does, then beyond all question the most efficient means to propagate a great principle, is for the men who believe in it to throw themselves with all their strength on the side of the party that comes nearest to them, and use it to advocate their principle.

What sort of a hearing should we get if,

while the two great parties were grappling in a death lock over the tariff question; when on their struggle depended the control of the national government for four years—perhaps for many times four years—when the whole country was wild with excitement as to which of them ought to win, and which of them should win, we should come out with a little independent free trade party and go around prattling to such as would hear us that real free traders ought to nominate their own electors, and write their own ballots, and cast votes that would only be counted among the "scattering" for somebody or other that the great mass of the people would never know was a candidate? Had we not a good deal better stay at home and say our prayers? For such a course would not rise to the dignity of playing at politics. We should earn, and justly earn, the reputation of irreconcilable cranks. On the one side we should be looked upon as fools and tools. On the other side dislike for us and prejudice against our doctrines would mingle with contempt for our insignificance—for we should be regarded as men who made a pretense of devotion to free trade to do what we could to withdraw support from the party which was making the fight against protection.

Why should we try to make an opportunity for ourselves to preach our doctrines in the coming campaign, when, thanks to Grover Cleveland's patriotism and courage, a grand opportunity is offered us to preach them through the ranks of a powerful party? That there are in the democratic party very many who would much prefer our room to our company; that among the so-called free traders are many who are the most bitter opponents of the real free trade we strive for, is true. But what of that? They cannot reject our aid, and if they could, the rank and file of their party, who are the only ones we need care for, will not. Within four months Mr. Cleveland's message and his subsequent attitude have brought the tariff discussion further to the front than any number of mere propaganda meetings and speeches and writings could have done. The reason of the effect is not to be found in the message itself, nor in the man himself, but partly in his official position as president of the United States and dispenser of the national patronage, and more in his position as undisputed head at the present time of one of the great political machines. It is now certain that if he lives he will be the democratic candidate—that the democratic party must fight for power this year on the lines of his message, and that in this fight its speakers and its press and its supporters will be compelled to advocate the principle of free trade as against that of protection. If we will go among them as their friends and co-workers in this struggle they will be predisposed to hear us. Party prejudice and party loyalty, so far as speaking roughly, one-half of the people of the United States are concerned, have ceased to be obstacles in our way, and will tend in our favor. Instead of having both great machines against us, we shall have one of them clearing the way for us. Here is such an opportunity for us to preach and to teach free trade, free labor and free land, that it would seem treason to the great cause we have at heart to willingly forego it.

No enthusiasm in such a campaign! I for one will go into it with more enthusiasm than I ever felt in any national campaign since I voted for Abraham Lincoln. And every one of us who truly realizes that it is the first great political battle on the march toward the abolition of industrial slavery must feel the same way. It is not to make a few reductions in the tariff that we will throw ourselves into the fight, but to break the solid phalanx of linked interests that supports the robber tariff; to make a breach in the massive wall that bars our way; to lead men to see the glory of freedom and to trust her and to follow her; to turn them from the false teachings that the interests of man and man, and class and class, and nation and nation, are only to be served at the expense of others, and to open their eyes to the great truth that in the good of all lies the good of each.

We who know what we want, and by what roads it may be reached; we, who can look past the glare of the lanterns and see our pole star shining—we at least cannot lack enthusiasm. What matters it whom we work with and what their purpose, so long as they go our road and use their strength to clear our way?

Herman Clark, of the great contracting firm of O'Brien & Clark, who are now finishing contracts for some nineteen miles of the new aqueduct, a civil engineer of large experience, has drawn the plans and made the estimates for a bold and comprehensive scheme of rapid transit for New York, which, of all the propositions yet made, is the only one worthy of the present greatness and future destiny of the metropolis. Instead of digging under ground so near to the surface as to interfere with cellars, sewers, drains and pipe-ages, to give rise to claims for damages, and to cause annoyance by the shaking of buildings, Mr. Clark proposes to go two hundred feet below the surface and tunnel through the solid rock which underlies this island and the adjacent

country. At one hundred and fifty feet pulsations caused by moving trains would be unnoticeable, but two hundred feet would not only more securely guard against this element of annoyance but make it easier to run under the rivers. Mr. Clark's plans contemplate two large tunnels running from the southern end of the island to a point in the annexed district beyond the Harlem river. From these a branch would lead under the East river, coming to the surface near Prospect park, Brooklyn, and another branch would strike under the North river and come to the surface beyond the Palisades, in the Newark meadows. Each of the two north and south tunnels is to contain two tracks—one for local trains making stops every ten blocks and running at a speed of twenty-five miles an hour, and one for express trains stopping every four blocks and running forty miles an hour. The motive power to be either electricity or steam, as may be deemed desirable. At every station Mr. Clark's plans involve the erection of quick moving elevators that will carry at one load one hundred and twenty-four persons, and afford ready communication with either the local or express trains. The tunnels are to be lined throughout with concrete blocks made on the spot from the excavated gneiss rock and the best cement.

With these roads in operation a passenger could reach 125th street from the City hall in fifteen minutes, would find himself at 200th street in less than twenty-five minutes, could go to the Brooklyn City hall in three minutes, to Coney island in twelve minutes and to Jersey City in four minutes. Connections could be made with all the railroads that center in New York, and they would all be put upon an equal footing with regard to terminal facilities.

Mr. Clark's plans provide not only for the rapid carriage of passengers, but also for the moving of freight from point to point in the city and to and from the termini of the various railroads. He proposes to run off from the main tunnels some fifty side tunnels or freight pockets, from 500 to 1,000 feet long, each connected with the surface by freight elevators that will carry ten tons. In these freight pockets empty freight cars could be stowed, and loaded freight cars accumulated during the day, and at night time, when there was little business on the passenger tracks, hauled to their destinations. Besides the enormous saving in the cost of transferring cars from railroad termini to railroad termini by barges and steamers—and it is said that an average of 4,000 cars are thus transferred daily—Mr. Clark's investigations show that the streets of New York would be relieved of at least thirty per cent of the truckage now done upon them.

As to ventilation there is no difficulty; the elevator shafts, freight and passenger, would give so many openings that by the construction of ventilator towers above them a strong gale of the purest air could, if desired, be constantly blowing through the tunnels. As to time, Messrs. O'Brien and Clark, who have had probably more experience in this kind of work than any other firm in the whole country, calculate that the whole work can be completed and the road put in operation within two years from the time the first pick is struck. On the main tunnel through the backbone of the island fifty elevator shafts would give one hundred headings from which the work of tunneling could be prosecuted simultaneously night and day.

In Mayor Hewitt's scheme for running a rapid transit road from the city hall to Forty-second street, there to connect with the sunken road of the New York Central, the cost of the section between Forty-second street and city hall is estimated at \$10,000,000. But so much cheaper is it to sink at once 200 feet below the surface into the solid rock, where there would be no interference with anything, and no damage to property, that Mr. Clark's estimate for carrying out his whole great plan amounts to only \$30,000,000. This estimate includes the purchase of extensive grounds for terminal stations and the purchase of lots and erection of buildings for freight and passenger elevators, as well as the excavation and lining of the tunnels, and their equipment with tracks, cars, elevators, and lighting, telegraphing and pumping plants.

Mr. Clark has drawn his plans and made his estimates with a view of constructing this great work as a corporate enterprise. That it would prove an extremely profitable one there is no doubt. In fact, the expenditure of a comparatively small additional sum in the purchase of land near the various termini would enable the company undertaking it to pay for the work by the increase of land values, and to make their profits on the transportation of freight and passengers as though the tunnel and its appurtenances had cost them nothing.

But no such work as this ought to be left to a private corporation. It ought to be carried out by the city, or rather the cities concerned, for the benefit of their people.

Here in New York city, where the pressure upon transit facilities is so great, steps ought to be taken at once to begin some such comprehensive scheme without waiting for the concurrence of Brooklyn and Jersey City. There are powerful private interests in the way of the city's providing her own transportation facilities, but if there is public spirit enough among men who have the opportunity and the time to fairly present such a scheme to the people, there can be no question as to the popular response. What ought to be done at this session of the legislature—for unfortunately the great city

must go to the legislature on matters which concern herself alone—is to provide for a commission to make preliminary investigations and take preliminary steps, and to present, if that be necessary, an amendment to the constitution modifying, in this case at least, the restriction upon the incurring of municipal debts.

The cost of the rapid transit facilities within the corporate limits of New York, as contemplated in Mr. Clark's plan, is a mere bagatelle as compared with its enormous economies. And whether it be twenty million or thirty million or a hundred million, New York, whose growth is only limited by the facilities for transit, can afford to spend whatever is necessary. Whatever it is necessary to spend will come back in increased revenue from the increased value of land. And this is the fund that ought to be directly drawn upon. If in the bill providing for the work it was also provided that its cost should be met by a special tax falling on land values alone, or upon land values in certain specified districts where their increase would be greatest, the justice of this would commend itself to all, and an important step would be taken, not only towards making New York the greatest city of the world, but also towards the ending of that appropriation of the common wealth by individuals which makes the greatest cities the abodes of the deepest poverty.

HENRY GEORGE.

THE SPREAD OF FREE TRADE SENTIMENT IN PENNSYLVANIA.

A Sturdy Friend of Freedom—Organizing in Sharpshoot and Braddock—Sewing Seed Among the Iron Workers—Philadelphia Workmen Instruct Their Congressmen.

E. H. Rauch, editor of the Mauch Chunk (Pa.) Democrat, is one of the old guard abolitionists, a bosom friend and supporter of Thad. Stevens, and in the times when abolitionists were hated in Pennsylvania an active conductor on the "underground railroad" that carried so many black chaffers across Pennsylvania to freedom. Mr. Rauch is still true to Freedom, and in the Democrat is doing sturdy work for free trade and dealing the most trenchant blows at the protectionist superstition. In a note congratulating THE STANDARD on its attitude on the tariff question, Mr. Rauch says:

The time has come for open, defiant and thorough agitation. It is the real question of progress, true civilization and of bread for the people. And if I know anything about Pennsylvania I am confident that if the subject gets the agitation which its importance demands—even old, long suffering, much abused and demagogued Pennsylvania will in the future be found right up at the front. I have been trying to give our readers plain talk for the last few years, and the plain I talk the better it takes among people of average common sense. The "free trade" bugaboo is already harmless.

A free trade club was organized last week in Sharpshoot with fifty members. This makes the fourth club that has been started in that section within two weeks. Large numbers of mechanics and laboring men are giving up the tariff idea. They say their experience goes to show that while it protects the capitalists it impoverishes the laborers. A free trade club composed of 250 members was also formed during the week at Braddock. Most of the members are workmen who formerly believed in protection.

An active body of free traders and single tax men are centered at Edge Hill village, and are carrying the war into all sections of Montgomery county. They have issued a call for a public meeting at Edge Hill on April 14, and intend to follow this up with a number of other meetings. The greater part of the men who live in Edge Hill work in Wharton's big iron and frog works at Jenkintown, a mile and a half away. Hitherto "protection" sentiment had all its own way in that section, but its walls are now crumbling. Messrs. Stearns Brothers, druggists, Edge Hill, formerly a straight republican, has become a convert to free trade and single tax doctrines, and is now working hard for their propagation. William Callan is secretary of the local organization called the Single Tax reform club. Mr. Stearns writes that the poor there live like cattle.

At a meeting of the Workmen's tariff reform association No. 1, of Philadelphia, last week the following significant resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, The question of tariff reform and revision is now squarely before congress, and the issue is joined between the present burdensome taxes on the raw materials of our industries and their removal; and whereas it is owing to these taxes that our industries have become more and more depressed, our wages reduced, and our earnings cut down in many cases below the European level, creating an amount of poverty among the toilers of the great industrial center of Philadelphia that is irreconcilable with the great natural opportunities offered and the readiness of the toilers to render an equivalent for these opportunities; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we, the members of the Workmen's tariff reform association No. 1, of Philadelphia, do most earnestly request our representatives in congress from Philadelphia to vote for free raw materials and such a corresponding adjustment of tariff rates as will bring them more in harmony with the rights and interests of labor than are the unequal and oppressive tariff laws.

The association will hold frequent public meetings, and will permit the public to take part in debates.

How is This Woman Protected?

MATAWAN, N. J.—Last week, as I was standing on the street in this town talking to a neighbor, I noticed a woman pass by carrying a large bundle in her arms, and on inquiry I learned that it was shirts to be made up. As I read so much in the newspapers about how our working people are "protected," curiosity prompted me to ask how many shirts the woman carried in her arms; the answer was six dozen. How much you pay for the work! Twenty-five cents per dozen. She had walked three miles to the horse car station, rode in said cars two miles to obtain the bundle of shirts, the same returning of course. Here is her net return in wages:

Six dozen shirts, \$1.50
Deduct fare both ways, 5
Deduct extra for bundle, 5
Total, \$1.35

Now, will not some son of a son of a protectionist explain to myself and lots of other inquisitive people how protection protects the above mentioned?

JOHN STEWART.

QUININE.

Robert H. Cowdrey Tells How an American Industry Has Been "Ruined" by Non-Protection. Prices One-Seventh. What Just the Same, Twice as Many Men Employed, and a Growing Foreign Trade.

If we do not protect our manufacturers they will be forced into bankruptcy. Without manufacturers to employ them our workmen would be forced to stand idle. Therefore, working people should vote to uphold protection. That is the protectionist argument. Let us consider it in the light of facts.

Previous to 1878 there was a heavy duty on quinine. Five firms were engaged in the manufacture, employing 500 men, and wages in the factories were \$1.50 a day. Quinine sold at an average of \$3.50 an ounce, and not an ounce was exported to any foreign country.

The tax was a peculiarly odious one, because it was a tax on health. It placed a drug which, in many parts of the country, is an absolute necessity of life, beyond the reach of the people who needed it most. The tariff duty was defended by the usual arguments. If it were repealed the country would be deluged with cheap foreign quinine, the manufacturers would have to close their works, the workmen would be thrown out of employment, and the poor farmers would lose so many consumers for their produce. Moreover, the price would not be permanently lessened. The foreign manufacturers would simply gain control of our market, and having done so, would make the price to suit themselves.

However, even many protectionists admitted that for the sake of cheap quinine it might be expedient to sacrifice the five manufacturing firms, and throw their \$1.50 a day laborers out of employment. And so the duty was abolished.

Now observe the result.

The average price of quinine is now fifty cents an ounce.

Twelve firms are engaged in the manufacture.

Over one thousand men are employed, and wages are just what they were in 1878—\$1.50 a day.

We have not been deluged with cheap foreign quinine. The deluge is in the other direction. We are selling hundreds of thousands of ounces every year in the markets of London and Paris, the cities whose manufacturers, Mr. Robbins testified (Tariff rep. p. 24), were "able to produce quinine at about one-half the price we can produce ours."

There is no "quinine trust," although quinine is, above all others, a thing which one might think would be controlled by such a combination.

The consumption of quinine in the United States is about 2,000,000 ounces yearly. The saving to the people by the abolition of the tariff tax is \$3 an ounce, or \$6,000,000. Not a man has been thrown out of employment. On the contrary, more labor is employed without any reduction in wages. But it would have paid us well, if we could have got rid of the duty in no other way, to pay every laborer in the factories double wages for doing nothing.

Suppose that while we were protecting ourselves against that deluge of cheap foreign quinine, dealers had been compelled to render itemized bills thus:

JOHN SMITH TO PROTECTIVE TARIFF & CO., DR.,
For 100 ounces of quinine, at 50c. . . . \$50
For protection on ditto, at \$3 300
Total, \$350

We should probably have said something about less protection and more quinine. There was not a bill rendered which might not have been analyzed into just such items. About five years after the duty had been abolished, I called upon one of our largest quinine manufacturers, a man who had testified before the tariff commission that no protection would mean ruin to the manufacturer. He said to me: "We have just made a shipment of 100,000 ounces of quinine to London." I expressed my surprise at finding that he not only wasn't ruined, but was actually invading the stronghold of Howard & Son, the very foreigners whose competition he had formerly most feared.

My friend's answer was significant: "When we were under protection," said he, "we were babes sucking milk. Now we are strong men, eating meat." ROBERT H. COWDREY.

CHICAGO, Ill.

THE ABSURDITY OF "PROTECTION."

A Boston Type Gives Some Suggestive Facts.

BOSTON, April 1.—Is a protective (so called) tariff a benefit to the working people generally when only about one-half of them are employed under our enormous protective tariff that were employed under the anti-war tariff? Without going into long details here is what I have observed in my own experience: Nearly forty years ago there were sixteen or seventeen daily papers published in this city at one time, besides a goodly number of weeklies. To-day, while the population is largely in excess of that time, there are but seven dailies, and the number of weeklies has been considerably reduced. There were also several large book establishments flourishing here then, and to procure books on the morning papers, the latter were being constantly raided and fat bonuses paid the book men to fill a frame on the morning papers for the night. Regular subs, paradoxical as the term may sound, were as scarce on morning papers as the proverbial hen's tooth. Then the seven daily papers published to-day employ a larger force of regular workmen than did the sixteen or seventeen of the time referred to. To-day there are about as many subsisting around waiting for chances as there are regulars, and there are just as many more on the street, anxious and willing to work, but, alas, no work can they get. Now what was true of my own trade (printing) at that time is equally true of the silk haters, corks, etc., with whom I then associated, and it is fair to presume that, with the exception of those connected with building, it is none the less true of all trades.

Here is another point I want to make. The scale of prices for printers on morning papers in this city is 40 cents per 1,000 ems, with two of the offices (the Globe and Herald) paying 45 cents. Now what sense is there in the talk of the necessity of protection against foreign labor to prevent it bringing our wages down when printers but a few miles from the city (yes, within fifteen miles) are doing the same work on morning papers for 20 and 25 cents per 1,000. Outside of a very few of the large cities in New England I have yet to learn that more than 25 cents is paid. If men were imported to work for 35 cents per 1,000, a great hue and cry would be raised about the "pauper labor of Europe," blind to the fact that there are many here who are working for a less figure than much of this same "pauper labor" receives. I believe, from my experience and observations, in free trade to its fullest extent. Remove all restrictions from trade, and the ruinous strikes which are doing so much to crush our prosperity will to a great extent come to a halt. Trades unionism I am I cannot but admit, their terrible destruction.

