

THE STANDARD

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SOAP AND THE TARIFF.—In our news columns will be found an article entitled "A Tariff Liar Caught and Exposed." The title is harsh, but the epithet is deserved. The little item that was the immediate occasion of the correspondence is a fair sample of a kind of so-called news constantly set afloat by the men who are trying to bolster up the tottering protection delusion. The man who wrote the item probably did not know that he was misstating facts. He probably did not know much of anything. On the other hand, he made no attempt to find out the truth. Because Pears' soap happened to be marked 6d. he assumed that it could not be bought in England for less than that. Because some merchants choose to attract customers by offering a standard article like this at or under cost, he assumed that the English manufacturers paid the duty, in order to sell their goods as cheaply in this country as in England. All was assumption without even reasoning about the matter, much less seeking to ascertain the truth.

Such carelessness, however, though blameworthy, is not criminal. Many statements no better founded go into the newspapers as facts, simply because it is too much trouble to investigate everything. No such excuse, however, can be offered for the conduct of the Inter Ocean after the receipt of the letter of Gaunt & Janvier. Here was a positive disproof of the paper's statements by the American agents for Pear's soap, who probably handle every pound of it that comes to this country for sale. The paper turned this letter over to its "tariff editor," probably a young man whose sole business is setting forth such statements as that which led to the controversy and the collection of similar statements from other papers. He makes an answer that is evasive, and which, even if true, would condemn him. How could any general statement about cost be founded on prices paid by proprietors of Western "racket" stores for job lots of damaged or shop-worn goods? But in this case the story is persisted in for the obvious purpose of creating a wilfully false inference. Gaunt & Janvier are a responsible firm, and if this "tariff editor" had not known that the statement he was trying to back up was false, he would have taken advantage of the opportunity to obtain the \$5,000 offered. Whatever may be said by way of excuse for the original statement, the attempt to bolster it up is a conscious deceit practiced by an editor on his readers. This is characteristic of the tactics of the protectionists. They will not argue on theories. They want to be practical, they say, and stick to the facts, and this gives them opportunity to consciously and habitually lie. There is no other word for it. It is not exaggeration, prevarication or self-deception, it is bold, shameless lying, with deliberate intent to deceive.

When it comes to general principles or practice they dogmatize. Think of this fellow, with his school-boy style, telling the head of a big importing firm that "tariff very seldom, very seldom indeed, is added to cost." He had not even learned the lesson his own masters had set for him. They admit that tariff is added to the cost of imported goods by the criminal class known as importers, but they insist that the truly good American manufacturers do not take advantage of this to put up the price of their own goods. That is a falsehood, but it has the sanction of the orthodox

protectionists, and is not so preposterously absurd as the statement quoted.

By the way, the Republican papers seem all to be taking on "tariff editors" since the tariff fight has become serious. The "tariff editor" is a new institution with which we are not yet familiar. We should suppose he would be a solemn and laboriously misinformed man, but this Mr. Tindall does not seem to be such a person, and the only other known specimen is the Tribune's "tariff editor," Ex-Congressman Horr, who missed his vocation by being born after kings had given up keeping court fools. This soap episode suggests imbecility as a characteristic of the "tariff editor" in Chicago. Until Philadelphia produces its specimen, however, the real characteristics of the simon pure article will not be known. This is the one thing outside of gastronomy and "blood" in which Philadelphia's word is final.

LET HILL RUN AGAIN!—Many well-informed politicians scout the idea that Governor Hill will attempt to run again for the office of Governor. Perhaps they are right, but his henchmen are beginning to suggest that it may be necessary for him to "make the sacrifice in order to harmonize the party," etc. These men have the idea that the object of the Democratic party's existence in New York is to keep the Hill gang in power, and that the one thing on which all Democrats will instinctively agree is the continued control of the party's affairs by this selfish, scheming office grabber. Hence it was necessary that Hill should "sacrifice himself" by taking the United States Senatorship while still holding the office of Governor, and continue to hold on to the latter office after accepting the former. They now want him to "sacrifice himself" again by trying to get a nomination for a third full term as Governor.

So far as THE STANDARD is concerned it will not be sorry if these schemers succeed. Hill's inclinations are certainly with them, for in the Senate he will be "like a cat in a strange garret," while in the atmosphere of dirty intrigue that has pervaded the executive mansion ever since he entered it this former vote briber at the polls of Elmira breathes his native air. Hill became Governor when Cleveland was elected President in 1884, so that on the completion of his second full term he will have "sacrificed himself" for eight years, and he now is dallying with the thought of making his term eleven years in all. In less than eight years he has demoralized his party, and left it without any machinery for the propagation of Democratic principles, when no personal or pecuniary interest is at stake, and he has managed in some way to stifle all attempts at protest or opposition by decent Democrats, who are such from principle. The Democrats in the Legislature meekly follow him in resisting an investigation of the management of the canal by his own creatures, and the Democratic party is thus made responsible for his character and conduct. There can be no Democratic party fit for any good purpose in this State until not merely Hill, but Hillism, is crushed and trampled under foot.

Let him then run again, by all means. The year 1891 is a good one for the purpose. There will be no national issues at stake in that election. The men who want to see in this State a real Democratic party, rep-

resenting Democratic principles, will not fail to use their opportunity. We will bury this petty intriguer under a majority so enormous that even he will understand the contempt of an outraged people and sneak to his seat in the Senate like a whipped cur. By all means let Hill run again. His candidacy would be equivalent to giving all the abhorrent influences in New York politics a single neck and baring that neck to the headsman's axe of the public wrath. The suggestion is alluring beyond any other political prospect that we can even imagine. Hill's friends represent him as fond of sacrifice. We will give him his fill of it.

NEW POLITICAL MACHINERY.—While people are lamenting the domination of both parties by their respective machines, it is becoming a question whether these machines are not being weakened by the new forces that a serious contest on principles have aroused to activity. The Republican organs are greatly delighted over the plan of campaign determined on by the National League of Republican Clubs. We doubt if any body of men that endorsed the Congress of Abominations and all its works can get closely enough into touch with the people to accomplish much, but the significant thing is that the Republican papers are manifestly looking to this voluntary organization, rather than to the Republican National Committee, for all the political work that is to be done for that party during this year. This cannot fail, in the long run, to weaken the power and prestige of the regular machinery.

Senator Gorman was doubtless clever enough to see this, for he promptly captured and reduced to "innocuous desuetude" the similar organization of Democratic clubs. But like work has been done by volunteer organizations in several of the States. The astonishing revolution that has taken place in the Democratic party of Massachusetts was effected in this way: A lot of old hens had been setting on the party for thirty years, waiting for it to hatch, except for a short time after Ben Butler rudely scared them off the nest. Some years ago a lot of bright young men organized a club and went to work. They demonstrated their fitness and won public confidence. In a short time about all the money that could be obtained for legitimate political purposes was given to them instead of to the regular machine, and some time ago they captured the State Committee, and they now run the party's affairs, and will before long make Massachusetts a safely Democratic State. We have never heard what became of the hens.

Here in New York something of the kind might have been done, but for some reason no one has attempted it. A great deal has been accomplished, however. The Reform Club has done more to educate the people into an understanding of the tariff question than all other organizations put together. It actually managed the Congressional campaign in the State north of this city last Fall, supplying all the documents and speakers, the State Committee doing nothing. The opposing forces are also independent of the regular machine. Hill's own machine is still something apart from the State Committee, though not so much so as it was two years ago. The far more efficient machine of the liquor dealers has nothing to do either with the State Committee or the Democratic party. It is organized on strictly business principles for the benefit of its contributing members, and it has no more affection for Hill than it has for a bung starter. Both are useful tools, and it will take care of them so long as they are needed. The liquor machine has, however, grown at the expense of the power and prestige of the Democratic State Committee.

There does not seem to have been any design in all this. The old fellows held all the important party places, and in the game of fifteen politics that preceded Cleveland's tariff message they were the best men. The business then was to pick out a group of States having enough electoral votes to choose a President and make a platform that could be interpreted to suit every interest and faction in the selected States, and that should antagonize the opposing party as little as possible on the tariff question. When the time came for declaring for a principle and then educating voters up to its acceptance, the old game of fifteen politicians were dazed and bewildered. They did not understand that kind of politics. In fact they did not believe it was politics at all, and threw every possible obstacle in the way of such a foolish experiment, designating those engaged in it as "rainbow chasers."

In off years, however, the new forces in politics have gone on with their educational work, and the recent Congressional elections demonstrated its value and effectiveness. It is about time that these same forces were beginning to take charge of the great campaigns. Theirs is the only plan by which victory can be won for political principles. Let them imitate the example of Massachusetts, shoo off the old hens, take command and go to work. This is especially important here in New York.

THE SPEAKERSHIP.—For some reason the Commercial Advertiser of this city is in favor of Mr. Crisp and against Mr. Mills in the contest for the Speakership of the House of Representatives. It recently published a special Washington dispatch that openly advocated Crisp and sneered at Mills, one passage in which was as follows:

The Democratic party is an anti-protectionist party, but if Mr. Mills' friends read every one out of the party who is not ready to set fire to the custom houses at once without providing any other means of revenue, they will be very likely to do the party considerable harm without doing him any good. Mr. Crisp is a Free Trader—as orthodox as Carlisle or McMillan.

It is, of course, gratifying to find Mr. Crisp's belief in Free Trade put forward as a plea for his election to the Speakership, yet this paragraph displays the spirit that animates the opposition to Mr. Mills. It is a clever appeal for support for Crisp on the ground that Mills is too radical and pronounced a Free Trader. Surprising as this dispatch is the Commercial editorial utterances are even more so. The paper intimates that Mills is trying to win by "shouting," and says:

Some of his supporters, amongst the Free Trade wing of the party, are seeking to secure for him the votes of all the Free Traders on the ground that his leading opponent is not earnest for the cause. These men forget that the cause is not Free Trade, but tariff reform; and that, in so far as the next Congress can affect the tariff, all Democrats will be united on every test vote. The important thing is not to secure a good tariff reformer—one could throw the mace across the hall without hitting such a Democrat—but to secure a capable Speaker, a man fitted by temperament, experience and ability to conduct the proceedings of the House in an orderly and useful manner. Thus, Mr. Mills has repeatedly shown he is not; and this Mr. Crisp undoubtedly is. That is all there is in the Speakership question.

Here is where our usually level-headed contemporary is wrong. There is a great deal more than that in the Speakership. The Speaker appoints the committees of the House, and the character and tendency of the legislation depends on the constitution of these committees. The Free Traders do not forget that the cause is tariff reform, but they are determined that henceforth the question shall be one of principles instead of one of percentages. They know perfectly well that Free Trade cannot be had in a day, but they want the tariff reformed in the direction of Free Trade and on grounds that appeal to the convictions of Free Traders. Mr. Mills stands for that idea. His election will be accepted as committing the Democratic party to a policy of courage and candor on the tariff question, and not to one of shuffling and apology. Rightly or

wrongly, Mr. Crisp's election will be interpreted as meaning the very opposite of this, if for no other reason, because all of the Democrats still tinged with Randallism are for him, while his advocates—even the Free Traders among them—seek to create prejudice against Mr. Mills because of his outspoken Free Trade sentiments. The Free Trade Democrats know what they are about, and we hope they will succeed in electing Mr. Mills.

CUT DOWN APPROPRIATIONS.—There appeared last week an editorial article in the New York Times which pointed out clearly the responsibility of the Republican Congress for the extravagant expenditures involved in the appropriation of a thousand million dollars, and then went on to expatiate on the exceeding difficulty that the Democratic Congress will have in making any retrenchment. It is not merely that there is a Republican Senate that stands in the way of any proper legislation, according to the Times, but there is an inherent difficulty in the situation, arising from the fact that the Republican legislation has authorized contracts, promised pensions and provided for subsidies that will compel very large appropriations by any House.

We should like to know what inspired such an article, at this time. The Democratic majority in the next House of Representatives will be looked to by the people for a persistent effort to undo the evil legislation of the Robber Congress. Where the Democrats cannot accomplish this through the refusal of the Senate to concur, that fact must be made manifest to the people, in order that they may understand the necessity of electing Democratic State Legislatures to break the power of the robbers and plutocrats in the Senate. We hope they will have the courage to attack the infamous thievery of the pension legislation; but at least they should repeal everything in the shape of a bounty bill, whether it applies to sugar or to ships.

More important still, they should refuse to appropriate one single penny beyond the reasonably anticipated receipts from the tax laws that the Senate insists on maintaining, and they should bring these people face to face with the inevitable crisis that must follow such legislation as that enacted by the Congress of Abominations. They want no excuses in advance, they want none during their session, and they will want none after that session has closed. They must reduce expenditures and let the thieves and beggars, who think they have a ten years' privilege to rob the people, look to other than Democratic legislation for continuing their power of robbery.

THE "SURE-ENOUGH" CITIZENS' ALLIANCE.

—THE STANDARD's suggestion that, while the Farmers and the Knights of Labor might organize an honest third party, the dreadful politicians could easily get in through the Citizens' Alliances, seems to have startled many of those immediately concerned. Thomas W. Gilruth, of Kansas City, Mo., writes to the Knights of Labor Journal endorsing THE STANDARD's statement, and declaring that "the 'Citizen's Alliance,' as organized at present, is a dangerous institution, and is well calculated to be the means through which the old boodle party politicians will try to control the reform movement." These dangerous Alliances, he says, are no part of "the great and rapidly-growing National Citizens' Industrial Alliance, which was organized at Topeka, Kan., January 13 to 19, 1891, by delegates from nineteen States, chosen from 1,300 Sub-Alliances, 250 delegates being present, and who adopted Constitutions, By-Laws and Ritual, which absolutely require every member to drop old party allegiance to

work for the emancipation of the wealth-producing classes, and demanding that those who create all wealth shall participate in and enjoy the result of their industry."

Mr. Gilruth asks everybody to "remember these truths for the sake of God, our country and our homes." We will; and we ask all others to remember that the only sure-enough, Simon-pure, brass-lined, copper-fastened, none-genuine-without-the-maker's-name-on-the-cover Citizens' Alliance, is that presided over by Mr. Gilruth, and we warn Bob Blissert and his ilk that they must not attempt to palm off on unsophisticated New Yorkers as a genuine Kansas product any home-made imitation.

OUR NEW DEPARTMENT.—The "Story of the Week" in the last issue of THE STANDARD has called forth much commendation. One subscriber to the paper in New Britain says that as he is not a Single Tax man he had almost concluded to stop taking THE STANDARD, but since seeing the first "Story of the Week" he had changed his mind and concluded to renew for a time. Mr. Hoch, Mayor of Adrian, Michigan, writes:

The "Story of the Week" in the last issue of THE STANDARD in circular form would help Single Tax men in procuring subscribers. You have hit upon an excellent idea and will make your paper more desirable than ever.

John C. Fletcher, of Brooklyn, says: "I am so delighted with the first installment of the 'Story of the Week' that I am impelled to let you know the pleasure it has given me." Mr. Fletcher says that he has often wanted to get just such information and has found it difficult to obtain, even with much labor and research. The meeting of this very want his is precisely what the department was started for, and we are glad to have such prompt evidence that it is appreciated. We hope, eventually, to cover the field of current opinion as expressed in books and magazines as thoroughly as we are now covering that of current events.

A FREE TRADE PARTY.—In the course of an "I told you so" editorial, the Knights of Labor Journal undertakes to show that THE STANDARD, in its article on Governor Hill's letter to the Free Trade meeting has confessed "its disappointment and disgust at the treatment received by the Free Trade propagandists from those officially entitled to speak for the Democratic party," and substantially abandoned its opposition to "the starting of a third political party on the Single Tax and Labor Reform platform." It is really queer if we have done all that without finding it out ourselves. THE STANDARD has never disguised or concealed its reason for supporting the Democratic party. On the contrary, it has proclaimed it. That party is attacking the protection delusion and, consciously or unconsciously, tending toward a demand for Free Trade. We hope to keep its head in that direction, and to accelerate its motion, not merely through the influence of the Single Taxers, but through that of all Free Traders.

We are perfectly aware of the fact that within the Democratic party are men who would gladly put an end to this tendency, and who do not want the party to commit itself to any principle that would antagonize vested interests, and compel it to defend its ideas by arguments. Governor Hill is the most conspicuous and unscrupulous, though not the ablest of these men. We deny that he speaks for the Democratic party of the United States or for anything beyond the mere machine in this State. We said, however, that if he does speak for the Democratic party in opposing Free Trade, then THE STANDARD has no use for the Democratic party,

and would favor starting a Free Trade party. We say so still.

If that exigency shall arise, will the Knights of Labor Journal support such a party?

THE REVOLT OF THE STECKLERS.—The formal withdrawal of the Steckler brothers from Tammany Hall does not of itself reflect on that organization. The Stecklers have been a part and parcel of it ever since they left the Republican party, and carried with them the Tenth Assembly District. The cause of their present grievance is the failure to appoint Alfred Steckler as a Judge of Superior or Supreme Court. The general opinion seems to be that Mr. Steckler, who is now a Civil Justice, is not qualified for the position he demanded, and if Tammany refused to endorse him on that ground it is entitled to credit for its action.

Nevertheless, this secession reveals the essential weakness of the Tammany organization. Alfred Steckler bolted from the Republicans because they would not give him the nomination for Civil Justice for the Fourth District. He was elected as an Independent and went with his brothers into Tammany Hall, his brother Charles subsequently becoming Tammany leader of the District. Since that time the Tammany men say the District has been run entirely in the interests of the Steckler Association, without regard to those of Tammany. There does not seem to have been any political principle at stake in any of the changes made by the Stecklers, and no one has any idea now whether they will go back to the Republicans, join fortunes with the Counties, or set up in the business of politics independently for themselves. They are simply in politics for what they can make out of it and not inspired by any sincere affection for any faction or party. Tammany, however, is largely composed of and run by such men, and the more completely it monopolizes all the patronage of the city the more certain it is to encounter revolts inspired by disappointed ambition.

While the revolt of the Stecklers, then, is not of itself a thing over which any of the advocates of better municipal government can rejoice, it is a valuable and important sign that the corporation which now manages New York politics has not any assurance of continued power because of its present control of the city.

