

THE STANDARD

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

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

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

During my absence in Europe an able and interesting series of articles by Thomas G. Shearman, meeting certain objections made against the single tax, has been published in THE STANDARD. These articles furnished what basis there was, beyond sheer misquotation and misrepresentation, for the notion that THE STANDARD had changed its course, and was endeavoring to lower the aims of the movement.

I have sufficiently spoken of this notion and the effort to diffuse it. I wish now to speak of some questions brought up by these articles, and to some extent debated among our friends.

Among the letters received by THE STANDARD have been a number debating, and some of them with much ability, the question whether our aim should be to take all, or something less than full economic rent. But as there were some misapprehensions, and as the discussion was largely as to what I held, I have preferred not to give them place until I could say something myself.

Among these communications was one, under date of July 19, from the secretary of the Central single tax club of Cleveland, Ohio, inclosing the following resolutions passed by that club:

Whereas, The question having arisen among single taxers as to the advisability of permitting the holders of land titles to retain a percentage of the economic rent, not to exceed one-tenth, as compensation for collecting said economic rent; therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the Central single tax club of Cleveland, Ohio, do most emphatically assert our adherence to the principle of taking the entire economic rent for public uses, and protest against anything having the appearance of a compromise with landlordism; and that a copy of these resolutions be sent to THE STANDARD for publication.

I, too, would like to take the entire economic rent. But I wish the Cleveland club had added another resolution explaining how they propose that it shall be done, for it is here that the difficulty comes.

But first as to Mr. Shearman:

Whatever percentage of economic rent he may think will suffice for the necessary expenses of government, he is as good a single tax man as those who wish to take it all. For he is for one single tax, or to speak more precisely, for levying all taxes on one single source of revenue—land value. If that does not constitute a single tax man, what does? In fact it was as a title for the first of his tracts we published, that the term "the single tax," which has been since so generally accepted by our friends, was first used in connection with the movement.

It was I who first used the terms "single

tax limited" and "single tax unlimited," which have lately been so much employed. I did so in a speech in New York, some time during last year, in referring to the two sets of men who were working together harmoniously for the single tax—the one with the idea of substituting that means of raising revenue for those now employed, and the other with the idea of not stopping at that, but going further and taking as near as might be the whole value of land for the uses of the community. I spoke, if my memory serves me, of Thomas G. Shearman and John DeWitt Warner as representatives of the single tax men limited, and of myself as a single tax man unlimited. But I went on to say that for practical purposes there was no difference between us, and that the men who only proposed to substitute the single tax for existing taxes were capable of doing as good work for the cause in its present stage as we who, when the time came, proposed to go further.

I then heard no objection to this from the gentlemen who since they have become so suddenly stricken with yearnings for the company of socialists and anarchists have come to look on single tax men limited as protectors of landlords, and schemers to degrade the movement into a "soulless, conscienceless fiscal reform." Nor in speaking so was I departing in the slightest from my original position, or making any bid for an alliance with a political party. I was but repeating what I had said at the first, and had always said, that we must win and would win our decisive battle by the aid of men not at the time willing to go the whole length we wished to go.

In "Progress and Poverty," book VIII, chapter II, entitled "How equal rights to the land may be asserted and secured," I say:

We have weighed every objection, and seen that neither on the ground of equity nor expediency is there anything to deter us from making land common property by confiscating rent.

Now, inasmuch as the taxation of rent or land values must necessarily be increased just as we abolish other taxes, we may put the proposition into practical form by proposing—

To abolish all taxation save that upon land values.

Is it not this that Mr. Shearman proposes to do?

So far from having lowered "the pure white banner of the movement" by gladly welcoming to the columns of THE STANDARD Mr. Shearman's able articles, or approving of the exclusion from its columns of ranting and misrepresenting attacks upon "Shearmanism," I would have been inconsistent with all I have ever written or declared if I had failed to greet and to treat the single tax men limited as honored co-workers. Nor in drawing the line, as I did, between the single tax men limited and the single tax men unlimited, was the thought in my mind that of differentiating the men. I represented from those not willing to go so far. It was that of relieving such men from the idea that in working with us for the single tax they were committing themselves to our whole programme. My thought was not merely to assure such men of our understanding on this point, so that they might the more readily join us, and work with us, but to let others understand it. For there are large classes on whom the advocacy of men who do not go the whole way exerts more influence than that of men who do.

If I may be permitted to offer advice to the Cleveland Single tax club, it would be to hold their own individual opinions, but to rescind their resolution at the next meeting. It is a mistake for them to put anything in the way of any limited single tax man joining them. And if they can get any limited single tax man like Thomas G. Shearman it would, in my opinion, be a mistake for them to try to make a single tax man unlimited out of him, if they could. When one dog gets another to help him catch hares, he does not insist that he shall follow in his track. On the contrary the two dogs take somewhat different paths. And they catch more hares because of their divergence.

To insist, if that were possible, that all advocates of the single tax should see the truth at precisely the same angle and to precisely the same extent, and should present it in precisely the same way, would be very stupid. "So many men, so many minds." and the mind that may be impervious to one method of approach is often open to another. As St. Paul saw, mental digestions that may reject the strong meat of the word may receive the milk with avidity. When railroads were only being talked about, the man who would have said, "I am of course no such visionary as to imagine that carriages can ever be drawn at the rate of fifty miles an hour, and I pay no attention to the wild talk about the social, political and industrial changes to be wrought by this invention in which some imaginative people indulge; but I am convinced that goods and passengers can be carried at least twice as fast as by horses and at most at half the cost, and that a good profit can be made by investing in these steam roads," would with certain very important classes of people have had more influence than one who could have foreseen and pictured all the marvels the railway has wrought.

Dr. W. C. Wood of Gloversville, writing to THE STANDARD, says:

I have heard it said of Seth Green that in establishing a hatchery in Connecticut he told the fishermen that he came to make fish cheap. Whereupon they hindered him all they could. This was a lesson to him, and when he commenced operations in New Jersey he told the fishermen there that he came to make fish plenty. He got all the help they could give him.

And so, it seems to me, it is a better way to approach the farmer by showing him that the single tax will stop the robbery he suffers through direct and indirect taxation than by calling his attention to the fact that the single tax will destroy the selling value of his land.

Let us conceal nothing, deny nothing, keep the whole scheme before the people, but present it in the manner best calculated to secure a hearing.

In the articles that have been printed in THE STANDARD from time to time since March last, Mr. Shearman has taken up, one after the other, the objections to the single tax which have been made on both sides of the Atlantic by men like Mr. Atkinson, Professor Harris and others, whose position as "statisticians," professors, etc., gives them weight with the general reader. He has admirably made the following points:

1. Instead of land values not being sufficient to permit the present expenses of government to be defrayed by the single tax, they are far more than sufficient, and that as shown by an analysis of the official figures for the city of Boston, the state of Connecticut and the united kingdoms of Great Britain and Ireland (cases

quoted in support of the opposite view) the revenues now raised by taxation of all kinds could be defrayed by a tax on land values without taking more than two-thirds of the ground rent now appropriated by landowners.

2. That even in new and sparsely settled communities a tax on land values alone would suffice to defray all the expenses that ought to be charged on such communities.

3. That to abolish all taxes in favor of the single tax would not interfere with the security of possession or of improvements.

4. That so far from the single tax exempting the owners of railroads and similar public franchises from contributing their just share to the public revenues, it is the most efficient means of taxing such franchises up to their full value.

5. That the objection "which is urged with the greatest air of triumph by certain excellent college professors and others" that the single tax has been tried for ages in such countries as India, Egypt, etc.—"and just look at them"—is in utter ignorance both of the facts and the principle.

In all this, and especially in his marshalling of figures, Mr. Shearman has rendered most essential service by placing in the hands of our friends answers and arguments which few of them would have the time and opportunity to work out for themselves. Nor is its usefulness in the least lessened by the fact that his standpoint is that which he has always occupied—that he proposes merely to substitute a tax on land values for all the other taxes now resorted to for public revenues.

This best describes Mr. Shearman's position—that he proposes to substitute the single tax for other taxes now levied; or to put it in the words which I used in "Progress and Poverty" he proposes "to abolish all taxation save that upon land values." He has proposed no limit to the tax on land values save that which he deems necessary to the collection of the tax itself, and which he vaguely puts at ten per cent. He does not propose to leave to land owners all above sixty-five per cent of the economic rent. He merely declares that statistics indicate that the present revenues of government could be obtained by a tax which would take not more than sixty-five per cent of economic rent. If more is required, then he expressly states, he would take more. And while he declares that he would demand "only so much of the ground rent as is needed by the state for public purposes," he sets no limit to the increase of the needs of the state, but on the contrary shows his appreciation of how these needs will increase with the opportunities for supplying them, by declaring that "the natural increase of taxation is always far more rapid than the increase of either population or wealth."

But in speaking of the margin which he thinks it necessary to leave in order to insure the collection of the tax on land values, Mr. Shearman declares that even under the single tax unlimited this would be "sufficient to induce men to enter into the business of land holding." And in his final article, "A mere fiscal reform," replying to certain criticisms of Mr. Penta-cost in the Twentieth Century, occurs this paragraph:

Some will say that no landlords ought to be

allowed at all. But such persons forget that neither rent nor landlords can ever be abolished, without establishing absolute communism. Rent is produced by natural laws which cannot be repealed. Every one who gets a share of it is a landlord. Every tenant who has "a good natured landlord," is himself a landlord, because he puts into his own pocket some portion of the natural rent which an ill-natured landlord would extract from him. If the state tries to be the sole landlord it will fail, because state officers have not omniscient wisdom, and individuals will keep in their pockets a large share of the real rent. But the state can leave the collection of rent to private landlords and can then extract a regular proportion of that rent from them. The wisest of men cannot extract a drop of milk from hay. But a very simple man can let his cows extract milk from hay; and then he can milk them easily enough. The farmer must leave some milk for the calves, or he will soon have no cows. And the state must leave some rent for its servants, the landlords, or it will have no efficient tax collectors. "Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider its ways and be wise." Ants keep their cows—the tiny aphids. The aphids suck milk from leaves; and the ant stands by, patiently, until it sees that the aphid is full; and then it quietly sucks most of the milk from the aphid. But the ant is wise enough to leave to the aphid enough milk to live upon.

It is much more than doubtful whether those who regard the single tax as a proposition for robbery, will feel at all grateful to Mr. Shearman for his suggestion that landlords must be kept in existence in order to be milked. On the contrary they are more likely to consider his proposition, which, he explains in another paragraph, is to leave them enough to live upon if they are active, busy men, only the adding of insult to injury.

But on the other hand the idea of leaving any vestige of landlordism is repugnant to men who are aiming at the utter abolition of the wrong which allows one man to step between another and the bounty of his Creator and exact a tribute from his toil for the use of the natural elements to which our first and highest perceptions tell us that all men have equal rights. It is against this idea, I fancy, that the resolutions of the Cleveland club are intended to protest.

Anything like a careful reading of Mr. Shearman's articles will, however, show that the idea conveyed by this paragraph to the minds of those who have been accustomed to use the term landlordism as expressive of that system which has everywhere enslaved and robbed the masses of men, is not the idea that was in Mr. Shearman's mind. As is evident even in this paragraph, and as other passages in these articles clearly show, Mr. Shearman has slipped into the use of the words landlord, landowner, and landholder, as if they were synonymous with each other and, indeed, with the term land user. Taken literally and on its face, this paragraph would seem to indicate that Mr. Shearman supposes that in order that the community should obtain its proper and natural revenue, economic rent, every land user must have a landlord whose function it shall be to extract economic rent from him, in order that in its turn the community may tax it from the landlord.

Mr. Shearman could never seriously have thought this, for no one can know better than, even under present conditions, a very large proportion of land users are at the same time land owners, having no landlord between them and the state. And no one can know better than he that the effect of an increase of the taxation of land values would be to reduce the selling price of land, and so to increase the proportion of those who owned or held directly of the state the land they used. Any considerable increase of taxation on land values, even to sixty-five per cent of economic rent, accompanied, as it would be sure to be, with the expectation of further increase, would so greatly reduce the selling value of land that but very few landlords pure and simple could long remain, since people who wished to

make permanent use of land would find it easy to buy the land outright, or obtain it without payment in the abandonment of land by speculative holders that would follow such an installment of the single tax.

What Mr. Shearman is thinking of is not landlords, in the strict sense of the term, but land owners, the term he uses in the same connection in other parts of the same article, and even land users, as is evident from this sentence in a previous article:

Land is never, except perhaps during war, to be taxed literally up to its full annual value. A margin is always to be left, sufficient to make it an object for some person to collect from the land itself, or from its occupants, the natural rent, and to pay the tax to the state. No one proposes to make this margin less than ten per cent.