J. VINCENT.

THE BREWERS' IMPENDING STRIKE.

Both Sides of the Dilemma—What the Journeymen Will Do.

The differences at present existing between the employing brewers and the journeymen may result in a strike which, if once inaugurated, will spread over the entire country. Matters locally stand thus:

After a series of struggles, lasting two years, between the bosses and the men, an agreement was reached last year which guaranteed peace up to within three weeks ago. As the time approached for the signing of a new agreement it began to be hinted that the journeymen brewers intended offering a new document, much more stringent than that of the previous year. The employing brewers found out about what would be contained in the new agreement and prepared to meet it. They issued a circular to their employes stating what they would object to agree to and what they would object to. After asserting that some of the articles of last year's agreement were "onerous burdens," and that they intended to "again assume that legitimate control of their business affairs, to which an equitable division of the respective rights and duties of capital and labor entitled them," they protested that in forming this resolution they do "not deny to labor the right to organize—a right which the association exercises as employers—nor do they leave out of sight the tendency of the times to the ruin of the workingman through untold effort, amelioration of his lot." They assert further that "We are not governed in our present action by the desire or intention to abridge or to abrogate any fair concession as to hours of labor and recompense thereof which we have made to our workmen under former agreements." They would exert the influence of the employers' association in all directions, to the end that no real grievance of the employes may go unremedied. The existing agreements would be strictly carried out, but on their expiration no new agreements would be made, excepting only individual agreements between employers and employes. They based this action on the fundamental right of every man to act as a free agent, so long as his action did not infringe on the rights and privileges of others.

The employers' association's circular also asserted "that the unwonted power conceded to these (journeymen's) unions has in innumerable instances been abused for the perpetration of tyrannical exactions and petty, humiliating annoyances. Stipulations have been broken (by the journeymen's unions) with impunity; men, discharged as objectionable, have been forced back upon their employers; and boycotts and strike have been rashly threatened and declared when resistance to such and other irresponsible actions was attempted. On a comparatively small number of men, the leaders in the national and local brewery workmen's unions, rests the responsibility for the misdirection and willful abuse of the power mistakenly granted to these organizations in the settlement of labor questions. A much graver responsibility, however, do these men assume, when they prostitute their sway over the minds and actions of brewery workmen, by drawing them into affiliation with anarchism, upon which every loyal citizen looks with condemnation and abhorrence."

In view of these facts and considerations the employers adopted the following resolutions:

Resolved, That at the expiration of existing contracts no new agreements shall be made with any brewery workmen's unions.

Resolved, That we assure our employes and the public that this action is not taken for the purpose of reducing the present scale of wages, but for the purpose of restoring to the employers the full measure of their labor, although we are paying to-day, for the hours of work and kind of labor required, higher wages than are paid in any other industry.

Resolved, That we further assure our workmen that, while we recognize their right to secure to themselves all the legitimate benefits to be derived from association and co-operation, we must insist that their efforts in this direction must be limited to that point where they begin to infringe upon the rights of others.

Resolved, That if the carrying out of these resolutions should lead to strikes, we faithfully promise to the workmen remaining with us, and to those who take the places made vacant by seceding, full protection and continuance of employment as long as they perform their duties satisfactorily; and that in making this promise, we state distinctly that this protection will be extended to all employes, irrespective of nationality.

Resolved, That as law abiding citizens of this country, we express our abhorrence of anarchism, and protest, in the name of the brewers of this country and of thousands of loyal citizens, against the action of the journeymen in having a stigma attached to our trade, in the public mind, on account of anarchical sympathies manifested by brewery workmen's unions.

In addition the local employers pledged themselves to resist any unjustifiable encroachments upon their rights as employers, and they endorsed the resolutions adopted by the board of trustees of the United States brewery association, at St. Louis, Mo., 1886. They further bound themselves not to take advantage of the misfortune of any competing brewer who was a party to an agreement, and whose business suffered through any strike, boycott, lock out or similar consequence of labor troubles; that they would not furnish beer, ale or porter to the customers of such brewer, and would instruct their agents to act in harmony with this understanding.

The contract proposed to be submitted by the journeymen to their employers provides: (1) That only members of the national union of brewery workmen are to be employed; (2) men recommended by salaried keepers shall not be employed; (3) men to be consecutively promoted; (4) no man to be ordered to do work that will injure his health; (5) men dismissed to have the right of complaint; (6) no man to be removed on account of sickness; (7) men not to be dismissed in the winter, but to be laid off in turn; (8) when urgency requires, the men to be put at other branches; (9) men to live and board where they choose; (10) no apprentice to twenty-five men; (11) no man to be blacklisted for carrying out the orders of his union; (12) brewers to use only union malt, barrels and casks; (13) men to work two hours out of each day's work. Six days to constitute a week's work.

Wages—Malt millers, workmen at the kettle, in the fermenting room, cellar men, first man in wash house, \$18 per week; others, \$16; watchmen, \$15; apprentices, \$9. Sunday work, double price. Beer to be furnished free during work hours.

In the event of the employers approving the stipulations of this contract, the brewery engineers will offer a contract, which, while practically embracing the clauses contained in the brewers' contract, have special clauses in reference to the engineers: (1) The engineers are not to be under the control of the brewers' foreman; (2) no man in the engineers' department to be laid off during the winter—the head engineer, to provide them with work in his department; (3) the head engineer only to employ men for his department; (4) every employee to be entitled to a recommendation when leaving the employ or on being discharged; (5) men in the engineering department to be paid all the year round; (6) head engineer to receive \$30 to \$35 per week, as-

sistants \$21, firemen \$18, oilers \$15, coal passers \$14; (7) seven days of ten-hours to constitute a week's work. Beer to be furnished free during work hours.

If this contract should also be approved, then contracts will be offered by the coopers and the other branches of labor performed in a brewery.

All the various trades engaged in the brewery industry are under the jurisdiction of the Journeymen brewers' national association; yet each branch offers a specific contract. If either contract is rejected, all the others are nullified. The master brewers object to this, and they also object to certain clauses which they claim practically takes the control of their affairs out of their hands.

The bosses have pooled their issues throughout the entire country. In Albany and Chicago the fight has gone much further than in this city.

Last Sunday the local journeymen brewers' organizations resolved not to take any direct action. Their programme is to have the Central labor union make the fight on the present contract, while they (the brewers) will continue on at work under the old agreement.

THE CIGAR MAKERS.

The Ground Lost During the Year—Refusal of New Local Unions to Suspend Rebels Against Constituted Authority.

The local unions of the cigar makers' international union are just now passing through a crisis. These unions have for a number of years fought earnestly against the tenement house system, and a few years ago succeeded in getting through the legislature a bill prohibiting the manufacture of cigars in such places. This was considered by the cigar makers at the time to be a great victory, but when the disputes to which the law led reached the highest courts it was declared to be unconstitutional. Since that decision the manufacturers have been preparing to return to the old system, and lately they have largely worked back into it. The cigar makers' unions have struggled hard to prevent it, but it would seem without success. As a result the membership has been falling away, and the outlook is gloomy, indeed.

An assessment which had been levied to sustain the union in its endeavors to defeat the tenement house manufacturers has been repudiated by a large number of the membership, and as a consequence they have been suspended, the men employed in Stratton & Storm's factory, on Twenty-seventh street and Third avenue, especially, having denied the legality of the assessment and refused to pay it. Individuals in several other establishments have also refused to pay. The men in Stratton & Storm's have gone into the courts on the matter, nearly three hundred men having brought suit against Union 144 for illegal suspension. Besides, several other large factories have become "non-union," not having any further use for the blue label.

The international convention of the cigar makers which met at Binghamton last year passed a resolution against the abolition of the internal revenue tax on tobacco, and appointed a committee to proceed to Washington to influence legislation in accordance with the resolution. But it appears that while the representatives of the union at Binghamton desired the tax retained, a large number of the local cigar makers wanted the tax taken off. These people started an agitation in opposition to the action of the convention, and offered resolutions in their local meetings condemning what had been done at Binghamton. The meetings refused to endorse them on account of not desiring to be in conflict with the higher body; but meetings of cigar makers were called outside of the union and the resolutions adopted. President Strasser warned these people that their action could be construed as insubordination; that the resolution was in fact a law of the international body, and that if they continued their demonstrations they would have to suffer the consequences. The tax abolitionists answered this threat by calling a mass meeting at Cooper union. The result was that President Strasser ordered unions 144 and 90 to suspend the prominent actors in the agitation. This order forced the question before these unions for action; but when, in the board of managers, the motion to suspend was brought up, a terrific storm was raised. After a long and angry discussion it was decided to send the motion to all the shops to be voted on. When the returns came in to the offices of the two unions it was found that the motion to suspend the rebels against constituted authority was lost by a decisive majority. Therefore, the men who had agitated for the abolition of the internal revenue tax remained in good standing in the unions.

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Where the Profits Went.

NEW YORK.—Three years ago I was employed in the financial office of a southwestern railroad. The office was located in one of our large eastern cities. The net receipts that year over and above all operating expenses had fallen somewhat below the previous years, and the general manager was trying to find out where the trouble lay. He wrote down to the superintendent and auditor and asked for a detailed statement of all expenses and receipts. They arrived a week later, and we set to work to find out what they showed. At last he put me to work at figuring on the wages of the common laborers, "section hands," as they call them. The gangs of these section hands had been increased in number that year on account of lengthening of the road, and the aggregate paid in wages was considerably higher than previously for that reason. When the manager saw that, he at once said: "Yes; I knew it. That's where the leak is. That item must be cut down." I concluded for my own information and satisfaction that I would figure out what we were paying those men. The foreman got \$30 a month, whether they were busy or idle. The men were paid by the day at the rate of \$1.75 per day. They made during two fairly good months, \$15.50 a month on the average, or say fifty-five cents per working day. The foremen generally boarded their men and for this absorbed about all their earnings.

This was in the "new southwest." Shortly after came the great Missouri Pacific strike. The treasurer of our road said he had no fear of our men striking, as they were paid and treated so well.

W. BENDEL.

British Manufacturers Alarmed at Our Free Trade Agitation.

GLASGOW, March 27.—As free traders, and as a means toward advancing single tax doctrine, you are quite right in supporting Cleveland. The abolition or the reduction of the tariff will pave the way for the understanding and acceptance by the American nation of the great principle of "the land for the people." The manufacturing interests on this side view with alarm the establishment of free trade in the United States, for they say, as long as Americans hold fast to protection they can be relied upon as good customers. Goods that Americans require can

be produced on this side cheaper largely for the reason that here machinery and nearly all the necessary materials are free of a large share of the burden which in the United States they have to bear. I have talked with a number of manufacturers who ship goods regularly to the United States, and they all fear the establishment of free trade there, and say that in such an event Americans will become masters of the industries of the world.

FRANK BELL.

State Committee United Labor Party.

The state committee of the united labor party of New York met at the Mansion house, Albany, last Saturday, April 3, to arrange for the election of delegates from this state to the national conference to be held in Cincinnati, May 15. It was settled that the basis of representation in the nominating convention should be upon the vote cast in this state last fall for the head of the labor ticket; that no man should be a delegate to the national convention who was not wholly identified with the united labor party; and that the delegates to the Cincinnati conference are to be chosen by conventions in the congressional districts, the conventions to be called by the state committee, each for his own district. It was said that provision had been made to secure full representation at Cincinnati in case of any default.

How the Poor Man is Encouraged to Drink Champagne.

In 1887 the duty on those "spirits distilled from grain," the manufacture of which is controlled by the whisky ring, averaged 396 per cent. The duty on champagnes that year averaged 53 per cent; thus the poor are encouraged to waste their surplus earnings on champagne rather than whisky.

A Luxury and a Necessity.

That luxury, the horseshoe, pays 55 per cent duty, while that necessity to every poor man, the gold watch, pays 25 per cent under our present tariff.

PEN, PASTE AND SCISSORS.

Jay Gould is said to be turning his attention to the purchase of enormous tracts of land.

The South Africa diamond field last year yielded gems amounting to 3,645,399 carats, valued at over \$30,000,000.

A German paper says that a company has been formed to manufacture watches to be run by electricity instead of a spring.

A Swedish farmer has connected a dynamo with a waterfall and intends to use electricity to light his farm and to run his machines.

The aristocratic corps of the German army recently succeeded in taking good photographs of large tracts of country from a balloon a mile and a half up in the air.

The Boatmen's savings bank of St. Louis has purchased a corner lot in that city for \$150,000, and the Post-Dispatch congratulates its fellow citizens on the wealth that will be added to their city by the increase in land values, consequent on the erection of a handsome bank building.

The new Spanish cruiser, Reina Regenta, left the Clyde for Spain this morning. She was built by Messrs. Thompson at Clydebank for the Spanish navy, and on her trial maintained for nine hours a speed of twenty-four miles per hour, a record unequalled by any other war cruiser afloat.

A letter from Japan tells that "another way to worship Buddha, in the temple at Kioto, is to chew the prayer paper, and, when sent, throw it at the god, through a wire screen. If it goes through, and sticks on the god, the prayer will be answered. If it hits on the screen it is no good."

Berlin now utilizes the sewerage of the city by conveying it in pipes to the outlying districts, and then with force pumps spreading it over the ground in trenches. Sandy wastes which formerly produced nothing have by this means been made very valuable for market gardening, and the finest vegetables are raised on them.

The Chinese authorities were officially instructed at the last eclipse of the moon to wear court dress, beat gongs and drums, and pour from being swallowed up by the sun, as long as the moon was above the horizon. When she disappeared they were to make one low obeisance, but need not bother to save her any longer when she was below the horizon.

Everybody knows something about Lord Tennyson's poetry. Lord Tennyson is known about his butter and cream. His dairy, the management of which is in the hands of Mrs. Hallam Tennyson, is known for the excellence of the butter, cream and milk it sends to market. In the Isle of Wight there is an increasing demand for the produce.—London Echo.

It is proposed to preserve fish alive by placing them in vessels partly filled with water and hermetically sealed. It is said that fish so confined have been found alive after three weeks, without either air or water having been changed, while fish in an open jar died in forty-eight hours. If the air in the vessel is compressed the life of the fish is still further prolonged.

The Western union telegraph company is conducted on strict business principles. The girls in the bookkeeping department received their salaries for March the other day and were docked two days' pay for absence on March 12 and 13—the blizzard days. It is not now a whit more difficult to know from the salaries of the president and other high officials of the company.

The Copts of Egypt have a very old industry, that of artificial egg hatching. There are 700 such establishments within a short distance of Cairo, and the production of chickens from the ovens reaches 12,000,000 annually. The season for incubating lasts through three months in the early summer. The country people take fresh eggs to the owners of the ovens and give two of each newly hatched chick.

Berlin has two railroads owned and run by the city government: one of them, the Ringbahn, encircles the entire city; the other runs through it in an irregular line and connects with the Ringbahn at both ends. This latter road is called the Stadtbahn and is elevated on stone pillars and is comparatively needless. The fares are graduated according to the distance traveled. There are two classes of coaches. The roads are very profitable.

Mrs. Betty Green of New York has amassed a large fortune, estimated at several millions, by some of the best conceived and most daring enterprises ever undertaken on the stock market. Her father, a New England whaler, left her some millions with which to commence operations, which are characterized by consummate business ability. Mrs. Green is abstemious in her habits, rigidly economical in expenditure, dresses with pure simplicity, and may be continually encountered proceeding to business in horse cars.

The oldest newspaper in the world is said to be the Pekin Gazette. It is the official organ of the Chinese government, and has been published continually for 200 years. It hardly represents the modern idea of a newspaper, being a thin, little, narrow pamphlet, about four inches wide by ten long, with a yellow cover, tied on with bits of twisted paper. Those who can do so send it by beginning at the back and reading down the line, instead of across it. In this paper the efforts of the government and the appeals to it are published.

The new steamship City of New York, just launched at a ship yard on the Clyde, makes a new departure in ship building. She is practically unsinkable. A longitudinal water-tight bulkhead divides her into two half-ships, each with its own engines, separate supply of coal and separate sc

THE WEEK.

In 1861—nearly a generation ago—congress levied a direct tax of \$20,000,000 on real estate, apportioning it to the different states, in accordance with the provision of the constitution, in the ratio of population. Most of the loyal states paid their shares of the tax in full, and a very large portion of the amount due from the seceded states was secured by the seizure and sale of the property of individuals. The money was needed for the prosecution of the war, and was spent as soon as collected. Of the \$20,000,000 levied, \$17,559,665 was paid; and the balance has since been carried upon the books of the treasury department as still due from various states.

It is now proposed to refund the amount of this tax to the states by whose citizens it was paid. The chief argument advanced in favor of this repayment is that it will enable the treasury department to write off the outstanding balances that appear on its books. The true reason for the proposition is that if by this and other large appropriations the existing surplus in the treasury can be got rid of, the advocates of free trade will be deprived of an *ad captivum* argument, which they are using with great effect, and the advocates of protection will have an excuse for shouting, as they enter the coming campaign, that the revenues of the government are no greater than its legitimate expenses.

The wrangle in the house of representatives over the direct tax bill is the skirmish which precedes the coming battle. It is a maneuvering for position. And considering that the measure is in the nature of a direct bribe offered to the twenty-eight states among whom the money is to be divided, the fact that a large minority of the democratic members are resolute to prevent its passage, is a hopeful omen for the cause of freedom.

Why a paper dollar backed by the authority and credit of a government which has paid its debts should be of less value than one backed by the authority and credit of a government which has not paid its debts, is a puzzle past finding out. That it is of less value is precisely what is implied by Senator Peck's amendment to the bill providing for the purchase of United States bonds by the secretary of the treasury. Here is the amendment as adopted by the senate of the United States April 4—years 37, says 13:

That whenever the circulation or any part thereof of any national bank not in full payment shall be surrendered by the deposit of United States notes in the treasury or otherwise, and the same or an equivalent amount is not taken by other national banks within thirty days thereafter, the secretary of the treasury is hereby authorized and directed to purchase, at the market price thereof, an equivalent amount in silver bullion in excess of the minimum of \$2,000,000 worth per month for coinage purposes, which shall be coined and used as provided in the act passed Feb. 28, 1875, entitled, "An act to authorize the coinage of the standard silver dollar and to restore its legal tender character," provided that nothing in this act shall alter or repeal said act of Feb. 28, 1875.