AN EXCELLENT BEGINNING.—The Publisher's Notes this week demonstrate that the sending out of recruit subscriptions has already begun to have some effect. The actual number of new subscriptions is not large, but the letters from several of those who have used the books show that where Single Tax men go about the work properly, and with zeal, that they can obtain subscribers. Some workers write complaining of the price. It is useless to attempt to reopen that question. Precisely the same criticism was made when Henry George offered the paper to clubs at \$2 a year. The men who would rather criticize than work then thought the price ought to be \$1. Such a paper as THE STANDARD cannot be made for \$1 a year, and it cannot be made for \$2 a year unless it can have 100,000 circulation. It can be made successful and reasonably profitable at its present price if the Single Tax men of the United States will put all minor matters aside and go to work, as a few of them have already done. There are very few men interested in such a movement as this who cannot raise \$1 every four months for anything that they want badly, or who do not, as a matter of fact, spend many times that amount for things of less importance than the assurance of the success of the

paper that has done more than any other single agency in forwarding our cause.

Of course, it cannot please everybody. No paper could. The question is, is it worth while for Single Tax men to maintain a Single Tax paper? The matter concerns them quite as much as it does the editor of THE STANDARD, and the decision rests with them. The paper is not in any need of their pecuniary assistance. What it needs to make it an assured success is more subscribers, and whenever it is evident that its friends intend to give it the necessary circulation, there will be no hesitation about putting in the necessary capital to improve it, so that its influence may be extended beyond our own immediate circle. All that is required is enthusiastic and persistent work. Workers need no longer confine their efforts to Single Tax men. All Free Traders are well disposed toward the paper, and the recruit subscriptions offer a handy way of introducing it to the attention of such people. Merely sending a recruit subscription is not enough, however. That must be followed up by personal work, and the extracts from letters in our "Publisher's Notes" this week demonstrate that where such work is done it accomplishes practical results. These notes will keep those who are interested fully informed, and it is not our purpose to discuss the matter editorially again. It is for the Single Tax men to say for themselves whether they will go to work and increase the circulation of THE STANDARD five thousand during the months of May and June. They can do it if they will, and if they do it we will still further improve the paper before they have half done their part.

UNCHRISTIAN CONDUCT.—Rev. Charles E. Garst, of Japan, has an article on the "Inheritance of Man" in the Cincinnati Christian Standard of April 11, which is a pretty sound Single Tax argument, quite as much so perhaps as could have obtained entrance to a religious paper at present. The editor, however, seems, himself, to have obtained a glimpse of the cat, for in commenting on the attempt of the Lewis crofters to take possession of their ruined homes the Standard editorially says:

How any landlord in a Christian land can bring himself to drive human beings abroad homeless, to give their fields to wild beasts, is past understanding; and how any Christian government can permit such a thing to be done is equally puzzling. It is the Ahab and Naboth business over again with aggravations.

If the Christian Standard would look into the matter a little more closely it would see that all that is necessary is for Christian governments to cease to maintain a system of taxation that offers to men a premium for doing such unchristian acts.

FOOLISH WRATH.—Some time ago THE STANDARD made a brief condensation of a story that had been printed in a number of Western papers to the effect that Walter Muir, President of the North Dakota Farmers' Alliance, had been elected pound-master of the town of Hunter. It seems that the story was not true, and the local Alliance of Hunter has passed resolutions denouncing the Fargo Argus and Fargo Republican for printing a false and malicious statement. N. W. Beard, president, and S. D. Richardson, secretary, of the same Alliance, send to THE STANDARD a formal declaration that the statement is false, and that they condemn its author as a liar, and request us to publish his name. How silly! We do not know who the author is, and are cheerfully willing to make the correction; but the story is simply a joke that no sensible man would get angry about, and it ought to have been obvious to them that THE STANDARD could by no possibility know who starts the stories printed in their local papers. Mr. Muir is a Single Tax man. Why should we desire to ridicule him?

WHEAT AND THE TARIFF.—The crops of wheat and corn in this country last year were deficient, but all present indications point to a large wheat crop this year. On the other hand, the indications for a large crop in Europe are unfavorable, and there is therefore every prospect that the export prices will be much higher than they have been for some time past. In fact, there has recently been a sharp advance in both wheat and corn for May delivery. The tendency of this will be to relieve, to some extent, the present pressure on farmers, but we doubt if it will have the effect of diverting their attention from the subject of the tariff. Now that their attention has once been called to that question, they will see that any rise in prices is due to foreign demand, and will understand that, but for the tariff, they would receive a larger quantity of goods in return for their wheat than is now possible. The home market humbug will therefore receive a new blow. Now that people have come to think about the question every change, no matter which way it goes, tends to break down the protection delusion.

NONSENSE!—"The owners of personal property must sooner or later abandon their fight to maintain tax exemption," say the Christian Union, because "the revolt against this abuse is now so strong that the owners of personalty are seriously threatened with a system which means for them not tax exemption, but double taxation." Nonsense! If in thousands of years people have not found out how to successfully tax personal property once, they are not likely to be able now to tax it twice. The trouble is that taxation is a problem that neither farmers nor preachers can wrestle with without a little study and thought. Hence proposed listing bills and this editorial in the Christian Union.

SECRETARY TRACY'S VINDICTIVENESS.

I do not know what is the extent of authority conferred upon a bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church, but if "Father Ignatius" is to be credited, it is quite equal to that of the Secretary of the Navy over his subordinates.

I venture the assertion that Bishop Potter would not exercise it as Secretary Tracy has done, for the simple reason that he is a Christian and a gentleman. The terms are almost synonymous. They both imply a willingness to do as one would be done by, a virtue of religion and of politeness which Secretary Tracy has by no means exhibited in his dealing with Commander Reiter.

Let us imagine, if it be possible to imagine such a thing, the reprimand and suspension of Dr. Heter Newton by the Bishop and his refusal, after this sentence had been passed, to accede to a modest request for an ecclesiastical court to determine whether this clergyman thus degraded was guilty of the charges brought against him or not.

Would Dr. Newton receive an insolent refusal to this just demand?

But supposing that the Bishop had been guilty of this inconceivable rudeness, and had suspended the offending clergyman, by what force of imagination can we think of his writing, after the lapse of several months, a paragraph which, so far from restoring Dr. Newton to his functions as a priest, would be an addition of insult to injury, and intended still further to humiliate him?

Such as this for instance: "I never intended to keep Dr. Newton suspended. I have dealt with him as I thought he should be dealt with, and there is the end of it. He is now relieved from discipline, but is not reinstated in his former functions. He was relieved from the rectorship of All Souls Church, and is now assigned to the mission church of St. Mary's, Lake Mohegan, which is something very different. Dr. Newton is peculiarly well fitted for the work to which I have now assigned him."

Would anyone call this a "reinstatement?" Now, this parallel is exact throughout down to the very words used by the Secretary:

I never intended to keep Mr. Reiter suspended. I have dealt with him as I thought he should be dealt with, and that is the end of it. He is now relieved from discipline, but is not reinstated in his former position. He was relieved of the command of a man-of-war and is now assigned to a coast survey vessel, which is something very different. Mr. Reiter is peculiarly well fitted for the work to which I have now assigned him.

As the Evening Post remarks:

The tone of this statement is in thorough keeping with all

the Secretary's previous utterances in this most unbecoming incident in Navy Department management. From the beginning to the end Commander Reiter has been treated in a most insolent and brutal manner, showered with "newspaper abuse," in the guise of official letters, refused a fair hearing through a court of inquiry, refused also a statement of the law, for the alleged violation of which he was publicly denounced, and finally, when he is reinstated, the Secretary comes forward with a statement that it does not mean vindication, since he is assigned to another kind of duty.

The Press has the candor to tell the truth in the beginning of this paragraph, and the malignity to tell a falsehood at its close.

The Secretary has made and will make no modification of his position in censuring Commander Reiter. His duties under the present order are purely scientific. The Thetis carries no guns, and the commander is, therefore, in fully as deep disgrace in command of her as he was after he allowed the United States flag to be disgraced by Barrundia's murder.

It is as far as possible from a "vindication." It is vindictiveness. It is future punishment, to be put in charge of an old whaling tub (bought of Englishmen by our Government which does not allow its own people to buy ships when, like it they are in need of them), and to be told "you are just fit to take soundings, but you are not fit to handle guns."

There is nothing to compare with the arbitrary conduct of this Secretary of the Navy but that of one of his predecessors. Although Commander Gorrings is dead, he yet speaketh, and ex-Secretary-Senator Chandler's dreams may sometimes be disturbed by the voice. In naval and in shipping circles the incident is not likely to be forgotten. Gorrings had had an honorable career in the merchant service as well as in the navy. Understanding well the requirements of his former shipmates he wrote a long and able letter to the Evening Post advocating the policy of free ships. Had he favored the Roach-Chandler combination for subsidies and bounties, nothing would have come of it excepting possibly his promotion. But he merely argued that any man ought to be allowed to use his own money to buy his own ship, and that was so totally opposed to their idea that the money of the Government should be stolen for that purpose, that Chandler wrote to him accusing him of being paid in British gold for the advocacy of such sentiments.

With other friends I was present when Gorrings received the letter, and his rage was so uncontrollable that in spite of all efforts to restrain him he sat down and addressed to the Secretary a most indignant reply, accompanied by his resignation from the navy. On the next day he thought better of it and endeavored to recall it, but it was too late, for Mr. Chandler lost no time in accepting it.

The vindictiveness of his enemies did not end there, for when Mr. Gorrings, with the aid of friends, established a shipyard at Philadelphia, every obstacle was thrown in its way to prevent its being a success, and although his death resulted immediately from an accident, the last years of his life were saddened by the memory of his brutal treatment at the hands of a Secretary of the Navy whose reputation for financial honesty is probably surpassed by the present incumbent, but who did not descend to greater meanness and more persistent spite.

New York City.

JOHN CODMAN.

FREE TRADE IN THE COMMERCIAL CONGRESS.

KANSAS CITY, April 22.—The First Western Commercial Congress has adjourned; and, although fate seemed against us, we Single Taxers have much cause for satisfaction in reviewing the proceedings. In the first place, H. Martin Williams, our grand leader, whose special efforts have made Missouri the banner Single Tax State, was compelled in filling previous engagements to be delayed in his arrival here until the subject, "Taxation," had been discussed. Then, the Hon. Wilbur F. Tuttle, who also was to have spoken, was kept at home by severe illness in his family. Again, although there were several first-class Single Tax men in the Convention (notably S. A. Stockwell, of Minnesota) who were well qualified and zealously inclined to present the subject, the programme, crammed as it was with so many subjects, allowed no time for a presentation of the Single Tax after the regular speakers had finished. It was wisely decided, under the circumstances, not to risk an abortion of the subject.

On the other hand, when Stockwell's Single Tax resolution was read to the Congress, he was surprised at and congratulated by his colleagues upon the applause which greeted it. And if not as Single Taxers, we can as Free Traders take great satisfaction in the results of the Congress. In the first place, the fact was firmly established that the tariff is a tax. Crisp demonstrated the iniquity of a protective tariff, and Breckinridge demonstrated the iniquity of any tariff at all—of all indirect taxation. Both speeches were masterpieces, and were received with continuous applause. Mr. Breckinridge was the more radical, however, and when, after exposing the iniquity of indirect taxation, he said, "there is a tax which can do away with this," a climax was reached. The vast audience was hushed, and I for one was filled with sudden hope. Instead, however, of continuing with the words, "a single tax upon the value of land," as I prayed he might do, the speaker

ended with "tax the surplus incomes of the country." The applause was terrific, but the Single Tax, I have every reason to believe, would have elicited quite as hearty approval. Then Filley, of Missouri, who as an expositor of the beauties of Protection is only rivaled by Horr, of Michigan, held up to contempt the previous speakers for favoring foreign industries over those of America, and cited to this intelligent audience Ireland and India as Free Trade countries—"Ireland where whole families together with a cow lived in single rooms, and India, where wages were \$18 per year." Oh, for twenty minutes of Martin Williams! But bright, clear-headed Free Traders were as numerous in the convention as mortgages in Kansas. Congressman Bryan, of Nebraska, was instantly upon his feet, and gaining recognition, quickly stepped upon the platform and, in a ten minutes' speech, he denounced uncalled for aspersions upon the patriotism of Free Traders, and then completely annihilated the flimsy pretences of Protection. This was one of the great events of the convention. The audience was captivated and Mr. Bryan, as he stepped down from the platform, was surrounded by delegates eager to congratulate him.

The convention was composed of unusual material. Free Trade sentiment was represented by a numerous body of keen-witted, wide-awake young men, many of them Single Taxers, who knew what they were there for, and who were conscious of a vital distinction between "Tariff Reform" and Free Trade. These men worked as a unit, the leaders often crossing the house to confer with one another. It was a great battle of determined forces.

While neither Mr. Williams nor Mr. Tuttle were able to be here to present the subject of taxation from our standpoint, nevertheless much was done by Single Taxers in a quiet way. Messrs. Williams, Julian and Stockwell, were especially active in talking the gospel to delegates and newspaper men.

On Wednesday noon, when the transportation question had been considered from various standpoints without any practical suggestion of the way out, just before adjournment and amid some confusion Mr. Williams took the floor, and in his usual forcible manner suggested some ideas. In a five minute speech he advocated governmental ownership of the public highways of transportation, which he said should be open to free competition, the revenue derived from tolls to go to the Government. The speaker wanted it understood that he was a strict constructionist and that he had a holy horror of paternal government, but that sound economics demanded that public functions should be conserved to the whole people—to the Government. In no other way could monopoly, with consequent extortion and robbery of the people, be prevented.

Kansas City, Mo.

HENRY WARE ALLEN.

THE KANSAS BOOMER AT GALVESTON.

I.

'Twas an evening in September, well as I can now remember,
That I strolled in meditation on the low and sandy shore
Of this sleepy, sea-girt city; and I thought it was a pity
That the Summer sun was parting and the holidays were o'er;
That the bathing was all over and the Beach band heard no more—
On the now deserted shore

II.

Wakened from my meditation by a harsh ejaculation
Grating on my dreamy senses like the creaking of a door,
I looked 'round and there beside me saw a visage keen, that eyed me—
Saw a face that many traces of hard calculation wore;
And its keen and piercing glances searched me to my inmost core—
There upon the lonely shore.

III.

Held as by an incantation or the fatal fascination
Exercised upon a robin by a snake athirst for gore,
I stood chilled and horror-stricken, and my soul began to sicken
At the creepy formication that stole all my senses o'er;
At the hardened stony aspect, which that face upon it bore—
Saw I that and nothing more.

IV.

Soon the face grew soft and flaccid, seemed the wearer to relax it,
And my heart resumed its beating—beating faster than before;
And my drooping, fainting spirit, startled up as though to hear it,
Like a fly in spider's meshes, struggling to escape once more;
"Ogre!" said I, "ghoul or gorgon, speak! oh, speak! I thee, implore—
Speak! but, horrors! do not roar."

V.

Spake he then in accents wooing, like a turtle dove a-cooing,
And he gave me many items of uninteresting lore.
"Come I here," quoth he, "from Kansas, where I missed some
luckless chances
Of providing large advances for my slowly swelling store,
And I feel a raging hunger gnawing at my very core—
Hunger for some chances more."

VI.

"Indiscretions dietetic oft result in ill's splenetic,
So be very careful," said I, "that you gorge yourself no more.
And now give me information in respect to your vocation,
And the way in which you cumulate your slowly-growing store.
What's the nature of those chances of which you desire some
more?—

Hurry on; 'tis after four."

VII.

Spread he to his full dimensions. "Make I," said he, "no pretensions

To the sorry, stupid garbage that some foolish folks call lore,
But I take a lofty station, and I glance o'er all the nation,
And I listen for the whispering wind that bears the boomers' roar,
And I hie me where it comes from: soon I light upon the shore—
And I help the boomers roar.

VIII.

"Then an agent round us gathers citizens and city fathers,
And we show them that their property is worth a great deal
more,
And we tell them 'tis a pity they don't boost their blooming city,
And so modify their charter as to raise a million more,
And bring capital in sackfuls right down to their very door—
Shade of Stentor, don't we roar!"

IX.

"Roaring," said I, "suiteth jackass; make you profit out of fracas,
Other than most probably to get your larynx sore?
Pays you, does it, to endure it, though it takes a year to cure it
And a ton of cubeb candy all your music to restore?
Still I see not where to look for the addition to your store:
How is it derived from roar?"

X.

"Good, my friend, but now draw nearer, while I make the matter
clearer,
And I'll give you such a wrinkle as may yet be worth you four.
You see I'm an operator, a case-hardened speculator,
And be sure I calculate 'ter' take an interest in your shore,
And I'll boom your busted city, me and half a dozen more.
We'll be heard at Elsinore.

XI.

"When they've fixed that city charter* we will give them such a
starter,
That they'll deem it royal privilege their taxes out to pour;
Then their city'll need enlargement, but they'll find us there with
parchment
Spread on all the empty acres you behold from shore to shore.
We'll remind them with this paper, which they cannot well
ignore,

That we got there long before.

XII.

"Come, now help me grind some axes while the noodles spend
their taxes,
By and by we'll have a toddy, then we'll go and take a snore;
Meantime all the Tony Lumpkins, the smart Alecs and the bump-
kins
Work away like busy beavers, sweating hard at every pore,
To enhance our paper titles and to make our land worth more.
Then we'll cry 'Excelsior!'"

XIII.

I could hear my quick heart throbbing as he gloated o'er his job-
bing,
And I thought the plagues of Egypt which the Lord had sent of
yore,
And the many other scourges wherewith outraged Heaven purges
Its ungrateful, fallen creatures from some fetid, moral sore,
Were the merits of a people who this trickery ignore,
Who this brazen god adore.

XIV.

Made I then a genuflection and I drew for his inspection
Silhouettes of many creatures on the smooth and sandy shore;
But he, howling, made a bee line when I sketched a lovely feline,
As his pantaloonic keel-line had been ripped up by a boar;
And he outshrieked Pandemonium like he'd sniffed enough ammo-
nium
To afflict him with pneumonium, ever, ever, evermore;
And he yelled with yell Sheolic, like Beelzebub with colic,
At the little feline frolic I drew there upon the shore;
Heaven grant that I may never, never see his image more.
Shucks! I see them by the score.