This makes it perfectly clear what is in Mr. Shearman's mind. Neither landlords nor land owners, in the strict use of the term, can collect rent from land. Only the land user can do that. Without use the most productive land in the world could yield neither rent nor anything else.

Mr. Shearman's illustration is only intelligible, and consistent with what he has said elsewhere in the same articles, when "land users" is read into the term "landlords." Then it is perfectly correct. The leaves are natural opportunities; the aphids are the users of natural opportunities, and the ant is the community. It is as true of a community as it is of an individual landowner that there is no way of getting rent from land save by permitting its use. And it is also true that to those who use land there must be enough left of the produce of their labor to enable them to live, and that to secure the efficient use of land this must be left and more. But it is not true, I take it, that what must thus be left to the land user is necessarily any part of economic rent. What, to my mind, must be left is wages, the produce of the use minus economic rent—the payment to the community for the special privilege accorded in the use of land having special advantages and which others also would like to use.

In the present situation there is no practical difference between those of us who wish finally to take the last penny of economic rent and Mr. Shearman, and we can well say with the Farmer's Voice, "May his tribe increase"—a benediction, by the bye, which in the present stage of economic thought among farmers, an organ of theirs would be hardly likely to apply to one who put obtrusively to the front that aspect of our aim which is expressed by "the abolition of private property in land." Since, obviously, we cannot take all rent at one step, we will all agree that we must get to the point of taking sixty-five per cent before we can get to the point of taking one hundred. And even supposing that that is all that Mr. Shearman proposes, sixty-five per cent is a pretty good installment to begin with, and if we can get people up to the point of demanding that, we shall be a good deal more than half way towards our goal.

But even the theoretical difference is very small. The only restriction that Mr. Shearman would really place upon the taking of the largest amount of economic rent is that it shall not be taken for the mere sake of taking, but that it shall be taken for the needs of the state, that is, because the state can make good use of it. And one has but to look at our streets, our roads, our wharves and docks, and to consider in how many ways the community might use larger revenues for the benefit of all, to realize that no matter how large economic rent may be, there will never be any necessity of leaving it

to private individuals because no good public use can be found for it. The only theoretical point worth discussing is as to how near the taking of the whole of economic rent it would be possible in practice to come.

This is a point as to which I am not and never have been clear. Nor do I think that any one at present can say with anything like precision how near we may be able, when we get so far as to attempt it, to take the whole of economic rent for public purposes. This uncertainty arises not merely from the fact that we have not had experience to guide us, but also from the fact that the conditions of society and habits of thought must be greatly changed in the greater freedom and better material conditions that must result from more moderate applications of the single tax principle. I am convinced that with public attention concentrated on one single source of public revenues, and with the public intelligence and public conscience accustomed to look on the payments required from that, not as an exaction from the individual, but as something due in justice from him to the community, we could come much closer to taking the whole of economic rent than might at present seem possible. Yet I regard it as certain that it must always be impossible to take economic rent exactly, or to take it all, without at the same time taking something more and trenching on what in justice ought to be left to the individual. If the members of the Cleveland club will attempt to formulate any plan for taking full economic rent, no more, no less, they will find that they can no more do it than they can draw a theoretically true circle, or make a line that will fulfill the geometrical definition. Theoretical perfection pertains to nothing human. The best we can do in practice is to approach the ideal. And the best the members of the Cleveland club or any one else could do in this regard would be to formulate some plan that should take about the whole of economic rent—that is to say, which should compensate for taking something too much from some individuals by taking something too little from others.

But would they consider that the taking of too much from some individuals would be fairly compensated for in this way? Would they not, rather, when they came to think of it, regard such compensation very much as they would regard the cutting out of a coat or a pair of boots, on the principle that undue tightness in some places should be compensated for by undue looseness in others—or the administration of justice on the theory that the conviction of innocent men compensated for the escape of guilty men? Would they not in this case, just as they would in the case of a coat or a pair of boots, or the administration of justice, prefer that the errors should be on the safe side? And would they not deem the safe side, the side of the individual? Is it not better that the state should, on the whole, get something less than its exact due than that individuals should be compelled to pay more than they ought to be called on to pay? If so, we must in any case leave a margin.

This I have always seen. What that margin should be I have never attempted to formulate, and have never put it at ten per cent or at any other per cent. What I have always stated as our aim was that we should take the whole of economic rent "as near as might be."

As we advance in the application of the single tax, speculative land values will rapidly disappear, and land will become less and less valuable to the mere owner,

while remaining just as valuable to the user. Mere landlords will thus steadily tend to disappear, and land users will tend to become owners. Or rather they will tend to become nominal owners, for while they will retain that security of possession and that power of transferring possession that now attaches to ownership, the state, in taking a larger and larger proportion of the value, will in greater and greater degree make the whole people the real owners. But we shall steadily and rapidly approach the point when there will be no landlords in the strict sense—that is to say, no landowners drawing rent from land users for the use of land alone. Landlords we will continue to have in the colloquial sense, and must continue to have them so long as there are people who travel and who wish to stay in hotels for longer or shorter times, so long as there are some people so situated that they prefer to hire rooms by the week or month or houses by the year, or to use buildings or other improvements that they do not care to, or are not able to, buy outright. These "landlords," as they are called—though economically they are both land owners and capitalists at the same time—will in their charge for the use of the buildings or other improvements, also collect from these transient land users a rent for the use of valuable land, and this the community will take from them again as "nearly as may be," in the tax on land values. These are the landlords that Mr. Shearman doubtless had in his mind when he spoke of the necessity of landlords to the collection of rent by the state.

Now, when we get within appreciable distance of the point of taking all economic rent, how are we to continue? This, though now purely a theoretical question, will then become a practical question, for if we strive to go to the point of theoretical perfection—that of taking the whole economic rent, the selling value of land would disappear, and we should no longer have the same basis for making the assessment of land that we had so long as that remains. Three courses would be open to us.

1. We might simply shift our assessment from the selling value of land to the using value of land, which would remain though the selling value by reason of the single tax should disappear.

2. We might assume on the part of the community the formal ownership of land, and let it out from time to time to the highest bidder.

3. We might stop short of attempting to take the full value, and leave such a small margin to the owner or holder as would give a selling value by which to assess.

Taking everything together and judging as well as one can judge at this distance from conditions that will prevail when this question becomes a practical one, it seems to me that the last course would be the best. It has many advantages, and the only objection that I can see to it is that in this way we could not collect the full amount of economic rent.

But this disadvantage also attaches to other plans. It must, in fact, in greater or less degree attach to any plan that will not be open to the opposite, and, as it seems to me, more serious danger, of taking more than economic rent.

The first plan is by no means impracticable. For it is the estimate of the use value or expected use value of land that always determines its selling value. But to ascertain the use value of land under conditions in which selling value has disappeared and the only letting or transfer of the possession of land is with improvements, would necessitate the fixing on each piece of ground of a judicial assess-

ment of rent with little to guide it but public opinion. We should not only lose that quick appreciation of values which comes with the enlistment of individual interests, but though public opinion might be greatly improved in this respect, it seems to me that the natural disposition to be on the safe side with regard to the individual, and to be slow about increasing rents where there is no tangible change in values, would result in leaving a considerable uncollected margin—probably as much, and possibly more, than it would be necessary to leave under the third plan.

As to the second plan, there are very serious objections in my mind to the formal assumption of ownership of land not needed for community uses, and to the letting out of land by lease. But without entering into those which relate to the increased complexity of administration and dangers of collusion and corruption, this mode of treating land would certainly engender speculation. The shrewd or fortunate bidder would make money by getting land at a rent that during the term of the lease would be less than the economic rent, and the too sanguine or less fortunate bidder would lose. But on the whole, would not the margin be against the community, and the failure to get the whole of economic rent be likely to be at least as great as though the third plan were adopted?

But this question of how we can come nearest to taking the whole of economic rent is not merely at present only a theoretical question—it is a question on which we will all have more light as we advance further on our road. That road stretches before us for a long distance clear and plain. Whatever we may deem it best to do when we have carried the single tax to the point when with the next step selling values will vanish, what we have now to do is to get the single tax instituted—to abolish all taxation save that upon land values. There is enough work in this to call forth all our energies.

And it is well also to remember that the great benefit of shifting taxation on land values, and appropriating at least all but a small fraction of economic rent, is not so much in the great fund which it will give for public uses without hampering industry or taking from any one what his labor or his thrift entitles him to have. It is in setting free productive forces and securing equitable distribution, by destroying land speculation and monopoly; by opening to labor its natural and necessary field and by removing the restrictions now imposed on production and exchange. No little margin that we may have to leave to landholders by reason of the impossibility of attaining theoretical perfection through human laws and agencies can prevent us from securing these advantages.

HENRY GEORGE.

THE RAILWAY PROBLEM.

In a recent issue of THE STANDARD casual allusion was made to the fact that Tom L. Johnson regards the public ownership of roadways over which all who choose may run cars as the most practicable solution of the railway problem. I am glad that this subject has thus been introduced to the readers of THE STANDARD, as it is one well worthy of their consideration.

Though single tax men as a rule are keenly alive to the fact that there is a railway problem, and that it is a serious one, they are by no means united as to its solution. Of course it is plain to those who have looked closely into the subject, that the single tax itself, applied to the specially valuable land set apart by governmental power for railway purposes, would eventually practically restore these

public highways to public ownership. Many single tax men have, however, shown a desire to deal with this problem more immediately and directly, and probably the greater number of these have favored the ownership and operation of railways by the public.

There is nothing necessarily socialistic or inconsistent with individualism in this idea, since public highways can only be created through the exercise of public powers, and it is just as much a part of true individualism to prevent a few from seizing that which belongs of right to all as it is to prevent the many from infringing on the personal rights of the individual. Since railways cannot be built without the exercise of governmental power, it is proper that the government should build them instead of loaning this power to others to be used for the private profit of a few.

But, however clear this fact may be, it is clear that the proposal that the federal government shall own and operate the railroads of the country will meet with strenuous opposition from many who are nevertheless sincere opponents of railway monopoly. Some hesitate on account of the centralizing tendency of such a vast addition to the powers of the federal government. Others see in the proposition the threat of an enormous increase in patronage and an indefinite prolongation of the spoils system. Others insist that the public management of so vast a business would be inefficient, extravagant and corrupt. Still others honestly believe that for the government to engage in the business of transportation would be a stride toward socialism.

I think that all these objections except the last can be satisfactorily answered, and that the last is sufficiently answered if it can be shown that the operation of railways is necessarily incident to their ownership. The paramount necessity of the public ownership of public highways being once admitted, all that is essential to the assertion of that right must be done and no such necessary operations can be made a precedent for demanding the nationalization of private industries.

But is it essential that railroads shall be operated by their owners? This is the question that must be answered before one can intelligently discuss the propriety or necessity of the governmental operation of railroads. With a view to obtaining data on this subject I have been recently re-reading Hudson's "Railways and the Republic," and, as frequently happens to the casual reader, now that my attention has been specially directed to this, I find that I had read without any due sense of its full significance that which now impresses me as the most important chapter of that admirable book—the one entitled "The Public Highways."

Mr. Hudson boldly challenges the claim put forth by railway men that it is impracticable to allow other than the owners of a railway to run trains over its tracks. "So far," he says, "from experience having proved the impracticability of two or more railway carriers using the same track, it has shown that the only serious obstacle to such a practice lies in the desire of all railway companies to monopolize the traffic on their own tracks." Mr. Hudson goes on to show that safety and dispatch in the movement of railway trains does not depend on the ownership of the locomotives and cars, but on the efficiency of the train dispatcher, who has absolute control of all moving trains. He cites numerous instances in which one road has been simultaneously used by two or more transportation companies for years, and of course he calls attention to the fact that the cars of many companies constantly run over other roads. It is not necessary here to go into details, but any one who will read the chapter can satisfy himself that Mr. Hudson makes out a case so strong that it can no longer be taken for granted that it is necessary that the company owning the tracks shall also own and operate the rolling stock.

This once conceded the way is clear for the application of Mr. Hudson's remedy, which is the chartering of companies

having the right to use the power of eminent domain for the building of new lines or the acquisition of existing roads, on condition that they shall bind themselves to admit to their tracks all trains offered, charging only a reasonable toll and enforcing such regulations as are essential to safety and dispatch in the movement of passengers and freight. Though this is Mr. Hudson's favorite plan, he considers the public ownership of highways and evidently has no prejudice against it.

He compares railways to turnpikes and canals, over which individuals and companies always had the right to run vehicles at a uniform toll, and shows that under such conditions monopoly of the transportation business was impossible while free competition rendered the rates for freight and travel much more uniform than they have been under the pooling arrangements of the monopolists. He shows that "to establish each of their public highways the power of eminent domain was delegated by the government," while "the work of constructing and maintaining each of them was assigned to a corporation, with power to reimburse itself by tolls" and that "in each case the obligations of the public highway, accepted by the corporation, were fulfilled" by allowing all persons the right to use the highway with wagons, stages, canal boats or such vehicles as were suitable. "The result is," he continues, "that the operation of none of these highways ever involved an attempt to build up a monopoly, or threatened the independence of the traders, manufacturers or farmers who used them."

