

THE STANDARD

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

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

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

With the consent of both parties we print in this issue of THE STANDARD a correspondence on the subject of the single tax, between Professor Van Buren Denslow, L.L.D., formerly of Chicago, but now a resident of this city, and Thomas G. Shearman. Professor Denslow, it may be well to say for the benefit of our readers abroad, is one of the two leading professors of protectionist political economy in the United States—Professor R. Ellis Thompson, formerly of Belfast, but now of the University of Pennsylvania being the other. But in the lecture field and on the stump Professor Denslow has been even more prominent than Professor Thompson, in advocacy and defense of the protective system, and may fairly be regarded as its chief supporter among American economists. He is the author of a number of economic works, of which the largest, his massive "Principles of Economic Philosophy," a royal octavo of nearly a thousand pages, recently published, has been hailed by protectionist newspapers like the *Sun*, as the greatest and most conclusive exposition and vindication of the protectionist philosophy yet made. Professor Denslow's objections to the single tax are fair samples of those that have been urged by a multitude of magazine contributors and writers for the daily press. Whether Thomas G. Shearman, who is only a simple lawyer without any learned handle to his name, has held his own in the discussion, is for the reader to determine.

I spoke on Monday last in Des Moines, Iowa, to a very intelligent audience, among them being Governor Larrabee and a number of the state officials. Captain Bell, a warm supporter of the Irish cause, and now of the single tax, introduced me to the audience in an eloquent speech setting forth the equal rights of all men to the use of natural opportunities, and at the close of my remarks I had to meet objections and answer questions that showed that the single tax was being warmly discussed. I found in Des Moines a large number of active single tax men, who like all I met during my western trip, were filled with hope and enthusiasm, and had much to tell me of the great progress of our ideas since election. L. J. Kasson, a banker, and J. Belangee, a nursery man and a considerable land owner, are the officers of the organization. In addition to circulating the congressional petition our friends in Des Moines are circulating a local petition in this form:

We, the undersigned, voters of Polk county, Iowa, petition the legislature to have real estate assessed for taxation in two separate

columns—the first containing the value of improvements, and the second the value of the ground. And we urge the levying of taxes on the latter value only.

The legislature does not meet until next winter; but by that time our Iowa friends are confident that they can bring the matter before it with such force as to secure an animated discussion, if not an acquiescence, in their demands.

Besides, the Des Moines single tax people, men and women—for here as elsewhere there are in our ranks earnest women, thoroughly alive to the importance of the single tax—I met a number of people who had come from considerable distances to greet me and to tell me of the rapid progress of our ideas. Among them was F. S. Stewart of Chicago, whose business as a commercial traveler keeps him constantly moving through the west and northwest, and whom I generally meet somewhere whenever I get west of Chicago. Mr. Stewart, who has been for some years a traveling missionary for the single tax, tells me that the change in public opinion on this subject is "simply wonderful," and that he realizes it wherever he goes. The discussion of the tariff question brought up at the last election is rapidly passing into a discussion of the single tax, and in the most unexpected quarters he finds men declaring that all other taxes ought to be entirely abolished, and revenues raised from ground values. Nor is this any wonder. The proposition has only to be broached to be forced upon attention by obvious facts. Des Moines, with its population of 40,000 scattered over three or four times the space they could comfortably and economically occupy; with lots, fields and great vacant tracts held at speculative prices within its incorporated limits, while a rapid transit road and a long street passing through corn fields and terminating in wood lots, run out to or toward "additions" which land boomers have laid out and are selling for homestead lots; with its many real estate dealers and farm mortgage agencies, furnishes most striking object lessons on the injustice and absurdity of the present system. And in this it is like all western towns.

So clear in the towns is the justice and expediency of the single tax that its opponents in the west have substantially only one argument against it—that it would be an undue taxing of the farmers. Mr. Shearman punctured this bubble in the most effective fashion in the paper which he read before the joint committee of the Ohio legislature, and which was published in THE STANDARD of last week. He showed by a marshaling of official figures that the tax on personal property, instead of falling on the rich capitalists of the cities in proportion to their wealth, falls far more heavily on the agricultural districts, and that the abolition of taxes on personal property would reduce the taxes of the farming districts and increase the taxes of the cities.

The same fact is obvious in the report of the auditor of the state of Iowa, as can be seen, I think, in the assessment returns of every state. The total taxable value of the real estate of Iowa is given in the auditor's report at \$360,981,885 (the value of farm lands being about three and one-half times as great as the value of town lots), and the total value of personal property returned is \$101,065,098. In the state

the assessed value of the personal property is thus something over 28 per cent of the value of the real estate. In Polk county, however, which includes Des Moines, the largest city in Iowa, and where the total reported value of farm lands is only half as much as the value of town lots, the real estate total is \$15,984,096, and the personalty value is only \$3,424,528, or a little over 20 per cent of the real estate. Thus the county which includes the largest city pays proportionally much less personal property tax than the rest of the state. If Burlington, Dubuque and the other large towns could be segregated from the agricultural districts of Iowa the discrepancy would appear very much greater. In Henry county, for instance, which cannot contain any considerable town, since its farm realty is valued at over three and a half times as much as town realty, the two together being valued at \$3,740,560, the personalty is valued at \$1,572,903, or 45 per cent of the real estate, and almost half as much as the personalty of the county which includes Des Moines. Facts like these, and our friends are beginning to dig them out of the official returns, show at once and incontestibly that the change in taxation that we propose, instead of adding to the taxes of farmers would be to their relief.

That fundamental principle of the single tax that it is unwise to tax things that the state needs more of, is already incorporated in rudimentary form in the revenue laws of Iowa. The state levies a tax of fifty cents per year on masculine dogs and \$1 per year on feminine dogs, with the evident purpose of lessening the number of dogs in Iowa. But Iowa consisting in large part of treeless prairies, it has been deemed wise to make exemptions from taxation in order to encourage the planting of trees. For ten years an exemption from taxation to the amount of \$100 for each acre of forest trees and \$50 for each acre of fruit trees is allowed. That Iowa needs more houses, more machinery, more capital in all its forms, is as clear as that it needs more rees, while it is also clear that to tax these things is to lessen their amount as surely as to tax dogs is to lessen the number of Iowa dogs. When the farmers see, as they cannot fail to see as the discussion goes on, that the taxes with which they have hoped to get at the capitalist really fall in undue proportion upon them, they will begin to realize the wisdom of putting all taxes on land values and exempting from taxation those things that add to the wealth of the state. In the plastering of the country with mortgages that is now going on in Iowa and other western states, the farmers are getting a sharp practical lesson in the incidence of taxation. The attempt to tax mortgages raises the rate of interest some two per cent, but only a small portion of the mortgages pay taxes. The great bulk of them drift east, beyond the ken of the assessor.

From Des Moines I went to Minneapolis. On the night of my arrival I lectured in the splendid Minneapolis opera house. The next day, on invitation of the legislature, I went to St. Paul and addressed the members of both branches in the hall of the assembly, every seat on the floor being occupied and the lobby and galleries crowded. In the evening I lectured in Market hall, E. V. Smalley, editor of the

Northwestern Magazine, presiding. The highest tribute to the effect of my visit to the twin cities of the northwest, was paid in a meeting of real estate men in the Minneapolis real estate exchange, where it was declared that it would have been a cheap bargain if they had paid me \$10,000 to keep away, and at which steps were taken to get Professor Folwell of the State university to expose my "sophistries" in the largest hall of the city this week. But although I have no doubt that my visit did some good I do not deserve this compliment. The single tax was in the air before I reached Minneapolis. In addition to the general causes operating over the whole country to turn public attention in this direction, we have in Minneapolis a little knot of active, earnest men, who, as the readers of THE STANDARD know, have been for some time past doing the most efficient work by circulating literature, getting signatures to petitions, writing to the press, holding debates, and in other ways forcing discussion. Among these are C. J. Buell, a well known builder, president of the Single tax league; City Commissioner Oliver T. Erickson, vice president of the league; L. K. Campbell, carpenter, treasurer of the league; E. L. Ryder, editor of the Northwest Trade, secretary of the league; Douglas Volk, the artist; Howe Paige, lawyer; C. E. Haynes, proprietor of the Northwest Trade; Rev. Christopher Jansen, the Norwegian poet; Rev. Mr. Dahlgren, Edwin Barber, W. A. Carpenter, George K. Shaw, a brother of Mr. Albert Shaw, some of whose observations on the municipal government of Glasgow we recently published; H. B. Martin, editor of the Northwestern Labor Union; and, besides others whose names have slipped my mind, a number of active newspaper men whose names it might not be advisable to print so long as their papers are opposing the single tax. On the Saturday before I arrived at Minneapolis the Journal gave four of its large columns to signed articles on behalf of the single tax, prefacing them by this statement:

Perhaps no question of public policy is being so generally discussed in this state just now as the so-called single tax. The general circulation in Minneapolis by the local single tax league of petitions addressed to the state legislature has had the effect of provoking a widespread discussion of the whole question.

Our friends in Minneapolis have been dropping into figures, too, and they have the advantage of the fact that, in Minnesota, land and improvements are already separately valued.

Mr. Buell makes the following showing from the official figures of the state auditor:

FOR THE STATE.	
Land values	\$237,293,419
Improvements	84,384,169
Personal property	122,000,000
MINNEAPOLIS.	
Land values	\$80,322,483
Improvements	25,640,403
Personal property	21,531,297
ST. PAUL.	
Land values	\$80,646,545
Improvements	18,828,205
Personal property	18,926,884

This would give for the state at large an assessment of \$237,293,419 on land values, to \$206,384,169 on improvements and personal property. In the two cities of St. Paul and Minneapolis an assessment of \$160,969,028 on land values to \$84,929,788 on improvements and personal property. In the state outside of the two great cities an assessment of

\$76,324,391 on land values and \$121,454,381 on improvements and personal property. Thus the ratio of taxation on personal property and improvements to the taxation on land values is in Minnesota:

In the whole state	87 per cent.
In St. Paul and Minneapolis	52 1/2 " "
In the state outside of St. Paul and Minneapolis	150 " "

These figures are even stronger than those given by Mr. Shearman for Ohio, and those I have given for Iowa, for the reason that in those states the returns only enable us to discriminate between the value of real estate—land and improvements taken together—on the one side, and the value of personal property on the other, while in Minnesota we are able to discriminate between the value of land on the one side and the value of personal property and improvements on the other. A more careful analysis which would include the assessments of the other towns with those of the two cities would show still more glaringly how the tax on improvements and personal property puts the great weight of taxation on the farmers, and how greatly they would be relieved by the single tax.

Our Minneapolis friends do not stop with general figures. For instance, L. K. Campbell in the Journal shows that the present taxation on the chamber of commerce lot and building is \$1,381.95; that even if the tax on land values were doubled by reason of the single tax the chamber of commerce would have \$283.05 less per annum to pay; and that even if the whole annual value of the land were taken by the single tax unlimited, the chamber of commerce would pay \$193.95 less than now. H. B. Martin, figuring on the average value of small homesteads and vacant lots in the Eighth ward, shows that whereas the man who owns a small house now pays in direct taxes \$52.49, to the speculator's \$20.36, he would have under the single tax but \$36.42 1/2 to pay, to say nothing of the far greater saving in indirect taxation, and the gain in wages by the greater demand for labor caused by the opening of natural opportunities. Edwin Barber taking the care of 12,000 acres at Wolverton, shows that under the present system the farmers occupying 4,000 acres of improved land pay \$1,280 taxes, while 8,000 acres of equally good land held idle and unimproved pays only \$560 taxes. O. T. Erickson taking the rich Minneapolis men who have died during 1888, shows by the following comparison of official figures how the rich men of the cities escape the tax on personal property which bears so heavily on the farmers:

	Amount Returned in 1887.	Amount Possessed, as per Court Records.
Hugh McNair	\$220	\$15,863
Z. E. Brown	575	58,855
J. K. Sille	2,600	172,774
T. A. Harrison	2,515	897,058
John Crosby	2,825	354,520
John Orth	450	225,270

This list could be paralleled or more than paralleled in every great city in the union. Cannot our friends in the various cities write up such lists? They make very interesting reading for the farmer, who with the innocence of the ostrich has been led by such papers as the Chicago Tribune, to believe that he must insist on everything being taxed in order to compel the rich men of the cities to pay their share.

But to continue with the figuring of our Minnesota friends:

The two principal glories of Minneapolis are the West hotel and Pillsbury's great flour mills. I stopped at the West hotel, and a magnificent hotel it is. In San Francisco, in New York, in London and in Paris there are, of course, larger hotels, but I know of no finer one. All the Minneapolis people are

proud of it and Mr. West, who erected it, proved not only of his faith in his city but his public spirit. Mr. C. A. Haynes, publisher of the Northwest Trade, the leading commercial paper of the northwest, shows in the Journal how his fellow citizens have rewarded Mr. West by taxing him over four times as much as if he had allowed the lot to lie vacant, like a still larger piece of land on the very next block of the same street, where a thousand dollar shanty disfigures a \$200,000 lot. Mr. Haynes shows how even if the tax rate on the assessed value of land were doubled, the West hotel would be relieved of a burden of \$5,000 per year by the single tax. This is by no means an unimportant matter, for so much has the growth of Minneapolis been checked by land speculation that the West hotel must be running at a considerable loss.

Charles A. Pillsbury, the head of the great flour house of Charles A. Pillsbury & Co., took me over his big mill and showed me its wonderful machinery. Mr. Pillsbury came to Minneapolis with \$300. He has made his money by energy and enterprise in the production of wealth, and is now the largest miller in the world. I found him thoroughly convinced that taking taxes off improvements and personal property and concentrating taxation on land values would be of the greatest benefit to the whole state and to all classes of its people save alone the holders of idle land. Nor is this any wonder. In the same article in which he spoke of the West hotel, Mr. Haynes showed that while the assessed value of the land on which this great mill stands is \$14,760; the assessed value of the improvements—that is to say, buildings and machinery—is \$220,750. On this mill Charles A. Pillsbury & Co. now pay a tax of \$4,750.20. Under the single tax, even if the present tax rate were doubled, their taxes would be only \$590.40.

Mr. Pillsbury is a republican. He has been elected for ten terms to the state senate and could have been elected to the United States senate if he had consented to take the position and leave his business. But like many other republicans in the northwest, I found him to be really a free trader. And no wonder about that either. He showed me the jute bags in which the great quantity of flour that he exports to Europe is packed. The jute is grown in India; the bags are woven in Dundee. Our protective tariff puts a tax both on jute and on bags, and the consequence is that these bags cost thirteen cents, whereas under free trade they would only cost eight cents. Nearly everything used in the way of machinery and supplies is increased in cost by the tariff in like manner, but the value of the product is not increased at all. Here is this great mill, run by the highest priced American labor—for Pillsbury & Co. not merely pay the highest wages, but give a share in their profits annually to all their employes who have been with them over two years—yet its products are being exported without bounty to the "pauper wage" countries of Europe.

Whoever sees the mills appreciates the reason. This high wage labor is in reality the cheapest labor, for it utilizes machinery to the utmost. The cars on the side tracks are drawn up to the mill, as wanted, by waterpower; the grain is shoveled out of the cars by the same power, a man merely directing the big shovels; and from the time the grain enters the elevator until the time the flour is received into the bags or barrels, it is not touched by human hand.

It is suggestive of the way in which

single tax ideas are diffusing themselves, that in the Minneapolis Daily Journal of the 12th, more than a week before THE STANDARD containing Mr. Shearman's argument before the joint committee of the Ohio legislature could have reached Minneapolis, W. A. Carpenter gave the substance of a conversation with a Minnesota farmer, in which the farmer urged the same reasons for the abolition of the tax on personal property and improvements advanced so cogently by Mr. Shearman. He said he had to pay a tax on the full value of his improvements and personal property because their value was known both to the assessor and to all his neighbors, while the value of the property of the rich men of the cities, excepting that of their land, no one could tell. He declared that the single tax would not only help the farmer but the workingmen of the cities as well.

The northwestern press gives evidence of the great interest which the single tax is exciting in that part of the country. A number of the weekly papers are, like the Daily Star of Minneapolis, avowedly for it. And even papers like the Minneapolis Tribune, and Journal, and the Globe and Pioneer-Press of St. Paul, though not avowedly for it, have opened their columns for its discussion. In fact what men are discussing wherever they meet cannot well be kept out of the papers.

River Falls, Wisconsin, where I spoke last, is only a little village of hardly ten thousand people, but it contains one of the state normal schools. I lectured for the literary society of the school, and had a large and highly intelligent audience. I met among the Normal school students a number of earnest single taxers, who will ere long be scattered through the state in positions of great influence; and I met in the jewelry store of Mr. Bates, which is a sort of single tax headquarters, a number of townsmen and farmers who are ardent supporters of the single tax. They told me that the idea was taking hold with astonishing rapidity in that part of Wisconsin. Mr. Bates had obtained 150 signatures to the petition in that small town and had only stopped for want of blanks; and Mr. Roche and Mr. Fawcett, who had come in from a little settlement, the name of which I have forgotten, brought with them 77 signatures—more, Mr. Bates said, then he had thought there were people in that neighborhood.

In Chicago, where I had time to see a number of friends, I heard the same report as everywhere else. They are working with new vigor, for they feel that the drift of public opinion is with them. The Chicago free traders, too, are extremely active and are rapidly coming toward the single tax point. If there was any feeling of depression about the result of the election, it has long since passed. The feeling now is that the defeat of Cleveland only makes more certain the growth of radical sentiment on the tariff question, both within and without the democratic party. The Leader, which has recently been started as an advocate of tariff reform, takes ground in favor of the utter abolition of protection; and this seems to be the sentiment of the American tariff reform league, which has its headquarters in Chicago. This league has called a conference of tariff reformers in Chicago on the 19th of February. Free traders will not be excluded, and from assurances already received it will be a notable gathering. The design is to bring together opponents of protection from all parts of the country and begin work for the new campaign. Whatever is done in

this line cannot fail to help the single tax.

In short, I found on this trip, what may be seen in the columns of THE STANDARD, that the greatest earnestness and enthusiasm pervades our ranks everywhere, and that the good cause is advancing far faster than a few months ago we could have dared to hope. There is but one voice about the policy of supporting Mr. Cleveland in the last election. Even those who were at first opposed to it, now see its advantages; and all are agreed that the great work before us is the educational work. So rapidly is this going on and with such seeming spontaneity, that the feeling of our friends everywhere seems to me to be that of men who, after long swimming against a strong tide, suddenly find that that tide has turned in their favor.

One thing I am satisfied of, and that is that instead of concentrating our efforts on New Jersey or any other state, what we ought to concentrate on at the present time is the pushing of the congressional petition. State petitions are good, but it seems to me that just now this is the best line of work. It enables us all to work together, and will make easier the getting of signatures to state petitions.

Wherever it has been tried our people find the advantages of the petition. In the first place it gives a reason for approaching men on the subject, and an opportunity to learn of friends and make converts. Many men sign it who have not yet made up their minds, but who have only got so far as to desire an investigation and discussion of the subject. But the effect of their putting down their names is to dispose them in our direction, to prompt further inquiry and to open their minds to our arguments. And the enormous enrollment that is thus possible gives the greatest of all opportunities for the effective dissemination of our literature. Every man or woman whose name is received by the committee in New York ought to have at once one or two good tracts and a number of blanks for obtaining other signatures. But so fast are the names coming in that with the present means at their disposal the committee have not been able to send out tracts or to furnish blanks save to those who have written for them. If we concentrate our energy upon this work we can have a million signatures to present to the next congress, and such a dissemination of literature as will make the whole country alive with single tax men. The farmers, who have hitherto been the most difficult class to reach, are evidently ready for us; and through these petitions and the work they make possible, we can effectively reach them. Let us concentrate our strength on this petition. The money so far used has been in greater part contributed by a few men. It ought to be supplemented by general contributions, which, though small individually, will make a large aggregate. And if each of our friends will, in his or her locality, at once enter on the work of getting signatures, they will find their opportunities for usefulness greatly increased. This is far better for the present than concentrating on any one state. It will be concentrating at the same time on every state, for the weight of the whole movement, the impulse which it will gain from the mass of signatures that are obtained, and from the inquiry and discussion that is aroused, will tell on each state. We have only to show our strength to find the politicians, the clergymen, the professors and the press ready and willing to help us.

A correspondent expresses surprise that such a sermon as that of Rev. Archdeacon Mackay-Smith, a portion of which

was printed in last week's STANDARD under the title of "Christianity a la Mode," should have been preached in Rev. Heber Newton's church. It is probable that Mr. Newton was even more surprised than our correspondent. That certainly is not his kind of Christianity.

The result of the election for the new county council of London, and the Govan election for parliament, verify what I said on my return from England of the progress that has been made there. What these elections mainly show is the strength of the sentiment in favor of taxing out the landlords.

Strangely enough the New York papers have not as yet printed anything as to the election of William Saunders. But the first dispatch which came across the Atlantic in regard to the English elections was one announcing the triumphant election of Mr. Saunders. It probably reached New York after the morning papers had gone to press, and was then forgotten by the news agent here. But it was printed by all the western papers, which, from their position, have the advantage of time. Here it is, as printed by them:

LONDON, Jan. 17.—William Saunders, radical, was elected to the new municipal council of London to-day, for the Walworth district, receiving the largest proportional majority of any candidate.

Here is what one of the Chicago papers made me say to an interviewer about the election of Mr. Saunders:

Henry George, the great expounder of the single tax idea, stopped at the Grand Pacific to-day on his way to New York from Minnesota. . . . He said: "I am especially satisfied with the condition of affairs in London. William Saunders, recently elected lord mayor by the single tax party, is about to inaugurate a great reform. The new city council has a majority of single tax men, and when a new constitution is prepared it will be a success for the single tax people."

This is pretty nearly as good as the information I was once made to give through a Detroit paper, that the peasantry of Connemara, and especially the peasantry of Connaught, were the most highly educated people in the world.

However, the Chicago reporter got the spirit of what I said, if he did get a little mixed in details.

The triumphant election of Mr. Saunders by the largest proportional majority of any candidate, opposed as he was both by the Tories and by the socialists, who ran Mr. Quelch, the editor of their organ, Justice, against him, shows the strength of the tide. Mr. Saunders was pre-eminently the exponent of the idea of putting all taxes on ground values, and it was on this that the fight was made for and against him. I am not sufficiently informed to tell how many of the newly elected members will be ready to follow him in this, but am certain there are a considerable number. There are enough certainly to bring up the question in the council, and it is this that Mr. Saunders and our London friends have been aiming at.

After preliminary notice in the papers on Saturday, a pastoral letter from Archbishop Corrigan was read in the churches on Sunday, making attendance upon the anti-poverty meetings a reserved case—that is to say, suspending the power of the priests of this diocese to give absolution to any Catholic who attends the anti-poverty meetings. The immediate result was to crowd the anti-poverty meeting on Sunday night.

It is not easy to tell from the pastoral whether the archbishop founds his action upon "the violent and abusive language habitually employed in these weekly assemblages against the authority of the Holy See and its accredited

representatives," or upon the teaching of the pope that "the right of property is sanctioned by the law of nature," and the allegation that Dr. McGlynn proclaims the opposite.

As to the first I have nothing to say, for there has been a good deal in the anti-poverty meetings that has seemed to us non-Catholics who originally took part in them as at least in bad taste. But as to the second point, Archbishop Corrigan is descending again to the misrepresentation and evasion which characterized his pastoral of some two years ago on the subject of the rights of property. Neither Dr. McGlynn nor any other member of the anti-poverty society that I know of, has ever denied that right of property that is sanctioned by the law of nature. What they have denied is that right of property in land, which is *not* sanctioned by the law of nature. Such denial neither the pope nor the church has ever condemned. I, certainly, in my published works have denied the right of property in land as strongly as Dr. McGlynn ever has, yet, as has been stated by Roman correspondents of the English papers, and as I have been personally informed by clerics whose information came direct from Cardinal Simeoni, my books have been examined by a committee of the inquisition, who could find in them nothing contrary to Catholic doctrines and nothing to condemn. The committee who made this examination was composed, I am informed, of Cardinal Mazzella and Dr. Smith.

And whatever has happened since, in this endeavor to stretch indorsements of the natural rights of property into indorsements of the right of property in land, is the gist and cause of the original difference between Archbishop Corrigan and Dr. McGlynn. If the archbishop had never tried to exert his authority against the promulgation of the self evident truth that God made the land for all His creatures, Dr. McGlynn might still be in St. Stephens.

As for the effect of Archbishop Corrigan's action it can certainly have none upon Catholics who perceive this truth, nor yet is it likely to have any upon Dr. McGlynn's immediate followers. The priests who give these Catholics absolution now, can continue to give it unless their penitents choose to inform them that they have attended anti-poverty meetings. For there is nothing in Catholic teaching to compel the penitent to volunteer the information unless he feels that his conscience requires it. And even if Dr. McGlynn's followers could not get absolution in New York they have but to cross the East river to Brooklyn or the North river to Jersey City. When absolution was denied to the Irish Fenians by Cardinal McCabe the Fenians found no difficulty in still getting it.

HENRY GEORGE.

To Brooklyn Eastern District Men.

On Saturday evening, January 26, at eight p. m., at the house of Joseph McGuinness, 215 Ross street, a meeting of the friends of the single tax cause will be held to listen to and take action upon the report of a committee that has been appointed to make arrangements for holding a public meeting, engaging a prominent speaker and effecting a permanent organization. Other important business will also be transacted. All earnest friends of the movement are invited.

