THE STANDARD

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THE TAX ON TIN PLATE.—The persistent misrepresentation of the facts concerning the increased duty on tin plate, by the defenders of the McKinley bill, has doubtless really deceived the credulous victims of the Protection superstition. They have been assured that the prices of tin plate have not gone up, and that the American manufacturers of the article are abundantly able to supply the demand. No Republican newspaper office is complete now without a tin plate, alleged to be of American manufacture, in its window. Now the singular thing about all this is that there is not a word of truth in it, and that Protectionist editors and writers dare utter these falsehoods in the face of the fact that every considerable user of tin plate knows that they are false.

In the course of a recent business talk with Mr. C. B. Cooper, president of the National Sheet Roofing Company, the editor of THE STANDARD asked Mr. Cooper how the change in the tariff had affected his business. The result of the conversation was the article printed elsewhere. These statements are not those of a politician defending a theory, but of a hard working manufacturer who has to buy large quantities of tin. Although the increased tariff has not yet gone into effect, Mr. Cooper shows that the price of roofing tin has already gone up more than $1 a box. He further says that though roofing tin is made in this country, that he can find no one prepared to furnish it in sufficient quantities to keep even his own shop going, and that the only result thus far of this most senseless and wanton outrage has been to increase the cost of tin roofing to consumers.

We have no doubt that the change may result in increasing the output of a few tin plate manufacturers, but they will sell their tin at about the price of the imported article, and the increased price will restrict consumption and probably throw out of work a greater number of men in the various industries using tin plate than will bring in from other countries to work in the tin plate factories. Thus our people will be taxed and inconvenienced without even accomplishing the pretended object of the Protectionists—that of putting more men to work.

If there is an opening in this country for the manufacture of tin plate, the industry could have been started without laying this additional burden on all consumers. As a matter of fact the most hopeful start in that direction had been made before the McKinley bill was framed. At a recent meeting of tin plate manufacturers in this city, D. M. Somers, of Somers Bros., Brooklyn, presided. Mr. Somers is described by the Brooklyn Eagle as "a Free Trade Democrat." He certainly did not talk like a Protectionist. He said he did not approve of the McKinley bill, and that he had begun building his mill to make tin plate before that bill became a law. He knew that bill would help his enterprise, but he did not depend on it for success. He believed that his success would be a triumph of American ingenuity over other countries and not a matter of tariff rates. Here we have the matter in a nutshell. Mr. Somers believed that the time had come for establishing this industry and he was willing to invest his own money in it, even if he were subjected to some temporary loss, in the beginning, in selling at the prices that prevailed under the old law. He did not ask Congress to put up prices for his benefit. Mr. Somers is an honest man and a useful citizen, and not a tariff beggar.

As a matter of fact, the thing that he depended on, as he said, was "not a matter of tariff rates" at all. He indulges in no cant about his desire to benefit American labor, nor any other form of false pretence. He thinks he sees a chance to make money by going into this business, and he plainly told the assembled manufacturers that he expected when his factory started in September *to do the work with one-half the labor*, and that the advantage thus gained would enable him to meet all foreign competition. This is frank and manly. If Mr. Somers' expectations are fulfilled he will be able to sell tin plate at lower prices than those prevailing before the passage of the McKinley bill. That bill will enable him to obtain higher prices. We presume he will get them, but that will not be his fault, but the fault of the people who elected Harrison and the Congress of Abominations, because two years ago they were credulous fools who believed whatever dishonest leaders told them. Many of them have learned better since.

TWO CRITICS OF THE STANDARD.—Among the "Letters to the Editor" in this issue of THE STANDARD will be found two that illustrate the impossibility of editing a paper that shall suit all Single Taxers. Mr. Ogden is ready to work for the establishment of the Single Tax, though he has finally argued himself into an utter disbelief in the cardinal doctrine set forth in "Progress and Poverty." This is not all. He is somewhat out of temper because THE STANDARD does not abandon the clearly expressed opinion of its founder and advocate the Single Tax on the lines laid down by W. D. Ogden instead of on those laid down by Henry George.

Mr. Leedom, on the other hand, would like to abandon all of the noise and hurly-burly attendant on the effort to attain our objects by political effort, and give himself up to the contemplation of the beauty of holiness, varied by occasional denunciations of the crime of landlordism. It is true that he would like to have a propaganda carried on, but it would be a purely literary one, and it might accomplish nothing in a thousand years beyond affording pleasure to a slowly growing body of "the elect" in whom it would stimulate a "holier than thou" feeling, unless corrected by the wholesome influence of fellowship in work.

So far as Carlyle is concerned, we do not care what he said. He was a dyspeptic egotist, who cultivated a grotesque eccentricity for the gratification of his own vanity, growled at the universe in a picturesque way, and was so ill-tempered and disgruntled, altogether, that he could not live in decent amity with a good wife. But the passage quoted from him by Mr. Leedom does not justify the inference drawn from it. Political reform that has no moral purpose cannot accomplish permanent good, but so far as it is successful in squaring the statute law with the moral law it does accomplish lasting results. Thus interpreted Carlyle's words might appear to condemn Mr. Ogden's attitude, though that need not worry Mr. Ogden. If for any reason he sees that the abolition of all taxes, save a single tax on land values, is desirable, and works for it, he is doing more good than will ever be accomplished by Single Taxers who are content to swap confidences as to when

and how they first "saw the cat" and engage in a private competitive denunciation of landlordism as "a crime."

So far as THE STANDARD is concerned it accepts and represents the doctrine set forth in "Progress and Poverty," and also the method therein proposed for applying the remedy. It hails as fellow workers, however, only those who propose to *do something* toward giving that remedy practical effect by incorporating the Single Tax into law. It is glad that men who utterly reject its premises arrive at conclusions substantially in accord with its own, and it is not in the least afraid that by undue subtlety it has deceived any of its co-workers into a misconception of its motives. It is not content to wait a thousand years for the realization of its hopes, if by any effort the establishment of justice can be hastened, and it proposes to accept all the aid it can get in abolishing all other taxes, to the end that the Single Tax alone shall remain.

Whether this can be accomplished through the Democratic party it does not pretend to say. That it must be accomplished, if at all, by some party is certain, and it is perfectly clear that the first step is the overthrow of the party of protection. That is the first thing to do, and THE STANDARD, because it sees the enormity of the existing evil as clearly as Mr. Leedom can see it, will continue on the lines of work to which that gentleman objects, and it will welcome Mr. Ogden as a fellow worker, despite its difference of opinion with him as to the underlying principle of the movement.

WHY NOT BE JUST?—Joseph Barondess is not a particularly lovely person, and he does not deserve much sympathy or consideration from Americans. He is a young man who has been in this country but a few years, and who has apparently not made the slightest effort to understand our institutions, or find out whether or not a people having the full power to govern themselves may not so use their power as to establish, by peaceful methods, just economic conditions. He is a red-mouthed, red flag Socialist of the most offensive type, and he and such as he alienate from the labor movement the sympathies of many who might easily be won to aid it. But Barondess has enough to answer for without being subjected to misrepresentation and libel, such as we find concerning him in the New York Tribune of Sunday.

It is true that he has been tried and found guilty under a law, enacted on the bench by Judge Barrett, in the Theiss boycott case, which has never been considered by any higher court. Barondess was not shown, as the Tribune says, to have "defrauded poor working people for his own benefit" out of large sums of money. On the contrary, he offered to prove that the money he had demanded and received was paid to the organization he represented, in part payment of the actual cost of a strike, and that not a cent of it was appropriated to his own use. This offer was rejected by the court, which insisted that the final disposal of the money had nothing to do with the case. It is outrageous, then, for the Tribune to make the charge it does, and say that the jury, at least, believed that Barondess appropriated this money to his own use. Under the charge of the court, the only question of fact for the jury to determine was whether or not Barondess exacted money as the condition of the settlement of a strike or boycott. Barondess confessed that, as the representative of the strikers, he did make an agreement with the bosses that the latter were to reimburse the union in part for the losses it had sustained. The essential part was thus admitted, and the jury could not do otherwise than convict without flying in the face of the court,

The Tribune is greatly excited because some representatives of organized labor have contrasted the treatment of Barondess with that of Chauncey M. Depew, charged with criminal responsibility for the recent fatal railway accident in the Harlem tunnel. It lauds Mr. Depew as a great public benefactor, who has done wonders for "labor." One might suppose from its article that Chauncey had built the New York Central road with his own hands, and paid workmen for looking on while he did the work. The Tribune certainly ought to know better. The credit for organizing and consolidating that property belonged to Commodore Vanderbilt and his son William H. The heirs of the latter did not care to undertake the labor of management, and they hired Mr. Depew to attend to the business for them. Up to that time he had merely been the shrewd and not too reputable lobbyist who looked after the interests of the company at Albany, and he had never shown any marked ability as a lawyer. He is probably a good enough business man to keep things running smoothly and that is all.

The truth is, Chauncey M. Depew is, thanks to the New York papers, the most overrated man in America. At dinners he recites speeches that he has previously committed to memory, and he does it well; but no one can point to any wise word or brave act that entitles him to special honor. He is very much of a humbug. We do not know how far his influence has served to relieve him from any inconvenience as a result of his indictment, but as he has given bail there is no sense in the complaint of the labor agitators that he is out of jail, while Barondess, after conviction, was for some days, until he obtained bail in jail. This is just as foolish as the Tribune's glorification of Depew, but workmen are unquestionably right in assuming that an indictment is very much more to be dreaded by a poor man than by a rich man, and we think they are right in believing that the law never intended such a result as was reached in the Barondess case, or that it would have been so interpreted in the case of a lump sum paid in settlement of a dispute between two corporations.

A SHAMEFUL PROPOSAL.—A number of correspondents have sent to THE STANDARD copies of a circular issued by Mr. C. B. Hemingway, of Washington, and addressed to Single Tax advocates. The circular is put in the form of a regular publication, at $1 for fifty-two issues, and in the announcement we find the following sentence: "The success of this paper and the League depends solely upon the material support given by its friends." We see that Mr. Hemingway does not mean by this to refer to the Single Tax League of the United States. His publication is not only not sanctioned by that organization, but his plan of operations is directly contrary to that adopted by the conference. Mr. Hemingway's proposal, in brief, is that the Single Tax people of the United States shall organize themselves into a political body of strikers and demand of Congress the passage of "an act levying a direct tax of $1 per capita on the various States and territories, to be collected through an assessment of the land therein, on the basis of value, exclusive of improvements," and he prints at the end of his circular a blank form to be filled up and sent to Congressmen by voters from their districts, "demanding" the passage of such an act, and pledging the signer to support for re-election, regardless of party, any Congressman who votes for the proposition, and to oppose the re-election of any Congressman who votes against it. He says, "we must get rid of the notion that a Republican and Protectionist is necessarily opposed to our measures." "A surplus," he continues, "caused by the levying of a direct land value tax would inevitably

cause the repeal of some other form of taxation," and "therefore we need not concern ourselves as to any proposed tariff or other tax reduction."

If this were all Mr. Hemingway's circular might be passed by without other remark than that it is one of those exhibitions of almost insane vanity and egotism that have so frequently injured our movement in the past, and from which it cannot expect to wholly escape in the future. But most of the correspondents who have sent in copies of the circular have remonstrated indignantly against the gross immorality of Mr. Hemingway's proposal that the Single Tax men of the United States shall organize themselves into a body of political strikers. He makes no concealment of this design. He declares that the great majority of those constituting both the great parties do not really have any political opinions, and that it is the "floaters" who "constitute the controlling influence in politics." Some of these, he says, "are bought with cash; some are bribed with office or other considerations." He thus continues:

Party platforms are not written with a view to presenting in definite shape the opinions of the rank and file of a party on the issues of the day. As before stated, they have no such opinions. But, on the contrary,

Party platforms are written for the purpose of attracting "floaters" and securing their votes, and regardless of the *real interests* of the bulk of the party.

THEREFORE, IF YOU WOULD BE A POWER IN POLITICS BECOME A "FLOATER."

This is the secret of practical politics.

So long as you *give* your vote to a political party you will be absolutely without influence. The only way in which you can exercise any influence is by *selling your vote* for such consideration as you choose to name. If you want a particular thing done, give your vote to the *person* who will do it.

But you need not wait until the next election. That is a waste of time. Demand of the *individuals* in office, regardless of party or their own opinions, that they do what you want done, and then let them know that if they do it you will support them at the next election, and that if they fail to do it you will oppose them hereafter.

To be sure, to do this one must set aside *all other* considerations. That the person is your best friend or your worst enemy, as good as a saint or a fit candidate for the penitentiary, must make no difference. If you would gain your point you must adhere to the rule *regardless of all other* considerations.

The italics and capitals are his own, so the emphasis is, therefore, just that which he desires. In order that there may be no doubt as to his meaning, Mr. Hemingway illustrates it. He says:

There are already in every State hundreds of thousands of fully developed Single Tax advocates.

They are now, as a rule, supporting the Democratic party in an endeavor to *persuade* that party to be more radical in its demands, or in the belief that its advocacy of tariff reduction is in the direction of Single Tax.

But political parties are never "persuaded" to do anything, unless the persuader is a knife at its throat or a *new* vote.

Witness the attitude of Gov. Hill. He is unquestionably the craftiest political manager in the country. He is now an outspoken Protectionist. He has not been persuaded to espouse Free Trade because Free Traders vote with the Democratic party and beg it to become a Free Trade party. But let all Free Traders in New York State offer Gov. Hill their votes only on condition that he actively support Free Trade, and give him to understand that they will vote against him if he fails to do so, and there will not be a more ardent Free Trader in New York than he. New York is a close State, and their votes would decide its political complexion. But he is not fool enough (as a politician) to pay a price for a thing he already owns.

Comment is hardly needed. Here, in New York, thousands of good men recognize the fact that Governor Hill has disgraced our State; subjected it to the government of the grog shop; corrupted several of its departments into serving private interests at the expense of the public, and lowered the tone of our politics to a depth never before reached. In addition to this, his pecuniary relations with beneficiaries of his political jobs have caused many to doubt his personal honesty, while the Smith Weed incident is sufficient to cause a proposal to depend on his promises to be greeted with scornful laughter even by his friends. Despite all Hill's faults, however, Mr. Hemingway manages to libel even him by declaring that he is "an outspoken Protectionist." Hill is too smart for that. For the sake of obtaining the mere promise of such a man to support Free Trade, Mr. Hemingway would have the Free Traders of New York stultify themselves and injure their fellowmen by seeking to transfer him from Albany to Washington, and thus broaden his evil activity and his corrupting influence, so that they would embrace the entire republic. It is an insult to address such a proposal to Single Tax people.

Mr. Hemingway evidently recognizes the fact that his proposal antagonizes the policy of the Single Tax League, and he therefore asks those who agree with him as to the wisdom of becoming "floaters" to assist him in organizing the National Direct Tax League. This at least is gratifying, since it will remove the advocates of such a proposal from all connection with the Single Tax movement, and thus save our name from the disgrace of such association.

A FOOLISH FALSEHOOD.—The Scottish American, which, by the way, is about as American as a haggis, thinks it is opposed to the Single Tax theory, though it has not the slightest conception of what that theory is. In its issue of May 6th, under the heading, "Henry George Cornered," it printed the following:

In addressing a meeting at Dalbeattie the other night Mr. James Biggar, of Chapleton, said: "I met Henry George at the hotel after his lecture (at Stranraer), and I asked him whether, when he spoke of confiscating the land, he meant to allow anything for improvements. He said, 'No.' I asked, 'Would you make any distinction between property which had been in a family for two or three centuries and property which, under the sanction of law and custom, had recently been purchased?' He said he would make no distinction. I said, 'What about railways? Would we not have cheaper transport if no dividends had to be earned for shareholders?' He said he would take the railways, too. I said, 'You have been deploring the fact that capital did not provide labor for all who are unemployed. How do you expect capital to be expended in the employment of labor if you confiscate the product of the expenditure, and so afford no return for that capital?' I never got a reply to that query, and Mr. George found it was time to go off to the train."

Henry George never told any man that in taking rent for public use he proposed to tax improvements, he never deplored "the fact that capital did not provide labor for all who are unemployed," and he never said anything in his life that would warrant the silly question this man says he could not answer.

Mr. Biggar is evidently a "Biggar man than ole Grant" sort of person, who has not the slightest idea of Mr. George's doctrines, and who has been doing some silly bragging. The Scottish American has unconsciously exposed him by repeating his boasts where they will be understood.

SCOLDING THE LAGGARDS.—The Iron Age is a rampant Protectionist paper, and, of course, interested in keeping up the pretense that the McKinley bill is going to establish a great tin plate industry in the United States. What would be the use of this if the people have to pay for it in higher prices of tin plate is not be here discussed, but it is quite evident that the establishment of manufactures does not go forward so rapidly as the Protectionists desire; for the Iron Age says: "Tin plate and terne plate are being made at several works, it is true, and preparations are going on looking to the erection of other plants; but there is a conservatism, a deliberation about the whole proceeding, which is decidedly at variance with the activity promised by the advocates of the tin plate industries. It had been supposed that a large number, if not a majority, of the sheet mills would add cold rolls and tinning stacks as soon as adequate tariff protection was assured. This has been done in very few cases, and so far as we can learn there are not many sheet manufacturers to add to the list of tin plate makers." Thus admonished, it is to be presumed that those men who talked so much of tin plate before they got the McKinley bill passed, will accept notice to go to work and redeem

their promises. We assure them of one thing, however, and that is they must not only establish tin plate mills, but they must bring down the price of tin plate to what it was before the McKinley bill passed, if they want to escape the wrath of the people. Such tin plate men as Somers Bros. do not need to be scolded in this way. They do not depend on a precarious tariff for their hope of success.

"TARIFF REFORM."—The Sycamore Democrat, published at Sycamore, Ill., fills up the editorial page of its current issue with quotations from THE STANDARD, and despite the fact that it gives due credit in almost every instance, it gives a general credit in the following terms:

Our editorial page is filled this week with clippings from the best Tariff Reform paper published, the New York STANDARD. The best thoughts of the best writers are always found in that paper.

"Tariff Reform" in this connection is good. We are for Tariff Reform. We would reform it as we would reform small pox or hydrophobia. We are glad to find that this process is what such good Free Trade papers as the Sycamore Democrat mean when they say "Tariff Reform."

A LAND PLANK.—The various industrial organizations of King County, State of Washington, have formed an industrial league which has adopted a somewhat rambling platform, the second plank of which reads as follows: "We believe that occupancy and use should be the only title to land, and that all taxes should be raised from the land, irrespective of improvements." This is very well, but it is weakened somewhat by another taxation plank not entirely in accord with this.

TWO IMPORTANT QUESTIONS.

I am inclined to think that these two questions are the most difficult ones a Single Tax advocate is called upon to answer:

(1) Are there not unearned increments in other things besides land?

(2) Can not a tax upon land values be shifted?