In broad contrast with this is the history of the railways which Mr. Hudson thus briefly sketches:

The railway was established by the exercise of the same governmental power of eminent domain, for the purpose of a public highway. By similar legislation a company was chartered for its construction and operation, with the right to make a profit by charging tolls for the use of the road. In these respects it is identical, in its public character, with the other highways; but in its practical operation a radical departure has been made. In the older class of roads the business of building and maintaining a public highway was kept distinct from the business of the common carrier upon it; the latter was open to free competition. The railways have consolidated the two and made a monopoly of both. In that monopoly lies the source of all the evils that have been set forth in this work. Their exclusion of all competing common carriers and of the general public from the use of their track, except by their cars and trains, and on such terms as they prescribe, is the source of all discriminations, the sustaining power of all pools and combinations, and the foundation of all tendencies to monopoly which the railway system has developed. In itself an overthrow of the character of the public highway, it has led to numberless other violations of the public obligations attaching to that character. . . . The radical and effective remedy for railway evils is this: Legislation should restore the character of public highways to the railways by securing to all persons the right to run trains over their tracks under proper regulations, and by defining the distinction between the proprietorship and maintenance of the railway and the business of common carriers.

No one who carefully considers the matter can doubt that the plan proposed by Mr. Hudson is a vast improvement on the existing system. Superficial objections to it readily suggest themselves, and they are as readily answered. He, himself, completely disposes of the common objection urged against the practicality of the plan of running cars not owned by the company over a railroad. The other objection that free competition is in the nature of things impossible in a business of such magnitude is easily answered. Of course, every individual passenger cannot own his own car, but the fact that numerous individuals, firms and associations could easily engage in the business of carrying passengers would reduce individual fares to the lowest point consistent with a just return for the service rendered. In the more important matter of freights the advantage is clearer yet. Large firms could own a line of cars and smaller ones could combine for the same purpose. The mere fact that firms and individuals could do this would obviate the necessity for doing it. The drygoods jobbers of New York could, of course, easily buy or hire

a train of cars and thus escape the hardship to which they are subjected by the existing unjust classification. The mere fact that they were able to do this would probably lead those regularly engaged in the business of transportation to carry their goods at fair rates. In order that the public shall practically enjoy the advantages of free competition in milling it is not necessary that each man shall own a grist mill, and no more is it necessary that each man shall own a locomotive and a train of cars in order that the public shall practically enjoy the advantage of free competition in the carrying business.

But numerous as are the advantages of the plan urged by Mr. Hudson it seems to me that his own facts and arguments tend more logically to a better conclusion and I propose to discuss this in another article.

WM. T. CROASDALE.

To an Eagle.

Charles Lotin Hildreth.
On me the sun has set, the lowlands lie
Dim in the purple folds of early night;
But thou, gray cruiser of the charless sky!
Dost steer thy slow, undeviating flight
Full in the sun's unclouded glare.
The world is bright around thee, thy strong
breast
Parts flashing streams of keen, ethereal
fire;
Aslant the ardent splendors of the West,
On still, curved vau thou mounted even
higher,
Through scintillating zones of air.
From what far quest through the white gates
of morn,
Beyond the peopled East returnest thou?
Toward what sheer, solitary mountain bourn
In the primeval wild, art voyaging now?
Thou haunter of unbarriered space!
I watch thee soaring up the steepes of light,
Half doubting thou art aught of mortal
birth,
Foredoomed to hunger, weariness and blight
And wintry change of this controlling earth,
Like our slow-footed, wingless race.
Aloof in lone, aerial equipoise,
The roar of unextinguishable strife
Melts round thee like a faint, unmeaning
voice,
And to thy sight the myriad maze of life
Is but a blurred, phantasmal scene.
Away, strong soul! thou leavest Time and
Death,
Dishevelled Grief and hollow-chested Care
To crawl the dim, abysmal world beneath,
Whilst thou in deeps of golden dusk, dost
fare
Far through the measureless sereno.

Vacant Lot Assessments Doubled in Brooklyn.

New York Sun.
The unprecedented jump in the valuation of real estate in the Eighteenth ward of Brooklyn, according to the books of the local assessors this year, has caused dissatisfaction among the property owners, and a public meeting has been called for Wednesday next at Arion hall, in Wall street, to denounce the particular assessor who increased the figures. The increase in valuations is \$6,651,949 over last year's figures, and this means a corresponding increase in taxes. Many prominent residents of the ward have signed the call for the meeting.
Assessor Kurth is said to be responsible for the addition. He says the increase is due to the phenomenal multiplication of new buildings in the ward, which is benefited more than any other part of the city by the elevated railways. The property owners say that Mr. Kurth's claim has only a flimsy foundation in fact, and assert that houses that are bringing less rent this year are carrying a higher assessed valuation than in 1888. Vacant lots that were assessed last year at \$300 are raised in value on Mr. Kurth's books to \$1,000, an increase of 233 per cent.

The Menace of Plutocracy.

Chicago Farmer's Voice.
The name of Thomas G. Shearman has been illustrious in the legal annals of New York state for more than a generation, while his connection with many celebrated cases has given him standing as a great lawyer throughout the country.

A short time since Mr. Shearman delivered an address at Portland, Ore., and took for his subject, "The Menace of Plutocracy." This address has created a profound and disagreeable sensation among the rich beneficiaries of the trusts, monopolies and combines who are now busily engaged in eating up the prosperity of the toiling producers.

If this indictment of ruthless wealth had been spoken by some rugged, toil grimed orator it would have been scoffed at as the senseless ravings of a proletarian agitator; but the warning words of Thomas G. Shearman cannot be sneered down.

Never was there a time in all the stormy history of our native land when citizens of distinguished position and high ability could do so much for their country as now, and never was there a time when so few men of conspicuous social and intellectual rank stood forth as the avowed champions of pure government and popular rights. So we give thanks for brave, unselfish and devoted Thomas G. Shearman. "May his tribe increase."

TARIFF COMPROMISE.

A Proposition Which Will Please All Free Traders and All Honest Protectionists.

Mr. George White delivered the address before the Central single tax club of Brooklyn last Sunday evening. The greater portion of his time was given by the speaker to an outline of the life-long struggle of one of the first of American free trade champions—John C. Calhoun—against the gradual encroachments of the protected classes on the liberties of the people. His speech closed as follows:

To-day we are nearly forty years distant from the close of the active life of John C. Calhoun. What a change has come about in that period! He died full of confidence that the day of protective tariffs was gone forever; yet we now live under a system in which the most abominable features ever proposed in his day are incorporated in our laws. He died with grave doubts of the outcome of a threatened abolition of black slavery; we have seen his doubts realized in a bloody war, and the institution which he thought should be sustained banished forever from our borders. Black slavery is a dead issue—the tariff question is as far from settlement, apparently, as ever. Just think of it: from 1816 to 1890—to go back no further—is seventy-three years—more than an old man's lifetime—and the tariff question has, with more or less severity, agitated this country again and again. Here is a controversy which, in the nature of the case, involved right or wrong, and which can inevitably be settled in but one way, and to all appearances it is one which there is no hope of ending. Mr. Calhoun saw but one remedy—state nullification. That remedy came very near being tried. How it would have eventuated none can tell; the people of South Carolina were quite determined, and the task of compelling payment of duties by force would necessarily have been a very difficult and prolonged one. Such a remedy is impossible to-day. The interests which seek advantage in tariff legislation are too powerful and they are too well represented, even in the south and west, to allow of any state or group of states following the example of South Carolina, supposing it were not a fact that such a course would now be deemed, much more than it was in 1832, an unlawful extension of state rights. Reflection has led me to believe, however, that John C. Calhoun's analysis of the tariff question indicates to us a simple course which would lead a great way, and that speedily, toward a right solution of the matter. He said: "It is one between the exporting and non-exporting interests of the country. If there were no exports there would be no force in a tariff law." In other words, Mr. Calhoun saw that international trade is really barter, the swapping of merchandise, and he recognized that if there were no exports there would be little or no possibility of the United States receiving any tariff revenue.

Now, if this position be correct, it is clear that the one course open to us, in our desire to smash the tariff, is to endeavor by moral suasion to stop all exporting by residents of the United States. It needs but a glance to show, however, that no amount of moral suasion would be sufficient to induce the multitude of men interested first and last in production for export, to drop their avocation for the purpose of forcing Uncle Sam to look elsewhere than to a tariff for revenue. Furthermore, from one point of view, a reduction in exports and a consequent decrease in imports, would be very satisfactory to protected interests. So, while we acknowledge that, if we could stop exporting we should kill the tariff, we must admit that we cannot do it, and that, if we could, it would be a scheme of doubtful propriety.

There is, however, a certain logical deduction to be made from what Mr. Calhoun truly said of the tariff, and an appreciation of this deduction it is which leads me, with a tyro's fear and trembling, to attempt to suggest a new departure in tariff discussion and tariff legislation. I would like all the people who talk or write in opposition to the tariff, and all those who get a chance to help legislate against it—all these to do as little as possible in the way of combating protectionist ideas of the effect of import taxes, and as much as possible in the way of favoring a single addition to our tariff laws. Let us concentrate our desires upon this addition. Let us meet our protectionist friends on a more sociable footing; let us

acknowledge that we have taken extreme views on many points of difference between us; that when we come to think of it, it does seem perfectly horrible that our people should be allowed to buy foreign tin plate when there are such fine tin mines waiting development in the Black hills, and that Mr. John Jarrett himself should be allowed to fix the tax schedule; that on reflection, we admit that many foreigners are willing to pay our tariff taxes; that a new light has come to us which enables us to see that all the money possible should be kept in the country, and that it is an awful mean thing for people enjoying life on this beautiful continent to go and pay out good, nice United States money to foreigners rather than to residents of their own country; that there really is, as we have never before been able to believe, a grave danger that Uncle Sam will, without high tariff taxes, buy more goods than he can pay for, and exhibit to a sorrowful people a terribly unfavorable statement regarding the balance of trade; let us cheerfully acknowledge that high wages and low prices are a mathematically sure result of high taxes, and thus, in from one to a hundred ways, by acquiescing in the favorite ideas of our protectionist friends, let us get together, to the end that the very next congress shall put a stop to a political discussion which seems to be interminable. The coming congress is sure to be the theater of a fight on the tariff question, unless my advice is taken; the protected barons will be on hand to arrange for a performance of the promises made last fall in exchange for the fat fried out by circulars and personal applications, and, unless their opponents unite to ask for this honorable compromise, the struggle will have a foregone conclusion. The protectionists will have the most votes, and they will preserve and add to the bad features of the present laws. But, if my suggestion is taken, a saving clause can be proposed, which, while so unobjectionable as to receive many republican votes, should be, on the whole, satisfactory to any of the people who dislike tariff taxes. This clause would read something like this:

"Section 3720—Nothing in this act shall abridge the natural right of any American citizen to swap goods or possessions with the resident of any foreign country."

The wording may need changing, but if its essence is preserved it will be both satisfactory and simple. It is a saving clause, for if it can be passed it will pacify a great many theoretical students—men who have, as Mr. Harrison said, posted themselves on maxims; and if it cannot be passed, it will lead thousands of voters to ask themselves why it is opposed by folks interested in markets. Many representatives in congress could be relied on to make full use of their opportunities to spread before the country the reasons why it was opposed, and there are a large number of leading newspapers which would delight in keeping the ball rolling. This is, no doubt, a good deal to say in regard to a proposition which would enable Vermont and Canadian housewives to swap teakettles without fear of incurring customs fines, but you will see that, in the nature of the case, I must not prove too much about a compromise pretty sure to be offered very soon in congress by some gentlemen who have definite ideas about foreign trade—offered as a solution of the tariff problem which they will both talk and work for. To look no further into the subject, you can ask yourselves how that clause would appeal to the voters who decided the last election—the farmers—the men whose products can so readily be swapped for foreign goods.

In the meantime, if you have any protectionist friends, you will find it a very interesting pastime to solicit their support for the measure. I recently asked a high tariff man if he would indorse that kind of compromise, and he replied that he certainly would; and the next day one of the most intelligent free traders I know, on being told of the idea, promptly declared that it was the best scheme he had ever heard of.

Now, if these two men are fair samples of the great American voter, doesn't it seem reasonable that from this time the days of tariff discussion need not be considered as probably co-terminous with those of the twentieth century, and that campaigns of education shall soon have some other object than that of arousing opposition to a tariff for surplus.