1506 Avenue N⁴, Galveston, Texas.

T. FLAVIN.

* They were then "fixing" it at Austin.

STORY OF THE WEEK

ENDING SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 1891.

THE EIGHT HOUR MOVEMENT.—On the first of May, the second stage of the eight hour movement in the United States will begin.

Sporadic efforts for the reduction of hours of work have long characterized the development of labor organization; and even demands for eight hours as a day's work were occasionally made in mechanical employments fully a quarter of a century ago. Indeed, the idea of the eight hour work day dates far back of this, for in the ritual of modern Freemasonry it distinctly appears as a survival of the guild regulations of the middle ages. But the first organized effort ever made upon a comprehensive plan to establish the eight hour day was that of the Federation of Organized Trades and Labor Unions, in 1884. At a meeting in Washington, D. C., that Federation recommended a general strike of its constituent bodies, for the enforcement of the demand, to take place on the first day of May, 1886. It was in connection with this strike that the disorders in Chicago, culminating in the hanging of the anarchists, came about; and that incident put an end to the movement.

But a new movement was begun. In December, 1886, the American Federation of Labor, of which Samuel Gompers is the head, was formed at Columbus, Ohio. It is not a centralized body, like the Knights of Labor; but, like its predecessor, it is a federation of independent trade unions, which are advised, not governed, by the officials of the Federation. At the time of its organization the Federation decided to recommend its constituent bodies to demand an eight hour day; but to secure ample time for preparation it was determined that the demand should not be made until May 1, 1890. Meantime, the process of organization was carried on until most of the powerful trade unions of the country had affiliated.

At the national meeting in Boston, held the year preceding that fixed for demanding the change of hours, it was found that the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners was best prepared for the contemplated conflict, and the Federation selected that body to lead the way. The Brotherhood accepted the responsibility. This was in accordance with a deliberate policy of the Federation that annually one strong body shall force the change in behalf of its own members. Other bodies are not precluded from acting on their own responsibility; but only the selected trades are entitled to the support of the Federation. Accordingly, the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners made their demand; and after a struggle of little moment, beginning May 1, 1890, over 55,000 workmen in that trade secured a reduction of hours from 9 to 8. Workmen in a variety of other trades secured reductions from 12 and 13 hours to 10 or 11.

This experiment having proved so satisfactory, it was resolved to continue the policy; and the Federation at its meeting last December decided to select the Miners' National Union to make the demand for the first of the coming May. For their support during the probable strike, every union in the Federation is requested to assess its members 10 cents each per week for as many weeks as may be necessary to secure success. This alone will yield a weekly strike fund of \$75,000.

The miners, following the example set last year by the carpenters and joiners, accepted the responsibility, and have issued an order to suspend work if necessary to enforce the demand. The matter was brought forward at the Inter-State Conference of Coal Miners and Operators held at Pittsburgh early in the present month. The miners expressed their willingness to bear the loss resulting from the change to eight hours, and their anxiety to continue friendly relations with the operators under the inter-state agreement made five years before. Some of the operators favored acceptance; but the great majority opposed it, and an exciting debate over the question followed, in the midst of which the convention suddenly adjourned. The operators announced that the eight hour day would not be conceded, and that a shut down would be inevitable if the men persisted. Since that time it has become apparent that the operators will not yield, and that the miners will strike.

Incidental strikes in other trades will occur at the same time and for the same purpose.

In Europe, also, extensive preparations are being made for an eight-hour demonstration on the first of May, and 10,000 miners are now on strike in Germany. Such relations as there are between the parties to the movement there and here are only sympathetic; though in the course of the conflict official relations may be established. There, too, the miners take the lead. This demonstration was decided on by the Miners' International Congress at Paris, reported last week under the title "Labor."

The letter carriers of Boston, though they are required to work only eight hours a day as the law prescribes, complain that Sunday is counted as a day, and that if they do not work eight hours on that day they are compelled to make up the time on other days.

THE COKE REGION STRIKE.—The strike in the coke regions of Pennsylvania, in connection with which violence is reported this week, began last March. It is a strike against a reduction of wages, which the coke producing firms combined together to enforce.

The Frick Company, in which Andrew Carnegie has a large interest, controls over two-thirds of the coke ovens in the district; and the McClure Company controls about two thousand more. Several comparatively small concerns entered into the combination. The strikers are principally Italians, Poles and Slavs, who were imported to defeat strikes in past years; and but few of them understand the English language.

Early in the strike a slight disturbance occurred at what are called the Leisingring ovens, owing, it was said, to a raid made by strikers upon men who had gone to work; and the manager of the Frick Company telegraphed to the Sheriff for protection. A large number of deputies were sworn in, most of them being trusted employees of the company. Other disturbances followed, and the Sheriff applied to Governor Pattison for permission to use the arms of two companies of the National Guard. The Governor replied that the civil power to maintain peace must be exhausted and powerless before the military could be invoked, and denied the application. The Sheriff explained that he wanted not troops but arms, but the Governor declined to issue an order. The deputies were privately armed, however; and a body of strikers, passing the works on their return from a meeting, were fired upon while on the highway, and seven were instantly killed. Several deputies were arrested for murder, and several strikers were arrested for rioting. The Justice of the Peace fixed bail on the murder charge at \$300, and on the charge of rioting at \$1,000; and the Coroner's Jury found that the deceased strikers came to their death by means of bullets discharged from guns or revolvers in the hands of the deputies of the Sheriff.

Attempts made in behalf of the strikers by the Catholic clergymen to compromise the strike, were frustrated by the employers, who refused to confer. They threatened to evict the strikers from company dwellings as a means of reducing them to unconditional submission, and the threat was made good this week by eviction proceedings. Two families were thrown out, and their furniture was piled in the road. In some cases there was resistance, followed by petty riots, in which both men and women engaged. The evicted tenants are quartered in tents and school houses. The evictions are not for unpaid rent, but under special clauses in the leases which the coke workers were required to sign in order to get employment.

LABOR.—The mass meeting called by the striking weavers of Bradford, England, as reported under this title last week, assembled Sunday afternoon, the 19th. It was an immense gathering, estimates of the attendance running as high as one hundred thousand. The meeting was held in the public square, and though the municipal authorities, all Tories, had announced that this would not be allowed, they were constrained to permit the people to proceed in peace. By reference to last week's report, it will be seen that the violence there reported originated in the attempt of the authorities to enforce their mandate against mass meetings in the square. The meeting was orderly throughout; speeches were made from three platforms, and resolutions were adopted protesting against the action of the municipal authorities in forbidding meetings of the people where this was held. Two thousand spinners resolve to resume work; but it is understood that the mill-owners will not employ them unless the weavers also surrender.

Conductors and drivers on the Consolidated Street Railway at Detroit, Mich., began a strike in which some lines were tied up, and on the others the cars ran irregularly. The strike, which was marked by rioting, was soon settled in favor of the strikers.

The strike of the World's Fair laborers for \$1.75 instead of \$1.50 a day, lasted only three days and failed.

The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, the Brotherhood of Railway Conductors, the Order of Railway Conductors, the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen, the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, and the Switchmen's Mutual Aid Association, purpose forming a national federation of railroad employees.

NATIONAL FINANCES.—The sum of \$30,000,000 will be needed for pensions on the first of June, and with the present outflow for bond redemption there is likely to be a deficiency. To stop the outflow, Secretary Foster suspends the redemption of the four and one-half per cent. bonds. This cuts off a drain of from \$2,000,000 to \$4,000,000 a month. He also decides to coin the trade dollar bullion, amounting to about \$5,000,000, and to recoining about \$2,000,000 of the fractional silver. The trade dollar bullion will be coined into standard dollars, and it is probable that certificates will be issued against them.

FARMERS' ALLIANCES.—The first New York State Convention of the Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union—the Southern Alliance, was held at Hornellsville, April 22. About fifty delegates were in attendance. Seventeen represented 8,000 organized farmers in Steuben County; ten, 4,000 in Allegany; and five, 2,500 in Cattaraugus. Of the other delegates, four were from Wyoming County; three each from Erie, Yates, Ontario, Monroe and Wayne; two from Portland, and one each from Livingston and Chenango. The membership of the latter nine counties ranges from 750 to 1,500. The State organizer estimates the strength of the Alliance in the State at 25,000, and reports it as rapidly gaining. The delegates are either outright Free Traders or Tariff Reformers.

The convention was called to order by J. F. Willetts, the national lecturer, who was the People's party candidate for Governor of Kansas last Fall. The convention was addressed by Messrs. Hicks and Maguire, who were appointed to attend it as fraternal delegates by the last State Convention of the Knights of Labor. They announced that the body they represented had instructed them, in case their demands were refused by the Legislature, to offer the unreserved support of the Knights to any political plan which the Alliance might adopt, and, their efforts to influence the Legislature having failed, that they were present to complete their instructions.

The fraternal proposition was laid aside without action, though resolutions denouncing all legislators who had opposed labor legislation were adopted.

The convention adopted the Ocala platform as a whole. This is the national platform of the National Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union, and was adopted at Ocala, Fla., in December last. It demands the abolition of the National banks; the establishment of sub-treasuries in the several States for lending money direct to the people at not more than 2 per cent. interest on non-perishable farm products and also upon real estate; that the circulating medium be speedily increased to not less than \$50 per capita, and that dealing in futures in agricultural and mechanical productions be prevented by act of Congress. It also demands the free and unlimited coinage of silver. Alien ownership of land is denounced, and Congress is urged to devise a plan for the recovery of lands now owned by aliens and foreign syndicates, and by corporations in excess of their needs, and for holding public lands for actual settlers. Opposition is expressed to the principle of Protection, and the removal of tariff taxes on necessities is demanded. A graduated tax on incomes is approved. The limitation of National and State revenues to the necessary expenses of Government economically and honestly administered, is a feature of the platform; and it requires the placing of railways and telegraphs under State and National control and supervision, to be followed by Government ownership if supervision fails to remove existing abuses. Finally, the Ocala platform calls for the submission of an amendment to the Federal Constitution providing for the election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people of each State.

The New York convention, besides adopting the Ocala platform, demanded that mortgages for purposes of taxation be treated as part of the real estate which they represent; that the National Government assume ownership and maintenance of our great water ways; that a uniform series of text books be adopted by the State for use in public schools, to be compiled and published by the State, and issued to the people at cost; and that the direct tax refunded by the general Government to the State be credited to the counties on the year's taxes in due proportion.

Demands for the passage of the 5 per cent. interest bill, and of the listing bills for the taxation of personal property, were smothered in committee, and no attempt was made on the floor to incorporate them in the committee's report.

A resolution denouncing the bill now before the Legislature providing for a committee to investigate and report upon the tax laws, was introduced; it excited a warm debate, but was finally adopted almost unanimously.

The following State officers were elected: President, Harvey Arnold; vice-president, Charles Moore; secretary, George A. Scott; treasurer, T. E. Henderson; lecturer, W. C. Warner; executive committee, Guy Shaw, Isaac Gale, J. H. Shallies; judiciary and legislative committee, I. E. Dean, Sanford Mead, G. W. Cafron.

A proposed declaration in favor of the third party movement was rejected. After the Alliance Leader, of Bolivar, had been elected the State organ of the Alliance, the convention adjourned to the second Wednesday of November.

A secret session of delegates from the Farmers' Alliance of Sedgewick County, Kan., was held at Wichita, to formulate a plan for enabling farmers to hold their grain until prices should suit. The plan involves the organization of an Alliance bank with \$100,000 capital to lend to stockholders at 1 per cent. per annum, and the raising by assessment of a fund to lend to farmers whom necessity might force to sell grain at low rates.

The first annual meeting of the Farmers' Alliance of Texas convened at Waco, April 22, in secret session.

CIVICS.—The sixth annual meeting of the American Institute of Civics was held at New York City. Among the trustees are O. B. Potter, Chief Justice Fuller, Justice Strong, Senators Hawley, Morrill and James F. Wilson, Theodore W. Dwight, and Andrew Carnegie. It aims, by means of a national and non-partisan institution, to maintain high ideas in affairs of citizenship and government through the school, the platform and the press; and it works in connection with common schools, colleges, newspapers and lectures.

The first meeting of the Patria Club, composed of the New York members of the Institute, was held at New York City. Ex-Judge William H. Arnoux presided, and speeches were made by Bishop Coxe, of the Western New York diocese of the Episcopal Church; Austin Abbott, the law writer; Professor Cooke, of Rutgers College; John Jay, and ex-Judge Higley. Bishop Coxe described the civilization that our Constitution and laws were created to protect, as a Christian civilization, which must perish should an element practically anti-Christian ever prevail. Austin Abbott spoke of the prevailing tendency both in the legislative and judicial departments to put material interests and personal advantage in the place of public duty. The statute books, he said, are filled with special legislation altering general laws for the purpose of serving the interests of particular persons; and the most serious evil under which the judiciary labors is the reluctance of citizens to serve as jurors. These tendencies teach the need of a revival of sound principles of good citizenship to modify the pressure of mercenariness.

TRADE STATISTICS.—Merchandise exported from the United States during the twelve months ending March 31, 1891.... \$872,010,377
Merchandise Imported..... 835,631,420

Excess of merchandise exports to March 31, 1891..... \$36,378,957
Excess of merchandise exports to March 31, 1890..... 75,623,544

Excess of gold exports for 1891..... \$12,306,982
Excess of gold exports for 1890..... 32,937,502

Excess of silver exports for 1891..... \$1,066,875
Excess of silver exports for 1890..... 21,347,691

TOBACCO TRUST.—The tobacco factory of Marburg Brothers and that of G. W. Gail & Ax, both of Baltimore, Md., were bought by the American Tobacco Company of New York. The terms of sale were two-fifths cash and the remainder in the common stock of the purchasing company. The selling firms will hereafter carry on their business under the names, respectively, of The Gail & Ax Branch, and the Marburg Brothers Branch, of the American Tobacco Company. This company constitutes the Tobacco Trust, according to the new method of organizing trusts. It was organized under the laws of New Jersey about a year ago. Its stock is capitalized at \$25,000,000, of which \$10,000,000 is preferred and \$15,000,000 is common. James B. Duke is president. The trust now controls the factories of Allen & Ginter, of Richmond; Kinney Bros., of New York; Duke, Sons & Co., of Durham, N. C.; Duke, Sons & Co., of New York; W. S. Kimball, of Rochester, N. Y.; Marburg Bros. and G. W. Gail & Ax, of Baltimore. As at present organized, the output under the direction of the trust will be 38 per cent. of the product of this country.

TAXATION.—The Vedder Direct Inheritance Tax bill has become a law in New York. It provides that nearly all property passing by will or descent, or by grant made in contemplation of the death of the grantor, shall be subject to a State tax. The tax is \$1 on the \$100 on personal property, given to the father, mother, husband, wife, child, brother, sister, daughter-in-law, son-in-law, or adopted child, or any lawful lineal descendent of the decedent, provided the property is worth more than \$10,000. No tax, in such cases, is imposed on real estate. In other cases the tax is \$5 on the hundred on all kinds of property.

LIBRARIES.—Mrs. M. Schuyler Elliott, as a memorial to her late husband, Dr. S. Lowell Elliott, the famous entomologist, presents his library of 11,000 volumes to the American Museum of Natural History at New York.

Colonel Thomas Scharf, historian of the State of Maryland, presents to the Johns Hopkins University his entire collection of manuscripts, pamphlets, etc., embracing the result of thirty years' systematic research. The collection includes the original revolutionary papers of General Anthony Wayne, materials for a complete biography of Charles Carroll, of Carrollton; histories of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal and Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and of St. Mary's City and other extinct Maryland towns; and the papers from which the donor prepared his history of Westchester County, N. Y.

PUBLIC FRANCHISES.—The franchise of the Fort Lee Ferry at New York City was sold by the city to the present lessees for a term of five years, for 52 per cent. of the gross receipts. The rental last year was 8 per cent., and amounted to \$1,040.

PROTECTION OR FREE TRADE.—Judge Lacombe, of the United States Circuit Court for the Southern District of New York, decides that the McKinley law is a substitute for all previous tariff laws. A duty of 60 per cent. was levied on Bohemian glass as an "article of colored glass." This was under the McKinley law. The importers claimed, however, that the tariff should have been 35 per cent. on "Bohemian glass," as required by the tariff act of 1883. They argued that the McKinley law does not repeal all previous tariff laws, but only such as are inconsistent with it; and that the act of 1883, being in this particular specific while the McKinley law is general, the former should control. The higher tariff was sustained by the court.

Under this title it was announced last week that a tariff duty of \$11,000 was imposed at the New York Custom House on an \$800 importation of welts for gloves. The appraisers had classified them as "gloves partly manufactured." But Collector Erhardt overrules the appraisers, holding that welts are strips of manufactured leather, and no more "gloves partly manufactured" than glove buttons are. This reduces the duty to \$280.

At a meeting, attended by four-fifths of the tin plate manufacturers of Wales it was decided to close the works they control. One month is the period fixed for the shut down. The cause is the reduced demand in America resulting from the McKinley law.

E. J. Phelps, ex-minister to England, spoke to the Reform Club of New York on the tariff. His talk was strongly in the direction of absolute Free Trade.

An order of the Treasury Department directs appraisers to enforce the "sorting clause" in the McKinley law against wool for carpets. This clause requires that wools which have been sorted in foreign countries, or increased in value by the rejection of any part of the original fleece, shall pay double duty. As from 90 to 95 per cent. of carpet wool is imported, American wool being fit for the purpose only to a very limited extent, this Treasury order will make a considerable increase in the cost of carpets. Instead of advancing a duty of from 32 to 50 per cent. on the value of their raw material, the manufacturers will be obliged to advance from 64 to 100 per cent.