JOSEPH MCGUINNESS, Tem. Chairman,
JOHN BRITTON, Tem. Secretary.

A Rhode Island Petition.

The following petition is being circulated in Rhode Island. The exception which it contains was made necessary by a constitutional provision for personal property voters:

To the honorable the general assembly:

The undersigned residents of Rhode Island respectfully petition your honorable body to exempt from taxation buildings and all other improvements upon land, also all personal property except the amount of \$134 assessed upon any person to enable him to become a personal property voter.

THE PETITION.

The Rush of Signatures Continues—The Clerks Kept Busy From Morning Till Night—A Review of the Work Accomplished During the Week—Extracts From Letters.

The single tax enrollment committee has, during the past week, had numerous cheering assurances that its work is bearing excellent fruit throughout the country. From all quarters letters are pouring in, filled with announcements of new conversions and evidences that the newspapers of the country at large are coming to regard the question as a serious one that must be met in the early future. From the cities recently visited by Messrs. George, Shearman and Johnson came not merely such letters, but individual signatures to the petition from men who attended their meetings and who are not known to the local single tax men.

The address of the committee in last week's STANDARD has called forth substantial evidences of approval. One gentleman who sends his check for \$25 confesses that he has been holding back until the plan of campaign was decided on. Although he was willing to contribute to the New Jersey campaign in case that plan were adopted, he says that the address of the committee in THE STANDARD confirmed his former opinion that, instead of selecting a state arbitrarily, work should be pushed wherever experience proved that men can be found who are ready to push it with the most enthusiasm. The gentleman, in fact, approves of applying to this work the principle so clearly set forth by Mr. George himself, that the natural line of effort is that of least resistance.

Another gentleman sends in a contribution which, like the other, had been delayed pending the decision of this question, and declares that "our object is not to capture states but men." He recognizes in the work that this committee is doing one of the utmost importance to our cause, "because it spreads the light not in one locality only, but throughout the land and pushes forward the necessary education of the people, which must precede any attempt at political action. The gentleman says, "I would, therefore, urge all friends of the cause to desist from their efforts to lead the movement into a single state" and concentrate on the work of national propaganda conducted by the enrollment committee.

Mr. J. S. Crane of Cohoes writes in the same strain, and declares that "the circulation of petitions will furnish work enough for every one for the present," and when that is completed a fair estimate of our strength in various localities can be made and a judgment formed as to how and where it best may be used.

Mr. S. Byron MacLaine of Los Angeles, Cal., writes in the same strain, and advises against attempting too many things at once. He warmly approves the work of the enrollment committee, and says: "The petition is the best possible plan you could have adopted. It gives us a chance to approach and interest people who would listen to no other propaganda work."

The committee now has a large force actively engaged in the work of enrollment. It has found that it cannot afford to make printed lists, simply because all of the money it can possibly raise will be better used in the circulation of literature. Of course, this makes inconvenient the reproduction of lists for use elsewhere; but where a serious effort is to be made to organize single tax clubs a written list will be sent to the organizers with a view to assisting them in their work. The committee cannot afford to make such lists merely to satisfy individual curiosity or interest, but on the other hand, it will not allow this difficulty to stand in the way of rendering assistance to serious efforts at organization.

The petitions continue to come in at a rate averaging about five hundred per day, and this in spite of the fact that until the distribution of literature already provided for can be made no blanks will be sent to the great majority of the signers. The pamphlets and other papers will doubtless go out within ten days and after that the experience of the committee with the previous enrollment of the Cleveland and Thurman voters warrants the expectation that there will be an immediate and large increase in the number of signatures received.

The general correspondence of the committee shows that a hopeful feeling pervades our friends everywhere, and many of the letters give interesting glimpses of the methods adopted by individuals for the promotion of the cause. One correspondent, in sending names, declares his intention to send with them five cents for each name to aid the committee in the work of sending out literature. A general contribution of this character would undoubtedly enable the committee to carry on a much more extensive campaign; but it is not probable that all of the workers

who are obtaining petitions would be able to adopt this system.

Quite a number of letters announce that steps have recently been taken to re-organize old associations or form new ones. Another notable feature of the correspondence is the frequent expression of satisfaction at the overcoming of the prejudice that formerly stood in the way of our progress. As Dr. Wood, of Gloversville, put it: "We have become at least respectable, and soon will be popular. Men are no longer afraid or contemptuous concerning Henry George's theory."

Another gratifying thing is the wide range of territory covered by the correspondence. From every part of the country, with the single exception of the state of Mississippi, petitions and letters are flowing in. The committee hope that some single tax men in adjacent states will proceed to "invade" Mississippi and see to it that some signatures at least are obtained there.

The following extracts from letters will give the readers of THE STANDARD an idea of their general tenor:

William Jackson, Middleport, N. Y., says that ill health has prevented him from accomplishing much for the cause this winter. He writes: "I sometimes go down to the post office, and it is there that I have done most of my work. In these little country villages the post office is a debating club room. Our post master is a genial, good natured democrat, and always has an easy chair for me. I am a mechanic, and have lived so near the line of poverty that I can see across without spectacles. What there is or may be of me shall be given to the single tax cause, even unto the end, and if I drop out before the consummation of our hopes, it will be a good record to take to the Land of the Dead."

Garratt Mahan, Savannah, Ga.—"I have little trouble in obtaining signatures. One man argued with me ten minutes to prove that the single tax would make things worse for the poor, but I got him out of that notion, and I can down anything but a crank."

William Hancock, Wyoming, Pa.—"I think our efforts for the present should be purely educational. The circulation of Mr. George's works I consider the best possible means for educating the people. Conscientious, thinking men are sure to be influenced by his arguments when they understand them."

James Brown, Chamberlain, Dak.—"Some decline to sign, because they think it some plan of Henry George's, whom they seem to regard with serious horror. I feel sure, however, that with the discussion the subject is beginning to receive from the people in general, a very different view will be taken of Mr. George's plan at no distant date."

James Fitzsimmons, Canton, Ill.—"If the single tax adherents were organized in this state they might do some effective work, now that the question of raising revenue will be an important one at this meeting of the legislature."

James S. Paton, Douglas, Wash. Ter.—"Eighteen months ago I was the only single tax man in this vicinity, but now there are several."

W. G. Sellers, San Francisco, Cal.—"Our single tax meetings are growing fast since election. The meeting last night (January 6) was the largest we have had since I have been in the society—nearly a year."

Samuel Ashton, New York.—"I inclose you two petitions signed by men who need only to become more familiar with our doctrines to be single tax men—unlimited. I also send you ten cents (five cents for each name) for the work of sending out literature. I shall soon send you other signatures and will inclose five cents for each signature, to be devoted to the same purpose."

Martin M. Coleman, New Haven, Conn.—"I think that circulating the petition is an excellent way of calling people's attention to the single tax theory."

L. Hilpert, Wymore, Kan.—"We are gaining converts every day. The best plan is to pass our STANDARDS after we read them. I have made many converts that way, and I was converted that way myself."

J. M. Conaty, Providence, R. I.—"The signers are not single tax men, but they are willing to give it a hearing. They are more than half way converted. I gave them the proper food. I have them reading STANDARDS, 'Snug Harbor,' 'The Case Plainly Stated,' and in fact, they can't open their mouths but I answer them with free trade arguments."

Thomas Unken, Secretary Single Tax Society, San Francisco, Cal.—"Forward me 1,000 blanks, and I will supply applicants. We had one of the best single tax meetings last Sunday evening (January 6) ever held in this city. Address by Judge Maguire on 'The Progress of the Cause' to a crowded audience, and we hope soon to show that we are not asleep in San Francisco. We have engaged a larger hall for six months, and are now getting into shape."

C. S. Cameron, Flora Vista, N. M.—"The single tax is so manifestly to the interest of all who make use of land that the cause will progress whenever advocated intelligently."

FOR A SINGLE TAX CLUB HOUSE.

An Address by the Committee—Subscriptions for the Week.

The committee on the single tax club house have issued the following address:

To the Subscribers of the Single Tax Tontine: Those of you who are resident in New York, Brooklyn and Jersey City have now an opportunity to see in operation, partly, the scheme for the "home" we desire to establish. At No. 8 St. Marks place the Manhattan single tax club, almost every member of which has subscribed to the tontine, has rented apartments which are open every week-day evening and Sunday afternoon and evening for all single tax men. The gatherings there have amply proved that the "home" supplies a "long felt want." And your committee would respectfully invite you one and all to come and inspect for yourselves the work which is being done and to which the success of the tontine subscription will give permanence and certainty.

The present committee are but five men, yet through their efforts and appeals over two hundred persons have been reached. Each of these subscribers, if animated by a sincere desire to aid in the success of our work, could easily obtain one subscriber apiece. If this were done, the club house could be bought at once, and by May 1, 1889, be employed as it should be, from garret to basement in single tax work.

Remember, these subscriptions are in no sense donations. The tontine shares from the very first will pay at least four per cent per annum, and within a very brief period possibly much more. This committee have worked hard. Their success in obtaining so favorable a location and in inducing the Manhattan club to actually show the "home" in operation, has been made by persistent effort. But they cannot do it all; their work is but for the common interest, and every subscriber should strengthen their hands and aid in hastening the final success, by going among his friends and securing as many subscriptions as possible.

Do not allow this to slip by. Our opportunity is within our grasp. A long pull, a strong pull and a pull all together, is what we need. United and persistent work for a few weeks now will enable us by May 1, 1889, to have our "home" bought and paid for.

A. J. STEERS,
W. H. FAULHABER,
JEROME O'NEILL,
WM. J. GORSUCH,
WM. McCABE.

Attention is called to the meeting of the subscribers of the single tax club house, at the rooms of the Manhattan single tax club, No. 8 St. Mark's place, on Monday evening, February 4.

For some reason the subscriptions again show a falling off. Probably it is the lull before the meeting to form an organization is called. The following subscriptions are acknowledged:

Henry Simmons, 218 East 107th st., city.....	3
Meyer Stark, 315 East 105th st., city.....	1
Charles Bussing, 135 Greenwich st., city.....	5
C. Whitehouse, 106 East 10th st., city.....	1
T. B. Preston, 133 Macdonald st., Brooklyn.....	20
Mrs. L. Harwell, Whitestone, L. I.....	2
Theodore E. Lane, Bayside, L. I.....	5
Philip Wolfe, Jr., Pleasantville, N. Y.....	2
E. L. Klump, 121 Bruen st., Newark, N. J.....	5
C. P. Bohn, Whitman, Mass.....	5
Frederic A. Dunlap, 82 Washington st., Cambridgeport, Mass. (25 enclosed).....	2
K. F. Hensen, 286 Roxbury st., Boston, Mass.....	5
John H. Folber, Harrington, Neb. (25 enclosed).....	5
Wm. H. Benson, 37 Hoff ave., San Francisco, Cal.....	2
James B. Hissett, Anaheim, Cal.....	5
W. S. Shaw, St. Leonard, Quebec, Can.....	3

Previously acknowledged..... 1,235

Total to date..... 1,306

Several communications regarding corrections in the spelling of names have been received and noted by the secretary.

Booming in Cleveland.

CLEVELAND, O.—The "cause of the people" is alive here, and is being rapidly pushed to the front by many single tax workers who have earnestly put their shoulders to the wheel. We have a number of alert single tax clubs in the city. Organization is becoming more perfected day by day.

We had Mr. George with us Saturday, the 12th inst. He spoke to the largest audience ever assembled in Cleveland to listen to us. It was a rousing meeting, and public attention was so called to Mr. George's doctrines that on Monday morning not one STANDARD could be had at any of the news depots.

The seed is sown, and we know it will bear fruit. A circular advertising our club and containing a "declaration of principles" was given out at the lecture, and the result was such a crowd as could hardly find places in our club rooms.

Let the good work go on; we are with you heart and hand.
J. B. VINING,
Secretary Central Single Tax Club.

The Deuce They Don't.

New York Press.

Free trade journals do not dare to publish the real explanation of the way in which protection increases the reward of labor.

Straws Which Show the Wind.

Henry George's single tax theory has had a marked boom in this city, owing principally to the appearance of that distinguished gentleman before a committee of the legislature the past week.—(Columbus Sunday Capital.

The George men are a trifle radical, but the fairness of their methods entitles them to a hearing always.—(Clearfield, Pa., Public Spirit.

Owatonna citizens are beginning to agitate the Henry George land tax theory.—(Steel County, Minn., Democrat.

WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE NEWSPAPERS.

The Exchange Editor Jots Down a Few Notes About Things That Meet His Eye.

That the question of taxation in all its phases is now being discussed as it has never before been discussed in this country, is a fact which must be patent to every reader of the newspapers. There are a multitude of conflicting opinions as to the best method of taxation but there seems to be a practically unanimous agreement that the present system is about the worst that could be invented. In this controversy the single tax is everywhere taking a prominent place. When it is proposed to make fresh endeavor to distribute the burden of taxation equally between all classes of property, there is a single tax man on hand to point out the fact that such a thing has not only never been done but that it is impossible of accomplishment. When some one advises the taxation of incomes the now ubiquitous single tax man gives conclusive reasons why it is more equitable to tax land values. And so the discussion proceeds in infinite variety, the single tax gaining ground at every encounter.

The newspapers tell the whole story:

The Minneapolis Star of Jan. 12 says: "Whether right or wrong, the single tax theory is bound to be a prominent topic of economic discussion in the near future, and the men who make the state's laws cannot be any too well posted in regard to it."

The Minneapolis Journal of January 12 contains a symposium on the single tax. The contributors, all in favor of the single tax, are: C. J. Buell, George K. Shaw, W. A. Carpenter, C. E. Haynes, E. L. Ryder, O. T. Erickson, E. G. Erickson, Howe Paige, Edwin Barber, H. B. Martin and L. K. Campbell. Each writer treated a distinct phase of the question. The Journal says editorially that its reason for devoting so much space to the subject is that it is occupying a great deal of attention in that community and will be brought before the legislature. In introducing the symposium it says: "Perhaps no question of public policy is being so generally discussed in this state just now as the so-called single tax."

The St. Paul Globe, the leading democratic paper of that section, said January 13: "Henry George will present his tax theories to the Minnesota law makers Wednesday. A good many will be interested in hearing his views, although they have little confidence in the single tax scheme or his landholding notions," and on the 14th it presents its view of "the George well."

The St. Paul Dispatch, a staunch republican paper, at the head of its editorial column of January 14 gave expression to these generous sentiments:

On Wednesday evening next Mr. Henry George will deliver a public address at Market hall in this city in advocacy of the single tax idea.

The economic views of Mr. George are generally known, and he is to be regarded as unquestionably one of the leading minds of his generation on all questions pertaining to the science of government. No citizen who has a positive interest in the well being of humanity, or in the scientific solution of governmental problems should allow the opportunity to pass of hearing this scholarly man.

It is not necessary that Mr. George's auditors should find themselves at the outset in agreement with his views. It is not even to be supposed that he will succeed in convincing the bulk of his hearers of the correctness of those views. What he will say will be worthy of the closest thought; and if his audience will but divest themselves of preconceived views, and in an unbiased spirit consider whatever Mr. George may present, we apprehend that his principal object in coming among us will be attained.

As a scholar and philosopher, as well as because he is a former member of the newspaper profession, we bespeak for Mr. George a large and attentive audience.

Hon. J. H. Raley, one of the law makers of Oregon, in a recent article in the *East Oregonian*, characterized the single tax as a "theory belonging to the same category of oppressions, trusts, monopolies, co-operations and other gigantic combinations which scheme together to protect capital and compel the farmer to bear the burden." S. B. Riggan, in a column article in the same paper, shows Senator Raley that the single tax would relieve the farmer from the burdens under which he is now groaning, strike the shackles from his limbs and set him free to produce for his own benefit.

The Denver, Col., *Arbitrator* of January 12 contains communications in favor of the single tax by G. C. Rhode of Aspen, Col., and Charles G. Buck.

The Portland, Oregon, *News* observes that the present system of taxation of that state holds out not only every inducement and temptation to dishonesty, but it brings all the power and stress of the sense of injustice and wrong, as well as a desire to escape wrongful burden, to force men to be cheats. And worse still, it fines and punishes the industrious, frugal and enterprising members of society and gives their earnings to the cheats. The *News* is in favor of any system that will remedy this evil. Between the lines the *News* says that if "the single tax will do it" it (the *News*) is for the single tax.

A well known gentleman, "who has had much to do with formulating legislation for Ohio," in an interview with the *Columbus Post*, says:

I don't understand the proposition of Henry George. Why, here you own \$10,000 in personal and \$10,000 in realty. If I understand

George he puts all the tax on real estate. Now if we are each receiving six per cent and you are relieved of taxation, do you think you would be willing to trade property with me? Is it not reasonable to think that the price of land would drop to little or nothing? I should like to have this explained to me."

The single tax men of Columbus ought to lose no time in informing the gentleman through the columns of the *Post* of the wide difference between property and "property."

The *Fair Play* of Valley Falls, Kan., devotes nearly a page of its issue of January 5 to a discussion of the single tax with the anti-monopolist and T. P. Lyon.

The West Superior, Wis., *Inter Ocean* shows by the assessments of Otter Tail and several other agricultural counties of the state that the taxation of land values only would shift a large burden from the working farmers and put it where it properly belongs.

The Clinton, Ind., *Argus* says that Samuel W. Williams will have a petition presented to the Indiana legislature praying for an amendment to the constitution exempting personal property and improvements from taxation. The *Argus* says that this move is certain to provoke discussion throughout the state and as surely will the people begin to see that to tax an industry is to discourage it and to untax it is to encourage it.

The Minneapolis *Northwestern Labor Union* says that the single tax would make homes easier for the workingman to get and keep, because it would reduce the amount of taxes on his house and lot and would relieve him of all indirect taxes amounting to about one-third of the value of everything he consumes.

The *East Oregonian* has sent out a circular asking for opinions on the subject of taxation. The questions asked embrace the single tax, the taxation of incomes and the taxation of personal property. The recipients of the circular are sending in their views. What better opportunity to educate the people could single tax men ask?

The *Pittsburg Commoner and Glass Worker* declares itself in favor of raising state, county and municipal revenues by the taxation of land values only. It is doing good work by publishing the single tax petition to the Pennsylvania legislature. The editor says that he has signed it himself and advises all his readers to sign it. But while the *Commoner* is in favor of raising state and local revenues by direct taxation it holds that national revenues should be raised by indirect taxation.

The *Detroit Advance* in a lengthy article takes its stand beside State Representative Wetlauffer of Michigan in favor of the single tax limited. It says it is "intensely interested in determining upon some direct and effective method of destroying this monster Unearned Increment" without resorting to the plan of appropriating it all for public purposes.

Milton Allen, the bright and versatile writer for the *American Union* of Cleveland, Ohio, reviewed in last week's issue of that paper the progress and present status of the single tax movement. Said he:

It is a curious fact that those who are most violent in denunciation of the "George heresy" often become the most enthusiastic disciples. They condemn in ignorance, they study to oppose and they end by espousing it. There has been a marked change in sentiment. The tariff discussion has made men's minds receptive. They are now willing to learn. Even the great newspapers which formerly denounced it as communism now give it respectful hearing and discussion. Just as fast as people are brought to doubt the logic of the tariff doctrine, they commence to doubt the justice of taxing the products of labor; and when they once see the robbery in this, the advance to full fledged single tax disciples is made at a bound. Henry George is right. How people think is of more immediate importance than how they vote. And the thinking on tariff robbery and taxation wrongs are twin forces which point to the same goal of freedom.

In his recent message to the council, Mayor Denny of Indianapolis complained that under the present legal limitation of the rate of taxation the city was in a bad way financially, and he advised as a relief that the limitation be removed. He also advised as a means of further increasing revenues that vehicles should be taxed. The single tax league, not being captivated by the mayor's recommendations, appointed a committee to discover, if possible, the real difficulty. The committee repaired to the auditor's office, where they soon struck it rich. They found that from 1880 to 1887 (assessments being required every six years), while population had increased more than 20,000, the assessed valuation of real estate showed a decrease of nearly \$5,000,000, but that the value of personal property had increased nearly \$2,000,000. The committee then applied themselves to the records to learn the cause of this contradictory state of things, and behold! they saw that lots in Woodlawn addition, assessed at from \$110 to \$145, sell in the market at from \$400 to \$600; lots in Allen Root's and English's additions, assessed at \$120, sell for \$450; in Martindale and Stiltz's addition, assessed valuation, \$115; market price, \$300 to \$500; and in the addition known as Lincoln park lots held at \$500 were assessed at \$35! The league being apprised of the facts resolved that they were opposed to Mayor Denny's recommendations, and that if the city needed more money the legislature should be asked to order a reassessment of real estate. The committee's report was published in full in the form of an address to the public in the *Sentinel*.

The *Toronto Globe*, the strongest paper pub-

lished in the dominion, on the 12th inst. contained a leading editorial more than a column in length in which it ominously declares that if the single tax doctrine is pernicious and utterly wrong, as many worthy, learned and truthful persons assert, the time has arrived when the theory should be annihilated. Says the *Globe*: "While most of the politicians of the world, Canada and the state of New Jersey are treating of public affairs as if undisturbed by the rumblings of imminent revolution, a movement is going on with constantly accelerated force all over the civilized world, which, unless checked soon, seems likely to cause vast changes in the distribution of wealth, and by consequence, in the structure of society. We allude, of course, to the movement for placing all taxes upon land values. In spite of reams of ridicule and and tons of hostile disquisition, the 'single tax' plan has steadily gained adherents. The work has been translated in every language of civilization, it has been condemned by authorities of all sorts and by economists of various degrees of orthodoxy, it has been treated as nothing less than blasphemous by the duke of Argyle, it has been set aside as a thing of naught by several lawyers of Toronto, and yet it goes on making enthusiastic converts in every quarter of the civilized world, particularly in those countries dominated by Anglo-Saxonism. Notwithstanding the cautious and wise policy of the Canadian press, which has generally abstained from ever discussing a scheme condemned by some moralists as confiscatory, the 'single tax' men have become numerous enough in Toronto to be able to 'hire a hall,' to be able to fill it, and to be able to attract a good deal of attention. Is it not strange that of all the extremely intelligent, enlightened and brilliant men who hold 'Georgeism' in detestation not one has yet taken upon himself what should be the easy task of squabbling 'Progress and Poverty' by a complete and convincing exposition of its fallacies? That a satisfactory refutation would pay a writer handsomely and give him great fame as a public benefactor, seems palpable from what the opponents of Mr. George say, from the uneasiness his propaganda excites in the most exclusive circles, and from the detestation in which it is held by thousands of very wealthy landed proprietors."

The *Minneapolis Free Lance*, which opposes the single tax only because it does not understand it, publishes the form of a petition asking the legislature to lay the single tax petition on the table, and instead adopt some means of enforcing present laws. It proposes, however, that personal property to the amount of \$300 should be exempt from taxes, and that buildings to the amount of \$700, when used by the owners as homesteads, should pay no tax.

The *Monetary Times* of Toronto had been enjoying itself spinning ridiculous single tax theories of its own, and then going to the unnecessary trouble of pointing out their ridiculousness, when W. A. Douglass, in a communication, requested it to discuss the real principles of the anti-poverty society as he clearly stated them. But the moral sensitivity, the very honor of the organ of banks, insurance and loan and mortgage companies, would not permit it to give so much countenance to so devilish a scheme. "We have no intention," says the *Monetary Times*, "of discussing with Mr. Douglass his fantastical theory of land confiscation, and we are quite satisfied that this community is not going to discuss it. Mr. Douglass surely does not suppose that honest people are going to discuss this question with him."

The *Minneapolis* and St. Paul papers deserve great credit for their handsome treatment of the single tax movement. The *Star*, *Journal* and *Northwestern Labor Union* of Minneapolis and the *Globe* and *Dispatch* of St. Paul all gave copious reports of Mr. George's addresses, while their editorial references to Mr. George and the movement were all that could be desired. The single tax matter printed in the *Twin cities* papers during last week would aggregate a great many columns.

The *Waseca Radical*, *St. Peter Tribune*, *Herman Enterprise* and *Winona Republican*, all of Minnesota, make comments on the single tax which only show that the editors of these papers have not yet given the subject any thought.

Taking the cruel evictions that recently occurred in Iowa for a text, Charles G. Bennett, of Evansville, Ind., occupies about three columns of space in the *Evansville Courier*, in which he makes a forcible exposition of the land doctrine, particularly its ethical side.

For Effective Work on State Legislatures.

MARLBORO, Mass.—Let every single tax man in the country supply their senators and representatives with that most excellent state paper, Thomas G. Shearman's address before the tax committee of the Ohio legislature. The value of such a paper cannot be too highly estimated, especially at this time, when most of the legislatures are in session and are about to consider matters of taxation. The movement to abolish taxes on personal property is moving onward much swifter than we single tax men think. In Marlboro we have gained over 500 per cent within a year. I was surprised at the number of signatures I got at first to the state petition, when men one year ago had no thought of taxing land values.