I have about filled my contract to talk for an hour, but I must beg your indulgence for a few moments more. A new and important point must not be over-

looked or neglected. There is being printed an Ottawa dispatch, detailing the difficulty which has arisen on a certain northern farm. It appears that a Mr. Hoyle owns some acres through which the international boundary runs, and that certain of his agricultural implements, usually kept on the United States side, have been seized by Dominion authorities as smuggled goods, because they were being used on the Canadian side. This is too serious a matter to be lightly treated, and the paragraph which I wish added to the tariff laws does not exactly cover the point. Still I believe that it is better not to try and insert another clause. Some people would surely be suspicious if we attempted to do too much. The thing could be managed in this way: It will be possible for Mr. Hoyle to divide his stock and machinery as evenly as he can between the United States and the Canadian portions of his farm—paying any duty, of course, that the Canadians demand—and to make a cast iron rule that in no case shall a horse, for instance, be allowed to cross the line without two cows being swapped for it, a schedule of exchanges, including hens and hogs, buckboards and hay rakes, corn and cabbages, and so forth, being printed in large type and conspicuously posted on the farm for the instruction of his men. In this way Mr. Hoyle will be relieved from the suspicion of wrong doing, and no harm can come to our protected laborers, our infant industries, our home market, or to the infinite majesty of the famous American system.

Encouraging News from Louisiana.

VILLE PLATTE, La.—Upon a call from our board of revision for an expression of opinion as to increasing land values, I wrote a strong single tax reply. The president, the largest land owner in this section, indorsed my views and wrote his thanks. We have found over 500,000 acres of unassessed land. We got an increase of \$30,000. The president wrote me "we are headed in the right direction, and in due course will arrive."

Two of our leading merchants are on the free trade and single tax line. I have talked with newspaper men and other travelers and learn that the single tax is very generally indorsed through four parishes. I know of but one enthusiastic worker besides myself; but that free trade and single tax is forging ahead seems to be certain. Judge B. F. Hardesty, Washington, La., is putting in good work. He is editor of a paper, the Advocate, just started. He will probably not advocate the single tax at present, but will drop some broad hints until the time comes to speak out. He is not proprietor. At least two papers in the heart of the sugar region have declared against protection. Our member of congress, in a district that contains three sugar parishes, denounced the tariff before an assemblage of farmers a few days back. A. Hilton is getting in his work at Alexandria, and so is J. J. David at Baton Rouge.

When I get a chance to have a face to face talk with people I rarely fail to bring them over. I took in the bohemian of the New Iberia Enterprise three weeks ago. He spread the news through the prairies and talked it to his paper afterward.

I feel confident that if I could spare the time to canvass the parish I could carry it in two months. I find the large land owners even more ready to listen than the poor crushed slaves, either white or black; in fact, one is wasting time to talk to the white slaves at all.

D. C. DAVID.

The Alleged Farmers' Convention.

SYRACUSE, N. Y.—The convention of farmers and workmen, held here last week, proved to be an attempt to reorganize the Farmers' union, which first came to notice in 1880. At that time a small gathering of farmers, mostly from the western part of the state, met in Syracuse and organized the Farmers' union of the state of New York, with Seth Fenner of East Aurora as president. It was acknowledged by the leaders to-day that little or nothing had been accomplished in the last three years toward the end sought, viz., equalizing the burdens of taxation, and thus compelling personal property to bear its fair share of government expense. There were not twenty farmers in attendance, and not a dozen bona fide representatives of labor organizations. Altogether the convention's numbers did not exceed thirty-five persons, and yet there was a very lively time. The convention opened at 12 m., with Mr. Fenner in the chair. Mr. Clark of Madison county was made chairman of the committee on resolutions. The report of the committee on credentials was presented, which admitted as delegates all within the hall any who desired to take part in the proceedings. The chairman of the committee on resolutions, Mr. Clark, presented his report, in which were resolutions favoring the equal taxation of all property, real and personal, and denouncing trusts and monopolies, and calling for the governmental control of railroads and telegraphs. A long communication from

the state comptroller, Edward Wemple, favoring the taxing of personal property, was also read.

Mr. A. P. Potter of Syracuse then presented resolutions asking for a legislative committee to take the opinions of leading men and others who desired to speak on the question of taxation. Mr. Potter being a known single tax man, the motion was opposed by some present as looking toward the single tax.

Mr. Shepard of Wyoming, who has been urging the farmers for the last ten years to do something about the fair taxation of personal property, wished the resolutions sent to the committee. "He wanted," he said, "once more and for the last time to try and compel personal property to bear its share of the burden. If I fail now," said the old man, "then I will be ready for the theory of Henry George, or we will all go to the devil together!" Mr. Potter consented to the reference of his resolutions to the proper committee.

Mr. McGuire, a well known single tax man, asked permission to read a manuscript he had prepared explaining the Henry George theory of the single tax, but the chairman ruled Mr. McGuire out. The Buffalo Courier nevertheless printed Mr. McGuire's written address in full next day.

The attendance at the evening session was thin, and the workingmen and Mr. Clark of the committee on resolutions, and one or two free canal men captured it and did with it as they chose. All the resolutions reported by the committee were carried.

It is exceedingly doubtful if the Farmers' union headed by Mr. Fenner of Erie will again come to the front.

PARDON POTTER.

From a Newspaper Proprietor Who Is With Us.

PENDLETON, Ore.—I am spreading the "great truth" in these parts to the best of my ability. I am the largest stockholder in the East Oregonian, a paper from which you, now and then, clip an item favorable to "the cause."

I am a member of the Portland single tax club, and I traveled 500 miles to hear Thomas G. Shearman's lecture in Portland. It was good, and it carried conviction.

This year I made the assessment of the city of Pendleton, and I made a stir by assessing land at its full value and guessing at the value of improvements, always being sure that I did not over-estimate these. The result was the business men, the owners of improved property and live men generally are with me. Several days ago I sent you papers containing accounts of the agitation my assessment created. The board of equalization, consisting of every member of the city council, gave me its support and pronounced my assessment the best ever made in town. Several gentlemen are single taxers through my efforts, and they lend me considerable aid by their support.

The East Oregonian speaks out frequently in defense of the "single tax." If Mr. George ever comes to Portland I shall attempt to entice him to visit Pendleton at my expense and make a speech. Several years ago, when "Protection or Free Trade?" was issued, I was in Washington as the guest of Delegate Hailey of Idaho. I bought a copy of the work, and when I read it I was charmed with its style. I had already read "Social Problems." I gave the books a notice editorially in the East Oregonian and sent Mr. George a copy of the paper. He complimented me by sending me copies of his three famous books. At the last session of the Oregon legislature a tax commission was appointed. James H. Raley, a banker of Pendleton, is chairman. This commission is to report on and recommend "a bill" at the next session. Those men can be influenced, and I am willing to put up my share toward their enlightenment.

C. S. JACKSON.

Australians Will Vote for Protection Unless They Get Real Free Trade.

E. W. Foxall writing from Sydney, N.S.W., July 10, says: The present position of political parties here is extremely propitious for the exposition of single tax doctrines, and we lose no opportunity of expounding them. The protectionists and (so called) free traders are nearly evenly balanced in our legislative assembly, and although the free traders are in office they can scarcely be said to be in power. There are two things which are growing fast here, viz: Protection and the single tax, while, without doubt, the thing that has been termed "free trade" is losing ground every day. We may have another general election (caused by a dissolution) any day, and the probabilities are that then the protectionists would return with a small majority. Should such an event occur a visit from Henry George would be exceedingly well-timed, for it would convert the whole of the free trade opposition into single taxers, and "urged on by the impulse of controversy they would go further than they now dream."

Our Quest.

Their true relation—man to man,
Man to the earth—is what we sought;
That having found the primal plan
We might in all our life and thought
Repeat the lesson nature taught.

W. B. S.

THE PETITION.

SINGLE TAX ENROLLMENT COMMITTEE,
36 CLINTON PLACE,
NEW YORK, Aug. 13.

The enrollment now stands as follows:

Reported last week 62,187
Received during week ending Aug. 13 . . . 405

Total 62,592

Contributions received during the past week have been as follows:

Thos. Williamson, Lynnhburg, Va. . . \$3 00
J. J. Hill, Sixton's River, Vt. 1 00
J. C. Barnes, Hindsboro, Ill. 1 00
R. R. Roberts, Drexel, Fla. 25
Sundry stamps 83

Total \$6 08

Contributions previously acknowledged in THE STANDARD 1,627 34

Total \$1,633 42

WM. T. CROASDALE, Chairman.

The following are some extracts from letters received by the committee during the week:

Leroy Berrier, Minneapolis, Minn.—We are pushing things in Minneapolis. Our league is growing very rapidly. We hold meetings every Tuesday evening. At our last meeting our room was too small to hold all who wished to attend. The signatures I enclose were secured since the establishment of our reading-room.

E. C. Hawkin, Cleveland, Ohio.—I enclose you twenty signatures, and I believe the signers are thoroughly converted to the cause, as it took time and much argument to secure them. They are of a class who would not give up their old beliefs until convinced that the single tax on land values was superior to the old system. I feel greatly encouraged lately, as the light is surely breaking and the masses are waking up.

J. H. Ballard, Schuylersville, N. Y.—A reform club is soon to be started here, which will afford opportunity to ventilate our doctrines.

R. H. Thompson, Portland, Ore.—The Oregonian has been very kind in printing our articles and we feel under many obligations to our friend Scott. Since Mr. Shearman's visit our club is growing steadily and we are spreading the light by distributing all over the state THE STANDARD, tracts, and the Oregonian containing our single tax letters. Every now and then some new single tax man or convert in some distant part of the state "bobs up serenely."

W. P. Nichols, Vineland, N. J.—We have to-day organized a single tax club here. We expect to get a copy of the tax duplicate of this township and pick out therefrom some good "home" object lessons to set before our pupils in our daily papers, and we hope to have Henry George here soon.

Edwin T. Clark, Malden, Mass.—The cause is well under way in Malden. We have had two or three good meetings in a small hall, and a nucleus organization, with Mr. George W. Cox as temporary president, is shaping itself. We have agitated the subject in our daily paper, in which we have had some dozen or more articles on the single tax. The editor at first attacked us, but soon withdrew from the contest, kindly leaving his columns open to us, which we extensively use. We hope to have a strong club by fall.

M. P. Alderman, Gloucester, Mass.—When the longer evenings begin we shall try and form a club here. There are several who stand ready to help out a little later. Am selling quite a number of STANDARDS every week.

James Shearer, jr., Frankfort, Kan.—The union labor party, to which I belong, is advancing rapidly toward free trade.

L. P. Custer, Indianapolis, Ind.—Our league meets regularly every Sunday afternoon with a fair attendance. Two new workers came in Sunday. While there is not much stir on the outside, we can see and feel that beneath the surface of every day life there is a strong undercurrent which runs our way. The leading democratic paper of the state, the Sentinel, reports our meetings regularly, last week giving us a quarter of a column.

M. H. McDowell, Memphis, Tenn.—We are moving along here in very good style. Every Monday evening four of my boy friends spend the evening at my house, and after reading a chapter in history we have a talk on the subject of taxation and the reason boys cannot "go west and grow up with the country."

E. McAuley, Denver, Col.—At the last regular meeting of the Denver single tax club the election of officers was conducted on the Australian plan. We are doing very well here, and our membership has increased since Mr. Shearman's visit.

Charles E. Allen, Cedar Grove, Me.—While not fully convinced of the entire justice of the single tax system, I have become a sort of a missionary to aid in spreading ideas which have seemed to me just a little heretical. I esteem THE STANDARD very highly, and my file of it has been repeatedly loaned to workmen who feel too poor to afford it, as well as "Progress and Poverty" and "Social Problems." However, I think I see part of the cat, if not the whole animal, and certainly one thing now seems clear to me. At first I thought the plan would tax farmers too much proportionately. I now see that the idea was fallacious. I don't ask to be

convinced of the practicability of the plan, because if once a great people become convinced of its justice a way will be formed in which to make it practicable. I send you a few names to the petition, and may yet obtain more. I flatter myself I have been instrumental in making one or two converts for you, even before becoming fully convinced myself. Maine should be a good state for missionary work of some kind on the tax question, for her people are robbed both of their forests and their seashore, the state even selling the islands along her coast to land speculators for a song. The speculators in turn boom seaside resorts and "make money," while our farmers struggle for a living, and the common people crowd the almshouses and the ever-enlarging insane hospital—enlarging even with a decreasing population. One thing is sure—the George movement has done much good and will do more.

A. R. Wynn, Toledo, O.—I received a call for "Progress and Poverty" this evening from Dr. —, a commercial traveler, representing one of the largest wholesale drug houses in the city of New York. The doctor told me that he heard Billy Radcliffe, S. T., lecture on the street corner at Tiffin, Ohio, August 1, to a large crowd, and that he so interested him he wanted to thoroughly understand the land question.