When I say these questions are difficult, I mean that it is not always an easy matter to convince, even intelligent people, that buildings, e. g., do not increase in value as population increases; or that a tax on land values is unlike most other taxes, i. e., cannot be recovered from some person other than the one upon whom it is levied. However plainly Single Tax men may see these truths, it must be borne in mind that the ultimate adoption of the Single Tax proposition depends upon the conversion of our opponents, or at least those of them who are thoughtful, to our views. I offer the following suggestions, not as containing anything original, but as possibly helpful in certain emergencies:

In the first place, it ought to be understood that when we assert that there is no unearned increment in anything except land, we are stating a general truth. We are not denying that there are fluctuations in the values of labor products or of land. But while increase of population is accompanied by no increase in number of natural opportunities, it is accompanied by a more than proportional increase of labor products. Consequently, while the price of land tends to rise, that of labor products tends to fall. If a person starts from, say, Portsmouth, N. H., and proceeds to the summit of Mount Washington, he will frequently find himself going down hill before he reaches his destination; but, upon the whole, his ascents will amount to more than his descents by several thousand feet. It seems to me that his progress inland is a fair illustration of the course of land values in most, if not all, civilized countries; and his return to the seashore likewise illustrates the mode of the decline of the values of labor products

The writer had the following instance brought to his notice as an example of unearned increment in a house:

A man leased a lot of land for a period of ten years at the rate of $100 per year. On this lot he erected a house costing $3,000, from the tenants of which house he received during the first year $150. But population began to increase in that vicinity, and the second year he received $300 from his tenants, and the year after $400. Had not that house greatly increased in value, and was not the increased value due to increase of population? Now, the average assessor and the average real estate dealer know that the house was not worth any more, in fact not quite so much, at the end of the third year as it was when first erected. They know that if the house had been destroyed during the third year, that it could have been replaced for $3,000, unless building materials and the wages of labor had meantime varied appreciably. They know that no insurance company would insure the house for any more than it would cost to replace it, or if a company did do so it would not keep its contract. But there are many intelligent people who have to have these things distinctly pointed out to them. Clearness of statement and frequency of repetition are essential to the removal of doubt upon such points as this. *Sarcasm*, spoken or printed, does not do one bit of good.

Professor Seligman, I think it was, cited the improvement of wine in quality as it grows older as a case of unearned increment, and I have heard the same citation made more than once since the meeting at Saratoga last September. It does not seem to have occurred to the man of letters, and possibly it has not occurred to others, that he might as well have called attention to a hill of growing corn as a case of unearned increment. The farmer brings certain elements into juxtaposition, and leaves nature to do the rest. It is generally considered that he earns about all he gets out of a cornfield. The producers of wine do precisely the same thing that the farmer does—bring grapes in contact with a press of some sort, the juice in contact with a vessel, and the vessel in contact with a cellar or other storehouse. Labor makes the press, the vessel and the storehouse, the ultimate object of all which appliances is to retain the wine in a position where it may be affected by natural forces or processes. Probably wine producers are of the opinion that their product in the end "costs about all it comes to."

Congressman R. G. Horr recently cited the case of a colt's developing a 2.13 gait as an example of unearned increment. But horsemen know that colts of uncertain pedigree do not often develop that rate of speed, and that the training of a trotter is a task to which few men are equal.

But it is not my purpose to attempt to meet all the instances of alleged unearned increment to which my attention has been called. I merely wish to remark, as in the beginning, that while it may be plain enough to us Single Tax men that there is no unearned increment except in land, nevertheless, it is not so plain to other people, and it behooves us to deal with every alleged instance of such increment in other things in a careful and thorough manner, above all, avoiding even such faint suspicions of sarcasm as the writer may have already laid himself open to in the course of this article.

As to shifting the tax on land values, it ought to be understood that the proposition that such tax cannot be shifted is a general one, as is likewise the proposition that a tax imposed upon an article in the course of production can be shifted. Nobody, so far as I am aware, asserts that under no circumstances whatever can a tax upon land values be shifted, or that under all circumstances a tax upon, say, houses can be shifted. The *tendency* of taxes upon land values is to remain

with the person upon whom they first fall, and the *tendency* of a tax upon houses is to rest finally upon the user of the house.

If a tenant rents a piece of land subject to taxes, he will have to pay those taxes, and if the valuation of even the bare land is raised before his lease expires, he will usually have to bear the consequent increase in taxes. But by taking a lease subject to taxes, the tenant is for the time being the virtual owner of the land. On the other hand a tax upon an empty house cannot very easily be shifted, and other exceptions to both propositions might be adduced. But generally speaking, if there is an increase in taxes upon houses, capital employed in building must do one of two things—either itself shoulder the increase, or charge it over to occupants, i. e., consumers of houses. If capital accepts the former alternative it must content itself with smaller returns. But it was receiving, presumably, no more than the average return before, and rather than receive less it will look for investment in some other direction. But, if the increased taxation is to be charged over to the consumer of houses, practically the consumption of houses will decrease, i. e., people will try to content themselves with less expensive or narrower quarters.

The first effect of the increased taxation might be, consequently, a rise in the rental value of inferior houses, and a decline in the rental value of superior houses; but, upon the whole, there is a decreased demand for houses, and, consequently, capital lacks encouragement to invest in that sort of production. After awhile, the increase of population will have so far outstripped the production of houses, or existing houses will have so far worn out, that house rents will rise, and the owners of houses will begin to collect the increase of taxation from tenants in the shape of increased house rents. Capital will then begin to be invested more freely in the production of houses, because it can now count upon receiving the average return. This same explanation will apply to all other products of labor besides houses. Taxation of labor products discourages production, and decrease in production ultimately causes rise in prices.

Taxation upon land values cannot discourage the production of land. On the contrary, it, so to speak, increases such production. It causes some land, at least, which was being held for an advance, to be offered at a lower price, and if the tax were so adjusted as to amount to all, or nearly all, of the annual rental value of bare land, all land now held for a rise would either be improved by present owners or offered for sale.

I am aware that this has been stated before, at least the substance of the preceding paragraph; but I do not recollect having seen in THE STANDARD any very elaborate attempt to explain just how increased taxation upon labor products in the course of manufacture finally tends to rest upon the shoulders of the consumer in the form of increased prices.

18 Story street, Cambridge, Mass. H. J. CHASE.

TIN ROOFING AND THE TARIFF.

For the year ending January 1, 1890, there were imported into the city of New York 2,525,101 boxes of tin plates; nearly one-half of this amount, or about one and one-quarter million boxes, was roofing tin, such as is exclusively used for house covering. As New York imports about one-third of all the tin plate that comes to this country, it follows that the amount of roofing tin consumed is at least three million boxes, which, before the agitation of the tariff question, sold in Great Britain for $2.82 per box of 112 14x20 inch sheets, laid down on our wharves. With the present duty of $1.08 paid, this same roofing tin plate was sold by importers in January, 1890, for $4.15 per box. Although the new tax, which will be $2.36 per box, of same quality and quantity, after the 1st of July, has not yet gone into effect, the present price (April 25) is o the metal roofer from $5.10 to $5.25 per box. The Metal Worker, a protection trade journal, of April 25, quotes 14x20 roofing tin at $5.50 per box.

It is true that roofing tin plate can be and is made in this country. And it is equally true that cotton and wheat can be raised in Europe, but we can find no one who is prepared to furnish American roofing tin plate even at their own prices, for immediate delivery, in quantities sufficient to keep our machinery moving one day in ten. We know of no one prepared to furnish at importers' prices. The effect of the increase of the tax on roofing tin plates is to make the consumers pay a higher price for our goods; the difference between the present prices and the prices before the tax agitation began goes to the speculators who have been, and are still hoarding the product of the English (Welsh) mills. The tariff agitation invited speculation, which, when the McKinley bill was passed, became safe, and that increased the demand, and the English dealer naturally took advantage of our wants. The increased price, like all taxes, is a drain on the labor of this country.

As for the Welsh tin men offering *tin* in the American market at prices as low as those that prevailed before the McKinley bill was passed, that is true, but tin is not tin plate. Tin has been on the free list for years (and is still). The amount of tin imported is very small compared to that of tin plate.

New York City. C. B. COOPER.

THE SINGLE TAX NOT DRAWN FROM WAGES.

MILWAUKEE, Wis.—Apparently Mr. W. B. Scott failed to "see the cat" in my remarks in THE STANDARD of February 11. The point I raised was in regard to those clauses of the Single Tax Platform which declare that "each man is entitled to all that his labor produces," and that "the Single Tax will raise wages to the full earnings of labor."

Undoubtedly, as stated by Adam Smith, "the produce of labor (that is, all the produce of labor,) constitutes the *natural* recompense or wages of labor." But is it not impossible that labor should ever receive such "natural recompense or wages," except in the absence of organized society, ordered and controlled by government which depends upon the collection of taxes for its support? Does Mr. Scott mean to be understood that taxes raised for the support of any form of government are not a burden upon labor, reducing the otherwise natural wages belonging to labor by the full amount of taxes collected out of what labor produces? If he does not deny this, then certainly it must be conceded that under present social conditions, or as soon as any form of government is organized, which is supported by taxation, labor cannot possibly receive as wages the full product of labor.

It seems clear to me that there is an important omission in the following dictum of Adam Smith, viz.: "In that original state of things which precedes both appropriation of land and the accumulation of stock, the whole produce of labor belongs to labor." (See "Progress and Poverty," page 40).

Should it not read: "In that original state of things which precedes the appropriation of land, the accumulation of stock" *and* the organization of any form of Government depending for its support on the collection of revenue by taxation, "the whole produce of labor" will constitute the wages of labor. The same criticism holds good, I think, to the statement of Henry George that "where land is free and labor is unassisted by capital, the whole produce will go to labor." ("Progress and Poverty," page 156). Both Adam Smith and Henry George certainly admit, by implication at least, that labor can never realize as natural wages the whole produce of labor, *after* society is ordered and controlled by a government.

Again, referring to the above quotation from Henry George: "Where land is free and labor is unassisted by capital, the whole produce will go to labor." Land will not be free from a charge for rent, and labor will be as, or more, fully assisted by capital after the adoption of the Single Tax as it is under the present system of private ownership of land; and, if so, then, on the authority of Henry George himself, as above quoted, each man cannot and will not receive all that his labor produces, and the Single Tax will not and cannot raise wages in all or in any occupation to the full earnings of labor, because, under the present system the produce problem stands thus: Produce = rent + wages + interest including profits + taxes. Whereas, under the Single Tax system, the full produce of labor will = rent + wages + interest, including profits, labor being no longer burdened with taxation.

Of course, even granting that under the Single Tax nominal wages should be no greater than now, real wages would probably be increased from a variety of causes, but the point I raise is that the clauses quoted from the platform are "glittering generalities," impossible of realization under the Single Tax, should it be adopted.

J. H. WALRATH.

The reply in THE STANDARD of February 11 was intended to answer the question raised in this letter: as it did not do so to Mr. Walrath's satisfaction, however, I will again try to make it clear that the clauses of the Single Tax platform referred to are not mere "glittering generalities," but propositions capable of proof. For we believe that they are as fundamental and important as the postulate that all men have an equal right to the use of the earth; we believe that there is a sacred right of property on which not even society as a whole can justly infringe—the right of each man to all that his labor produces—and that if the Single Tax is to bring about absolute justice, freedom and equality, it must secure this right.

Observe, first, this essential difference between the statements of the two writers quoted. Adam Smith implies that in the advanced state of society, where capital has been accumulated and land appropriated, wages can never equal the full produce of labor; Mr. George implies that they can never be the full produce of the community; two very different things. Mr. George's statement is:

"Where land is free and labor is unassisted by capital the whole produce will go to labor." The whole produce, that is, the whole produce of the community, will be taken by the individual laborers as wages. And justly, because in such a state of society the earnings of individual laborers represent the whole produce. Is there, however, in this statement any implication that when a state of society is reached where part of the total produce is the result of the use of capital, and part is the result of the joint action of society as a whole, individual wages must still be the whole produce of the community, in order that each man shall receive all that his labor produces? Manifestly not. But in any state of society where organized government exists, this is the case.

Labor is the producer of all wealth: but labor in three forms: labor exerted individually; labor in the form of capital, that is, stored-up labor; and labor exerted communally, as the joint action of society as a whole. The two latter forms of labor assist the individual laborer in production.

How capital aids in production hardly needs explanation; we have but to mention machinery, tools and other forms of capital to realize how it assists the individual laborer; and to see that interest, the extra produce due to the use of capital, is not drawn from the earnings of labor.

Now, in what way does the community, as a whole, aid in production? In the first place, it gives to each individual all the advantages of association, permits the division of labor, and preserves and accumulates the knowledge and power of past ages. The extent to which an individual profits by all these aids, however, depends entirely on his own exertion, hence the extra amount which each individual is enabled to produce is his own earnings and belongs to him. But there is another way in which the joint action of society aids in production; it renders the produce of certain individuals greater than that of others equally industrious and equally skillful, by giving to the lands and locations which they use a value and productiveness which other locations do not possess. The value which the growth and improvement of society gives to certain locations is the rental value of land; the extra produce of the favored possessors of these valuable locations is rent in its concrete form. And this extra product does not depend on extra individual labor. That is to say, society as as whole, or labor in the aggregate, creates a definite increase, a definite part of the total product of the community, by the special aid which it gives to individual producers. In any state of society where government exists, then, as stated above, the total produce is due to individual labor, to the employment of capital and to the joint action of society as a whole. Produce = rent + wages + interest = wages of society or labor in the agregate + wages of individual labor + wages of stored-up labor.

Now we see how any government can raise a revenue for its support without reducing the natural wages belonging to labor. It can do so by simply taking rent for public uses by means of taxation. This, in fact, will be giving to labor in the aggregate—the whole community—its wages; it will be giving to each man his share of the produce which he, as a member of the community, creates, at the same time leaving him the full produce of his own individual labor and capital; and it is, moreover, the only way to prevent some men from taking, as they do now, far more than their full earnings, thus reducing the wages of labor in the aggregate.

The error in Adam Smith's position is not that he omitted to show that taxation reduced the earnings of labor, for he is speaking merely of the primary distribution of wealth, before taxes are levied, and this is always into rent, wages and interest. His error was in looking at capital as the employer of labor, paying it a part of its produce as wages; hence he could not imagine a state of things where capital existed in which labor could get its full earnings. Capital, however, is but the assistant of labor, and cannot draw its interest from wages.

New York City. W. B. SCOTT.

A WORD AS TO FRANCHISES.

I cannot agree with those who would lease or sell public franchises to the highest bidder, and thus derive a part of the public revenue from that source.

All that the holders of franchises ever get is taken from people for services rendered. A street railway company collects all the wealth it gets at all from those who ride. To permit such a company to collect five cent fares and then compel it to turn one-half its gross receipts into the public treasury is just the same as laying a tax of two and one-half cents on each passenger every time he rides.

Is this method of raising public revenue in harmony with correct principles? Wouldn't such a tax be just as bad as a tariff tax? One falls on people in proportion to the street car rides they buy, the other in proportion to the goods they buy. I confess I see no choice between them.

I believe the better way is to make the fare just enough to cover actual cost of service, no more. 1. Let the public own the tracks. 2. Then either let the company that will carry cheapest have the right for a brief term of years or throw open the road to the free competition of all who desire to carry, and let that fix the rates.

Much has been published in THE STANDARD and other papers, carrying the idea that franchise values are exactly similar to land values, and that they might with equal justice be made a source of public revenue. With this view I disagree. Land values are natural and will always stay with us. Franchise values are artificial and grow out of a legal permission, direct or indirect, to charge more for a service than that service is worth. Of course if a rate of service cannot be reduced, better take part of the gross earnings for the public treasury than to leave it all in the corporation treasury. I would like to hear from others on this point.

C. J. BUELL.

THE OLD MAN AND THE ASS.

(LE VIELLARD ET H'AUE.)

[A free translation from La Fontaine.]

An Old Man mounted on an Ass
Was riding down a country road;
On one side lay a field of grass
Through which a purling river flowed.
The day was warm, and very soon,
The sun would mark the hour of noon.

In those old days it was not thought
Strange to hold converse with one's steed;
So when the donkey said they ought
To rest awhile, the man agreed,
And left him free to eat his fill,
And wander at his own sweet will.

The donkey cropped the herbage sweet,
That grew beside the river's brim,
And drinking, saw beneath his feet,
Another ass that looked like him.
Perhaps you'll say he hadn't "oughter"
Cast such reflections on the water

That had assuaged his burning thirst.
However that may be, he laid
His ears along his neck at first,
Then lifted up his voice and brayed,
And kicked holes in the air in glee,
Mad with his spell of liberty.

His master all this time had slept
Beneath a shady, spreading oak;
Awakened by the noise he leapt
Unto his feet, made fast his cloak,
Preparing to resume his way,
Nor suffer himself more delay.

Just at this moment came in sight
A band of robbers, riding hard.
The Old Man shook, his face turned white,
And loud he cried, "O day ill-starred,"
And to the donkey standing by,
"The foe is coming, let us fly,
Those wicked men you yonder see
Would us capture—you and me."

On hearing this, a puzzled glance
Came in the donkey's dexter eye,
"And will they then," said he "perchance,
Pile up my burdens twice as high
As you?" In thought, the Old Man stood,
"In truth, I cannot say they would."

"Will these men sling across my back
Four paniers in the place of two;
Or make me pace a longer track
Than I have daily walked for you?"
Again in thought the Old Man stood,
"In truth, I can not say they would."

"Then," said the Ass, "I don't believe
I'll take more exercise to-day;
Whatever happens, I won't grieve,
For I'm the loser either way.
So save yourself, as best you can,
It's not my funeral, Old Man,
It may be yours unless you go;
My master is my only foe."

New York City. J. J. MURPHY.

DOES THIS SAVE MONEY?

During the late strike in the Pennsylvania coke regions, it cost the State $2,000 a day for the militia sent there to "preserve the peace" between the strikers and the bosses—considerably more than the difference in wages asked for by the strikers.

STORY OF THE WEEK

ENDING SATURDAY, MAY 9, 1891.

ESCAPE OF THE INSURGENT CHILIAN TRANSPORT.—The Chilian rebellion (for the story of which see THE STANDARD of April 29, under title "The Chilian Revolution") has affected the United States in a troublesome manner.

On the 1st inst. the Collector of Customs at Wilmington, California, telegraphed as follows to the Secretary of the Treasury: "American schooner Robert and Minnie arrived at the harbor, south side of Catalina Island, in tow of tug Vigilant, from San Francisco, April 25, with 2,000 cases of arms and 2,000 cases of ammunition of American manufacture. Master states a transport is to meet schooner at this point and transfer cargo for shipment to South America. Schooner and cargo now closely watched but not seized. Please wire full instructions early."

In reply, the Collector was instructed as follows: "No reason appears from your telegram for your interference in the matter of transfer of certain arms and ammunition from the American schooner Robert and Minnie to transport for shipment to South America. It is not in violation of the neutrality laws."

Soon after, however, it was discovered that the insurgent steamer, the Itata, was taking in supplies at the port of San Diego; and it was suspected that she purposed meeting the Robert and Minnie on the high sea, there to receive the arms and ammunition with which that schooner was loaded. This was making use of one of our ports for a base of supplies for war purposes, and was in contravention of the postition successfully taken by us against England in the Alabama controversy. Proceedings for the detention of the vessel were thereupon taken, under instructions from the State Department, at the instigation of the Chilian Minister, and the United States Marshal seized her and arrested her captain. The captain, however, was allowed to return to the ship, which was placed in the custody of a Deputy Marshal.

Late in the following afternoon the steamer sailed away, with the Deputy Marshal on board. He was put off at Ballast Point, a point on the coast about eight miles from San Diego; and he returned to San Diego in the night. The Marshal had gone out on his launch to capture the Robert and Minnie, wherever she might be found in the open seas, outside of Mexican jurisdiction; but she safely reached Mexican waters, and staid there.

The steamer having been in custody, is regarded by the Secretary of the Navy and the Attorney General as still in custody, technically, and it is proposed to capture her if possible. But the State Department doubts the right of the United States to capture her on the high seas, though in this opinion it is said that this department is beginning to yield. However that may be, the Charleston, the Baltimore, the San Francisco, and the Mohican have been instructed to take the Itata, provided it can be done without manifest injury to the capturing ship.