Just consider a moment. The secretary of the treasury, observing money to be tight in Wall street, and securities consequently comparatively low, expends \$10,000,000 in the purchase of government bonds for cancellation. Some of these bonds—say \$5,000,000—are the property of national banks, which have had them on deposit in Washington for years past as security for their circulation—eating their cake and having it too—and of course the bonds being sold, the bank notes issued on the strength of them must be retired. The volume of money is thus diminished by \$5,000,000. One would think that if the secretary of the treasury issued \$5,000,000 in United States notes to take the place of the bank notes, buyers and sellers would be very willing to use them. Such a course, however, would be contrary to those canons of finance that have been used with such effect in plundering the common people of the United States. The secretary must go to the treasury again for some more money, with which to buy enough silver to coin five millions of dollar pieces, and having coined these dollars and locked them up in a vault where nobody can get at them, then, and not till then, he may issue paper dollars, based on silver dollars that nobody will consent to use.

If the United States were to buy in every penny of their indebtedness to-morrow, and could buy it in at par, they would, under the Beck amendment, be forced to pay out \$2 for every dollar's worth of bonds held by national banks—one dollar for the bond and another dollar for silver to replace the bond as security for currency. Was ever such a jugglery of swindling!

One step in the right direction has been taken by the house of representatives in the passage of the \$15,000,000 fractional currency bill. But in view of the vote on Mr. Beck's amendment, it seems highly improbable that even this slight recognition of the people's rights will be accorded a place among our statutes.

Reports from Rhode Island of April 4 state that on that day the market for votes opened at \$5 with a brisk demand and strong upward tendency. Many holders declined to enter the market, even to the extent of naming figures, preferring to stimulate inquiry by an affectation of confidence in the value of their franchises. Prices quickly mounted, and many transactions took place at \$6, \$7 and \$8, prompt delivery and strict spot cash. The upward movement continued during the afternoon, and the highest point was reached at 3 p. m., when \$10 was freely offered and accepted. The published quotations, however, by no means represent the real strength of the market. A very large number of private transactions took place, and it is said that in many cases as much as \$50 was realized for a single vote.

Many complaints are made of irregular dealings. In some instances, it is said, the same goods were sold twice to different purchasers, one of the buyers receiving only a pretended delivery. It is needless to point out that conduct of this kind is detrimental to the interests of sellers, and if continued at subsequent sales will have a tendency to diminish the value of their wares.

It is said that the late chief justice of

the United States has left an estate valued at something less than \$30,000. Society is shocked at the prospective indigence of his family, and proposes to raise a fund, either by private contributions or by legislative appropriation, that may enable them to live "in the style to which they have become accustomed."

The chief justice of the United States receives a salary of \$10,500 a year. He is a servant of the people. There are quite a number of his employers who earn—or at all events are allowed to keep out of their earnings—considerably less than \$10,500 a year. And when they die, if they have been so improvident or so unfortunate as to leave only a trifle of \$30,000 to their families—why, the families just have to make the best of it.

It is pleasing to learn that Mr. Waite's family disclaim any desire to be thus provided for. But the proposition to raise the fund is instructive, as showing how natural it is for those accustomed to live by the labor of others to see no shame in pauperism and to look with horror upon the prospect of any of their number having to go to work.

The western railroad strikes are virtually at an end. An agreement has been signed between Chairman Hoge of the Brotherhood and T. V. Powderly of the Knights of Labor by which these two organizations will act together against the railroad companies, but it is not known as yet whether the agreement includes the reopening of the present strike. There seem to exist serious doubts as to whether the knights and brotherhood men would, in view of their experiences lately, obey any order which would have a tendency to renew the struggle just closed.

The strike began on Monday, February 27, after frequent conferences by the engineers and firemen with the managers of the Burlington road respecting demands which they had made for an equalization of pay—the passenger engineers to receive 3½ cents per mile and the freight engineers at the rate of 4 cents per mile, whether they were employed on the main line or branches, and regardless of the classes of engines. The company offered a compromise, which was that on its main line it would pay the same as was paid on competing lines, but on side lines, where traffic was light, to ask the same price "as was reasonable and fair." Sixteen hundred engineers and firemen left their engines, and 12,000 conductors, brakemen and round house employees were thrown out of work. The strike gradually spread to other railroad systems—at one time including all the roads running into Chicago and their branches, and involving nearly 100,000 men.

Jacob Sharp died at his home in this city on Thursday, April 7. Had he died three years ago, when his purchase of the New York board of aldermen was simply a matter of common fame, and had not yet been made the subject of a criminal indictment, he might have been held up to the youth of this city as an excellent specimen of a self-made man—an example of the success that any American boy might hope to achieve who should bring to his life work the qualities of energy, perseverance and honesty. Dying now, with a cloud of disgrace overshadowing him, he will point out altogether different moral, and young men will be urged to learn from his unhappy fate, that wrong doing never prospers.

Yet Jacob Sharp was the same man in 1884 as in 1888; and what is more, everybody knew perfectly well what kind of a man he was. It was no secret that he had in some way influenced legislation by bribery. It was perfectly well understood that he had done the same thing before, in securing the franchise of the Seventh avenue road. Yet honorable men did not hesitate to associate with him, and though the newspapers said for a time some hard words about him, it was well understood that in that they were only following their vocation, and that their hard words really didn't mean anything.

More than this, there are plenty of men alive to-day in these United States, honored and respected pillars of churches, some of them, noted for their benefactions, of whom it is notorious that they have influenced legislation for their own profit by methods just as corrupt as and far more injurious to public welfare than those employed by Jacob Sharp. It was right that Sharp should be punished for his crime; and though he managed to avoid the state prison, there can be no question that he was terribly punished. But it is greatly to be feared that his punishment will be looked on by those who most need to be warned from following his footsteps, less as a warning against crime than as a warning against being found out.

The truth is, that in spite of his criminality, Jacob Sharp was a fair type of the successful self-made man. He bribed legislators, it is true, but only because there was no other way of getting the legislation he wanted—the statesmen he had to deal with were deaf to argument, and lameless in demanding bribes. He saw his own profit in providing needed public facilities. Thanks to our corrupt system, he could only get permission to provide these public facilities by bribery; and he bribed. Elsewhere he was a good husband and father, a staunch friend, a man whose word could be depended on, and an attendant at a Christian church. He came to New York without a dollar, and he died worth several millions.

Ordinarily this would have insured him glowing obituaries in the newspapers and "favorable mention" in the churches. But he was not merely found out—that of itself would have made no difference—but publicly found out.

The squabble between the representatives of the United States and the government of Morocco is something worse than ridiculous. Judging by the newspaper headlines and the excited tone of the press dispatches, one might suppose that some frightful wrong had been done to citizens of the United States, and that prompt action was necessary to protect American lives, or, at all events, American property. The simple truth is that no American citizen has been in danger of life, limb or estate for a single instant, and the whole trouble has arisen out of a thoroughly indefensible attempt by an officer of the United States to interfere between the Moorish government and its citizens.

Under the treaty with Morocco natives of the country in the employ of American citizens have a right to American protection—that is, they can be sued or tried only before the United States consular court, the Moorish government waiving, for the time being, its jurisdiction over them. To be assured of these privileges, however, such employees must be registered at the consulate, and the authorities notified of such registration. Not long ago the United States consul at Tangier transmitted to the Moorish government a somewhat lengthy list of *proteges*, with the announcement that he had duly registered them as American employees. The Moorish government responded, not questioning the consul's rights, but asking for the particulars of each case—the name of the employing American, and so on. The consul answered that these things were none of the Moorish government's business, and refused to give the information; upon which the government disregarded the protections and proceeded to tax, fine and imprison the *proteges* just as if they had been the ordinary kind of Moors. And hence has arisen all the trouble—the indignant dispatches of the consul, the lavish expenditure for cable messages, the rushing to and fro of ships of war, and all the rest of it.

Considering that a protected Moor has a pretty good time as compared with his unprotected compatriots—that he escapes bastinadoing, and irregular taxation, and imprisonment, and other every day difficulties of ordinary Moorish existence, it is evident that it is worth something to be an American *protege*. Our state department might do well to ask Consul Lewis for that bill of particulars which he has refused to give authorities of Morocco.

General Daniel Butterfield presented diplomas to 129 bricklayer graduates of the New York trade schools on April 6. Of course he made a speech on the occasion. "If I had ten sons," said he, "and \$10,000,000, I would not give one of them a cent until he had learned a trade." This is very pretty, and no doubt the plan would work well. Most any one would learn a trade to get \$10,000,000. What General Butterfield forgot to say was that if he himself had learned a trade and stuck to it he might have had the ten boys, but he certainly wouldn't have had the \$10,000,000.

The emperor of Germany, like the rat catcher who lived in Westminster, has a daughter, and, to carry the parallel still further, the gentlefolk all take off their hats when they meet her. This young lady has fallen in love with a young gentleman named Alexander Something or Other—called Battenberg for short—who heartily reciprocates her affection. Mr. Alexander has called on the emperor and told him how matters stand, and both Mr. Emperor and Mrs. Emperor are satisfied that the wedding should take place. If the young people were named Smith and Jones there would be no more trouble and we might look forward to seeing an account of the nuptials in the society columns of the Berlin press with full particulars of the bride's and bridesmaids' costumes, and a list of the presents, with their value. But just because the young woman is a princess and the young man a prince there is the deuce and all of a row about the matter. The emperor of Russia doesn't like Henry, and says he will feel hurt if the marriage takes place. And when the emperor of Russia feels hurt a good many other folks are likely to get hurt, too. Prince Bismarck doesn't like it either, and threatens to turn sulky, go home to his estates, and let the German people see how they can get along without him. On the other hand, the queen of England, whose daughter is married to a brother of Battenberg, is crazy for the match, and is going to run over to Berlin on purpose to see about it. Altogether things are mixed, and no one knows what may happen. It is not at all improbable that the natural desire of two young people to get married may suffice to set all Europe by the ears. On the whole one cannot help thinking that the world would be a great deal better off if the emperors and queens and chancellors could be compelled to lay aside their nonsensical pretensions and go to work for their living.

The law keeps strict watch over the sacred rights of property in England, and will have none of Cardinal Manning's doctrine of the starving man and his right to bread. In East Sussex, William Cook, a laborer out of work and starving, stole some turnips. The jury recommended him to mercy, but the judge gave him two months hard labor. And at Grantham a man of good character, seventy-three years old, was sentenced to seven days hard labor for entering a store and asking for an onion. The English newspaper which reports the case calls it rather larri.

But where the rights of property are not concerned English law views the transgressions of the lower classes with lenient eye. Michael Burns was convicted at Brighton of an assault upon his wife, having dragged her out of bed, kicked her, struck her and given her two black eyes. He was fined ten shillings. Another English gentleman named Rush, a resident of London, threw his wife down stairs in a transport of affection and then hurled a lamp after her, setting fire to her clothes. The magistrate remonstrated with Mr. Rush and made him find security in \$5 to keep the peace for six months.

Patriotic protectionist Americans, who want to see their country foremost in the international race for prosperity, will rejoice to hear of a singular act of folly of which the English people have lately been guilty. The London dock companies have made special arrangements with the transatlantic lines, by which not only will the discharge and delivery of cargoes be much expedited, but the expenses of handling will be very much reduced. The dock companies, in fact, guarantee London consignments all the speed and facilities in delivery now offered by Liverpool and Glasgow, at about half the expense charged to consignees at those ports for similar services. The foolish Londoners

imagine that in this way they are going to increase the traffic and wealth of their port. Of course the real result will be, on well known protectionist principles, that they will be deluged with foreign goods, and see the grass growing in their streets.

Allegheny City has had an object lesson in political economy. Not very long ago it was discovered that beneath the city there was an immense reservoir of natural gas, which could be utilized at the mere cost of piping. Then Allegheny City rejoiced greatly at the prospect of cheap fuel and light, and the more pious residents had a good deal to say about the goodness of God to the inhabitants of that part of Pennsylvania. But now that natural gas has been generally introduced throughout the city, and people have adjusted their household economy to its use, the folks who own the ground through which alone the gas can be got at, have raised the price some sixty per cent. Allegheny city has ceased rejoicing, and providence is less generally commended.

Once in a while we get an opportunity to see the tremendous rate at which land values are increasing in the upper part of New York city. Only six years ago, in 1882, seventy-eight vacant city lots belonging to the Jumel estate were put up at auction and bought in, the prices bid being unsatisfactory. On the 3d of this month the same lots were again put up at auction, and this time they were sold, the prices being "satisfactory" to the estate. At the first sale the seventy-eight lots were bought for \$70,440, an average of \$903 per lot. At the second sale they brought \$248,405, an average of \$3,184.60 per lot. Increase in value per lot, \$2,281.60—two hundred and fifty-two per cent for six years, or forty-two per cent a year!

Figures like these are fairly staggering. They show us, as by a flash of lightning, the frightful power of taxation that our system of private land ownership places in the hands of individuals. Assuming that the prices paid for these Jumel estate lots represent twenty-five years' purchase, the ownership of the seventy-eight lots carried with it in 1882 the power of exacting from the people of New York a yearly tribute of \$2,817.60, which is now increased to \$9,936.30. Is it any wonder that a million of New York's people are stied in tenement houses?

As land values soar upward, flesh and blood goes down. When all the land is monopolized by private owners, and the majority of the people are compelled to surrender all they earn above a mere subsistence in return for the privilege of using enough of mother earth to stand and eat and sleep on, it is evident that there must be some unfortunate who will find even standing room a luxury beyond their means, and who, unless private or public benevolence comes to their relief, must actually leave the planet and try their fortunes in another world. Such a case occurred here in New York a week ago.

Hans Stockrick and Fanny, his wife, were two Polish Jews, who, crowded out of their native country by population pressure and race persecution, came to the United States. The man was a tailor by trade, with the industry and economy of his race. They had a little baby—an eight months' old boy. They landed in New York, as near as can be learned, about a month ago, and established themselves in a wretched little attic room in a tumble down two story tenement in Crosby street, for which they paid \$5 a month. They were not paupers. They had their little savings and were full of hope. And so Hans Stockrick went out to look for work.

But alas! there was no work for Hans Stockrick. How could there be? There was only so much work to go round, and for every job there were two people who wanted it. What chance had a man, ignorant of the language and without friends? Day after day Hans renewed his quest, and night after night he came home disappointed and despairing. And so the little hoard dwindled and dwindled, till at last it vanished altogether.

They lived awhile on what they could pick from garbage pails and ash barrels. But garbage will not feed an infant. The mother found dried up for want of nourishment, and the baby cried all day for food.

So at last the crisis came. The rent was due, and there was no money to pay it with. Their sleeping place on earth was wanted for some one else who could afford to pay for it. There was no place for them in this world, and so they left it. Rat poison could be had when food could not, and together Hans Stockrick and his wife departed on their second emigration. Think what a story they will have to tell before the Judgment seat.

They have a queer code of official ethics in England. The late khedive of Egypt, Ismail, had, or pretended to have, a claim of \$7,000,000 against the Egyptian government. He submitted this claim to the English gentlemen who preside over Egypt, and was rather laughed at than otherwise. Then he betthought himself, and engaged the judge advocate general of the British army to look after his interests, promising him, it is said, a fee of \$100,000. Mr. Marriott went to Egypt, and very speedily convinced his fellow countrymen in charge of that unfortunate country that Ismail was a much abused individual, and his claim an entirely just one. So they spoiled the Egyptians. Ismail got his \$7,000,000, the judge advocate general got his \$100,000, and Sir E. Vincent, the Egyptian minister who allowed the claim, presumably got nothing but the satisfaction of having done his duty by the country that had adopted him. Some pestilent demagogue tried to make a fuss about the matter in parliament, but Mr. Marriott faintly explained that his judge advocate general gave him very little work to do, and he thought he had a right to turn an honest penny by outside jobs. The attorney general said it was all right, and the motion of censure was lost by 213 votes to 126.

Professor F. T. Miles of the university of Maryland delivered a lecture in Baltimore lately on "Food and Digestion," in the course of which he said: The criminal classes are called dirty, lazy

and ugly. Of course they are. They are dirty because they have no spare heat to let go; lazy, because the muscles are weak and nature tells them to keep still when hungry. You would be astonished to know how much of the beauty of the fairest women is made up of fat. The criminal classes are ugly because they have no fat. There will be a great mission to the poor some day to see that they get enough of good food.

Professor Miles is quite right. There will be a great mission to see that the poor get enough to eat. In fact, there is such a mission already. And the chief point of its teaching is that the social system which forces some men to suffer hunger is by that very fact condemned as contrary to the law of God.

Gilbert & Sullivan never imagined anything much funnier than the dispute among the church of England clergy as to whether Prince Oscar of Sweden might or might not lawfully be married in a certain church. The prince was specially anxious to be married at a church in Bourne-mouth; and he wanted to be married according to the Swedish service. The question was, might he do it? At first the authorities said no; a foreign service couldn't be read in an English church. But then it was luckily discovered that the church had not been licensed for marriages. Of course that changed the situation altogether. The church was not a complete all-round church, and so might stand a Swedish service being read without defilement. And so it came to pass that Prince Oscar was lawfully married in a church in which, had it been lawful for him to be married there, he could not lawfully have been married. It takes time to think this out, but there's a whole sermon on ecclesiasticism in it.

There is something very comic in the flattering excitement of the legislators at Albany over the *World's* account of its reporter's interviews with a professional lobbyist. The innocent assemblymen were horrified to hear that people were going so far as to say that legislation could be influenced in other than straightforward and legitimate methods. Of course a committee is to investigate and find out what it all means; and equally, of course, the committee will report that the astounding assertion is absolutely without foundation.

There is an English nobleman called the earl of Harewood. He owns two villages, Harewood and Dunkswick. It is pretended that he does not own the people who live in these villages; but this is false. The people of the two villages are mostly Wesleyans. The earl of Harewood doesn't like this and signifies his august displeasure in the manner following. At Harewood he permits a Wesleyan chapel, but forbids service during "church hours," won't allow any Sunday school, and absolutely prohibits the administering of the sacraments at any time. At Dunkswick there is a chapel, but the congregation are forbidden to use it. Out of his loving kindness, however, the earl of Harewood allows them to worship in a barn, of course under proper restrictions.