Thomas J. Hudson, Indianapolis, Ind.—Of the petitions enclosed No. 1 is a republican and protectionist who is thoroughly disgusted with the workings of the high tariff under the present administration. No. 2 is the recognized leader of the socialists here, who was present at our meeting this afternoon and who went away with a better impression of the single tax. No. 3 is a young man who has been trained to love the bloody shirt and hate the "d—d rebels." He will cast his first vote in '90, and it will not be for protection. Slowly but surely the heaven is working. At least one of the measures of meal is leavened now. The other two will be in due time.

"Pa Chase," St. Louis, Mo.—The "Benton school" has the pleasure of reporting some more "conversions" to freedom. It's very funny to hear them talk so "hot" after they thoroughly see the cat. Some ladies are becoming enthusiastic also, and distribute tracts at excursions.

W. T. N. Perkins, South Gaston, N. C.—Single tax is on the increase. I find men who are single taxers and do not know it.

Walter H. Beecher, Cincinnati, Ohio.—Every one of the enclosed names stands for conviction, and most of them for undoubted and thorough conversion. Do not imagine that slow or scant returns in this enrollment work signifies indifference. I have not solicited many to sign as yet, because single tax letter writing to my friends has already taken more time than I could well spare. Doubtless others have responded slowly for an equally good reason.

J. G. Zimmerman, Lebanon, Pa.—We have just organized a single tax club with twelve members. We expect a membership of at least one hundred.

J. E. Townsend, El Paso, Texas.—Our close proximity to Mexico gives us an excellent opportunity to see the practical working of high tariff and free trade. We are greatly interested in the free importation of lead ores. Our tariff reform club hopes to open a reading room soon.

Fred. Lades, Chicago.—It is very gratifying to know that every day our ideas are better understood and treated with more respect by the average man and the press.

S. G. Mullins, Corsicana, Texas.—Single tax and free trade doctrine is gaining ground in the Lone Star state. The cat is gradually becoming visible to large numbers of our people.

Dr. H. S. Chase, St. Louis, Mo.—The signature from Antrim, Kansas, is that of a farmer who says that out there wheat is 32 cents, oats 10 to 15, rye 15, and potatoes 20 cents per bushel. It is hard times, he says, for taxes and store goods eat up the year's labor, and he thinks the "plutoerats" should be hanged. He is now reading "Henry George."

Michael J. Murray, Owego, N. Y.—Last Sunday we organized a single tax committee with Perry Hyde, K. of L. secretary. We have several new single tax men here and can organize an active club in the fall. Every week I get a bundle of United Labor Journals from district assembly 15, K. of L., for distribution and I put a single tax tract in each one and the boys like them. When Tom Maguire of the K. of L. spoke here I had a tract put in every chair before the meeting began; and out of such work, and the loaning of George's works, we are gaining favor among the working people. We all heartily approve of the course and the stand Henry George and THE STANDARD have taken.

In Rochester, N. Y.

The recently organized Single tax union of Rochester, N. Y., is distributing a circular headed "Equal rights for all and special privileges to none." It begins by inviting everybody to attend the Sunday afternoon and Wednesday evening meetings at 80 Reynolds' arcade, and then proceeds to give a brief summary of the problem and remedy which are discussed at the meetings. John M. Campbell is president, and Charles Avril secretary, of the union.

AN OPEN-AIR MEETING.

The Scene at One of the Jersey City Club's Sunday Afternoon Gatherings at Currie's Woods.

JERSEY CITY.—It was a grand sight. Hundreds of people were in Currie's woods on Sunday, breathing the pure air and taking a rest from the toil and noise of the heated and crowded city. Little babies prattled and frolicked on the green sward, dug in the sand on the Pamrapo shore of Newark bay, and the children made the welkin ring with their merry laughter.

As one stood on the bluff back of the grove and cast the eye over the surrounding country, it seemed as if the whole universe were at rest. The waters of the bay were still and as smooth as glass; the surrounding mountains were covered with a cloth of green; Newark on the one side, Jersey City on the other, and the great metropolis looming up in the distance like a great giant, looked as if they were deserted.

But a grander sight than all this was the six or seven hundred people who were gathered in Salter's Woodbine grove at the meeting of the Standard single tax club of Jersey City. Men and women of all shades and conditions in life were present; all congregated to listen to the preaching of the great doctrine of reform—the single tax. It was an attentive, if not an intellectual, crowd.

Standing at one side of the opening where the meeting was being held, leaning with his back against a large birch tree, was a laborer, dressed just as he had come from work on the road. In his mouth was a clay pipe, black from use, which he smoked contentedly as he listened to the speakers, drinking in every word that was said. To look at him as he stood in his ragged and dirt-begrimed clothes one would have supposed that he was ignorant—that hard and degrading work had benumbed his intellect. But a surprise awaited the man who addressed him and asked him what he thought of the meeting, for he had read "Progress and Poverty," and was a regular attendant at the meetings and was doing a good deal more thinking than many a man raised in the lap of luxury. There was not a person in the crowd that enjoyed the speaking more than he did.

Joseph Dana Miller presided at the meeting. S. D. Guion of Brooklyn delivered a short address upon the ethics of the single tax, and then the speaker of the day, Thomas L. McCready, of New York, was introduced and received a hearty welcome. He spoke on the "Gospel of High Wages," holding that the gospel of Christ, the gospel of justice, was the gospel of high wages. His speech was attentively followed throughout.

Next Sunday Everett Glackin, secretary of Typographical union No. 6, will speak on "Organized Labor and the Single Tax."

J. T. ALTEMUS.

Debating the Rent Question in Brooklyn, E. D.

BROOKLYN, E. D.—At the last meeting of the club, held at headquarters, 316 Bedford avenue, on Wednesday, 7th instant, the question discussed was, "The reduction in rents that would be effected by the single tax." Many members took part. The law of rent was ably expounded and to the very evident enlightenment of some visiting strangers. Our club is making commendable progress; the attendance is increasing and four new names were added to the roll at this meeting. Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 14th inst. The question for debate will be: "Resolved, That labor saving machinery is not beneficial to workers of the present day."

Our executive committee is considering the advisability of agitating for permanent club rooms which shall be always open. It is intended to be very modest at the start, but if a sufficient number of our Eastern District friends will assist, it is proposed to equip the club with a stereopticon which shall every night flash out single tax mottoes, bon mots, etc., to catch the eye of the unwary passer. There is no doubt but this would be a good investment; and it remains with our friends to say if the idea shall be carried out.

J. MCG.

Some One Please Tell What the Tax is On This Property.

PITTSBURG, Aug. 12.—The Robert Morris land and coal company of New York to-day filed a bill in equity against the Philadelphia and Reading coal and iron company in the United States circuit court.

The plaintiffs allege that they are the owners of 8,949 acres of land in Northumberland county, Pa., having coal lying thereunder and valuable timber on it.

The defendant is in possession of the land, and is rapidly removing coal and timber from it, 2,000,000 tons of coal being taken out annually.

The property in dispute is worth \$30,000,000. The bill only was filed, and in a few days the order and injunction will be asked for.

A Correction.

BALTIMORE.—There was an error in the paragraph of my letter in last week's STANDARD immediately after the resolutions and beginning with the word "announcing." The word "announcing" should have been preceded with the words "while not" according to my manuscript copy.

I have no authority to state that the Crescent society is strictly speaking a single tax

club, but it is enough so for present purposes. Please make a correction of this error, which I suppose to be typographical. No one has asked me to correct this omission, but I feel it my duty to do so. WM. N. HILL, M. D.

FOREIGN NOTES.

The emperor of Austria stopped a recent strike of Vienna street car employees against sixteen hours a day labor, by notifying the employers that in his judgment the men were right, and that the hours ought to be reduced. Encouraged by this action of the emperor, the town council fined the companies \$25,000 for breach of contract, and \$5,000 for every day of idleness. The overworking of street car employees in this country, as well as in Europe, is a great outrage. The law should prohibit employers from working employees continuously, more than twelve hours daily, or more than six days out of seven, and every employee should be allowed at least half an hour for meals, the latter being a privilege enjoyed by very few street car drivers and conductors.

At a well known polyglot bookshop in Rome a copy of Max O'Rell's travels in America was asked for, and the response was in intelligent German-English that "Marcus Aurelius vos nescit in the United States."

England is importing millions of tons of potatoes from the continent every year, while scores of thousands of acres of arable English land are lying idle.

Civilization—i. e., city life—does not always lengthen human life, whatever else it does. The Glasgow Mail says: Of the 200 villagers in the ancient burgh of Kilmairs, lying in a secluded spot on the Carmel water about two miles north of Kilmarnock, it is notable that seventy-two are of the average age of seventy-seven years, thirty average eighty-three and a half years of age, and the average of the seven eldest is ninety years. Four are above ninety years of age, viz.: Tam King, the Monkton gravedigger, is still cheerful and genial at ninety-four, and has his domestic wants attended to by his eldest daughter. Rab Love, a knight of the limb, walks quite erect at ninety-three. Tam Paton, ninety-one, and his wife Jean, a few months his junior, are still able to walk about—the good man wielding his spade and hoe ardently in his garden, the latter attending to her kitchen odds and ends. Pure air and pure water are plentiful, and these, combined with the habits of the aborigines and the natural environments of the village, are all conducive to longevity.

The report of the special sub-committee of London school board on the hungry children discloses a horrible condition of things. During the year ending March, 1889, the number of children in average attendance at the board schools was 341,435. Of these 43,813 (one in every eight) are returned as attending school in want of food. Less than half of these hungry little ones are at present provided for by various voluntary agencies, leaving 21,739 children attending school who, notwithstanding all the efforts made, do not obtain enough food. This number includes 7,988 children attending infants' departments. As a rough test of the poverty in the homes of the children attending the schools of the board, the committee state that 110,759—practically one-third of the children in average attendance—had their fees remitted during some part of the year ended March, 1889. There are 1,135 departments under the board, and of this number only 149 are departments where no provision is required for necessitous children. On the other hand, in 134 departments where provision is required, none has been made. Finsbury, Hackney and Southwark each contains over 6,000 children, who are stated to come to school in want of food, and over 4,000 who go home still in want. The Tower Hamlets division is returned as having 7,207 attending school in want of food, and nearly 3,000 of these remain in a chronically underfed state.

The Bury, England, board of guardians, like many other boards throughout the country, has been discussing the taxation of ground rents. The Bury Times, commenting on the discussion says: "Landowners used to bear most of the taxation of the nation; a house of landlords managed about a couple of centuries ago to transfer their obligations to others; and there will not be equal hardships imposed upon them if we go part of the way back to the old state of things as there were imposed upon the people in the 17th century. When Lord Derby let his land in this town a right was given to the people to turn their sewage into the rivers. There was no rivers pollution act then. Now parliament is insisting upon the sewage being kept out of the rivers. To do this will cost Bury from £80,000 to £100,000. As the law at present stands the occupiers only will have to pay the cost. Why should not the owners of chief rents pay their share? It is of no value to say that they bought the rents 'never thinking that additional imposts would be laid upon them,' for that is equally the position of the occupiers. Many a man has built or bought property upon the basis of the local rates of that day; but he is not held excused from paying higher rates, or new ones, such as the burial rates or the water rate, merely because he had not calculated upon them. There may be found arguments against the taxation of chief rents for local purposes, but they were not brought out at the board of guardians on Wednesday."

Protectionist Advice.

Cincinnati Commercial Gazette.

The way to smash the whisky trust is to abolish the internal revenue tax.

The way to get even quickly with the coffee combination is to quit buying for a few weeks.

THE SINGLE TAX IN SYDNEY.

Debate Between Mr. Foxall and a Half-Way Free Trader.

Mr. E. W. Foxall, one of the vice-presidents of the Single tax league, delivered a lecture on "Single Tax Aims and Principles" at Surry Hills, on June 19, which is reported in the Australian Standard. At the conclusion the chairman announced that Mr. Foxall had expressed his willingness to answer any questions from the audience. One gentleman inquired what was the difference between land nationalization and the single tax, and for what reason had the present Single tax league changed its name from that under which it started, viz., the "Land nationalization league." Mr. Foxall replied that the change in the name indicated that a stage in the history of the movement had been reached when it became necessary to be explicit as to the method proposed for nationalizing the land. A great many persons recognizing the truth of the principle that "the land belonged to the people," had proclaimed themselves as "land nationalists," but their ideas as to the manner in which this principle should be put in operation were so conflicting and contradictory, that it was deemed advisable to make it clearly understood that the views held by the league were identical with those advocated in "Progress and Poverty." They had accordingly followed in the footsteps of the founder of the cult, Henry George, and adopted the name of single taxers.