Two deserters from the Itata, who were interviewed at San Diego, tell this story: The Itata belongs to the South American Company. Early in April, she left Iquique, Chili, in the convoy of the insurgent war steamer, Esmeralda, for the nearest American port, for the purpose of buying provisions, and of transferring arms from some coasting vessel. The war ship accompanied the Itata as far as it was deemed safe for her to come, when her captain took command of the Itata, and transferred a large number of armed marines to her hold. It was an open secret among the sailors that they were to meet the Robert and Minnie, but where they did not know. While on board of the Itata they acted under the orders of the captain of the Esmeralda, who told them that they should return to that ship at about the point where they had been transferred, and that then they should sail for Chili.

GOVERNOR BOYD, OF NEBRASKA, OUSTED.—James E. Boyd, the Democratic nominee, who was elected as Governor last Fall, has been removed from his office, pursuant to a decision of the Supreme Court of that State, rendered this week.

Nebraska was one of the States in which the farmers developed marvelous strength at the late election. A clear majority over both Democrats and Republicans was secured by the Alliance in both the Senate and the House; but in the vote for Governor the Alliance candidate, Powers, was behind the Democratic candidate, Boyd, though ahead of the Republican candidate, Richards.

Soon after Boyd's election, a story that he was not a citizen was started: and the Republican Governor, Thayer, refused to yield up the office to him. But Boyd qualified, went to the Capitol, demanded the office and its papers, and, although civil war was for a time imminent, he, with the aid of the farmer Senators and members, secured possession. Thayer then brought quo warranto proceedings against Boyd, and this decision is the result.

Boyd admitted that, though born in Ireland, he was never naturalized, and that his father was not naturalized until a year ago; but he claimed that as a resident of the territory at the time of its admission into the Union, he was a citizen under the Enabling Act passed by Congress at the time of the purchase of Louisiana, which included at that time what is now the State of Nebraska. In this Act it is provided that all residents of any portion of the purchased territory, at the time of its admission into the Union as a State, shall be citizens.

The Supreme Court, which is composed of three judges, all Republican, decide, two to one, that Boyd is not a citizen; and judgment of ouster has followed. The dissenting judge held with Boyd, that he is a citizen by virtue of the Enabling Act.

The first intimation of the judgment that Boyd had was given by the Sheriff, when he appeared with the writ to oust him. Boyd sent for his attorneys, who endeavored to procure a stay pending an appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States: but the Nebraska court refused the stay.

INVESTIGATING McKINLEY'S BILL.—A sub-committee of the Senate Committee on Finance, consisting of Senators Aldrich, Allison, Hiscock, Harris and Carlisle, met in New York this week. The Senate resolution under which the committee acts, authorizes it to inquire fully into the effect of the McKinley bill upon the prices of all kinds of products; upon wages and the cost of production, foreign and domestic: upon imports and exports, and upon the establishment of new and the condition of old industries. No testimony will be taken till Fall.

BEHRING SEA CONTROVERSY.—The latest diplomatic letter on the subject of the Behring Sea dispute between the United States and England, that of Mr. Blaine to Sir Julian Pauncefote, the British Minister at Washington, though dated the 14th of April last, has just been made public. It proposes six questions for arbitration, a proposition that now awaits acceptance by the British Government. These questions will be understood after a brief review of the controversy preceding the letter in which they are proposed.

Behring Sea lies north of the North Pacific Ocean, from which it is separated by the Aleutian chain of islands, which extend westward from the Alaska Peninsula more than two-thirds the distance to Kamchatka. Thus, the sea is like a triangle, with its point in Behring Straits, and the Aleutian Islands for its base. It was discovered in 1725 by Captain Vitus Behring, a Danish navigator for Peter the Great of Russia. In 1799, the Emperor Paul of Russia, in virtue of this discovery, declared the sovereignty of Russia over all the North American coast, northward, from the 55th degree of latitude, which runs two or three degrees north of the Aleutian Islands. In 1821 the Emperor Alexander tried to extend this claim southward to the 51st degree, thereby including the Aleutian Islands. The United States protested against this, but recognized Russia's right to all the sea north of the islands, as a *mare clausum*—a closed sea or bay: and by a treaty between the United States and Russia in 1825, Russia was left supreme in her sovereignty over all the waters north of the islands.

In 1867, the United States purchased Russia's rights: and by the treaty of that year the water boundary line between the two countries was fixed to run northeasterly from a point somewhat west of the Aleutian Islands to a point slightly east of East Cape—the easternmost point of Siberia, and thence due north to the Arctic Ocean. Hence, the part of Behring Sea now in dispute between England and the United States is bounded on the south by the Aleutian Islands, on the west by the Russian line, on the north by the Arctic Ocean, and on the east by Alaska Territory. Since acquiring title, the United States has rented the right of seal fishery to private corporations, and an average of over six and a quarter million dollars has been paid annually into the treasury for rentals.

Russia's right was never questioned, nor was that of the United States, her grantee, until about five years ago, when certain Canadian ship owners began to intercept the herds of seal, as they passed from the breeding grounds on Probilof Island, in the middle of the Behring Sea, to the Aleutian Islands, the southern boundary. It was the basis of the Canadian claim that, though the breeding grounds were within the jurisdiction of the United States, the waters between there and the Aleutian chain, excepting three miles from all shores, were part of the high seas: and that seals found in those waters were public property. The United States, through the Federal District Court of Alaska Territory, seized some of the Canadian vessels as poachers, and in that way the pending international dispute began.

The United States claimed that the sea was *mare clausum*, and also that killing the seals at sea was *contra bonos mores*—in disregard of international comity. An offer to recognize a close season—a season in which no killing should be allowed, was made by the United States: but it was declined by England, who demanded that we first arbitrate the seizure of the Canadian vessels.

No settlement having been arrived at, the British authorities caused proceedings to be taken in our Supreme Court for a writ of prohibition, restraining the District Court of Alaska from condemn-

ing one of the seized Canadian vessels, the Sayward, on the ground that there is no jurisdiction in our Courts to proceed against a foreign vessel for taking seals in the high seas more than three miles from land. Late in April the case came up, and both sides were ready; but the Court adjourned the hearing until October 19, because the importance of the case demanded the presence of a full bench, and Judge Bradley could not then attend. This proceeding has attracted wide-spread attention, as the first instance of a voluntary submission of the merits of an international dispute by one contending nation to the courts of the other.

Mr. Blaine's letter to the British Minister, referred to at the beginning of this title, is in substance as follows:

The President proposes the six following questions for arbitration: (1) What exclusive jurisdiction and rights of seal fishery did Russia assert and exercise prior to the cession of Alaska to the United States? (2) How far were these claims recognized and conceded by Great Britain? (3) Was Behring Sea included in the phrase, "Pacific Ocean," in the treaty of 1825 between Great Britain and Russia? and what rights, if any, were exclusively exercised in that sea by Russia after that treaty? (4) Did not all the rights of Russia, as to jurisdiction and seal fishery in Behring Sea east of the water boundary described in the treaty of cession, pass unimpaired from Russia to the United States under that treaty? (5) Has the United States any right, and if so what right, of protection or property in the fur seals frequenting the islands of the United States in Behring Sea, when such seals are found outside the ordinary three-mile limit? (6) If the decision of the foregoing should leave the subject in such condition that the concurrence of Great Britain would be necessary for the regulation of the killing of fur seals in any of the waters of Behring Sea, then it shall be further decided: First, how far, if at all, outside the ordinary territorial limits, is it necessary that the United States should exercise exclusive jurisdiction in order to protect the seal for the time living upon the islands of the United States and feeding therefrom? Second, whether a closed season is necessary to save the seal fishing industry from deterioration or destruction; and if so, third, what months or parts of months should be included in such season, and over what waters should it extend?

The President does not object to submitting the question of damages to English ships, if the condition be added that, if the United States prevail as to the questions in dispute, all seals taken by Canadian vessels during the period be paid for.

The United States has never claimed that Behring Sea is *mare clausum*, though Lord Salisbury implies the contrary by saying that we now repudiate that contention. The contention of the United States rests, among other grounds, upon the proposition that it has full authority for going beyond the three-mile limit in case of proved necessity, as Great Britain has. Besides two or three cited instances of the exercise of such authority by Great Britain, which have not yet secured comment or explanation from Lord Salisbury, there may be added that of the attempt of the British Parliament, by a law enacted only two years ago, to control a body of water situated beyond the northeastern section of Scotland, 2,700 square miles in extent, and to direct that certain methods of fishing shall not be used within that great body of water, which is enclosed by a line eighty-five miles long, drawn from Duncansby Head, in Caithness, to Rattray Point, in Aberdeenshire.

Lord Salisbury reasserts his contention that the words "Pacific Ocean," at the time of the treaty between Russia and Great Britain, included Behring Sea; and this is true, but only in the same sense that the Atlantic Ocean includes the Gulf of Mexico. There is a common distinction between an ocean and the waters of an ocean, which Lord Salisbury fails to recognize. The explanatory note from Russia, filed in our State Department, plainly draws a distinction between the Pacific Ocean on the one hand and the Sea of Okhotsk, the Sea of Kamschatka, and the Icy Sea on the other; and so long as Russia drew that distinction, it must apply to and decide all the contentions between the two countries as far as the waters of Behring Sea are concerned.

Lord Salisbury is wholly and strangely in error in saying that we do not justify the seizure of British ships in the open sea by any plea that our seal fishery interests give us any right for that purpose which we, according to international law, would not otherwise possess. In fact, the United States has steadily held the reverse of this. It holds that the ownership of the islands on which the seals breed, that the habit of the seals in regularly resorting thither and rearing their young thereon, that their going out from the islands in search of food and regularly returning thereto, and all the facts and incidents of their relation to the islands, give to the United States a property interest therein; that this property interest was claimed and exercised by Russia during the whole period of its sovereignty over the lands and waters of Alaska; and that England recognized this property interest, so far as recognition is implied by abstaining from all interference with it during the whole of Russia's ownership of Alaska; and during the first 19 years of the sovereignty of the United States. It is yet to be determined whether the lawless intrusion of Canadian vessels, in 1886 and subsequent years, has changed the law and equity of the case theretofore prevailing.

THE PRESIDENT'S TOUR.—The President and his party visited Sacramento on Saturday, returning to San Francisco in the evening, where a reception was given to him by the Union League Club. After a quiet Sunday, the party left Oakland for Portland, Ore., early Monday morning, the President making speeches on the way at Red Bluffs and Redding. They stopped for a few minutes at Albany, Salem, Portland and Schemya; and, after spending the afternoon at Portland, went to Ashland, and thence to Grant's Pass, where they arrived at 10 at night. On Tuesday they were received at the Exposition Building, Portland, Ore. They were in Tacoma, Washington, on Wednesday, and later on the same day at Seattle. On Thursday they returned to Portland, which they left on the same day, by the Union Pacific, for the East. On their way East they were received at Pendleton, Ore., on Thursday night; at Boise City, Idaho, on Friday morning, and at Pocatello, Idaho, on Friday night. Early Saturday morning the party arrived at Salt Lake City, where they received from the residents, regardless of party, what is described as "a royal reception."

THE ITALIAN CONTROVERSY.—Regarding this controversy, a report of which appears under this title in THE STANDARD of April 22d, the Marquis di Rudini replies to the letter of Mr. Blaine. His reply is addressed to the Marquis Imperiali, the Italian Charge d'Affaire at Washington, and is in substance as follows:

The perusal of Mr. Blaine's note produces a most painful impression upon me. I do not lay stress upon the lack of conformity with diplomatic usages displayed by him in making use of a portion of a telegram of mine communicated to him in strict confidence, in order to get rid of a question clearly defined in our official documents, which alone possess a diplomatic value. Nor will I stop to point out that the words "punishment of the guilty" used in that telegram, signified, in the brevity of telegraphic language, only that prosecution ought to be commenced in order that the individuals recognized as guilty should not escape punishment.

Mr. Blaine is right in making indemnity dependent on proof of violation of the treaty: but we shrink from thinking that he considers such proof lacking. Italian subjects, acquitted by American juries, were massacred in prisons of the State, without measures being taken to defend them. What other proof does the Federal Government expect of a violation of a treaty wherein constant protection and security of subjects of the contracting parties is expressly stipulated. We are under the sad necessity of concluding that what to every other government would appear to be the accomplishment of strict civil duty is impossible to the Federal Government.

It is time to break off this bootless controversy. We have affirmed, and we again affirm, our first right. Let the Federal Government reflect if it is expedient to leave to the mercy of each State of the Union, irresponsible to foreign countries, the efficiency of treaties which pledge its faith and honor to entire nations.

This dispatch is addressed to you exclusively, not to the Federal Government. Your duties henceforward are solely restricted to current business.

Regarding this, Mr. Blaine does no more than cable to the American Minister at Rome, explaining that Rudini is mistaken in his statement that the message he refers to as confidential, was confidentially submitted, and to send fac simile copies to be used in such manner as will most effectually prove Rudini's error.

Following close upon Rudini's letter, comes the remarkable presentment of the State Grand Jury at New Orleans regarding the massacre of the Italian prisoners there, out of which the controversy arose. It is substantially as follows:

When we entered on our term of service, the trial of the men accused of murdering Chief of Police Hennessy was pending. The verdict, now of official record, was startling, amazing, a bitter disappointment, shocking to public opinion, and provoking the repeated accusation that some of the jury were unfaithful. Our investigation shows that the guilt or innocence of three of the accused, Poliz, Scaffedi and Monasterio, caused an excited deliberation of four or five hours, in which, on repeated ballots, the jury stood six for acquittal and six for conviction. This forces the conclusion that the evidence was sufficient to justify the six jurors who stood resolute and determined for a verdict of guilty. We have also learned that talesmen were approached, through a private detective agency, and that by this means unworthy men were placed upon the jury.

We also find the existence of the secret organization, called the Mafia. Its officers, and many of its members, are now known. The larger number of the society are Italians and Sicilians that left their native land to avoid punishment for crimes; others were escaped convicts and bandits. It cannot be questioned that secret organizations, whose teachings are hostile to the fundamental principles of the Government of the United States, must be a continual menace to the good order of society; and "whether the name of Mafia, Socialist, Nationalist, or whatever it may be, whether located in

New Orleans, Chicago, or New York, the meetings of their members create and disseminate seditious opinions, with a manifest tendency *toward overt acts, whose commission* partakes of the rankest treason." The just execution of law expresses the will of the people in condemnation of crime; but when this lofty principle is contemned by the practice of assassination for revenge or spite, and conceal ment under the most binding oaths, renders powerless the efforts of the law to reach the chief actors, and to secure witnesses, it becomes the duty of the people, in the exercise of their sovereign rights, to *issue their decree of condemnation. That verdict has been rendered.* The power of the Mafia is broken. The popular gathering, on March 14, embraced thousands of the first, best, and even the most law abiding citizens of this city, assembled, as is the right of American citizens, to discuss in public meeting questions of grave import. We find a general sentiment that the verdict was contrary to the law and the evidence, and was secured by unscrupulous agents, *employed for the purpose of defeating justice.* At that meeting the determination was shown that the people would not submit to the surrender of their rights into the hands of midnight assassins and their powerful allies. The law was well nigh powerless. The situation was desperate. No power at the hand of the authorities could have overcome the intentions of the meeting. It was a spontaneous uprising of the masses, which resulted in the killing of eleven persons in the Parish prison. Eight were beyond question American citizens; and one had declared his intentions, which involved renunciation of allegiance to his native country. There were from six to eight thousand people engaged in the uprising: and the magnitude of the affair makes it a difficult task to fix the guilt upon any number of the participants—in fact, the act seemed to involve the entire people of the parish and city of New Orleans, so profuse is their sympathy and extended their connection with the affair.

In view of these considerations, the examination fails to disclose the necessary facts to justify this Grand Jury in presenting indictments.

The Italian Consul at New Orleans writes to the Foreman of the Grand Jury complaining that in the presentment statements made by him are misused, and intimating that some members of the Grand Jury were in the mob. He also writes to the United States Attorney that all but two of the massacred men were subjects of the King of Italy.

The Italian Government is reported as about to address a circular to the European powers, submitting the conduct of the United States to their judgment.

DEATH OF MADAME BLAVATSKY.—Madame Blavatsky, the theosophist, died at London, May 8. She was daughter of Colonel Peter Hahn, and granddaughter of General Alexis Hahn von Rottenstern, a German noble, and was born in 1831 in South Russia. Her mother was Helena Fadeef, a daughter of Princess Helena Dolgrouky, who traced her descent to the founder of the present ruling house of Russia. When 17 years of age, Helena Hahn married Nicephore Blavatsky, a Russian Councillor of State, then 60 years old; but after living unhappily with him for a short time she went upon her travels, which she kept up for years. She was naturalized in the United States, and in 1875, in connection with Colonel Olcott, she founded the Theosophical Society in this country. She had written several books, and was connected with several periodical publications. Since 1887 she had lived in London. It was as her personal representative that Annie Besant, who has returned, came here last month to attend the Theosophical Convention at Boston.

DEATH OF RICHARD GRIFFITHS.—The funeral services of Richard Griffiths, late General Worthy Foreman of the Knights of Labor, which occurred at Chicago on Sunday, were attended by General Master Workman Powderly and other officials of the Order. The body was taken to Hopkinton, Mass., for interment.

DEATH OF BARRY SULLIVAN.—Barry Sullivan, the great actor, born at Birmingham, England, in 1824, died at Brighton, England, May 3, 1891.

COKE STRIKE.—Though the employers have repeatedly announced the defeat of this strike—an account of which appears in THE STANDARD of April 29, under title "The Coke Region Strike,"—and local reporters have, by reports sent over the wires, given color to their announcements, it is evident that it is still formidable; for now the operators, who have arranged to import 6,000 negroes and Italians, say in reply to the censure of citizens for this attempt to drive out steady skilled labor, that they must run their plants somehow. The Executive Board of the strikers decides to continue the strike for six weeks longer. Large importations of Italians and Huns have been made, but the strikers claim that they are shipping men away in about as great numbers as they come.

The evictions continue at the rate of about 100 a day, and the evicted families resort to tents for shelter.

Another murder has been committed in connection with the strike. The superintendent accompanied by two of his assistants and four of Pinkerton's soldiers, visited a workingmen's boarding house, apparently without justification or excuse. A number of strikers, gathered there for social enjoyment, were so angered by the trespass that they called assistance and drove the superintendent and his party away. The Pinkerton soldiers resisted, and being pursued out of the yard, the superintendent ordered them to fire. A volley followed, and one striker was killed. The coroner's jury rendered a verdict to the effect that the man came to his death from gunshot wounds inflicted by an unknown person. The superintendent and his assistants were arrested for the murder; they were discharged, but he was held in $4,000 bail to await the action of the Grand Jury.

According to the story of the operators, when the superintendent and a pit boss went to the house to rescue two men who had been at work, but were imprisoned by the strikers, they were set upon and stoned. Deputies came to their aid. A striker tried to take a gun away from a deputy: a shot was fired by the strikers, and the superintendent ordered the deputies to return the fire. This they did, and one striker fell dead, while another was mortally wounded. The strikers say, however, that the superintendent, a yard boss, a pit boss, and two of Pinkerton's men came to the house to persuade the men boarding there to return to work. Failing in this they left the house. A short distance away they were met by the murdered man and several others, who, knowing their business and its failure, jeered at them. This enraged the superintendent and his party, who, with their Winchester rifles, opened fire. Four bullets were fired, one piercing the head of the murdered man, and another hitting a striker in the nose, but not wounding him dangerously.