It may be asked, Why don't these poor Wesleyans move away? The answer is, They can't. There is nowhere for them to go. If they migrate from their proper parish they will be arrested and sent back as vagrants. As far as they are concerned the earl of Harewood owns the earth, and, owning that, owns them.

Hillard & Ogden of Cincinnati announce that they are about to issue a weekly called the *United Labor Age*, which shall advocate the single tax and also strive to bring about a union between the union and united labor parties.

The following call for a conference of advocates of the single tax has been issued from Chicago. In summoning the conference Mr. Bailey states that he is complying with the request of over 400 single tax men who have written him on the subject:

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

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

Further details and instructions will be published in the New York STANDARD and other papers friendly to the cause.
WARREN WORTH BAILEY,
Chairman of the Provisional Committee.

Mr. Bailey also announces the following general committee on arrangements. Other names are to be hereafter added to the list:
Chairman, Warren Worth Bailey, No. 281 South Hoyne avenue, Chicago.
Secretary, M. K. LaShelle, Times building, Chicago.
Treasurer, Robert H. Cowdrey, 169 Quincy street, Chicago.
Judge James G. Maguire, San Francisco, Cal.
H. F. Ring, Houston, Tex.
H. Martin Williams, St. Louis, Mo.
L. P. Foster, Indianapolis, Ind.
Benjamin Adams, Charleston, S. C.
Freeman Knowles, Creese, Neb.
C. A. Higley, Minneapolis, Minn.
Thomas A. McCann, Detroit, Mich.
Richard L. Atkinson, Philadelphia, Pa.

STARVING IN THE MIDST OF WEALTH.

The Seven Hundred Miners of the Lehigh strike—Where Aid for Them Can Be Sent.

Seven hundred miners of the Lehigh valley, who are supposed to have been prominent in the recent struggle, have been blacklisted by their former employers. The meaning of this is that not one of them can obtain employment either in the mine in which he had formerly worked, or in any other mine in the entire Lehigh region. The mine owners and operators are apparently above all conspiracy laws, and have combined to prevent these unfortunates from working. Most of the men have families, and all of them are in great distress. The correspondent of the New York Herald says of their appeal for help:

This is the most pitiful cry of distress that

ever went forth from any body of beaten workmen in Pennsylvania, and it is but faintly pictured in the words of the miserable condition of hundreds of little families in the Lehigh region who are in absolute and immediate need of bread. It could not well be otherwise after six months of idleness in a thickly populated and dependent section, where the mine owners are veritable autocrats who control the employment, the homes, the stores which enter into the existence of the miners and laborers who sought to better their condition. The cry of the blacklisted is intensified by the fact that it is a wail of despair—the sorrowful exclamation of those who feel that their hunger without hope, because the gates which lead to the breaker and to the mouth of the mine are closed against them. It seems incredible that men laying claim to refinement and Christian charity, as some of these coal operators do, would so oppress the poor, yet such is the bitter fact, and the worst feature of it is that these seven hundred men are not thrown idle because there is no work for them, but merely to make of them examples that will serve for all future time to warn the miners against striking, even as the operators set their slaves drunk to warn their children against the degradation of drunkenness.

Contributions toward the aid of these miners and their families may be sent to John J. Meighan, Freeland, Luzerne county, Pa.

The Free Trade Question in Manitoba.

The people of Manitoba, Mich., are thoroughly aroused over the tariff question. A discussion which took place there last week and covered two nights was not confined to the expediency of higher or lower tariffs, but took the comprehensive form of "Absolute free trade versus any form of protective tariff." Rev. Albert Walkey of Manitoba took the affirmative, and Judge J. G. Ramsdell of Traverse the negative. About a thousand persons attended.

STRAWS WHICH SHOW THE WIND.

The New York Sun is already pegging down the flaps of the small tent in which it proposes to run another republican side show this year. —(Jacksonville Times-Union.)

The single tax theory is rapidly growing in favor among the masses of the people in this country. Notwithstanding the sneering and comments and sneers of the press and the adherents of the old political parties.—(West New Brighton, N. Y., Advance.)

"Now I begin to see the light. I can see how all my taxes on all my property will be reduced from \$200,000 to \$100,000 a year. Besides I have discovered that the single tax means absolute free trade, and a saving of nearly fifty per cent on all I purchase in the store the year round."—(Farmer quoted approvingly in editorial in Hempstead, Texas, Advance Guard.)

The taxation of corporate franchises is based on the idea that they are in some sense monopolies, and that in granting them the government has granted to individuals valuable privileges which belong to the community as a whole. Holders of franchises should either pay a tax on their gross earnings, or surrender them back to the power that gave them.—(Minneapolis Star and News.)

There are 100,000 girls taking the places which 100,000 men are leaving, and the result must be an increase of shiftlessness and loafism on the one hand and the decrease of vigor in the number of doing business on the other. After a girl has been in a place for a year or so she has been compelled to turn to something else she is ready to get married.—(Detroit Free Press.)

While the congressional committee is engaged in the investigation of alien landholding in the United States, it should turn its attention to the rapid acquisition of enormous tracts of public lands by syndicates and combines of American citizens. This evil is closely allied to the other, and if possible should be dealt with by the same legislation proposed to the spirit and genius of our institutions and to wise public policy.—(Indianapolis Journal.)

It is safe to say, as Mayor Hewitt does, that the remission of taxes on personal property would amount to a direct and substantial loss to New York or any other city that the increased value of real estate would directly prevent any loss to the grand list. Another reason, closely connected with the above, is that in taxing land we are in fact to a certain extent a monopoly, whose value has resulted from the growth of the city rather than from the efforts of its owner.—(Minneapolis Star and News.)

Time was when we had hundreds of millions of bare acres need of civilization, and any influx of immigration was fairly enough estimated a blessing, and those who came here were as convenient for filling huge continental holes as better men. That time is long since past, and the immigration of Europeans as well as at home has so far reduced our national domain that we want nothing now but settlers who can settle something.—(Indianapolis News.)

Ground rent is the rightful possession of the community, and should be paid as an ample fund for the payment of municipal expenses if the tax system were so arranged that the unearned increment should be diverted from the pockets of private individuals into the public treasury. The present system is based on principle and basing legislation upon it, the legislature can finally settle the question of municipal taxation. Continuous patching at the old garment only makes its defects more apparent.—(Harrisburg Evening Times.)

If a long and distressful struggle between the railway companies and their employees should result, the occasion might properly be seized upon by congress to consider and enact laws that would prevent the wanton misuse of highways, which are designed and provided for the use of the public, and which are not private property in the true sense of the term. Legislation against strikes should include measures to prohibit the forcing of strikes by methods analogous to those which have become involved in the trouble at Chicago. If the strike should become general the duty of regulating by law the relations of the railway companies to their employees could scarcely be longer evaded.—(Philadelphia Record.)

When the history of American politics for the decade comprised in the years from 1880 to 1900 is written, the Henry George movement will occupy a unique position. It reached its culminating point, apparently, when Mr. George was elected mayor of New York. As a separate political movement, the theory of a single tax on land seems to have declined since that date, until at the present time, Mr. George is an active supporter of President Cleveland on account of his position on the tariff tax, while Dr. McGlynn is still anxious to carry out the single tax idea by the political party methods. As an economic movement it is receiving as much recognition as ever. The movement for a single tax may be as to the so-called anti-labor party, the agitation of the land question has been of immense good. It has set multitudes to thinking on the methods of taxation and the remedy, as proposed by Henry George, for the acknowledged evils. The single tax on land has at least the merits of simplicity. Society gives the value to land by its aggregations into cities and towns, and it is proposed that society tax for the value it gives it. This nobody is robbed of the fruits of his toil to support the government. Nobody is compelled, as now by the tariff on wool, to pay twice as much as he otherwise would for a suit of clothes. Whether the single tax would work well in practice or not, cannot be told until the experiment is tried. But one thing is sure. Taxes ought to come off of property that can be hidden away and put in a property that, like the land, is held unimproved for speculation, to obtain a margin which is not earned, but which society creates, and which society could take and wrong nobody. At any rate, the tendency now is to put the burden of the tax on the holder of the land for speculation, and not on his neighbor who builds a house on the next lot. For in the latter case it operates as a line on improvements.—(Minneapolis Star and News.)

THE STANDARD.

HENRY GEORGE, Editor and Proprietor.

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THE DUTY ON TIN PLATES.

Mr. C. A. Scott, who signs himself
"Chairman tariff committee national iron
roofing manufacturers' association," tells
about the woes of his association in the
Age of Steel. It's the tariff that is making
the trouble. It always is either the tariff
or the laborer—either the workmen re-
fusing to have their pay cut down, or the
tariff tinkers threatening to lay unholy
hands on the sacred system which alone
prevents wages being reduced. This time
it is the tariff.If the Mills bill is passed, Mr. Scott tells
us, and tin plates are admitted free of duty,
the effect will be to "cause widespread con-
fusion and disaster among our sheet iron
hills and those industries immediately
connected with and closely dependent on
them." The United States will at once be
deluged with tin plates, which we shall
use not only for making iron cups, sauce
pans, tomato cans and other things of that
sort, but also for roofing our houses, to the
utter destruction of the galvanized sheet
iron industry.We now import from Europe each year
250,000 tons of sheet iron in the shape of
tin plates, while our entire domestic
manufacture of sheet iron of all gauges
and qualities is only 150,000 tons, of which
50,000 tons is now used in the making of
galvanized roofing and siding. If the
Mills bill passes this 50,000 tons of gal-
vanized iron will be replaced with an equal
quantity of pauper made tin plates. Thus
our output of sheet iron will be reduced by
one-third, to the terrible derangement of
our social economy. And after all, we
shouldn't get the tin plates any cheaper,
because, as Mr. Scott cogently puts it,
"what assurance have we that the
foreigner will not add to his profits the
one cent per pound duty that the Mills
committee proposes to cut off? It can be
done if desired"—on the same principles
probably that enabled the foreign man-
ufacturers of quinine to keep on collecting
the duty for their own behoof after we
had put quinine upon the free list. Mr.
Crowley has a word or two upon this
subject in another column, which we com-
mend to Mr. Scott's attention in passing.What we really ought to do, Mr. Scott
assures us, is to so arrange matters that
we may make our own tin plates for our-
selves, and stop dealing with the hated
foreigner altogether. And then Mr.
Scott gets down to particulars, and tells
us how the thing may be managed.The reason we don't make any tin
plates in this country now is because we
can't afford to pay for the sheet iron to
make them with. Sheet iron pays a duty
of fifty per cent, while tin plates pay only
a little less than twenty-five per cent; so
that if we make sheet iron into tin plates
we actually destroy a sixth of its value,
and the last end of the manufacturer is
worse than the first. It sounds funny;
but Mr. C. A. Scott vouches for it, and the
chairman of the T. C. N. I. R. M. A.
ought to know.Now there are two ways in which we
can make it profitable for our suffering
manufacturers to convert sheet iron into
tin plates. We can take the duty off
sheet iron—of course retaining the duty
on tin plates—or we can increase the duty
on tin plates to such an extent as to stop
their importation altogether. Mr. Scott
rejects the first method with horror, and
gives his voice for the second. It would,
he admits, involve a general advance in
the prices of tinware; but who, he nobly
asks—"who would not be willing to pay
two cents apiece more for tin cups, coffee
pots, etc., to add to the output of our
mills 250,000 tons of sheet iron now an-
nually imported from Europe in the shape
of tin plates, adding \$15,000,000 to labor,
employing \$30,000,000 invested in plants,
and providing the necessities of life for
600,000 people who would be directly sup-
ported from the business?" Accordingly
he formulates, on behalf of his committee,
this demand:The National iron roofing manufacturers' association ask that the duty on tin plates
may be advanced to an equality with other
items in the metal schedule. We can then
make tin plates here, locate 100 mills of two
teams each, keep \$20,000,000 at home that
now goes abroad, and reduce the revenue
\$5,000,000 annually.And to secure all this we have only to
pay two cents apiece more for our tin cups,
and coffee pots, and tomato cans, and dip-
pers, and pie plates, and dairy pans, and
candlesticks, and all the rest of it. We
could easily manage this by making our
tin cups, etc., last a little longer, and so
using fewer of them—although when one
comes to think of it, perhaps Mr. Scottmight not care to have our two cent
contributions made up in that way.So much for Mr. Scott, whom we may
dismiss with the sympathizing hope that he
won't be too much disappointed if he
doesn't happen to get quite all he asks for.
On the next page of the Age of Steel is
an extract from a letter which Mr. F. G.
Niedringhaus, president of the St. Louis
stamping company, has been sending to the
Iron Age. It is worth quoting:It is true that our free trade friends may be
able to put forth a strong argument in favor
of free tin plates, and looking at the question
merely from one standpoint, their point may
be well taken, as long as tin plates are not
made in this country. But, nevertheless, if
this one cent of duty, which is equivalent to
twenty per cent ad valorem, is taken off, tin
plates will be adopted for a great many things
for which sheet iron is now used. This would,
as a matter of course, lessen the demand for
sheet iron just to that extent, and a certain
number of men now employed in producing
that iron from the ore and coal beds to the
finished sheets must look for employment in
other channels, or else the price of labor must
be reduced to a point where it can effectively
compete with foreign labor. If any one will
take the trouble to look into the iron business
more closely, he will observe that the cost of
iron is all labor from beginning to end, and
that the profit upon the finished product
for the manufacturer, as can be clearly proven,
has not exceeded ten per cent, and in some
cases not five per cent, for quite a number of
years. Then, therefore, our free trade friends
say that it is the manufacturer that needs pro-
tection, you may put it down as all idle talk
and that they are passing upon a question
which they have not thoroughly investigated.
Give our American manufacturer labor at the
same price that the European competitor gets
it and he will not ask for any protection.
The whole question at issue, therefore, hinges
upon this one point—namely, What or how
much shall we pay those who labor? If we have
free trade, labor must work for exactly the same price it
does in Europe. In other words, you will have
pauper labor and a community without a
purchasing power. Whether or not this
would be advisable American policy is a
question that we will not attempt to answer,
but leave it to the wisdom of our national
representatives. Steel plates and sheets are
now being largely imported under the ad
valorem duty, and at that rate they can be
imported at a much lower figure than sheet
iron can be produced. This also is working
very depressingly upon the American man-
ufacturers of sheet iron, and the final result
will be that either this trade will have to be
left to European manufacturers or else the
wages of the operatives will have to be cut
down in order to overcome this competition.
It was our intention to have increased our
mill capacity, but from the present outlook
we think ourselves very lucky in not launch-
ing out any further in that direction. If the
free trade faction of the democratic party is
to control the politics of the country, it is not
difficult to foresee what hardships are in
store for our manufacturing communities.Putting Mr. Scott's argument and Mr.
Niedringhaus's argument together, we get
a pretty fair illustration of the protective
theory—a non-existent industry, the way to
bring it into being, and the people who
are going to benefit by it. It reads
smoothly enough. It has done effective
work before, and may do effective work
again. It has only one weakness, but
that is a fatal one. It is nonsense.When Mr. Niedringhaus says that "the
cost of iron is all labor from beginning to
end," leaving only a miserable five per
cent profit for the manufacturer, he says
what is perfectly true, and conveys an
idea that is absolutely false. It is true
that, given iron ore and coal lying beneath
the surface of the earth, nothing but labor
is required to produce any sort of iron
product, from pig iron to watch springs.
But it is utterly false that labor receives
as its reward anything like the total of its
product. Yet this last is clearly the as-
sumption that Mr. Niedringhaus makes, for
when he contemplates the result of a fall
in the price of iron plates he tells us that
the men engaged in manufacturing iron
must either go to work at something else,
or submit to a reduction of their wages.
Evidently it has not occurred to him that
there is a third party who now absorbs a
large part of the natural reward of both
labor and capital, on whom the loss might
without injustice be made to fall.There are deposits of coal and iron ore
in a great many different parts of the
United States; some easy to work and
handy to a market; others more difficult
and remote. Probably not one-fiftieth
part of them has been touched yet. No
man put them there. Divine providence
stored them away when the foundations
of the earth were laid, presumably for
the use of coming generations of mankind.Suppose that wherever one of these de-
posits is lying unused, the first man that
wished to were allowed to go and take
what iron ore or coal he wanted, freely,
as long as only he wanted them, and on
payment of a proper rent value tax what
other people wanted them too. What
would be the effect? Evidently that coal
mines and iron mines would at once be-
come divided into classes. The lowest
class would comprise the mines that no-
body cared to work yet—the poorest and
most difficult deposits. Next would come
the mines that men could work at renu-
nerative wages so long as they had no
rental value tax to pay. And above the
rent, taxed each according to its value,
would come the richer and more accessible
deposits, which could be worked to greater
profit. Under such conditions three great
economic laws would assert themselves
unchecked—the law of wages, the
law of rent and the law of competi-
tion. Miners working for hire
would receive a trifle better wages
than they could earn by working for
themselves on tax free deposits—because
if offered less or discharged from work,
they could at once migrate to the free
mines, where they would be their own
bosses, earning the whole product of their
labor, and not liable to discharge by any
man. Rental values would be determined
by the greater profits to be made by work-ing one mine rather than another mine—
since the moment the mining of any de-
posit became extraordinarily valuable,
men would compete for the privilege of
working it, and would be willing to pay
for that privilege a little less than the ex-
tra profit to be secured. And the law of
competition would assert itself in this:
that so soon as it became more profitable
to work in a free iron or coal mine than
at some other equally toilsome occupation,
more men would become miners and
would compete for the privilege of work-
ing mines that hitherto had paid no rental
value tax. The rental line would be
pushed forward and the line of free mines
be forced back. Throughout the whole
mining industry rental values would ad-
vance, and wages fall until they reached a
point at which it would no longer be de-
sirable to abandon other industries for
coal mining.There is nothing new or heretical in all
this. These laws of rent, wages and com-
petition are recognized by all standard
authorities on political economy, and would
probably not be disputed even by Messrs.
Scott and Niedringhaus. The trouble is
that their operation is interfered with by
our system of private land ownership,
which allows individuals to seat themselves
on the throne of God and dictate to less
favored individuals how much of God's
gifts they shall use and on what terms
they shall enjoy them. There are plenty
of coal and iron deposits yet untouched.
There are plenty of miners and laborers
standing idle who would be glad to work
them. But round them all the landlords'
parchment fences rise high and strong,
forbidding the access of labor to the
gifts of God. The rent tax is col-
lected with unflinching regularity, and
it rises and falls in strict accordance with
the law; but it goes to enrich the vice-
gerents of the Almighty who control the
earth, and not the community to whom it
properly belongs. The law of competition
asserts itself; but with coal and iron ore
deposits monopolized, and labor forbidden
to exert itself, save by permission of the
land owner, the effect of competition is of
necessity to force down wages to the point
of mere subsistence, to reduce the reward
of capital, where capital is called in to aid
in making labor more productive, and to
raise the rent tax to the highest possible
point.Mr. Niedringhaus tells us that if the duty
is taken off tin plates, the imported plates
will be used instead of domestic sheet iron.
This, he thinks, will lessen the demand for
sheet iron, "and a certain number of men
now employed in producing that iron from
the ore and coal beds to the finished sheets
must look for employment in other chan-
nels, or else the price of labor must be re-
duced to a point where it can effectively
compete with foreign labor." In the name
of common sense, why? Capital says it
can't afford to work any cheaper; and,
goodness knows, labor gets little enough as
it is. Why should either of them be
forced to take less? Why shouldn't the
mine owner—the landlord, who as a land-
lord has never done anything and never can
—why shouldn't he be made to stand the
loss? There are thousands upon thousands
of acres in Pennsylvania beneath which lie
stores of iron ore and coal, untouched since
the foundations of the earth were laid. If
capital and labor could get at these without
first submitting to a blackmail, then in-
stead the cost of iron would be "all labor
from beginning to end," save a small per-
centage for the use of capital. But does
Mr. Niedringhaus think in that event there
would be any danger of a deluge of sheet
iron from abroad, even were the last shred
of protection removed? Why, there are
to-day, in the mining and manufacturing
regions of Pennsylvania alone, enough
men, idle and eager to go to work, to
double or treble our production of sheet
iron, if only they could take the raw ma-
terial out of the earth where God put it.
And there is far more than enough capital
to set them all at work. It is only the
landlords that stand in the way—the men
who claim to be specially commissioned
by the Almighty to serve out His stores of
coal and iron ore at their own pleasure and
for their own price.And what people like Mr. Scott and Mr.
Niedringhaus either do not see or do not
choose to tell, is that these representatives
of providence are the only class of men in
the whole United States who can, in the
long run, profit by a protective tariff.
Whatever is gained by protection, they
gain. Nobody else gets anything, save in
transition periods, when economic policy
is suddenly changed, and then but very
little. Suppose, for instance, that tin
plates were absolutely barred out by a
prohibitory duty, what would be the effect?
There would be an increased demand for
iron. The men standing idle in Pennsylv-
ania would be set to work. If there was
work enough for them all wages might
rise a little. Then a rush of immigration
would be made into Pennsylvania, the
labor market would be overstocked, and
the strikes and lockouts and reductions
would begin again, even as now. But the
things that would increase in value, and
stay increased, would be iron lands, and
coal lands, and tin lands. And when once
the shock of the sudden change was over,
protectionist statisticians would compute
the value of Pennsylvania lands and prop-
erty, and, dividing it by the sum of the
population, tell us how rich the tariff had
made Pennsylvanians. And they would
point to the idle men, and the discontent-
ed workers, and the withered women, and
the stunted children, and tell us that a
little more protection would soon cure
all that. Just as they are doing now.There was a time when such talk as
that of Messrs. Scott and Niedringhaus
was potent with the wealth producers of
the United States. That time is passing,
and will soon be gone. For men are be-
ginning to realize that God made the
earth, not to be the plaything of a favored
few, but for the equal use of all; and that
foremost among the inalienable rights of
men are the right of access to nature's
storehouse, and the right to do what he
will with his own.