G. A. E. REYNOLDS.

Columbus, O—Edward Hyeman, 348 1-2 South High Street.
Cornwall, Cal—Jett A Bailey.
Cramer Hill, Camden county, N J—Chas P Johnston.
Danbury, Conn—Sam A Mann, 34 Smith street.
Dayton, O—W W Kile, 31 E Fifth street, J G Galloway, 283 Samuel street.
Denver, Col—Charles G Buck, chairman State executive committee National tax reform association, new Trench block.
Des Moines, Iowa—J J Kasson, president Single tax club; John W King, sec. rotary.
Detroit, Mich—J K Fletcher, 45 Waterloo street; J F Gannon, 279 Third street, secretary Tax reform association; G H Groat, 141 Jewett.
Elizabeth, N J—Benjamin Urner.
Elmhurst, N Y—William Berkman, 712 East Market street, Englewood, Ill—W B Steers.
Evanston, Ill—Charles G Bennett, 427 Upper Third Street.
Flushing, Mass—R J Terry.
Farrington, Iowa—F W Lockwell.
Gardner, Ill—T S Cunningham.
Glen Cove, Long Island, N Y—Herbert Loromer.
Glens Falls, N Y—John H Quinan.
Gloversville, N Y—Wm C Wood, M D.
Grand View on the Hudson, N Y—Henry L Hinton.
Harrisburg, Pa—John H Hinton.
Hartington, Neb—J H Feder.
Haverhill, Mass—Arthur F Brock.
Helena, Mont—Judge J McComents.
Hornesville, N Y—George H Van Winkle.
Hot Springs, Ark—Wm Albert Chapman.
Housick Falls, N Y—John H Hinton.
Houston, Tex—H F Rugg, corporation attorney.
Hutchinson, Kas—J G Malcolm, M D.
Ithaca, N Y—George Smith, P O box 502.
Indianapolis, Ind—Herman Kuenn, 111 Talbot block; or L F Foster, member of single tax club.
Ipswich, N Y—C H McGowan, 75 East State street, Janvier, N J—S B Wash.
Jersey City, N J—Joseph Dana Miller, secretary Hudson county Single tax league, 86 Ege avenue.
Kansas City, Mo—Chas E Reid, 2,223 Woodland avenue.
Kearnsburg, Ill—M McDonald.
Kingston, N Y—Theodore M Romeyn.
Lancaster, Pa—John H Hinton.
Lansdowne, Pa—Dr L P Garvin.
Lexington, Mo—F D Lyford, 3 Cottage street.
Lexington, Ky—James Lawton.
London, Englan—William Saunders, 177 Palace Chambers, 15 Westminster.
Los Angeles, Cal—H H Dodge, 30 North Alameda street; W A Cole, 149 South Hill; or A Vinette, P O 81, Union street.
Lowell, Mass—Henry Robertson, 5 Metcalf block, Kildersleeke street.
Lynchburg, Va—Thos Williamson, cor Fifth and Church streets.
Lyons, Mass—Theodore P Perkins, 14 South Common street.
Madison, Dak—E H Evenson.
Mahanoy City, Pa—J N Becker, president Free trade club; Robert Richardson, secretary.
Mammoth, Mich—Albert Wadley or W R Hall.
Manassas, Va—J H Higgins, manager Western union telegraph office.
Marbleboro, Mass—Geo A E Reynolds.
Marlborough, N Y—C H Bauldon.
Mari, Tex—J L Caldwell, chairman Ninth congressional district organizer.
Marysville, Mont—S F Baldwin, Sr.
Massillon, O—Samuel T Wright, 63 West Main street.
Mauritius, Indian Ocean—Robert A Rohan, 8 Tump street, Port Louis.
Memphis, Tenn—R G Brown, secretary Tariff reform club, 59 Madison street.
Middletown, Conn—John G Hopkins, P O box 580.
Middleton, N Y—Chas H Fuller, P O box 115.
Milwaukee, Wis—Peter McGuff, 147 Fourth street.
Minneapolis, Minn—C J Budd, president Single tax league, 402 W Franklin avenue; E E Ryder, secretary.
Mobile, Ala—E Q Norton, 23 South Royal street.
Mt Pleasant, Iowa—A O Pletcher, M D.
Mt Vernon, N Y—Edward Weston.
Murrayville, Ind—William Cunniff, president Democratic club.
Nashville, Tenn—P H Carroll, 235 N High street, secretary American land league.
Napa, Cal—J H Schrafer, secretary Single tax league, 247 Southgate street; Will C James, 89 Taylor street.
New Westminster, Brit Col—Alex Hamilton, member Tax reform association.
Norfolk, Va—Edward K Robertson, secretary Alpha club, Main street.
North Springfield, Ill, Mo—K P Alexander, 1826 North Boonville street.
Oberlin, O—Edw H Haskell.
Olean, N Y—George Ball, pres Single tax association.
Timothy Horan, sec, 85 Railroad street.
Omaha, Neb—H E Embden, 822 Virginia avenue.
Orrington, Dak—H H Garland, member Tax reform association.
Passaic, N J—J J Barnard, P O box 181.
Paterson, N J—E W Nehls, Chairman Passaic county Single tax Cleveland campaign committee, 89 North Main street.
Parkersburg, W Va—W I Borenman, member of Single tax league.
Pawtucket, R I—Edward Barker, 23 Gooding street.
Peoria, Ill—J W Avery.
Philadelphia, Pa—Wm J Atkinson, 926 Chestnut street or A H Stephenson, 214 Chestnut street, secretary Single tax league.
Piermont, N Y—Charles R Hood, P O box 13.
Pittsburg, Pa—Mark F Roberts, 1725 Carey alley.
Portland, Ore—S B Riggen, 48 Stark street, James P Kohler, 134 Grand street, or R H Thompson.
Poughkeepsie, N Y—William C Albion.
Providence, R I—Robert Guxey, 32 Sutton street; Dr Wm Barker, pres, Rhode Island single tax association.
Rushki, N Y—C V Harbott.
Ravenswood, Ill—W H Van Ornum.
Reading, Pa—Chas S Prozer, 104 Penn street.
Rochester, N Y—J H Hinton.
Rothmond, Cal—J H Hinton, 105 South Third street.
Ridgeway, N Y—D C Sullivan.
River Falls, Wis—George H Hares.
Rockledge, N Y—Charles Avard, 7 Morrill street.
Toscoletti, N J—Reed Gordon.
Tuland, Va—T H Brown, 11 Cherry street.
Union City, San Francisco, Cal—Judge James G Maguire, Superior court.
San Luis Obispo, Cal—Mrs Frances M Mine.
Seattle, Wa—H Ter—F F Morrow.
Seneca Falls, N Y—Wm H Atkinson, P O box 56.
Seyron, Cal—A J B Smith, Libran single tax club.
Shelton, Conn—Morris Marsh, president Single tax club; Thos Port, secretary.
Southport, Mass—S H Howes.
Southgate, N Y—W L M Perkins.
Sparrow Bush, Orange county, N Y—C L Dedrick, president Progressive association; John Sheridan, sec.
Spirit Lake, Iowa—J W Schrimpf, secretary Tariff reform club.
Springfield, Mo—H A W Jerneman, 665 Nichols street.
St Louis, Mo—Geo S Edmund, president single tax league, 1227 E. Bigelow avenue; Sidney A Remel, sec rotary, 1108 Olive street.
Stoughton, Cal—P A Hinton.
Syracuse, N Y—Charles S Hopkins, 9 Seneca street; R R Perry, 119 South Clinton street; or F A Paul, 4 Walton street; or James K McFar, secretary Single tax club, 39 Groene street.
Tampa, Fla—J W McFar, secretary single tax club, P O 112.
Tomboro, Cal—W A Gauds, president anti-poverty society, Wash Ter—F C Carter, 106 K St.
Trenton, N J—H R Matthews, 9 Howell street.
Troy, N Y—H B Roberts.
Tuckahoe, N Y—Alfred H Young.
Unionville, Conn—John McAvette.
Utica, N Y—Thos Sweeney, 136 Elizabeth street, or Daniel M Buckley, grocer, southwest corner East and Catharine.
Vermont, Ind—Hon Samuel W Williams, rooms 2 and 4 Opera block.
Vicksburg, Tex—Frank Grady, lawyer, 163 south 10th street.
Walden, R I—David H Brown.
Washington, D C—Dr William Goddard, 179 G street, N W, secretary anti-poverty society.
Washington Post, Tex—William M Smith.
West New Brighton, Long Island, N Y—George H Hinton.
Wichita, Kan—J H Hinton, cigar store, The Englands, president single tax league.
Wilmington, Del—Wm A Green, 717 West Ninth street.
Winchester, Mass—A W Wood, 100 North Main street.
Winchester, Mass—J K Parker, Lake View.
Winchester, N Y—Joseph Sutcliff.
Winstonsburg, O—Judy Kuchler, Radcliffe house.

AN INTERESTING CONTROVERSY

Between Van Buren Denslow and Thomas G. Shearman.

The following correspondence explains itself:

163 POTTER BUILDING,
NEW YORK, Dec. 30, 1888.

Professor E. Benjamin Andrews, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.—My Dear Sir: Will you kindly permit me to suppose ourselves reinstated at that point in the conversation at the Colonnade hotel, Philadelphia, at which I had remarked that the central fallacy of Henry George's theory lay in supposing that values of land (economic rent) could be taxed out of existence, leaving the values of improvements intact and unreachably by the tax, as land values and land improvements are as inseparable as the blood and the arteries.

You replied, "I do not see that they are." I now proceed with the proof.

Suppose George's law enacted, say thus: "The owners of all lands (in New York) shall pay a tax equal to the economic rent, to be appraised by the assessor of every town, and on non-payment thereof a writ will issue to the collector for the sale of the title to the economic rent of the lands, but without any right in the purchaser thereof to touch, take or affect any improvement, building or structure thereon."

Remember, George nowhere prescribes the form of the writ under which his tax is to be collected, other than (p. 291 Lovell Ed'n) it is to be by "letting it out to the highest bidders in lots to suit, under such conditions as would sacredly guard the right to improvements."

Whether the sale is in fee or for a term is aside, therefore, as in either case improvements are to remain unaffected by the sale, i. e., the sale will not give the purchaser (either of a perpetuity or of a term) a right to disturb the previous possessors of the improvements to collect the rent they pay, or to oust or in any manner touch them, or to make or occupy any future improvements henceforth or forever.

Is it not obvious that the writ would sell nothing, and hence that there would be no bids?

For the English rates the writ issues to distrain the goods and chattels of the occupiers. In America the writ sells the title to land and its improvements for a term or perpetuity. But George proposes to sell, not the land (p. 292), nor the improvements (p. 291), but only the economic rent—a pure abstraction. He might as well propose to sell the "wage fund," the "margin of cultivation," the economic man or the "unearned increment." In fact, the latter is just what he does propose to sell.

Those who mistake the present cases of the ground rent being payable to A while the improvements are occupied by B and the rent for the latter paid to C for examples which lift the George error out of the limbo of pure impracticability, err obviously through failing to perceive that it is at all times the immediate right to seize the improvements (buildings) if the rent is not paid, which causes the ground rent to be paid as well as the building rent. Under all leases this right exists, since it is only through the earnings made by the workers who have the use of the improvements that the rent (which must first be earned in the form of profits on the sale of goods or services in some occupation) can be obtained by the occupant and paid. In no existing system of leases is the occupant of the buildings and the user of the improvements so exempted from the tax of rent as to be sacredly guarded in his private (i. e., indefeasible) right to improvements absolutely free of tax.

But this is just what George proposes, and it is this which consigns his whole scheme to the limbo of vagaries not thought out in their conclusion.

It is because of the modest terms in which you expressed your dissent from my position that I beg leave to address this answer directly to yourself, without the honor of more than the most casual introduction to you.

If it is not clear that Mr. George's vision is a vagary I must be permitted to take shelter behind the same scientific formula, "I do not see why it is not." But it is, in fact, clearly a vagary and not an idea. Yours very respectfully,

VAN BUREN DENSLOW.

[This letter was sent by Professor Denslow to Mr. Shearman, with a note, inviting him to reply to it.]

Thomas G. Shearman to Professor Denslow.

NEW YORK, Jan. 2, 1889.

V. B. Denslow, esq.—My Dear Sir: I am much obliged to you for sending me a copy of your letter to Professor Andrews, because it gives an opportunity for reply to an objection which is frequently raised by persons who do not formulate their ideas with sufficient distinctness to admit of any answer to their vague complaints.

Your criticism of Mr. George's theory admits of a short answer: It is based upon an entire misconception of both his meaning and his language. The statute which you set forth as that which he proposes is drawn entirely from your conception of what he must needs intend, not from his words or from any just inference therefrom.

The first condition of understanding what Mr. George advocates is to bear in mind that he never for a moment proposed to abolish rent or to vary any of its economic effects, whether good or bad. He simply proposes to

divert the flow of rent from private into public channels. In so far, therefore, as ground rent now interferes with the title to or enjoyment of improvements upon the land, and could not be prevented from doing so while that rent is collected by private owners without impairing their right to the rent, it would continue so to interfere after ground rent had been diverted to the public use. But the change of title to the rent would not add to this interference; and improvements would be much less liable to confiscation by the state than they are now.

Improvements upon land are now, and would be then, permitted only upon condition that their owner will pay the ground rent, that is, the annual value of the use of that particular land, for the most valuable purpose to which any one cares to apply it. At present this rent is usually capitalized and is then called its price. But this is not always done. Some of the most desirable land in New York, and most of that in Philadelphia, London and other large cities, are built upon by leaseholders. The owner of the improvements pays the annual value of the land to the freeholder. Under the George system he would pay it to the state. In either case he must pay it or lose his improvements.

But, under the George system, the owner of improvements could never be required to pay more than the annual value of the bare land. If he leased the land from a private person, it would be his right and duty to require that his immediate landlord should either allow him to pay all the tax and deduct it from the rent, or should himself pay the tax before collecting rent from the tenant. If the tenant neglected this duty, he might justly suffer, by being compelled to pay the tax himself for a single year, in addition to his rent, leaving him to collect it from his landlord as he could. Thus far the tenant is not injured.

An apparent difficulty arises, where John Smith builds a house, worth \$10,000 per annum, on a lot which is then worth only \$2,000 per annum, but which rises rapidly in value, and becomes worth, and therefore taxable, \$5,000 per annum. Yet this difficulty is only on the surface. In the vast majority of cases the rent of the whole house and lot will, under such circumstances, advance from its original figure of \$12,000 to its new value of \$15,000. Where this occurs, the tenant will and ought to pay the increased tax without complaint, since he is reimbursed in full. But, in some cases, the increased value of the lot will arise from its desirability for purposes inconsistent with the maintenance of Smith's house. It is wanted for a bank, a factory or a warehouse. Smith is, therefore, unable to secure an advance in the rent of the whole property equal to the advance in the annual tax. He allows the land to be sold for taxes. It will be sold to the person who will pay the highest price for the privilege of taking the land, subject to the burden of paying Smith just what it would cost to erect another house exactly like his, in no better or worse repair, upon another lot of no value.

Thus the tax collector would sell the title to the land for one year and to the improvements forever; but the state would repay to the owner of the improvements their full appraised value, less the tax on the bare land, which he had failed to pay. No doubt it would occasionally happen that the state would lose a little on such a transaction, but so it would also happen that it would occasionally gain a little. The self-interest of the owner of the improvements would lead him to avoid a sale of this kind, wherever possible, by a private bargain with persons who contemplated purchase at the tax sale; and, on the other hand, such contemplating purchasers would have strong inducements to enter into such a bargain, rather than compete with each other at an auction, where they would be compelled to bid a minimum price, which might be a trifle more than the owner of the building might accept for the sake of a prompt settlement, and in case of competition the final bid might give the state more than the tax and cost of improvements. The state would give every facility to such bargains, because it would care for nothing beyond its tax. Actual tax sales, therefore, would be very rare.

You will perhaps see that I have "thought out" this matter at least as fully as you have; and I have taken the pains to work out the result in greater detail than you have, in order to meet every objection. You will very probably say that my explanation is inconsistent with Mr. George's statement that the land tax would be collected "under such conditions as would sacredly guard the right to improvements." You will permit me to quote from you for an appropriate reply. The suggestion that the right to improvements is not sacredly guarded, when full compensation therefor is guaranteed, before they can be touched, may well be described as "clearly a vagary and not an idea." Yours very truly,

THOMAS G. SHEARMAN.

Professor Denslow to Thomas G. Shearman.

163 POTTER BUILDING,
NEW YORK, Jan. 4, 1889.

Hon. Thomas G. Shearman.—My Dear Sir: As Mr. George has confined himself to strictly ethical, inspired and prophetic work, without explaining the machinery by which he expected his prophecies to be fulfilled, it was necessary for me, in exposing his confusion of thought, to suppose some clear statute to be passed with a view to effect his

purpose. If Mr. William Miller was sure that those who were clad in ascension robes and stood on the roofs of their houses on a certain day would go up to heaven, the best way to test his prophecy was to put on the robe nearest like that he described and go out on the roof ready to rise. My proposed statute was in the line of an ascension robe, and you say it is not of the right pattern; but I observe that you furnish no robe of the true pattern in its place. Why do you not?

You say my statute is based on a misconception of Henry George's words. You now concede that a tax on land values or "economic rent" which should give no power to the tax collector to sell improvements would be utterly void. It would not be paid, because neither rent for land nor a tax thereon can be collected except by giving the collector a power of sale over the improvements. But in our conversation at the Colonnade hotel I had asserted, and you and Professor Andrews had admitted, that the central feature of George's notion was that a tax could be so laid on land only as to leave the buildings untaxed. I had just stated that this was as impossible as for Shylock to take the pound of flesh without drawing blood. You and Professor Andrews then answered *sotto voce*, "I do not see that it is impossible." Now you answer of course that is impossible, but Henry George does not intend that. It was to prove that the value of land could not be separated from the value of improvements that I framed my statute. You reply to my statute by admitting the proposition it was designed to prove and hence revoking your previous denial of that proposition.

I will first take up your new position, which is that George "does not propose to abolish rent, but that he simply (i. e., solely and singly) proposes to divert the flow of rent from private into public channels." This is not true. George proposes clearly that rent of land alone shall be taxed, and no tax shall fall on anything else but the rent of land, and especially that no taxes shall fall on either improvements on land, on buildings, on exchanges, on services or on labor. It is this last proposition only that entitles his notion to the name "single tax theory;" i. e., a theory that taxes can be made to fall on rent of land only.

If to collect the tax on land the collector must have the power to sell or in any way affect the improvements, including the buildings, then peradventure those who wish to use the improvements and buildings will in the form of rent pay the tax out of the earnings they make through the services they render in connection with the occupation of the land, and thus the pretended tax on land will be seen to be a tax on the labor and exchanges done on the land. Thus George's pretended "single tax" on land would so diffuse itself into and through the rent paid by the workers on the land as to be a deduction from the wages even of Tom Hood's poor needle woman,

"Sewing at once with a double thread
A shroud as well as a shirt."

It is because he has crazed perhaps a million of innocent people, incapable of economic reasoning, into the belief that he can lay a tax which will not diffuse itself through land and its rent so as ultimately to be paid by labor that he has won the plaudits of the class always

"Devoutly willing to be blind,"

who are determined to trust to the labors of prophets, instead of the profits of labor, to mend their condition. For if the single tax is to be all paid out of the earnings of the labor done on land, then wherein does it emancipate labor from taxation? How will it raise profits or wages, if it must be paid out of wages and profits?

To show that I am exactly right in judging of the true purport of Henry George's rhapsodies, I cite a few examples of them:

On page 321, Lovell's edition, he says of the homestead owner: "For though he will have more taxes to pay upon his land, he will be released from taxes on his house and improvements, upon his furniture and personal property, upon all that he and his family eat, drink and wear, etc."

On page 324 he says of the duke of Westminster, as a sample of London owners of buildings: "To take all his ground rents by taxation would largely reduce his enormous income, but would still leave him his buildings and all the income from them."

On page 322 he says: "The taxation of land values . . . would fall with greatest weight upon the towns and cities; whereas taxes upon personal property and improvement fall as heavily in the country as in the city."

Again on page 323 he says of farmers: "They are taxed on all their improvements, houses, barns, fences, crops, stock."

On pages 313 and 314 he promises that by virtue of the single tax: "Everywhere that land had attained a value taxation, instead of operating as now as a fine upon improvement would operate to force improvement. Whoever planted an orchard or sowed a field or built a house or erected a manufactory, no matter how costly, would have no more to pay in taxes than if he kept so much land idle."

These instances show that whatever George thinks he means (and I am one of those who feel very sure he does not do any clear thinking whatever) the thing he definitely promises is that the rent of land shall be taxed and that buildings and improvements shall not be

taxed. I do not think he has ever clearly perceived that land has no value except for the purpose of putting on it buildings and improvements, either presently or hereafter. Whether it be by planting potatoes on it or by erecting palaces, or by reserving it from hovel use until it can secure palace use, what all men mean by the value of land is the same: men are willing to pay for the privilege of making, controlling or permitting its improvement, and hence the value of the land is inherent in its improvement, present or prospective. What is meant by the value of land if it has no buildings erected or crops sown on it, is the price man will pay for the privilege or right to plant or build on it in the future. Hence the two are as inseparable as an organ and its function, or as a vessel and its potential content, or a body and its weight, or a man and his thought.

You attempt to rescue Henry George by saying in substance, "Ground rent will continue to be a charge and a tax on the labor performed, and a deduction from the earnings of workers employed in the buildings as heretofore, but it will be paid to the state instead of to the private landlords." This is only the nationalization of the land—to make it a single tax on the rent of land only it must be so collected that the improvements on the land and the labor of those who work in the buildings erected shall not pay any tax whatever. If these pay the whole tax, as previously, then the George gospel is an empty sound, mere stage thunder useful only as it is itself a tax on the poor purchasers of his books.

As a substitute for my proposed statute you say the land "will be sold to the person who will pay the highest price for the privilege of taking the land, subject to the burden of paying Smith just what it would cost to erect another house exactly like his, in no better or worse repair, upon another lot of no value."

This is astounding! The writ for the collection of the ground rent of the lot now occupied by the Potter building or the Chemical bank, will sell the land subject to the burden of paying Potter or the Chemical bank just what it would cost to erect another building, exactly like either of these, say on the Aleutian islands or at Icy Cape in Alaska, where it would have no value. A building erected on a lot that had no value could itself have no value, since, as above seen, what we call the value of the lot is the value of the privilege of erecting a building on that lot. If the privilege of erecting a building on a lot has no value whatever, it must be because the building when erected on that lot will have no value. It may be that your horn of the dilemma is less absurd than Mr. George's. It is not, however, the same horn; but if you prefer it I leave you impaled upon it. It does not consist in having thought out his scheme more clearly than he, but in having found a tree of words up which you can run when pursued. Of course you can not ask mankind to regard a building erected on a lot which has no value as a compensation for the loss of a like building erected on a lot of great value.

Yours very truly,

V. B. DENSLOW.

Thomas G. Shearman to Professor Denslow.

45 WILLIAM STREET,
NEW YORK, Jan. 14, 1889.

V. B. Denslow, esq.—Dear Sir: Your letter of 4th inst. was received just as I was leaving the city, and I could not therefore reply to it until now.

I shall not reply to the personalities which abound in your letter. So far as they relate to myself, I am entirely indifferent to them. So far as they relate to Mr. George, it is sufficient to say that, while you seem to think it well worth your while to spend much of your time in vituperation of him, he will never think it worth his while to spend any of his time in vituperation of you. Whether Mr. George's views are in any degree right or wrong, it is at least certain that his arguments have been deemed worthy of elaborate review and reply by the ablest economists, philosophers and statesmen of the day, and that some of the best writers on economic questions have thought it absolutely necessary to discard Ricardo's famous law of rent, which until now has been the *pons asinorum* of political economy, because they have found it impossible, on any other basis, to dispute Mr. George's conclusions. Accepting your own statement that he has drawn after him "perhaps a million of innocent people, incapable of economic reasoning," and in view of the unquestionable fact that his theories, which were only propounded nine years ago, have given more trouble to professors and students of political economy than all other heretical doctrines which have been newly propounded within the last fifty years, Mr. George can well afford to smile alike at ridicule and abuse.

The great difficulty of attempting any argument with you, lies, however, not so much in your tendency to indulge in personalities as a substitute for argument, as in your still more confirmed tendency to make every discussion turn upon mere words, and to insist upon attaching the narrowest meaning to the words used by your opponents, while reserving the broadest liberty in the opposite direction for yourself. The whole of your controversy with Professor Andrews and myself turned upon the meaning of the word "tax." The foundation of your argument rests on the assumption that nothing can be taxed, either in a popular or a scientific sense, unless the tax can be collected out of that identical thing. Accordingly you denounce as an ab-

surdity the statement of Mr. George (which, for that matter, is nothing more than a repetition of the statements of John Stuart Mill, Adam Smith, Quesnay, Turgot, and in fact every other economist who has ever discussed the question), that it is possible to tax the value of land without taxing improvements or other personal property. You insist, with great apparent triumph, that a tax on land cannot be collected without seizing and selling some kind of improvements or personal property; and this you think an entirely sufficient exposure of Mr. George's incapacity and want of thought. Yet, in the same breath, you speak of "a tax on the labor and exchanges done on the land" as a matter of course. I should be greatly pleased to learn how you would collect a tax out of "labor" when that labor is already expended, or how you would collect a tax out of "exchanges" at any stage of their existence. Yet, unlike you, I shall not deny that labor can be taxed, or that exchanges can be taxed; and I am content simply to point out that the tax on land or land values, irrespective of improvements, is only no more absurd than your suggested tax on labor and exchanges. None of these taxes are absurd or impossible; the only absurdity lies in splitting up the meaning of words so as to deny their possibility.

The most superficial reader of Mr. George's books should certainly be able to see that no one has ever more emphatically stated the truth that nothing can be extracted from land, either by way of rent or tax, which will not be paid by human labor. No one has insisted more earnestly than he that rent itself, and, therefore, any tax which is taken out of rent, will be a deduction from wages, even of the poor needle woman. All your eloquence upon this point is, therefore, utterly wasted, since Mr. George had anticipated you in that field and said everything upon that point which you can say.