CONNECTICUT DEADLOCK.—The political difficulty in Connecticut, reported under this title in THE STANDARD of April 22 and May 6, is only slightly changed. The Chairman of the Democratic Town Committee of Bridgeport, where 126 ballots marked for identification by Republican workers were cast, demanded the ballot box containing them, on the ground that six months had expired: but the Town Clerk refused to surrender, holding that as the matter was in the courts he could not consent without first consulting counsel. Examination of the ballots cast at New Britain showed nine Prohibition ballots not counted in the original returns: the Republicans had claimed nineteen. In Portland, an error of three ballots appeared in favor of Morris.

Governor Bulkeley files his answer to the *quo warranto* proceedings. He pleads that the court is bound to take judicial notice that he is Governor, and to dismiss the proceedings without plea by him; but, proceeding to the merits, he sets up his election in 1889, for two years from the first Wednesday after the first Monday in January, and until the due qualification of his successor: that he qualified; and that no successor has yet been chosen. The answer then recites the legislative proceedings: that Morris did not have a majority over all; and that, on account of manifest mistakes on the face of the returns, it was impossible to tell who, if any one, was legally chosen.

Merwin's answer in the proceedings against him is the same.

SENTENCE OF BARONDESS.—Joseph Barondess, an account of whose trial and conviction appeared in THE STANDARD of May 6, under title "Conviction of Barondess," was sentenced by Judge Van Brunt to one year and nine months in the State Prison. A stay on appeal was granted, and pending appeal he gave bail in $5,000.

A mass meeting at Cooper Union, which filled the hall and made an overflow of over a thousand, condemned the conviction.

The seven cloakmakers, charged with the vitriol throwing narrated last week under title "Conviction of Barondess," were placed on trial: and three were discharged on the testimony for the prosecution, for want of identification. Of the remaining four, three were acquitted and one only was convicted.

PROFESSOR BRIGGS'S HERESY.—Professor Charles A. Briggs, of the Union Theological Seminary of the city of New York, against whom a charge of heresy, as reported in THE STANDARD of April 2, under title "Religion," has been under investigation by a committee of the New York Presbytery, is found guilty by a majority of the committee. Following are the names of the members of the committee: The Rev. Dr. George W. F. Birch, of Bethany Church, chairman: the Rev. Dr. Jesse F. Forbes, of Adams' Memorial Church; the Rev. Dr. Joseph J. Lamke, of Christ Church; the Rev. Dr. Henry Van Dyke, of the Brick Church; the Rev. Dr. J. H. McIlvaine, of the Church of the Covenant; Professor John J. Stevenson, of New York University, and Mr. Walter Edwards.

The Rev. Dr. Henry Van Dyke resigned because, as it was understood, of avowed sympathy with the views of Dr. Briggs. Of the others, four believe that Dr. Briggs should be tried, and two declare against it.

The four who sign the majority report are the Rev. Drs. Birch,

Forbes, and Lambe, and Professor Stevenson. The Rev. Dr. McIlvaine and Mr. Edwards sign the minority report.

The majority report finds that the inaugural address of the Professor, delivered at his installation last Winter, conflicts with the Confession of Faith in treating the Bible and reason as co-ordinate fountains of divine authority, in denying the inerrancy (freedom from error) of the original text of the Bible, and in denying the doctrine of the immediate sanctification of the righteous at death.

The minority report holds that the matters on which Professor Briggs expresses views differing from those held by some of his brethern, are matters on which a wide latitude of opinion may well be allowed.

The majority recommend that the Presbytery enter at once upon a judicial investigation of the case, and the minority oppose it.

PERSECUTION OF HEBREWS.—The expulsion of Hebrews from Moscow, reported under this title last week, has been suddenly suspended.

CATHOLIC OPPOSITION TO IRISH BISHOPS IN AMERICA.—The United States Emigration Committees, which recently held a congress at Lucerne, having presented a memorial to the Pope begging protection for the Catholics who annually emigrate to the United States, obtain assurance from the Vatican that their memorial will receive attention. The appointment of bishops by nationality is asked for, in order that immigrants of different nations may be looked after: the reason for this request being that Irish bishops in the United States nominate only Irish priests, who do not know the languages spoken by the immigrants, and as a result immigrants lose their religious faith.

MEETINGS IN BOSTON PARKS.—The right to hold public meetings in Franklin Park, West Roxbury, Boston, having long been denied to Boston workingmen, the Central Labor Union, in which the conservative labor element predominates, has voted to hold a meeting there on the 4th of July, with or without permission. The Mayor suggests that the city buy a piece of land for outdoor public meetings; but workingmen oppose this compromise, because they think there is a land speculation scheme in it, and also because they are contending not merely for the use of a place for outdoor meetings, but against the assumption by the authorities that Franklin Park must not be used for that purpose.

END OF THE TRENTON LOCKOUT.—The lockout at the sanitary ware potteries at Trenton has been settled. It began in a strike of the men against a reduction of wages, and it was continued in consequence of the refusal of the employers to negotiate with the Knights of Labor. The employers finally succumbed,

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MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS IN INDIANA.—Elections in second and third class cities in Indiana show general Democratic gains, except in New Albany and Jeffersonville, where the Republican victories are sweeping.

THE FOURMIES MASSACRE. — The disturbance at Fourmies, reported last week under title "The Eight Hour Movement," turns out to have been a wanton massacre on the part of the soldiery. The greatest indignation prevails. Even if the workmen were the aggressors, they were excited by official interference with their peaceable meetings, and their violence consisted merely in throwing stones; while the soldiers replied with successive rifle volleys, which inflicted ghastly wounds, riddled houses, and slaughtered six women, several children and eight men on the spot. Public meetings at Paris, Lyons, Marseilles and elsewhere were organized to protest against the interference of the authorities and the subsequent butchery.

In the French Chamber of Deputies, the Government was interpellated as to the matter, the blame being cast upon Minister Constans. Deputy Roche said he had found that immediately after a stone was thrown, the troops, without summoning the people to disperse, opened fire, and continued firing for four minutes; that there were more soldiers than people: and that the soldiers acted the part of butchers of women and children. At this, M. Roche was called to order. M. Constans denied the statement, saying that a mob of 4,000 received the soldiers with a shower of stones: that an officer was knocked down: and that the rioters were about forcing their way through the troops when they were ordered to stop, and not obeying the troops fired, first in the air, then with blank cartridges, and then point blank. M. Roche here interrupted by calling out "Murderer!" Disorder followed, and the Chamber voted that M. Roche should be censured and excluded from any further participation in the day's session. M. Roche then arose excitedly, and pointing at those who had voted for the motion, exclaimed, "You are a lot of varlets, worthy of your master!" whereupon the presiding officer ordered his removal by force. He was removed. Upon the restoration of quiet it was proposed that a committee be appointed to inquire into the riot; but owing to the opposition of the Government it was defeated by a vote of 371 to 48. A vote of confidence in the Government was then passed, 356 to 33. The Government sent two representatives to Fourmies to inquire into the causes which led to the disturbance, and into the action of the sub-prefect in ordering the troops to fire. It also allotted a sum of money for the relief of the families of the murdered people.

The funeral procession of the killed was very long. It was attended by a large number of workmen's clubs, carrying red flags draped with black.

Workingmen's delegates at Fourmies requested the Prefect to ask for the removal of the regiment to some other part of France; and the Prefect, after consulting with the Mayor, agreed to recommend the government to order the removal.

The Municipal Council of Paris, by a vote of 37 to 3, censured the methods of Minister Constans in repressing orderly meetings on May day, and voted 12,500 francs to the sufferers at Fourmies.

THE IRISH LAND BILL.—The McCarthyites have fallen into the support of the Irish Land Bill, proposed by Balfour, under which it is intended to allow Irish tenants to buy out their landlords with public funds, to be returned in instalments covering a period of fifty years. Of this, Michael Davitt is reported as saying: "There is neither consistency, wisdom, courage, nor statesmanship in the policy of the Irish members. They are afraid, as politicians, to do that which, as patriots, is their duty to the Irish state. They are thinking more about the farmers' votes than of Ireland's rights, and Parnell's tactics in openly supporting Balfour's bill is causing them more concern than the Agrarian peace and future well being of Ireland."

FUND FOR EVICTED IRISH TENANTS.—The McCarthyites decided to submit to arbitrators the question of the release of the Paris fund, one arbitrator to be appointed by McCarthy and one by Parnell with power in the two to choose an umpire. Parnell refuses, and the McCarthyites propose to organize County Conventions throughout Ireland for the purpose of raising funds for the relief of evicted tenants.

VICTORIES FOR GLADSTONE.—The Gladstonians carry the by-election for the Northwest Division of Suffolk, by 4,346 to 4,132. The Conservatives carried it at the last election by 3,906 to 3,363. It was held to fill the seat of the late Edward Greene, a Conservative brewer of Bury St. Edmunds.

The by-election in the South Dorset Division followed almost immediately. There the Gladstone candidate was defeated, but by only 40 votes; and he polled 752 more votes than the Liberals polled at the previous election, while the Conservative candidate polled 199 less than the Conservate vote at that election.

The by-elections have determined the Conservative ministry not to go to the country, as they had proposed, but to keep Parliament in session until late in the Autumn.

NEWFOUNDLAND.—The story of Newfoundland's difficulty with England is told to May 2, in THE STANDARD of May 6, under title, "Newfoundland's Threatened Revolution." Since then, the Knutsford Coercion bill has passed the committee stage in the House of Lords. It being understood that the delegates had promised that the Colonial Legislature would pass a bill to enforce the modus vivendi, it was suggested that the Lords ought not to go into committee on the Knutsford bill until the colony had had reasonable time to act. But Lord Knutsford replied that the question had an Imperial character, which must be recognized in dealing with it. He added, however, that if Newfoundland should pass the promised measure, his bill would be dropped. In the correspondence that he read, the delegates offered to procure the passage of a temporary bill if the Knutsford bill were dropped, provided the Government would engage to discuss with the delegates a bill creating courts to adjudicate complaints arising from disputed treaty rights. This was not acceptable. Lord Salisbury explained that the Government had entered into serious international obligations with France, and under the decisions of the Newfoundland courts the hands of the naval power were paralyzed.

The motion to carry the Knutsford bill no further until Newfoundland had been given time to act, was defeated by a vote of 113 to 30; and the motion to continue the act for only one year was rejected by 61 to 21.

The delegates in London cabled requesting the Colonial Legislature to pass a temporary act enforcing the modus vivendi, the arbitration, and the treaties, on condition that the Knutsford bill be dropped. The House, after a long debate, cabled for further information. To this the delegates replied that pressing emergency admitted of no delay; that their original proposals were not accepted by the Imperial Government; and that unless the Colonial Legislature should support the pending proposal there would be no possibility of defeating the Knutsford bill, nor of any support to the Colony from any party: but if these proposals were immediately adopted the original proposals would be possible, and the support of the Liberals certain. They added that Knutsford's measure is permanent, while theirs is temporary; that delay or division would prove fatal;

and that if the Legislature did not approve, it would aid their opponents and leave the Colony friendless and losing everywhere.

The House of Assembly sat in privilege Thursday until midnight over the question of accepting the compromise proposal of the delegates. It was disposed to "let England do her worst," and passed resolutions denunciatory of the proposed action of Parliament; but more conservative counsels finally prevailed, and the Colonial Legislature has passed resolutions to the effect that it will adopt such legislation as may be necessary to carry into effect the proposals made to the Imperial Government and Parliament by the delegation now in London.

THE BELGIUM STRIKE.—The miners' and iron workers' strike in Belgium, the origin of which was reported in THE STANDARD of April 29, under title "Labor," and of May 6, under title "The Eight Hour Movement," is complete in the Liege and Charleroi districts, and is spreading to the Borinage district in the province of Hainaut. Fifty thousand men were reported early in the week as out of work in Belgium; the number was soon increased to 62,000, the strike having extended to Namur, and it is now estimated that there are 100,000 Belgian miners on strike. The Labor Council sitting at Brussels pledges itself to promote a general strike in all the Belgian coal basins.

Universal suffrage, as well as an eight hour day, is a condition of settling the strike, and the manufacturers of Brussels have decided to send a deputation to the king recommending that the suffrage demand be granted.

The central organization of the strikers has notified the laborers of Antwerp to boycott steamships that are expected there laden with English and German coal.

Stories of dynamite outrages have been started, but the harmlessness of the outrages raises a suspicion of the truthfulness of the stories. One tells of a dynamite cartridge placed on the porch of a prominent capitalist of Liege, which shattered doors and windows, but injured no one; another reports a cartridge in the house of a non-striking miner in Mons, which wrecked the house without damage to its inhabitants.

EIGHT HOUR MOVEMENT.—The eight hour movement, accounts of which were reported under this title in the Standard of April 29 and May 6, was, according to announcement, taken up by the English workingmen on Sunday the 3d. At the Hyde Park meeting held on that day, the attendance was estimated at from 200,000 to 300,000. All trades were in the procession, which was miles in length. There were twelve platforms for speakers: and among those who spoke were John Burns, Thomas Mann, and Cunningham Graham—the Socialist member of Parliament. An identical resolution in favor of a compulsory labor day of eight hours was passed at all the platforms.

On the same day ten thousand men marched to Phœnix Park, Dublin, and held a meeting there at which resolutions demanding a work day of eight hours were passed.

COMBINING AGAINST PROTECTION COUNTRIES.—A commercial treaty between Austria and Germany has been signed. It takes effect in February, 1892, and lasts twelve years. It operates to the prejudice of France; but it is said that it may never be put in force. In the treaty of peace of 1871, Germany promised France all the commercial advantages it might give to the most favored nation; a concession to Austria, therefore, would give the same concession to France, and thus the object of the present treaty would be frustrated. Germany has opened negotiations with Russia with a view to her co-operation in a proposed commercial union against protection countries. Russia promises to treat the matter liberally, if Germany will support Russia's proposition to abolish the interdiction at present placed by the treaty of 1841, confirmed in London in 1871, and in Berlin in 1878, upon the passage of war ships through the Dardanelles. Russia takes this stand because two Russian vessels, loaded with men and material for the construction of the eastern terminus of the Trans-Siberian railway, were recently stopped at the Dardanelles, and were allowed to pass only after a vigorous protest from the Russian Minister at Constantinople.

It is reported that Italy, Switzerland, and Belgium have been invited to join in a convention at Vienna, with the avowed purpose of making a coalition of the central European states against protectionist countries. The effective value of the league it is said would depend upon the adhesion of Italy.

REPORTED TROUBLE IN COSTA RICA.—President Rodriguez, of Costa Rica, has met with quiet opposition ever since his election last year. He was the candidate of the Clerical party, with which he has been working in opposition to republican ideas; and in order to more effectively resist the Liberal party, he is reported as having caused his majority in the Chamber to proclaim a temporary suspension of all individual guarantees, and with these safeguards of liberty removed, to have arrested several leading political adversaries. An official denial that a revolution has broken out is made, coupled with an assurance that complete peace and order prevail; but the official dispatch throws no light on the reported arbitrary arrests.

FRENCH PROTECTIONISM.—The Customs Committee of the French Chamber of Deputies has decided, in view of the increase in the price of bread all over the country in consequence of the high tariff, to reduce the duty on wheat to three francs, for one year, and that on flour to six francs; but it decided not to reduce the duty on corn. The popular pressure indicated under this title last week was too strong for the Protectionists to resist. The reduction will let American wheat into France, where under the present tariff importations are almost impossible.

REVOLUTION IN HONDURAS.—A revolutionary movement against the unpopular President, Luiz Bogran, has broken out. A rebel force under command of Colonel Molina and General Bardales made an attack upon the cuartel at Amapala, upon the island of Amapala, surprised the guards and captured the cuartel; but a force of Government troops under Colonel Bavrera, after a hard fight, in which General Bardales was killed, drove the rebels from the cuartel and to the mainland.

CHILI.—The delegates to the Congress, which resists the President as a usurper, as told in THE STANDARD of April 29 and May 6, under title "The Chilian Revolution," declare the elections called by Balmaceda for the 29th of April last to be null and void.

Four representatives of the Congressional party have had an interview with Balmaceda, in which they asked him to resign, to dismiss his army, to appear in court and justify his conduct, and to allow Congress to prepare for a new Presidential election; he rejects these propositions.

Balmaceda decrees that all revenue payments shall hereafter be made in silver, and that paper be no longer received for public dues.

LAND GRABBING IN AFRICA.—About twenty thousand men from the Transvaal, the Free State, and the Cape are preparing an expedition, or "trek," as the Boers call it, into the district lying between the eastern boundary of Matabeland and the western frontier of the Portuguese settlements, and extending northward from the Limpope River to the Zambesi. Their purpose is the establishment of a government to be called the "Republic of the North." This movement conflicts with the claims of the British Chartered Company, and of the Portuguese South African Company, on account of whose disputes England and Portugal are already at a misunderstanding. President Kruger, of the Transvaal Republic, has been informed by the British High Commissioner and Commander in Chief that any movement of the Boers into the territory in dispute between England and Portugal will be regarded as an act of hostility to the Queen of England, and he replies that he has "damped the trek." But the movement is too formidable for him to control. Its leaders base their proceeding upon concessions granted long before the British Chartered Company existed, and one of their objects is supposed to be the extinction of this company.

BALLOTT REFORM.—Delaware is to be the twenty-fifth State to adopt a modification of the Australian reform. The House has unanimously passed a bill providing for booths and official ballots, but requiring the tickets of each party to be separate. Its passage by the Senate is assured.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE.—In the Nova Scotia House of Assembly a bill for the enfranchisement of women was defeated by a vote of 22 to 13.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE GERMAN REICHSTAG.—The Reichstag, after reducing the sugar bounty, passing the Trades' Regulation bill over the opposition of the Socialists, and giving three cheers for the Emperor, adjourned until November 11 next. The lobby attribute the sudden adjournment to the fears of the Government that Bismarck might appear in the Reichstag to oppose the commercial treaty with Austria, which is reported this week under title, "Combining Against Protection Countries."

A STRANGE FAITH.

Joseph Dana Miller, in Puck.

There's the faith of the Islamite—he who believes
The tale of the coffin suspended in air;
And there is the woman who casts, while she grieves,
Her babe in the Ganges, and whispers a prayer.

And there is the savage, who bows to his god
That he fashioned of wood with his chisel of stone;
And there is the wretch who lies down in the sod,
While the Juggernaut rolls over body and bone.

But the man who believes, spite of figures and facts,
That the higher the taxes the higher his wage,
And swears by the Tariff League's pamphlets and tracts,
Has the strangest, most curious faith of the Age.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

At Cincinnati, on Tuesday, May 19, will be held the long talked of national conference of the various reform bodies to consider the advisability of forming a national union party, upon a platform including finance, transportation, labor and land. Its projectors claim that the call for the conference has been signed by representatives from thirty-five States. embracing the Independent, People's and Union Labor parties, the four Farmers' Alliances, the Knights of Labor and late Federal and Confederate soldiers. In addition, the Citizens' Alliance of Kansas (no connection with the Beaumont-Citizens' Alliance). the National Reform party of Kentucky, and the United Labor party (a paper party) have also, through their representatives, issued calls to attend the Cincinnati conference. There has already appeared upon the horizon a little cloud. Beaumont wants to "harmonize" his citizens' alliance of three persons with the Citizen's Alliance of Kansas, with a view to forming a "national citizens' alliance."