REPUBLICAN POLITICS.—The fourth annual convention of the League of Republican Clubs was held at Cincinnati, Ohio, on the 21st. Nearly 800 delegates out of 1,019 responded to the call. Ex-Governor Foraker, in his speech, referred to James G. Blaine as the "greatest living American," and as having "given us a magnificent administration." The reference to Blaine instead of Harrison in the latter connection was regarded as significant. The resolutions endorsed Speaker Reed, favored protection and reciprocity, advocated liberal pensions, opposed debasing the currency but advocated its increase and the double standard, favored the suppression of monopolies, recommended the prohibition of pauper and criminal immigration, sustained the force bill, and urged the extension of Republican newspaper circulation. A clause, advocating the prohibition of the immigration of "people so alien from us in their ideas and habits of thought that they cannot be assimilated in the body politic," was struck out in the convention at the earnest request of a delegate from Wisconsin, who said the words would be distorted with telling effect on the foreign born Republican vote of the Northwest. John S. Clarkson was elected as president, and the Executive Committee was empowered to name the time and place for the next convention.

President Harrison and his party rested at Galveston, Texas, on Sunday. He and Mr. Wanamaker went to church in the morning, and other members of the party enjoyed a sail on the gulf in the afternoon. They were welcomed at San Antonio on Monday morning, at Del Rio in the afternoon, and at El Paso on Tuesday. On Wednesday the Governor received them at Indio, California, whence they proceeded to Pomona, stopping at Colton. They were at San Diego, Riverside, and Los Angeles, on Thursday; and on Friday, at Pasadena and Santa Barbara. San Francisco welcomed the party with a magnificent display, Saturday night.

The Republican State Convention in Ohio is to be held on the 16th and 17th of June at Columbus; and Sherman, Foster, Foraker and McKinley have been invited to speak.

DEMOCRATIC POLITICS.—The New York Evening Telegram published an alleged interview between Mr. Cleveland and State Treasurer Lon V. Stephens, of Missouri, in which the former was reported as saying that, if he were elected President in 1892, a free coinage bill could not reach him before 1894, and that what would be bad for the country now might be a necessity then. Much more was reported, but this was the gist of the significant part. The Herald republished the interview as evidence that Mr. Cleveland had changed his views on the silver question. It afterward appeared

that the conversation had been between Mr. Cleveland, Mr. Stephens, and a third person; that it was desultory, and not intended for publication; and that in the interview the language of each was woven in with that of the others, as if it had all been spoken by the ex-President. Mr. Cleveland states that the article tended to misrepresent his views on the subject.

WOMAN.—At the annual dinner of the Alumni Association of the Women's Medical College and Hospital of New York, an agitation was begun for securing to women the right to vote for Excise Commissioners in New York City.

The New York Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the Revolution was formed at the home of Mrs. Roger A. Pryor, the regent of the chapter. Members must reside in the city of New York and be lineal descendants from some ancestor who gave material aid to the cause of Independence. The first practical work of the society will be the erection of a monument to Martha Washington at Fredericksburg.

Mrs. Anna Garlin Spencer was ordained to the ministry at Providence, R. I., and installed in the Bell Street Chapel, which is the building of a society somewhat resembling the Felix Adler Society for Ethical Culture.

Chief Justice Green, sitting as District Judge at Guthrie, Oklahoma, decides that, in the absence of prohibitory statutes, women are legally entitled to hold any office not incompatible with their sex. The decision was rendered in the case of Cora V. Diehl. At the election last Fall she was chosen Register of Deeds at Guthrie, but the former Register held over on the ground of the ineligibility of women. Judge Green opens the office to Miss Diehl.

About 100 women stenographers and typewriters of New York City held a meeting and appointed a committee to perfect an organization for the regulation of wages and conditions of work in that vocation.

At the twenty-eighth annual commencement of the New York Medical College and Hospital for Women, held at the city of New York, nine women were graduated.

RELIGION.—Arrangements have been completed for an International Congregational Council, to be held in England. The Congregational Churches of the United States will send 120 delegates.

At the meeting of the New York Classis of the Dutch Reformed Church, in New York City, a remonstrance against opening the museums and libraries of the city on Sunday was unanimously adopted.

A bill enabling dissenting organizations in England to condemn land for religious purposes upon payment of value—an application of the power of eminent domain, passed the second reading in the House of Commons by a vote of 218 to 110. The measure is said to be necessary in order to prevent the exclusion of dissenting houses of worship from districts owned by Tory landlords.

NATIONALISM.—Friends of the Kaweah colony, whose officers were convicted of cutting Government timber in Tulare County, Cal., as reported last week, make the following statement: When the colonists filed their claims, the lands were regarded as worthless on account of their inaccessibility. This was in 1885, when land grabbers were hiring dummies to file claims for them. The fact that some forty persons filed at once, excited the suspicion of Commissioner Sparks, who had been trying to stop fraudulent entries; and he telegraphed the local agents to reserve these lands pending an investigation into the good faith of the entries. Five years have passed, and the colony has grown. This excited the enmity of the lumber trust, but the titles had been earned under the homestead law, and they could not have them withheld; so they had a special law passed setting apart these lands as a park or timber reservation. Then the accusation was made that the colonists were despoiling Government land. Of that they have now been convicted. Land Commissioner Goff, and all the local Commissioners, have reported the titles of the colony perfect, and have recommended the issuance of patents; but Secretary Noble has arbitrarily ordered the filings to be canceled.

NEGRO CITIZENSHIP.—T. McCants Stewart, a negro lawyer, is appointed as a member of the Brooklyn (N. Y.) Board of Education, by Mayor Chapin, the Democratic Mayor of Brooklyn.

PENOLOGY.—The new ticket of leave system described last week under this title was put in practical operation by the parole of ten State prison convicts.

NEW YORK.—The Court of Appeals settles the title of the Ogden Land Company to lands of the Seneca nation of Indians. The Senecas brought suit to eject Harrison B. Christy from territory conveyed by a treaty made in 1826, at a public council of the Seneca nation, between that nation and the Ogden Land Company. The treaty ceded to the latter, for \$48,216, 87,000 acres in Erie, Cattaraugus, Allegany, Livingston, Genesee and Chautauqua counties. The Senecas had held dominion over this territory for two hundred years. Christy traced his title to this treaty; but the Senecas claimed, first, that after the adoption of the Constitution of the United States no valid purchases of Indian land could be made except in pursuance of a treaty between the United States and the tribe in possession; and, second, that the treaty in question was in violation of the Act of Congress of 1802 regulating trade with the Indians. The Court of Appeals overrules these points and holds the treaty of 1826 to have been valid. A contrary decision would have clouded titles to millions of acres of land in the State of New York.

The Assembly Committee on Public Lands and Forestry was charged last Winter with the duty of making a general inquiry concerning the administration by the Forest Commissioners of the laws regarding forest preserves, and to report what legislation is necessary to better protect the forests that belong to the State. Two reports were presented this week, and the majority report was moved in the House for adoption. The minority report was offered as an amendment, and adopted by 61 to 46 votes. The majority report, which was signed exclusively by Democratic members of the Committee, found the Commissioners guilty of maladministration. The minority report, which was signed by the Republican members and one Democrat, was to the effect that the investigation disclosed nothing affecting their honesty or integrity.

CONNECTICUT.—The time for Governor Bulkeley to file his answer in the quo warranto proceedings reported last week, under title "Connecticut Deadlock," has been extended by the court until May 8.

OHIO.—The question of nominating a Senator at the Republican convention in Ohio is under discussion by the Republicans of the State. At first the idea was received with favor, but there is now a tendency to regard it as bad politics.

MISSISSIPPI.—Advocates of the sub-treasury scheme of the Farmers' Alliance announced their refusal to support any legislative candidate before the Democratic primaries, unless he would pledge himself to vote against Senators George and Walthall, whose terms expire during the term of the next Legislature. Senator George went before the people to make his campaign, and he devoted his speeches to the sub-treasury scheme. In attacking this before the farmers, he is reported as having met with complete success. His re-election is now said to be assured.

KANSAS.—The State Senate, as a high court of impeachment, begins the trial of Theodorius Botkin, Judge of the Thirty-second Judicial District, whom the lower house, last Winter, impeached for drunkenness on the bench, and for rendering decisions for purposes of revenge.

TEXAS.—Governor Hogg has appointed Senator Reagan to the Railroad Commissionership. Senator Reagan accepts, and the Governor appoints Horace Chilton, a young lawyer of Tyler, to the vacant Senatorship.

DEATHS.—Melville H. Ford, born at Saline, Mich., June 30, 1849, died at Grand Rapids, Mich., April 20, 1891. In the Fiftieth Congress he was chairman of a special committee appointed to investigate the question of immigration. A mild tariff reform candidate for re-election, he was defeated in 1888; but in an outright Free Trade campaign in 1890 he was elected to the Fifty-second Congress.

Rear-Admiral Alfred Taylor, U. S. N., retired, who was born in Virginia in 1810, died at Washington, April 19.

Carl Bernhardt Helmuth von Moltke, Field-Marshal of the German Empire, the greatest general since Napoleon, and the organizer of the German armies, who was born in Mecklenburg, October 26, 1800, died suddenly at Berlin, April 24, 1891. He had attended the session of the Reichstag in the afternoon, and died at 9:45 in the evening. Heart failure is reported as the cause of death. General von Moltke was once quoted as calling the armies of our Civil War "armed mobs." Poultney Bigelow, a close friend of the present Emperor, asked the Emperor about this, and gives his reply as follows: "General von Moltke never said any such thing, nor had he any such opinion." On the contrary, he had the highest respect for your generals, as every one acquainted with his

administration of the general staff must know. Even to this day every German officer is obliged to study carefully the history and tactics of your war. We Germans are thoroughly acquainted with the campaigns of Grant, Sheridan, Sherman, Lee, and your other generals. General von Moltke has repeatedly expressed his admiration of them to me. You taught us the art of intrenchments, transportation, military telegraphing, and forced marches; in fact, the whole science of military warfare was illustrated in your war. General von Moltke always recognized this, and that we had much to learn from your generals. Nothing could be further from the truth than that silly story."

John Thompson, the founder of Thompson's Bank Note Reporter, who was born in Massachusetts in 1803, died at New York city, April 19. Mr. Thompson established the First National Bank of New York, the first under the National banking system, and at the time of his death was vice-president of the Chase National Bank.

The Grand Duke Nicholas, an uncle of the Czar, and lately Field-Marshal of the Russian army, who was born in 1831, died April 25, 1891.

CORNELL UNIVERSITY.—The members of the senior class of the law school at Cornell University unanimously decided to invite Colonel Robert G. Ingersoll to deliver the annual address; but the decision was vetoed by the faculty, Professor Charles A. Collins leading the opposition to it. Professor Collins says the objection to Ingersoll is not his religious views, but that he has not made his reputation solely as a lawyer. Daniel Dougherty was barred out for the same reason.

COLONIZATION.—Eight hundred Danes are to leave Copenhagen, May 1, to establish near Little Rock, Ark., a town to be called New Copenhagen, the site for which has been purchased. There are among the colonists both skilled artisans and capitalists.

VITAL STATISTICS.—The forthcoming report of the New York City Board of Health for the year ending December 31, 1890, shows 40,103 deaths, or 424 more than in 1889. The death rate, however, was 24.58 per thousand of population, while that of 1889 was 25.06. The rate has steadily decreased from 1880, when it was 26.41.

SCIENCE.—The National Academy of Sciences met at Washington. Francis A. Walker was elected vice-president in place of Prof. S. P. Langley, of the Smithsonian Institute, resigned; and a variety of scientific papers were read. The paper which attracted greatest attention was that of Professor Langley. It was on "Flying Machines." Professor Langley explained a series of experiments he had made, from which he concluded that the amount of power required for artificial flight is attainable by the steam engines we now possess. To him the amazing fact, demonstrated by his experiments, was that the faster you go the less it costs in power; that one horse power, for example, will transmit a much heavier weight at rapid than at slow speed. As the difficulties in the way of aerial navigation he named three—getting started, coming down and steering; but he believed the subject would soon pass out of the sphere of charlatanism and into the hands of engineers, and that from this, notable results would come.

THE CHILIAN REVOLUTION.—The insurgents have won another victory over the Government, and a torpedo cruiser of the Government has blown up and sunk the insurgent flag ship, in which over two hundred people, including the Chilean commodore, were lost. It happened in Caldera Bay. These are incidents of the revolt which has been in progress in Chili since last January.

Chili is nominally a republic. It renounced allegiance to Spain September 18, 1810, and secured its independence in 1818. In 1833 the present Constitution was adopted. This put an end to revolutionary disturbances, which had followed the liberation of the country from the Spanish Government. From that time there has been no revolution, and for more than thirty years prior to the present conflict there was no attempt to overthrow the constituted authorities.

The Government, though republican in form, is essentially aristocratic. The large landed estates created at the conquest have been kept together; and the natives, at first the slaves, are now the dependents of a powerful landed aristocracy. Suffrage is universal; but the Constitution is ingeniously contrived, in co-operation with landlordism, to permit a small minority to control the entire vote of the country. It is said to have been framed to perpetuate the rule of the Conservative party, then in power; but by the accident of an election of a Conservative with Liberal party principles, power was transferred from the Conservative to the Liberal party, where it has ever since remained. The contrivance for perpetuating the rule of the party in power consists in vesting in the President absolute control of the appointment and removal of all the principal officials, including Intendentes of provinces and Governors of departments,

who appoint the rural constabulary and the police of the towns, and are ex-officio chairmen of municipal boards. This power over popular elections is accompanied by an extraordinary incentive to use it. No President can be accused of maladministration, except during the year immediately succeeding his retirement from the office. But then, upon impeachment by the lower House of Congress, the Senate declares both the fact and the nature of his guilt, and fixes the punishment; and from its decision there is no appeal. The President executes the sentence. This makes it a matter of self-preservation for a President—re-elections being prohibited—to control the selection both of his successor and of a majority of Congress. Hence, a custom has grown up under which the President selects an official candidate, who, as may be readily seen, is certain of election.

The Liberal party, which has been long in power, is divided into factions—Radicals, Liberals and Nationals, and there are also Dissenters, Conservatives, Democrats and Independents. Balmaceda was elected President in 1886. At that time the treasury was rapidly filling from export duties on nitre, the principal source of Government revenue, and large public works were undertaken and a navy provided for. This largely increased the number of public employees, and to avoid jealousies in his own party Balmaceda appointed from all its factions. By so doing he held the Liberal majority in Congress sufficiently together, until the Summer of 1890, to secure the necessary laws for carrying on the Government.

The beginning of his difficulties was in January, 1890. He then announced, as the official candidate to succeed him, a personal friend and official favorite, instead of one of the party leaders in Congress. The leaders were indignant; and a call was issued for a nominating convention, to be held in October, "to put an end to official interference in elections." It was signed by the leaders of the three Liberal factions, and by one Conservative. From that time political excitement against Balmaceda ran so high that he dissolved the Ministry, and appointed as Minister of the Interior the official candidate, who thereupon withdrew from the candidacy. But the bitterness increased; and when Congress met in June, 1890, it refused to re-enact the revenue law, which was to expire the following first of January. There was then a dead-lock in the Government, embellished among the people by occasional riots. In August, a compromise was effected. Upon the formation of a non-partisan Ministry by the President, Congress agreed to pass the revenue laws; but with a distinct understanding that there should be no official interference in the elections.

Congress passes laws for collecting the revenues and fixing the sea and land forces; and these laws expire, by constitutional limitation, eighteen months after their enactment. Under this clause, Congress claims authority to block the wheels of Government.

In October, complaints were made that a subordinate official was interfering with political matters, and his dismissal was demanded. President Balmaceda replied that he saw no reason for sacrificing his friends; and in consequence of this and some other complications the non-partisan Ministry resigned. The President then chose a Cabinet from among his supporters, and declared the Congress closed. By the Constitution, the Congress sits from June 1 to September 1, with power in the President to prolong its session fifty days. It was in the prolonged session when Balmaceda closed it.

The convention does not seem to have met, but disorders occurred. The revenue laws had not been re-enacted, and the Opposition held that therefore the President could not carry on the Government after January 1st. The President held that it was his duty to uphold the honor and integrity of the Republic whether Congress fulfilled its duty of providing revenues or not; and he continues to rule. Owing to his conduct in thus attempting to nullify the power vested in Congress; through their authority over the purse strings, the President of the Senate and the President of the House, on the 7th of January, 1891, went on board a man-of-war. The navy followed the lead of Congress, while the army followed that of Balmaceda, and civil war began.

Several battles have been fought and the insurgents, until the sinking of the flagship, were victorious. A large part of the country has fallen under their control.

ENGLAND.—The "Grand Habitation" of the Primrose League, organized in honor of Lord Beaconsfield and to aid the Conservatives, met at Covent Garden Theatre, London. Many of the most prominent Tories, men and women, were present. Lord Salisbury presided. In his opening address he sketched the development of the League, and announced that it numbered over a million members. Reviewing the political situation, he said that the Irish problem was one this generation must solve. He thanked Balfour for his resolute government in Ireland, which had given to that country exceptional peace and prosperity; and he recognized the enormous service of the Times in its exposure of Parnell's connection with the violent Irish agitators. The success of either Irish faction, he said, would be one of the greatest blows the Empire could receive, for Parnell was supported by the American conspira-

tors, while McCarthy represented the secular efforts of Romish ecclesiastics.

A Parliamentary by-election in the Middle Division of Oxfordshire resulted in the election of the Liberal Unionist by a vote of 4,448, against 3,760 cast for the Gladstonian. At the former election the Liberal Unionist was returned without opposition.

The by-election at Whitehaven, to fill the vacancy in the House of Commons caused by the death of Cavendish-Bentinck, returned the anti-Gladstone candidate by a vote of 1,338 to 1,105. Cavendish-Bentinck, also anti-Gladstone, had been returned by 1,216 to 1,110.

Mr. Goschen, Chancellor of the Exchequer, announces in Parliament that he intends to spend £1,000,000 of the surplus, shown by the budget just reported, in free schools. The bill has not yet been presented, but its outline indicates that the proposed system will be largely under ecclesiastical control. This new policy of the Conservatives is borrowed from that of the Liberals, except that the Liberals are opposed to ecclesiastical control of public education. It is expected that Parliament will soon dissolve and that the Conservatives will go to the country on the free education issue. It will be an issue, however, only as to methods—whether the system shall be really free, or fettered by ecclesiasticism.