You ask, then, with renewed triumph, how the levying of this tax on rent can be any relief to the poor, and especially to the needle woman, from whom it is ultimately extracted. The answer again is perfectly simple. Tax or no tax by the state, needle women and all other human laborers are compelled by the force of natural laws, the immutability of which has never been more clearly stated than by Henry George, to pay this universal tax, under the name of rent, to the owner of the land. If the land is owned by the state, this tax will be called a tax; if it is owned by private individuals, this tax will be called rent; but, in any event, it is the same thing. Moreover, Mr. George points out that the function of the landlord is a useful one, because his self interest and personal attention will induce him to collect this natural tax, with accuracy and certainty; whereas, if it were left for the state to do this, the work would be done with inaccuracy and great uncertainty; and, in that event, private landlords and private rent would again creep into position, intervening between the state and the tenant. Mr. George demands that the landlord be left in undisturbed possession with every motive to collect his rent in full, but that the state shall then concentrate all its taxes upon the landlord, and compel him to pay over to the state all which he collects under the name of rent, except a commission just large enough to induce him to remain in business as a rent collector.

Now, you ask, what relief is given to the poor by this change in the method of taxation? The answer is so plain that a child might see it. Whereas, under the present system, all tenants, that is to say, all the people of any country, pay, first, rent, and then an amount of taxes nearly equal to the rent in addition, the proposed change would leave them nothing to pay but their rent; while the men to whom they pay rent would have to pay all taxes which the tenants now pay. In other words, "tenants," "labor" or "personal property," as you please (for the terms are practically convertible), now pay two taxes of nearly equal amounts, one called rent and the other taxes. Under the system propounded by Mr. George, they would pay only one tax, instead of two; half their present burden being thus lifted from their shoulders.

Now, with regard to the original proposition, that a tax on the rent of land can be so levied as not to make it a tax on improvements. Rent being, in its nature, a tax levied by private individuals, all that the state tax gatherer has to do is to find the proceeds of rent, wherever the landlord keeps them, and to take those proceeds in satisfaction of the public tax. No one ever disputed that the money or other personal property, which is collected as rent, is personal property, or that it has been drawn from the results of labor. All that we claim is, that when rent has been once collected, it can be seized by the tax gatherer and applied to the public use without drawing it a second time from the pockets of tenants or laborers. A denial of this proposition is really as absurd as it would be to assert that even if we find the amount which the landlord has received for rent, deposited in gold coin, in a box, and we thereupon seize it for public use, we should be in effect collecting it a second time from the rent payers. If the process of reasoning by which any one can arrive at such a conclusion is what you define as "clear thinking," you only pay a compliment to Mr. George, in denying that he has ever done any such "clear thinking." He certainly never has; and it is to be hoped that he never will.

Another example of your inability to entertain a simple economic idea is to be found in your astonishment at my statement that if neither landlord nor tenant would pay taxes assessed upon the rent of land, the land would be sold to the person who would pay the highest price for the privilege of taking it, subject to the burden of paying, to any one who had erected a house upon it, the precise cost of erecting another house, exactly like it, upon another lot of no value. You instantly proceed to confuse cost and value in the very manner which you so vehemently condemned in our conversation at Philadelphia. I said nothing whatever about the value of the house; I only referred to the value of the lot; and even as to that, you could not fail, surely, to see that I was dealing simply with an economic abstraction. The price to be paid for improvements on land, seized for nonpayment of taxes, would be not the commercial value of that house, situated in Alaska, but the commercial cost of replacing that house on an adjoining lot, but without any allowance whatever for either the value or cost of the lot itself. Each individual brick would have both a cost and a value, entirely irrespective of the value of the lot underneath it; and it is the cost of replacing the bricks and other materials used in the house, in exactly the same way and position in which they stand, which would constitute the measure of damages to be allowed by the state, on seizing the land for nonpayment of rent. In spite of your astonishment, this is precisely what is done every year by the city of New York or similar municipalities, which lease ferry rights and similar privileges, for a term of years. The ferry privileges of New York are regularly leased, at long intervals, by public auction; every bidder at this auction is notified in advance that he must pay to the existing lessee the appraised value of all boats and other improvements; and such value is ascertained by the cost of constructing just such boats and just such improvements, entirely regardless of the question whether they can be used for ferry purposes afterward or not. You may be "astounded" to learn that, under such circumstances, no one ever feels any difficulty in ascertaining the amount thus to be paid, and that, although this amount generally exceeds half a million dollars, there are always plenty of bidders willing to give \$50,000 a year for the privilege of using two small piers and paying the half million dollars to the owners of the expired lease. In like manner, there would be so many ready and eager bidders for the privilege of taking land, subject only to the burden of its annual ground rent and the actual cost of the buildings erected upon it, as to make the city quite certain of collecting its tax upon rent.

You fail to see, moreover, that your suggestion of the cost or value of the building being ascertained by what it would cost to erect one on the Aleutian islands, is very unfortunate; because, no matter what a building was worth, when erected there, it certainly would cost so much more to erect it on the Aleutian islands than it would in New York city, that landlords would be delighted to forfeit their land, if only guaranteed, as compensation, the cost of the Aleutian structure. I am not in the slightest degree troubled by the dilemma upon which you think you have "impaled" me. It exists only in your own vivid imagination. Yours obediently,

THOMAS G. SHEARMAN.

A Public Meeting at Which a Leading Citizen Avows Himself a Single Tax Man.

AUGUSTA, GA., Jan. 12.—Last night we held our second public meeting. The attendance was quite creditable and manifested deep interest in the logical reasoning of Mr. William Horan of Philadelphia. We have profited very much by the presence of Mr. Horan; he is doing good work for the single tax cause. We will very soon arrange for permanent headquarters, after which we will have regular weekly meetings. After the regular address last night we had quite a surprise. Mr. H. B. King, one of our most influential and patriotic citizens took the floor and spoke on the single tax. He had up to the present time thought that he was the only single tax man in Augusta, and spoke in gratifying terms of the advancement of the cause here.

The Augusta single tax men are determined to go on. Henceforward Augusta shall be represented as the first city in Georgia in the cause of the single tax. Readers of THE STANDARD throughout the south, who should be desirous of holding public meetings can avail themselves of the services of Mr. Horan by addressing him at 1116 Broad street, this city. Mr. Horan will go from here to Macon, Ga.

GEORGE HAINS.

Organized in Toledo.

TOLEDO, Ohio, Jan. 12.—A meeting of single tax men was held at No. 112 Summit street to-day. The subject of single tax on land values was discussed. The meeting was small but enthusiastic. We organized the Toledo single tax club, No. 1, and elected officers. Meeting adjourned subject to call by the president.

WILLIAM ADELSPERGER, Secretary.

How is This For Albany?

Albany Evening Union.

It is reported that over 3,000 residents have signed a petition praying congress to appoint a special committee for the purpose of making a full inquiry into and report upon the expediency of raising all public revenues by a single tax upon the value of land, irrespective of improvements, to the exclusion of all other taxes.

CINCINNATI BUSINESS MEN

Discuss the Methods of Taxation in the Chamber of Commerce.

A recent issue of the Cincinnati *Commercial Gazette* reports a conversation which took place on the floor of the exchange between a number of the most prominent business men of the city. The subject discussed was unjust taxation, a question which is attracting great attention in Cincinnati now, for as the *Gazette* says: "The situation here has reached that point where investors, capitalists, brokers, merchants, corporations and manufacturers alike are seriously injured, and are not slow in giving vent decidedly to their feelings."

Mr. Levi C. Goodale, ex-president of the chamber of commerce and manager of *Bradstreet's Mercantile Agency*, was the center of the group. He said, among other things: "The present system of taxing personal property drives those who are able to invest away from Cincinnati to other localities. The method of equalization in connection with the enormous taxation we are now called upon to pay is but a bid to capitalists to become dishonest. They find they are being taxed to death, almost impoverished by the enormous listing system, and bled by recognized and authorized parties, who watch every transaction they may engage in and have it recorded against them on the delinquent list, is driving away from the city those large establishments that make up the bone and sinew of a great city. Taxation should be adjusted so that personal property in this state will have a minimum rate of taxation. But there is a thing the manufacturers and real estate owners of Cincinnati must look at. We are a minority in the state, and the grangers and others who own acres upon acres of our land, should any attempt be made to change the constitution, would oppose it, and they have the majority vote. The only way we could go at it would be to cultivate the farmers and residents of other parts of the state. But something should be done, and that speedily. Our legislature would be the proper body to consider the matter."

Mr. Gazzam Gano, a well known citizen, was also in the group. Pulling out his memorandum book he read that the personal returns for taxation in the state of New York for 1887 were \$335,898,389, while in the state of Ohio in the same year they reached the sum of \$520,172,094, or an excess over the great state of New York of \$184,273,705.

Edwin Stevens, president of the Market national bank, who has lately invested in property in Wichita, Kansas, and who is seriously thinking of leaving Cincinnati and locating there, owing to the burdensome and iniquitous tax system of this state, said: "Our securities are taxed so heavily that a resident capitalist dare not handle them openly. These tax laws are making the people dishonest, and who can blame an investor in Hamilton county of having confederates in other states whom he can conveniently use as the real owner of his bond and mortgage securities about tax paying time. The whole trouble lies in our constitution. It is too old for the present state of affairs. The tax payers of the other part of the state would most undoubtedly oppose any movement to modify or change the constitution. But if they were met in a proper spirit, and the loss of the industries of the state shown to them in a proper manner, they might be brought to our views."

Richard Ryan, Briggs Swift and Henry C. Urner all said that the lining of industry was driving and keeping people away from the city, and that some change in the system would have to be made.

This summary of views was followed by a letter signed "J. P. C." in which the significant statement is made that "Rent is the devil-fish which is devouring the vitals of business." And the remedy given is "Tax the rental value of land and let the product of man's labor go free, and then, indeed, you shall find a thriving community."

In its issue of the following day the *Gazette* has more opinions from leading men. It says in the introductory paragraph:

"Several of the largest of our concerns are considering propositions from other places, and if there is not some speedy relief there is great danger of the city losing several of its largest manufacturing industries."

Mr. James M. Glenn, one of the largest real estate owners of the city, said: "I believe that there is an absolute necessity for reform in the entire system of assessment and taxation in the state, and especially in this city. It is useless to attempt to tax money or stocks or bonds which can not be reached. It simply drives capital and investments elsewhere. I am in favor of exempting mortgages also. This would not only provide a safe means of investment for home money, but also bring it freely from elsewhere and enable citizens to borrow on their property at low rates of interest. Now borrowers must pay seven and eight per cent in money on mortgages because the lender must pay two and one-half to three per cent taxes on the loan, while, if the mortgage was exempt the same money would be borrowed at four and five per cent and plenty of it. As the case now stands there is practically no money loaned on mortgage in this city." He favors putting the burthen of taxation directly on real estate in cities, but thinks that the farmers could not subsist if the same principle of taxing "real estate" only were applied to

them. In cities only he would apply the principle.

S. P. Kinson, a wealthy real estate owner and coal dealer, said: "Had it not been for the outrageous tariffs or taxation such pushing moneyed men of this city as the Breeds, Hopples, Emerys, Vallette and others would not have taken up their residence abroad. Put on your thinking cap a moment and you can recall many names of foremost, energetic prominent citizens who are now leaders among the capitalists of our large, growing western cities, who have actually been driven from our city owing to our defective laws. This system of assessors is all wrong, and so is the appointing power of our county commissioners."

THE MANHATTAN SINGLE TAX CLUB.

More Improvements at the Club Rooms—Thirty-One New Members Brought in Last Week—Henry George Speaks.

Heretofore when the visitor to the Manhattan club stepped into the vestibule he saw two doors, one in front of him and the other to his right; and for a moment he would be in doubt which door led to the club rooms. There is no longer a chance for doubt. Mr. Hamilton has placed the name of the club in gold and pearl letters on the glass door. Two massive chandeliers, blackened with age, hung in the parlors when the club moved in. Mr. T. Unnever concluded their appearance would be improved by being cleaned and brightened up; so he took them down and fixed them, and now they are the admiration of all who visit the rooms. A. J. Rogers presented a ten foot American flag. Mr. Everett brought in a lot of books and a handsome little sign notifying all that the club has cigars to sell to its members. Contributions of books are pouring in. Already nearly all the standard works on political economy are in the book case, which, by the way, was presented to the club by a friend. Helen Weston of West New Brighton, S. I., has contributed a number of useful books. The large attendance at the meeting addressed by Mr. Post convinced the members of the club that more chairs were wanted, and there are now five dozen more than there were when he spoke.

Last Monday evening the Progress and Poverty class was organized by the election of Mr. Silbernuk as president, Benjamin Doblin vice president and A. H. Mackinnon secretary. All are invited to attend these class meetings, which will be held on Monday evenings.

Last Friday evening was set apart for a stereopticon entertainment. The screen necessary for the proper display of the pictures was made by Messrs. Gilholy and Everett, the cloth being presented by Secretary Boessig. The stereopticon was kindly loaned by John Scheidig & Co., 43 Maiden lane, and Messrs. A. D. Fagelsman and Charles Lang worked it. The pictures presented were views in Salt Lake city, Sacramento and San Francisco, California, and some statuary and comic pictures. The rooms were crowded by the members and their friends, among whom were a number of ladies and children. The lecturer preceded the pictures by a condensed history of the rise of the Mormon church, and described the pictures as they appeared on the screen. The entertainment was a pronounced success, and there will be a similar exhibition soon again.

On Sunday evening the rooms were crowded. W. J. Gorsuch presided. Henry George was to deliver the lecture, but his train was late; so Mr. Gorsuch made an extended address on the objects to be accomplished by the single tax, and Mr. Croasdale followed. While he was speaking Mr. George came in, and was enthusiastically received. He had come direct from the train.

He was very much elated with the success of his journey and made a short but glowing address. He spoke of the great progress of public opinion in the west in regard to the single tax, and related a number of very interesting incidents of his trip. When he had finished he received another round of hearty applause.

Professor Davidson will deliver the lecture next Sunday evening.

"All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy," so on next Saturday night, January 26, the club will rest from their labors and have some refreshments. It will be in the form of a "comers," and they expect to have a jolly good time.

Thirty-one new applications for membership are posted on the bulletin board, to be acted on at the next meeting. The names are: Morris Van Veen, 467 Grand st.; Louis Morris, 82 Allen st.; M. Schwarzkopf, 107 E. 4th st.; Louis F. Post, 132 Nassau st.; Gustav H. Schmidt, 90 E. 4th st.; Louis A. Keek, 155 Christie st.; F. C. Leubseher, Potter building; Wilbur O. Eastlake, 120 E. 123d st.; Edwin Blanchard, 12 Chatham square; Clarence Whitehurst, 106 E. 10th st.; George St. J. Leavens, 203 W. 103d st.; James L. Dunham, 203 W. 103d st.; Wm. Brigham, 117 Park row; T. C. P. Myers, 39 Gramercy park; Herman Schwandt, 216 E. 32d st.; Isaac Westheim, 314 E. 86th st.; G. C. Merritt, 115 E. 31st st.; J. H. Scully, 349 E. 84th st.; Henry Flanz, 201 W. 19th st.; J. H. A. Fitch, 229 E. 71st st.; Edwin F. Laurence, 234 E. 83d st.; Alfred J. Wolf, 24 University place; Leo Frackin, 419 6th ave.; C. M. Hubbard, 171 Broadway; Louis Seiden, 149 ave A; Max Blowitz, 87 1st st.; E. T. Cohen, 25 W. 18th st.; T. E. Wansom, 137 E. 8th st.; W. B. Estell, Coatesville, N. J.; E. Sims, 89 High st., Bklyn.; David Shook, 65 Division ave., Bklyn.

THE STANDARD.

HENRY GEORGE, Editor and Proprietor.

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

Senator Pierce has introduced at Albany a bill for the prevention of trusts. The source of the measure makes it suspicious. It is like a treatise on veracity by his excellency, the devil. And, naturally enough, it is supposed that the real object is to legalize trusts. But the language of the bill does not justify this suspicion. It actually seems to prohibit the creation of trusts. Perhaps this is the trick. Trusts already formed have no interest in the creation of future trusts. It is rather to their interest that no new trusts shall be formed. Thus a statute against trusts from which it could be cogently argued that trusts created prior to the statute were lawful, while only those subsequently created were unlawful, would doubly serve existing trusts. It would in effect give them a patent right in the device—a monopoly of a monopoly.

The Seattle Post-Intelligencer estimates the increase of land values in the little city of Seattle in 1888 at one-third. If the price of food in Seattle had increased at this rate the Post-Intelligencer would not see any cause to rejoice, nor have the temerity to publish the fact as an attraction to emigrants; but the increase of land values strikes it in a different way. And yet that increase means that whoever would live in Seattle must pay a third more for the privilege in 1889 than he could have got it for in 1888. If this extra payment were devoted to public improvements its benefit would be apparent; but it only enriches the forestallers of Seattle land.

In Wyoming the school fund is to be raised, not by selling school lands at their present low value, but by leasing them at five per cent per annum of their appraised value, the lessee to have the option of renewal at the annual value of the land at the time of renewal. Thus the territory of Wyoming is doing with its school lands, though in a bungling way, what the single tax would do in a perfect way with all land.

California is complaining of propositions to "flood the state with cheap labor from the east." Why not agitate for an amendment of the federal constitution which would permit the California legislature to put a heavy duty on tin plate and steel rails so as to keep the cheap labor of the east out of California. That is the way congress keeps cheap European labor out of the United States.

The notification sheet of Dunn's mercantile agency observes that not the least important feature of the agreement of railroad presidents is an arrangement with bankers of large influence that they will neither aid nor countenance the negotiation of securities for new competing lines or extensions, if any railroad in the contract objects. This agreement encourages the mercantile agency to hope for "a better era in railway management," but it is a kind of agreement which, when made between workingmen,

the courts have frequently denounced as a criminal conspiracy.

Inspector Bonfield of Chicago, who for the past two years has been the censor whose gracious countenance, if not consent, was a necessary prerequisite to public meetings in that city, has just been told upon authority that the right of assembly and free speech is fundamental and not subject to the whim of a constable. A mechanics' organization calling itself the Arbeiter bund called a meeting at a hall it had hired, which meeting Bonfield interfered with, on pretense that the members of the society were anarchists and had met to propagate their doctrines. Claiming that its objects were lawful, the society applied for an injunction against the police to prevent further interference. Whether or not a court of equity can interfere in such a case is, as matter of precedent, at least doubtful; but embarrassment was saved upon this point by the city attorney's stipulation that the police would be guided by the opinion of the court. An injunction was therefore not granted, although Judge Tuley stated that he would issue one if the police interfered with future meetings.

"It is time to call a halt," Judge Tuley says; and he accompanies the words with an opinion which, at a time when our judges are turning themselves into lackeys, is as refreshing as spring water to a thirsty traveler.

"The members of this society," he writes, "may seek to disseminate views or principles which, in the opinion of the great majority of our citizens, are inimical to the rights of property and the public welfare. But they have the right to publicly meet and discuss them in a quiet and peaceable manner, and make converts to their views if they are able to do so. This right of free speech and free assemblage is a natural right, and it would seem unnecessary to be expressly provided for in a republican form of government. It, however, is expressly secured to the people by the bill of rights in our state constitution." These general principles are not often disputed. Even Bonfield would concede them. It is only in the application of general truths that men like Bonfield usually exhibit their enmity to free institutions. But Judge Tuley makes the application so definitely that Bonfield kept his hands off when the meeting which he had threatened to suppress was held. Bonfield had sworn that it was his belief and opinion that the Arbeiter bund was organized for unlawful purposes, that its name was a mere cloak, and that its real purpose was to overthrow the laws of Illinois; also that the Mayor and the chief of police had forbidden the meetings because they believed the organization to be a treasonable one, and if not prohibited would attack the property and persons of the citizens of Illinois. On this statement of mere belief and opinion, it was proposed to forcibly deny the right of assemblage and free speech, and of it Judge Tuley says: "I am astounded to find that at this day, in this free country, it should be urged by affidavit and arguments in a court of justice that a police official can forbid the meeting of a society or a public meeting because of his belief that the society is a treasonable one and the members are about to commit treasonable acts. If this be law then every political, literary, religious or other society would hold their constitutional right of free speech and peaceable assembling at the mercy of every petty policeman—for the chief in this respect has no more power than his lowest subaltern. . . . What judge or justice of the peace would issue a warrant upon such affidavits? And if the police had arrested without warrant any member of this society who attempted to go into their hall, as they threatened to do, what judge in the state, if such a person had been brought before him upon the writ of habeas corpus and for cause of arrest the police had put these affidavits of Bonfield and Hubbard in the

shape of a return or justification for the arrest, but would have discharged such arrested persons as quick as he could have written the words 'discharged from custody'? In no city of the Union, in no part of any state or territory of the United States, except here in the city of Chicago, have police officials attempted to prevent the right of free speech or of peaceable assemblage upon such unwarranted pretenses and assumptions of power."

There is one clause of Judge Tuley's opinion the truth of which every really law abiding and peaceable citizen should grasp and cling to: "The police by arbitrary arrests without warrant, and by such illegal acts as are here complained of, cause more disorder than they cure, and create more crime than they prevent!"

A more concise and accurate statement of the scope of the right of assembly and speech could not be made than this, by Judge Tuley: "However objectionable some of the objects of this society may be to the court, or to the great body of our citizens, the only question is, are they lawful? They have a right to advocate their peculiar views in public assembly, they may discuss any social or economic question, may demand the repeal of old laws and the substitution of such new ones as may commend themselves to their judgments, whims or caprices; they may criticize the acts of all public officers, from the president of the United States, the judge on the bench, down even to the policeman. They may even advocate a change of our form of government and the substitution of another, but peaceably by means of the freeman's weapon—the ballot—not by force or revolution. . . . When assembled, what power have the police over the people assembled? The police have power to disperse any meeting that becomes riotous or tumultuous. The only other discretion that I am aware of the police possessing over public meetings is the power to determine whether the speeches and conduct of those present is likely to lead to present tumult and disorder; if so they may command those composing the meeting to disperse. . . . The power here vested is a delicate one, and to be exercised with great caution and at the peril of the peace officer if he go too far. He is not constituted by the law a censor of the right of free speech, nor is it material whether he approves of or disapproves of the utterances or acts of the persons assembled. His only duty is to keep the peace and it is only when there is imminent danger of a then present breach of the peace that he has the right to interfere with the meeting."

Judging from reports that have come from Chicago at frequent intervals during the past two years, Judge Tuley's view of the right of assembly and speech and of the authority of the police will have, to Bonfield, and Hubbard, the chief of police, and even to the mayor and the corporation counsel, every appearance of a novelty in law. Under cover of the excitement over the Haymarket riot Bonfield has carried the repression of assembly, speech and organization to a dangerous length. Dangerous, not alone in its invasion of rights constitutionally guaranteed, but in its tendency to excite resistance and mob violence. Judge Cooley, the eminent law writer from whom Judge Tuley quotes, says, almost as if he were writing a letter of friendly caution to Bonfield: "Repression of full and free discussion is dangerous in any government resting upon the will of the people. The people cannot fail to feel that they are deprived of rights, and will be certain to become discontented when their discussion of public measures is sought to be circumscribed by the judgment of others upon their temperance or fairness. They must be left at liberty to speak with the freedom which the magnitude of the supposed wrongs appears in their minds to demand; and if they exceed all the proper bounds of moderation, the consolation must be that the evil likely to spring from the violent utterances will probably be

less, and its correction by public sentiment more speedy than if the terrors of the law were brought to bear to prevent the discussion." The reaction against the Chicago police has come in good form. The law itself has found a voice which the police are bound to hear.

On Sunday following the decision of Judge Tuley a meeting was held in Chicago at which Paul Grotkau, one of the speakers, is reported to have said that the law must be throttled, that "we must trample it under our feet," that "we must resort to force," and so on. Whether Mr. Grotkau really said what is attributed to him, can only be inferred, for newspaper reports of anarchist speeches are far from trustworthy. But if he did speak in this intemperate way the wisdom of letting him alone is plain. Such sentiments only serve to make the speaker ridiculous in public estimation. To suppress them is to give them dignity and importance, and at the same time to invade a sacred political right. When force is resorted to and the law trampled under foot or such a policy is actually attempted, it will be time to interfere; and if there be no interference till then, there will be no occasion at all for interference with the plans of preachers of violence. The violence which unjust social conditions may engender will be neither begun nor carried on by the preachers of violence, nor yet as some timid people fear, by their dupes. It will be an outburst, having no connection with plots and plans and heroic oratory. But it need not come, though it is not to be prevented by encouraging a Bonfield to squat on the safety valve, but by removing the fundamental injustice—by the triumph of that agitation for the single tax, which Judge Tuley justly says, has come to stay.

SINGLE TAX MOVEMENT IN IRELAND.

An Influential Newspaper Reprints "Progress and Poverty" as a Serial and Claims That It Contains the True Solution of the Social Problem.