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The Mayor of Boston intends to follow, for some little distance, in the footsteps of Mayor Pingree, of Detroit. On May Day he went before the "dooming board" of assessors of his city, and told them he expected them to assess Boston real estate at about the price it would bring under the hammer. He pointed out certain inequalities in taxation that had come under his observation, and said that it must be remedied. Next?

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The newly elected president of the Republican League of Clubs defines reciprocity as "optional Free Trade." In this connection the Boston Globe remarks:

That the personal adherents of the public man who wrote the letter from Paris, on the eve of a general election, in favor of high Protection and against the masterly message of President Cleveland advocating tariff reduction, should so soon be shouting aloud for "optional Free Trade," would be one of the many marvels of our time if it were not now well understood that politicians are but vanes to announce the veering of the wind of public opinion.

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One wouldn't think that the area of New York City and Brooklyn was larger in 1880 than that of Arkansas, Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska and Kansas combined. Well, it isn't in superficial area, but when it comes to the value of the two areas, it is much larger, as is shown by the figures. The total for the two cities in that year was $1,149,406,282, and for the six States $1,101,952,049. This fact was brought out by William Bloch in the Osage County, Kas., Times, to show that the really valuable lands that would have to bear the burden of taxation under the Single Tax would not consist of farm lands at all, but of the immensely high priced lots in our cities. The new census (for 1890) will probably show that the land values of New York City and Brooklyn have increased in the last ten years sufficiently to necessitate the adding of a couple or three more States to the list prepared by Mr. Bloch.

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A correspondent of the Boston Herald tells a story which shows plainly who pays the tariff tax, the foreigner or the consumer. A Boston gentleman imported 3,000 cigars from India. Under our new tariff the protection is four-fold—not less than 3,000 cigars can be imported; there is an ad valorem duty of 25 per cent.; there is a further duty of $4.50 per pound: stamps are required costing 30 cents per 100 cigars, plus 5 per cent. The 3,000 cigars cost in India fourteen rupees (about $5) per thousand. As no regular invoice was sent with them, they were appraised at the Custom House at $54, although they cost but $15. The following amounts were paid before the cigars could be delivered to the importer:

25 per cent. on $54	$13 50
75 pounds at $4.50	337 50
Stamps, $9; stamping fee, 45c	9 45
Custom House charges	1 75
Cartage, wharfage and commission	2 86
Total	$365 06
Original cost, $15; freight and packing, $10	25 00
Total	$390 06

So that what was a one-half cent cigar in India costs just thirteen cents landed here. If the cigars had been valued at $15, instead of $54, the ad valorem duty would have been $3.75, which would make a difference of $9.75 in the total, and the cigars would have cost $12.68 instead of $13. Now, who paid the taxes in this instance? And does the Government put on these taxes and other charges in order that our cigarmakers may earn an average wage of five dollars a week and herd like cattle in our tenements? In the words of the editor of the Columbiana Bugle Blast of Liberty, "We pause for a reply."

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An English friend writing to Mr. George says: "The English Land Restoration League has adopted a very effective method of carrying the gospel of 'The Land for the People' into the rural districts of England, which have long been regarded as almost inaccessible for such work. A van has been fitted up, with convenience for sleeping and cooking, and in this—at once a traveling home and office for the League's missionaries—the secretary and others have been traveling from village to village in Suffolk, holding a meeting every evening, distributing literature, and collecting information on the social condition of the people. In this campaign the League is working in the closest possible co-operation with the Eastern Counties Labor Federation—a young and vigorous organization, which, starting as an ordinary trades union, has rapidly come to the conclusion that the labor question is insoluble except through the land question. Crowded meetings have been held in every village, and the federation has been considerably strengthened by the addition of new members and of new branches. The laborers in this district are paid about $3 (twelve shillings) or less per week. Much of the land is out of cultivation; most of it is 'labor-starved.' A wretched cottage rents at $23 a year. Some of the cartoons on the land question which have appeared in THE STANDARD and in the Toronto Grip have been greatly enlarged, mounted and framed, and these, displayed on the sides of the van at each meeting, are found one of the most effective means of educating even the most ignorant.

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The Protectionists ought to take E. Steiger & Co., of this city, in hand, for we find that in a circular giving a list of imported books to be used for the study of languages they say that the books will be supplied "at the above prices which include duty, forwarding and other expenses, and which will be reduced as soon as the duty on books is abolished." Steiger & Co. have evidently not learned that the exporter pays the tax.

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The New York Hebrew Standard appeared last week in enlarged form, which will be made permanent. The proprietors say that it will hereafter consist of twenty-four pages, or one hundred and twenty columns, and extra pages will be added whenever advertisements encroach upon the news department. This makes the Hebrew Standard the largest Jewish paper published in the world.

CURRENT THOUGHT.

NATIONAL LIABILITY FOR PRIVATE WRONGS.—The leading article in the May Forum, which is by Thomas F. Bayard, discusses the principal question raised by the Italian Government over the killing of the Italian prisoners by a mob at New Orleans after their acquittal of the crime which had aroused popular vengeance, and while they were still in jail awaiting trial on other charges. Without reference to this case, which suggests his essay, Mr. Bayard examines upon principle the measure of our liabilities for injuries inflicted by individuals upon foreigners within our jurisdiction: but he draws attention to two other cases in which an attempt was made to substitute for the remedies offered by local courts an indemnity from the Federal Government. One arose out of the murder of a British subject in New Mexico, which was followed by a demand from Great Britain in 1878: the other arose out of a murder of Chinese by a mob in Wyoming, for which China demanded indemnity in 1885. The Government made the same answer in both cases. It was, in effect, that the administration of remedies for all wrongs is committed to the judiciary branch: and, the courts being fairly open to foreigners, private wrongs against them cannot be made subjects of diplomatic intervention. Great Britain, in her demand, made no reference to treaty obligations. China based hers expressly upon the stipulations of treaties between the two countries.

Treaty stipulations for the security of citizens of each country to to the treaty, while in the territory of the other, are common; but they are almost invariably accompanied by the condition that the protected individuals shall submit themselves to the conditions imposed upon natives. The only exceptions are the treaties with those Oriental countries in which extra-territorial jurisdiction is conceded to our consular and diplomatic officers in cases where our citizens in those countries are concerned. No treaty was ever made by the United States which stipulated for a discrimination in favor of foreign subjects residing here. The avenues of public justice everywhere in the United States are open alike to resident aliens and to citizens. The foreigner who seeks redress for his private injuries has the advantage over natives that he may elect in which jurisdiction—State or National—he will pursue his remedy. It is difficult, therefore, to discover wherein there is any defect in the execution by the United States of its stipulations with foreign nations to give to their citizens the equality of rights and privileges secured to our own.

If we admit that the Federal Government is liable to indemnify foreigners, or foreign governments acting in their behalf, for private injuries suffered within the United States and in violation of its laws, and that the claimants are absolved from all efforts to obtain redress in the Courts, we shall create an embarrassing prece-

dent, impair the structure of our Government and destroy the essential boundary between executive and judicial powers.

"A STUDY OF THOMAS JEFFERSON."—An exceedingly interesting, instructive and timely paper is this by E. P. Powell, which appears in the Arena, for May. It reviews the development of democracy in this country in a story so well condensed that condensation could go no farther without detracting from the interest, if not obscuring the point of the article.

The difference between Hamilton, the rebellious monarchist, and Jefferson, the Democrat, is acutely described; and the dividing line between those who fought England only to free themselves from foreign dictation, of whom Hamilton was the type, and those who, like Jefferson, were imbued with the new philosophy of humanity, and having caught sight of the poetic principle of human equality and fraternity, believed that this could become a practical working force in a republic of States, is clearly traced. The attempt of the Federalists, when themselves defeated, to seat in the presidential chair the infamous Burr rather than Jefferson is vividly recalled. The autocratic proviso of the Alien and Sedition laws and their operation, are reviewed; and the Kentucky resolutions are rationally defended, as a check upon autocratic Federalism. Throughout the story the radically Democratic principles, by which Jefferson was guided, are defined and illustrated. His election, writes Mr. Powell, was a revolution. The aristocratic idea for which Hamilton stood had prevailed; but from that hour the United States stood as the Government of the people for the people, and the question whether the people could be trusted was to be settled by themselves.

Jefferson's principles are digested as (1) Democracy, or the fundamental rights of the individual. (2) Decentralization in both State and national Governments. (3) Economy, by which he intended to deny the right of any Government to demand the money of the people for any purpose not strictly demanded for public defence and common welfare. (4) Education. (5) Emancipation, for he was a pronounced abolitionist. (6) Peace at almost any cost, as essential to the complete escape of the individual from bondage to imperators. (7) Restriction of the official service of the President to two terms. (8) Toleration in religion.

There is no other character in our early American history, Mr. Powell concludes, about which young enthusiasm may always rally and become inspired for the best citizenship. As chaste as Washington, as brilliant with his pen as Patrick Henry with his tongue, Jefferson stands alone and unequalled as the type forever of young America.

Reasons are given by the writer for reopening at this day the history of the development of Democratic principles in this country. He notes that since the Civil War we have drifted farther and farther from the principles of Jefferson, and are in danger of fulfilling every pessimistic prophecy of Hamilton regarding self-government. There is a tendency to centralization, he observes, that we must first comprehend, and then check with the jealousy of those who believe in the people. The Supreme Court has invariably favored Hamiltonianism. Recent amendments have altered the original character of the Constitution. There is a growing army of office-holders, whose dependence on the central Government compels them to be obedient and subservient to centralization; but the possible limits of centralization from this direction may have been reached, for the Federal Election bill has startled the people into an indignant protest irrespective of parties. Our State Governments, too, have in many cases become tyrannical to a degree equal to the action of Parliament that led to our revolt. The question never was one essentially of the National Government against State Governments, but of government altogether, against the liberty of the individual; and Jefferson's jealousy was for the fundamental inherent right of the individual. Mr. Powell points to a direction from which popular liberty seems likely to suffer mutilation. Dazed by the fact that we are receiving perfect service from the national post offices, and that in a few other matters we are doing co-operatively what individually we could not so well do, a popular cry has risen and gained force in different organizations (to whose members legislation seems the final remedy for all ills) for a total surrender to nationalism. And against this tendency, he holds up the history of American Democracy, and urges a study of that battle of moral giants—the principles of Monarchy represented by Hamilton and of Democracy by Jefferson—which ended for ever the Dei Gratia of Monarchy and established the doctrine of the rights of man.

COULDN'T BE A DAVE HILL.

Puck.

Mr. Morrison Essex—How was it, Pat, that you did not come to the station to meet me?

Pat—Well, sor—ye see, sor, I was dhrivin' the mistress out; an' I cudn't be in two places at wan toime, sor—unless I was a—(happy thought)—a Dave Hill, sor.

HILL IS GONE—SULLIVAN'S AGIN' HIM.

From interview in Kansas City Star.

"Cleveland will be the Democratic nominee for President. You can't beat him. That fellow Hill can't stand before him two rounds."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

LAND OWNERSHIP JUST.

Editor of THE STANDARD—SIR: Allow me, as one who is devoted to the Single Tax cause, to protest against the one-sided attitude of THE STANDARD in the matter of difference between Single Taxers simply and those extraordinary taxers who delight in denominating themselves Unlimited Single Taxers.

I know a few workers in this movement, and I am clear in asserting that the large majority of its practical, successful advocates are either simply Single Taxers, or if they believe in "something more," are wise enough to keep it quiet.

No doubt it is considered orthodox to be unlimited, and so a great many workers who are shrewd enough to see the impracticability of advocating it, and the impossibility of applying it if it was wanted, at least think it satisfying to their consciences to believe in it anyhow, because it is the doctrine laid down in the gospel of "Progress and Poverty."

I wonder that men who are fearlessly liberal in accepting or rejecting Scripture, selecting what they understand and know to be true, and refusing what they honestly do not believe, that such men get down and worship this book as though it was perfect and infallible. But, as I have observed, they, the successful ones, don't practice what they profess to believe. It is unfair that we, who do not believe that "private property in land is unjust," should be accused of "warring about words," splitting hairs, and of being so stupid as not to see that "there is no material difference between the assertion that 'private property in land is unjust,' and the assertion that 'the system of taxation in use is unjust.'"

Now, I acknowledge that I owe all I know on this subject to "Progress and Poverty." I reverence the name of Henry George. And even if we are not (and I am not sure we are not) in agreement on this question, I still hold him in my estimation as the clearest, the purest and the wisest thinker of this age.

If I take the stand I do, and declare that he erred in not considering the effect of taxation as a factor in the distribution of wealth, and only discovers it as a convenient remedy for the alleged evil of private property in land, I do it in the spirit of fairness, and very reluctantly, knowing that while some may be directed to a more effective line of work, many will feel hurt and regret my intrusion.

In "Progress and Poverty," from the "Introduction" to the "Remedy," there is no line that shows that as population is organized into societies, and constructs certain permanent improvements, that the taxes to pay for these public works are unjustly levied. That while the land receives all the value of these improvements, and should accordingly be taxed to pay for them, the custom has been to tax not only the value of the land, but also private wealth of every description, thus relieving the land owners, who should pay it all; and that from this first cause, and not from private ownership or possession of land, springs the evil of land monopoly.

This omission is not corrected in the "Remedy," although the question of taxation is therein well discussed and found to suit the great purpose of the author. Unfortunately the Single Tax is offered in "Progress and Poverty" merely as a happy expedient and substitute for direct confiscation of land. The grand climax of the investigation, that *private property in land is unjust*, dwindles down to a proposition to leave all titles undisturbed and still permit the unholy thing to exist. And simply by changing the method of taxation the great work of freedom to man can be accomplished.

The only conclusion by which I can reconcile this contradiction is that with the Single Tax in operation private property in land would not be unjust, and this admits that if the Single Tax had always existed private property in land would now be just. So it appears that it is not private property in land, but an unjust system of taxation that takes from the many and enriches the few, burdening the merchant and house-owner, who are forced to pay for improving the land of others, who without improving their land are thus enabled to draw an income from it.

Baltimore, Md. W. D. OGDEN.

LAND OWNING A CRIME.

Editor of THE STANDARD—SIR: Reading Carlyle's essay on the Corn Law Rhymes, the other evening, I put a black pencil mark on the margin opposite these lines: "It has been often said, and must often be said again, that all Reform, except a moral one, will prove unavailing. Political Reform, pressing enough wanted, can, indeed, root out the weeds (gross, deep-fixed lazy dockweeds, poisonous, obscene hemlocks, ineffectual, spurry in abundance), but it leaves the ground empty—ready for either noble fruits or for new, worse tares." My black pencil mark extended further, but this is enough to serve as my text. I was thinking of the great land question and pondering, as I have many times, I said: "Are we, who accept the words 'the earth hath he given to the children of men' as almost divine, doing right in bringing our ideas before the public with subtlety as a reform in methods of taxation, a political reform, instead of proclaiming the great moral reform that private land holding is a monstrous iniquity?" In one case for policy sake we

hitch ourselves to a malodorous political party, instead of hitching our "wagon to a star," and, like the old anti-slavery people, proclaiming no alliance or half-way measures but a persistent declaration of the truth. We are a long way from the adoption of our views and might well concern ourselves less with the question of how to bring about the reform we desire, and more with convincing the world that the great economic crime of civilization is the withholding of natural opportunities from mankind. What is it to us that Democratic leaders disagree? That this Senator is a Free Trader or that a Protectionist? The latter may be the first to see that private ownership of land is a crime. By interesting ourselves so much in the doings of either of the great parties are we not overdoing the illustration used by Mr. George, "going with them as far as they are going our way?" Mr. Worldly Wiseman, going a little way with Christian, soon got him off the narrow way that led to the wicket-gate, till he was heading for the house of Mr. Legality. Would it not be better for us to have less policy in our movement and more principle? To be less leaders of political reform and more agitators of moral reform?

Mr. Carlyle is not alone in declaring "All reform except a moral reform will prove unavailing." Every reader knows its true. A bold declaration of truth will do more to make converts than a long argument on the merits of a tax on land values versus a tax on commodities. An appeal to the moral sense more befits moral reformers than an appeal to the pocket. Are we not cramping ourselves by being known as Single Taxers. Should we not preach righteousness instead of tax reform, and point out the disease before we proclaim the remedy?

Milwaukee. JAMES LEEDOM.

FREE TRADE FIRST.

To the Editor of THE STANDARD—SIR: I want to say to you that I am an enthusiastic admirer of the eminently sensible and patriotic stand taken by THE STANDARD on the Free Trade question. That is the only great issue now. It is the burning issue. The money question, the transportation question, and all other political questions, however important each or all of them may be, should be thrust aside until the Free Trade fight is won and the tariff robber downed. Every man who believes Free Trade is right should be able to see that so long as the Democratic party is headed in the direction of Free Trade he should urge it forward in the battle with the Protection Lords, no matter what its shortcomings may be in other matters, and stay with it until the last vestige of the abominable curse—Protection—is wiped from the face of the earth. The Democratic party is the vehicle on which Free Traders can certainly ride to success, and in much less time than by joining third parties. Every Single Tax man should feel proud of the course of THE STANDARD, and I am glad to see by the paper that many of the workers are proud of its course.

Bloomington, Ill. E. H. B.

THE ISSUE NOT TIMELY.

Editor of THE STANDARD—SIR: I have read with much pleasure and gratification the letters of my brother Single Taxers from the West who are in favor of the free coinage of silver, and I believe, as Mr. Bailey, of Chicago, says in THE STANDARD, "that we in the East can hardly realize what a hold it has taken of the people in the West;" but I cannot believe that any man who thoroughly understands the Single Tax will destroy the chances we now have of incorporating our principles into law, through the position which the Democratic party, or a majority of that party at least, are obliged to defend in the near future, and that undoubtedly is Free Trade. I am a believer in the free coinage of silver, but, under existing social circumstances, no sane Single Tax man can deny that anything but the abolition of the monstrous evil of private property in land is more than a mere palliative remedy. Why, I am a strong trade unionist, and where we now (in my trade) earn 30 cents or 40 cents an hour, I would vote against any proposition offered in my union to make the price $1 an hour, even if we could get our demand at once, knowing full well that, if present laws were in force, inside of three years so many would rush into the business that the price would drop to 20 cents. I admire the course of THE STANDARD, as do all the members of my club, on the silver question, and we hope our Western brothers won't throw away the victory that is all but won over the Protection superstition, which is robbing the many to enrich the few.

Dorchester Single Tax Club. JOHN LAVIS.

SINGLE TAX CLUB IN A COURT HOUSE.

Editor of THE STANDARD—SIR: Noting the article in THE STANDARD in relation to the expense that Single Tax Clubs are put to in renting a room for meeting, I write to inform you how we have solved that problem. We circulated a petition addressed to the County Supervisors asking for the use of a room in the Court House "for the purpose of holding public meetings to discuss the economic questions of the day, more especially those pertaining to taxation." This petition we presented to the Board of Supervisors and they granted our request, for which we are grateful. This gives us a good central location free of cost in which to spread the light for the benefit of our fellowmen. We are now trying to arrange with Mr. John Z. White, of Chicago, to come here and assist in expounding the doctrine at our opening meeting in about two weeks. The Single Tax idea is permeating the country, and I am confident that it needs only to be understood to be accepted by all intelligent people, with the exception of those persons who imagine that it is against their personal interests.

Peoria, Ill. JAS. W. HILL.

IS DON M. DICKINSON A SINGLE TAXER?