Mr. Thomas Moore said he had never heard so many fallacies in such a short space of time as had been massed together in the lecture they had just listened to. He denied the position taken up by Mr. Foxall, in toto. Affairs in the world were not in the condition described by the lecturer. And if they were, it did not spring from the cause to which the lecturer attributed it; while even if the cause had been correctly stated, the remedy proposed would not cure the evil. Workingmen of Great Britain were much better off than they were twenty or thirty years ago. Their wages were higher, and thanks to the blessings of a free trade policy, the purchasing power of those wages was also greater. It was true that there were a great many men out of employment, but if the majority of these cases were examined, it would be found to be the fault of the men themselves, most of whom had no wish to work. He was surprised to find that Mr. Foxall did not even quote the Lord's prayer correctly. There was nothing in that prayer at all about the coming of God's Kingdom "on earth;" the kingdom was in heaven. It was the Lord's will which was to be done on earth, and he failed to see what the glories of the heavenly kingdom which "eye hath not seen, nor ear heard" had to do with a corporation laborer getting £30 a week. (Laughter.) The proposition to take all the value of land in taxation, without compensation to the present owners, was nothing short of robbery, which Mr. Foxall had tried to gloss over by telling them that the robbery would only be "gradual." What could be more unjust than to take from a man that which he had bought and paid for, perhaps with the hard earned savings of many years? And as for exempting all improvements upon land from taxation, the idea was ridiculous. Take, for instance, the case of two men, each owning an allotment worth £100, one of whom was wealthy enough to be able to build a house worth £1,000 on his lot, and obtain rent from it, while the other was too poor to build. How manifestly unjust it would be to tax them both alike. He had read all of Henry George's works; but, although there were a few good things in his "Protection or Free Trade?" his theories with regard to the land question were entirely fallacious.

Mr. Foxall, in reply, said: My friend, Mr. Moore, reminds me somewhat of the celebrated Mrs. O'Flannagan. When that lady borrowed her neighbor's wash tubs, she replied to the charge of returning them in a dilapidated condition, first, that she never borrowed them; second, that they were quite sound when she sent them back; and third, that they were as leaky as "old boots" when she got them. (Laughter.) Mr. Moore occupies the peculiar position—though I am bound to admit it is a position peculiar to a great number of people—of a free trader who does not believe in free trade; for trade can never be truly free until all taxes are removed from industry, and when this takes place the only source of revenue possible for a government must be the

land. (Hear, hear.) Regarding the improvement in the condition of the English laborer, he could only say that Mr. Moore's experience differed from that of royal commissions appointed to inquire into such matters, but that, he supposed, was so much the worse for the royal commissions. It was a melancholy reflection that whenever a man, or body of men, tried to do something for their unfortunate fellow human beings on the earth, there were always to be found a number of pious folks ready with the infernal slander that all the unsuccessful were undeserving, and that poverty and distress were the fault of the poor wretches who endured them. Such a statement scarcely required refutation, for the personal experience of any observer would contradict it. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Moore had thrown a new light on the Lord's prayer, by saying that the coming of the Kingdom was not to be on earth. But supposing this new interpretation were to be taken as correct, what difference did Mr. Moore see between a state of things in which God's will was done "on earth as in heaven," and the coming of God's kingdom "on earth?" (Hear, hear.) Mr. Moore had used the term "robbery" in connection with the proposal to tax away land values. In reply to this he could not do better than quote a passage from Henry George's reply to a titled antagonist—the duke of Argyll—who, over five years ago, had anticipated Mr. Moore in this line of objection. Mr. George said: "Land holders must elect to try their case either by human law or by moral law. If they say that land is rightfully property because made so by human law, they cannot charge those who would change that law with advocating robbery. But if they say that such change in human law would be robbery, then they must show that land is rightfully property irrespective of human law." The duke of Argyll had never shown this, for the simple reason that he could not; but if Mr. Moore thought himself competent to do so, he might rest assured that there was undying fame before him.

Regarding the argument that the payment of money for anything constituted an indefeasible title to it, Mr. Foxall said he would ask Mr. Moore to exercise his imagination for a while, and picture himself, with his skin a shade darker, taken away by force from home and friends, and sold, in a slave state, as a chattel. Would he then consider it a sufficient reply for his "owner" to make, against a demand that his (Mr. Moore's) liberty should be restored to him, that the dollars paid for him were the accumulated savings of many years? (Applause.) The cases were, in all essentials, identical. The slave, as a human being, has his claim to freedom, his right to liberty, irrespective of the receipt vaunted by his purchaser, and the landless have a right to land—by virtue of their existence in the world—irrespective of all the trafficking in real estate that had taken place. (Hear, hear.)

The case of the "poor man" with a £100 worth of vacant land was a familiar old "chestnut." If the single tax were in complete operation, the amount of taxation this man would pay would be at the outside £5 per year, and the absence of any taxation on improvements would encourage and enable him to build sooner than otherwise. While, at present, if this typical poor man were married, and had a family, he now paid a much larger sum than that in indirect taxation. Besides, he would like to know what injury his neighbor, with the £1,000 house, had done the locality by building a good house, and employing labor and improving to the extent of £1,000, that he should be punished by a fine? (Applause.) Mr. Moore had said that he had read Henry George's works. Many people were in the habit of saying this, when, in reality, their opinions were mainly founded on garbled excerpts gleaned from a hostile press. If Mr. Moore, or anyone else, had not read "Progress and Poverty" it was not much use to argue with them until they had done so, as the whole case was in that great work so clearly and exhaustively treated. If, on the other hand, they had read the book, it was still of very little use to talk to them. Of such he felt inclined to say, "They have Moses and the prophets. And if they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither would they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead." "Let them alone, they are joined to their idols." (Great applause.)

The chairman, Mr. McKinnon, said that the thanks of the meeting were certainly due to Mr. Moore for giving them an opportunity of seeing how admirably the single tax doctrines could withstand the criticism of those who opposed them.

OUR FRIENDS IN CHICAGO.

Congressman Lawler and R. H. Cowdrey Speak at a Meeting—The Vice-President of the First National Bank a Convert—Judge Maguire's Visit.

CHICAGO, Aug. 10.—We were fortunate on Thursday evening in having with us the Hon. Frank Lawler, the only democratic representative this great democratic city has in congress.

He came by special invitation to give us some account of his work in behalf of the starving miners of Illinois. In connection with Mr. Robert H. Cowdrey and the Chicago Globe (which is showing a certain editorial friendliness to us lately), Congressman Lawler has gone about Chicago begging food for the distressed miners, and several carloads of provisions have been distributed at Streator, Braidwood, Spring Valley and Braceville as a result of his energetic efforts.

Mr. Lawler told his story to us in plain terms, but with good effect. He did not stop to discuss the causes back of the misery which he had sought to relieve. "It is our first duty to feed the hungry," he said. "That done, we must find the root of the evil and tear it out in the interest of justice." He did not suggest a remedy, but he complimented the club on its intelligence and noble work. "I congratulate myself," he declared, "on the honor done me in permitting me to address you."

He was given a cordial reception, and promised that he would meet with us again. I do not believe he will vote against the granting of our petition this winter—he will be one of us yet if he keeps on.

Mr. Cowdrey also spoke. He said he had undertaken the work because he wanted to lend a helping hand to the helpless. "At the same time," said he, "I hoped by my efforts to earn the good will of the sufferers, so that they would listen to the message which they might not otherwise receive. I have not attempted to preach to them during these visits of charity, but I have not failed to point out the fundamental injustice at the base of the present distress, and I believe that when the time comes they will hear the truth gladly and embrace it with enlightened conviction."

He then related some incidents of his painful tour among the wretched victims of the coal monopoly, moving many to tears by an allusion to the first time he had looked into the eyes of hunger. "It was an experience," he said, "that I can never forget. I had seen that look in the eyes of a dumb brute—that strained, pleading, anxious, fearful, longing expression which might move a heart of stone, but until I stood suddenly in the presence of some wretched women and their little ones at one of the mining towns, I had never seen it in human eyes. I tell you, it was a terrible shock, and I cannot speak of it now without the same unspeakable emotion that unmanned me at that moment."

Judge Maguire writes me that he will be with us about September 6. We are arranging to entertain him at a small dinner, which we shall try to make as pleasant as his visit will be welcome. A number of tickets at \$1 each have been subscribed for already, but we desire every single tax man in the city to join with us in making the event a success in all respects. H. Martin Williams of St. Louis writes me that he hopes to be present, and L. P. Custer of Indianapolis is also expected.

I hear with much pleasure that Lyman J. Gage, president of the First national bank, declared in a speech on Thursday night that he was in favor of the single tax limited. I have known this privately for a long time, but as no public expression of his conviction had been made by the gentleman I have not before felt at liberty to mention the fact. Mr. Gage is one of the most popular men in Chicago. His interest in the economic conferences and in the tariff reform convention was active and effective and his attitude for a long time past has been liberal if not radical.

Judge Reid of Nashville passed through here en route to Puget sound on the 7th, but owing to the excellence of our reformed Wamaker postal service, which brought me the judge's letter announcing his arrival several hours after his departure for the west, I did not see him. He thus missed an ovation, for had I got his note, the Chicago brethren would have been notified and they would have turned out to a man almost to do him honor.

W. W. BAILEY.

Rhode Island Takes a Step Forward.

PROVIDENCE, Aug. 12.—Saturday afternoon August 10, a conference of the single taxmen of Rhode Island was held at Crescent park, a shore resort about five miles from Providence. About thirty-five gentlemen were present from all parts of the state, the best known of whom were Dr. L. F. C. Garvin, present state senator from Cumberland, Dr. Wm. Barker, president of the Providence Single tax club, Mr. David Harover of Wakefield, and E. L. Gannon, district master workman of Knights of Labor, who is also a representative to the state legislature from the town of Burrillville.

The conference was presided over by Dr. Barker, and, after some preliminary but brief speechmaking, an executive committee of seven, with power to add to their number, was appointed, an attempt being made to have every part of the state represented—

this committee to manage the work of propaganda, which all present felt ought to be entered upon at once. It is in contemplation to issue an address in the form of a circular, and a special committee was appointed for the purpose of drafting such an address. A sum of money was immediately subscribed, nearly every one giving generously, and was placed in the hands of the executive committee for the purpose of carrying out some of the suggestions proposed. Every man present seemed to be imbued with the missionary spirit, and the gathering was the means of encouraging every one, even those that were despondent and discouraged. The chairman of the executive committee is Mr. P. A. Cappelletti, who is one of the most effective and energetic workers in the state.

NGLE TAX.

PROHIBITION AND THE SINGLE TAX.

The Sons of temperance and the single tax will at first appear to be a singular combination. At Sea Cliff, Tuesday, the 23d of July, the Sons of temperance held a meeting of the grand division of eastern New York. The business meeting was held during the day and in the evening a public session. Mr. Edward Crummeys of Poughkeepsie, head of the division of eastern New York, presided at the meetings. At the evening session the house was well filled.

The presiding officer spoke at considerable length on the importance of temperance and the contribution of the order of S. of T. to the progress of this great moral movement for the uplifting of humanity. He was followed by the Hon. C. C. Leigh of Brooklyn.

The next speaker introduced by the broad and liberal minded chairman was our single tax friend, Mr. William C. Albro of Poughkeepsie. He was requested to consume twenty minutes in pointing out the relation of the labor movement and the temperance movement. He said that he had no expectation or ambition to make converts to any new theories, but here in the midst of those who rather gloried in being called cranks, another idea often characterized as cranky might at least find sympathetic hearing. The political economists have concluded that production is divided among the factors that create it, as wages, interest and rent. If either one takes more than its share then one or both of the others must take less. The law of wages is said to be, that the laborer will receive that lowest sum that he will consent to live upon and propagate his kind. That of interest, that to the capitalist will be paid the smallest sum that will secure the preservation of that amount of capital necessary to facilitate and economize the doing of business. Land is the other factor, and the land owner takes everything produced, by way of rent, except these smallest shares necessary to secure the existence of the other two factors.

Now you must have observed in the statement of these laws what an important part the word "consent" plays in fixing the rate of wages. In the competition for chances to earn wages, he who consents to take the smallest sum, other things being equal, secures the opportunity. The man who requires \$50 or \$60 a year to expend for alcoholic drinks will not consent to live upon wages so small as not to afford him that sum. Temperance men, therefore, in competition with drinkers have a great advantage. They secure the same necessities of life while working at lower rates of wages. Now suppose total abstinence from intoxicants comes to be the prevailing rule among laborers, what will be the result? Will not temperance men then, on every hand, compete with temperance men for the chances to earn a living in the world? Then there will not be that surplusage between absolute want and something to spare for drink to break the grinding force of competition. The question, then, will be, who can live and work the cheapest, making every intrenchment upon the comforts of life.