The Cork Eagle, the largest paper published in the province of Munster, and one of the most influential in Ireland is reprinting "Progress and Poverty" in its columns week by week, with the avowed object of winning its readers to the principles of the single tax. In an editorial accompanying the first chapters, the Eagle speaks as follows:

Any of our readers desiring to get a clear insight into the land question should carefully peruse each chapter, for, to be properly understood and appreciated, the author should be closely followed. The cause of the grinding, maddening poverty that to-day is found side by side with a fabulous wealth, is the great problem that Henry George set himself to solve, and there can be no doubt but he gives the true solution, (namely, land monopoly), and, in doing so, has completely upset the old erroneous notions on political economy that have hitherto set social reformers astray. To those, then, who seek the truth, to those who desire to ascertain the cause of the increasing poverty that to-day threatens to undermine and destroy society and social life, we would earnestly say, "read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest" each chapter, deciding for yourselves the all-important question as to whether God created the land for the benefit of all his creatures, or only to be monopolized by a few. On this particular subject we have more than once (by special request) published the Right Rev. Dr. Nulty's able treatise. It is "Progress and Poverty" in a nutshell, while George's work treats the great economic question with a detail and close reasoning that leaves no escape from his conclusions; therefore, it is that we would anxiously ask, from all lovers of truth, justice, and liberty, from those who yearn to raise their voices against a terrible wrong, a wrong that has no equal, a careful perusal, if not study, of the work, as its publication proceeds from week to week.

He Only Needs to Think Awhile.

A Vermont Universalist clergyman writes to a New York single tax believer to thank him for sending him a copy of THE STANDARD, which "very much interested" him. He says he has since obtained "several back numbers," and finds "more political meat there than in any other paper—something to think of and to digest." He also says: "I have been always identified with the republican party, until there seemed no hope of anything in nature of reform from that source. Now I condescend with any interest that shall help to defeat it."

For Work in Chicago.

CHICAGO, Ill.—All advocates of the single tax residing on the north side are requested to send me their address, by postal or otherwise, for the purpose of getting acquainted and perfecting an organization to push on the work of propaganda. F. W. MAGUIRE, No. 10 Cass street.

MEN AND THINGS.

The designs for the new cathedral are all in—it is said there are eighty-seven of them altogether—and the committee of trustees, of which Bishop Potter is chairman, will now proceed to compare and consider them, and, under divine guidance, select the one best suited to the purpose for which the cathedral is to be erected. This purpose, as stated by one of the trustees, is to provide a church from which the bishop can direct the work of the whole body of the Protestant Episcopal clergy as regards the poor. It is understood that the trustees will give preference, other things being equal, to the design which most clearly embodies some distinctively American idea. The cathedral is to have an individuality—an American individuality. It may be, like the pauper built cathedral of Cologne, the dream of an angel carved in stone, but the angel must be, if possible, an American angel, or at all events, must have fallen asleep and done his dreaming amid American surroundings and influences.

I am not a member of the board of trustees of the new cathedral—the Church of St. John the divine is to be its official title—nor have I any expectation that they will consult me before making their decision. But I know the plan they ought to select for all that. It is the product of an American brain, embodies a distinctively American idea, and will, more than any other submitted, afford facilities for that episcopal supervision of the evangelization of the poor, which is said to be the main object of the cathedral's building.

The design is a severely simple one. The facade shows none of that barbaric ornamentation characteristic of European fanes. It is a plain front of Haverstraw brick—of course none but American materials are to be used in the construction of the American cathedral—with the main entrance in the center. On each side the entrance are windows, showing clear white glass set in panes, and so arranged that the sashes can be raised or lowered for purposes of ventilation. Above are fine rows of similar windows set at even distances apart. Within the entrance is a spacious hall, six feet in width, and running the whole depth of the building. A handsome staircase of American pine, with a stained balustrade, leads to the upper portion of the building. On each side the hall convenient doors gives access to small apartments which can be utilized as chapels or cubicles for the inferior clergy, and a door at the end leads to the grounds in the rear. The upper portion of the cathedral is arranged in five successive tiers or stories, each with its hall and chapels. The floors, like the staircases, are of pine, and the window cases are decorated with staining in imitation of mahogany. The rear of the building, like the front, is of brick, but its simplicity is relieved with a curious iron structure, symbolical of Jacob's ladder, which reaches from the second tier of chapels to the top of the edifice.

The apartments of the bishop are on the top tier or floor of the cathedral and are fitted with conveniences for house-keeping fully equal to those enjoyed by the majority of New Yorkers. They are three in number, two being intended as sleeping rooms for the bishop and his family, while the third is arranged to serve as kitchen, dining room, nursery, drawing room, laundry and chapel for family prayers. The bed rooms are lighted and ventilated from a brick tube which runs from the ground to the roof, and the drawing room has two windows overlooking the grounds in the rear. An endless rope, running through a pulley in one of the window casings of the laundry and another pulley on a lofty wooden pole out doors, is arranged for the hanging out of the episcopal wash. A neat iron sink stands in one corner of the library; the kitchen is provided with a range; and a glass-fronted sideboard or dresser in the dining room is intended to receive the family plate and china.

The advantages which the bishop will enjoy, by reason of his occupancy of these chambers, are obvious. He can direct the work of the clergy among the poor with an ease and certainty which cannot but produce the happiest evangelical effect. Special forms of prayer will suggest themselves to his mind when he gets up in the morning and finds the drawing room filled with smoke and perfume from the liver

which Mrs. Bishop is frying for breakfast, or when he comes home on a hot summer afternoon, and discovers the same good lady struggling with the family wash. The antics of the little Bishops on the iron ladders outside the windows, the occasional breakage of the clothes-line and consequent dispersal of episcopal vesture, the frequent clogging of the sink—*anathema sit*—the bursting of the waterpipes or stoppage of the water supply, the necessity of carrying down the ashes and bringing up the coal every morning, the fatigue of writing sermons with a crying child in the room, and the thermometer at 100 or more—these, and a thousand other equally happy experiences will make him fertile of ideas for the prosecution of the Master's work among the poor. The charitable societies, when they wait on him, will be amazed at the vigor of his language and the far reaching inclusiveness of his communications. For he will have learned how it is himself. He will know, by experience, some of the trials and temptations which afflict the poor, and he will be asking himself the question, how men who are denied the very semblance of a home here on earth, can be expected to have faith in the promise of a home in heaven hereafter.

I say, this is the plan the trustees of the new cathedral ought to accept. But they won't do it. They will house their God with a pile of marble, beautiful as they can make it, with broad aisles, and lofty columns, and towers pointing to the sky. And the idea will never cross their minds that to build a ten million dollar temple to the God of love and justice, while God's children stand robbed of their inheritance, is an insult to the Almighty.

I suppose the Ford committee's bill to restrict immigration is scarcely likely to become a law; but if it should do so, it seems to me that the captains of transatlantic steamers and the conductors of railway trains from Canada and Mexico are going to have a pretty hard time of it. It will be the duty of every one of these functionaries, before allowing a passenger to embark for the United States: 1. To make sure that the passenger has a certificate of character from the nearest United States consul or other diplomatic representative; 2. To cross-examine the passenger as to his politico-economical opinions, so as to make sure that he is neither an anarchist, like Herbert Spencer, nor a socialist, like our own Lyman Abbott; 3. To make sure that the passenger is not a polygamist, in either theory or practice; 4. To satisfy himself, on evidence, that the passenger is neither an idiot, nor insane, nor a pauper, nor liable to become a public charge, nor a discharged or pardoned convict, nor under engagement to go to work after his arrival; 5. To be prepared to guarantee that the passenger doesn't come to this country with the intention of working a year or two and then going home again. Failing to make these inquiries with sufficient care the captain or conductor is liable, at any time within two years, to be haled before a United States court, and, on trial and conviction, sentenced to a fine of \$1,000 and imprisonment for three years.

Another infant industry to be protected. A man has discovered an extensive deposit of ozocerite, or mineral wax, near Salt Lake City. Ozocerite is used for making dolls and candles, and for various adulterations in the place of wax. Hitherto we have got our supplies of ozocerite from Austria, which was supposed to have the only deposit in the world, and have been let off with a moderate tariff fine of one pound in five. But now that this Salt Lake City deposit has come to light a duty of at least fifty per cent will be necessary to enable the man who owns the ground containing the deposit to afford to let other fellows go and shovel the ozocerite up. We shall all pay more for candles and wax dolls, but that will be made up to us by the fact that the ozocerite mine owner will get rich. Of course the men who now find employment in producing the things which go to Europe and elsewhere to pay for the Austrian ozocerite will be thrown out of work. But what of that? All they have to do is to buy tickets to Salt Lake City and apply for work in the ozocerite mine there. Perhaps they'll get it—and perhaps they won't.

The collector of customs at Detroit has been instructed to collect duty on all Canadian railway cars that may pass

through Detroit carrying goods from one American point to another American point. In one way and another we are gradually getting square with the wretched Canucks for their abominable conduct about those fish.

But it is not only by levying a duty on railway cars that the Detroit custom house is striving to build higher the tariff wall between this country and Canada. Notice has been given that hereafter mechanics, clerks and laborers, living in Windsor and crossing daily to Detroit to pursue their vocations, will be refused admission to land, under the contract labor law. Hereafter if a man wants to work in Detroit, he must live in Detroit and pay Detroit rents. Of course, the customs authorities are not to blame. They are only executing the letter of the law. But how fortunate it is that the constitution forbids any interstate custom houses. Otherwise, the hundred thousand or so New Yorkers who now enjoy the blessing of cheap homes in New Jersey would have to move back to the city. Which, on protectionist principles, would be a great thing for New York's laborers, and, on common sense principles, a great thing for New York's landlords.

The secretary of state of Michigan has just issued a report on the wheat crop of Michigan, and the cost of raising and harvesting it. From this we learn that the cost of producing a bushel of wheat in 1888 was: In southern Michigan, 66 cents; in central Michigan, 65 cents, and in northern Michigan, 57½ cents. For the last five years the average wheat yield of the state has been 16.91 bushels per acre, and the average cost of producing it \$14.22 per acre. A Michigan farmer, putting in 100 acres of wheat yearly, may therefore be fairly assumed to have produced 1,691 bushels every year at a cost of \$1,422.

Turning to *Bradstreet's* for January 12, I find the average cash price of No. 2 spring wheat in Chicago, for the past three years, to have been 78.833 cents. The actual average was somewhat lower, since *Bradstreet's* includes in its compilation the extraordinary price of \$2 a bushel paid at the culmination of the Hutchinson corner.

Now, I am by no means an expert in grain and provisions; but if wheat has averaged seventy-eight cents and a fraction in the Chicago market, I don't believe the Michigan farmer can have averaged more than seventy cents for his share of the price. Assuming this to be correct, then the Michigan farmer's yearly account with his 100 acre wheat field has stood, on the average, something like this:

To cost of producing 1,691 bushels wheat	\$1,422.00
By sales of 1,691 bushels wheat, at 70 cents	1,183.70
Net loss on wheat crop	\$238.30

Turning over a few pages of *Bradstreet's*, I find an advertisement beginning thus:

GUARANTEE INVESTMENT CO.
7 per cent. GUARANTEED 7 per cent.
FARM MORTGAGES

and so forth. There is a certain connection between these things, which the Michigan farmer would soon discover if he'd only do some bookkeeping.

So much for an American industry that doesn't pay. Now for one that does. Messrs. E. S. Higgins & Co., the carpet manufacturers, whose hands are now striking against a reduction of wages, have published the following statement in reply to the questions of Mr. John Morrison, quoted in last week's *STANDARD*:

Assume the value of our buildings to be \$200,000; machinery, \$250,000; lands, \$250,000; cash, \$1,500,000; total, \$2,200,000. Interest charged at 5 per cent on total, \$110,000; depreciation of buildings at 5 per cent, \$10,000; depreciation of machinery at 7 per cent, \$17,500; total to be allowed, \$137,500, before profits of the business using \$2,200,000 can be shown. This is 6¼ per cent and not 18 per cent.

Messrs. Higgins & Co. prudently stop there, and are mighty careful not to tell what amount of profit they really do make after the 6¼ per cent on \$2,200,000 has been earned and safely invested. And there is a roundness about these figures that scarcely inclines one to put faith in them. A million and a half in cash! No more, no less. Do they really keep on hand, I wonder, an average of a million and a half dollars' worth of material, completed product, and money?

Doesn't this \$1,500,000 include a good deal of money for carpets sold on credit? And when they sell carpets on credit, do they sell them as cheaply as if for cash? If a customer pays for his carpets with a four months' note, are not they able to take that note to their bank and get for it a sum equal to the cash price of the carpets? I commend these questions to Mr. John Morrison.

Also, it would be interesting to know something more about that item of "lands, \$250,000." Did the "lands" cost \$250,000? Or does that sum represent what E. S. Higgins & Co. think they could get for them. If the "lands" should be worth \$300,000 next year, would E. S. Higgins & Co. consider the \$50,000 advance as a contribution toward that 6¼ per cent which must be earned before any profit can be shown on their business? Or would they claim it as so much more capital invested in their business, and expect five per cent a year on it?

I think the Michigan wheat grower, with his yearly deficit of \$238.30, might do well to look into this Higgins business a little and try to find out why it is that carpet producing is so profitable and wheat producing so much the contrary. If he will examine the tariff law of 1883 he will get some light on the subject. He will find Brussels carpet scheduled at thirty cents per square yard and thirty per cent ad valorem. That means that if the Englishman who buys his wheat gives him a Brussels carpet in exchange, he must pay thirty cents on every dollar of its value and thirty cents on every yard of its measurement before he can bring it into the country. The consequence of this little arrangement is that when Higgins & Co. buy Mr. Farmer's wheat they pay him the English price for it, less the freight to England; but when Mr. Farmer buys a carpet from Higgins & Co. he pays them the English price, plus as much of the thirty cents a yard and thirty per cent ad valorem as the carpet trust think best to charge him. So the Michigan farmer falls astern, and Messrs Higgins & Co., perhaps, invest their surplus earnings in seven per cent guaranteed farm mortgages.

A poor crazy wretch by the name of Maason Huntsman has been traveling round New Jersey, declaring himself to be the Son of God, and calling on Jersey-men to pay him divine honors. In place of sending him to a lunatic asylum the Jerseymen indicted him for blasphemy, tried him, found him guilty and sentenced him to six months in jail, a fine of \$100 and the costs of the prosecution.

The British government, with characteristic common sense, is doing its best to rid the British isles of as many healthy, energetic and enterprising inhabitants as possible, so as to make room for the Germans, Poles, and other continentals who are crowding into the country. Once every quarter, a placard is hung up in every post office in the kingdom, explaining to the lieges how much better off they will find themselves if they'll only get out, and paternally advising them of the best places to go to. The latest proclamation of this kind has just appeared, announcing that unmarried female servants and unmarried agricultural laborers of high character will be carried to Queensland free; that Canada will want some laborers in the spring, but they must pay their own passages; that farmers with money will be helped out to western Australia and the cape of Good Hope; that mechanics are not much wanted anywhere, and had better stay at home; and so on—there's a lot more of it that is hardly worth quoting. And all this time English fields are going out of cultivation and Englishmen are suffering for want of the food and clothing and shelter that English land owners forbid them to produce.

Here is a statement of England's food importations for a single week—the week ending December 29. Just read it. It makes still more glaring the absurdity of the policy which kicks out of the country—their country—the very men who ask nothing better than to be allowed to apply their labor to the soil in food production:

6,000 heaves, calves, sheep, lambs and swine.
14,500,000 pounds of dressed meat.
330,000 pounds of rabbits.
11,200,000 pounds of butter, margarine, cheese and lard.
14,700,000 eggs.
52,000 bushels of onions.
800,000 pounds of potatoes.
224,000,000 pounds of grain and flour.
\$45,000 worth of poultry and game.

We should call a farmer an ass who should leave his fields to lie fallow, and send to the city for his supplies of grain and vegetables. Yet that is just what Englishmen are doing to-day.

It is gratifying to learn that on New Year's day the queen of Great Britain and Ireland distributed—of course through the proper officers of the royal household—to 897 selected poor people of Windsor four pounds of beef each (including bone) and one and one-half hundred weight of coals. It is actions such as this that keep English radicalism in check and prove the superiority of things as they are over things as they might be. Only when we remember that Windsor is a town of 12,000 people, and an exceptionally well-to-do town besides, the question will force itself forward: If seven and a half per cent of the population are deserving poor, what percentage must the undeserving be—the fellows who didn't get any of the royal beef and coal?

The Children's aid society has, during the past year, procured homes for 2,721 children. It has furnished summer vacations for 4,457 more. It has sent 5,734 mothers with their babies to the seashore. It has taught 10,598 children for varying periods in its industrial and night schools. It has sheltered 10,509 boys and girls in its lodging houses. It has given away 533,773 meals.

It is pleasing to read all this. It is good to know that a certain number of children have been given some sort of a chance, who might otherwise have never had any chance at all—that children have been fed who might otherwise have had to go hungry—that mother and babies have been refreshed by sea air who might otherwise have had no escape from the hot summer breath of the city. To be sure, I fear, the "homes" have hardly been such as I would be anxious my own children should find if I should die and leave them homeless—the babies who went to the seashore had to come back to their native tenements—the children who got fed had to go hungry again afterward—the periods of attendance at the schools were of the shortest. But still a certain amount of misery has been alleviated. If Lazarus hasn't had a whole loaf of comfort, at all events he's had a crumb or two. He may be still hungry; but at all events some nourishment has been given him.

But why not give Lazarus the whole loaf? Why stop at homes for 2,721 children? Why not find homes for them all? Or why not educate them all, feed them all, clothe them all? If it be a good thing—and who will dispute it—to give some children three months' schooling, surely it would be a better thing to give all the children a year's schooling. The year's work of the Children's aid society cost a little over \$200,000. Why not raise a few millions, make a determined effort, provide for all the children, and have no poverty at all in the next generation? Surely, if the money is all that is wanted, the money can be found. There is no lack of money in New York city.

The good Samaritan shakes his head when suggestions of this sort are made to him. He has finished his Jerusalem trip, and is at home now, in his native Samaria, where he can consider matters deliberately and calmly. That sort of thing would never do, he says. It would put a premium on pauperism and encourage parents to neglect their offspring. If we undertook to provide for all the children who might need providing for, we should soon have three-quarters of the children of New York on our hands. So you would. But has it never occurred to you, my dear Samaritan friend, that you are now doing on a small scale what you would then be doing on a large scale?

Mr. Police Inspector Bonfield of Chicago has at last been sat down upon pretty effectually. Hitherto Mr. Bonfield has assumed the functions, not only of a police officer, but of an inquisitor as well. He has felt it his duty to "size up" men's opinions, and to punish unlicensed thinkers by depriving them of constitutional rights. To think as Bonfield thought, or at all events to pretend to think as Bonfield thought, was a condition precedent of a tranquil life in Chicago. And there were not a few among the people of Chicago who considered this state of things eminently proper, and not at all at variance with freedom.

But now comes Judge Tuley of the circuit court, and says that he is "astounded" that a policeman should dare

to act as Policeman Bonfield has acted. The right of opinion, and the right of peaceable meeting to exchange and express opinions, are, Judge Tuley tells Mr. Bonfield, factors of American freedom, not to be repressed at the whim "of every petty policeman." Inspector Bonfield has received a much needed lesson. It is to be hoped he will heed it.

There is something touching in the story of the cashier of the Seamen's bank, whose sudden death last month has been followed by the discovery of his dishonesty. Here was an old man, a life-long member of a prominent church, occupying a position of trust and living a frugal, and apparently a blameless life. People who knew him had confidence in him—a confidence that let who would go wrong, he, at least was to be depended on. He was the treasurer of his church. He had charge of the funds of the missionary society for seamen. He had the management of several small estates. In the eyes of the world he had lived an honest, uneventful, unambitious life.

So he died. And then the truth appeared. The church funds were gone. The mission funds were gone. The securities of the various estates had vanished. He had appropriated them all. The reputation of a lifetime was shattered and blasted in an instant.

Then it was learned that his defalcations dated back sixteen years, to the panic of 1873. He had dabbled in the stock market, and apparently used a portion of the securities intrusted to him to supply his deficiencies. Then to meet the interest payments on these securities he was forced to trench upon the other funds intrusted to him. And so one dishonesty compelled him to another, until at last all was gone.

Just think what the man must have suffered. For to such a man the good opinion of his fellow men was everything. He was anchored here in this community. So long as he could escape detection he was secure of a position at a salary amply sufficient for his support. But, except his salary, he had nothing. Detection meant beggary for him as well as loss of reputation. Think what he must have suffered in that sixteen years—the ever present dread of the hour when the friends who had honored him would look on him with contempt, when the widows whose substance he had wasted would reproach him with their destitution, when he himself would be thrust out to starve in his old age. Death must have been a relief to him.

Such occurrences as this are warnings to our civilization. They teach us—or they would teach us, did we trouble ourselves to learn the lesson—that in the mad scramble for wealth, caused by the goading dread of poverty, the old time guarantees of honesty are becoming valueless. Year by year men are learning to have less and less confidence in their fellows. And as this confidence decays civilization must, of necessity, decay with it. A total want of confidence between man and man means nothing less than anarchy—the anarchy of brutes fighting over their prey.

T. L. M'CREADY.

Played the Mischief With the G. O. P. in 1889.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., March 32, 1890.—Your readers all remember that after our grand old party came into power in 1889 our statesmen passed an act to reduce the surplus and revise the tariff in such a way that American industries should receive adequate protection. They abolished the internal revenue tax on tobacco and cut the duty on sugar down nearly one-half. The latter move I am afraid has played the mischief with us. Of course all students of markets understand that the tariff is not a tax on the consumer, but is a sum paid by the foreign merchant for the privilege of entering our market. The people comprehended this well enough until after that cut was made in the sugar tariff. Previous to that my neighbors had been getting about thirteen pounds of granulated sugar for a dollar. But, for some mysterious reason, shortly after the act went into effect the grocers here added half a pound at a time to the amount until now they are giving as high as seventeen and eighteen pounds for a dollar. Of course the reduction of the tariff had nothing to do with it, because we all know that a removal of duties does not tend to cheapen goods. But the people are ignorant. Last week I was explaining the blessings of protection to a group of workmen, and when I asserted the fundamental principle that a tariff is not a tax they laughed at me and said, "Look at sugar." Unless a kind Providence furnishes us with some new arguments I greatly fear that the glorious victory of 1888 cannot be repeated.

A. M. GOODRICH.

CURRENT THOUGHT.

Two French Economists.

Two important works on political economy are fresh from the French press. One is a detailed advertisement of the fact that the Bourbons of the science in that country intend to learn nothing. The other refutes many of the gloomy conclusions that have made the science dismal and advances its readers far toward the light. The author of the first, M. Leroy-Beaulieu, hastening to the defense of the orthodox *laissez-faire*, has written what he terms a succinct expose of the principles of political economy. Though he is preparing an exhaustive work, the reproduction of his lectures at the college of France during the past four years, it has appeared to him well to do at once what he could "to enlighten the great public" on the subject, since it is at the present time being assailed with an overwhelming amount of "errors, prejudices, and nonsense." Quite a different attitude is that of M. Gide, the author of the other work alluded to, both with respect to his readers and his science. The spirit animating him is indicated in a passage in his preface. He quotes a criticism of a recent work which ran thus: "If we are to judge by the books which they have published, our professors of political economy of the faculties of law have not fulfilled the intention of the power that established their seats. That intention was very clear. It was that the students might be preserved against socialistic errors by a clear and demonstrative exposition of the functions of the property owner. If their lectures have any usefulness, of which we have strong doubt, they do not serve in giving what is demanded of them, ideas firm and exact as to the theory of property." To this Mr. Gide replies that to search the intention of the legislators was not his affair, but he believes they would not accept an interpretation so outrageous to the dignity of the teacher and to the liberty of the pupil. His idea of the character of his mission, he declares, is that it has for its purpose not to inculcate in the minds of young men such or such a so-called truth demonstrated, and indicated in advance in an official programme, but to teach them to seek the truth themselves, and to that end show them, with the sovereign impartiality of scientific method, whatever there may be of error in what is generally accepted as truth and also whatever there may be of truth in what is usually condemned as error.

M. Leroy-Beaulieu speaks as if with authority from the highest chair in France. He seems to consider reasoning unnecessary in his work, and to deem his assertion sufficient to carry conviction. With him political economy is a list of rules which it were difficult to amend. "The social body," he says, "has its organs, its functions, its processes of nutrition, of distribution and of circulation, which are as necessary, as inseparable from human nature and the nature of things as the organs, functions and processes of nutrition, distribution and circulation of the human body." And he writes as if to the social body disturbance were unknown. As it is now living, it should live. Simply, let it be.

From the beginning to the end of his book, M. Leroy-Beaulieu makes no mention of the baneful effects of monopoly. There is more wealth to-day than ever in the world; so the methods of producing wealth are good, and let us trust to their betterment gradually. The workingman's condition is improved over what it was in the last century; should he not rest contented and in hope? "Without doubt there is misery in the world, and there always shall be; it is the part of charity to relieve it with intelligence, so as not to perpetuate it through over-tenderness."

In speaking of the "theory of the rent of land," M. Leroy-Beaulieu admits that "in the observations of Ricardo" there is a certain "nucleus" of truth. But the consequences that the "socialists" have drawn from it are absolutely false. They forget, he thinks, three facts: First, the world is not yet completely peopled; second, the means of communication are constantly being perfected, and the cost of transportation diminished, which destroys or lessens the privilege of the best

Precis d'Economie Politique. Par Paul Leroy-Beaulieu, Membre de l'Institut, Professeur d'Economie Politique au Collège de France. Paris. Librairie Ch. Delagrave. 1888. 402 pp. Principes d'Economie Politique. Par Charles Gide, Professeur d'Economie Politique à la Faculté de Droit de Montpellier. Paris. L. Larose et Forcel. 1889. 233 pp.

placed lands; third, improvements in agriculture tend to increase the value of poor lands and diminish the relative superiority of the better lands. He does not mention city land values. The present system of land holding seems to be flawless. To hold land idle or to profit by speculation in land values is, in the nature of things, the right of the landowner. Of the single tax, M. Leroy-Beaulieu has this:

Certain socialists, like the American, Henry George, have proposed simply that the state, without buying the land, load it with taxes which should absorb the natural increase of value. This system is known and has been practiced since a remote date. It is that of Turkey and the Mohammedan peoples; the land tax, essentially variable, absorbing all above working expenses and a light profit to the proprietor, it results in embarrassment of every kind to the government, corruption and arbitrary action on the part of public officers, and ends in the discouragement of the agriculturists, who no longer make any progress.