In a recent speech before the Legislative Committee of the lower house of the Michigan Legislature, ex-Postmaster General Don M. Dickinson laid down certain principles which will be pleasant reading to Single Taxers generally, and which show that the gentleman is very close to our ideas. In his address Mr. Dickinson endeavored to show that the failure to tax land values resulted detrimentally to the interests of the city of Detroit, for which city he was speaking. Said he:

As the population increases, as the commercial importance of a city grows, as all influences, including, as a great factor, economical, just and fair local government, add to the desirability of a city for the objects of business and homes, so real estate values increase, and so taxation increases, going hand in hand with the needs of progress.

Like Henry George, Mr. Dickinson calls it a "natural law," by which taxation increases as land values increase. It "makes area important," and "unnecessary land holdings are sold to those who will utilize the space for new and competing business purposes, and thus holdings become smaller, population becomes denser and diversity of trades, manufactures and occupations widen, all tending to, and evidence of, prosperity and greater wealth." "Henry George himself," says the *Detroit Journal*, "doesn't state the principle as tersely, and it is a principle which all can test by observation."

Then Mr. Dickinson proceeded to show how a violation of this natural law operates in Detroit. We quote from the review of his speech in the Journal of that city:

When the land isn't taxed at all, as in the case of the railroad property in this city, it can be held in large tracts. In this case "holdings" do *not* "become smaller;" population does *not* "become denser;" and there is *not* that diversity of trades and manufactures which Mr. Dickinson thinks necessary to wealth and prosperity.

In proof he presented an elaborate statement showing that the railroad companies of Detroit use 107 acres of business land for their business purposes, to say nothing of large holdings in the suburbs, but within the city limits. Of this 107 acres, 38 belong to the Michigan Central; 23 to the Detroit & Milwaukee and Grand Trunk; 40 to the Wabash, and 6 to the new union depot.

That these land holdings are largely speculative, and are possible only because of their exemption from taxation, Mr. Dickinson makes very clear, by a comparison with cities in which railroad property is taxed for local purposes. Thus the Dearborn street depot in Chicago, which has nearly as many trains per day as all of the Detroit depots combined, occupies only 5¾ acres of business land; the Canal street depot, only 8¼ acres. The Grand Central depot in New York occupies only 6¼ acres; the Boston & Albany depot in Boston, 6.12 acres.

The reason of this wonderful contrast is the one item of taxation. In New York, Boston and Chicago, the railroad land is taxed, and hence the companies hold as little area of land fit for business sites as possible. Their yards and freight houses are on cheaper land, far from the centre. So it would be in Detroit with a wise system of taxation, and the city's business would have more of a chance to expand.

Mr. Dickinson said "that for years and years Detroit was accounted slow." He thinks this is true in spite of her geographical position, which invites an influx of population and capital. It is this "violation of laws of natural growth," which has retarded Detroit's prosperity, the same violation which "has permitted low taxation on great tracts of real estate held in families." And with all due reverence, the speaker added: "God and more equitable assessments for taxation have removed some of the stones upon its head; help us to remove this one"—that is the exemption of railroad property.

The Journal endorses Mr. Dickinson's position, and practically places itself in line with the Single Tax movement in the following words:

The principles which Mr. Dickinson presented in his masterly argument will in all probability ultimately govern our system of taxation. Even the farming community, which has been esteemed an opponent, is changing its opinions. At any rate, the Farmers' Alliance and Jerry Simpson are advocating the Single Tax. By placing State, county and municipal taxes wholly upon land values, the best and most productive use of land would necessarily follow. Speculative holding of land would be discouraged, and the city would have a healthy boom. It is foolish to tax houses and furniture, because the city wants more houses and furniture. Why discourage the making of what we all need? But we don't need land monopoly and speculation; we should seek to discourage the holding of land out of use or in inferior use, and hence it should bear the burden of taxation.

The bill for which Mr. Dickinson was addressing the legislative committee was introduced by Senator Park, and provides for the repeal of the special charters and general railroad laws that exempt

railroad property from local taxation. The measure originated with Mayor Pingree, of Detroit, soon after his election, when he called on the people of his city to sustain him in a fight he was about to begin which would compel the railway companies to pay a just tax on the large amount of land owned by them, and on which they paid no taxes. The Common Council have stood by the Mayor and the bill, its latest act being to pass a resolution which was ordered forwarded to the Legislature, that in the judgment of the Council the passage of the bill "is a matter of vital importance, not only to the people of this city, but to all the people" through ut the State. Business is meant by this Common Council, for it has called for "the co-operation and influence of every city, village and township in the State," and has ordered the City Clerk "to mail a copy of the resolutions to every member of the Legislature, to the Mayor of every city, to the President of every village, and to the various Supervisors of all townships throughout the State, so they can aid by their influence with their various representatives in securing the passage of said bill."

It is hardly necessary to speak of the other work that has been done by Mayor Pingree. The action of his Assessors in the matter of assessments in Detroit is still fresh in the minds of STANDARD readers. The Mayor, Common Council and Assessors of that city were elected as Republicans, and they and Mr. Dickinson, who is a Democrat, are doing great work in advancing our cause.

ANOTHER TURN OF THE SCREW.

"It is the custom," said our Single Tax salesman, "when 'hard goods' have been sold by a salesman or woman to allow them a premium of a cent or two a yard. Some 'hard goods' are the fag ends of pieces of goods, which contain either a little less than enough for a dress or a little too much. These fag ends are not considered very salable, and the firm generally orders them to be offered for a few cents below the price at which the rest of the piece was sold. A good salesman can generally add two or three dollars a week to his income through the premium allowed; though, in order to sell the goods, he has to be very persuasive and most persistent. He has to point out to his lady customer that the reduction in cost is because it is the last piece of that particular bolt of goods, and show her how the yard or so over can be made into a new waist, or something like that; or, if the piece is too small, how it can be made into a pretty dress by piecing it out with some other goods. Anyhow, the person who has sold a piece of 'hard goods' is generally congratulated by his fellows and receives an approving smile from the floorwalker, or superintendent, or any person in authority who may be standing round; and the salesman himself is pleased, because, as a result of the sale, a premium of from twenty cents to perhaps a dollar has been placed to his credit in the salesbook. This premium has always been considered by the salesman a legitimate perquisite, and the proprietors have conceded it, because they saw no other way of having their 'hard goods' pushed. But this dull season, with the large number of sales people looking for work at almost any wages, has pointed out a way by which 'hard goods' can be pushed without the firm having to pay any premiums. O'Neill, on Sixth avenue, is the discoverer of the new scheme, which is worked thus: The credit slips are used the same as before, are signed by the floorwalker, as usual, and are duly entered to the credit of the persons who have made the sales, but no premium is paid. Every week the amount each person would have been entitled to is added up, and the lists submitted to the head of the house for inspection. Thus he can tell whether his sales people have maintained their average in the sale of 'hard goods.' If any person's average is below what Mr. O'Neill thinks it ought to be, that unfortunate individual is summoned to the office and—if it is the first time—warned. The second summons means 'bounced.' It works splendidly—both ways. The salesman works more persistently, if possible, than ever to get rid of such 'hard goods' as may be in his charge, and the firm puts into its own pockets the few pennies which used to be offered to the salesmen as an inducement for them to push the goods."

THE SINGLE TAX AND BABIES.

Rev. Dr. Jackson, of St. Chrysostom's Church, on the West side, has formed a class of young men to whom he delivers a lecture weekly on questions of current interest. For some weeks past the reverend gentleman has been talking to his class about the social question. Mr. John J. Pender, a member of the Manhattan Single Tax Club, was present at one of these lectures three weeks ago, and, perceiving that the reverend lecturer was stating some of his "facts" rather loosely, he arose, and said a few words, with the object of getting Mr. Jackson back to a correct position.

In answer to a question from the lecturer, Mr. Pender said he was of the tribe known as Single Taxers, whereupon he was invited to address the next meeting of the class, when an opportunity would be given him to state what the Single Tax is, and he was told to be prepared to defend his position, which Mr. Pender agreed to try and do.

The class assembled at St. Chrysostomus' a week ago last Monday night, and Mr. Pender addressed it. After his speech he invited questions. Many were asked from the audience and answered. The reverend rector prepared to trip the speaker of the evening. He began in the fatherly way all minister's put on when dealing with laymen, to ask the questions which are put to all Single Tax men, and was promptly answered. Finally the questions came down to, "Would the Single Tax do this, or that, or the other thing?" One of the questions put by Mr. Jackson was so absurd that Mr. Pender, in answering it, made a little bit of fun of his questioner, and some of his class laughed at him, which nettled the clergyman; so he determined to summarily dispose of the person who had subjected him to a little ridicule. "Mr. Pender," said he, with a sneer, "you have told us that the Single Tax would do a great many things; now, please tell the class and myself, if you can, whether your Single Tax will make more babies?"

This was very funny; the class laughed, though the thing was somewhat coarse, coming from a clergyman. Yet the class laughed, and Dr. Jackson joined in with them, thinking he had unhorsed the Single Tax advocate. But the reverend doctor was mistaken. Mr. Pender answered:

"Yes, sir; the Single Tax will make more babies, and I'll show you how. Our young men will be assured of constant work, if they want it, at good wages. The natural inclination of all young men is to marry. Under the Single Tax they will be able to follow that inclination. As a result there will be an increased number of couples who will make for themselves a paradise on this earth, and an increase in the number of cherubs will follow."

The answer was received with a storm of applause by the class, and the clergyman sat down with the look of a man who had been completely knocked out.

PERSONAL.

W. A. Moffett, of Pembroke, Ontario, sends a copy of his local paper, the Pembroke Observer, to this office, with a marked article to which he calls our special attention. Had Mr. Moffett been a subscriber to THE STANDARD he would have read the article weeks ago. Even the caption is the same; the only thing missing in his local paper being the courtesy to credit it to its source. Papers all over the country copy from THE STANDARD without credit. We have made no protest, because we felt that the publication of our matter in any way would help the cause. But it is a most unfair thing to do.

* * *

S. D. Guion still continues his good work in behalf of the Single Tax, through the medium of the Brooklyn Eagle. His last letter is on "Land Confiscation."

* * *

Mr. C. J. Buell, of Minneapolis, has sold his residence in that city and removed to St. Anthony Park, Minn. Mr. Buell, in a letter ordering a change in the address of his STANDARD, says that he hopes that the Single Tax men will feel as free to call on him in his new home as they have been at the home he is just leaving.

* * *

H. N. Starr, who we are told is in sympathy with the Single Tax movement, was elected Mayor of Rockford, Ill., at the recent Spring election. He took office on Monday evening, May 4. Mr. Starr's name appears among the signers to the petition, and he has, for a long time, been a subscriber to THE STANDARD.

"THE LAW PERMITS IT, AND THE COURT AWARDS IT."

San Francisco Star.

A Portland, Or., typewriter girl recently bought some school land at three dollars an acre, and afterwards found it to be a cultivated farm, for which she has been offered twenty dollars an acre. Here is a forcible illustration of the villainy of our land system, which permits her to appropriate, without performing one dollar's worth of productive labor, and to pocket the results of the labor of others, who have made the land valuable.

PRICKING THE TIN BUBBLE.

Boston Globe.

We hear every day of the great things the tin plate manufacturers are doing in the line of talk, but the Iron Age doubtless tells the truth when it asserts that tin plate manufacture is practically accomplishing nothing in this country but artificial noise.

THEN THEY'LL WAIT TILL THEY GET IT.

Philadelphia Record.

The price of wheat used to be determined in Liverpool for the American farmer, but the farmers' tariff has changed all that. Now, all that the Farmers' Alliances have to do is to fix their own price for wheat—the Illinois Alliance has put it at $1.25 a bushel—and then wait till they get it!

RUE AS GOSPEL.

Parkersburg, W. Va., Sentinel.

A skilled mechanic may work and save for a lifetime and not make the tithe of the money that a protected monopolist filches from the people.

THE DISADVANTAGE OF BEING A POOH-BAH.

Minneapolis Tribune.

Sleeping-car porter—Half dollar more, sah, if you please.

The Hon. D. B. Hill—What!

Porter—Yes, sah. Fifty cents fur de Guvner and fifty cents fur de Senator.

SINGLE TAX NEWS.

SINGLE TAX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE,
42 UNIVERSITY PLACE, New York, May 12, 1891.

How many of our club secretaries have read the standing notice printed at the head of the club directory, which requests them to send in to this committee notices of the formation of new clubs or requests for the enrollment of existing organizations? No fee is required for enrollment. Any organization endorsing the declaration of principles made by the National Conference becomes by such endorsement a member of the League. Up to this date only 90 clubs have enrolled themselves. A year ago 140 organizations were carried in THE STANDARD directory. Where are the missing 50?

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

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

Subscriptions toward expenses of this committee's work for week ending May 12 are as follows:

John F. Winter, New York City	$60 00
Subscriptions previously acknowledged	1,618 40
Total	$1,678 40

Cash contributions for same period are as follows:

S. D. Guion (add), Brooklyn, N. Y	80
C. J. Buell, St. Anthony Park, Minn	5 00
L. W. Hoch (add), Adrian, Mich	2 00
John Casey, Chicago, Ill	25
A. Segin (add), Memphis, Tenn	5 00
"A Friend," Portland, Ore	2 00
El Paso Single Tax Club (add), El Paso, Tex	1 50
	$16 55
Contributions previously acknowledged	1,512 70
Total	$1,529 25

The enrollment now stands as follows:

Reported last week	104,520
Signatures received since last report	466
Total	104,986

For news budget, see roll of States.

GEO. ST. JOHN LEAVENS, Secretary.

PUSHING THE SINGLE TAX IN THE F. AND L. U.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., May 5.—Inclosed find thirty-five petitions sent me by one of the converts of my article published in the St. Louis Journal of Agriculture. Elder John W. Brown is the chaplain of the Farmers' and Laborers' Union at Dexter City, Mo. He wrote to me some time ago for campaign material, and said he wanted to start a Single Tax club at Dexter. I advised him to make his local assembly of the F. and L. U. a Single Tax club, and I see he is in a fair way to do it from the letter inclosing petitions:

DEXTER CITY, Mo., April 21, 1891.

MR. R. G. BROWN, Memphis, Tenn.—MY REVEREND SIR: You will please accept my thanks for your promptness in sending me so many helps in the Single Tax cause, and pardon me for not writing sooner, as I have been sick. I will return to you thirty-one petitions, making in all thirty-eight, and to this you can add four for the women. If I had more literature to distribute and time to talk to the people I could send in many more petitions. I am the first to agitate the Single Tax in this locality, even in our county. Our lecturer is not posted in the Single Tax cause. I want a few speeches for him and two other prominent men. Very truly yours in the grand cause of our country, ELD. JOHN W. BROWN.

The Elder has my profession a little catawampus, but not much; when it comes to preaching the "fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man," I am as "reverend" as any theologian of them all, and, if need be, can give chapter and verse from Holy Writ to back up my thesis.

I have been very busy preparing and presenting cases in our Supreme Court since the middle of March, and have had no time to devote to propaganda work, but I hope to get foot-loose shortly and try my hand at enlarging the number of subscribers to THE STANDARD from Memphis. I do not see how any man interested in the political situation can do without THE STANDARD; to my mind there is nothing in any of the daily or weekly papers (and I see most of the New York, Chicago, St. Louis and Cincinnati papers every week) that can compare with THE STANDARD editorials and "Story of the Week" for giving one a clear and comprehensive view of the drift of public thought and discussion in matters political and economic.

John S. Watters, formerly of New Orleans, is now permanently located in Memphis, and lends a helping hand to the work Bolton Smith and I have been carrying on among the Knights of Labor. An address he made before them on the last Sunday in March, upon the free coinage of silver, was excellent, and we have been invited to meet in debate some advocates of the Sub-Treasury nonsense at an early date. Watters will be a great help to us in Memphis, both in debate and with the pen. He is now engaged in preparing an article on "Interest," for Belford's Magazine, which will appear some time this Summer. The outline of the cat will be plainly perceptible between the lines.

Cliff J. Walker was in the city this week and says that the Single Tax men of Cincinnati set to thinking some of the delegates who were in attendance at the late convention of Republican Clubs held in that city. If the effort does not exhaust them we may make some converts, but I fear that it is in vain that we pipe to "dyed in the wool" Republicans, such as those who generally attend such assemblies; they will not dance to common sense harmony. Our field must be among the farmers and the young men who are not bound down by the tyranny of custom. When a man has voted a ticket for twenty years, be it Republican or Democratic, it is hard for him to change; he has said so many hard things about the "other fellows" that he cannot get his own consent to travel towards heaven, even in such company. R. G. BROWN.

HOW THE SINGLE TAX GREW IN CLINTON.

CLINTON, Ind., May 5.—The Single Tax agitation was begun in this (Vermillion) county six years ago, when the Argus began the publication of "Social Problems" in the form of a serial. The articles at once attracted attention and aroused an interesting discussion. In the campaign of 1888 this same paper, which had always been Republican and Protection, supported Grover Cleveland on Free Trade principles. The county has always been from 250 to 375 Republican. Last November this majority was completely obliterated, many of the farmers and miners having come to see the hypocrisy of Protection and the common sense of Free Trade. The Protectionists, and especially the landlords, have become badly frightened, however, and within the last year have worked desperately to overthrow our Single Tax paper, by such means as their baffled rage and bitter resentment could suggest or utilize. The paper is still here, however, and is on a better foundation than ever, and pours the hot shot of absolute Free Trade into the enemy every week. Out of this agitation there sprung up a pretty good showing of ardent single taxers, and last year a club was organized, but unfortunately, a man was chosen president who was more of a traitor than a loyal Single Taxer, and the club finally ceased meeting. But we shall pick our flints and try it again.

Among the true blue Single Taxers of this place are Robert Allen, F. W. Hamilton and Tom Gamble. All are thorough-going fellows and have rendered us great assistance, even at times when to do so was to risk their obtaining employment. The farmers' movement has recently stirred this county, and by giving their assembly meetings the free use of our editorial office, when the Protectionists wanted $5 an hour for a little hall, and by warmly espousing the cause of the organized farmers, we have made friends among that large class and are now able to get them to investigate the Single Tax. The coal miners of this State are now in a condition to receive Single Tax truth with good and lasting effect, and since I have commenced this letter I have supplied two miners who have walked three miles to call at this office with our literature. Both were total strangers and both foreigners, but were men who had read solid books. A few moments explanation of our principles induced one of them to sign the petition. The other took a petition with him for consideration.

The operation of our new tax law, which compels all assessors to assess all kinds of property at its true cash value, is having a salutary effect in opening people's eyes to the injustice of taxing personal property and the good effect of taxing land according to its full value, for already we hear of quite a number of land speculators who will open up town lots and put them on the market in order to avoid paying the increased tax.

I recently had an interview with Mike Comiski, of Terra Haute, a loyal member of an old Single Tax club. Mike is now President of District No. 11, of the United Mine Workers of America. His district includes all of Indiana, and a part of Kentucky. He has splendid opportunities to do propaganda work and no doubt would do so if the Letter Writing Corps would encourage and spur him up. He reports to me that there is a wonderfully strong Single Tax sentiment among the miners, and it is rapidly growing.

The attempt to sidetrack the question of tariff and bring up the silver issue was promptly met and successfully resisted here, and the tariff still remains the burning question of the hour, and so it shall if we Hoosier Single Taxers can hold our own. I have now over fifty petitions out among our famers and miners in the hands of reliable men.