IRELAND.—Michael Davitt has resigned the editorship of the Labor World, and Mr. Massingham, who was one of T. P. O'Connor's assistants on the London Star, succeeds him. Davitt is preparing for an early visit to California for rest.

The Irish National Federation met at Dublin, and Timothy D. Healy, who presided, said that Parnell had undertaken to bring about a collapse of the plan of campaign on condition that no Conservative candidate should oppose his re-election from Cork.

At a meeting of the Tenants' Defence Association, in Dublin, it was resolved that, as Parnell had not replied to McCarthy's proposal to release the Paris fund for the benefit of evicted tenants, the whole sum should be immediately devoted to their relief. The sum amounts to £4,000.

The First Lord of the Treasury explains in the House of Commons, in reply to a question, that Michael Davitt's name was left off from the Royal Labor Commission, described last week under title "Labor," because his evidence at the Parnell-Times investigation, coupled with his conviction of treason-felony, made him unfit for a place in the Commission.

Parnell, in speeches at Athlone and Irishtown, denounces McCarthy's opposition to the Land bill, asserting that it would confer great benefits on Irish farmers. The Land bill is a Tory measure for lending public funds to Irish tenants at low interest and on long time, to enable them to purchase their holdings.

HAYTI.—Admiral Gherardi and Minister Frederick A. Douglass presented to the President of Hayti credentials empowering them to represent the United States in negotiations for the cession by Hayti to the United States of Mole St. Nicholas for a coaling station. The negotiations were fruitless, the Haytian government declining to grant a lease. Mole St. Nicholas is a commodious harbor on the Northwest coast of Hayti. It is well sheltered from prevailing winds, has a population of about 200, and is connected with the United States by cable.

JAPAN.—The Hashidate Kan, a new cruiser, built of imported steel, but constructed entirely by Japanese mechanics, is launched. The Mikado and Admiral Belknap, Commander of the United States Naval Squadron, witness the ceremony.

The Minister of Marine presents a plan to the Diet for the immediate enlargement of the navy from a tonnage of about 50,000 to 120,000, and the plan is adopted.

CURRENT THOUGHT.

INFLUENCE OF ENVIRONMENT.—Arthur Dudley Vinton, under the caption of "Morality and Environment," undertakes to show in the Arena the moral effect on individuals of the circumstances in which the brain, both of themselves and their ancestors, is developed. Beginning with ancestral environment, he argues that man, like other animals, is modified in physical structure by his surroundings, the part of him which is used, whether brain or brawn, being developed according to its use, while that which goes unused withers and finally disappears. In successive generations there is a development of structure, until the memoirs of thousands of ancestors are written by nature not only in the bones and sinews of man, but also in the tissue and shape of his brain. Since man inherits the shape of his brain, we may ask whether it contains the germ of ancestral knowledge, as the devel-

oping hen's egg contains the germ of the Shanghai or the Plymouth Rock's instinct? An answer is suggested by the answer to another question: Do we control our thought? We instantly reply that thought is often involuntary. Our instincts are nothing but inherited memories of ancestral habits, and if our ancestors have lived for generations in evil surroundings, our brains take the impress of those surroundings. Descendants of a long line of industrious and honest ancestors would develop brains physically different from those of the descendants of an equally long line of habitual criminals. Thus, heredity plays an important part in the moral development of the individual. But, Mr. Vinton, unlike most advocates of this theory, recognizes and appreciates the influence of contemporary as well as that of ancestral environment; and he argues that the brains of children, whatever their inherited tendencies, develop according to their own environment. Hence he concludes that a child can grow up virtuous in city slums only as by a miracle. This leads him to sound a warning. It is a whispered warning, but the tones are clear. Declaring that cities, the ganglionic centres of the nation, spread vices until their evil influence is felt in all parts of the land, he announces it to be the right and duty of men to say to them: "See that you let your citizens live in such a condition of life and amid such environment that you breed no criminals, no idiots, and no men or women unworthy of citizenship." Mr. Vinton does not suggest a method by means of which cities can obey; but as he warns them to "let" their citizens live in favorable surroundings, it may be assumed that he does not look hopefully to Socialism. There is a power of meaning in that little word "let," whether Mr. Vinton appreciates it or not.

SOCIALISM vs. LAISSEZ FAIRE.—George Wheeler Hinman writing in the Social Economist of "Economic Tendencies on the Continent," finds that a new era of economic thought and life began with Lasalle, who came to expound the laws of Marx and Rodbertus. A born agitator, a genius, scholar, orator, philanthropist, Lasalle fired the German masses, and carried defiance to the door of every statesman and the desk of every professor. When he died all Germany was resounding with the combat he had opened in economics and politics. His mantle fell on the shoulders of Liebknecht. The Social Democratic party grew, and the orthodox political economists could find no "scientific" answer for the new problems shouted in their ears. New men and remedies were called for and came. The best minds in the economic science of Germany, professors at Eisenach, believing that the Manchester school had been driven into bankruptcy by the Socialists favoring the principles of State help for the helpless, and advocating State control of certain industries and eventually the whole policy of State Socialism, formed the Association for Social Politics, and threw down the gauntlet, which the Manchester professors took up. At this point, says Mr. Hinman, "the proud temple of the *laissez faire* school sank in ruins." Meantime, the vote of the Social Democratic party had swelled from 124,000 in 1871, to 493,000 in 1877. Stringent laws were passed against the agitation, but still it grew. The Emperor and the Chancellor then brought forward their plan of workingmen's insurance. It was assumed that, assured of a tolerable existence under all circumstances, the workingman would become less accessible to the gospel of discontent on which socialism feeds; but the measures had no immediately apparent effect upon the swelling tide of social democratic agitation, and Bismarck began to hesitate. Then Emperor William II., catching up the reform which his Chancellor was dropping, carried it forward. A strong, deep undercurrent of popular approval follows the young Emperor's tendency. This, the writer affirms, cannot be doubted by anyone who knows the German people and the recent history of economic life and thought in Germany; and, finding in the social reform in Germany a type of social reform movements throughout Central and Western Europe, he fondly imagines that an era of full reaction against the *laissez faire* theory and practice has come, with William II. as its prophet.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

The One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Street and Fort Lee Ferry franchise was sold at auction by Comptroller Myers last week to the present ferry company for 52 per cent. of the returns from the sale of tickets on the New York side. This will yield the city an income of about \$10,000 a year. The franchise runs five years. Only 8 per cent. was paid by the company under the old franchise, and this amounted to about \$1,500 a year. Rival interests caused the advance.

There was but one bidder for the Liberty Street Ferry franchise, the Central Railroad of New Jersey. The company will pay \$8,000 a year for five years. Under the old franchise but \$5,000 a year was paid.

These two items, both from the local columns of the New York Times, illustrate the advantage of the Single Tax over the leasing

system. Under the Single Tax, perhaps the Fort Lee Ferry property would have been taxed at its value, but the New Jersey Central would not have obtained one of the most valuable ferry properties for \$8,000 a year. That is a ridiculous price, and the value of other and less valuable ferry properties along the lower North River shore would have afforded a basis for a vastly higher value than the company pays for under the arrangement that prevents these railways from competing one with another.

* * * *

The Herald's real estate man is useful in his way. He says in a recent article, "the most significant feature of this year's renting market has been the unwillingness of owners along upper Broadway to give more than a single year's lease." That must be pleasant for the people who are trying to establish permanent businesses on upper Broadway. The frank reporter anticipates this, and for the comfort of such says, "Either more money for New York City realty or get out. This is about the situation." Yes, but the question will rise some day, Who shall get out? The reporter thus runs on:

When it is remembered that not a week passes nowadays but there is some purchase like that of McCreery, of the southeast corner of Twenty-third street and Sixth avenue for a million, or a syndicate takes up another plot at a million on Tenth avenue, the question arises, "Where will the masses come in?"

They will come in in the suburban districts in the annexed wards, where some great sales are to be held before the expiration of this month.

We suppose they can stay there till the speculator again orders them to move on. This will continue until "the masses" wake up to an appreciation of the fact that it is their fool votes that make the laws which make it so hard to live or do business on this island.

* * * *

The San Francisco Star says that, notwithstanding the sugar bounty, the price in that city is now, for a certain grade, six cents, while in the East it is four, and in St. Joseph, Mo., and Salt Lake, four and three-quarter cents. The reason of this, as stated to a San Francisco paper, is "due to the railroad companies shutting off Eastern competition by advancing the freight rates on sugar from New York to the Pacific Coast from \$1.20 to \$2 a hundred, while they will ship sugar from San Francisco to Kansas City (more than half way to New York) for sixty cents a hundred." Rats! The reason why sugar is six cents a pound in San Francisco, despite the bounty, is because, through an "understanding" Claus Spreckles has been given control of the sugar market west of the Missouri river; and, as he controls the sugar product of the Sandwich Islands, he is virtually the monarch of sugar in the West. In the East we have received some benefit from the sugar bounty, but that is only because the Eastern trust has not as yet been able to control the sources of sugar supply. It is fair to presume that the trust is using its best endeavors to get that control, and when it does we will be put on an equality with our western brethren—that is, we will pay as much for our sugar as they do now, and we can sing praises if we do not have to pay more. There may be an atom of truth in the story that the railroads have shut off Eastern competition, but, if it is so, it is because of the large interest held in the railroads by the members of the sugar trust and Spreckles. But let these gentlemen go on. The price of sugar has been reduced in the East, and all the people feel that it has been a blessing; when the Eastern trust begins increasing the price, a storm will be brought about that will not only destroy the trust, but may destroy railroad monopoly, also. The people are following the example of all our trusts—they are coming to an "understanding."

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Speaking of the debate between Thomas G. Shearman and R. G. Horr on out-and-out Protection versus out-and-out Free Trade, which took place in Boston two weeks ago, the Globe said: "Men who stand squarely upon extremes have at least the advantage of being able to talk business without apologizing for their positions." Which is true.

* * * *

Somebody ought to watch the vest pockets of the gentlemen who go to the McKinley dinner this evening at Madison Square Garden to see whether or not they are not very well stuffed with imported cigars, in view of the announcement that none but American wines and cigars will be provided by the managers of this strange feast of humiliation and celebration of defeat.

* * * *

The Baltimore Herald, in commenting on the recent report of the Special Tax Commission to the Mayor of Boston, says that "the present theory of taxing everything within reach begins to appear in the light of doubtful utility," and it declares that the conclusion reached by the Boston commission is in favor of the Single Tax on real estate. It adds, "although the commission does not advocate the principle in so many words, their arguments lead pretty plainly to the theories of Henry George that true taxation is a tax levied upon land." Oh, no, Mr. Herald, not on land, but on land values, which is a very different matter, as you will see if you come to study it up.

The last Congress spent one billion dollars. The people will have to pay it. We are a nation of 65,000,000, all told—men, women and children. Sixty-five million goes into one billion fifteen and about one-half times. Therefore, each human being within the limits of these United States will have to pay about \$15.50 to make good the money squandered by the last Congress. The honest workingman, while taking his rest after a hard day's work, can divert his mind by gazing at the little tot in its mother's arms, and then put down \$15.50 on a slip of paper. As his children pass in review before him he can put down \$15.50 for each one. When he looks on the partner of his sorrows and joys he can put down another \$15.50. Then, if he will go and look into his glass he will see something there that will cost him \$15.50 more. At this point he can add up the figures. Then he can put down how much he earns in wages in a week; he can deduct from that what it costs for rent, food, clothing and other necessities. He can thus find how much he can save per week. Then he can divide the sum of \$15.50 for each member of his family, including himself, by the sum that he can save each week, and the result will show how many weeks of his savings have been put into the hands of Government favorites without giving to him, in return, one iota of value. Figuring this way will prove immensely interesting, and the larger a man's family is the more he can swear.

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The Encyclopedia Britannica (Am. supplement), delivers itself as follows:

The main doctrine of "Progress and Poverty" is that "Nothing short of making land common property can permanently relieve poverty and check the tendency of wages to the starvation point." Allen Co. Ed. Vol. 3, p. 519.

The quotation marks are in the article.

* * * *

The Daily British Whig, published at Kingston, Ont., is a straight-out Free Trade paper, and is doing excellent service editorially in behalf of the cause. It wisely says that the only union necessary between Canada and the United States is that of interests, which would be promoted by the abolition of all impediments to trade between the two countries, and between either one of them and the rest of the world.

* * * *

J. R. Winstow, of Wingo, Ky., takes THE STANDARD to task for opposing its best friends. He insists that the election of Harrison gave a great impetus to our cause and that the McKinley bill has made more absolute Free Traders than any other measure ever presented to the people. He says further: "The Republican party is doing our work for us, and you are kicking them. What ingratitude! If I was able I would send old Father McKinley and Uncle Ben a pint each of old apple brandy, and thank them for their glorious work in the Single Tax cause."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

WHAT TO DO FOR THE POOR.

Editor of THE STANDARD—SIR: In the *Forum* for April is an article headed, "What can we Do for the Poor?"

This question is easily answered. We can raise their rent and reduce their wages. And we not only can but we will. So long as we continue to raise the public revenue by tariff duties, by taxes on personal property, by income taxes, so long will we continue to raise the poor man's rent; and so long as we continue to reduce the assessments on vacant lots and wild land, so long will we continue to reduce the poor man's wages.

J. H. WELLS.

LET US HEAR FROM NEW ZEALAND.

Editor of THE STANDARD—SIR: A recent Australian item in THE STANDARD contained a reference to the fact that twenty Single Taxers had been returned to the New Zealand Parliament. Since then I have been eagerly looking for some details of this good news. Cannot you or some of your readers furnish particulars of this great victory for our cause in the Antipodes? It would surely be of absorbing interest not only to Canadians but to citizens of the United States.

Toronto, April 4, 1891.

ROBT. TYSON.

MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE CURRENCY QUESTION.

Editor of THE STANDARD—SIR: I notice your comments under head of Publishers' Notes, and I would be glad to do what I can toward increasing the circulation of THE STANDARD. I am a Greenbacker, and was once a Republican. I was at one time among the many Greenbackers that believed in standing up to be counted for a principle regardless of the good it might do at the time, and regardless of the issues between the two dominant parties. Many still hold to the same idea, and look upon the Tariff, or mode of taxation, as a secondary or unimportant question, but I now see that the kind or quantity of money is not so important, or not the most important thing, after all, to the man that is not allowed the opportunity to labor or to freely exchange the products of his

labor. The fight for freedom to produce and to exchange is on and a partial victory has been gained and a lasting victory is almost in sight. For the sake of the millions that want an opportunity to labor and to live, I would ask old Greenbackers not to turn back now and lose all that we have gained for freedom. We can fight one battle at a time better than two. If we undertake too much we may lose all. When we have placed labor in a position to reap the results of honest toil, we have gained much for all other desired reforms.

Pana, Ill.

S. C. REESE.

SOME VIEWS ON MONEY.

Editor of THE STANDARD—SIR: I approve THE STANDARD's position on the Silver question. I voted the Greenback ticket as long as I could get a ticket, but I did not stop my inquiries into the financial question until I arrived at the following conclusions:

1. So long as governments and cities can get money at small interest, money is not scarce; it only appears to be scarce.
2. Any amount of greenbacks that could be maintained at par would soon find their way into the hands of the few men that control the money now, and the same scarcity would appear again.
3. When securities are enhancing, money appears to be plentiful; but when securities are depreciating, money seems scarce.
4. The real trouble is most of us have not got that which can command money, which is wealth.

Taunton, Mass.

WM. GORNALL.

PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION.

Editor of THE STANDARD—SIR:

The subject of proportional representation, discussed from time to time in THE STANDARD, is of the utmost importance, for it is only as our Government really represents the people that reformers can hope to be successful, or indeed, that we may hope to maintain such limited degree of freedom as we now possess. If Government does not represent the people, it must of necessity represent a class, and that class will, as a matter of course, legislate to its own advantage. That the people feel that they are not represented is evident from the fact that their attendance at the polls is secured only as a result of herculean exertion on the part of those directly concerned. That this feeling is general is evidenced by the fact that stump speakers are everywhere at pains to explain that the real power in politics is with the voters. That this feeling is founded in fact is shown by election returns from any city or State. The Congressional or Electoral College vote. The Minnesota election by Mr. Cooley reveals the conditions under which "we so-called" must needs assert our power. He says that in Minnesota the Republicans polled less than three-fifths of the votes and have five Congressmen, while the Democrats polled two-fifths and have no representative. I have lived for a number of years in the notorious "Billy" Mason's district (Third Congressional, Illinois), and during said residence have known (or believed) myself as completely disfranchised, so far as Congressional representation is concerned, as though I were an inhabitant of a foreign country.

The inertia of the people is not wholly due to indifference, but is partially explained by the fact that they feel that "somehow" their efforts are wasted—that they are chopping sand. The machinations of that bugbear of American political life, the politician, is held to account for this state of affairs, when, in truth, under our present system of representation, we are ruled by a majority of a minority, which inevitably tends to class legislation, wherein the politician, as we have come to know him, finds his natural level. If the people are to rule they must have opportunity not only to cast their ballots, but also to make the weight of those ballots felt in representative assemblies.

To do any good in the world, however, we must act as other than mere censors; we must propose methods better than those that now obtain, which brings us to the plans offered by Mr. Cooley and Mr. Adams, respectively.

Mr. Cooley advocates the system proposed by Mr. Hare, of England, and Mr. Andrae, of Denmark, and which has the indorsement of John Stuart Mill, who says in his autobiography: "I saw in this great practical and philosophic idea the greatest improvement of which the system of representative government is susceptible."

If it were practicable the people would assemble en masse for legislative purposes; this being impossible, power is delegated to certain of their number to act as their representatives. If such representation is fair, the legislative body will be simply a condensation—a reproduction of the body politic in miniature. It seems evident that a representative body should possess the same elements as do the people represented. One element, perhaps the most essential to any people, is equality; another, possibly next in order of importance, is liberty.