There is more of this sort of fact and opinion, but perhaps enough has been quoted of this high French authority to allow us to drop him. He is worthy of account merely in so far as what he stands for—ultra conservatism in France on burning questions of economic thought—is important.

The work of M. Gide, on the contrary, is one of large toleration. He recognizes every prominent school of thought in political economy, and speaks of them in an unprejudiced strain, unfolding clearly their teachings and analysing them with great power and fairness. Unlike M. Leroy-Beaulieu, he abounds in quotation. Quesnay, Turgot, and Comte, Ricardo, Cobden, Mill and Spencer have been read by him and digested. The teachings of Karl Marx, Lassalle, Louis Blanc, Saint Simon and Owen are familiar to him. Our American authors are evidently on his shelves in goodly number, as he even quotes from the latest pamphlets of Professor Ely and M. Gronlund. Such evidences of wide reading, it may be remarked, are somewhat unusual with French writers, excepting in the productions of the very foremost among them. M. Gide also has the rare merit of quoting the pith when he does quote, and of making a just observation in case of comment.

M. Gide supports the formula: "To each the product of his labor." He admits the distinction between property in land and property in its products. He says: "If we should rest faithful to our principle which bases individual property on labor, we ought to declare legitimate the right of property to the products of labor, and illegitimate the right of property in land." But then, after investigating the methods by which land has been held and worked in common, and recounting the history of the development of private property in land, he says: "We think, then, even while recognizing that individual property in land constitutes a derogation of the principle, to each the product of his labor, it is necessary to admit that derogation by reasons of public utility. . . . Land, in fact, if we hold ourselves strictly to logic, ought to belong to society, but as society cannot make the best use of it, it is conceded to individuals, in charge, that they may work it to the best interests of all. Property in land thus seems to us as founded less on natural right than on civil law."

M. Gide has thus advanced in principle so as to be almost side by side with the advocates of the single tax. It is true he halts short of declaring the natural right of every man to the use of the earth and of recognizing that the unearned increment in the value of land is the true source of revenue for the needs of government. But he has abandoned the line of argument by which the orthodox school maintains the right of individual property in land.

Of the single tax he speaks as follows:

This distinction [between the earth and its products] was at the base of the socialistic system of Colins, now dead, but who has left a school in Belgium. But Henry George, in the United States, and Wallace, in England, have made of it also the base of their systems. M. de Laveleye, Walras, Herbert Spencer and Secretan have also adopted it with certain reservations. None of these are socialists in the sense usually attached to the word; several even belong to the individual or liberal school.

The system (of the nationalization of land) proposed by Mill, father and son, and through the advocacy of which Henry George has lately become celebrated, consists simply in striking property in land by a tax, increasing in a progression calculated to absorb the unearned increment in proportion as it is produced. The great practical objection to this system is that in the value of land there are two elements, one springing from the social and extrinsic causes that we have enumerated, but the other relates to the owner and his predecessors. In establishing such a tax

it would be necessary carefully to avoid the second part, not only lest equity might be violated, since this value represents the product of work, but also because all initiative and all progress in agricultural enterprises, which are already, as we well know, but too much given to routine, might be discouraged. Now, such a distinction it is impossible to make.

After passing in review various systems practiced and suggested in regard to land tenure, M. Gide holds to the French system of division by heritage coupled with the application of the Torrens acts. But he says finally: "We can, then, conclude that in those cases in which liberty does not assure a distribution of landed property conformable to the veritable purpose of that institution, the right must be recognized of the legislative power to intervene to modify it by way of authority."

It is not to be wondered at that through the mazes of the French systems of taxation M. Gide has not yet seen the supreme merits of the single tax. Neither is it surprising that, living in a country mainly devoted to agriculture, he sees the land question rather as relating to the rural than the urban parts. His students and his readers, however, will learn that the notions commonly held as to land owners' absolute rights are false, that the state is the sole author of the legality of their landed possessions, and that as yet the question of the best method of placing the land in charge of individuals is in France as elsewhere, an open one before the legislature and before the people.

J. W. SULLIVAN.

Commercial Union with Canada.

Would it, or would it not, be advantageous to the United States to form a commercial union with Canada, breaking down the tariff wall that now separates the two countries and making the tariff wall that shuts out both from the rest of the world of uniform height and strength throughout? This question is considered by Mr. Erastus Wiman in the *North American Review*, and by Senator Morrill in the *Forum*. Mr. Wiman thinks commercial union with Canada would be a good thing for the United States. Senator Morrill thinks it would not. And, curiously enough, both gentlemen ground their conclusions on the same facts. Canada has immense natural resources. She can produce the very things Americans most need. Therefore, says Mr. Wiman, it would be a good thing for Americans to trade freely with her. Therefore, says Senator Morrill, Americans ought to discourage trade with her as much as possible.

Mr. Wiman describes the natural resources of Canada in glowing terms. The northern limit of the wheat producing area, he tells us, lies far within her boundaries. The average wheat crop of Manitoba, in 1887, was thirty bushels to the acre. The mean temperature of Hudson's bay is three degrees warmer during winter than that of Lake Superior, and at many of the Hudson's bay company's stations wheat has been grown for twenty consecutive years, averaging annually thirty bushels to the acre, and this without fertilization or any rotation of crops. "North of the Minnesota line," says Mr. Wiman, "and within the Canadian territories, are wheat areas possessing all the advantages of the regions to the south, but in richness, fertility and extent, infinitely greater."

But her wheat growing lands are by no means the greatest of Canada's natural resources. She can pasture innumerable sheep. She grows the finest barley. She produces splendid cattle. Her fisheries are the greatest in the world. Along nearly six thousand miles of coast fish swarm in inexhaustible abundance. Her store of timber is beyond measurement. "Excepting the great triangular prairie east of the Rocky mountains, lying between the United States boundary and a line drawn from the Red river to the upper Peace river, the whole of Canada, up to the northern limit of the growth of trees, presents one vast forest area, except where it has been cleared by the hand of man." Already, in spite of a twenty per cent duty, fully one half of the lumber consumed in the west is supplied by Canada.

Of the mineral wealth of the dominion Mr. Wiman speaks enthusiastically. "No country in the world," he tells us, "possesses so much iron as Canada, in no land is it so easily mined, and nowhere is it quite so accessible to manufacturing centers."

Take the instance at New Glasgow, in Nova Scotia, where, within a radius of six miles,

there are found deposits of iron ore of the best quality, equal to that of any other part of the world, side by side with limestone, chemically pure, in the immediate presence of coke in abundant quantities, from seams thirty feet thick, lying directly on a railway within six miles of the Atlantic ocean. . . . Throughout Nova Scotia there are deposits of ore of the greatest possible value; but in Quebec, and especially in Ontario, the value of the iron deposits is something enormous. Near the city of Ottawa there is a hill of iron called the Haycock mine, which would yield an output of one hundred tons per day of ore for one hundred and fifty years without being exhausted. On the line of the Ottawa, on the St. Lawrence, in the eastern townships, on the Kingston and Pembroke railway, on the Central Ontario railway, through Lake Nipissing, in Lake Winnipeg on Big Island and on Vancouver's Island, there are enormous deposits of ore, all possessing this singular advantage, of almost a freedom from phosphorus. It has been truly said that "What the devil is to religion, that phosphorus is to iron." The peculiar advantage of the Canadian ore in this respect is sufficiently demonstrated by the fact that in the face of a duty of seventy-five cents per ton, this iron is being steadily introduced for the purpose of mixing with other ores at Joliet, Ill., at Pittsburg, Pa., and at other points. A market such as the United States would afford, if it were free, and the introduction of enterprise and capital, would create for these deposits the same development and the same value that have followed the activity in the Vermilion, Menominee and Gogebic regions. These latter deposits are almost within sight of Canada, and are but the edge of the great Laurentian range or belt of minerals which, starting on the Labrador coast, covers the vast area of Canada, paralleling the St. Lawrence and the great lakes, till they find an ending in the Algoma district—a locality that has been aptly described as a great treasure house of minerals, waiting only the touch of American enterprise, and stimulated by an American, to yield results far exceeding those of any mineral development on the continent.

And besides iron, Canada has immense deposits of copper. She has nickel. She has gold and silver. She has phosphates—enormous deposits of the purest character. She has lead in almost every province. She has asbestos, mica, antimony, arsenic, pyrites, oxides of iron, marble, graphite, plumbago, gypsum, white quartz for potters' use, siliceous sandstones for glass, emery and other things of that sort. She has the largest and purest salt deposits on the continent. She has a store of coal that stretches from the Atlantic to the Pacific. San Francisco gets her coal from the mines of British Columbia, and pays a tax on it of seventy-five cents a ton.

Such, in brief is Mr. Wiman's description of what he terms "the greater half of the North American continent." And now, he asks, "what destiny awaits it all?" That Canada will, within any near period of time form any part of the American union, he does not believe. Even were Canadians willing to sever their connection with the mother country, Great Britain would still have something to say, and would be likely to veto any annexation proposition. But a commercial union, Mr. Wiman thinks, would, so far as trade and commerce are concerned, be just as advantageous, and that, he considers, is "among the early attainable possibilities."

But now comes Senator Morrill, and he is just as clear the other way. A political union he might consent to if Canada should want it very much and ask for it prettily, but a commercial union—a reciprocity treaty—never! Canada is altogether too rich in natural resources, too poor in actual wealth for such an arrangement to be anything but unprofitable to the United States. She would want to sell everything—iron and copper ores, petroleum and coal, wheat, oats, potatoes, peas, hops, horses, cattle, wool—and buy nothing in return. "Such a treaty, or such a union," exclaims Senator Morrill, "would be a complete surrender of our greatly superior markets to the competition of over four millions of people, controlling a vast acreage of the cheapest land, for which we should in return only obtain Canadian markets almost utterly valueless to our people. Like Aesop's goose, we are invited, by the fox to a nominal repast of which it would be impossible for us to partake. . . . We may as well dismiss all golden dreams about a market in Canada for manufactures, as we already know that since they adopted a protective tariff the manufactures established in Canada have already produced a glut in their own contracted market." And besides all this, and more than all this, a commercial union would enable the Canadians to deluge us with fish.

They must be queer people, these Canadians, if the senator's ideas of them are correct. He says they appreciate "inward bound free trade with Great Britain

much less than outward," which is as much as to say they enjoy selling things, but mortally hate to get paid for them. How long they would continue to send their wheat, and wool, and iron, and other products across the border without getting anything in return, the senator does not try to foretell. Still less does he attempt to explain why such foolishness on their part should be displeasing to the people of the United States, who as a rule are not unwilling to get something for nothing.

That pseudonymous Frenchman, Max O'Rell, has been persuaded by the editor of the *Forum* to let the American people know, in advance of the publication of his more exhaustive book on the subject, what he thinks of American society. This is what he says about American women:

The more I saw of these large cities and the brilliancy, wit and refinement of society in them, the plainer it became to me that, if America had thus early rivaled the older nations of Europe in all the elegancies of fashionable life, it was because of its treatment of woman. It seemed to me that her lot was as near to being perfection as an earthly lot could be. A respect amounting to reverence is shown for her, and it appears to be the chief aim of her protectors to surround her with luxury and make her path through life a sunny one. So far as adding to her mental and physical grace goes, this plan of making every woman an uncrowned queen has answered completely. Seeing her high position, she has set herself at work to fill it becomingly; and it is the cultivation of America's daughters, it is their charming independence and a consciousness of their power, that make them so attractive and render American society so delightful to the stranger. In their treatment of woman, the Americans might give more than one lesson to the men of the Old World, even to the Frenchman who, in the matter of politeness, lives a good deal, I am afraid, on the reputation of his ancestors. The respect for woman in America seemed to me to be perfectly disinterested, purely platonic. In France, this respect almost always borders on gallantry. A Frenchman will always stand back to let a woman pass, but he will generally profit by the occasion to take a good look at her.

If an outsider be competent to form an opinion, I venture to say that the American woman does not render to man a tithe of the devotion she receives from him. The French wife repays a husband's devotion by protecting his interest; an American one too often repays it by breaking into his capital. But Jonathan complains not. To him it is only seemly that "beauty should go beautifully." If one fortune goes he sets to work to make another, and the sweat of his brow is soon crystallizing once more upon the neck and arms of his beloved womanhood in the form of diamonds.

The dress of American women must be a considerable item in the expenditure of the country. They dress well on all occasions, and *portent tres bien la toilette*; but they have yet to learn the highest effect in dress: a commingling of simplicity and elegance. To see the street toilets one would think that only the looms of Lyons and Genoa were capable of furnishing the material for a woman's gown; and in evening dress there is an apparently deep rooted tendency to over-elaboration. It must strike Europeans as very droll to see ladies attired in low necked ball dresses to receive afternoon callers, but I found the practice was universal.

We fear Max O'Rell saw very little of society during his six months stay in this country. As a rule, American women are not surrounded with luxury, nor is their path through life altogether sunny. They don't wear stuffs from French and Italian looms when they go out walking; and they are, as a rule, too busy working for a living, or solving problems of domestic economy to either receive or make afternoon calls. Somebody has been humbugging Max and exhibiting Mr. Ward McAllister's four hundred idlers to him as the whole American people.

D. Appleton & Co. have published a handsome single volume translation of Karl Marx's famous work: "Capital: a critical analysis of capitalist production." The translation has been made with peculiar care by Messrs. Samuel Moore and Edward Aveling, while the labor of editing has been performed by Frederick Engels.

Books Received.

Irene; or The Road to Freedom. By Sada Bailey Fowler. Philadelphia: H. N. Fowler & Co.

Eating or Strength; or Food and Diet in their relation to health and work. By M. L. Holbrook, M. D. New York: M. L. Holbrook & Co.

The Centennial of a Revolution. An address by a Revolutionist. G. P. Putnam's Sons. New York and London.

Montana Pretty Much the Same as New York.

W. E. Brokaw, writing from Alhambra Mont., says that a Mrs. Redding owns most of the land in and about that town, and as a matter of course, runs the place pretty much to suit herself. The hotel keeper was ruined

by having to pay her \$150 a month rent for the hotel and bath houses, and he recently left the place, leaving everything in her hands. The citizens erected a small public meeting house, called the summer house, a short distance from her residence. She now claims that there was a flaw in the ground lease, and presumes to dictate the uses to which this house shall be put. For instance, she will not allow a certain preacher to speak there. A blacksmith pays her \$4 a month for an otherwise useless piece of wet ground where he has his shop. At the end of his lease the shop will belong to Mrs. Redding. The hot mineral springs, of course, add to the rents she receives from the leases of the bath houses. Thus, you see, says Mr. Brokaw, that we are not lacking for illustrations of the beauties of landlordism, even in Montana.

A Few Notes From a Labor Report.

The sixth annual report of the bureau of labor of Michigan, of which Mr. A. H. Heath is commissioner, has just appeared. It is devoted to the copper, coal, gypsum, slate, grindstone and fire clay industries. Here are some of the interesting statements contained in the report:

Of the 3070 men employed in the copper industry, 2439 are foreigners, 475 (born here) are children of foreign parents and only 82 are children of American parents. Nearly all of the captains and bosses are Cornishmen.

In the past no boys have been employed in the copper mines, as there was no work that they could do. A good many are now employed as tool boys. Boys to some extent are also employed in the stamp mills.

Sixty-nine names constitute the summary from the Emerson and Standard coal mines. Fifty-nine said that wages were not as good as in previous years in this country and ten did not answer.

The volume also contains a full report of the proceedings at the sixth annual convention of the chiefs and commissioners of the various labor bureaus. Among the papers read there and printed in this report is one by Edward Atkinson.

Easy as Rolling off a Log.

ALLIANCE, Ohio.—The world, in one respect at least, may be divided into two classes of people: The class of the smart, but not good, and the class of the good, but not smart.

The smart-but-not-good is the privileged class, and live luxuriantly at the expense of the good-but-not-smart class.

All the poverty, misery and general cussedness of the world is occasioned by the tumultuous rush of everybody to escape from the good-but-not-smart class into the smart-but-not-good class.

The true solution is to resolve the whole mass into one class—the good and smart.

D. M. HUNTER.

Wants the Name "Anti-Monopoly" Instead of "Single Tax."

ST. LOUIS.—As a member and ardent supporter of the "single tax movement" I would like to make a suggestion. Under the name of "single tax" we, as members of this movement, in place of being looked upon as helping the cause of humanity, have always been regarded and treated as cranks. Now why not call our movement "the anti-monopoly movement?" Under that name we would be understood and our work would be far more prosperous. Such a name would create an enthusiasm among all classes of people. Under the name of "single tax" we cannot get people to come to listen to our explanation; whereas, under the name I propose there is no doubt but that we could get people to come to hear us, and from that we could educate them to the "single tax idea." What do others think?

M. E.

Things are Going With a Rush in Great Britain.

New York Times, Sunday, January 20.

LONDON, Jan. 10.—This has turned out to be the most important week in British politics since the general election of 1886. The Gladstonian liberals unexpectedly find themselves almost embarrassed by the sweeping character of the victories they have won, and their papers to-day speak of the multiplied triumphs that have come to them in a tone of bewilderment. In an imperial sense the gain of a seat at Govan, which is the most representative and intelligent part of the great aggregation of people in and about Glasgow, is the most striking success yet attained at a by-election. The Tories had held the seat for the last two parliaments and now lose it by over a thousand majority.

This in itself at an ordinary time would suffice to send shivers down the ministerial spine, but it sinks into triviality compared with what London, that vast citadel of Toryism, intrenched in snobbery and fortified by the most bigoted class and race prejudice to be found anywhere on the habitable globe, has this week done.

Of the members sent from this swollen stronghold of aristocracy to the present parliament barely one sixth are liberals, yet in Thursday's election for the new county council the liberals carried on strictly party lines very nearly one-half the whole number of districts and, with the liberals elected in the non-partisan contests, they have an ample working majority in the council. This is nothing short of a revolution, and the list of things which this majority is pledged to do, such as taxing ground rents, taking the control of the police away from the home office, taking over the control of gas, water, and street railways, and providing free baths and libraries, must fairly appall the Tories when they have recovered sufficient breath to think the thing over.

A CARSON POKER INCIDENT.

Sam Davis of the Carson Appeal.

Ever since civilization began to make any progress in Nevada, Carson has been considered the stamping ground of the poker expert. While the superior dexterity of the Virginia faro dealer is never questioned, the artistic accomplishments of the Carsonite at a little or big game of draw is often alluded to with pride and delight by residents of that metropolis. The peripatetic stranger, in his wanderings through the sage brush, would sometimes stop over night at Carson, and realize the superior mentality of the artist of that section, when telegraphing home for the funds necessary to get his baggage away from the Ormsby house. It is said that on one occasion the chaplain of the house of representatives lifted up his voice and prayed: "Give us this day our daily stranger."

Yet there was an occasion when Virginia City wrested the laurels of victory from Carson in a style worthy of record.

Some of the boys had been down to a picnic, and while there fell into the hands of the poker Philistines. Their absence was not noticed in Virginia City, however, until about eight o'clock in the evening, when Orndorff & Magee of the Delta, received the following dispatch:

Send down \$500 by telegraph.—BILLY.

Then it was known that Billy Robinson and some of the boys were down at Carson holding the fort for reinforcements. The Delta boys, with characteristic promptness, sent the required sum, and waited anxiously for the next hour, when they received the following:

Send \$1,000 more and Joe Dixon.—BILLY.

Dixon was soon found in his palatial sporting headquarters, next the Washoe club rooms, going for the exchequer of a number of prominent citizens. The situation was at once explained. Joe rose from his seat, sent up to Mooney's for a team and took a fat sack of coin from the safe. Jack Magee joined him in a few minutes, and Joe drove across to the Western Union.

"A friend of mine passes Reno on the eastern bound train. He's a lightning striker, and if I can stop him with a dispatch, the game is ours." Joe spoke with great deliberation, and sent the following:

To Charles Huntley, on board eastern-bound train at Reno—Get off and come to Carson by rapid conveyance. Meet me at Ormsby house before 3 o'clock. Business. DIXON.

"He'll be there," said Joe, "if the wires don't go back on us."

In another instant the two men were flying over the Divide, en route for Carson.

It was a little before midnight when the horses, drenched with foam, reached the city. There was no time to lose. They began to hunt the leading sporting resorts, and soon found Billy Robinson and his gang in the hands of a crowd, whom the new-comers recognized, at a glance, as the very flower of the pasteboard chivalry of Carson.

Joe is an open-up sort of a man, and, walking up to the table remarked: "I s'pose a man with coin can take a hand here?" And he laid down his bag.

Nothing suited the Carson chaps better. Room was made for Joe and Jack, and a fresh deal inaugurated as they took the places of Virginia men, who had been fighting, like the soldiers of Marathon in the Pass of Thermopylae, since noon. Joe looked at his watch. It was twenty minutes past twelve, and Charley, his friend, must be on hand before three o'clock. Robinson stood back a little from the game, and telegraphed important results.

Meanwhile the Delta saloon, in Virginia City, was the scene of an anxious gathering, and the bulletins from the seat of war were posted up. They were as follows:

CARSON, 1 o'clock. Jack has just taken a pot of \$300.—B.

Here all hands imbibed. Presently another came;

1:20. Joe bluffed them out of \$700. Set up the wine.—B.

The wine was set up. At 2 o'clock came the intelligence, which dropped like a bombshell into the place:

We've just lost a pot of \$1,500. Send down more coin. JOE.

The answer went back at once;

We indorse your paper for \$10,000.

ORNDORFF & MAGEE.
GRANT ISHIAI.
DICK BROWN.

Fortified by the sines of war, the little band still held the fight gallantly. Joe went out to raise some more cash on his

dispatch, and Pantling, of the Ormsby, furnished the bullion. Joe left word where to send Huntley, and was soon in the field again.

At a little after 3 o'clock, Huntley stalked in. Joe and he had not met for years and during the time had known each other only by correspondence; yet there was no gleam of recognition as Huntley slid like a phantom into the game. He showed the requisite amount of coin, and the Carsonites laughed inwardly because they had another victim. He looked like a divinity student. When he dealt, his thin hands played like lightning over the pack; his shuffle was the work of a magician, and the cards seemed alive.

After the deal the bets began to pile up very much as if every man had a big idea of the value of his hand. They went twice round, and everybody stood in with the raise.

A Carson man remarked quietly: "I see it two thousand better."

It was a stranger's turn next. He said: "I raise it five thousand," and laid down the checks. Then the Carson men, after a brief consultation, dispersed, leaving the table and looking for the door.

Virginia had won.

The morning light was stealing in just as the worsted Carson gamblers were stealing out. It was a bright, inspiring kind of a morning, too, but they didn't seem to notice it. The stranger helped Joe and Jack rake the pot into a big bag, and then they all shook hands.

"What did you have?" asked Joe.

"Don't know," said Mr. Huntley. "To tell you the truth, I haven't yet looked at my hand. If a man looks at his hand, sometimes he gets confused and loses his nerve. I believe largely in the straight bluff."

The Brehons.

From "The Book of Erin," by J. Morrison Davidson.

These jurists enjoyed high consideration in the tribal community, but they were not judges in the modern sense. Rather they were official arbitrators. They could not compel attendance of civil litigants or even of criminals. Indeed, the true state being as yet unborn, the distinction between "torts" and "crimes" did not exist. Murder itself could be atoned for by an eric or fine, after the manner of the Saxon *wiregild* or the Swedish *kinbote*. It was the business of the avenger of blood to vindicate justice. But the law, or rather custom, of distress afforded a pretty effective instrument for bringing culprits to book. Wealth consisted almost exclusively in cattle, sheep and pigs, and these could generally be driven off and impounded.

In the case of very hardened or powerful offenders recourse was had to other means. The plaintiff proceeded to starve himself for days at the defendant's door—to "sit *dehrna*" as it was called and from time immemorial practised in India.

The parties once before him, the Brehon gave judgment, taking care to compensate himself for his trouble by claiming a fixed proportion of the award. When the wrong doer himself neglected or was unable to pay the eric, two courses were open to the members of his family. They might either pay the amount themselves or deliver up the culprit with all his goods to the injured party. The offender might then be put to death, but not by the hand of a third party.

We Can't All be Vanderbilts.

Pittsburg Commercial Gazette.

The income of the Vanderbilts for a year is \$13,864,400. How much chance the average man of to-day has to accumulate a fortune that would yield a similar yearly income will be appreciated from this calculation made by a numerical crank: Begin by putting the age of the world since the birth of Adam at 6,000 years, the figures of certain Biblical students. Suppose, next, that when Adam was born he drew \$40 a week, which is very considerably above the average weekly salary. Suppose, next, that when he grew too feeble to work the salary went to Cain, and so on in a direct line to the present day. Then the sum total of all the earnings of the men in this great procession of fathers and sons would not equal the income of the Vanderbilts for one year—would not equal it till about the year 2553. No, we can't all be Vanderbilts.

Fiddling While Rome Burns.