It occurs to me that it is about time to close up ranks and press the fight with renewed zeal and earnestness. I shall contribute my mite with our little "country newspaper" and shall also make it a point to address the farmers in their lodge meetings, as I have obtained the consent from many of them to do so. Here is a rich field for my fellow Hoosier Single Taxers to work, but, judging from their conspicuousness by their absence from the news columns of THE STANDARD, the Single Taxers of Indiana, are either working a very quiet, deep game, or there are but few of them.

S. O. BISHOP.

BROKAW AND BETSY CAMPAIGNING.

SOUTH DAKOTA.—Friday afternoon, May 1st, I drove from Elk Point to Jefferson through a cold rain. After running about considerable, I found a place to put my pony under cover, and I went to the hotel. I saw Dr. Pinard, and got permission to use the hall above his drug store the next Monday night.

Saturday forenoon I drove to Isaac Moore's, and put up till night. He was a member of the State Legislature last Winter. At night I went with him and others, in his buggy, to the Beavers' school house. The room was well filled and much interest manifested. Most of them signed the petition, and some ordered "Protection or Free Trade?" A Mr. Hill invited me home with him, and I accepted.

Sunday forenoon we rode, horseback, to Mr. Moore's, and I spent the day there. It quit raining Saturday, but continued cold.

Monday morning, May 4, I drove to Jefferson, facing a chilling wind, which my Summer clothing did not protect me against. I found no place there where I could "thaw out," except in the depot; so after getting dinner at the hotel, I drove out into the country about four miles, and put up with a young Democratic farmer, who leans toward the Single Tax, and thinks it a step toward Bellamy's scheme. After supper we drove to town in my cart through the rain. It was a nasty night, and the hall was cold, but there were twenty-five or thirty out. They were mostly French, and but few remained at the close to sign the petition or take literature. The night was

so dark I could hardly see "Betsy" (my pony), and it was midnight when we reached Mr. Bland's.

Tuesday morning Mr. Bland rode to Elk Point with me, and we went a round about away so as to announce a meeting for the next Friday night. At Elk Point I found a place for "Betsy," but had to go to a hotel myself. At the post office I received copies of all of George's works except "Protection or Free Trade?" and sold a set of them to Mr. Bland. At night I spoke in the Court House to a small crowd. A Congregational ministerial meeting in the town attracted most people.

Wednesday morning I drove toward Richland, stopping for dinner with a brother Alliance man. In the afternoon I drove around among farmers near Richland, and told them to come out at night. Again I had to stop at a hotel. There was a good sized audience, and considerable interest manifested there. The chairman said he had read some on the subject, and he considered my arguments unanswerable. I got a slight collection. Thus far collections have not balanced expenses.

Thursday morning I started north. The first place I stopped at the man advised me to take another road, in order to meet more Alliance men. I took his advice, and returned and started on the other side of the "hills." I stopped men I met on the road and took orders for "Protection or Free Trade?" sold pamphlets, got signatures, gave tracts, and got into some lively discussions, pulling up at noon at the house of a Republican, who has been an Alliance man, but could not endure its "going into politics." I dined with him, got his signature and left him tracts, without once raising his partisan ire. In the afternoon I stopped all along the road to announce my lecture in the Hoyt school house that night, arriving at Mr. Hoyt's about 4 P. M., about two miles north of Akron, Iowa, but in South Dakota. The school house was filled by men and women, some having to stand up, and the interest manifested was in proportion. One man said I had given them more solid arguments on the tariff, in a few moments, than they had been able to get out of hours of discussion.

Friday forenoon, May 8, I drove to Elk Point and got 100 copies of "Protection or Free Trade?" in the mail; I have sold fifteen of them since at fifteen cents each. To-night I speak in a school house four-and-a-half miles south of here.

Find enclosed sixty-one signatures. Number one is a French doctor, a Single Taxer so far as he understands it; two has same opinion; three is a dyed-in-the-wool Republican; four was Independent Republican last Winter; five is a red-hot Democrat, who bought all of George's works of me; six is County Sheriff; seven is a Single Taxer; eight is son of a State Senator-elect, that died before Legislature met; nine is County Judge; ten is rank Protectionist; eleven has read the "Land Question" and inclines our way; twelve is a staunch Republican; thirteen is a Protectionist, but he bought "Protection or Free Trade!" I met one man who thought a man had a right to all the land he could buy, and said there was plenty of Government land to be had. When I said there was practically none worth having that was free, he said there was some just across the river, in Iowa. Come to find out, there is a twenty-acre strip fenced in on two sides by a man's farm and on the others by the river that he referred to? What lofty ideas some men have!

W. E. BROKAW.

SINGLE TAX LETTER WRITERS.

The following additional assessors have recently been appointed in Boston. In writing to them place "Assessor" on the envelope in addition to the address given: Edward B. Daily, 44 Auburn street; Joseph Tondorf, Jr., 210 Highland street; George A. Comins, 31 State street; John M. Maguire, 115 Chandler street; all, Boston, Mass. By calling their attention to the fact that assessing vacant lots at a lower per cent. of their selling values than improved property tends directly to prevent improvement, to discourage enterprise and to keep up rents, we may induce these assessors to make changes for the better as great as those accomplished in Chicago through the work on the assessors of the Active Single Tax Club there.

Mr. James R. Carret's statistics in a recent STANDARD can be used effectively. In reply to recent inquiries, any believer in the Single Tax, man or woman, boy or girl, can join the corps by agreeing to write at least one letter a week to some one of the targets in the current STANDARD. There are no dues; suggestions as to "targets" and methods are always welcome, and will be used so far as possible. In suggesting names for targets care should be taken to give exact addresses, full information and printed extracts from sermons, editorials, etc., whenever these are to be made texts for letters. Through the letter writers many isolated men and women have been made to do most effective work in the common cause.

42 University place, New York. W. J. ATKINSON.

NEW YORK CITY.

The monthly meeting of the Manhattan Single Tax Club was held last Thursday evening at the club rooms, 73 Lexington avenue, Louis F. Post presiding. The resolution of the managing board, asking the club to consider the advisability of taking action looking to putting a candidate for Congress in the field in the Tenth Congressional District, was discussed at length, and resulted in a motion being adopted for the appointment of a committee to confer with other clubs, with a view to being prepared to place a candidate in nomination in the event of the Democratic nominee not being satisfactory to the clubs. The Managing Board was instructed to solicit funds for a cart-tail campaign in the Tenth District on Free Trade lines, during the coming Summer and Fall. As soon as contributions begin to come in, the campaign will be begun; the larger the contributions are, the more extensive the campaign work will be.

Mrs. Dr. Walter Mendelson was the first of the newly elected lady members to avail herself of the privilege of attending a business meeting of the club.

Mr. Post announced that Mr. James McGregor, the well known Single Tax advocate of Jersey City, was ill—so ill that his doctor had ordered him to stop work entirely for a time. It is known that Mr. McGregor's circumstances are such that the doctor's orders could not be obeyed without entailing, to say the least, inconvenience to his family; so the members of the club in attendance at the meeting requested the President to convey to Mr. McGregor their regrets at his illness, with a hope that he will soon be restored to health. A substantial testimonial of their esteem will accompany the regrets.

Fred C. Keller.—Mr. Thomas G. Gilligan will deliver an address before the Metropolitan Single Tax Club, on Saturday May 16th, 8 P. M., at No. 490 Eighth avenue. Subject: "Misplaced Men and Women, and What They Cost Society." Mr. Gilligan is an interesting and a forcible speaker and we expect a large attendance.

BROOKLYN.

E. L. Smith.—The Woman's Single Tax Club of Brooklyn held its meeting at 198 Livingston street, on the afternoon of Tuesday, May 4. A lively discussion on the Single Tax and cognate subjects, took place, and an interesting letter, written for the club by Miss Sarah Mifflin Gay, of Staten Island, was read. Mr. Thomas G. Shearman will deliver an address before the club, on the afternoon of Tuesday, May 19th inst. Upon the invitation of the club, Mrs. M. Louise Thomas, ex-president of the Sorosis Society of New York delivered an interesting and instructive lecture on the evening of May 6. Mr. Bolton Hall, also of New York City, followed Mrs. Thomas, and supplemented her remarks with explanations upon economic questions relating to the Single Tax.

Mrs. L. Wolfe.—How beautiful and full of justice are the words: "Voluntary poverty should be left to the individual. "Involuntary poverty is a disease of a social character." These are words of wisdom which, to my way of thinking, are forcible. They were uttered before the Single Tax meeting at Germantown, Penn. (See STANDARD or May 6th.)

MASSACHUSETTS.

S. T., Boston.—"Protection or Free Trade" was the subject of debate at the meeting of the literary society of the Young Men's Christian Association, Tuesday evening, May 5, at the Christian Association Building, corner of Berkley and Boylston streets.

A dinner, in honor of Mrs. Katherine Herne, was given at Marliave's last Wednesday evening by some ladies and gentlemen well known in theatrical circles.

W. N. Ferguson, Boston.—Six petitions. I have bought THE STANDARD regularly for over a year. By the same mail I send this I shall subscribe for THE STANDARD for four months, and when that time is up I feel that I shall be able to subscribe for a year.

NEW JERSEY.

Fred. W. Ball, Paterson.—Twelve petitions. I am trying to do my share toward pushing the thing along, both in getting signatures to the petition and preaching Single Tax to all whom I think I can influence in any way. I am not much at collective work, but at individual work I think I have cause to feel encouraged, as since I first discovered "the cat" myself, which was last Fall, I think I can reckon on about half a dozen converts to Single Tax.

Otto Koehler, Riverton.—Sixteen petitions. I am at work wherever I find an opportunity to talk Single Tax. What is the matter with our workers?—2,000 of them and only 100,000 names.

PENNSYLVANIA.

"Uncle Tom," Bryn Mawr.—Nine petitions. These bring my share up to 478. Of these 35 signatures were obtained by the writer on the public highways, railroad stations, etc., and the remainder have been collected by other persons who, to a certain extent, had become interested in the subject. We have now 104,520 signatures. For 3,000 "workers" this number would average less than 35 signatures per "worker;" for 2,000 "workers," less than 53, and for 1,000 "workers," less than 95 signatures for each "worker." It seems that some people consider themselves "workers" when they send in ten signatures per year. Such persons had better drop out altogether, as they only discourage others, and to a certain extent hold up the claim made by our friends, the enemy, that the movement is progressing backward. If of the original "workers" each one had done his duty, as far as the petition is concerned, the number of signatures at this time would be in excess of 500,000. Instead we have a "measly" number of 104,520 signers out of a population of sixty-five millions. If it could be proven that the movement has made no more progress than the petition, we might as well do as the average Nineteenth Century Christian is doing, i. e., sit down, devoutly fold our hands, be satisfied with things as they are, and assure our less fortunate brethren—in the language of holy John Wanamaker—that "it was the evident intent of God that the majority of mankind should be poor; that where one man should occupy a large house, twenty must reside in small ones. The Lord knew we were to be poor. He thought it was better for us that this condition should exist."

There seems to be plenty of Holy Johns in our movement, and the sooner we repudiate these blasphemous individuals the better for the cause. Those who occupy delicate positions—of which the writer can sing a song—are of course not included in the above, and are not to blame if they howl with the wolves as long as they are compelled to live among them. Others who are able to work but are too lazy to do so, had better give up the claim of being Single Taxers, and return to the ranks of those who assert that it is the will of God that involuntary poverty and all the vices springing therefrom should exist. It is easy enough to quiet your conscience and blame the Lord for any and everything. *He never kicks back*; but remember the last day of judgment.

E. D. Burleigh, Germantown.—Two petitions. On Wednesday evening of last week, April 29, we had a fine lecture from Father J. O. S. Huntington, which was given in Workingmen's Club Hall, Germantown, under the auspicies of the Germantown Single Tax Club. The chair was occupied by Rev. J. H. Clifford, of the Unitarian Church of Germantown, who is a member of the Single Tax Society of Philadelphia. He introduced the speaker of the evening in a beautiful little five minute speech which was listened to attentively. Father Huntington then stepped forward to the front of the platform and made one of the best Single Tax speeches I ever heard. His subject was "God's Gifts for God's Children." The club was

much delighted with the meeting and hope it will do much good to the cause we all have at heart.

Charles S. Prizer, Reading.—Fifteen petitions. They were secured at a meeting at Wernersville on last Saturday evening.

DELAWARE.

David McWilliams, Rockford, Wilmington.—Sixteen petitions. Some of these are strong Republicans. I am glad to see so many coming in, but think there might be still *more*.

TEXAS.

James Charlton, Houston.—Two petitions. Our Single Tax club is about making up a programme of discussions to take place weekly during the Summer months on Protection versus Free Trade, in which its various phases and results will be thoroughly ventilated. We shall dare the local Protection League or others to cross ideas with us. Extreme advocates of that theory are few and far between and difficult to draw out. Our State has taken a step looking to the Australian system of voting. We will take a vote on amending the Constitution, so as to allow of registration in cities of 10,000 population and over, that being a necessary feature of the system. We feel confident the amendment will be adopted, and that the next Legislature will give us the secret ballot, at least in cities. Our friend, H. F. Ring, has been having a tilt with a prominent real estate man over the merits of exempting personal property and improvements from burdensome taxation. In the second letter the prominent real estate man pulled in his horns and gently retired.

W. E. Partlow, Sanger.—Thirteen petitions, this makes a total from this place of 60, and if each of our friends would do as well our total would swell faster. Henry George's friends are increasing slowly but surely in this section.

OHIO.

J. S. Maclean, Columbus.—Fourteen petitions; not nearly so many as I meant to have to send you this week. Still I think it is about one a day since my last batch was sent. You will notice two "foreigners" among this lot, one from New York, the other from Wisconsin, "taken on the wing." Hope to see you pass the 105,000 notch the coming week.

Franklin H. Smead, S. T.—Forty-two petitions, obtained without one refusal, from among my brother printers, etc., and C. L. U. delegates Will send more later on. I was converted to the Single Tax six months before the STANDARD was started.

W. W. Kile, Dayton.—Inclosed find petitions. On last Monday evening I addressed the Prohibition Club of this place, by invitation, on the Single Tax. The audience was very attentive, and after I had finished several members of the club requested further explanation in regard to particular phases of the question, showing that they had followed the argument. Several members of the club, I think, can be counted as Single Taxers and more of them are Free Traders.

INDIANA.

Mrs. J. D. Gunn, Evansville.—One petition, signed by Mr. Meyers, a Democrat, who is a hardware man here. He is for Free Trade, and says he keeps literature of that kind on his office desk for visitors to read. I gave him one or two STANDARDS, and would have loaned him "Protection or Free Trade?" but my copies were loaned out. I think when the ladies have the franchise they will not let the right and the true go begging for support. I give away STANDARDS every few days, though some of them I hate to part with.

ILLINOIS.

Warren Worth Bailey, Chicago, May 8.—Ever since its organization in 1887, our club has been meeting in one of the club rooms of the Grand Pacific Hotel, one of the chief reasons being that the accommodations were free. But we were never certain that we could have the use of the premises, and it too often happened that we found ourselves obliged, at the last moment before a meeting, to secure a room elsewhere, thus causing annoyance and discouragement to all concerned. With this state of facts confronting us, it has at last been decided to secure permanent quarters of our own, and a committee, recently appointed to attend to the matter, has reported in favor of an elegant little hall in the very heart of the city, less than a block from the Grand Pacific. It is on the top floor of the large building at the corner of Adams and La Salle streets, the entrance being at No. 206 La Salle, directly opposite the Home Insurance building. The hall is reached by elevators that run up to a late hour, so there will be no stairs to climb. It is nicely furnished, the seats being upholstered in red plush, and the walls hung with attractive paper. The floor is heavily carpeted, and the windows richly draped. The use of a committee room is included in the terms, so that altogether the place is quite desirable. The committee was authorized last night to take it, and it is probable that hereafter our meetings will be held there.

Mr. John Z. White's address last night was one of the best he has ever made before our club. It was thorough in treatment and well balanced throughout, the subject of taxation being dealt with as only one who has mastered the principles of "Progress and Poverty" could deal with it. The attendance was very good, and it included many strangers who had come especially to hear Mr. White. He spoke for more than an hour, and from the outset he commanded the undivided attention and marked interest of the audience. He was frequently applauded. At the conclusion of his address he answered a number of questions in a very satisfactory way.

The new rector of St. James' Episcopal parish, one of the largest in the West, is the Rev. Dr. Floyd W. Tomkins, recently of Hartford. Readers of THE STANDARD will be interested in knowing that he is an out-and-out Single Tax man, and that he is not in the least ashamed of the fact or afraid to let it be known of all men. In fact it was known that he was a disciple of Mr. George before he came here, as one of the officials of the parish told me, and on the day of Dr. Tomkins' arrival the newspapers chronicled it as an interesting bit of personal news that he was an outspoken advocate of the Single Tax. Nor does it appear to be to his discredit that he is so in the eyes of his parishioners. I talked with a number of the most prominent of them and they did not seem to regard their new rector with suspicion on account of his economic views. One of them said that he himself was quite ready to be convinced. If the Single Tax was right it couldn't come too soon to suit him. Another said that the church was bound to take up the social question and he congratulated St. James' on securing the services of a man who had deep and earnest convictions on the subject and the courage to advocate them. Dr. Tompkins told me that he had not come here to preach the Single Tax, but that in preaching the truths of the gospel he would apply them to the affairs of practical life. From this I inferred that he would point out economic truths only as an incident or by way of illustration, leaving to others the work of direct advocacy. However, it is to be hoped that he will let his light so shine that other ministers, seeing his good work for economic truth, will throw off their fear of public opinion and seriously take up the social question for study and discussion.

Announcements.—May 14, Miss Isabella Hudson. May 21, open, Mr. Henry Latchford having cancelled his engagement to speak. May 28, John Gibbons, LL.D., author of "Tenure and Toil," and one of the most prominent members of the Chicago bar. It is understood that he will speak of the great farmers' movement. He describes himself as a Free Trade Republican, but admits that it seems to be a contradiction of terms. Mayor L. W. Hock, of Adrian, and E. Q. Norton, of Alabama, promise to visit us soon.

Our committee on taxation has sent out a strong letter to all the Assessors, calling attention to the gross inequalities in the assessment of property, and appealing to them for a reform of their practices in this respect. It is believed that the letter will have a good effect.

F. W. Maguire, Chicago.—Ten petitions. I find but slight difficulty in getting signers, as almost any one to whom the case is intelligently presented will be, at least, in favor of having the Single Tax investigated. As you are aware, I have been sending in petitions for some time past, and while I have kept no accurate record of the number, I can safely say I have sent over three hundred. It seems to me there are many active Single Taxers in this city who could exceed this amount.

Single Tax, Bloomington.—The Normal College boys, through my efforts, are about to take up the Single Tax question. In a short time there is to be an oratorical contest among them. Two came to me a few days ago and asked me to give them themes. To one—Mr. Hicks—I suggested the taxation question and, to the other—Mr. Cleveland—the "Fallacy of Socialism." The best part of it is that both accepted my advice and both are now reading "Progress and Poverty," bent on making master efforts. After they have written their themes they promise to submit their manuscripts to me. I saw the young men again to-night, and they told me they were very glad I had urged them to read "Progress and Poverty." "I'll tell you," said Mr. Hicks, "it is a wonderful book and Mr. George knows what he is talking about." Mr. Hicks is a Republican, and I did not want to frighten him by drawing a petition blank on him, believing that the next time I see him he will have finished "Progress and Poverty," and know the beauties of "the cat."