Mr. Hare's system certainly secures both of these. And it is equally certain that the plan proposed by Mr. Adams fails in both. His idea that the vote of each legislator or Congressman should

have value in proportion to the number of ballots cast for said representative, involves inequality among representatives. For it is certain that some will receive many times the number of votes cast for others. If this is disputed, I can only say self-evident facts cannot be discussed. If Congress were so constituted, the interference of powerful members with executive appointments as the price of their support in certain pet measures, would make the present state of our civil service appear like spotless purity in comparison: while the "small" Congressman would discover that his vote was valued at about two country post offices, at the hands of his greater colleague. At the Executive Department he would be too small to consider. Thus, the condition of equality being impaired, liberty will vanish in like degree.

Under the Hare system each representative is the equal of each of his colleagues, as is each citizen the equal of his fellow; and while there is nothing known in human affairs in which there is not an element of waste, this system seems to reduce waste to the minimum consistent with the maintenance of equality and liberty among the members of legislative bodies.

Mr. Adams seems to realize some of the difficulties in his way, and endeavors to partially remove them by the device of the primary election. We might dismiss this idea with the statement of the known fact that primary elections are, as a rule, attended by only a few voters. It is difficult to secure the attention of the voters generally at the election proper. But there is a more serious objection, though it grows out of the fact just stated. As but few voters attend primaries the machine politicians and their friends usually succeed in running them to their own satisfaction. As a matter of practical politics this is just the difficulty we wish to avoid by the adoption of the proportional system.

The number of votes necessary to elect being approximately known, voluntary organization on the part of the necessary quota insures success. No possible packing of primaries will prevent, and all of the expense and the legislative interference necessary to primaries, even the appearance of fair play, will be saved. At present such voluntary organizations do not come into existence, simply because it is known that a plurality at least of the votes of a particular district must be secured in order to success, and it is a fact that large bodies of men will not continue at a losing fight. This was shown in the labor campaign in Chicago a few years ago. The labor party cast 25,000 votes. The Democrats joined with the Republicans, and together they cast 52,000 votes. The whole result of the labor vote was the election of one Alderman. The next year they gathered less than 5,000 votes, and presently entirely disappeared.

We are asked repeatedly how the Australian system would overcome the evils of the primary, and, of course, explain that it is not proposed as a remedy for that disgrace; another measure is needed to accomplish that end. And now comes Mr. Adams and offers, as a necessary basis for a reform scheme, one of the very things the reform is intended to overcome.

At present, the primary having given its command, voters find themselves locked in districts unable to resent party tyranny, unless by the practically hopeless method of antagonizing the machine; but even this forlorn hope is cut off by Mr. Adams' proposal, as, under his scheme, the action of the primary is binding. Under the Hare system voluntary organization could (and we, Single Taxers, know it would) overcome the action of the primary; and one such organization would inevitably beget others.

One organization electing its brainiest men, others would be compelled to the same course, from which would result just as extreme partisanship as now, but would it not become intelligent rather than idiotic? Would not our aristocracy find great difficulty in controlling such organizations by "blocks of five" methods?

Chicago, Ill.

JOHN Z. WHITE.

A TARIFF LIAR CAUGHT AND EXPOSED.

Some time ago there appeared in the Erie, Pa., Herald, credited to the Morning Dispatch of that city, an item which ran as follows:

Pears' soap, made in England, is sold there at 12 cents per cake. It is shipped here, pays 20 per cent. tariff duty for admission to American markets, and retails at ten cents per cake, and occasionally at five cents. Do our consumers pay the tariff?

Messrs. Gaunt & Janvier, the American agents for Pears' soap, had their attention called to this item, and they thereupon wrote the following letter, which explains itself:

NEW YORK, April 6, 1891.

Chicago Inter-Ocean, Chicago, Ills.

DEAR SIR: Our attention has been called to a cutting from your editorial of March 31, in which you say that "Pears' soap, English made, and sold in England at twelve cents per cake, pays 20 per cent duty for admission to the American market, and is sold there regularly at ten cents and occasionally at five cents. Hence, 'the tariff duty has not added to the price.'"

So intelligent a paper as yours will surely want to be put right on several mis-statements made in the above.

The soap is not sold in England at twelve cents a cake but generally from seven to eight cents.

The soap does not pay 20 per cent duty for admission, but fifteen cents per pound specific.

It is not sold regularly in the American market at ten cents.

You evidently have assumed that the marked retail price, 6d., is the price at which the unscented soap is sold in London. It is cut there as well as here to near cost price. We sell to jobbers here at precisely the English prices plus duty and shipping charges. See price list enclosed.

We have yet to find importers who do not add to their imported goods the actual duty which they pay the United States Government, and which, of course, the people have to pay back to the importer.

The net price of the unscented soap in London is about seventy-eight cents United States money; one dozen soap weighs $2\frac{1}{4}$ lbs., and upon this the United States Government assesses fifteen cents per lb., or $33\frac{3}{4}$ cents. This is added to the cost of the soap, and in addition there is also added the cost of the United States Consul fees in London, and the cost of clearance from the Custom House in landing here. These, together with the freight, make \$1.16, at which price we sell the jobbers.

We have known Pears' soap to be sold in Chicago at 4 cents per cake, or 48 cents per dozen, for which the purchaser paid us in New York \$1.16 per dozen, he himself paying the freight to Chicago; he therefore sold the goods at much less than half the cost to him, and he seemed to think this was good advertising.

It seems to us that you have taken an unfortunate example to illustrate your argument. The tariff is unquestionably a tax, and is just as surely added to the cost of the goods as the freight is added to the beef in New York when brought from Chicago, or grain from Chicago, or oranges which are brought from California.

You must know that the selling price of an article at a certain point is based, first, upon the selling price at the place of production or manufacture, plus transportation and other charges.

People, of course, may sell a certain article for less than cost, but that the great bulk of business is not done in this way goes without saying. We are, gentlemen, respectfully yours,

GAUNT & JANVIER.

In course of time the following private reply came to this clear cut and complete denial of the original statement in the Inter-Ocean:

THE INTER-OCEAN, CHICAGO, April 10, 1891.

MESSRS. GAUNT & JANVIER, 365-7 Canal Street, New York.

GENTLEMEN: Your favor of date 6th of April has been referred to me. The firm mentioned by the Inter-Ocean as selling Pears' soap at five cents a cake assures me that it did not sell at a loss; that it does not buy from Pears' New York agency; that it purchases surplus lots of all sorts of goods, Pears' soap included, at nominal rates. Tariff very seldom, very seldom, indeed, is added to cost. The Welsh tin-plate makers, who have given assurance of their willingness to supply American dealers with plates at old rates under an increased duty, will enlighten you on this point.

Respectfully, JOHN W. TINDALL, Tariff Editor.

To New Yorkers who know the firm of Gaunt & Janvier the attempt of a tariff writer in the Inter-Ocean to instruct the firm will be very amusing; but there surely cannot be any victim of the tariff delusion in the whole United States so stupid as not to see that Mr. Tindall, in his silly letter, absolutely avoids the point in controversy, and tries to raise another which is just as easily answered by anybody who deals in tin. Mr. Gaunt promptly responded to Mr. Tindall's letter, and as he has received no answer, either publicly or privately, he has handed the whole correspondence to THE STANDARD for publication. His rejoinder was as follows:

NEW YORK, April 14, 1891.

MR. JOHN W. TINDALL, Tariff Editor Chicago Inter-Ocean, Chicago, Ills.

DEAR SIR: I am in receipt of your letter addressed to Gaunt & Janvier. In our previous letter I called your attention to the fact that the three statements which you made in regard to Pears' soap were not true, and that the inferences you drew are false. In your letter of April 10th you evade the issue, but I assume that you have been imposed upon.

You say that the firm sells Pears' soap at 5 cents per cake, and that it did not sell at a loss.

Now, I will buy twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) worth at 6 cents per cake; this will then afford the firm \$5,000 profit.

Further, when this purchase is made, I will give such an order for advertising to the Inter-Ocean as shall make it worth while to have started the discussion.

If the source of information upon which you make your assertion that the "Tariff very seldom, very seldom, indeed, is added to the cost," be as inaccurate as the source of information about Pears' soap, it is without the pale of discussion, and it is hardly worth while to go to Wales until we have settled the present.

Respectfully yours,

JAMES GAUNT,
Of the firm Gaunt & Janvier.

The lie having once been started it of course runs twice as fast as the truth. Since the above was written the Republican, of Savannah, Mo., has printed the following:

Pears' soap sells for six cents a cake in England where it is manufactured, yet it is sold for five cents a cake in this country, although it pays a 20 per cent. ad valorem tax. Why is it thus? Arise and sing, the tariff is a tax—in a horn.

These things are not due to error or mistakes, but to systematic lying. Protection is a lie and its votaries naturally regard lying as their reasonable service to the delusion they idolize.

A DOUBLE THEFT.

Blaine and Harrison stealing Cleveland's thunder and Harrison stealing Blaine's.

TAXING STREET RAILWAYS IN MASSACHUSETTS.

The Committee on Cities of the Massachusetts Legislature reported, on April 22d, a bill providing that cities and towns may place a local tax on street railway franchises, based upon the rails, cars, etc., the amount of tax thus collected to be deducted from tax on corporations now levied by the State and distributed to cities and towns. In addition to this it provides for a local tax of five per cent. on the dividends of such corporations, which may be increased at the rate of half of one per cent. a year until it reaches ten per cent. of the dividends. What provision, if any, exists to prevent the companies from diminishing their dividends and watering their stock is not stated in the newspaper summaries of the bill. One important feature of the measure gives to any city or town the right to purchase outright the tracks of any company at the end of twenty years. Another important feature, which will probably be interpreted by the courts as a contract, provides that no other tax of a similar nature shall be levied for thirty years. The newspapers likewise fail to state where the members of the Massachusetts Legislature of 1891 obtained the right to thus limit the taxing power of all future representatives of the people of that commonwealth up to the session of 1921.

Whatever the source of this power, its exercise is said to be satisfactory to the street railway companies since it gives them undisturbed possession of their present franchises for from twenty to thirty years. In the present state of public feeling this is regarded as so much of a concession that it is rumored that the powerful West End Company will not only abandon its opposition, but will promote the passage of the bill.

KANSANS MUST STUDY SOCIAL QUESTIONS.

The Dickinson County (Kan.) Central Committee of the People's Party, in an address to the people, congratulates them on the victory achieved in the last election, but says the work for which the party was organized has just begun. In the address occurs this:

We have only just shown our hand, crude and imperfect, but with a will and a determination that knows no failure. We call upon all township committees—and if there is any township which has not a committee, see to it at once that you form one—to call your known workers together and have public meetings at which to discuss those questions which must be solved. Do not be backward; do not be afraid. Be courageous, be aggressive, be determined to understand the new political economy on land, transportation and money. The first includes the relation of man to the earth, and also includes taxes, the fetish of protection, wages, and the distribution of wealth. The whole social problem of the day is contained in our first demand, that man has the right to live. He cannot live without a home. We must not ignore the tariff tax; we must show our democratic friends that we are absolute Free Traders. No paltry reduction of the tariff will suit us. We must call them forward to follow us; we cannot go to them. We must settle the tariff question by freedom. We must take this stand. We must make this fight on these lines. We shall succeed; we know no such thing as failure; but if we are half-hearted, afraid to speak the truth, ruin will surely follow, for we shall not have the support of true Democrats who believe that taxation is the first true reform. Let our slogan be, "Equal rights to all, special privileges to none." Then they will follow our standard and give that hearty support that good and just men can give without partisanship; and if men cannot sink such party feelings, what hope, what consolation is there that the time will come when we shall see eye to eye and agree for the common benefit of all. And to republicans friends we say, Come and examine with us those social problems in a true manly spirit, ever bearing in mind that what good men desire is justice, and true men will not be satisfied with less. Attend the open meetings of the sub-alliance; see that live questions are called up and discussed, not in any party spirit, but with true moral courage. Then success will attend our noble work, and in after years we shall be glad we were born in such times as these.

PERSONAL.

George E. Bedell, of Herkimer, this State, was in the city on business last week. He spent an evening with the members of the Manhattan Single Tax Club. Mr. Bedell says that the Single Tax idea has many friends in his section now.

* * *

Quite a number of the compositors who were locked out of the office of the Boston Post a month or so ago have found situations in the newspaper composing rooms of this city.

* * *

Beginning Monday, May 4, Mr. and Mrs. James A. Herne will present at Chickering Hall, Boston, every evening and Wednesday and Saturday afternoons, their radical play "Margaret Fleming." The authors say it is the "first American naturalistic play, with a great moral motive," yet written in this country.

* * *

John Lavis, of Dorchester, Mass., a well-known Single Taxer and correspondent of THE STANDARD, is suffering at his home from paralysis of the right arm, produced by lead poisoning.

* * *

In an article on the iron trade in the Englewood Times, Mr. E. J. Shriver, Secretary of the Metal Exchange in this city, says that a vast deal of rubbish has been set afloat about the great advantages offered for iron making in the South. He thinks much of the talk has been inspired by a desire to sell Southern ore lands. He denies that coal and ore lie any

closer together in Alabama than in Pennsylvania, and that labor is cheaper in the South. The unskilled negro labor that was employed at the beginning of the industry is now for the most part abandoned. It looked cheap, but when it came to results, it was decidedly costly. The increased area for iron supply has, however, decreased the price of iron, and the only effect the tariff can have in the matter, Mr. Shriver very clearly sees, is to confine this increased supply to our own market instead of letting it go wherever it is wanted. Mr. Shriver is living out at Englewood now, and he will doubtless straighten up that community on the tariff question, and gradually get them ready for a reception of the Single Tax.

* * *

Rev. Harold Rylett, on March 11, delivered, before the Manchester (England) Statistical Society, an address on "The Taxation of Land Values," in which he showed that the adoption of such a method of taxation "would be at once equitable and economically advantageous," and therefore "in the highest degree expedient."

* * *

John Brown, of the Manhattan Single Tax Club, has again returned from a business trip. Business, he says, is very bad; the commercial travelers he met were all "kicking like steers" over the dismal outlook.

SIGNS OF PROGRESS.

Montreal Weekly Witness March 18, 1891.

Kansas has sent a Farmer's Alliance man, who believes that the Customs' tariff of the United States should not be higher than fifteen per cent. to the United States Senate as a successor of Ingalls, the High Protectionist. Illinois has just elected a Democrat and a tariff reformer as its Senator. And so the good work goes on. By 1893 there will be a tariff reform President and a tariff reform Senate, as well as a tariff reform House of Representatives, in power at Washington, and then the tariff wall will fall, not as it has grown, stone by stone, but in great masses.

WHY TAX IT AT ALL?

Tecumseh (Mich.) Herald.

Why should personal property be taxed at all? It is easily concealed and is fluctuating in value. It is impossible to levy and collect taxes upon personal property with equity. The plan of taxing all kinds of property indiscriminately is a beautiful theory, but centuries of experience have proven it to be utterly impracticable. Men who have made taxation a special study are rapidly coming to the conclusion that all taxes should be laid upon land and land values, and corporations holding realty. The general drift of legislation at present is in this direction.

THE RICH MAN'S DOG IS BETTER OFF.

Boston Globe.

A gentleman in this State interested in canine perfectibility proposes to spend \$7,000 upon a residence for his dogs and \$5,000 more upon their surroundings and convenience. To be born a blooded dog appears to have some advantages that not a few human beings might envy.

LOOK AT BOTH BILLS.

Lawrence, Mass., Tribune.

The *American* says: "Look at your next sugar bill and see how much clear cash the McKinley bill has saved you." But it doesn't tell its readers to look at their next potato bill and see how much clear cash the McKinley bill has cost them.

THAT'S REGULAR.

Yankee Blade.

Landlord—I'm going to raise your rent, Mr. Clark.

Clark—Why, rents haven't gone up, have they?

Landlord—No, but I see you've been making some improvements on the house. That, of course, ought to make it bring more rent.

SEETH HE THE FELINE?

Detroit Tribune.

Mayor Pingree has joined the "Single Tax" fraternity. As both a manufacturer and a real estate owner, he "knows how it is himself."

CALL IN AT ANY SINGLE TAX CLUB, LUDSHIP.

Sir Charles Tupper.

"Tell me of one man in the United States who is in favor of absolute Free Trade."

VOTE AS YOU SHOT!

W. G. Sellers in San Francisco Star.

Vote as you shot, in the glorious days

When freemen fought and won!

Vote as you toiled, and marched, and charged

Beneath the Southern sun!

Vote as you fought; for the rights of man,

Unjustly withheld by greed!

Vote as you shot; till North and South

The toilers shall be freed!

Vote like a man, against the horde

Of Oligarchy's tools!

Vote for the right! Fear not the jibes

Of party slaves and fools!

Vote to unfetter all honest trade,

On land or over sea!

Vote to cast off the galling bonds

That hamper industry!

Vote for the right of all Earth's Sons

To share her fruitful soil!

Vote as you shot! for the right of men

To the earnings of their toil!

the work which we make. The new tariff, I believe, raised the duty on pottery ware, and shortly after that law went into effect the employers tried to reduce the wages of the men, causing them to go on strike against the reduction, and in our case causing a reduction of wages by compelling the firm employing us to put their men on three-quarter time. If you are acquainted with Mr. M'Kinley please ask him to explain where high tariff in this case makes good wages.

H. J. Wengardner, Harlem.—Fifty petitions. My Single Tax friends and myself are up and doing.

BROOKLYN.

E. L. Smith.—The Women's Single Tax Club of Brooklyn, held a meeting at 198 Livingston street, on Tuesday, 21st inst. A pamphlet on "Taxation," by James H. Canfield, was discussed and unanimously approved as a suitable tract for Single Tax propagandism. The plan of sending the pamphlet to women, representing the more intelligent and reading class, was adopted. Each member was given the name of some woman from a number selected, known to be of such class, and commissioned to correspond with her, and to send to her one of Mr. Canfield's tracts. It is hoped by the club that new material for more extended work may thus be obtained. Mrs. M. Louise Thomas will speak on Wednesday evening, May 6th; subject—Organization, and Woman's Duty in the Reforms of the World. Mr. Bolton Hall will also address the meeting, and answer any questions.