LEARNING TO PLAY AT WORK.

A Corinthian yachtsman is not, as the
uninitiated might suppose, a yachtsman
who lives in Corinth; but one who has ar-
rived at a knowledge of how to handle his
own yacht—who can hand, reef and steer,
and knows other things proper to be
known by an able seaman. To be a
yachtsman is easy enough. One has only
to buy a yacht, hire a captain and crew,
and remain complacently at home while
his vessel goes abroad to win racing cups for
him. Many yachtsmen, however, are not
satisfied with being merely yachtsmen;
they want to be Corinthian yachtsmen as
well, with a yea heave oh! and a runbe-
low, and a shivering of timbers, and a
general flavor of tar pots and southwest-
ers. There is a joy in ordering the man
at the wheel to "H-luff and be damned to
you," or in instructing the crew to "lay
aloft there, one of you, and stow that gaff
tawp!" that only the true Corinthian
knows. To heave the log and know what
you're doing when you heave it—to "shoot
the sun" through a "pig yoke," to scan
the verrier carefully, and with one eye
cocked knowingly aloft to tell the quarter-
master to "make it eight bells"—to pace
the moonlit deck with the lass that loves
a sailor, awaking the emotions of her in-
nocent heart with a whole string of lies
about that "harricane" down in the West
Indies last cruise, when we scudded before
it for forty-eight hours with an oil can
on the starboard quarter, and then hove
her to and rode it out like a duck—these
are joys that yachtsmen sigh for, but only
Corinthian yachtsmen know in their full
flavor of perfection.Now there are two ways of becoming a
Corinthian yachtsman. One is, to say
you're a Corinthian yachtsman; and the
other, to go to work and learn something
about sailing. The first method is to be
avoided, if possible; not on account of
its immorality—because the Corinthian
yachtsman is bound to disregard the truth,
anyhow, just like a fisherman, and a false-
hood more or less won't make much differ-
ence to him when he weighs his anchor
for the last time and goes into dock for
final survey and condemnation—but be-
cause of its riskiness. The vocabulary of
sea terms is intricate and requires care in
using; and the Corinthian who only says
he's a Corinthian may some time give him-
self away in presence of a real sure-enough
sailorway by hauling out his spunkier
when he ought to flatten in his head
sheets, or swinging his head yards first
and ordering the hands to "maintain sail
haul" afterward. It isn't safe. No yachts-
man who desires to maintain his reputa-
tion as a yachtsman will become a Cor-
inthian yachtsman by any other than the
inductive or experimental method.It is for the benefit of mariners of this
class that Captain Howard Patterson,
principal of the New York navigation
school, and author of "The Yachtsman's
Guide," is about to establish a training
ship, or floating marine college. Captain
Patterson has already taught his pupils
all about charts and chart sailing, keeping
the log book, dead reckoning in all its
considerations of taking departure, cur-
rent sailing, and allowing for drift when
hove to, middle latitude and Mercator's
sailings, latitude by meridian observa-
tions of the sun and moon and by stellar
observations, longitude by equal altitudes
of the sun, chronometer sights, and by
sunrise and sunset sights; Summer's
method, variation and deviation of the
compass calculated by amplitudes and
azimuths, and the reading and adjusting
of the sextant; and having imparted to
them all this knowledge—which, it may
be observed, an ordinarily intelligent boy
could acquire on shipboard in three days
with the aid of a sextant, a "Navigator,"
and an obliging first mate—he now pro-
poses to take them to sea in a square
rigger, and let them find out how they
like it.With this benevolent end in view Cap-
tain Patterson is fitting out a full rigged
brig of about 140 tons; and as sixty
yachtsmen have already entered their
names the cruise may be looked on as a
coming certainty. The curriculum of
study has not been made public; but as
Captain Patterson is a sailor who knows
his business, and the yachtsmen are an-
xious to become sailors knowing their
business, it is not at all difficult to fore-
tell it.The college will be towed down the bay
and anchored in the Horseshoe near Sandy
hook. During this time the students and
their friends will indulge in champagne,
songs, jokes, and pleasant anticipations.
Captain Patterson will wear a plug hat,
smile genially and show himself not
averse to a glass of wine now and again.
Arrived at the Horseshoe, the last fare-
wells will be said, and the friends of the
students will go off amid a roaring of
steam whistles and waving of handker-
chiefs. The students will then be in-
structed in the keeping of an anchor
watch, which duty they will master read-
ily, and think going to sea great fun.At 4 a. m. the students will dream they
hear a voice from heaven, which will
gradually resolve itself into a stentorian
yell of "All hands up anchor! Do you
hear the news? Turn out there, you lazy
all sorts of things, and show a leg!" The
students will then rise and proceed on deck
in a body. Captain Patterson will bewalking the poop in a monkey jacket and
peaked cap, with a new and strange ex-
pression on his countenance, and the chief
mate will utter violent language from the
topgallant forecastle. The students will
salute Captain Patterson politely, and will
be astonished when he tells them in reply
that "by God, there's been enough of this
nonsense. I'm captain of this ship, and
you'll obey my orders and speak when
you're spoken to. Get for'ard now, and
man the windlass." One student will ask
for some information about the mechanical
principles involved in the machine they
are about to man. Captain Patterson will
spring from the poop, knock the student
down, stamp on him and swear
vehemently at the entire class. A second
mate, carpenter, boatswain and steward
will mysteriously appear from some-
where; the first mate will come
aft in about three steps; the students
will move forward, propelled by hitherto
unknown forces, and when they come to
their senses they will find themselves
clustered round the windlass brakes, heav-
ing away for dear life, and drawing en-
couragement from casual remarks of the
chief officer.And so on, and so on. If any reader of
THE STANDARD wants to know the whole
course of study, let him ask any old sailor
of his acquaintance, or read Dana's "Two
Years Before the Mast." The students
will eat bread scouse, flavored with cook's
hair and dandruff. They will pick over
the stock of potatoes once a week, with
the cheering knowledge that the rotten
ones will be cooked for their own con-
sumption. They will learn to look on a
slice of fat pork as a treasure to be fought
for, and a raw onion as an unattainable
delicacy. They will turn in wet, and turn
out steaming—work hard, live hard, and
be cursed and knocked about for doing it.
They will learn something about the way
sailors live who go to sea in dead earnest,
and not merely for the fun of the thing,
and, incidentally, they will get more non-
sense knocked out of them than would fill
a half dozen "full rigged brigs of 140 tons."
And when they get inside Sandy hook
again, and the steamer takes them in
tow, and the sails are furled for the last
time, Captain Patterson will come on
deck in his go-shore plug hat and long
tailed coat, call them all aft, and treat them
quite like his equals, asking them if they
haven't had a good time. And they will
all be so glad to get over and so delighted
to get home again that they'll think they
actually have had a good time. And when
Captain Patterson visits them at the club
house, instead of taking summary ven-
geance on him, as erstwhile they swore to
do, they will shake him by the hand and
mix drinks for him, and ask him to cor-
roborate a yarn or two, which he will do
cheerfully. And they will advise all their
friends to attend one course at the marine
college and "get some of the nonsense
knocked out of 'em." But they'll be mighty
careful not to take another cruise in the
college themselves.Captain Patterson's floating college
ought to be a great success. If it does
nothing else for its graduates it will give
them some idea of the realities of life,
equip them with a plentiful stock of ex-
perience and furnish them with an utterly
inexhaustible fund of lies.

LUTHER R. MARSH.

Newspaper interest in spiritualism has
been reawakened by the accounts of Mad-
ame Diss Debar and her celestial por-
traits. She is unhesitatingly pronounced
an impostor, and Luther R. Marsh, who
vouches for the genuineness of her me-
diumship and supplies her with money, is
regarded as a senile dupe; while a variety
of exposures of transparent tricks of spirit
mediums are published for the purpose
of showing that spiritualism is in all its
phases a humbug.Madame Diss Debar may be a mere ad-
venturess and confidence woman, her
spirit portraits the veriest dubs, and her
professions of supernatural power another
variety of fraud. But beyond the prob-
ability that she is an adventuress, and the
improbability of such spirit manifestations,
nothing appears to justify the flippancy
with which Mr. Marsh's convictions are
treated. Mr. Marsh has for years been
one of the leading lawyers of the state.
He has been accustomed to sift evidence
and weigh facts. It is true he is an old
man, but until now no one has suspected
that his faculties were weakening, nor is it
now suspected except in reference to this
particular matter. He has a large prac-
tice, to which he devotes his usual at-
tention and skill, and he holds a public office
in which he exhibits the same intelligence
and judgment that have always character-
ized him. But he says that this woman,
Diss Debar, has produced paintings in his
presence under circumstances that made
the interposition of human agency im-
possible. He may be deceived. He prob-
ably is. But his sincerity is not disputed,
and his judgment should not be ridicu-
led.It is difficult to believe that spirits write
letters, paint pictures and hold carnivals
in darkened rooms or cabinets. It is more
difficult to believe that they write trashy
letters, paint tea store pictures, and hold
cabinet carnivals every night in the week,
with two matinees, for fifty cents admis-
sion and reserved seats extra. It is certain
besides that a great many gross frauds are
perpetrated in the name of spiritualism.
Nevertheless, there are not a few people
who frequently experience strange mani-
festations which, as they firmly believe,
have a spiritual origin; and it cannot be
disputed that phenomena are presented
through mediums which have not been ac-
counted for by any known agency.

The explanation that spirit rappings are

produced by the medium's toe joints is
not satisfactory to any one who has
heard such rappings made under the in-
fluence of non-professional mediums who
have no possible object in deceiving and
who do not attribute the rappings to spirits.
Nor can that explanation be accepted by
any one who doubts the ventriloquial
power of toe joints.No explanation has been made of the
movements of heavy articles in response
to the mere touch of a medium; and
while slate writing may be done by sleight
of hand so as to deceive the most vigilant,
it is difficult to understand how a sleight
of hand performer can by his art make
writing appear on your own slates while
they are locked in a drawer of your own
table and in your own house, as some
slate writing mediums do. As of rapping,
table moving and slate writing, so of other
manifestations claimed to be spiritual.
They may be jugglers' tricks always, as
they undoubtedly are at times; but it is
worthy of note that jugglers never per-
form them except in places adapted to
trickery, and that people wholly incom-
petent as jugglers do perform them in
places not at all adapted to trickery.Whether these phenomena, assuming
them to be real, are spiritual revelations,
or manifestations of some unknown
natural force, every one must judge for
himself on his own experience. But
whether or not they are only tricks is a
problem that may be solved to the satisfac-
faction of candid minds. It cannot be
solved, however, so long as a claim of
power to produce the manifestations is re-
garded as conclusive evidence of fraud,
and belief in their genuineness as proof of
idiotcy.

LOUIS F. POST.

THE BUSINESS MAN'S FATE.

One of the oldest inhabitants of Wor-
cester, Massachusetts, Joseph H. Walker,
who has collected statistics relative to
business fluctuations in his native city
during the past fifty years, recently de-
livered an address before the local young
men's Christian association, in which he
exhibited some of the results of his statisti-
cal work. Worcester is not the whole
United States, much less the civilized
globe; in fact, is comparatively such an
infinitesimal part of that part of the earth
which has come under the influence of
civilization, that any one might be pardoned
the impoliteness of telling this old
gentleman that while his figures may do
for Worcester they are too insignificant
for anything but "make weights" when
business fluctuations generally are under
consideration. Nevertheless, these figures
tend to verify the results of more extended
inquiries, and are useful for illustrative
purposes.It has been frequently asserted that
about ninety per cent of business men
fail in a generation. To demonstrate this
is impossible, but Mr. Walker's figures
show that it is not very far from the truth
so far as Worcester is concerned. Of
fifty-six men who were prominent in busi-
ness in Worcester in the year 1845, he
found that in five years one-fifth, in ten
years two-fifths, and in fifteen years three-
fifths, were out of business. These figures
leave two-fifths in business at the end of
half a generation. But as the cases are
selected, he infers that, taking business
men generally, not more than thirty-
three out of one hundred continue in busi-
ness for fifteen years.For the purpose of showing what be-
comes of those who drop out of business,
Mr. Walker has noted the history of the
principal manufacturers of Worcester in
the years 1840, 1850 and 1860. Of 30 in
1840 14 have failed; of 75 in 1850 41 have
failed, and of 107 in 1860 43 have failed.
These failures are far below ninety per
cent; but it must not be forgotten that
none but the prominent manufacturers,
those having the very best opportunities,
were considered by Mr. Walker. If from
such statistics it appears that an average
of nearly fifty per cent fails, what might
not be expected from an investigation
which comprehended the business experi-
ence of all classes of business men?It may be a consoling thought to some
orders of mind that those who fail make
way for others to take their places, and
that by virtue of a sort of everlasting
three-card monte game—"now you see
it, and now you don't"—in the business
world, the slave of yesterday is a master
to-day, and the master of to-day is a bank-
rupt to-morrow; but it is only men in
whom the gambling spirit is dominant
that can find satisfaction in such con-
ditions.The tendency toward failure in business
is akin to the tendency toward minimum
wages in employments, and is traceable
to the same cause.A COMMON SENSE DIAGNOSIS AND
PRESCRIPTION.An English physician, who justly calls
himself a "common sense" doctor, has re-
cently written in the Provincial Medical
Journal on "The causes of small average
fees among doctors." This is a subject
which ought to interest every member of
that most useful of all professions. Some
doctors get enormous fees, but it is not of
such fees that this doctor writes; he writes
of small average fees.That the average fees of physicians are
small cannot be disputed. None of their
time is their own. At all hours in the day
and in the night they must respond to the
call of distress, and the great body of them,
practicing as they must among the masses,
are paid only as the masses can pay them.
It is these doctors, too, and not the medi-
cal attendants of rich families, whose sym-
pathies are most frequently and most
strongly appealed to for pecuniary aid;
for they go daily into human hovels
where, instead of getting pay for their

There might be two.
This one is sick; his wayward fate cries out
Against the leech, the calomel, the bed.
Oh! inconsiderate person, cease to pour—
You might be dead!
And this one hath the mites: he has woe;
Vainly, alas! his woeing it has sped.
Well—even in this there's comfort, rightly
viewed—
He might be well!
And here is one who whines: his all is swept
Away in panic; he has had to "fail."
He should, I think, be cheerful, that he's kept
Safe out of jail.
But late I lost a twenty-dollar bill—
And did I wring my hands that I had blundered?
Not I, indeed! I'm very thankful still
'Twas not a hundred.
Sooth, should I e'er capsize when walks are
had,
And my good clavicle involve in wreck,
Serenely, I should say—How very glad
It's not my neck.
Oh! trust me—better not to make ado
At the few miseries of our common lot.
There's millions of 'em—if we only knew!—
We haven't got.