London Echo.

The present Sultan is one of the most enthusiastic chess amateurs in Europe. He will play the game for hours without intermission, and will not allow any matter of state to interfere with the problem in which at the time he is engaged. His ministers often find themselves unable to approach the imperial presence, for the reason that the Sultan is deep in a game. They and their statecraft have to wait until the Sultan has checkmated his adversary or decided upon the next move.

A Timely Interruption.

Chicago Tribune.

"Mr. Speaker," began the eminent statesman from the Second district with stentorian voice and flashing eye, "if this here yeller fever was carried about from place to place, as the gentleman from Florida says it was, by somebody by the name of Mike Robe, I move, sir, that the United States government offer a reward of—"

But a fellow member whispered something in his ear, and the eminent statesman sat down grumblingly.

FULL OF THANKFULNESS.

San Francisco Examiner.

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

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

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

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

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

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

A Sight for Civilization to Be Proud Of.

New York Sun.

Anybody who has ever visited the city's big workhouse on Blackwell's island will remember the queer looking clerks in Superintendent Stocking's office. Dull, hopeless looking fellows they nearly all are, with not a spark of ambition in their eyes, and an utter absence of curiosity. Their clothes are of the shapeless, workhouse style, mere bags of the color of weak tea, and they move about with a shambling gait, as though the springs of motion had been removed.

They sit on high stools before the desks and work away at the records of the institution in a listless manner, as though it were quite a matter of indifference whether they kept up with the business or not. When a question is addressed to one of them they all look up in a surprised sort of way, as if it were a remarkable occurrence. All stop work immediately, and don't return to it until some time after the answer has been given. Hurry is a stranger in that office, except when Superintendent Stocking comes hustling in, and then the eyes of his clerks follow him around in surprise.

Yet the work is done neatly and well, and the big volumes containing the records of the workhouse, with its large population, are as clean and accurate as the books of the most expert accountants in the commercial houses of the city.

The Sun reporter who had noticed these peculiarities ventured to inquire concerning them of Superintendent Stocking.

"Those who have struck you in the manner you describe," he said, "are all men who have come here as vagrants. That is, they are men who went before the commissioners of charities or else before the police justices and asked to be committed to this institution as they were unable to take care of themselves. Some of them were young and strong, but they could not resist drink. Others were men of timid natures who, somehow, got a wrong start in the world and could not get along. They were afraid to assert themselves. They had no friends or relatives to assist them, and were unwilling to carry on the fight. They surrendered, overcome by the great rush. It would hardly seem possible that any man in good health could bring himself to such a point, but it is a fact."

Mr. Stocking pointed out a man who sat apart from the others in a large arm chair. He was different in appearance from the others.

"That man acts as my chief clerk," said Mr. Stocking, "and he does his work very well, too. He is an Englishman, and a man of pretty fair education. He came to this country some years ago and became a citizen. He couldn't earn his living, and finally came here voluntarily. I put him in here to help me. At one time the commissioners considered the advisability of putting him on salary. About that time, unfortunately, he awoke to the fact that he was doing well, and he sent

a request to the commissioners for a salary, couched in language that displeased some of them. At all events it resulted in the commissioners declining to employ him, and he still remains here as a dependent."

SOCIETY NOTES.

The Hargous ball at Delmonico's on Monday was the opening of a very gay week. There was much lavishness of taste displayed as well as a disregard of cost in the elaborate decorations of the rooms. Every clime seemed to be represented in trees, shrubs and flowers. The guests wandered from a Canadian bower of evergreens in the hall to the tropical beauties of Florida and Africa in the ball room, where the climbing clematis of the south covered the walls, and gigantic pines, with orange trees in blossom, and fruit filled the corners and sides of the room. A pleasant reminder of the latitude in which we live was to be found in the blue room, where Mrs. De Forest and Miss Hargous received their guests, in the shape of apple and peach trees in full blossom, and in masses of scarlet flowers, which were most ornamental as decorations, and very becoming to the dark haired ladies near them.—[N. Y. Sun, Jan. 20.]

Edward J. Anderson, a lawyer who had an office in the Stewart building, New York, committed suicide at the Putnam house on Thursday of last week. A newspaper account says that of late he has had little to do, and has been unable to make a living. He once owned a house in East Forty-ninth street, where he lived with his wife. She is now in Los Angeles, Cal., and among the papers of the deceased was a letter from her urgently requesting money. There is little doubt that poverty was the cause of his suicide.

The two large receptions given during the week by Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt and her sister-in-law, Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt, and the concert at Mrs. William D. Sloane's on Thursday night have opened the eyes of old New Yorkers to the luxury—one may say grandeur—in which their contemporaries live. Of the two receptions, perhaps Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt's gave most pleasure to thoughtful and observing people, as the house is a triumph of architectural taste and symmetry, and the exquisite carvings with which it abounds attract the artistic eye to the exclusion of upholstery and horticulture. Everything to gratify a refined and cultivated taste is to be found, however, both here and at Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt's, where a profusion of flowers were advantageously arranged in all the rooms and on the imposing stairway. Rows of liveried servants line the halls at all the Vanderbilt mansions.—[New York Sun, Jan. 20.]

The New York Press of January 22 says that Mrs. Leonard and her two children, whose husband and father died three months ago, are in destitute circumstances at their home, 1614 Pacific street, Brooklyn. The children are sick, and the mother, who is willing to work, is unable to obtain any except a little which pays her only fifty cents a week. As her rent is \$2 a month, she has to save all she makes to pay that, and she has pawned mostly all the valuables they had to buy food.

"The fashionable dogs in New York to-day" says a writer in a daily paper, "are undoubtedly the bull terriers and French poodles. Girls prefer the terriers and the young sports run with the poodles. There is a way of shaving a small Newfoundland dog to look like a French poodle, and a great deal of this deception is practiced. The real article is a rarity, and its characteristics are unmistakable to any one who knows anything of dogs. He is just about as clean built an animal as can be found. He is as fine as ebony and shaves like a rich piece of satin. He puts his feet down when he trots as though the pavement was hot, lifting up each paw daintily, as you have seen an old lady try the heat of a flatiron. Most of them wear a silver bracelet on one fore paw. The poodle is a very haughty dog, never taking any notice of strangers, and repels all advances from dogs of another breed. The bull terriers, who are most loved by the girls, are faithful little fellows, but awful fighters. A girl friend of mine paid \$100 last week for a brindle pup two months old. She sold her pug the week before for \$20, and it was undoubtedly a more valuable dog than the terrier, but fashion did the business."

The World found a woman the other day who earns her bread by doing fancy work. She was painfully crippled by a felon on her thumb. She had been crocheting silk cord over metal rings—a form of ornamentation which is in vogue for various fancy work this season. The cord is stiff and hard, and must be worked tightly; and the continuous pressure on the thumb produced the painful swelling with which she is afflicted. These rings are sold at eighty cents a dozen in the shops, and the women who crochet them are paid three cents a dozen for their work. This woman, Mrs. Hoyt of No. 29 East Eighteenth street, was asked what she could make per diem at this rate, and she replied: "By working from 7 o'clock in the morning until midnight I can earn forty-five cents."

The lady who is fully satisfied as to her birth and breeding, who has had respectable ancestors, and who has always lived in the best society, is never afraid to bow first, to call first, and to treat every one with kindness. She knows that courtesy is the most beautiful of virtues, that politeness is one of the most christian of graces. She never insults anybody. But her next door neighbor, who may, although rich, have very poor blood in her veins, and who may not be at all sure in her own mind that she deserves to be in society—she will affect to not know those whom she has once known; she will ignore her own past; she will make it difficult for the modest new comer to succeed; she is a vulgar snob, no matter where she happens to stand in the ranks of fashion.—[Mrs. Sherwood in the New York Press.]

CHINA AND ITS PROGRESS.

The Great Difficulties and Dangers That Beset It.

In the December *Bulletin* of the American Geographical society appears a paper of much more than passing interest on China and its progress by Major-General James Harrison Wilson.

The spectacle which China almost to the present day has presented is that of crystallized conservatism. With a history reaching back into remote ages and a civilization hoar with centuries, this vast population, numbering from 300,000,000 to 500,000,000 people and covering the immense area of 5,000,000 square miles, has stood in striking contrast to those mushroom European nations and their offshoots which have sprung up, metaphorically speaking, in a night.

A people alone and isolated; who, mistrusting the present time, have turned for their wisdom to the past; who, shrinking from the shock of innovation, have clung to precedents and used methods and appliances discarded by the western peoples long centuries back; with ideas and ways of thought peculiar and distinct, must experience a rude awakening from their lethargic sleep when the spirit of industrial progress fully seizes them; or resisting this influence, when, by force of arms, an invading army tumbles down their cities' walls and subjects them to the will of a foreign conqueror.

Describing the form of government, General Wilson says it is "an absolute monarchy of the patriarchal type."

The emperor is its sole responsible head. He has no regular ministry, but is assisted in carrying on the government by a secretariat and six great boards, whose duty it is to prepare business for his action; and also by several courts, the greatest of which is the censorate, or "all-controlling court." The board of censors is by far the most important body in the state. It stands next to the throne, supervises and distributes all public business, and may petition the emperor at all times and upon all occasions. Its operations are all-pervading and ever present. Wherever two or three Chinamen are gathered together, one of them is sure to be an agent of the censorate and this makes every Chinaman suspicious of every other Chinaman. The army is mostly under the command of manchu belonging to the imperial clan, and by these two powerful agencies the country is held in subjection.

The emperor, being the son of heaven and ruler over all earthly things, is furnished with a family modeled after Solomon's, and it is served by an unfortunate class common to all governments of Continental Asia. The court of China, which consists of the imperial clan or kinsmen of the emperor, is shut up within the imperial or the carnation, forbidden city at Peking, and holds no intercourse whatever with foreigners. It has no more to do with foreign diplomats than it would if these diplomats were still living in their own countries, and far less than did the court of Kublai Khan in the days of Marco Polo. The censors and great dignitaries of the empire, and indeed the whole governing class, with the exception of a few such men as Li Hung-Chang, the Tsengs, and Liu Ming-Chuan, governor general of Formosa, also hold themselves entirely aloof from foreigners, and as far as possible from foreign ideas. No foreigner has ever seen the empress dowager or the young emperor, except possibly by stealth. No diplomat has ever talked with either of them, and it is not known that any of their own attendants are in any way familiar with western knowledge or the natural sciences, or have any just conception of western civilization and progress. When it is remembered that even the greatest men in the empire are prohibited from approaching the throne, whether occupied or empty, unless commanded to do so, and then only with their bodies prostrate in the dust, and that the imperial personages hold absolutely no intercourse with ordinary mortals, some idea will be had of the complete isolation and ignorance in which they live.

No such thing as popular education exists; the people have no common dialect; every province speaks its own tongue, and they are all different from the court or literary language of the country, which is understood by only a few; hence ideas, no matter how important, make their way but slowly, and never from the people upward to the throne.

China successfully resisted pretty much all outside influences until the beginning of this century, when one innovation after another commenced to creep in, and important changes have since taken place, especially since the English and French invasion in 1861 and the termination of the Taiping rebellion in 1863. The influences which have brought about that progress were, first, commerce; second, war and diplomacy; and, third, the missionaries. But commerce is confined to the maritime cities and provinces, and even in these places is not very general; and though the missionaries who now penetrate to the remotest recesses of the empire have through their churches and their hospitals familiarized the people with the fact that the foreigner is not necessarily a public enemy, neither of those factors have been as important as the factor of war. The disaster and humiliation that attended the Chinese arms during the rebellion impressed the thinking men of the empire with a sense of their own helplessness and with the fact that the foreigners were superior to themselves in aptitude as well as in the appliances of war.

And so it may be truthfully said that the real awakening of China began at the close of the Allied invasion, and of the Taiping rebellion. The great men of the empire were at that time Li Hung-Chang, and the brothers Tseng Quo-Fan and Tseng Quo-Chuan. They were all pure Chinamen, and had learned

enough to become liberals in thought and policy.

The next great man of the empire, and by many regarded as the greatest soldier, if not the greatest statesman, Tso Tsung-Tang, who was a conservative all the active part of his life, and would have nothing to do with foreigners except to use their cannon and small arms, on his deathbed wrote a memorial to the throne in which he directed attention to the various nations of the earth, watching around his country "like glaring beasts," and pointed out that China would not be able to maintain herself, but would become weaker and weaker; and he bid the emperor to "let railways and mines and the construction of ships and guns be undertaken at once, as a means of insuring our national prosperity and strength."

However, in some respects marked progress has already been made both with respect to peace and war.

Commerce has familiarized the Chinese with the superiority of our arts, manufactures and sciences. Everywhere throughout the empire imported needles, thread, cotton cloth, matches, kerosene, and watches are making their way in larger and larger quantities every year. The steamship and steamboat have entirely supplanted the junk for navigating the sea and the great river of the country. And now the China merchants' steamship company, with a splendid fleet of vessels, owned and controlled by Chinamen, but all commanded by European and American masters, has as much of a monopoly of the government carrying trade as it dare give it.

But after all, war has made by far the greatest changes in China. It has resulted in the organization of a navy, or rather of two fleets, one for the northern and one for the southern coast, composed of English and German built ironclads of the latest pattern. Armaments and powder factories, furnished with foreign machinery and superintended by foreign managers, have been established at nearly all of the great cities, and are now engaged in turning out small arms and military munitions of greater or less excellence and in greater or less profusion.

A military telegraph line has been built by the government, aided in a few instances by a native commercial company, from Peking to the northeastern border to Korea, and to all the important maritime cities, and will soon be extended to all the provincial capitals.

A number of foreign instructors, mostly German, have been employed to drill the troops, quite a lot of American rifles have been bought, and a number of Krupp and Armstrong cannon have been mounted upon the ramparts of the mud forts at the mouths of the principal rivers, but no adequate measures for the organization or administration of the military establishment have yet been adopted. A college for the instruction of advanced Chinese scholars in the western sciences was organized at Peking about twenty years ago, under the patronage of Prince Kung (fifth brother of the late Emperor Hien-fung), and it is presided over by Dr. W. A. P. Martin of Indiana, and an able body of professors drawn from all countries.

Notwithstanding these outward appearances of "progress" China is the poorest country in the world in everything except labor and undeveloped natural resources. It has absolutely no floating capital. Every official is afraid of his neighbor, and all are afraid of the government. The legal rate of interest is thirty-seven per cent per annum and money is never lent in the interior on bond and mortgage, or the best paper at less than twenty-five per cent per annum. No man is safe from spoliation or from forced subscriptions. The imperial treasury is in a chronic state of bankruptcy, and that bankruptcy has become more distressing than ever since the terrible inundations of the Yellow river in Honan and the costly and abortive efforts which have been made to turn it back into its old channel.

The principal sources of revenue are from a tax on land, from the salt monopoly, from a tax on goods in transit and from maritime customs. But the whole fiscal administration is frightfully corrupt, and to put it on an efficient and economical basis, even if only continuing present methods of taxation, would mean revolution or the masterful hand of a strong and enlightened emperor.

But what will be the end? Will China be left to herself to "work out her own salvation"? This is the manner in which General Wilson describes the situation:

The two great Asiatic powers are Russia and Great Britain. They have already dominated and divided Central Asia, and all of Western Asia, except Turkey. The tide of population and conquest has turned, and now sweeps irresistibly eastward. The political and commercial necessities of those great powers carry them constantly onward, and they could not draw back if they would from the tasks still before them. They have prolonged themselves side by side to the plateau of Pamir and the heights of Burmese India; Russia has lodged herself firmly on the Amur and the shores of the Pacific as far down as Korea, while England has grasped all the borders of the Indian ocean. Nothing stays their progress except China, which they now encompass about on every side, in the pathetic words of Tso Tsung-Tang, "like glaring beasts." It looks as though manifest destiny were working itself out in Asia as in America, and would not be satisfied till one or at most two flags float over the whole of that vast continent. Consult any good map, and, after considering the course of history and the tendency of strong and aggressive nations, irrespective of mere numbers, to absorb the weaker and more inert ones, try to figure out the future of China. Isolation has saved her so far, but in a few years at most her isolation will be a thing of the past.

Doubtful Blessings.

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.—I went down to St. Johns, N. B., a short time ago, and while there I made inquiries as to the price of Pennsylvania anthracite coal. I was informed that regular stove coal was \$5 for a ton of 2,240 pounds. A short time ago I paid for the same kind of coal in Cambridge, Mass., \$6.25 for 2,000 pounds, and it has risen there since 50 to 75 cents per ton. The people of St. Johns complain of the price being high, but it seems to me that those people who are five hundred miles further away from our mines than the people of Cambridge ought not to be the first to grumble.

I also inquired of the Canadians the price of kerosene oil, and found it retailed at 28 to 30 cents a gallon. I told them that I had bought it in Cambridge at 9 cents a gallon. They replied that there was a Canadian tariff on oil, and they burned a poor quality of Canadian oil at a high price rather than import ours.

We have a duty on coal; they have a duty on oil. Our people pay more for our own coal than the Canadians do; the Canadians pay a high price for their own oil which we Americans wouldn't burn. This is how the tariff benefits the masses.

WM. HANNAFORD.

A Few Earnest Men Could Do Much.

MURRAYVILLE, Ill., Jan. 6.—I am getting signers to petition for the adoption of the Australian system of voting and for the single tax in this state. Little more than a day's trial in the village near which I live gained sixty-five names for electoral reform, and a little over two-thirds as many for the single tax. If a few earnest men could be paid so that they could spend every day out among the people it would soon carry by an immense majority. Right here where I have been talking and writing for years men say, 'Why, I never heard of it.'

WM. CAMM.

The Perfect Life.

Ben Jonson.

It is not growing like a tree,
In bulk, doth make men better be;
Or standing long, an oak, three hundred year,
To fall a log at last, dry, bald and sere.

A lily of a day,
Is fairer far in May;
Although it fall and die that night,
It was the plant and flower of light.
In small proportions we just beauties see,
And in short measures life may perfect be.

MISCELLANEOUS.

If You Have

CONSUMPTION | COUGH OR COLD
BRONCHITIS | Throat Affection
SCROFULA | Wasting of Flesh

Or any Disease where the Throat and Lungs are Inflamed, Lack of Strength or Nerve Power, you can be Relieved and Cured by

SCOTT'S
EMULSION
OF
PURE COD LIVER OIL
With Hypophosphites.

PALATABLE AS MILK.

Ask for Scott's Emulsion, and let no explanation or solicitation induce you to accept a substitute.

Sold by all Druggists.

SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists, N. Y.

SHORTHAND, Writing thoroughly taught, by mail or personally. Situations procured for pupils when competent. Circulars free. W. G. HAYES, Oswego, N. Y.

THE DEMOCRAT.

A RADICAL MONTHLY REVIEW EDITED BY WILLIAM SAUNDERS.

The Democrat advocates Land Resumption and those reforms which are necessary to make the English people a free people. It asks "compensation" not for those who have benefited by unjust legislation, but for those who have suffered thereby.

For one dollar the Democrat is supplied for 18 months to any address in the United States or Canada. Address 177 Palace Chambers, Westminster.

For three dollars THE STANDARD and the Democrat will be sent together for one year. Address THE STANDARD, 12 Union Square, New York.

COMMONWEALTH SINGLE TAX CLUB, OF PUEBLO, COLO.

There will be a meeting of the above named Club on Tuesday evening, Jan. 16, in the office of Rice & White, 1010, over the office of the Pacific Express Company, on Union av., north side, which all Single tax men are urged to attend.

J. W. BRENTLINGER, Secretary.

CHICAGO, NORTHSIDE SINGLE TAX MEN.

All Single tax men of the Northside, Chicago, who would join in an association (not a political party) for the propagation of the Single tax, and also the discussion of all vital political questions, national, state and municipal, especially of the latter, between now and spring elections, are requested to send their addresses to WILLARD J. SMITH, 175 North Clark st., Chicago.

A YOUNG MAN wishes work of any kind in any place in the Union; previous occupation gent's furnishing business; able to furnish good reference. Address CLERK, Standard office.

IMPROVED MONITOR INCUBATOR. Hundreds in Use. Illustrated circular. A. F. WILLIAMS, Bristol, Conn.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

PRANG'S ART PUBLICATIONS.

WHO TAKES THE PRIZE?



The above illustration gives only the outlines of a picture which bids fair to be one of the most popular we have ever issued. It is one of our latest productions, and has all the charm of novelty. It is called the

PRIZE BABIES

and represents a baby judging upon the respective merits of a row of the most bewitching little babies that the suns of six months have shone upon. The face of the sweet baby judge is clothed in doubt, and well it may be, for surely such a collection of ideal darlings was never seen before.

The colors are exquisitely soft and tender, and the expression of the baby faces run the whole gamut of delight and wonder. It is a picture which will appeal forcibly to every mother's heart, and is altogether an admirable selection for a Christmas gift.

The picture comes mounted with a wide mat of two styles, one plain and one on which in choice hand decoration are daisies on meadow grass. Size, ready for framing, 17 by 11 inches.

Copies of this latest and most attractive picture can be found at all leading stationers. Ask for Prang's "Prize Babies." We will supply them by mail, if not found in stores, post paid on receipt of price, viz.: In plain mat, \$1; in daisy mat, \$2.

We want also to call the attention of mothers and fathers to our

NON-POISONOUS COLORS

for the use of children learning to paint.

These paints represent all the latest art colors and tints, and can be given to even the youngest children with absolute safety. They come mounted upon neat, tin palettes, or in tin boxes. They are all specially prepared for us by the most eminent manufacturer of colors in Europe—Mr. Gunther Wagner, of Hanover, Germany. They must not be classed with ordinary children's paints, put up in cheap form and made of injurious and poisonous materials. They are really fine art colors in convenient form for use and are especially non-poisonous for the needs of children.

PRANG'S OUTLINE PICTURES.

With these non-poisonous colors for children we issue several series of outline illustrations of familiar subjects as practice sheets. The original design is furnished in each case by some leading artist, and is strictly correct in form and detail. Directions how to paint them are furnished with every series. One specimen sheet of each series is furnished, colored by hand, in order to serve the children as a guide for harmonious coloring, and as an example of artistic work is the foundation of taste. The instruction is all the more successful because supplied in the form of amusement.

PRICE OF PRANG'S NON-POISONOUS COLORS:

Palette Colors—

Palette A, containing six colors with brush, 10 cents. Palette B, containing nine colors with brush, 15 cents.

Eagle Colors—

Box No. 2, containing eight colors and brush, 25 cents. Box No. 4, containing twelve colors and two brushes, 40 cents.

One box No. 2 of Prang's non-poisonous colors and one package of Prang's outline pictures (eight in a package with an extra copy of one of them painted by hand and full directions) 50 cents.

Or one box No. 2 of Prang's non-poisonous colors and three packages of Prang's outline pictures (each package different in design), \$1.00.

To be found at all leading stationers, or will be sent by mail postpaid on receipt of price.

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BY HENRY GEORGE.

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An Examination of the Tariff Question with Especial Regard to the Interests of Labor.

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SINGLE TAX DOCTRINES IN A NUT-SHELL.

Thirty pamphlets on various phases of the social problem. The question of the hour. All should understand it. Will be sent post paid on receipt of fifteen cents in stamps, or will be sent free to any one sending twenty-five cents for six months' subscription to the *Tax Reformer*, a sixteen page journal. Address, SINGLE TAX PRESS, 1791 Lexington ave., N. Y.

Carbolate of Tar Inhalant.
Croup, Whooping Cough, Bronchitis, Consumption, Asthma, cured at home. New pamphlet and full particulars free. Address, naming this paper, DR. M. W. CASE, 809 N. Broad St., Philad'a. Pa.

A SINGLE TAX MAN, LIMITED.

Rev. Roland Connor Comes Out for Absolute Free Trade and is Elected to the Legislature.

SAGINAW CITY, Mich.—The Rev. Roland Connor of the Unitarian church of East Saginaw, has been delivering a series of Sunday evening lectures on social questions for four or five years. He formerly criticised pretty severely all the radical movements he discussed, but last spring he came out in favor of abolishing all taxes on the products of labor and concentrating taxation on land values—the single tax, limited. Last fall, before election, he progressed one step further and became an unlimited free trader. For his apostasy—as they considered it—a good many, if not all, of his wealthy protection members withdrew from the church. In the meantime the democratic convention had nominated him for the legislature. He stumped this congressional district fearlessly for Cleveland and free trade. Like one of old, he trod the wine press alone. The democratic leaders here kept aloof from him. The democratic leaders kicked free trade. Mr. Connor held it up before the people in all its beauty.

Tim Tarsney, the kicker, was excused from going back to congress, while Mr. Connor, the out and out free trader, was elected to the state legislature by a large majority of the people of his district.

This part of Michigan is full of conscious and unconscious single tax men, but they are without a good leader. I am perfectly satisfied that if the Rev. Roland Connor should come out squarely before the people as an out and out single tax champion his following would be immense. WM. MITCHELL.

Electoral Reform in Nebraska.

OMAHA, Neb., Jan. 13.—I have seen nothing in THE STANDARD in regard to the ballot reform movement in this section. On the 23d of December four printers, and, by the way, all single tax men, John C. Thompson, Percy Pepon, John Emblen and myself, met in the Dispatch office to consult as to the best means of beginning this reform. The Knights of Labor met in joint session that afternoon and we decided to begin there. A committee of three from the Knights was appointed to act with us.