Emily A. Deverall, Eastern District.—On Tuesday, the 5th of May, our club will hold its regular public monthly meeting, at Eureka Hall, 378 Bedford avenue. Mr. George R. Gage, Chairman of Lecture Committee, is making vigorous efforts to make this a successful meeting, and has secured Mr. A. J. Steers as the speaker of the evening. Ladies specially invited. Copies of "Protection or Free Trade?" can be obtained at the hall on that evening for 10 cents per copy, or at any time at 94 South Third street.

VERMONT.

Stephen T. Byington, Burlington.—Thirteen petitions. I have been going around among the Protestant pastors here. One had already signed; one refused; the other five are enclosed. I have been on the cars lately and was surprised at the amount of favorable feeling among my fellow-passengers. Three or four of these petitions are results of that trip.

Stephen T. Byington, Burlington.—Eleven petitions. Five college students, two lawyers, two W. C. T. U. leaders, one merchant, and the secretary of the Y. M. C. A. The latter comes from Scotland, where his forefathers knew something about landlordism, so that he is glad to learn of a movement against it.

MASSACHUSETTS.

J. N. Ryder, Wakefield.—Two petitions to help swell the roll. If we could all get one a week till next December, we would have a large enrollment. I don't know as I can get one a week, but I will get all I can.

NEW JERSEY.

J. A. Craig, Paterson.—Louis F. Post addressed the club on "The Tariff Issue" last Thursday evening, to which a number of Protectionists who were present, listened with close attention, seemingly anxious to learn what were the weak points of their doctrine. If Free Traders are any judge they got the desired information. The meeting was not so large as was expected owing to a heavy thunder storm coming up about 8 o'clock which prevented many from attending. At the conclusion of his address Mr. Post invited questions from the audience, to which our Protectionist friends at once responded, and at 10:30 they seemed to be only getting warmed up to the subject and prepared to stop all night, but as Mr. Post had to catch his train the meeting had to be adjourned. The plan of organization and work proposed in the last issue of THE STANDARD meets the hearty approval of our members. We consider that if the money spent in rent each year was spent in distributing "Protection or Free Trade?" holding public meetings or in other propaganda work, much more good would be accomplished. We shall take some action in this line shortly. I will talk to the People's Park Improvement Association on the Single Tax May 7, and a debate will follow.

PENNSYLVANIA.

"Uncle Tom," Bryn Mawr, eight petitions. The Hon. John B. Robinson writes: "I have no objection to the investigation proposed, although I have steadily refused to sign any of the various papers sent me in regard to proposed legislation in the Fifty-second Congress. I do not assume membership there until December next, when I shall take the oath of office and be prepared to meet any subject that shall come up." The above is the answer to a request to sign the Congressional petition. Like D. B. H., Mr. Robinson plays a double role; he is a State Senator, and a Congressman on the side of the minority. If any Single Tax Congressman should require any information on "Practical Politics, or How to Get There," Mr. Robinson is the gentleman they want to "see."

TEXAS.

J. H. Hall, McGregor.—Nine petitions. I have two friends here that I would be glad if the letter writers would give them a write-up. They have tried to ridicule and buldoze me out of advocating the Single Tax, and they have discussed it with me so much that they have become somewhat interested in it, but yet they will not acknowledge it. If any one will write to them—their address is John F. Guledg, M'Gregor, Tex., and Wm. A. Bryant, M'Gregor, Tex. They are both merchants of the town and are highly respected as citizens, and I think they would be worth the capturing.

OHIO.

Charles Rutger, Cleveland.—Forty-two petitions, which I obtained in two weeks. Three of the signers are old Republicans.

INDIANA.

S. O. Bishop, Clinton.—One petition. As you probably know, The Argus is the only Single Tax paper in this part of the State, and as our county is largely controlled by landlords, you may judge what a very soft snap we

have in the newspaper business. But the sentiment is rapidly growing, and I could use a great many tracts if I could afford to buy them.

ILLINOIS.

Warren Worth Bailey, Chicago, April 24.—We were disappointed in our speaker last night, but in spite of that we had a delightful meeting; the presence of Mr. Charles E. Reid, of Kansas City, atoning for the absence of the gentleman whom we had expected. Mr. Reid has been one of the wheel-horses of the movement in Kansas City, and he gave us some account of the work in that city, at the same time touching upon the beauty and the hopefulness of the great cause which we have espoused. Following Mr. Reid, Mr. Devanon read an interesting paper, the record of a conversation with a protectionist friend, and then there was an hour's running debate in which several gentlemen participated, John Z. White closing the discussion with a speech in which he showed up the true inwardness of the money question as only John Z. White could have done it. To-night he speaks at South Chicago before the Single-Tax Club of that place. Mr. George V. Wells will keep him company. Joseph T. Ripley will be the speaker next Thursday evening. John Z. White, will speak, by urgent request, May 7. John Gibbons, LL.D., will speak May 23.

C. F. Perry, Quincy.—The proposition to build City Water Works by special assessment was voted on at our charter election on the 7th inst. The vote was: For water works, 1,590; against water works, 1,887. Thus the proposition was defeated by a small majority. The closeness of the vote astonished nearly everybody, for when in the preceding Democratic primaries, Major Walker was defeated for the nomination by Ex-Mayor E. J. Thompson, an anti-water works man, the friends of the proposition practically abandoned the fight. Over two-thirds of the new council are City Water Works men; and unless the water company offer pretty good terms, the proposition to build will likely be submitted again at our June judicial election. If so it is certain to carry. We had the pleasure of a brief visit from our famous "Rustic" W. E. Brokaw, last week, and right glad we were to make his personal acquaintance. By invitation he delivered an address before the Trades and Labor Assembly, Friday evening. The Assembly is a delegate body representing about a dozen trades unions. The address was a telling one, full of excellent points and will result in good. The audience gave Mr. Brokaw a hearty and unanimous vote of thanks.

J. M. Place, Chicago.—Eleven petitions. These are all carpenters out of employment in the World's Fair city. I made them see the shadowy, yet beautiful outlines of the cat and one of them says he will read "Progress and Poverty."

MISSOURI.

Henry W. Allen, Kansas City.—As to the Free Trade issue in the commercial Congress held here recently, protectionist papers continue to revile it as having dishonorably stooped to partisan politics. On the other hand, Rev. J. E. Roberts, the Unitarian minister here, voiced fair minded sentiment upon the question when he declared in a sermon upon this subject that "truth is not Democratic or Republican, nor in any sense, partisan." The "question of Free Trade or Tariff," would not be settled without experiments. I expect to pay a visit to New York early in May, and shall take great pleasure in meeting Single Tax men there.

"Pa" Chase, St. Louis.—W. H. Litell is secretary of the Benton School of Social Science. He has just been elected Secretary of the Council of the city of St. Louis, after a hard fight with the opponents of the Single Tax. Thus it is that the Single Tax question is dropping into all sorts of favorable places for fermentation.

COLORADO.

H. C. Niles, Denver.—Thirteen petitions. I am going to move to Melville, Park County, Montana. The work here must be pushed by other hands, from whom you will probably soon hear. My work will be in other fields, for work I will until our cause is won.

NEBRASKA.

George Boeck, Plattsmouth.—Our ideas are gaining right along. It is only a little while ago I had to ask people to sign; nowadays they come to me for petitions and literature treating of the Single Tax.

OREGON.

Wallace Gates, Portland.—Fifty-seven petitions. The Portland Single Tax Club, which has for some time been in abeyance, has revived and adopted the principles of the N. C. of New York, September 3, 1890; also has endorsed the appointment of S. B. Rikken as member of the National Committee for Oregon, and as we are the only Single Tax organization in the State at present, this latter action may be considered as authoritative in Mr. Rikken's case. I hope to be able to give you more encouraging news still, ere long, of the line of work we are about to enter on, which will be largely in the nature of a "still hunt."

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

E. Le Messionier, Port Adelaide, February 15.—The South Australian Register has published a diagram [printed elsewhere] on "South Australia and Its Land Values," from the pen of Mr. James Cumming, an ardent Single Tax man of Adelaide. The diagram conveys to the mind a better and clearer impression than figures can, and we are fortunate in having the necessary facts and figures to construct it from. This will serve to show your readers that the advocates of the good cause are not idle here. I had hoped to have been able to have written that Part XIX. of the "The Municipal Corporations Act" had been carried last year, but unfortunately it was thrown out by our Conservative Upper House, after being twice sent up to them. This Part XIX. gave corporations the option (it was not compulsory) of levying their taxation for municipal purposes on unimproved land values. The whole of the corporations, scarcely without exception, passed resolutions in favor of the principle, which were forwarded to the Premier (the Hon. T. Playford), but the Upper House would none of it. This is now the third session in which the clause has been thrown out, but a third of the

members go to the country this year, and will assuredly be made to toe the mark as to this principle.

It is hard to say what the next session of Parliament will bring forth, but signs are not wanting that the taxation of land values will form a frequent theme of discussion.

The Cockburn Ministry, which was ejected last year, brought forward a progressive Land Tax, taxing land owners of large values more in proportion than small ones, but it was lost, and it seems to be thought its author will bring it forward again. Its discussion will do good, although its being carried would only further postpone the true reform—a uniform tax on all land values.

The great strike of last year which, as you know, ended in a victory for the employers, will have helped to teach the workers that the solution of the problem does not lie in unionism and strikes, but it will take more than one lesson of this sort to drive the nail home. The speeches of their leaders show that in very few instances do they see that the land question is the labor question. However, we must work away with a good will in the great cause of educating them on this point.

In New Zealand the late elections have resulted in a considerable number of labor representatives being returned, and it is certain that some measure of land taxation will be brought forward this year.

I am glad to note that THE STANDARD, excellent as it has been, will be enlarged and improved. The slightly increased price for subscription should debar no real worker from still taking it, and its improved quality will, it is hoped, gain for it a much larger circle of readers.

The following items are from the Sydney, N. S. W., Democrat :

Saturday, February 21, Mr. J. Hindle addressed a crowd of people at the Marrickville tram terminus, on the Single Tax. In the course of his remarks he pointed out that no good could be effected by violence, but only by constitutional methods would justice be gained. Mr. Thomas Osborne, who presided, announced that they were about to form a branch of the League for Marrickville. A good number expressed their desire to join.

On the same evening a lecture on the Single Tax was given in the Assembly Hall, Robinsville, by J. Henderson Cobb, of Melbourne. The chair was occupied by Mr. Bissell. The lecturer after showing that our whole social fabric was on an unsound foundation, strongly advocated the adoption of the Single Tax as the only true remedy for all labor troubles. A vote of thanks to the lecturer was carried unanimously, when he announced that several members of the Sydney Single Tax League would visit the district at an early date, and fully expound their doctrine.

Sunday, February 22, a large audience attended Mr. Waite's meeting at the North Sydney Park. The legality of enclosing the bowling green was the subject of address. Meantime the authorities had unlocked the gate, on the advice of lawyer Piggot, and the meeting seemed to think the principle for which they contended had been conceded in access to the bowling green being secured.

Thursday, March 12, a public Single Tax meeting was held at Athenaeum Hall, Dulwich Hill, Mr. C. Farrar presiding, when Mr. H. J. Fletcher delivered an address. A general meeting of members was then held, Mr. S. Blair in the chair, when Messrs. D. Abel and H. Farrar were chosen delegates to the Single Tax Conference, and Messrs. J. Blamire and J. Gosnell to fill vacancies on the committee.

On the same evening a public meeting was held in the Masonic Hall, Parramatta, for the purpose of forming a branch of the Single Tax League. Mr. J. Burns occupied the chair. Mr. J. Hindle and W. S. Johnson spoke at considerable length on the principles of the movement, and the practical application of the Single Tax remedy. The speakers were frequently applauded. A resolution was carried to the effect "That the time has arrived for starting a branch of the League in Parramatta," which was carried, and the branch formally inaugurated.

Tuesday, March 17, the North Sydney Single Tax League met in the town lecture hall. Mr. J. Malbon Thompson, the president, gave a good address, dealing with some of the more abstruse points of Single Tax doctrine, throwing light upon them. Mr. W. S. Beeby, of Newtown, followed with a thoughtful and masterly address on the ethics and principles of the Georgian philosophy, and was loudly applauded. Messrs. Keen, Matthews, Waite and Siddell engaged in the discussion. Messrs. J. M. Thompson (president) and G. Waite (secretary) were appointed delegates to the Single Tax Conference.

"A Retired Shearer," in a letter to the Melbourne (Aus.) Standard, says that the shearers of Queensland "are to a man disciples of Henry George," and they look upon a man who cannot quote from his works as illiterate.

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

Mr. W. J. Atkinson has returned from his Western trip, and reports that he has received many encouraging promises from Democrats of substantial aid in circulating this book. In Chicago the attempt to induce the small stores (drug, stationery, tobacco, etc.) to put the cheap edition of "Protection or Free Trade?" on sale has been successful. Thus far the greater part of this excellent work has been done by Single Tax men, and it is high time that the immediate beneficiaries of the work—the Democrats—should bestir themselves, since the Single Tax men are the only workers in the Single Tax cause and have more calls upon their time and their purses than they can easily meet. As in evidence that Democrats are beginning to appreciate the opportunity opened up to them we are glad to find, under the appropriate heading, "To Educate Voters; Preparing for the Next Campaign," the following in the Chicago Herald :

"In every portion of the United States the manner of advocating the doctrine of free trade has, within a few years, undergone a marked change. Instead of putting forth the doctrine timidly, it is now advocated without reserve. To further spread the Free Trade idea, the Hand-to-Hand Club, with its headquarters in New York City, has taken up Henry George's book on "Protection or Free Trade?" with the purpose of putting it in circulation in every part of the country, so that the people may thoroughly study the question and be prepared to vote intelligently at the next Presidential election. Arrangements have been made with the publishers to issue the book in cheap pamphlet form. The scheme of the Hand-to-Hand Club is to have the work purchased in large quantities by local organizations for distribution throughout their states.

"Especially efforts are being made to place the book in the hands of the farmers, and already a sufficient number of men of prominence in the Farmers' Alliance movement have been interested to warrant the belief that the farmers throughout the land will be well posted on the tariff before they cast their next Presidential vote.

"The Hand-to-Hand Club has for its officers men well known for their Free Trade convictions, and the work they have undertaken promises well for the campaign of 1892. Logan Carlisle, son of Senator Carlisle, is president; William Lloyd Garrison, of Boston, and Sidney M. Owen, of Minneapolis, vice-presidents, and W. J. Atkinson, of New Jersey, secretary. Through the influence of this organization, reform clubs, tariff clubs and Single Tax clubs in nearly all the large cities are taking an active interest in the distribution of the book either at a nominal price or for free distribution. All men thoroughly familiar with the tariff question realize its magnitude, and that the public, however tried, cannot grasp the subject without a serious effort. The people must be educated, and the idea of the clubs with tariff platforms is to give all the people a chance to acquire this education. It is proposed to put the book in the voters' hands before the heat of the campaign is on, so that the doctrine of Free Trade may be thoroughly digested under favorable circumstances. What makes the proposed plan of action all the more necessary is the fact that many people have become prejudiced in favor of protection by the involved arguments and complicated statistics presented by the sleight-of-hand protectionists. The advocates of the present plan hope by giving the voters ample time to weigh all arguments that the light of Free Trade may shine full upon them and that the sophistries of the protectionists will be plainly apparent.

"Protection or Free Trade?" is regarded by the great body of Free Trade advocates as one of the clearest expositions of the subject before the people. It is written in the simple, forceful style of its author, and goes a little beyond many of the standard works on the subject, dealing largely with the close relations the subject bears to the labor question. It is eminently a Free Trade work for the people who toil, and of no more interest to any class than to the farmers. A. N. Whittington, county lecturer in Kansas, urges the Alliance people of his county to take up the work. He suggests that a small fund be raised by each Alliance to be used in supplying members with reading matter on all economic subjects.

"Our order," he says, "is educational in its nature, and the education most needed, and that will prove most valuable, is comprehended under the general term of political economy, of which the tariff question is the most prominent part."

"W. J. Atkinson, the Secretary of the Hand-to-Hand Club, is in Chicago, making a strong effort to induce the local political clubs that favor Free Trade to join in the movement of distributing, at an early day, Free Trade literature among the workingmen and farmers of the State. Those members of the several clubs whom he has met look with favor upon the plan, and he expressed the hope that at an early day arrangements would be made with these clubs to begin the campaign of 1892 at once, by offering the means of a Free Trade education to every one in the State who should know more concerning that doctrine."

PUBLISHER'S NOTES.

The effort now making to extend the circulation of THE STANDARD is beginning to have some practical effect. Single Taxers are beginning to see that they have the chief interest in making this paper a great success. We are glad of this. We want the case clearly understood. The proprietor of this paper does not propose to "work for nothing and find himself." He is not dependent on Single Tax men for an audience or even for an opportunity to edit a paper. He is, however, an ardent advocate of the Single Tax. He wants to print a Single Tax paper, and is willing to do more work for less money than he could otherwise earn, in order to do that very thing. He would, so far as personal comfort is concerned, greatly prefer to get away to his own cottage in the country and earn a comparatively easy living by his pen. There is, therefore, no pecuniary selfishness in the appeal by THE STANDARD to its friends to add five thousand to its circulation. That will not only extend its influence, but command for it the advertising patronage that will enable its proprietor to carry out plans for its improvement already made.