MINNIE KELSEY.

CHAPTER I.

People usually mention the east side of New York when they speak of tenement house life. The truth is, the west side also has a tenement house population which, if transferred to a point somewhere out in the country, would be numerous enough to form one of the important cities of the world. In the tenement districts of the west side the houses are as high, the apartments as narrow, the streets as noisy, the children as countless, the poor as comfortless as on the east side.

On a certain corner in a west side tenement house neighborhood stands a cheaply built five-story brick house, patterned after the thousands of houses similarly situated in New York. That is to say, a corner house admits of windows on the side street, whereas houses in the body of a block have light only from front and rear, the intermediate rooms being dark, excepting, perhaps, that a faint light is admitted by means of a narrow shaft running up along the inner rooms from basement to roof.

The top floor of the house referred to is divided into suites of rooms for four families. In one of the rear apartments, that facing on the side street, there are four rooms—a little kitchen, which is merely the rear end of the hall in the middle of the house partitioned off, a light corner room, called big, since it is twelve feet square, and then two rooms on the side of the house facing the street, each equaling in length the width of the big room, each wide enough to admit a bed and a trunk beside it, and each lighted by a window.

On the afternoon of a sunny winter's Sunday a young girl sat at the window of the little chamber furthest from the kitchen. There was no fire in the room, but the sun's rays had taken away the chill from the air and the girl had wrapped herself warmly in an old shawl. She was looking out of the window with a pre-occupied air. She could look down along the side street some little distance, and by pressing her face against the glass she might have seen a little patch of the river, and through the clear air the Jersey City heights beyond forming a horizon of toy houses and snow-clad hills. Beneath, she could see Sunday-dressed people walking on the sidewalk opposite, and on the further corner a crowd of half grown boys, skylarking when the policeman was out of sight and dispersing when he drew nigh, only to gather together again after he had passed on, wearily killing the weekly holiday that brought them no freedom to play, the public streets—public for walking or riding, but not for playing—being the only place where the boys could enjoy one another's company.

The young girl betrayed no interest in the view from her window. Neither did she evince impatience with the noises in the adjoining apartments or those echoed from the chimes of the twenty families living on the floors below. Her ears had grown accustomed to the crying of children, the slamming of doors, the sharp voices of scolding women, the halloo of the boys, the innumerable clatterings accompanying household work.

The drugist grows insensible to the smell of his shop. To catch the flavor of one of his medicaments he must apply it closely to his nostrils. So, in a tenement house, to detect any particular sound the occupant must stop and listen and distinguish it from a confusion of sounds.

Though the girl looked out of the window with a steady gaze, what she saw with her eyes made no impression on her mind. She was looking, not at the scenes before her eyes, but at mental pictures. She was, in imagination, gazing as a bird from aloft in air, upon a pleasant little country town, and reviewing incidents of her life which had happened there. Her memory and her affections were weaving her in a network of witchery. It had always been summer in that dear old place—summer with singing birds and green foliage, red cherries, and earth-carpeted of many colored flowers. How plainly could she see every tree in the garden, every angle of the familiar houses, even every one of the straight planks and broad, irregular stones of the sidewalks. People whom she knew but slightly she now remembered as friends, and her own friends and playmates—she could but think of them, fondly loving them, seeing them as plainly as if they were in her presence, hearing their sweet voices and looking into their kind eyes. Musing over these heart pictures thrilled her with a melancholy pleasure.

The most sacred spot on earth to her was a cottage near the verge of the little town. She had been born there, and had lived there until in her seventeenth year she had come to New York. Her mother had been left a widow when she was a toddling thing. She was uncertain whether she could remember her father or not. She could recall plainly the figure of a handsome man who had long ago fondled her and gave her sweets, but was not this

figure in the beginning only the figment of her fancy, created later when shown her father's likeness and told of his goodness and his affection for his only child? At his death he had nothing but the cottage to bequeath to her mother, who earned a living for herself and her little daughter by sewing. The years had gone on, bringing play, school, the joys of girlhood, the almost uneventful life of a happy home. It was but two short years since a blow had fallen upon her which changed the current of her existence. Her gentle mother had taken her in her arms one day, kissed her, blessed her, spoken of her faith in all things being for the best, and told her that yet a little while and she would be alone in the world. The physicians had warned her mother that her days were numbered. Less than a year later she was in her grave.

The death bed, the funeral, the sale of the cottage and its furniture—these events the girl now lived over again, the tears filling her eyes. Next had come the announcement that when all the expenses accompanying her mother's sickness and death should be paid, nothing would be left for her. The friends with whom she had temporarily taken up her abode could not be expected to maintain her permanently. It was while matters were in this state that she received a letter from an aunt whom she had never seen—her father's sister—the only relative of whom she had any knowledge, inviting her to make her home with her in New York. Her aunt wrote that she and her husband possessed but small means, but the niece was welcome to a share of what they had. She would be expected, of course, to help in the family work, and if she wanted more clothing than they could afford to give her she might get the money to buy it by working in a store.

Some good friends helped the young girl to make her preparations for going to the great city, and a little group of them collected at the station to bid her good bye when she took her departure from the town. When the train had started she felt that she had left behind her all she held dear on earth. Before her was a world to her untried, and she friendless, an orphan, a weak child, left to battle with the fates among strangers.

There had been some misunderstanding as to the hour of her arrival in the city, and no one was at the station to meet her. Tired and weighted down with bundles, she had inquired her way to the address her aunt had given her, walking a long way through crowded city streets that bewildered her, and at last had arrived in front of the house. She recollected how people had stared at her on the street as no one had ever done in the country, and how, as she made her way up to the top floor of the hive in which her aunt lived; women and children appeared at the doors of the hallways, and not unkindly directing her to her aunt's apartments, eyed her and talked of her as though all had gossiped over her coming.

She found her aunt a pale, slender little woman with three young children. She remembered her first impressions of the husband when he came home from work in the evening. He was rough and disagreeable. So had he been ever since. He shaved but once in a fortnight or so, and hence his face was nearly always covered with a dirty stubble. His one suit of good clothes he seldom wore, but sat around in his soiled work clothes. The reason for this kind of life lay in his habit of stopping at a bar room when he was paid off on Saturday evenings and spending most of his week's money in a spree. It was often the case that he would not make his appearance at home from the time he left on Saturday morning until late Sunday night. After a night's rest he would go back to his favorite bar room and spend Monday in sobering up on the drinks to which he was treated. During the week he was usually sulky and morose, and gruff when he spoke at all.

The young girl speedily found that the motive of her aunt in bringing her to the city was that the work she was to do would be done cheaper by her than by hired help. The aunt, had she been well-to-do, would have been a confirmed invalid; as she was poor she was obliged to work, yet she could not attend to the children and do her housework. The young girl was expected to take a good deal of the drudgery off her aunt's shoulders, and the very first week she was told she must certainly find a situation, besides, where she could earn wages.

She had found a place, not in a store, but in a factory, her wages as a beginner being far less than her uncle spent on drink. If she had been allowed to remain there she might have dressed herself neatly, but at first either the aunt or the uncle had borrowed them from her, and in time she was made to understand that what she was giving them was only their due for taking care of her.

The year since her coming to the city had gone quickly. Time flies when one works long hours every day but Sunday. The day, the hours, may seem long, but in the sum of either the period is short. Factory life is humdrum, one day being like every other, and when a length of working time is reviewed one sees few events out of the ordinary to break the monotonous chain. A girl at factory work, engaged generally month in and month out at a single process in subdivided labor, may almost envy the prisoner in a treadmill. He may, at least, digest his food. She sits or, worse, stands hour by hour, her eyes fastened upon her work, her hands following motions that in time become automatic. She forgets after a while that there are any processes in the work save her own. To her there is no raw material or completed product. There is only at one side of her a pile of things in the nineteenth stage which she is to pass to the other side manufactured by her into the twentieth stage. Even this she at length loses sight of. She seems no longer to be making anything real. Her motions leave behind them, a something unreal, unseen. It is the warp and woof of her vitality. She weaves them into an interminable web of something it makes her shudder to look back along, colorless, figureless, intangible, unprofitable. Its making brought her for the hour bread and a covering. She loses in forming it sprightliness, the roses of her cheeks, the resili-

ency of youthful temperament, and, she her own chameleon, takes on from it dullness, morbidness, colorlessness, bloodlessness.

Yet some things in her place of toil never lose their dreadful reality to the factory girl. Pinned up in a hot room ten hours a day, the vitiated air seems to dry up the blood in her veins. A nauseating odor of decomposing oil sickens her. The grinding and discordant hum of machinery seems to penetrate her very brain. Dust thickens the atmosphere and chokes her. An hour after work is begun a fever seizes her and never ceases to torture her until she falls asleep in her bed at night long after lying down to rest.

So was time beginning to go with this young girl. She had taken to asking herself whether this was to be her life for a period to which the end might be death or a new life in marriage with some man who might turn out such another as her uncle. Was she never to take pleasure in study again, as she had done when her mother taught her and encouraged her? Was she to have no girl's enjoyment? Was her routine to be the tramp to the detestable factory and back again to the infernal tenement house? Was she never to love a good, high minded man and be the loved mistress of a home, as were the women she had known out there in the country, where there are homes? With thoughts such as these she arose, turned away from the window and looked around the cheerless little room. It had two narrow beds in it standing end to end. In one, two of the children slept at night. In the other, the smallest child and herself. To-day she was alone for once, the mother having gone to visit friends, taking the children with her. The walls she had pretty well covered with colored pictures and cuts from the newspapers. On a little make-believe mantel piece, covered with a bit of cheap, bright colored cloth, stood a small clock and a photograph of her mother and father and a few friends. She sighed in weariness as she looked around the mean little room, and sighed again in grief as she looked on her mother's picture.

Presently she walked to the window and pulled the blind down to the lowest half pane. Then she made sure the door was bolted. Next she took down her hair, combed it slowly and looked at herself in a foot square glass. She threw aside the shawl and again looked in the glass. She tightened her dress about her shoulders and looked at herself in full and sidewise. She spent some little time in looking at her hands and trimming her finger nails. She brought out a pair of shoes from her trunk, examined them carefully, put them on, and, drawing aside her skirts, looked at her feet as she walked up and down the room. She stood with her back against the wall and straightened herself. She looked once more in the glass and shewed herself her teeth. Then she walked up and down the room again jauntily and quickly, humming a little tune.

Drawing the shawl about her again, she went to her trunk, knelt in front of it, and reaching down among the clothing it contained, brought out half a dozen photographs. They were cheap pictures of actresses. She looked at them all absently, noting their dresses, their figures, their pose and expression. She rummaged still further down in the trunk, bringing up a newspaper, and, unfolding it, took out another photograph. It was that of a handsome, serious looking man of thirty. While she was looking at it intently—inquiringly rather than affectionately—some one tapped loudly at the door of her room.

CHAPTER II.

"Minnie Kelsey! Minnie Kelsey!" They were feminine voices.

The young girl hastily rewrapped the photograph and plunged it to the depth of the trunk. She went to the door, opened it slightly to peep at her callers, and then widely to admit them.

They were two young girls of the neighborhood who worked in the factory. They were in high feather. To-morrow night was the night of the ball of the factory employees. Had Minnie yet decided to go? Minnie replied that she had not concluded what to do. One of the girls said:

"Minnie, if you will go, I'll lend you my cousin's blue dress. She's away now. How it would become you! It wouldn't do for you to stay at home. You are the prettiest girl in the factory, and you're kind of different, too, coming from the country. If you go, you'll have a splendid time."

The other chimed in with the first. Minnie said she would not like to wear another's dress without the owner's knowledge, but the girl who had offered it said that her cousin had often worn her clothes; she had some of her things now away over in Jersey, where she worked. She herself had a new hat which she would so much like Minnie to wear. She was going to wear her black hat, as it suited her dress. She thought Minnie ought not to put on airs and refuse to wear things her own. Minnie had often done her favors in the shop, and now she would like to repay them. Poor people must do for one another.

Minnie was eighteen. She had never been to a ball. She had learned to dance a little, the girls indulging occasionally in the pastime together in the big hallway during the dinner half hour, sometimes to the music of a hand organ or a strolling brass band on the street, and sometimes to their own singing. She hesitated a little and then said she would try to go. The two other girls seemed to understand that that was assent enough, and they turned the talk to chatter about what they were going to wear at the ball. The one who had spoken to Minnie about her cousin's dress said her cousin was just the same size as herself, and she took off her dress waist and got Minnie to try it on, and expressed herself rejoiced to see how certain it was that the nice blue dress would fit Minnie. After finishing the gossip of the factory and again promising themselves a good time at the ball, the girls went away.

When Minnie Kelsey returned home from the factory the next evening her aunt said a bundle had been left for her during the afternoon and that she had put it on Minnie's bed. As soon as her supper was

finished Minnie went to her room, opened the bundle, which proved to be a large pasteboard box, and in it were a very pretty bonnet and a new dress of much richer material than she had ever worn. She shut the things back in the box after admiring them, and, going to the window, looked out on the lamp-lit streets while she tried to plan what she should do. She had been carried along by events until she could not without a great effort determine to go to the ball. She had not dared to mention anything about it to her churlish uncle. Her desire to go would be sufficient reason for him to forbid her going. She had not spoken of it to her aunt, whose fear of her husband would have prompted her to tell him of it. Besides, Minnie, not having fully promised herself the pleasure of going, had said nothing about it lest the mere suggestion should have brought her harsh words from her uncle. Now, here was everything ready. The girls would be waiting at the home of one of them near by, where their escorts were to call for them. Was she now to put aside the fine clothes, go to bed with the children, and in the morning go to the factory to hear all the other girls cheerily talking over the events of the night before, and be the one lone outsider?

It occurred to her that she might bid her aunt good night when she put the children to bed, as if retiring with them—not an unusual thing when she was tired—and when the children fell asleep she could dress, step out, go to the ball, come home about two o'clock, and neither her aunt nor her uncle would ever know that she had been away. The front door of the house was never locked; her room door opened on the hallway. The plan was feasible.

Had some wiser one been near her just then, some confidential and sympathetic adviser—it ought to have been a mature woman—she might have spoken gently such admonitory words as these: Minnie, child, you are tempted to risk greater temptations. Face the worst of troubles, but do not deceive. You are not now entirely yourself. You are being carried away by the illusions of youth. Do not obey the spirit now in possession of you. Your eyes are at this moment too bright. The blood is coursing through your veins too rapidly. Your judgment is overcome in your agitation. Either stay home or consult with your aunt.

Minnie was called by her aunt to help with the evening's work before she had been able to reach a conclusion. Her uncle had not come home to supper, not having been at work during the day, his spree lasting longer than was usual. Her aunt listlessly asked what was in the bundle, and she answered carelessly that it was only a dress one of the girls was lending her to try on; she hoped to get a new one soon and wanted to see how the style of the one lent her would suit her. She had not finished speaking when she began to feel ashamed of her words, deceit being new to her. She was the more deeply mortified on seeing that her aunt, accustomed to believing her implicitly, said nothing further on the subject. She thought that if her aunt caught her in this one misrepresentation she would henceforth always be under suspicion of trickery.

The children wanted to go to bed early. Minnie said good night to her aunt when they did, and in a few minutes they were sleeping soundly in their places for the night. Minnie then again took out the dress and the bonnet and looked them over. She was not at all tired; before going to bed she would try on the dress and see how it would fit. She removed her faded old street dress, and drew on the pretty blue dress belonging to the cousin of her friend. Surely that dress had never been worn at all, and how marvelously well it fitted her! It was not a ball dress; it would have done for the street, but it was of the style of the best dress which many girls who earn their living wear to the balls they attend. There were bows and ribbons to match it in the box, and these also she pinned on, only to see how they would become her. By the dim lamp light she could make out in the little glass that she was looking better dressed than she had ever done before. She took up the pretty hat, and turned it about as she looked at it over. Yes, it would match her blonde hair and the dress. She placed it on her head. The glass whispered more flattery to her than before.

She was not a bit tired or sleepy. Since her penitence at deceiving her aunt, she had half given up the thought of going to the ball. But she now thought the girls and the young men might be waiting for her. She would not have them lose the grand march; she ought to run over to her friend's and tell the little party there to wait no longer. Since she had the nice new clothes on she would wear them over on her errand and let the girls see how they became her, and how, by accident, the dress fitted her so well.

She put on a veil, turned out the light, moved quietly into the hallway and to the head of the stairs, and in a moment more had slipped down into the street without being seen. When she entered the apartment of her friend there was but one room into which she could be ushered, and when she entered she was greeted with exclamations of delight by the girl's parent, and by compliments from the young men. All assumed that she was to be of the party. In a moment she took the young lady of the house, whose cousin's dress she was wearing, out into the hallway and whispered that she could not go to the ball. But when her reasons were given they were declared to be no reasons at all, and in an instant her friend had the entire party in the hall protesting against her remaining at home, and as all were ready to start, she found herself half carried along and in a street car on the way to the ball before she had made up her mind what to do.

The man who took his place by her side as her escort was the man of thirty whose picture was in her trunk. He was of no more than medium height, and this, with a quiet air, rendered him to the superficial observer perhaps the least noticeable man in the party. It was not until one had watched the group for awhile that it became evident that all accorded him the place of leader. He seemed not to know it, however. He was serious and resolute

looking. While spending an evening at her friend's apartments Minnie had met him, and she had afterward seen him occasionally at the same place. He had been polite to her and had given her his photograph, and the girls in their talk praised him off with Minnie. He was always carefully dressed, gave the girls presents, and, whatever he did, they knew he did not work.