On Christmas Eve the central labor union met, and we asked them to appoint a committee to act with us. The council chamber was procured and a mass meeting was held on the evening of January 3. Although this meeting was slimly attended, considerable interest was manifested. Another meeting was held January 10, at which a bill similar to the one now before the New York legislature was read, and a committee appointed to present it to the legislature now in session. The Herald, the World and the Dispatch warmly seconded our efforts, while the Bee did us the good service to publish Louis F. Post's article with the illustration, although it did not favor it, but preferred the California system.

Mr. G. M. Hitchcock, editor of the World, and Mr. H. D. Estabrook, a rising young lawyer here, and a contestant for a seat in the present legislature, did good service in the movement. One bill has already been introduced by Mr. Olmstead, a member from the interior of the state, but I have not yet had a chance to procure a copy of it. From all I can learn the chances for the passage of our bill are excellent. There were only twelve indictments of judges and clerks of the last election by the United States grand jury here, so you can see we are sadly in need of election reform. As soon as we get this reform measure through we propose to start on the single tax. But we must have ballot reform first. CHARLES ABERNETHY.

Ballot Reform in New Jersey.

PATERSON, N. J., Jan. 18.—Last night we hit the ballot reform ball a kick and started it rolling. Hon. Eugene Stevenson, ex-prosecutor of the pleas for this county, presided, and led off with a speech that had the true Jeffersonian ring to it, and caused Mr. Pentecost to remark to the writer, "That gentleman is radical." Mr. Stevenson is a radical free trader, I should judge; but the single tax is a sealed book to him, and he is too busy—"too much the slave of others," he puts it—to break the seals. I fancy circumstances will break them for him, and lead him to the Mecca of all radicals who are not revolutionists—single tax.

The meeting was not as well attended as it should have been, not more than five hundred being present. However it will serve to "break the ice." Hugh O. Pentecost, Lindley Vinton and Rev. John H. Robinson spoke, and there can be no doubt that small as was the meeting much good will result from it. You already have the documents relating to the movement. And thus endeth the first chapter. E. W. NELLIS.

An Important Point in Electoral Reform.

ROCKLAND, Mass.—It seems to me that there has been one suggestion made in regard to the new ballot laws which has not received the attention it deserves. It is that the names of the candidates of the different parties be printed in different colored inks. This would get us over our difficulty with the illiterate voters, for there can be but few who are so thick-headed that they cannot remember

which colored ink their party is printed in. There is a serious objection to the law as passed in this state. It is cumbersome, and anything which will simplify its working will hasten its adoption in other states. I would suggest to all readers who favor this idea to speak to their representatives, asking them to work for the adoption of an amendment at the present session. JOHN A. BILLINGS.

At the National Capital.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The single tax people of this city have determined to change the name of their organization from the anti-poverty society to the single tax league, and have rented a hall at 923 F street N.W., in which to hold regular meetings every Friday night except the second Friday of each month, when the meeting will be held on the Sunday evening following. At the meeting held January 5 the following officers were elected: Paul T. Bowen, president; Maurice Pechin, vice president; R. J. Boyd, treasurer, and Dr. William Geddes, secretary.

At the meeting held the 18th inst. Mr. Parkman read a very interesting and instructive paper upon the moral side of the land question, which was followed by remarks by Messrs. Pechin, Adams, Benbage, Hemmingway and others, in answer to questions from the audience.

Our next meeting on Friday, January 25, will be addressed by Mr. J. H. Ralston, an eminent lawyer of this city and a very enthusiastic and ardent worker in the cause in Maryland. It is proposed to devote one meeting at an early date to contracting builders, another for merchants, another for real estate dealers, others for land speculators, free traders, protectionists and so on. Friends and foes are invited to be present and take part in the discussions.

We have abolished the initiation fee and monthly dues which some of us thought hampered the old society, and will depend upon voluntary contributions and basket collections to pay the expense of the meetings, the circulation of petitions, literature, etc.

WILLIAM GEDDES, M.D.,

Secretary S. T. L., 1719 G street N.W.

A Few Single Tax Men Started the Ball Rolling.

OMAHA, Neb. Jan. 7.—The Australian voting system movement started here two weeks ago by a few single tax men, has already grown to great proportions and we now expect to carry the measure through the legislature this winter. The labor organizations are working harmoniously for the reform. By the time this reaches you a bill will have been presented in both branches of the legislature, and petitions urging its adoption will be rolling in. We hope every single tax man and reader of THE STANDARD in Nebraska will immediately get up two petitions, duplicates, and forward to his representatives in the house and senate for presentation to the legislature. The work must be done at once, and if well done will result in victory for the Australian ballot system in Nebraska. Three leading dailies of Omaha have published Mr. Post's article on the Australian system complete together with the cut illustrating the same. I would suggest to STANDARD readers not only in Nebraska but all over the union that this is an excellent way to extend the popularity of the Australian system. THE STANDARD will furnish the cut for \$1 postpaid, or it may be obtained from the Western newspaper union, Omaha, at the same price. Any paper will publish Mr. Post's article if the cut is furnished them. I hope each STANDARD reader in Nebraska will immediately write and forward to the legislature a ballot reform petition. Remember we are few in this state, and can only make a good showing if each one sends in a petition to each house of the legislature. JOHN E. EMBLEN.

A Meeting and a Proposed Organization.

CHESTER, Pa.—The single tax men of this place held a meeting a few nights ago at which Mr. H. V. Hetzel of Philadelphia addressed an audience of about sixty upon tax and ballot reform. As a result I now know of three converts to the cause. One a well known groceryman, another a local politician, the other a workingman. There are about thirty-six STANDARDS sold from the different news depots of this city, but only about twelve of the readers are acquainted with each other. We would like to know where the other twenty-four are. We advertised our meeting as a tax and ballot reform meeting. I suppose they did not recognize us as they did not materialize. If all readers of THE STANDARD in Chester who are willing to take part in organized work will write to the address given below we will see what can be done. WILLIAM L. MIDGETT, 418 Rose street.

Down in Denver.

The friends of free land in Denver, Col., including the Arbitrator newspaper are doing some very energetic work. They have been holding weekly meetings at the Olympic theatre, the proprietor of which, J. N. Halligan, has treated them most liberally.

The Knights of Labor Discussing It.

The Knights of Labor of Manistee, Mich., have begun to hold weekly meetings for the discussion of the single tax. The subject last Monday night was: Will the single tax, if applied to Manistee, lessen or increase the taxes of the poor man?

BALLOT REFORM.

There is a crying need for the reformation of the election laws. The democrats are clamorous for this action and if they show their earnestness by their works they will find the republicans not only willing but anxious to co-operate. Governor-elect Hovey has already expressed himself warmly in favor of such legislation. There is no obstacle whatever in the way, and if the state is not relieved this winter of the stigma of illegal voting and alleged bribery at the polls, it will be disgraceful to our people.—[Evansville, Ind., Journal (rep.)]

The incoming legislature will pass an election law that will deprive such men as Quay and Dudley of their occupation.—[Evansville, Ind., Courier (dem.)]

The widespread popular interest in election reform, and the overwhelming popular demand for it, are evidenced by the number of bills on the subject already introduced, or that are ready for introduction, in the legislature.—[Indianapolis Sentinel.]

There is every reason to believe that the legislature will duly and promptly yield to the popular demand for a measure of electoral reform. All parties and no parties are agreed that public safety insists upon reform.—[New Jersey Unionist.]

Assemblyman Saxton of New York says that he has received letters from about every state in the Union requesting copies of the electoral reform bill, and that it has been necessary to have an extra number printed.

Now that the legislature is fully organized and ready for business one of the first and most important subjects to engage its thoughtful attention should be the matter of election reform. As both parties stand committed to a promise of improvement in this direction, it only remains to decide upon the particular form the new legislation shall take.—[St. Paul Pioneer Press.]

The change in public and newspaper sentiment on this question since last November has been remarkable. Then a ballot reformer was a rarity; now he is the rule. Then the newspapers advocating a thorough and careful revision of our election laws with a view toward preserving the purity of the ballot could be counted on one's fingers. Now they number hundreds. The idea is spreading fast.—[Milwaukee Daily Review.]

The Michigan legislature will be recreant to their trust if they do not pass an election bill embodying the reforms necessary to an absolutely secret ballot.—[Detroit Evening News.]

There is no such thing as fair elections so long as purchased ballots go into the boxes, and the abuse has become very general.—[Kansas City Times.]

As far as the people understand the beauties of a secret ballot they demand it to a man. It seems to overshadow all other measures that will come before this legislature.—[Lewiston, Me., National Advocate.]

There is hope of election reform in Michigan. In the legislature three election bills were given notice of yesterday.—[Detroit Evening News, Jan. 10.]

The Lecture Bureau.

BOSTON, Mass.—Suggestions being now in order, I would like to offer a few which have formed in my mind by reason of the constant demands being made on me and my experiences as a speaker for the single tax. The objections which arise in the minds of speakers who would like to do more for the comrades in the interior do not seem to me insuperable. If a speaker could find the meetings all organized for him in such wise that he could speak each night, following a well advertised route, his expenses would be light, and the different leagues have little difficulty in paying him his expenses and a little besides.

Now in order that this can be done, let every league that is strong enough to hold a good meeting send in its application to the committee. Then let the committee arrange routes and call for volunteers among our recognized leaders. If Messrs. Post, Shearman, Reid and others can find it possible to give a couple of weeks from business and fill as many appointments on one of these circuits as possible, it will be possible to keep one or two men in the field all the time, and no man be forced to sacrifice his business.

I think I have made myself clear. The plan is to form a circuit or circuits and fill the appointments in rotation, holding a meeting every two or three weeks with a new speaker. Now, under such an arrangement, the leagues would find it possible to pay the speaker a small sum above his expenses five or (possibly) ten dollars, for the increased attendance would keep the treasury better supplied. Of course no man is in this thing for the money he can get out of it, but there are few of us who are not dependent on our every day labor with hand or brain to keep our heads above water, and as the "Christian Conference" said, the low priced evangelists don't pay after all, "the elements" need the best the country affords. We must use men who will draw crowds to hear the blessed word according to "Progress and Poverty."

This lecture arrangement ought to be a permanent thing, and it will be if organized on the right basis. Here is a good chance for some generous minded comrade to make good use of any superfluous cash he may have on hand. A few thousand dollars invested here would bring very large returns.

On the 18th I spoke at Winthrop and the following week at Southboro' and Marlboro'. I addressed the Jefferson club at Lynn last week, and was warmly indorsed by quite a number of the members. They were brought to a respectful attitude toward the single tax by our own stand on free trade.

HAMLEN GARLAND.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

BELFORD'S MAGAZINE.

Edited by Donn Platt.

Published monthly and devoted to literature, politics, science and art.

A complete long novel in each number.

The publishers of BELFORD'S MAGAZINE recognizing the fact that "revolutions never go backwards," have nailed the colors of TARIFF REFORM to the mast and "prepare to fight it out on this line" until the uninformed are educated up to the truth, that "unnecessary taxation is unjust taxation."

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The new powder, which is now used in the Germany army for sifting into the shoes and stockings of the foot soldiers, consists of three parts of salicylic acid, ten parts starch and eighty-seven parts pulverized soapstone. This mixture keeps the feet dry, prevents chafing and rapidly heals sore spots. Finely pulverized soapstone is also very good, though not so rapidly effective as this powder.

Electric Motor for Handling Cannon.

That electric motors have not, up to the present time, been adopted generally aboard merchant vessels, says S. D. Greene in *Electric Power*, is due principally to the fact that it is a branch of the business which has not been worked up commercially. Our navy, however, has taken a great interest in the possible development of the electric motor for ship use, and two of our new cruisers, the Chicago and Atlanta, will shortly have a practical demonstration of the application of motors in lieu of steam engines. One of the eight-inch breech loading rifles of the Chicago is to be handled entirely by motors; one motor, mounted on the carriage, will train the gun, and another smaller motor will be used for elevating or depressing. For the Atlanta, a combined drum and motor is to be used as a shell hoist. An ingenious hand device will be attached to the apparatus, by means of which, if the man tending it is disabled, the motor stops at once.

An Oil Cartridge to Quiet the Waves.

A cartridge has been invented by Mr. Albert H. Walker of Hartford, Conn., which, when filled with oil and discharged, will pacify the stormiest of seas. The receptacle is of ordinary cartridge size, but is made of heavy paper, and is weighted at the further end with a small piece of lead. It will hold about two ounces of oil. It is shot from an ordinary shell in a breech loader, and on striking the water immediately sinks and presumably bursts, whereupon the oil rises to the surface and spreads over a large area. It is said that a path one-eighth of a mile broad can be made by these cartridges through the heaviest sea.

The Dream of the Alchemist.

A cablegram from Munich last week announced that Dr. Kruss, a chemist of that city, has succeeded in decomposing cobalt and nickel, both of which have hitherto been supposed to be elementary substances. The New York Times interviewed Professor Chandler and Mr. A. R. Ledoux, an analytical chemist, to get their opinions as to the results of this discovery. Prof. Chandler doubted the truth of the statement, but said that if it was true it only helped to substantiate the theory that all of our supposed elementary substances are mere compounds and alloys. Mr. Ledoux said that further details would be awaited with great interest. He thought it might be some new process, the application of which to other elements would produce like results. If the statement is true, there would seem to be the opening up of a new field that, scientifically, might prove of intense interest. It would bring us a step nearer to a demonstration of the dreams of the ancient alchemists, that the precious metals were alloys and interchangeable. "If this were so," he might be, manufactured just as rubies are now manufactured, by a chemical process.

Shall Our Cities Have Decent Pavements?

The Philadelphia Record comments on an article in the Boston Transcript in which the threadbare argument is made about the team traffic of our cities being too heavy for the smooth asphalt pavement used in Europe. Says the Record: "Asphalt paving in the United States has been condemned mainly on account of imperfect construction. It is the best pavement known, when laid with a proper foundation, and one of the worst pavements when laid on a faulty underpinning. For a street on which there is heavy traffic there should be a bed of broken stone and concrete of a depth of twelve inches, properly compacted, on which the asphalt surface is spread. Such a roadway is almost indestructible. After ten years' use in Cheapside, London—where the traffic is constant and trying—asphalt paving, thus constructed, remained as good as new. But it will not sustain the weight of heavily loaded vehicles if laid upon five or six inches of stone foundation; a solid support is necessary. The cobbles already in Philadelphia streets when broken up would furnish a part of the necessary groundwork for an asphalt covering. The asphalt, properly constructed, is an incomparable paving. It is smooth, clean, noiseless and easily kept swept and in repair. It will outwear the granite."

Bigger Than the Lick Telescope.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

To Professor W. H. Pickering of Harvard observatory has been assigned the task of finding a suitable site for the big forty inch equatorial telescope which the university of Southern California will put up as soon as it can be constructed. Wilson's peak, near Los Angeles, has been suggested as the best site for the telescope, which will be the largest in the world. Professor Pickering will mount a sixteen inch telescope with which to make observations to determine whether the atmospheric conditions are favorable. These observations may extend over six months. As to the practicability of making a perfect forty inch lens, Professor Pickering has no doubt about it. The successful casting and finishing of the thirty-six inch Lick lens make it certain that one of forty inches can be completed as well. Professor Pickering has another mission to perform in finding a suitable location for a twenty-four inch lens telescope for astronomical photography. He can give no idea now of the probable site of this great instrument.

PERSONAL.

R. W. Harrison of Ann Arbor asks, "Why can we not have a conference of Michigan single tax men?" He suggests Lansing as the best place. Mr. Harrison's address is 30 E. Huron street.

A. S. Bailey, editor of the Clarinda, Iowa, Journal, is single tax way up to the hilt, and is one of the fast increasing number of journalists who, day in and day out, are busy pointing out the beauties of our principle.

W. J. Gorsuch, the eloquent speaker and earnest worker in the single tax cause, is about to leave New York to become the manager of the Keystone watch club agency at Bridgeport, Conn., where during his spare moments he hopes to start afresh on the work of propaganda.

John Nemeth of Hazelton, Pa., is writing articles in favor of the single tax for the *Amerikasho Slovenske Noveny*, the widely circulated Slavish organ of Pittsburgh. When he has thoroughly explained the system in Slavish, Mr. Nemeth will go over the same ground in Hungarian.

H. V. Place of Jeffersonville, Ind., is working hard to spread the light. He thinks the best policy for single tax men to at present pursue is to keep up a lively agitation all over the country, and not concentrate on any state until some state takes the lead, and then render all the assistance possible.

Peter McGill, of Milwaukee, is keeping up the work among his friends and acquaintances, and has made a wide swath of conversions to the faith. The most important thing about it is that these new votaries are men of wide influence—bankers, clergymen and lawyers. Long live Peter McGill.

Mr. A. B. Stoddard, of West Brighton, publishes in the Staten Island Star an open letter to Mr. Boyd, president of the village improvement association, declining to become a member. He insists that improvements will increase the taxes on those who use property, whether owners or tenants, and inure chiefly to the advantage of the owners of vacant land held for speculation. The cost of living will be increased while the majority of the people will find their incomes the same. So long as this condition continues Mr. Stoddard will not be an accomplice in bringing about any improvements.

J. P. Mather, of Augusta, Kansas, writes to say that he has just finished reading "Social Problems," "Progress and Poverty" and "Protection or Free Trade" and thinks they get down pretty near bed rock, and he wants to do what he can to help along the cause. He says of himself: "I came to Kansas with a large family of small children. I now have eight children married, and doing reasonably well, and twenty-eight grandchildren. From this I may say that I have done what I could to build up the west. This brings me up to nearly seventy-four years of age. But still I sleep well and have a very good appetite, and if experience is worth anything, I think I should be credited with some chunks of wisdom. Still I am not too old to learn, and don't expect to know it all."

The Way Edison Works.

Edison's many inventions are due perhaps as much to his extraordinary capacity for hard work as to his inventive genius. His comprehension is rarely dulled by fatigue. The last thing he does at night is to quickly to run over every one of the numerous designs in the hands of his twenty-five designers and take in the progress and possibilities of each at a glance. The first thing in the morning he goes the same rounds again, discusses each of the designs with the worker, suggesting here, adding there, changing in the details, in a way that shows he has given each design mature thought since the examination of the night before.

Life.

Bailey.
We live in deeds, not years; in thoughts not breath;
In feelings, not in figures on a dial.
We should count time by heart throbs. He most lives
Who thinks most; feels the noblest; acts the best.

Pullman Cars in England.

The new Pullman car train which is now running to Brighton touches highwater mark, says the London Echo, in the matter of excellent railway rolling stock. It is a pity, however, that the cars could not be built in this country. The engine is a magnificent piece of work, and it was produced here, but the cars were made at the Pullman car works at Detroit. They were sent here in parts in packing cases, and then put together in the Brighton company's works at Brighton. Surely, our car builders ought to be able to compete successfully with makers who are handicapped by distance and high wages, as the Pullman people are. Is it not another case of want of taste, skill and enterprise? The cars cost about £3,000 each.

The Floating Logs and the Ocean Currents.

Mr. Leary, of big raft fame, may console himself for the loss of the great raft that broke up off the New England coast with the knowledge that the logs are not floating in vain. They are still making their way eastward and southward in large numbers and when sighted by vessels their exact position is noted and a memorandum sent to the Hydrographic office in Washington. Already many of these reports have been received and compared and the result is a chart, that could not have been obtained in any other way, showing the courses of various ocean currents.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

B. C. K., St. Louis, Mo.—Your appreciative words relative to "Society Notes" are very gratifying. Please keep on sending items.

J. P. Mather, Augusta, Kas.—You should get some of the blank forms of the petition to congress and circulate them for signatures. We want somebody to wake up things in your region.

George A. Vaugh, Buffalo, N.Y.—We know of no active organization in your city. Cannot you gather your friends together and form one?

T. Jackson, New York.—You haven't got the thing quite right. What the New York Press believes, or thinks it believes, is that a tariff is not a tax, or if it is a tax that the foreigner pays it, or if the foreigner don't pay it it's not very much of a tax, any way.

R. G. Dixon, Iron Mountain, Mich.—The clause you refer to in the new Saxton electoral reform bill is all right. No voter can take another person into the booth with him unless he is "physically" unable to mark his ballot.

H. L. K., Burlington, Vt.—Should like to use Mr. L's name as you suggest. Ask him if we may.

Arthur Groves, La Due, Mo.—Have forwarded your letter with contents to the editor of the *Tax Reform Advocate*. His address is, care Union printing company, 15 Vandewater street, New York city.

C. A. R., Horse Creek, Ala.—The information contained in your clipping we have already gathered elsewhere. Hope you will continue on the lookout for anything interesting.

Mrs. H. C. B., New York.—We have at present no intention of making any further change in the shape of THE STANDARD so that you may save your copies for binding.

E. Q., Cincinnati.—Yes, the tithe war in Wales goes merrily along. We learn from an English exchange that Rev. David Williams, rector of Llandyrnog, has been celebrating Christmas tide by "levying a distress on the goods" of a farmer. When he attempted to serve the writ the "police constable" (sheriff) was met by the farmer's angry threat, backed up by a double barreled shot gun.

W. W. C., Wyandotte.—Glad to have your criticisms. Have used extract.

H. Gee, West New Brighton.—Your subscription received. Have sent Mr. Croasdale the four signed petitions.

C. C. P., Ithaca.—Had not seen the pamphlet. We can make good use of it. Send us anything more of the kind you run across.

To Organize a Club in Wheeling.

WHEELING, W. Va., Jan. 15.—An effort is about to be made to form a single tax club in this city, but to be successful it is necessary for us to have the co-operation of all single tax men here. Two efforts have before been made, but owing to the apathy of our friends and the opposition of our enemies, they have been unsuccessful. It is to be hoped that all single tax men in the city will communicate with me at once.

JOHN L. FRANK,

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Gladstone on John Stuart Mill.

In Mr. W. L. Courtney's "Life of Mill," which Mr. Walter Scott recently published, there is a letter from Mr. Gladstone on Mill's career in parliament. "We knew," says Gladstone, Mr. Mill's intellectual eminence before he entered parliament. What his conduct there principally disclosed, at least to me, was his singular moral elevation.

"I remember now that at the time, more than twenty years back, I used familiarly to call him the saint of Rationalism, a phrase roughly and partially expressing what I now mean. Of all the motives, stings, and stimulants that reach men through their egoism in parliament, no part could move or even touch him. His conduct and his language were, in this respect, a sermon. Again, though he was a philosopher, he was not, I think, a man of crotchets. He had, I think, the good sense and practical tact of politics, together with the high independent thought of a recluse.

"I need not tell you," Mr. Gladstone adds, "that for the sake of the house of commons at large, I rejoiced in his advent and deplored his disappearance. He did us all good. In whatever party, whatever form of opinion, I sorrowfully confess that such men are rare."

Spoiling the Egyptians.

Henry Labouchere in London Truth.

Parliament will have to turn its attention shortly to the ingenious dodges by which the church authorities in some districts succeed in exacting church-rates from the unsuspecting rate payer. I was much interested by an account in an evening contemporary the other day of the way the trick is worked at Liverpool. All that is necessary is to obtain the co-operation of a devout or interested rate-collector. This being done, the church-rate (at Liverpool one penny in the pound) is printed in the same list with the poor and other rates, under the description, "Voluntary Rate, 1888, at one penny in the pound; by order of the General Vestry, for church and other purposes." This item is added up in the same column with the others, and there is nothing in the world to inform the innocent householder that he is under no compulsion whatever to pay the rate, beyond the mysterious term "voluntary rate, and the fact that the words and the amount are printed in red ink. I do not doubt that substantial amounts are obtained in this way which would never be obtained if the nature of the demand were properly ex-

plained; and if that is not obtaining money under false pretenses, I do not understand the nature of that offence.

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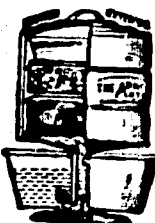
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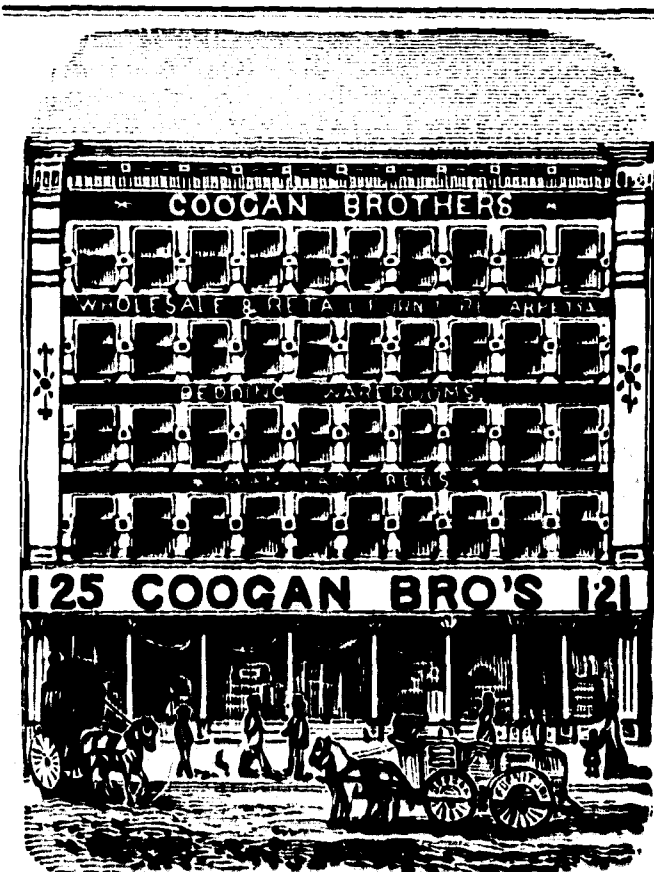
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