So far as the general attitude of the paper is concerned our readers understand it. Its editor and proprietor is not ashamed to confess himself a follower of Henry George. He is advocating not merely the doctrine set forth in Progress and Poverty, but the exact plan of political activity set forth in Chapter II., Book 8 of that work. He will continue to do so, and will vigorously oppose all efforts to divert public attention from the question of taxation. Those who object to this course probably cannot be expected to work with enthusiasm for the extension of the circulation and influence of THE STANDARD. All who do feel, however, that the incorporation of the Single Tax into law by the abolition of all other forms of taxation is the one object that transcends all others in importance, must surely recognize the fact that the continued existence of an able and determined Single Tax paper is the one thing above all others worth working for. Other things are important, but this is vital. This is not our opinion alone. A subscriber to this paper, who is an officer of one of the great railways of this country, writes as follows :

You are not mistaken in thinking that THE STANDARD deserves the active support of Single Taxers. I look upon it as the most effective and important medium for spreading the light of the "new political economy" that can be brought into requisition. No other active agency can accomplish so much as a well edited and newsy paper devoted to our cause. THE STANDARD fully meets our expectations; but we all realize how much better it might become, if it could at once command the patronage and support of a wider circulation. What we need is a paper, every issue of which shall contain at least one article of sufficient length and excellence, bearing upon some phase of the social and industrial problems, as will warrant its being marked and sent to some indifferent or inquiring friend in the hope of interesting him in the paper, and at length converting him to the cause of justice and humanity as viewed by the advocates of the Single Tax. But it must be obvious to whoever will reflect a moment that such a paper can not be long maintained without the active and continued support of its friends. If a thousand subscribers could each be induced to get up a club of five, or if five hundred workers would each secure ten new subscribers, what a long stride forward would be made! I earnestly hope you will succeed in getting our friends everywhere interested in this important work. I shall proceed to get up a club, and shall endeavor to add to it from time to time as occasion offers. I think when my vacation time comes this Summer, I shall

be able to put in some solid work as a solicitor of subscriptions, so you may expect to hear from this quarter before long.

It is such men who justify the sacrifice necessary to enable any man fit for the business to conduct a propaganda paper. He sees what ought to be done, and is willing to help. There are thousands who could do likewise who are doing nothing. There are hundreds who are abundantly able to send the paper to a selected list of individuals, or to country papers who are content with making an individual subscription. Let such men adopt the best means of carrying on an effective propaganda. Let them select from among their acquaintances men having some influence in public affairs, and send them THE STANDARD for from four to twelve months. If they will write to such men, they will assure the tentative perusal of the paper, and make it reasonably sure that a valuable recruit will be added. Let those who cannot afford to do this exert themselves, as the gentleman whose letter we have quoted promises to do. No one who engages in earnest work in this direction can fail to accomplish something. The question is not one of ability, but one of zeal, and lack of zeal is generally due to a failure to understand the vital necessity of dropping everything else, if need be, and devoting all energy to the addition of 5,000 to THE STANDARD's circulation.

W. E. Morton, Monroe, Ore.—In the admirable change in THE STANDARD, I can see a grand forward step in the evolution of the Single Tax. I have been deeply impressed with the thought that the editorial and Shearman gems on Democracy, Free Trade, and Free Coinage should not be wasted. I would make the following suggestion: Let every club and individual see to it that every state, county, and local paper, gets a trial subscription to THE STANDARD, beginning with the leading Democratic papers, and gradually tapering off to the smaller. Then carry the same plan with the Republican papers. This method might be carried on indefinitely with leading officials, ministers, lawyers, doctors, teachers, etc., according to means at hand to buy subscription books. There are thousands who have never had their attention called to the glorious gospel, who would be ardent workers if they could once see the light.

Isaac Metloskey, Pawnee Agency, Oklahoma Territory.—Have received the subscription blanks for THE STANDARD. Shall do the best I can with them.

A Single Tax man who is an inmate of Sailors' Snug Harbor, and who has been a faithful worker for the cause, says:

"Time has made it manifest that whether I get THE STANDARD or not is simply a matter of three dollars a year regularly paid for it. Imagine how the loss of such must cripple an earnest advocate of the great truth therein made plain; and it will be evident that the position I am in ought to be avoided as a detriment to the noble cause. Some plan should be devised by which earnest men like myself would be able to rely on having it, even if they never paid a cent."

This is probably true, but if the proprietor of THE STANDARD were to send the paper to all of the deserving people who would like to have it, he would be making, out of his own pocket, an enormous contribution that had far better be divided up amongst thousands of other people. Such a drain would wreck any paper.

L. W. Hoch, the new Democratic Mayor of Adrian, Michigan, writes: "Two of the five to whom I ordered THE STANDARD sent for four weeks have responded. Enclosed please find four dollars. I have written to one, and will see the other two this week. I think I could use another book to advantage. For one, I am with you in your stand on the silver question. Cleveland's letter and the work of such papers as THE STANDARD have prevented a stampede which would certainly have disrupted Democratic organizations. This free coinage question would certainly divide the party in Michigan, while on the tariff issue we are all united and can carry the State."

One of the recruit subscriptions ordered by J. W. Brentlinger, of Pueblo, Col., went to Frank H. Shrock of that place, who promptly writes: "I enclose three dollars to pay one year's subscription. I will not wait until I can secure four copies free. I am heart and soul a Free Trade Democrat. I believe in an honest dollar only, whether silver or paper. I do not believe in the covert form of Protection hiding behind free coinage of silver. I do not believe in the demagoguery of Hill. I do believe in Single Land Tax, in State rights, in true Democracy, Grover Cleveland as our standard bearer in 1892, and Mills for Speaker of the House of Representatives."

Charles T. Monaghan, Denver, Col.—Enclosed find check for \$4 for the following subscriptions. I also send you two recruit subscription.

N. B. Drescher, Editor Independent, Rock Springs, Wyo.—I enclose orders for five trial subscriptions. Some of these I am sure will respond by becoming subscribers. There are getting to be a number of Single Tax men in this town, many of them without realizing it, and mainly, I think, through the continuous but unobtrusive presentation of the doctrine through my paper. I have lately doubled its size and since that have been giving the two columns of matter prepared for the ready print papers. Mine is the only paper in the State advocating the Single Tax, and I never try to hide my opinion on the subject.

C. P. Botta, Whitman, Mass.—Enclosed please find money order for \$4 for the following subscriptions. These are two of the five men to whom I sent recruit subscriptions. I have seen two others who declined to subscribe at present and I shall write to another whom I cannot personally see. I think that two others to whom I sent the paper will become permanent subscribers.

Eugene Withers, Danville, Va.—Enclosed please find \$1, for which send STANDARD to — Sutherland, Halifax County. This is a voluntary subscription. Mr. — came to me and asked me to send it for him. I hope to send you more recruit subscriptions soon. There is a tremendous awakening of interest among the farmers on the tariff question, and I am going to try to take advantage of it, and do something for THE STANDARD and the Single Tax.

George A. Miller, New York City.—Please send me one of those recruit subscription books for THE STANDARD, for which I enclose check for \$5. By a judicious use of it in conjunction with a few personal letters, I hope to do something toward the discharge of one of the moral obligations with

which I feel myself burdened—that of increasing the field of usefulness of THE STANDARD. There is but one paper that I know of that is at once entirely honest, fearless and intelligent, and that is THE STANDARD. It is for my intelligence what fresh, pure air is for my lungs. On Wednesdays, I take several good long breaths in its columns, and feel better for it.

Harold Sudell, New Castle, Del.—I take pleasure in enclosing check for \$2 in payment of two four months' subscriptions to THE STANDARD. I think that both these men will remain permanent subscribers. I am, like most other Single Taxers, an enthusiast, and endeavor with tongue and pen to spread our doctrine. I have been laboring hard with my neighbors and friends, but there are some who, though they have heard of Single Tax, need further enlightenment, as is evidenced by the following remark by one of my fellow workmen: "No wonder Sudell is so much in favor of the Single Tax. He is married, and the Single Tax takes all the taxes off of married men and puts them on single men." This was said in sober earnest.

B. F. Snyder, Tecumseh, Mich.—Enclosed please find \$1, for which please send STANDARD to Mr. —, of this place, for four months. I think you can count on him hereafter as a permanent subscriber. Enclosed please find five recruit subscriptions. THE STANDARD is growing better every week.

J. L. Caldwell, Amorillo, Tex.—THE STANDARD must be sustained whatever else we do. I earnestly approve of your course on the silver and tariff matter. We are just on the eve of victory, and to be sidetracked will never do. Send me a recruit subscription book and I will go to work.

Annie M. Harrower, Wakefield, R. I.—My father desires me to send you the enclosed. They are all very intelligent men and active politicians in the Democratic party. One he knows to be a Free Trader. Two or more have been members of the State Legislature.

F. M. Marquis, Grass Valley, Ore.—I believe that you will get several subscribers from among those whose names I now send in. Please send me another book.

H. L. Buchman, South Bethlehem, Pa.—Enclosed find five recruit subscriptions. Mr. — is a Free Trader, and THE STANDARD did it. I sent it to him through the Cleveland campaign. I think I can obtain at least three subscriptions. I will certainly do my best.

Lewis C. Stolte, Kansas City, Mo.—Please send me subscription blanks. I will see that they get into the proper hands.

John S. MacLean, Columbus, O.—I enclose three more recruit subscriptions, which I hope may work for your benefit. One of these, my partner, has always been a Republican, but is disgusted with protection at last, and strongly admires the Single Tax. He said to me the other day "Mac, if ever I get a chance I am going to vote for Free Trade." It has taken about four years talk for me to get him that far, but I do not think he will ever backslide now.

J. N. Ryder, Wakefield, Mass.—These are all good, liberal men of good standing in our town, and I think that two or three of them will be apt to become subscribers.

C. B. Hemingway, Washington, D. C.—I send you herewith the names of twelve Single Tax men who are not subscribers to THE STANDARD. They have all shown a lively interest in the movement, and several of them have spent some money in the cause.

A. J. Bostwick, Sharon, Conn.—I hope these recruit subscriptions may be the means of increasing the circulation of THE STANDARD, the paper I value above all others.

W. C. Miner, Madison, Conn.—I am more than pleased with THE STANDARD; as it comes every week its contents are regularly devoured, and I hope that it may be a success financially as well as editorially.

FROM WHICH MAY WE EXPECT MOST?

L. S. Wilmarth in the New Earth.

STRAIGHT OUT DEPRAVITY.

Pushing Business Man to ardent Single Taxer—"I'll tell you just where I stand on the subject. So long as I can get what I want for myself, my wife and my daughter, all the rest of the world may go to hell."

OR PIOUS-COATED SELFISHNESS?

Church Leader to same Single Taxer (soothingly)—"My dear brother: the Lord has blessed you as well as me. What have we to complain of? Why not accept His gifts with thankfulness and be content? Why should we ungraciously doubt the wisdom and goodness of His providence to all men, by fretting and worrying and making ourselves unhappy about the condition of other people because they are less prosperous than we are?"

THAT'S WHAT HINDERS, MR. PRESIDENT.

St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

"What hinders us, secure in the market of our great population, from successful competition in the markets of the world?" asked President Harrison in one of his southern tour speeches. The answer is found in the letter of a German manufacturer to the Dry Goods Economist explaining why he refuses to establish a branch manufactory of all-wool dress goods in this country to get the benefit of a tariff protection of 80 to 100 per cent. After a personal examination he says: "The high duty on raw wool, yarns and dye-stuffs handicaps the American manufacturer in his competition with foreign made goods, and precludes any possibility of his being able to work for export."

AN INTERESTING STATEMENT.

Boston Globe.

Jerry Simpson says he believes the whole Farmers' Alliance will soon be committed to the Free Trade and Single Tax programme. This is interesting, considering that the opponents of a single tax on land have always relied upon the farmers to present a solid wall of opposition to it whenever the question might come into practical politics.

OUR HOUSEWIVES WILL ALWAYS BE DEAR.

Boston Globe.

We have not noticed thus far that cheap sugar makes cheap housewives. Maybe President Harrison was wrong, after all, when he said that a cheap coat makes a cheap man in the coat.

SINGLE TAX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES.

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

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

ARKANSAS.

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

CALIFORNIA.

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

OAKLAND.—Oakland single tax club No. 1. Meets every Friday evening at St. Andrew's Hall, at 1054 1/2 Broadway. Pres., A. J. Gregg; sec., E. Hodgkins.

SAN FRANCISCO.—California single tax society, room 9, 941 Market street. Pres., L. M. Manzer; cor. sec., Thomas Watson, 441 Market street.

COLORADO.

DENVER.—Denver single tax club. Every Thursday evening, 1612 Champa st. Free reading room open every day, 9 a. m. to 9 p. m. Pres., O. H. Phelps; sec., H. C. Miles, 343 10th st.

CONNECTICUT.

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

DELAWARE.

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

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

WASHINGTON.—Chas. F. Adams' Scientific Council (No. 2) of the People's Commonwealth. First Tuesday evening of each month at 110 A st. n. w. Trustee, Chas. Newburgh, 64 DeForest st.; sec., Dr. Wm. Giddes, 1719 G st. n. w.

GEORGIA.

ATLANTA, Ga.—Atlanta single tax club No. 1. Pres., J. H. South; sec., J. Henley Smith, 12 W. Alabama st.

ILLINOIS.

CHICAGO.—Chicago single tax club. Every Thursday evening, club room 4, Grand Pacific Hotel. Pres., Warren W. Bailey, 3 1/2 Hudson av.; sec., F. W. Irwin, 217 La Salle st., room 435.

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

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

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

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

INDIANA.

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

RICHMOND.—Single tax club. Pres., C. E. Schneider, 145 South 3d st.; sec., M. Rickle, 915 South A st.

IOWA.

DUBLINGTON.—Dublington single tax club. First Saturday of each month, 805 North 5th st. Pres., Wilbur Bessan, 300 Dodge av.; sec. treas., Frank S. Churchill.

KENTUCKY.

LOUISVILLE.—Progressive single tax club. Open every evening, 501 West Jefferson st. Business meetings Friday. Pres., Christ. Landolf; sec., W. W. Daniel, 803 Franklin st.

LOUISIANA.

NEW ORLEANS.—Louisiana single tax club. Meets first and third Thursday night at 8 p. m. at 131 Poydras st. Pres., Jas. Middleton; sec., G. W. Roberts, 3 1/2 Thalia st.

MAINE.

AUBURN.—Auburn single tax club. Public meetings every Saturday evening, 4 River Road. Pres., A. C. Dunlap; sec., W. G. Andrews, P. O. Box 703.

MARYLAND.

BALTIMORE.—Single tax league of Maryland. Every Monday at 8 p. m. in hall 506 East Baltimore st.; Pres., Wm. J. Ogden, 5 North Carey st.; cor. sec., J. W. Hazel, 98 S. Broadway; cor. sec., Dr. Wm. N. Hill, 1436 E. Baltimore st.

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

MASSACHUSETTS.

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

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

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

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

HAVERHILL.—Haverhill single tax league. Meets every Thursday evening, at 75 Merrimac st. Pres., Geo. W. Pettengill; cor. sec., Edward A. Colburn, 4 Green st.

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

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

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

ROXBURY.—Single tax club. Pres., J. R. Carrett, 30 Court st., Boston; sec., Henry C. Romaine, 959 Tremont st.

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

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

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

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

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

ST. LOUIS.—St. Louis single tax club. Tuesday evenings at 307 1/2 Pine st., third floor; business meetings first Monday of each month. Rooms open every evening. Public meetings first and third Thursday of each month at Bowman's Hall, 11th and Locust sts. Pres., H. H. Hoffman; sec., J. W. Steele, 2738 Gamble st.

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NEBRASKA.

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

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

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THE SINGLE TAX PLATFORM.

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

We assert as our fundamental principle the self-evident truth enunciated in the Declaration of American Independence, that all men are created equal and are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights. We hold that all men are equally entitled to the use and enjoyment of what God has created and of what is gained by the general growth and improvement of the community of which they are a part. Therefore, no one should be permitted to hold natural opportunities without a fair return to all for any special privilege thus accorded to him, and that value which the growth and improvement of the community attach to land should be taken for the use of the community.

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

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

Since in all our states we now levy some tax on the value of land, the single tax can be instituted by the simple and easy way of abolishing, one after another, all other taxes now levied, and commensurately increasing the tax on land values, until we draw upon that one

source for all expenses of government, the revenue being divided between local governments, state governments and the general government, as the revenue from direct taxes is now divided between the local and state governments; or, a direct assessment being made by the general government upon the states and paid by them from revenues collected in this manner.

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

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

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

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

The single tax, therefore, would—

1. Take the weight of taxation off of the agricultural districts where land has little or no value irrespective of improvements, and put it on towns and cities where bare land rises to a value of millions of dollars per acre.
 2. Dispense with a multiplicity of taxes and a horde of taxgatherers, simplify government and greatly reduce its cost.
 3. Do away with the fraud, corruption and gross inequality inseparable from our present methods of taxation, which allow the rich to escape while they grind the poor. Land cannot be hid or carried off and its value can be ascertained with greater ease and certainty than any other.
 4. Give us with all the world as perfect freedom of trade as now exists between the states of our Union, thus enabling our people to share, through free exchanges, in all the advantages which nature has given to other countries, or which the peculiar skill of other people has enabled them to attain. It would destroy the trusts, monopolies and corruptions which are the outgrowths of the tariff. It would do away with the fines and penalties now levied on anyone who improves a farm, erects a house, builds a machine, or in any way adds to the general stock of wealth. It would leave everyone free to apply labor or expend capital in production or exchange without fine or restriction, and would leave to each the full product of his exertion.
 5. It would, on the other hand, by taking for public use that value which attaches to land by reason of the growth and improvement of the community, make the holding of land unprofitable to the mere owner, and profitable only to the user. It would thus make it impossible for speculators and monopolists to hold natural opportunities unused or on a half used, and would throw open to labor the illimitable field of employment which the earth offers to man. It would thus solve the labor problem, do away with involuntary poverty, raise wages in all occupations to the full earnings of labor, make overproduction impossible until all human wants are satisfied, render labor-saving inventions a blessing to all, and cause such an enormous production and such an equitable distribution of wealth as would give to all comfort, leisure and participation in the advantages of an advancing civilization.
- With respect to monopolies other than the monopoly of land, we hold that where free competition becomes impossible, as in telegraphs, railroads, water and gas supplies, etc., such business becomes a proper social function, which should be controlled and managed by and for the whole people concerned, through their proper government, local, state or national, as may be.

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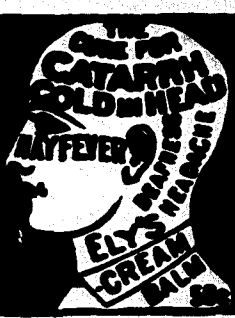
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