The building in which the ball was given appeared to Minnie a very grand place indeed. In the ladies room she had opportunity before a great mirror to arrange her hair and retie her bows and ribbons, and when she made her appearance in the ball room to take part in the grand march many of the girls of the factory smiled on her and told her she had never looked so well.

Her escort, though dancing but little himself, had a care during the evening that she should dance often with good partners. Between dances he walked with her about the hall or sat with her talking, good naturedly describing the way such balls are made to pay, telling her who many of the young men were, and making the time pass agreeably to her. It seemed to her he knew everybody and had the run of things perfectly. He acted, however, as though he might be somewhat tired of it all. He was more interested in describing things to her than in enjoying them himself. His manners were easy and polite, and as he talked amiably to her in a pleasant, low voice she was pleased that she had him as a partner for the evening.

The hall was a large one, and twenty quadrilles were on the floor at a time. The young people heartily enjoyed the dancing, the "hands-all-around" and similar movements coming off with shouts and screams of delight. When partners were swung they went around two or three times as a rule, and some couples fairly whirled each other as long as the figure allowed them. The youths cut up antics, a favorite one being, when two approached in the quadrille, for each to hold out his right foot and turning the sole straight up and down to shake it at the other. One or two slender young chaps could swing one foot as high as their heads, a movement they seemed much to enjoy. Some of the young fellows smoked cigars as they danced, and Minnie was sorry to see a bar in sight of the ball room. The girls enjoyed the dancing undisguisedly, laughed loudly with delight and giggled without restraint, but they acted on the whole with extreme modesty. The attire of none of them would suggest to a young lady of high life the costume for a ball, as they seemed unaware that they had forms to exhibit.

A young man who had engaged to dance a quadrille with Minnie did not make his appearance when it began, and, her escort not being at hand, she seated herself in a corner of the hall. Presently through an open doorway she heard several young men in an adjoining room talking. One said:

"I see Tom King has a new girl tonight. One every season."

"Yes, a pretty girl, of course. He's got her dressed out in style, too."

"King gets his bootie at the races. Come easy, go easy. She looks like an innocent young thing, but she's got clothes on that she can't buy herself, that's sure."

Minnie felt herself growing faint. She went to the ladies' room, where, when the quadrille was finished, she was joined by the two girls who had called on her on Sunday. They said they and their young men had been invited out to supper by her escort, Tom King, who sent word asking her to go with the party.

This was an opportunity for her to get away from the hall. She quickly planned that she would go with the party to supper, and then insist on going home. In a short time, the party of six were seated in a restaurant. All were gay save Minnie, who could hardly force herself to speak. Champagne was ordered by Tom King, and the men drank heartily, the other two girls sipping of the wine, while Minnie declined to take any. It was not long before one of the girls grew talkative. She said:

"Minnie, I know why you are so quiet; you're in love."

This was greeted with laughter, though Minnie looked pained, and Tom King did not smile.

"Minnie," the girl continued; "let me congratulate you on your good looks. That new dress of yours fits you beautifully, and becomes you better than anything else you ever wore. I wish I could have a dress like that."

There were more congratulations from her girl friends, but Minnie felt the tears come to her eyes.

"New bonnet, new dress; dear knows what, all new," the girl went on, "Oh! what luck some girls have."

Minnie felt that all present must understand the allusion, and could only blush and try to hide her agitation. She was but waiting until the supper was ended, and she intended then to go home even if she had to go alone.

At last Tom King rose to pay the bill. While he was thus engaged the two girls went out of the restaurant with their young men; when Minnie and King reached the sidewalk, the rest were out of sight. King said:

"Minnie, I think you had better go home."

"I am going home," she said. They walked along and entered a street car without either one speaking. There they sat in silence. Nothing was said until after they had left the car and were nearing the house where Minnie lived. King then spoke:

"Minnie, some one said something to you about me this evening."

"They did, sir; or rather it was said in my hearing. They said you had a new girl every season and that you bought her clothes. You bought this dress and hat and got Maggie Wilson to deceive me into wearing them. I have been made the victim of my own vanity. I have suffered in my reputation through you. I shall never be caught again in such a trap."

"Minnie, you are a good girl."

"And I mean to be—I am home."

She ran in the front door of the tenement house and went up the stairs. As she approached the top floor she was

alarmed at seeing that the big room of her uncle's apartments was lighted up and the door standing open. She heard her uncle's hoarse voice. He was drawing out in a fit of drunken indignation: "Ed Brady told us all about it down in Gilligan's liquor store. She was there with that gambler, Tom King, dressed out the most expensive in the room. We know she never got them fancies honest. She's the first connection o' mine ever did the likes o' that. When I lay my hands on her she'll be sick of ever disgracing a decent family like mine."

Minnie's first impulse was to rush into the room and explain all, but the man looked so brutal she feared to do so. She turned and ran down the stairs. Unfortunately she tripped on the highest flight and fell a distance of several steps, making a loud noise in the quiet house. Her uncle came out to the landing and called her name in his harsh, deep voice, but she made her way down the dark stairway as quietly as possible. Her uncle heard her and followed, awakening the inmates of the house by roaring:

"You stop there. You stop there, girl. You can't get away from me. I'll break every bone of your body. You'll disgrace an honest family, will you! To think of it! A respectable workin' man like me to have such cattle right in with his own children!"

On gaining the street Minnie ran around the block. It happened that her uncle took the opposite way and also went around the block. They were thus brought together when each had gone half around. Though they met under the gaslight Minnie's uncle passed her by after looking at her searchingly. He was swearing to himself. When he was a few steps beyond her she began running. In a moment he was pursuing her.

"To think I couldn't recognize her in her guilty finery!" he bawled. And he called stop thief as she sped along down the street.

The young girl had already been worn out with the exciting events of the evening, and now she hardly knew what she was doing. As she ran, weak and panting, her head almost bursting with pain, it occurred to her that only a little way further was the river. In it she could find oblivion. She would as lief die as live. Friendless, homeless, a castaway, what was there in this world to cause her to prize life?

She heard her uncle's heavy boots clattering on the sidewalk, and his oaths and ob-jurgations against her. She quickened her speed, but just as she reached the river street a police officer walked out from the shadow of the house and stood in her way. She stopped, but said nothing. The uncle came up and aimed a blow at her. The officer's arm received it. At this moment another man walked out from the shadow of the house. He walked close to Minnie's uncle and said:

"Go away!"

The answer was a loud imprecation, and the uncle was going on to declaim against Minnie, when the man suddenly knocked him down and said, in a determined way:

"Shut up, or I'll choke off your voice."

The uncle's manner changed to a whine, but his antagonist kicked him, and once more told him to shut up. The patrolman did not interfere. The man then said:

"You know me, officer. I'm Tom King. This lady is now in my charge."

Poor Minnie stood still, the victim of the tide of affairs. Again King spoke: "Minnie, I'll say now what I meant to say, sooner this evening. I want a wife. Will you marry me?"

Minnie was silent.

"The officer here will go with us to the station house. We'll be married there in the presence of witnesses. Will you come?"

Minnie did not answer, but when Tom King gently took her hand, put her arm under his and walked away, she walked along with him.

St. Michael the Weigher.

James Russell Lowell in America.

Stood the tall Archangel weighing
All man's dreaming, doing, saying,
All the failure and the pain,
All the triumph and the gain,
In the unimagined years,
Full of hopes, more full of tears,
Since old Adam's conscious eyes
Backward searched for Paradise,
And, instead, the flame blade saw
Of inexorable law.

In a dream I marked him there,
With his lire gold, flickering hair,
In his blinding armor stand,
And the scales were in his hand;
Mighty were they and full well
They could poise both heaven and hell.
"Angel," asked I humbly then,
"Weighest thou the souls of men?
That thin office is, I know,"
"Nay," he answered me, "not so;
But I weigh the hope of man
Since the power of choice began
In the world of good or ill."
Then I waited and was still.

In one scale I saw him place
All the glories of our race,
Cups that it Belshazzar's feast,
Gem, the wonder of the East,
Kubla's scepter, Caesar's sword,
Many a poet's golden word,
Many a skill of science, vain
To man's men as gods and sin.

In the other scale he threw
Things regardless, cutest, few,
Martyr-ash, arena sand,
Of St. Francis' cord a strand,
Beechen cups of men whose need
Fasted that the poor might feed,
Disillusions and despair
Of young saints with grief-grayed hairs,
Broken heart that broke for man.

Marvel through my pulses ran
Seeing then the record clear?
Swiftly on his hand decline
"What earth's splendor and renown
Mounted light as thistle down."

The Way It Works.

Two coal heavers were discussing the lowering of the price the other day. They were employed in a neighboring wharves, and of course any change in the staple, the handling of which afforded them a livelihood, had a special interest to them. "Well, Mike," remarked one, "ain't yer glad that the price of the coal has dropped?" "Bad luck to the bit an' it," regretfully responded the other. "For I was dropped with it." "What do you mean?" "Oh, the boss said it was so low now that fewer men could handle it."

NEW PUBLICATIONS.
THE LAND AND LABOR LIBRARY.
We are now publishing under the title of "The Land and Labor Library" a series of short tracts on various phases of the social problem. These pamphlets contain facts, figures and arguments expressed in conversational language easily understood. As a means of popularizing the recommendations of social reform, those who to have these tracts placed where they will do good who are unable personally to attend to their distribution, can remit the price to us, as we have every facility for sending them where they are needed and best received.

The following have already appeared:

1. "First Principles." By Henry George. 4 pages.
2. "Land and Taxation." A conversation between D. Dudley Field and Henry George. 4 pages.
3. "The Right to the Use of the Earth." By Henry George. 4 pages.
4. "A Christian Minister on the Kennedy for Poverty." By the Rev. Hugh O. Pentecost of Newark, N. J. 5 pages.
5. "A Sum in Proportion." By T. L. McCready. 2 pages.
6. "The Settler's Nightmare." By Louis F. Post. 4 pages.
7. "New York's Docks: The True Model of Raising Wages." By Henry George. 4 pages.
8. "Unemployed Labor." By Henry George. 4 pages.
9. "Voices for Reform." 2 pages.
10. "A Mysterious Disappearance." By Lewis W. Mumford. 9 pages.
11. "How to Increase Profits." By A. J. Stearns. 4 pages.
12. "The American Farmer." By Henry George. 4 pages.
13. "Sailors' Snug Harbor and the Randall Farm." By the Rev. Hugh O. Pentecost. 12 pages.
14. "The Collegiate Church and the Shoemaker's Shop." By W. T. Crossdale. 12 pages.
15. "Only a Dream." By Abner C. Thomas. 4 pages.
16. "The Anti-Poverty Society." Dr. McGlynn's address at the first meeting. 3 pages.
17. "The Cross of the New Crusade." A poem. 1 page.
18. "It is the Law of Christ." By Rev. S. H. Spencer of Henry, Ill. 4 pages.
19. "My Landlord." By John Jones. 4 pages.
20. "How Shall We Stop Slavery?" An address by Henry George before the Anti-Poverty Society. 3 pages.
21. "Christianity and Poverty." An address by Rev. Huntington before the Anti-poverty society. 3 pages.
22. "Poverty and Christianity." An address by Hugh O. Pentecost before the Anti-poverty society. 3 pages.
23. "The Single Tax." By Thomas G. Shearn. 4 pages.
24. "Hymns of the New Crusade"—No. 1. 4 pages.
25. "Hymns of the New Crusade"—No. 2. 4 pages.
26. "Religion vs. Robbery." Address by Rev. Dr. Huntington before the New York Anti-poverty society. 12, 13, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700,

CHICAGO, Ill.—I, too, had missed the "Publisher's Notice" in a vague kind of a way without realizing exactly what it was that was lacking, for there is so much that is good in the paper that the loss was not painful. Honestly, THE STANDARD is the greatest real comfort in life to me. All through the week I see crime, wretchedness, the poor defrauded of his wage, the rich idler squandering wealth in ostentation, the city humbly begging a monopolist to tear up the public streets that he may run a cable line for his own enrichment; I see coal barons posing as philanthropists, giving \$3 to the poor, and getting nothing except the pleasure of seeing prisoners, locked up in the jail as a punishment for theft, stealing from one another; I see deluded workmen carrying on a destructive warfare of strikes, in which they are sure to get worsted; I see on all sides evidences of great social wrongs; and it seems to me I see much more since I read "Progress and Poverty." And then when Saturday comes I devour my STANDARD with all the greed of a famished man. It says: "Be of good cheer." It helps me to go through the next week with the feeling that it isn't going to be so long as "nothing will be righted;—at least if I shall do what I can to bring it about." "There's a good time coming. It's almost here, but it's been a long time on the road." When the blizzard delayed the paper for a day or two, Sunday didn't seem Sunday to me. I can't tell you the good it does me.

What first touched my heart and made me a regular buyer of THE STANDARD was the letter of that splendid fellow who went without his overcoat in order to contribute to the campaign fund. A friend said to me: "This thing is a sure winner. If I let's the way people feel about it."

But John Smith doing!—This particular one who is writing. He is a newspaper reporter and never loses a chance to put a good word in his paper when it can possibly be done. He has converted another reporter, who has simply become a crank on the subject—I wish the country was full of such cranks—and he in turn has gone and converted others. He carries tracts with him and goes loaded for bear. There are seven single tax men in the "brainery" and any number in the composing room. It would just do your heart good to come in some days after the fire is lit, and hear us all jump at the incautious person who attempts to "heck-ey!" the single tax doctrine. It would so. Keep your eyes on the — and you'll see lots of good things in it. The real estate reporter is a Henry George man, who is a star in my crown, and once in awhile he gets in a crack at the land sharks.

But mingled with the fierce joy of making a convert to the faith, for it is as keen and strong a delight as a man can know, is the dull pain one feels in meeting a man who says: "Take no interest in such subjects." I cannot "alter the jig," and hear us all jump at ears and hearts can "take no interest in such subjects." "I have been to Golgotha; I have seen humanity hanging upon the cross." And who can be deaf to the cry, "Is it nothing to you, oh, ye that pass by? Behold and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow."

When I see the poor little cash girls and boys in the big stores wan and peaked and weary, and think how they are not only being robbed of the innocent joys of childhood, but are being of necessity forced into becoming "after the fashion of the world," ignorant wage slaves, whose highest ambition is to get somebody's intellectual footman, a private secretary—when I see girls in the stores and offices working for \$3 a week with the understanding that there is a way for them to rise, of which I dare not write, it seems to me as if I just could not stand it any longer. Surely the blood of these murdered souls must cry out to God day and night for vengeance. And then the world comes to me,

"What hast thou done with thy brother?"

God helped me to do my best for the cause. And now, when I read the Lord's prayer, "Thy kingdom come," say it with a special intention for the land reform!

I only meant to write a stickful or so, but when I got started on this subject it seems as though I never could stop. You'll hear from me again when I get this suit of clothes paid for. The part I owe on it I think amounts to about extra cost from the duty on wool and woollen cloth. I'll send a recruit subscription then.

Yours for God's truth,
EUGENE WOOD.

Thank you, Eugene Wood. Your letter is one which every reader of THE STANDARD will read with interest, and will be the better for the reading. Not because it speaks well of THE STANDARD—we have published plenty of letters praising THE STANDARD fully as much, which were not half so interesting—but because it puts into words, and describes in good straightforward English, that half-despairing feeling that saddened wonder at the persistence of misery, and crime, and poverty, which every one of us has felt.

How easy it is to see, if one will only look. How hard it is to get people to open their eyes and see the world around them as it really is. There are thousands upon thousands of people in Chicago who, if they read Eugene Wood's letter, would simply say: "It isn't true. There's little or no distress in this city; and what little there is, is the result of ignorance and drunkenness." And then they'd take up some magazine article, or the report of some society, and prove by figures—figures, you know, never lied since first man put two and two together—they'd prove by figures that the rich are really growing poorer, and the poor are really growing richer, and no man wants for anything who is really willing to work for it, and all we've got to do is to let things alone and give the glorious institutions of our country a chance to do their perfect work. Which of us is there who has not encountered just that kind of talk from people who deluded themselves with the idea that their eyes were open, while they were really blind as bats in daylight.

Friends, this very thing that troubles us so often is the thing that gives sure promise of our victory. Men can see, if only they will open their eyes and look. All we have to do is to hold up the truth in front of them—to keep it steadily before them—and sooner or later they are bound to see it. Round every one of us there stands a throng of men and women with eyes cast down or tightly closed. What each one of us must do is to hold steadily aloft the light that shows the way to freedom; so that the first eye raised or opened may be attracted by its beams.

Are you doing this?

to read it I have read every paragraph, and I think THE STANDARD is the most interesting paper in the United States, and a grand medium for educating the people to a knowledge of their own interests. I shall read "Progress and Poverty," and "Protection or Free Trade?" next.

And this from another recruit subscriber—a clergyman in Iowa.

— Iowa, April, 5.—I don't know whether I am thankful or not to the friend who you say ordered you to send **LE THE STANDARD** for four weeks. I don't know whether to be glad or sorry that I did not follow my first impulse and throw the paper unread into my waste basket. It has made me very unhappy. For mine eyes are opened and I see; and I begin to realize how empty and how useless my life has been. I am not ready yet to confess my faith in the remedy you advocate, though I am satisfied that those I love are suffering less easily accepted are worse than useless. I feel as if I ought to give the matter further study. I send my subscription to **THE STANDARD** and remittance for "Progress and Poverty" and "Protection or Free Trade?" I shall read your books carefully, and with an earnest desire to know the truth.

Use these recruit subscriptions, friends. Scatter them broadcast among your acquaintances until every one in the whole land has had one. That is one of the ways, and a very good way, too, in which you can hold up the light for your fellow men to see it. Don't send in recruit subscriptions because you like **THE STANDARD**; but send them because you love the cause! And scatter them with a free unsparring hand.

Have you sent all your subscribers lately? Are you trying to get any? There are plenty of you who must answer "no" to these questions, if they answer them at all. Yet there probably is not one among you all who could not, if he would but take a little trouble, add at least one to the number of our subscribers. Friends, **THE STANDARD** is your paper, as much as it is ours. It is your work as much as ours that it has to do. For the efficiency with which it does its work no small share of responsibility rests upon your shoulders.