The taxation question in Central Illinois is being very earnestly discussed by several of the leading papers. The Peoria Daily Herald, the leading Democratic paper of the State outside of Chicago, is making a strong fight against the personal tax law. It keeps it up every day. The following, from a late issue, will give some idea what the Herald is doing:

There is no doubt of the fact that in assessing property in Peoria, much of it has been missed. Personal property has escaped taxation altogether, and much valuable real estate has been assessed far below its value, as compared with other real estate. If the Assessor were more strict in his working, there are many almost worthless buildings in prominent places that would be replaced by much finer affairs. The trouble is that the Assessor seems to have taken too much for granted. The informant has been credited with too much honesty. Although Peoria ranks next to Hartford, Conn., in the wealth of her citizens per capita, the Assessors have been unable to find anywhere near so much property as has been found in cities much smaller and much poorer. It can be set down as a self-evident proposition that in this false assessment the poor man, with his little home and his scanty supply of furniture, has not escaped. The eagle eye of the Assessor has been able to find him all right. But it is the rich man who owns vacant lots, or property he is renting, or a fine residence, who sneaks out of his just share of taxation on that kind of property, while he buttons his coat over his diamond stud, and keeps his bespangled fingers in his pockets, which are filled with money.

The Lincoln Daily Courier is another paper which demands the repeal of the personal tax law; so also does the Roodhouse Daily Eye.

Some time in August the Prohibitionists of this county are going to hold a camp meeting, and arrangements are being made to secure many Prohibition speakers of national reputation, besides speakers representing the various labor organizations. One day is to be set aside for the discussion of the Single Tax, and the Chicago Club will be invited to furnish the speakers. This will be a great opportunity for Single Taxers, as these camp meetings are usually attended by many thousands of people.

W. A. Harris, Chicago.—Nine petitions. I obtained them on my trip from Memphis and at Memphis. I will soon begin in earnest to get signers. I shall be in a position to do something soon, and shall do all that it is possible for me to do. I look forward to the day that our able Single Taxer, Tom L. Johnson, will deliver that speech as a grand victory for our cause.

WISCONSIN.

Charles Rogers, Madison.—Six petitions. The students at our university are ready for the Single Tax. Only yesterday a fellow student of mine, in History, who had been reading Sumner's Life of Jackson, said it showed conclusively that our public domain, and not protection, had kept wages up in this country. A man would not work for less than he could make by working for himself. I sold him "Protection or Free Trade?" Every day I hear just such expressions, which come from those who only need to have the cat pointed out to them to recognize it. The literary societies debate the question regularly, and there are five or six Single Taxers out-and-out

among the students. There may be twice as many. I just ran across one this morning whom I had no idea was a Single Taxers. In my to-morrow's lesson in constitutional law—Thomas M. Cooley's "Constitbtional Law," p. 219—I find this expression: "It can scarcely be doubted that exclusion from employment may as effectually establish involuntary servitude as any use of physical force."

MISSOURI.

Percy Pepoon, St. Louis.—The last meeting of the Informal Club for this season took place at the Mercantile Club last Monday evening. The subject under discussion was the Single Tax. The Informal Club is an organization composed of carefully picked representatives of all professions and occupations. At this meeting a large number sat down to dinner at 6 o'clock, and at 7 Judge Sam. Breckenridge, the chairman of the evening, rapped for order and announced the question for discussion: "What do you think of the Single Tax?" He then called upon Henry H. Hoffman, president of the Single Tax League, to state the Single Tax position. This Mr. Hoffman did as strongly and fully as possible in the fifteen minutes allotted him. Mr. Franklin Ferris followed, criticising the Single Tax on the usual grounds, but in a very pleasant manner. The chairman next called for Col. Wilbur F. Tuttle, of Pettis County, Mo., Speaker of the House of Representatives, who was present as a guest. Colonel Tuttle was warmly applauded as he arose to speak; but the applause was tremendous and prolonged when he took his seat after delivering an eloquent and powerful Single Tax address. Colonel Tuttle spoke on the fiscal side of the question, but closed with a stirring appeal to sentiment.

Many short speeches for and against followed. Judge McKeighan, a prominent attorney, surprised the Single Taxers by speaking earnestly and vigorously for the Single Tax. Charles Claflin Allen, the leading Missouri Civil Service Reformer, regarded the proposition with some favor, and Mr. Kenna, attorney of the Wabash Railroad, spoke in a similar strain. Smith P. Gault opposed the idea strongly. Ben. E. Bloom and J. W. Steele, of the Single Tax League, replied. I. H. Lionberger made the strongest speech of the evening against the Single Tax, taking Judge McKeighan's arguments up in detail and endeavoring to dispose of them.

He frankly admitted the weakness of his arguments, but explained that he knew of no other way to "get around" the points made by Judge McKeighan. W. H. Little, secretary of the City Council, spoke ably for the Single Tax, and J. Sterve replied to Mr. Lionberger. Rev. Samuel Sale closed the discussion with a Single Tax speech, the eloquence of which fairly electrified the audience. M. M. Magasarian, of New York, editor of the Ethical Record, was present: and, though he took no part, he expressed himself afterwards as being deeply interested in the discussion.

H. Martin Williams has been speaking frequently at different points lately, and expects to start shortly on an extended tour through the State lecturing on the Single Tax and distributing copies of "Protection or Free Trade?"

The Benton School of Social Science kept open house Saturday evening, the occasion being the christening of Dr. Chase's new book, "Questions of the Day." W. H. Little made the principal address.

T. J. Smith, St. Louis.—Eleven petitions. Have not been as successful in obtaining names this Spring as I was last. The fault is partially my own and partially owing to the fact that so far this year I have been working for a builder and on one large job, and consequently do not come in contact with so many different bodies of men as during last season, being then engaged at stair-building, and of necessity being thrown among new gangs every two or three days. I have been talking Single Tax and Free Trade during noon hours, but find so far that my fellow-workmen take more interest in the game of craps than in anything I have to say. I have been waiting patiently, hoping they would grow tired of craps; then perhaps I could have some chance to get in a word for our and their cause.

Wm. W. Rose, Kansas City.—Nineteen petitions and four subscriptions for THE STANDARD for four weeks each. I have received 20 cents from each one of the subscribers, together with one previously sent in, and now enclose $1.00 to pay for same.

KANSAS.

R. J. Snediker, Hartford.—Enclosed find draft for 100 copies of the famous "Protection or Free Trade?" This makes 360 for this locality. Saturday night I talked two hours on the Single Tax to the Alliance in the Saneressig district and answered questions for one hour. They opened the meeting with a song, the refrain of which was "Justice and Freedom for the Farmer." I took this for my text, broadened to include all labor. At 10 minutes to 12 some one said we should adjourn, as they had to come back at 9 A. M. for Sunday school. The president, however, said that this talk was better than Sunday school. The farmer takes freedom of trade and the Single Sax for the justice that is in them. Their sense of right and justice is most acute, and to my mind "Protection or Free Trade?" and "Progress and Poverty" are the lights to save the country.

MINNESOTA.

C. J. Buell, St. Anthony's Park.—Three petitions. The first you will recognize as the very able editor of the Arena. Mr. Foote is president of the Minnesota Democratic Association and was the Democratic candidate for State Treasurer last Fall. Mr. Blanchard is editor of the Minneapolis Times.

OREGON.

Wallace Yates, Portland.—Sixty-two petitions. I am tabulating these names for distribution of literature hereafter.

UTAH.

B. C. Keeler, Salt Lake City.—A real estate dealer in Ogden, Utah, advertises in this candid way:

H. M. O'HAVER
Has the Earth for Sale,
In Quantities to Suit
Purchasers.

PUBLISHERS' NOTES.

On May 7 a circular was sent out to all of those who had been using recruit subscription books, giving them a list of the names they had sent in, indicating in each case whether the person to whom the paper had been sent had subscribed. This brings all of the information on the subject home to each worker, and enables him to stir up those who have given partial or conditional promises. In almost every case where a determined man has taken hold of this plan of work something has been accomplished. The most notable instance thus far is in Peoria, Ill., where Mr. J. W. Hill, two days after he had received the second circular, wrote as follows:

I take pleasure in reporting that I now have seven new yearly subscribers to THE STANDARD, and I am in hopes to make it ten in the next few days, or before I send them in. Wishing THE STANDARD the greatest success, and standing ready to pay $10 per copy per year if necessary to keep it going, I remain, yours truly.

David Harrower, Wakefield, R. I.—I enclose herewith check for $3 for STANDARD, to be sent for six months to —— and ——. I would have written to all the parties on my list before this, but for my long and severe illness. I am much better now, and have written five of them to-day. The others I will see personally. I have not been outside of my own house for many weeks.

Harold Suddel, New Castle, Del.—Enclosed find check for $1 in payment for four months' subscription to THE STANDARD for ——. I have a promise of another four months' subscriber, and will try for a second one to-night. [Mr. Suddell is demonstrating that subscribers can be obtained by men who are determined to obtain them.]

B. S. Ladd, Boston, Mass.—I enclose check for $3 for subscription to THE STANDARD, beginning April 1, when the paper was first sent to me by direction of Mr. James R. Garret, of this city.

E. C. Cooley, Dunkirk, N. Y.—Enclosed find money order for $1 for four months' subscription for THE STANDARD, to be sent to ——, to whom I sent recruit subscription No. 3.

George Champion, Denver, Col.—I like the latter form of the paper very much, and I am particularly pleased with the Story of the Week. I am sure of one new subscriber during the next few days and am hoping for more.

W. P. Borland, Saginaw, Mich.—I have made every effort among the persons whose names I send you and thus far only succeeded in obtaining one promise to subscribe. [Mr. Borland has no reason to regard his failure to do more. One out of five is not bad though it probably demonstrates that he would have better success if he selected five different persons.]

L. H. Hoch, Adrain, Mich.—I will do all I can to get a good list of subscribers here. No friend of the paper ought to raise any objection to the price. It would be different if THE STANDARD were a local paper circulating within a small circle and supported largely by local patronage. It is not of that character, and in its wider scope is necessarily a more expensive production and also much more valuable.

Henry Holt, Du Quoin, Ill.—Through the kindness of Robert Cummings I have received THE STANDARD four weeks, and to say that I like it would be putting it very mildly. Would to heaven that every workingman in the United States could take and study such papers. At present I cannot afford to take it, but I am now taking five labor papers and if some of them fall out I will make a change. We have been locked out here and I do not know how long we may be out. In the meantime accept my best wishes for yourself and THE STANDARD.

F. T. Merritt, Perris, Cal.—I am sending recruit subscriptions only to those likely to appreciate the paper. I am pleased with THE STANDARD, and will endeavor to increase its circulation.

M. Marr, Monteagle, Tenn.—This name belongs to a very rich manufacturer, with a good heart and sound head.

George Boeck, Plattsmouth, Neb.—I think I could make use of another recruit subscription book.

H. L. Buzzel, Meadville, Pa.—I intend to do all I can for THE STANDARD. You have improved the paper vastly during the present year. I began to take it since the second year of its publication, and it grows better every year.

T. M. Hill, Milton, N. Y.—I am one of the sluggards that the Publisher's Notes have aroused. I always champion Free Trade, and any one who is for tariff for revenue only is open to conviction for simon pure Free Trade when a source of revenue is pointed out that is based on equity and justice to all. Enclosed are names of Democrats who are low tariff men. You are to be congratulated on the Story of the Week. It is a feature that is a strong inducement for others than Single Tax men to subscribe.

Albert Philpot, St. Joe, Texas.—Three of these are Alliance leaders, one of whom is favorably impressed with the Single Tax.

F. S. Churchill, Burlington, Iowa.—Let me congratulate you on the great improvement you have made in the paper during the last few weeks. The Story of the Week is a valuable addition, and will, I am sure, secure many subscribers.

J. C. Williams, Kansas City, Mo.—Permit me to congratulate you on the many improvements in THE STANDARD. The manly, straightforward course of the paper on the silver question meets my entire approval, although I am for free coinage personally; but I am first, last and all the time a Free Trader and Single Tax man. It is very evident that the Democratic ship is sailing our way, and with increasing speed. Why, then, bother about the silver or any other minor question? I am well pleased with the Story of the Week, and think it will add to the popularity of THE STANDARD in a great measure. It is the very thing for a busy man.

Miss C. E. Bachman, Mauch Chunk, Pa.—Your Story of the Week department must meet a great need, and is worth the price of the paper by itself.

Ralph E. Hoyt, Los Angeles, Cal.—In my opinion you are right in making the question of taxation the issue paramount to all others. Of this I have not the slightest doubt. As an old-time Greenbacker, who put in six years of hard service for that reform movement, I have no disposition to underestimate the money question, but the burning issue of this age is taxation, and for one I am determined to fight it out on that line only, without being sidetracked by any new movement or any old one revived.

SINGLE TAX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES.

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

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

ARKANSAS.

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

CALIFORNIA.

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

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

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

COLORADO.

DENVER.—Denver single tax club. Every Thursday evening, 1812 Champa st. Free reading room open every day, 9 a. m. to 9 p. m. Pres., G. H. Phelps; sec. H. C. Ellis, 303 16th st.

PUEBLO.—Commonwealth single tax club. Regular meetings fourth Friday of each month at office of B. D. V. Reeve, corner Union av. and Main st. Pres., B. D. V. Reeve; sec., E. W. Brentlinger.

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. Reardon.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

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

Washington single tax league. Executive Committee meets at the residence of President H. J. Schulteis, 923 H st., n. w.; Wm. Geddes, M.D., sec., 1719 G st., n. w.

GEORGIA.

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

ILLINOIS.

CHICAGO.—Chicago single tax club. Every Thursday evening, club room 4, Grand Pacific Hotel. Pres., Warren Worth Bailey, 398 Hudson av; sec., F. W. Irwin, 317 La Salle st., room 625.

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

BRACEVILLE.—Braceville single tax committee. Pres., John Mainwaring; sec., Chas. E. Matthews.

PEORIA.—Peoria single tax club. Meetings Thursday evenings in Court House. Pres., Jas. W. Hill, 310 North st.; sec., Jas. W. Avery.

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

INDIANA.

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

RICHMOND.—Single tax club. Pres., C. S. Schneider, 305 South 2d st.; sec., M. Richie, 913 South A st.

IOWA.

BURLINGTON.—Burlington single tax club. First Saturday of each month, 305 North 5th st. Pres., Wilbur, Hoxsie, 930 Hedge av.; sec. treas., Frank S. Churchill.

CEDAR RAPIDS.—Single tax club. L. G. Booth, pres.; J. T. Kennedy, sec.

KENTUCKY.

LOUISVILLE.—Progress single tax club. Open every evening, 504 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, 388 Thalia st.

MAINE.

AUBURN.—Auburn single tax club. Public meetings every Saturday evening, 3 River Road. Pres., A. C. Dunning; 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.; rec. sec., J. W. Hassel, 26 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.

BROCKTON.—Single tax club. Meets Friday evenings corner Glenwood av. and Vernon st. Pres., Wm. A. McClintock; 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 73 Merrimac st. Pres, Geo. W. Pettengill; cor. sec., Edward E. Collum, 4 Green st

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

NEPONSET.—Single tax league. Sec., Q. A. Lothrop, Wood 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, 39 Court st., Boston; sec., Henry C. Romaine, 959 Tremont st.

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

MINNESOTA.

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

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

MISSOURI.

STATE.—Missouri single tax committee. Henry H. Hoffman, chairman; sec., Percy Pepoon, 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 Hermalink; sec., R. F. Young, Signal Service office.

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

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

NEBRASKA.

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

NEW JERSEY.

CAMDEN.—Single tax club. Meets every Saturday evening at Felton hall, n. e. cor. Second and Federal sts. Pres. Aaron Hand; sec., Wm. M. Cellingham, 590 Line st.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

NEW YORK.

New York.—Manhattan single tax club. Business Meeting first Thursday of each month at 8 p. m.: lectures, Sunday evening. Club rooms, 73 Lexington av.; open every day from 6 p. m. to 12 p. m. Pres. Louis F. Post; sec., A. J. Steers.

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

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

Women's single tax club. Meetings the first and third Tuesdays. 198 Livingston st. at 3 o'clock. Pres, Miss Eva J. Turner; sec., Miss Venie B. Havens, 219 DeKalb av.

East Brooklyn single tax club. Meetings every Monday evening, 406 Evergreen av. Pres., James Hamilton; sec., Jas. B. Connell, 448 Central av.

Eastern District single tax club. Public meeting on first Tuesday in each month, held at Eureka Hall, 378 Bedford avenue. Business meeting first and third Mondays at 94 South Third street. Pres., Joseph McGuinness, 138 S. 9th st., Brooklyn, E. D.; sec., Emily A. Deverall

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

ALBANY.—Albany single tax club. Meetings Sunday, 7.30 p. m., Beaver-Block, cor. Pearl and Norton sts. Pres., F. W. Croake; cor. sec., Geo. Noyes.

BUFFALO.—Tax Reform Club. Pres., S. C. Rogers; sec., T. M. Crowe, 777 Elk st.

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

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

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

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

WEST NEW BRIGHTON.—Richmond County single tax club. Sec., A. B. Stoddard.

NORTH DAKOTA.

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

OHIO.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

OREGON.

PORTLAND.—Single tax club. Meets first Monday in each month at Free Library Hall, 171 second st. Pres. T. D. Warwick; sec., Wallace Yates, 193 Sixth st., Portland, Ore.

PENNSYLVANIA.

BRADFORD.—Single tax club. Hevenor's hall, 41 Main st, Meetings for discussion every Sunday at 3.30 p. m.

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

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

PHILADELPHIA.—Single tax society of Philadelphia every Thursday, 8 p. m., 1341 Arch st.; cor. sec., A. H. Stephenson, 240 Chestnut st.

PITTSBURG.—Pittsburg single tax club. Meets every first and third Sunday evening at 7.30, 64 4th av. Pres., Edm. Yardley; sec. Mark F. Roberts, 140 South 24th st.

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

READING.—Reading single tax society. Monday evenings, 723 Penn st. Pres., Chas. S. Prizer; sec., Wm. H. McKinney, Mineral Spring road and Clymer st.

RHODE ISLAND.

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

SOUTH DAKOTA.

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

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

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

TENNESSEE.

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

TEXAS.

EL PASO.—Single tax club. Meetings second and fourth Monday nights, 200½ El Paso st. Pres., G. E. Hubbard; sec. and treas., M. W. Stanton; cor. sec., G. H. Higgins.

HOUSTON.—Houston single tax club. Meetings every Tuesday evening, 7.30, Franklin st. Pres., E. P. Alsbury; sec., E. W. Brown.

WEST VIRGINIA.

PARKERSBURG. — Parkersburg single tax league. Headquarters, 506 Market st. Pres., W. H. Curry; sec., W. F. Thayer.

WISCONSIN.

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

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

PORT ADELAIDE.—Single tax league. Pres., M. Bicks; hon. sec., E. LeMessolner.

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 mu-

nicipal purposes by a single tax upon land values, irrespective of improvements, and of the abolition of all forms of direct and indirect taxation.

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

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

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

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

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

The single tax, therefore, would—

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

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

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

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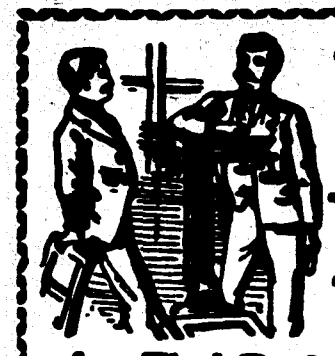

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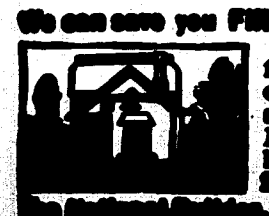

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