Here are our terms for subscriptions to THE STANDARD:	
One subscription, one year,	\$2 50
One subscription, six months,	1 25
One subscription, three months,	63
Three or more subscriptions:	
One year, each,	\$2 00
Six months, each,	1 00
Three months, each,	50

After the first club of three has been sent, subsequent subscriptions may be forwarded at the same reduced rates.

Recruit subscriptions, for four weeks, will be received, singly or in clubs, to different addresses at fifteen cents each.

The contributions to the recruiting fund during the past week have been:	
A. L. Holan, Port Louis, Mauritius,	\$5 10
Edward T. Jennings,	8 50
Two Anonymous,	1 73
E. L. Nixons,	5 00
Total for the week,	\$18 34
Previously acknowledged,	2,284 14
Total to date,	\$2,302 58

A STATE CONVENTION IN ALABAMA.

The Labor Party Asserts Rights of All to Natural Opportunities—A Revolution Favoring Protection Laid on the Table.

A state convention of the labor party of the state of Alabama met in Montgomery on the 22d ult., and continued in session until the 24th. There were seventy-eight delegates present, representing every congressional district in the state except one. Such organizations as "farmers' alliances," "grais," and trades unions sent delegates, the Knights of Labor being in the majority.

E. Q. Norton of Mobile, a prominent business man, and one of the most earnest single tax advocates in the south, was elected permanent chairman almost unanimously. The platform adopted calls for the co-operation of all good citizens and reform organizations, and as its fundamental principle contains the following:

Holding that the corruptions of government and the impoverishment of labor result from the rule of the self-seeking trusts proclaimed by the factories of this republic, and that men are created equal, and are endowed by their creator with inalienable rights; therefore we aim at the adoption of a system which compels the government to protect the people from the selfishness of a few, and to prevent the use of force to deprive labor of natural opportunities for employment, thereby filling the land with tramps and paupers, and bringing about unnatural competition which tends to reduce wages to starvation rates, and to make the wealth producer or the industrial slave of those who grow rich by his toil.

Among the resolutions presented was one which read: "Resolved, That we are in favor of protection to American labor." One of the delegates intimated that it might mean protection to American monopolies. The resolution was laid on the table.

The convention called to represent 187,000 men. E. Q. Norton has followed up the work by publishing a able address to the Birmingham *Scimitar*, which advocates and explains the sentiment of the single tax.

A Word of Encouragement for the Press.

NEW YORK, April 6.—THE STANDARD may flatter itself that it is doing something for the cause of free trade, but it may as well hide its head if its efforts in that direction are compared with those of the New York Press.

In its issue of April 6, in reply to a paragraph from the Philadelphia *Record*, the Press quotes the assertion of the agent of the Grafton linen thread works that "we sell a large proportion of the product of our mills at Grafton, Mass., at prices which are no less absolutely as the prices obtained in Britain for similar qualities made at our mills at Grafton." The level of foreign prices, even if all the rest of us, is to turn farmers when the tariff is abolished the Grafton mills will continue to do business at the old state prices.

The agents go on to state that the operatives at Grafton receive more than one hundred per cent higher wages than the Johnstone workers and that the cost of living in Grafton is less than fifty per cent more than in Johnstone. So that the American employers sell their product at the same prices as foreign competitors and pay higher wages. If the abolition of the tariff should reduce the prices of all articles of domestic manufacture to the level of foreign prices, would not American wages remain higher than foreign wages, as seems to have been the case in the thread business? However, it may be that protection increases wages and decreases the level of foreign prices, but it would decrease wages and increase prices. This appears to be the latest idea in political econ-

said Frances Alexander.
 "And He buried him in a valley in the land of Moab
 over against Beth-peor, but no man knoweth of his
 sepulchre to this day."
 By Nebel's lonely mountain,
 On this side Jordan's wave,
 In a vale in the land of Moab,
 There lies a lonely grave;
 And no man knows that sepulcher,
 And no man saw it e'er,
 For the angels of God upturned the sod,
 And laid the dead man there.
 That was the grandest funeral
 That ever passed on earth:
 But no man heard the tramping,
 Or saw the train go forth—
 Noiseless as the daylight
 Comes back when night is o'cean,
 And the crimson streaks on one's cheek
 Grow into the great sun.
 Noiselessly as the spring time
 Her crown of verdure weaves,
 And all the trees on all the hills
 Open their thousand leaves;
 So without sound of music,
 Or voice of them that wept,
 Silently down from the mountain crown,
 The great procession swept.
 Perchance the bald old eagle,
 On grav Beth-Peor's height,
 Out of his lonely cry,
 Looked on the wondrous sight.
 Perchance the lion stalking,
 Still shuns that hallowed spot,
 For beast and bird have seen and heard
 That which man knoweth not.
 But when the warrior dieth,
 His comrades in the war,
 With arms reversed and muffled drum,
 Follow his funeral car:
 They show the banners taken,
 They tell his battles won,
 And after his headless masterless steed,
 While peals 'the minute gun.
 Amid the noblest of the land
 We lay the sage to rest,
 And give the bard an honored place,
 With costly marble drest,
 In the great minster transept.
 "There is light like glories fall,
 And the organs ring, and the sweet choir
 sings."
 Along the emblazoned wall.
 This was the truest warrior
 That ever bled and died;
 This the most gifted poet
 That ever breathed a word;
 And never earth's philosopher
 Traced with his golden pen,
 On the deathless page, truth half so sage
 As he wrote down for men.
 And had he not high honor—
 The hillside for a pall,
 To lie in state while angels wait
 With stars for tapers tall,
 And the dock rock pines, like tossing plumes,
 Over his bier to wave,
 And God's own hand in that lonely land,
 To lay him in the grave?
 In that strange grave, without a name,
 Whence his uncolleced clay
 Shall break again, oh, wondrous thought!
 Before the Judgment day,
 And stand with glory wrapt around
 On the hills he never trod,
 And speak of the strife that won our life,
 With the Incarnate Son of God.
 O lovely grave in Moab's land!
 O dark Beth-Peor's Hill!
 Speak to these curious hearts of ours,
 And teach them to be true,
 Give us with its mystic of grace,
 And ways that we cannot tell,
 He hides them deep, like the hidden sleep
 Of him he loved so well.

HOW INVENTION MARCHES ON.

**Economical Processes and New Machinery
 That will Save Human Labor Less and
 Less Necessary to Production.**
 Human invention will of course never succeed in rendering human labor absolutely unnecessary. A man—or, at least, a boy or girl—will always be needed to run the machine. But scarcely a day passes that does not bring announcement of some new process by which the forces of nature may be harnessed to perform, untiringly and without charge, the work that heretofore has required the employment of skilled labor. And the shelves of the patent office are fast becoming overcrowded with models of machines devised to do, still more cheaply, some sort of work that the unskilled laborer already does for mere subsistence wages.
 The new process of welding metals by electricity has already been referred to in these columns. Its inventor, Professor Thompson, claims to have brought it to perfection, and if it will do all he asserts it will, many a skilled artisan will be forced out of employment.
 The invention consists in the application of electricity through copper conductors, to which are attached clamps working by thumb-screws. The two pieces of metal to be welded are fastened firmly in the clamps and placed close to each other.
 The current of electricity is then applied, and when the ends of the metal are of proper heat and color they are pressed together with a moderate pressure. A strong electric current is necessary, but only for a short time, as but five seconds were consumed recently in welding an iron bar after the current was applied. No chemicals or other foreign substances are needed, except a little borax to keep the points of contact clean. Pieces of metal welded by this process and then tested are found to be as strong at the point of union as anywhere else. Pieces of brass, copper, German silver and steel have been welded into one bar, and cast iron can also be welded. A solid steel shaft, one inch in diameter, has been welded in two places so closely as to render it impossible to detect the points of joining.
 Another revolutionary invention is the telegraph of Professor Elihu Gray. By this ingenious application of electricity, the professor informs us, "you can sit down in your office in Chicago, take a pencil in your hand, write a message to me, and as your pencil moves a pencil here in my laboratory moves simultaneously and forms the same letters and words in my ink." What you write in Chicago is instantly reproduced here in facsimile. You may write in any language; write in short hand if you like; use a code or cipher; no matter, a facsimile is produced here. If you wish to draw a picture it is the same; the picture is produced here. The two pencils move synchronously and there is no reason why a circuit of 500 miles cannot be worked as easily as one of ten miles. The telegraph will supplant the telephone for many purposes, for it will have marked advantages. It will save many clerks and post office employees will be thrown out of employment when the country is covered with a network of long distance telegraphs, and a merchant can connect with San Francisco or

plates, so arranged that it will work its way along the bottom of a vessel, picking up everything that comes in its way, and pouring out coal or anything else at the rate of 6 to 1,000 tons an hour. Mr. Schenck prophesies that the invention "will prove highly beneficial to dealers," which it may; for a time at all events. He also says it will enable them to say cheaper, which is not so certain. He goes on to say, however, that the men who now shovel coal will not get any money to spend. The company proposes to build vessels especially adapted for the purpose with a double line of conveyors, and with two to four elevators, so that every pound of coal will be delivered without the least hard labor.

THE NEW YORK UNITED LABOR PARTY GENERAL COMMITTEE.

What It Did at Its Last Meeting, How It Is Made Up and How Its Members Will Probably Act Next November.

The New York county general committee of the united labor party met at Clarendon hall, Thursday evening, April 5. The special order was the discussion of a new constitution for the government of the party. The report requires that applicants shall be citizens, shall be in accord with the platform and principles of the party, and shall not belong to any other political party, organization or club. The first amendment offered to the report of the committee was to this section, and was "excepting clubs of propaganda, propagating the principles of the united labor party."

In the constitution of 1887 there was a section which read:

This party or any member thereof, or any candidate or other person acting for any candidate of the united labor party, must not have any fusion or dickering with the republicans, democrats or any other party; therefore, candidates or those acting for them.

This was the section on which, prior to the last election, members of the socialistic labor party were ruled out of the united labor party.

One of the members of the general committee discovered that this section had been omitted by the committee in its report, and upon his announcement of that fact there ensued a vigorous debate. There was a fine display of parliamentary tactics, but the feeling was so strong for the section as it was last year, that the efforts of the fusionists were fruitless, and a muting over so small a breach in it seemed senseless.

John J. Bealin didn't know yet that the single tax would be the panacea for the evils under which we suffer. We should confer with our brethren of the west (the union labor party) and try to harmonize our differences. We should even so cast our nets as to scoop in the socialists (he did not mention them by name), for, after all, their theory of the nationalization of the machinery of production, as well as the land, might be the panacea we wanted. He resented the insinuation that the machinery of the party was now being controlled by a clique.

William B. Clarke declared that he had the courage of his convictions. It might be necessary to seek the friendship of one of the two great parties. He was a single tax man and a protectionist, and he knew that in order to continue to occupy that position one of the great parties must be sacrificed. This frank utterance of Mr. Clarke produced the utmost confusion, and the banging of the chairman's gavel drowned remarks of any description for a time. When quiet was restored, Mr. Clarke proceeded to repeat what he had just said, beginning, but confusion again broke out, points of order were raised, and Mr. Clarke sat down.

John K. Sullivan wanted to hold out an olive branch, but James Magee, from the same district as Mr. Sullivan, said that his club had passed a resolution unanimously instructing the delegates to vote for the adoption of the section as it stood last year.

W. J. Gorsuch said he had been listening to strange language—strange for a meeting of the members of the united labor party. All the theories of the various phases of the labor movement had been tried, all the dogmas of the past had been tried, but confusion reigned at the organization of this united labor party, and found deficient. We had decided, through our representatives, that at the foundation of humanity's troubles was the present iniquitous system of lying taxes, and we, through our representatives, had decided that relief was only to be found in the single tax, which, at least, meant freedom. On that foundation this party was built, and on that foundation it must stand or fall.

Patrick J. Duddy gave notice that if the united labor party deviated one iota from the path it has laid out for itself, he would leave it. He had sacrificed too much to be kept at this late day a tail for either party. He would call on the old greenbackers, who, he said, were the backbone of all recent movements for honest reform, to stand or fall with him.

Frauk Ferrall hoped he would never live to see the day when the united labor party would change its course.

Other members of the general committee spoke freely and to the point, and after much confusion and excitement the section of the constitution of 1887, with the exception of the three words printed in italics, was adopted. The understanding being that the omission of these words would permit members of the socialistic parties to come in.

The general committee added, also, the two sections of the laws of 1887 in regard to assessing candidates. A motion to adopt the constitution as a whole was adopted, but Mr. Hamilton gave notice that he would move a reconsideration at the next meeting.

In the course of the discussion of the constitution several speeches were made, which came near precipitating the tariff issue upon the committee, but points of order were raised in time to avert it. Yet it could be seen that the most lively way given, the voters would be ready to discuss the matter thoroughly.

The general committee is peculiarly constituted just now. It can be classified into four grades: (1) Single tax men, with all that term implies; (2) protectionists who claim to be single tax men—that is to say, single tax men who are at the same time double tax men; (3) the old greenbackers, who take a hand in any reform movement that comes along; (4) those who are in the cause "for the doctor," as they express it.

The first are styled "George men," the second are a friendly regard for Blaine, and will probably vote for the republican presidential candidate anyhow, without regard to what the united labor party may do; the third will cast their votes in the air if there is no third party ticket in the field; the fourth will vote the way Dr. McGlynn wants them to.

Houston Men at Work.

Single tax men in Houston, Tex., are doing good work. On March 23 a large number of enthusiasts gathered in Wagner's hall and organized Tax reform club No. 27. The

Albert Smith will assume the editorship of the Brooklyn Weekly Press on the 1st of May.

Hugh B. Brown is doing excellent work in Suffolk county, Long island, by writing for the Suffolk Democrat a series of articles showing the fallacies and absurdities of protection.

Charles Reade was over six feet in height and of splendid physique. He had fine, expressive, dark brown eyes, which contrasted with his silken white hair and flowing patriarchal beard.

C. P. Huntington, of Central Pacific notoriety, remarked to a San Francisco reporter lately: "I own more lines of railroad in America now than any one else, but this is because I have never parted with any of my acquisitions." Mr. Huntington's explanation is both simple and ingenious.

Mr. Rider Haggard says of himself: "I was my brother in the same way that people do any other work—namely, by sticking to them. Of course, I first of all evolve a central idea, then I build on that. I am afraid this does not sound very interesting; but I believe that, given certain natural endowments, the only way of making anything like every thing else, is making a question of taking pains and assiduous unsparing labor."

Mr. Cuinghame Graham, the radical member of parliament who was imprisoned for using justifiable violence at the Trafalgar square meeting last year, says in relation to his prison experience: "It was very monotonous in the cell when the hours for work were done. But I read the bible. The part which prisoners seem to read most is the Lamentations of Jeremiah. The most interesting part is the same as some former prisoners have written in blood: 'Cheer up, Old Jeremiah, the time will soon pass.' That's what all the poor fellows say. We are not allowed to speak, but as we pass one says to another, 'Cheer up, the time will soon pass.'"

Walter Besant, explaining why his name alone stands on the title page of the English edition of the novel "All Sorts and Conditions of Men," says that Rice had nothing whatever to do with its authorship; that between the death of Rice, in 1881, and the publication of the novel, in 1882, he (Besant) by himself wrote three stories, "The Captain's Room," "All Sorts and Conditions of Men" and "They Were Married," which were published in accordance with the agreement between the two gentlemen under the "firm" name. But when they were to come out in book form he felt relieved of all obligation and attached his own name.

In a letter of resignation from the presidency of the First assembly district association, George C. Roshart, secretary of the association and member of the united labor party of Rensselaer county New York, Joseph C. Roshart says that he does not see how any one who had read President Cleveland's message could cordially endorse any measure in it. He says that in order to introduce the single tax all other taxes must be abolished, and of these the tariff tax is the chief one. It is therefore clear that single tax men, to be consistent, must oppose the tariff. He says that the union would join forces with that party which is going our way—the democratic party.

Papers in Schoharie county, New York, and announce the death of Benjamin P. Curtis at Benham, aged ninety-four years. "Uncle Ben," as he was called, was prominent in politics in the anti-war year of 1815, when a large part of the residents of Ulster, Greene, Delaware and Schoharie counties, living under hard leases on the great Livingston tract, arose in full rebellion against the landlord and his agents, and were met by a force of widespread and concerted refusal to pay rent, and ending in collisions with officers of the law and bloodshed, finally resulted in legislation beneficial to the tenants' interests. The state's action was the large tract of land to whomsoever wished to buy.

Rev. W. E. Lincoln of Painesville, Ohio, writes to say that after mature consideration he is firmly opposed to the making of independent nominations. He thinks that the best method of strengthening the hands of the free traders in the democratic party and to support President Cleveland on the tariff issue. Independent action under present circumstances would be a serious setback to the party, and monopoly and help keep alive a "robber tariff." The whole protective idea, Mr. Lincoln truly says, is opposed to the idea of the brotherhood and common interests of men, which is the basis of the tariff. He thinks that it is the duty of the party to constitute the secure foundation of any movement which shall really emancipate labor.

The London house which Mr. Gladstone has taken for the session is in the old Queen Anne style, and the drawing room windows overlook the river, and the garden, and the barracks. The entrance hall is square and roomy, paneled as is the staircase with fine Chippendale carving, and lighted by a stained glass window. In it are a few red velvet chairs, and a large table, and a large picture of the entrance to Alexandria, which must recall to the ex-premier, each time he enters the house, one of the most unpleasant reminiscences of his official life. The dining room is on the ground floor, and is of somewhat restricted dimensions. Above it is the drawing room, which is a long charming room. In one corner is a portrait of Mr. Gladstone, painted by Watts, and in the middle of the wall is placed Mr. Gladstone's writing table. It is shut in by a screen on which hang portraits of her husband and youngest son. The room in which Mr. Gladstone works is at the back of the house, and is in consequence free from all noise. Not even the rumbling of a passing cab wheel can break in on his quiet.

The Poor, Poor Landlord.

New York Times.

Landlords are usually reviled by all humanity. Sometimes they deserve it. But the impartial observer, who goes about full hunting will admit that the New York landlords has some very unpleasant things to cope with. He keeps his prices up in order to keep up one of his houses. There are cases where he might let them down with advantage to himself and good tenants, but one can scarcely blame him for his caution when one remembers his difficulties.

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