It is indeed a sorry outlook for the temperance cause if the best we can do for it is to say that it is better to deprive ourselves of ordinary comforts than to secure an over supply of drink. This is jumping out of the pan into the fire. In our mind's eye we can certainly perceive a state of society in which universal industry, thrift and sobriety may harmoniously go along hand in hand. It is only necessary to secure such a state of things that there shall be no residuary beneficiary in the shape of a landlord, who, with no productive effort, secures all that competition can squeeze from the other two. There must be no necessity on the part of laborers to consent to receive as their share of production that smallest quantity that will sustain their lives. Time does not permit me to explain the remedy. Mr. Henry George, in his wonderful book, "Progress and Poverty," has made that plain. Let me urge you to make a study of this book that we may be able to supplement the temperance movement with all that is necessary to make it a complete success.

At the close of the meeting many of the Sons of Temperance expressed their confidence in the single tax, and others said that they felt convinced that it was worth their time to make the acquaintance of Mr. Henry George's books. To make known what the single tax really is and to lead men to think about it is all that is necessary to secure its success. Here certainly are good results in ground that has never before been worked.

STRAY LEAVES FROM A DIARY.

Saturday.—Invited a man to go to the meeting at Satter's woods to-morrow, where the land question is to be considered, but he disapproved of "political meetings on the Sabbath."

Reinforced my case with the words of Jesus, "It is lawful to do good on the Sabbath day." No answer.

I say it is not right to drop the "I" and make it read "it is awful," etc. If your sheep falls into a pit on the Sabbath day will you not lift it out? "Y-e-s, but these are works of necessity and mercy." Exactly; and here are men, your brothers and mine, more than half of them cut off from access to the Creator's land, which means industrial slavery, poverty and want; and is it not necessity, justice and mercy all in one to restore these men to their natural, inalienable and equal right? Besides how much is man better than a sheep? . . . I remember the story of a very strict Scotch lady. The new minister reminded her that "the Lord Jesus himself went through the fields on the Sabbath day," but she only replied "And I dinna think ony the better of him for that!"

What ails these people? I might attack their ideas of the sanctity of Sunday, and show them historically and by the admissions of the great lights of the church, let alone the teachings and testimony of Jesus and the Apostles, that such ideas are utterly without foundation or warrant, but have I even then accomplished anything whatever?

Will they then be any more ready to listen to the "single tax" argument?

In short, is it a vicious or even an atrocious theology and barbaric conception of God and the unseen, or is it selfishness, indifference and stupidity in the individual—reptile and animal characteristics not yet evolved out of man—that are the real enemy?

Is the defective belief the real disease or only the symptom? Let us be satisfied what the real adversary is before we let fall our blows.

Sunday.—Talked with a prohibitionist. Free trade, full of the sweet air of liberty to me, has the odor of the bottomless pit to his nostrils. In vain I remind him that the protective argument at best is utterly selfish; that the foreigner is not an enemy and that the Creator hath made of one blood all the nations of men; I paint in colors the best I can the cardinal injustice of society in taking for public use the property of the individual which the individual and not society has created, and leaving that fund which itself has created, and which is represented by the rental value of land, to go into the pockets of private individuals who have not created it; I show him how doing simple justice would induce diffused prosperity beyond the protectionist's rosiest dreams, and render all the rigmarole of schedules and custom houses superfluous and antiquated, bringing in an era without taxation and throwing wide open the way to the kingdom of God, and leave him figuring out in a dazed way whether his taxes would come higher or lower.

Monday.—Meet with a near relative. He says the single tax will destroy the value (selling price) of land, and is therefore unjust.

But the argument is short. Private property in the Creator's land is either right or it is not. There can be no half way. If men have a right to make a part of the earth private property, they have a right to make the whole private property, if they can by any means buy or usurp possession. That means the exclusion of all others from the earth if the owner so wills, since what is property is, by the fact itself, subject to the will of the owner; and that all other men should be excluded from the earth by the will of some men, is altogether absurd.

A. P. BROWN.

A FEW WORDS TO FARMERS.

A few words to the farmers that are afraid of the land tax. Don't say that to raise all taxes from the land will put more tax on the working farmer, because you are liable to be mistaken. In the first place just think a little for yourself. You will have to agree that from the land must come the produce to pay the tax with, and if the tax must be produced from the land then why not have it equally apportioned to all that use the land, or to all that hold land for speculation? The largest part of the land in the United States is owned by men that are not working it themselves; they hold it for the rent and value that other people will have

to pay them for it. Now is it not a fact that these men that are holding this land for speculation are making more money than the men that are working the land? You will agree that they are. Now see which class of men are paying the most tax. It ought to be apportioned so as to give each man his portion according to the benefit he gets from the natural opportunity he controls. Under the present system of taxation that is not the case. It is the reverse. Let me state a plain case and see how the thing works. Here in the township of Cold Springs, Michigan, where I live, there are a few settlers that homesteaded their land. The country was all wild land at that time. A takes one section of land and B takes one across the road from it. Now these men own the same natural opportunity. But A moves onto his land with his family, and B stays in Canada. A goes to work and chops the timber down and improves his farm, builds him a house and barn and fences it up in good shape, while B does nothing on his. Now which one ought to be fined, A or B? Well, I will show you how two such pieces, equally well situated and equally fertile, are taxed. The first is an improved piece: W. 1/2 s. w. 1/4 sec. 6, town 286, value \$935.36; tax on the above \$14.45, besides he has a poll tax of \$1, making \$15.45. Second piece, unimproved, s. 1/2 of the n. e. 1/4, sec. 6, valuation \$400; the tax on above \$7.74. Thus the settler pays a fine for his work of \$7.71, according to the above statement. If there is \$7.71 difference on 80 acres, on a whole section there would be eight times \$7.71, or \$61.68, which is the difference between A's and B's direct taxes.

Here is the result of raising the tax valuation of pine lands in Kalkaska county, where I live. I will show how it affected Cold Springs, which is a township that has cultivated farms but little or no pine land. The total tax raised in the county in 1883 was \$16,769.58, of which Cold Springs paid \$890.48. In 1884 total tax \$14,623.52, of which Cold Springs paid \$844.76; in 1885 total tax \$19,528.89, of which Cold Springs paid \$1,020.78. In 1886 I was in the board, and we commenced to assess pine lands. As a result, while the total tax of 1886 was \$20,832.44, Cold Springs paid only \$784.60.

Thus Cold Springs paid:

In 1883 5.3 per cent of the county's taxes.
In 1884 5.7 per cent of the county's taxes.
In 1885 5.2 per cent of the county's taxes.
In 1886 3.7 per cent of the county's taxes.

How the change affected individual farmers and improvers may be seen in the case of George Johnston. In 1884 and 1885 the total state, county and school taxes amounted to \$34,762, of which Mr. Johnston paid \$59.71. In 1886 the tax was \$21,042, of which Mr. Johnston paid \$16.09. If he had paid in 1884 and 1885 the same proportion as in 1886, when wild pine lands were assessed, he would have saved \$33.29 out of the \$59.71. I could give many similar cases.

L. W. MEAD.

THE ENGLISH LAND QUESTION.

Liberals and Radicals Have Got to Meet It—Henry George's Influence.

London correspondence of New York Mail and Express.

One thing that cannot fail to strike an American in England with peculiar force is the predominance of the landed interest over every other. It is another case of "John Jones keeps this shop that this shop may keep John Jones." In England the government rules the land and the land rules the government. The land question here is the question of the day. Any one who will hire a hall and announce a discussion of the land problem is sure to have an audience. Henry George is a little idol over here, and during the visit which he has just closed has spoken to multitudes upon this subject.

And so the land or more properly the landlord interest rules the government. The present premier is great land owner. The house of lords is practically a great land trust, and the commons is so to a lesser degree.

The legal fraternity does not furnish the bulk of legislators over here as it does in the United States. The landlords outnumber the lawyers by far in the house of commons as well as in the house of lords.

The Financial reform association figures it out that something over 200 members of the present house are land holders, their holdings, according to the latest report, being 1,063,823 acres, with a rental of £1,233,587. The acreage of peers who have their heirs or younger sons in parliament is much greater, amounting to 2,342,580 acres, with a rental of £2,279,507. Figuring this out it will be seen that the total acreage is 3,406,403 acres and the total rent £3,513,094.

This is, of course, much less than it was under a restricted suffrage ten years ago, when the total rental amounted to almost \$20,000,000 per year, but it shows, nevertheless, the extent of the landlord interest in

the lower legislative house of England, and will give an idea of the task which has confronted men like Gladstone and others who are trying to deal equitably with the tenants on English farms, who now find that unless they take to truck gardening, as the farmers around Philadelphia and New York have been obliged to do, they cannot compete with the great grain growers of the American northwest or the south of Russia.

In every effort in behalf of the English, Scotch or Irish tenant farmer, Gladstone, Morley, Parnell and others have had to deal with the land-holding interest. Not all the landholders belong to the Tory party. If they did Gladstone's course would be clear. There are large ones in the liberal party at whom Gladstone cannot launch any thunderbolts, for they are useful men. And trouble enough the Grand Old Man has with those.

Americans who remember Henry George's abortive race for office in the state of New York and the really insignificant position as a politician into which he afterward fell, would be surprised could they mark Henry George's position in this country. His popularity with a class that has much and will have more to do with the management of the affairs of England is little short of wonderful.

Between the converts of George, the landlords who cling to his fortunes still, and that element that sees no good in any landlord, Gladstone has a hard enough time of it. The Irish element is easily handled. It is thoroughly disciplined and obeys orders, but a liberal squire, whose heart is in the land, takes the bit between his teeth because of some attack made by some of the reformers on what he looks upon as vested rights in the land, then there is trouble that Gladstone and Parnell could tell long stories about if they would.

And so the land is the fetich that all bow down to, and between the wrongs of the Irish, of the Scotch crofters and of English small farmers English statesmen of the present have their hands full, and English statesmen in the future will have even more to contend with.

Let Congress Protect Us From This Pauper Lightning.

The theory of protection is carried to a delicious absurdity by the Canadian gentlemen who have established an electrical plant at Niagara Falls, on their side of the river, and have asked our treasury department whether the electricity which they propose to send to Buffalo and to other places on the American side will be subject to duty.

SINGLE TAX MEN.

The following list contains the names and addresses of men active in the single tax cause in their respective localities, with whom those wishing to join in the movement may communicate:

Akron, O.—Jas R Angier, 109 Allen street.
Albany, N. Y.—Robert Baker, 178 Madison avenue; J C Roskirt, 22 Third avenue, or James J Mahoney, secretary Single Tax Cleveland and Thurman club, 25 Myrtle avenue.
Alhambra, Mon Ter.—Mrs Josephine Spahr.
Altoona, Pa.—C L Ishler, pres; D L Munro, recording secretary single tax club.
Amsterdam, N. Y.—Harvey Book.
Anacostia, D. C.—Carroll W Smith, office Anacostia tea company, Harrison and Monroe streets.
Anton Chico, N. M.—Lewis T Graustam.
Ashtabula, Ohio.—A D Strong.
Athens, Pa.—Arthur L Pierce.
Atlanta, Ga.—John C Reed, lawyer, 25 1/2 Marietta street.
Auburn, Me.—H G Casey, secretary Single tax club.
Auburn, N. Y.—Daniel Peacock, president; H W Benedict, secretary Single tax club, College street.
Augusta, Ga.—L A Schmidt, 525 Lincoln street.
Avon, N. Y.—Homer Sabia.
Baltimore, Md.—N Y—Richard Feeny, 63 Milton avenue.
Baltimore, Md.—John W Jones, 125 N Bond street; John Salmon, 415 N Eutaw street; Dr Wm N Hill, 1438 E Baltimore street.
Bath-on-the-Hudson, N. Y.—Matthew C Kirsch.
Bayside, Long Island, N. Y.—Antonio M Molina.
Beaver, Ill.—William Matthews, secretary Tariff reform club.
Bradford, Pa.—J C De Forest, secretary Land and labor club, 26 Newell place.
Bristol, Pa.—W E Brokaw.
Birmingham, N. Y.—E W Dandon, 29 Maiden lane.
Boston, Mass.—Edwin M White, 268 Main street; Charleston; J R Roche, 29 Converse avenue, Malden; Hamilton Garland, chairman Single tax league, Jamaica Plain; John Davis, 18 Leonard st., Harrison square.
Brooklyn, N. Y.—George E West, M D, 49 Clermont avenue, president Single tax club.
Buffalo, N. Y.—H B Boddenburg, pres Tax reform club, 824 Clinton st; C C Whittemore, sec, 55 Washington street; reception committee, S C Rogers, 196 Vermont street; Robert White, 680 Main street; T M Crowe, M D, 777 Elk street.
Burlington, Iowa.—James Love, bookseller, or Richard Spencer.
Cambridgeport, Mass.—Wm A Ford, 166 Norfolk street, secretary Single tax organization.
Canisteo, N. Y.—H W Johnson, P O box 266.
Canton City, Colo.—Frank P Blake, M D.
Canton, O.—S J Harriott, M D, president single tax club.
Cape May City.—Wm Porter, box 57.
Chamberlain, Dak.—James Brown.
Charles City, Iowa.—Irving W Smith, M D, office opposite Union house.
Chicago, Ill.—Frank Pearson, 45 La Salle street; T. W. Wither, secretary Single tax club, 426 Milwaukee ave; Warren Worth Bailey, pres S T club, 126 5th av.
Cincinnati, O.—Dr David De Beck, 139 West Ninth street; J. A. Rogers and stationery store, 272 Vine street; headquarters Single tax club, Ortiz building, s e cor Fourth and Sycamore.
Clanton, Ala.—O M Mastin or Alex G Dale.
Cleveland, O.—C W Whitman, 4 Euclid avenue; Frank L Carter, 132 Chestnut street.
Canton, Ind.—L O Bishop, editor Argus.
Conover, N. Y.—J N Cron.
Colton, Cal.—Charles F Smith, proprietor Commercial Hotel.
Columbus, O.—Edward Ryneman, 348 1/2 South High street.
Black Diamond, Cal.—Jeff A Bailey.
Cramer Hill, Camden county, N. J.—Chas P Johnston.
Danbury, Conn.—Sam A Main, 34 Fifth street.
Dayton, O.—W W Kile, 31 E Fifth street; J G Galloway, 263 Samuel street.
Denver, Col.—Andrew W Elder.
Des Moines, Iowa.—L J Kasson, president Single tax club; John W King, secretary.
Detroit, Mich.—J K Finehart, 45 Waterloo street; J F Duncan, 779 Third street, secretary Tax reform association; 800 Third street, 634 14th av.
Dumont Springs, Eldorado county, Cal.—J V Lanston.
Dighton, Mass.—A Cross.
Dunkirk, N. Y.—Francis Lake.
East Cambridge, Mass.—J F Harrington, St John's Literary Institute.
East Orange, N. J.—Edw C Alphonsa, 393 Main st.
East Northport, Long Island, N. Y.—J & Rudyard.
East Ridge, N. H.—Edward Jewett.
Elizabeth, N. J.—Benjamin Orner.
Elmira, N. Y.—William Hargman, 712 East Market street.
Englewood, Ill.—W B Steers.
Essex, Ill.—Ida Charles G Bennett, 427 Upper Third street.
Fitchburg, Mass.—R D Terry.
Flemington, Iowa.—F W Beckwell.
Fond du Lac, Wis.—David C Beard.
Foscroft, Me.—E A Jones, 333 Main st.
Gardiner, Ill.—T B Cumming.
Glen Cove, Long Island, N. Y.—Herbert Loromer.
Glendive, Mont.—A H Sawyer.
Glens Falls, N. Y.—John H Quinn.
Gloversville, N. Y.—Wm C Wood, M D.
Grand View-on-the-Hudson, N. Y.—Henry L Altmann.
Harrison, Tex.—J J McCallum.
Hartington, Neb.—John H Fieber.
Haverhill, Mass.—Arthur F Brock.
Helena, Mont.—Judge J M Clements, secretary Montana single tax association.
Hornbushville, N. Y.—George H Van Winkle.
Hottel, Kan.—J J Avery.
Hot Springs, Ark.—W Albert Chapman.
Hosick Falls, N. Y.—F S Hammond.
Houston, Tex.—H F King, corporation attorney.
Hutchinson, Kan.—J G Malcom, M D.
Hyon, N. Y.—George Smith, P O box 34.
Indianapolis, Ind.—C F Custer, president Single tax league; W U Tel Co; Chas H Krause, bookkeeper, Vonneg's hardware store, E Washington street.
Ithaca, N. Y.—C C Platt, druggist, 75 East State street.
Jameer, N. J.—S H Walsh.
Jersey City, N. J.—Joseph Dana Mith, a secretary Standard Single tax club, 56 1/2 1st avenue.
Kansas City, Mo.—Chas E Held, 214 Highland avenue.
Kenosha, Wis.—W D Cogley.
Kettleshurgh, Ill.—M McElmond.
Kingston, N. Y.—Theodore M Ramey.
Lansingburgh, N. Y.—James McManis, 21 Edgemoor st.
Lonsdale, Ill.—Dr L F Garvin.
Lewiston, Me.—F D Lyford, 8 Cottage street.
Lexington, Ky.—James Brown.
Little Rock, Ark.—Ed T Clark.
London, England.—William Saunders, 177 Palace Chambers, Westminster.
Los Angeles, Cal.—W H Dodge, 30 North Alameda street; W A Cole, 149 South Hill; or A Vinette, P O station P.
Lowell, Mass.—Henry Robertson, 5 Alcott block, Kidder's block.
Lyle, Minn.—C P Wenham.
Lynchburg, Va.—Thos Williamson, cor Fifth and Church streets.
Lynn, Mass.—Theodore P Perkins, 14 South Common street.
Madison, Dak.—E H Evenson.
Mahanoy City, Pa.—J N Becker, president Free trade club; Robert Richardson, secretary.
Malden, Mass.—George W Cox, Glenwood street.
Manitowish, Wis.—Albert Wadley, or W L Hutton.
Mansfield, O.—J Higgins, manager Western union telegraph office.
Marlboro, Mass.—Geo A E Reynolds.
Marlborough, N. Y.—C H Baidon.
Mart, Tex.—J L Caldwell, chairman Ninth congressional district organizer.
Marysville, Minn.—S F Halston, Br., president Montana single tax association.
Massillon, O.—Victor Burnett, 78 East South street.
Mauritius, Indian Ocean.—Robert A Rohan, 8 Pump street, Port Louis.
Memphis, Tenn.—R G Brown, secretary Tariff reform club, 59 Madison street; Bolton Smith, 235 Alabama street.
Middletown, Conn.—John G Hopkins, P O box 584.
Middletown, N. Y.—Chas H Fuller, P O box 115.
Milwaukee, Wis.—Peter J O'Neil, 17 Fourth street.
Minneapolis, Minn.—C J Hurd, president Single tax league, 402 W Franklin avenue; E L Ryder, secretary.
Mobile, Ala.—E Q Norton, 23 South Royal street.
Mt Pleasant, Iowa.—A O Pitcher, M D.
Mt Vernon, N. Y.—J B Lathrop.
Murrayville, Ill.—William Gamm, president Democratic club.
Nashville, Tenn.—Mrs Wm Mun, 212 N High street.
Neponset, Mass.—A Lathrop, member Henry George club, 43 Walnut street.
Newark, N. J.—Rev Hugh O Pentecost, 56 Oriental street.
New Brighton, Pa.—John Seitz, 1 North Broadway.
Newburg, N. Y.—D J McKay, secretary Single tax club, 238 Broadway.
Newburyport, Mass.—Wm R Whitmore, secretary Merit union association; Herald office.
New Haven, Conn.—Willard D Warren, room 11, 102 Orange street; Alfr A Smith, 165 Day street.
New Orleans, La.—John S Walters, Maritime association.
Newport, Ky.—Joseph I Schraer, secretary Single tax league, 247 Southgate street; W H C James, 39 Taylor street.
New Westminster, Brit Col.—Alex Hamilton, member Tax reform association.
Norfolk, Va.—Edward K Robertson, secretary Alpha club, P O drawer 4.
North Adams, Mass.—Willard M Browne, 13 Marshall street; B S Myers, P O box 337.
North Springfield, Mo.—K P Alexander, 1826 North Booneville street.
Norwalk, Conn.—James H Babcock, lock box 52.
Norwalk, Conn.—Edw B Haskell.
Olean, N. Y.—George Ball, pres Single tax association.
Olmsted, Minn.—Sec, 35 Railroad street.
Olmsted, Wash Ter.—Alexander Farquhar, Adam street.
Omaha, Neb.—John E Embley, 822 Virginia avenue; Percy Peppon, pres single tax club, 1512 S 5th street; C F Beckett, sec, 1600 27th and Board streets.
Ordway, Dak.—H H Garland, member Tax reform association.
Oswego, N. Y.—Alex Stillien, 160 West First street.
Owego, N. Y.—M J Murray, 18 Main st.
Passaic, N. J.—J J Murard, 141 Washington place.
Paterson, N. J.—E W Nollis, chairman Cassius county Single tax Cleveland campaign committee, 59 North Main street.
Parkerburg, W Va.—W J Borman, member of Single tax league.
Pawtucket, R. I.—Edward Barker, 23 Gooding street.
Peabody, Me.—C B Jackson.
Peoria, Ill.—J W Avery.
Philadelphia, Pa.—Wm J Atkinson, 926 Chestnut street or A B Stephenson, 214 Chestnut street, secretary Henry George club.
Piermont, N. Y.—Charles R Hood, P O box 19.
Pittsburg, Pa.—Mark F Roberts, 1727 Carey alley.
Portland, Ore.—S B Huggen, 48 Stark street; R H Thompson.
Poughkeepsie, N. Y.—William C Albro.
Providence, R. I.—Robert Griever, 32 Button street; Dr Wm Barker, pres Rhode Island single tax association.
Pulaski, N. Y.—C V Harbottle.
Riverswood, Ill.—W H Van Grann.
Reading, Pa.—Chas S Frizer, 1013 Penn street; Charles Gorkin, 15 1/2 6th street.
Reynolds, N. Y.—Bridge, com. sec, John Carothers, box 21.
Richmond, Ind.—M Ritchie, 945 South A street; J E Hill, 136 South Third street.
Ridgeway, N. Y.—D C Sullivan.
River Falls, Wis.—George H Bates.
Rochester, N. Y.—Charles A Vail, 7 Morrill street.
Roselle, N. J.—Irad Gordon.
Rutland, Vt.—T H Brown, 11 Cherry street.
San Diego, Cal.—A H Vay, 139 10th street.
San Francisco, Cal.—Jugo James G Maguire, Superior court.
San Luis Obispo, Cal.—Mrs Frances M Mills.
Seattle, Wash Ter.—Alexa Jor Wall.
Seneca Falls, N. Y.—Wm H Adkinson, P O box 55.
Sharon, Conn.—A J Bostwick, librarian Single tax club.
Shenandoah, Pa.—Morris Marsh, president Single tax club; Thos Peck, secretary.
Southbury, Mass.—S W H Howes.
South Gaston, N. C.—W L M Perkins.
Sparrow Bush, Orange county, N. Y.—C I Dedrick, president Progressive association; John Stueland, sec rotary.
Spring Lake, Iowa.—J W Schrampt, secretary Tariff reform club, 625 Black avenue.
Springfield, Ill.—James H McGree, secretary Sangamon single tax club, 625 Black avenue.
Springfield, Mo.—H A W Jumanan, 665 Nichols street.
St. Louis, Mo.—H H Hoffman, president Single tax league; Benj E Bloom, secretary, room 2, 219 Olive street.
Stockton, Cal.—D A Learned.
Stonham, Mass.—Dr W Symington Brown.
Streator, Ill.—George G Guntner.
Syracuse, N. Y.—Charles S Hopkins, 9 Seymour street; Dr H Perry, 149 South Clinton street; or P A Paul, 4 Walton street; or James K McGuire, secretary Single tax club, 59 Greene street.
Sagehen, W. Va.—F F Morrow.
Tahoe, O.—J P Travers, secretary Single tax club, No 1, 112 Summit street.
Tacoma, Wash Ter.—F C Clarke, 186 R st.
Trouton, N. J.—H R Matthews, 9 Howell street.
Troy, N. Y.—B B Marsh.
Tuckahoe, N. Y.—Albert O Young.
Unionville, Conn.—John McAniff.
Union, N. Y.—Thos B Sweeney, 136 Elizabeth street, or Daniel M Buckley, grocer, southwest corner First and Catharine.
Vermont, N. Y.—Wm Sinton, E and N R Co.
Vincennes, Ind.—Hon Samuel W Williams, rooms 2 and 3, Opera block.
Waco, Tex.—Frank Grady, lawyer, 163 south 4th street.
Wakarusa, N. Y.—David Harrower.
Washington, D. C.—Dr William Geddes, 1719 G street, L. W. secretary single tax league.
Weatherford, Tex.—William M Dwell.
West New Brighton, Staten Land, N. Y.—A H Stoddard.
Whiting, W. Va.—John L Clark, 257 Loft street.
Whitestown, Long Island, N. Y.—George Harnwell.
Whitman, Mass.—C P Bohm, cigar store; Thos Douglas, president Single tax league.
Woodstock, Ill.—A W Cumins.
Worcester, Mass.—E E Page, Lake View.
Yonkers, N. Y.—Joseph Sutherland.
Youngstown, O.—Billy Radcliffe, Radcliffe house.
Zanesville, Ohio.—W H Loughbort, 71 Van Huren street; C A Potvin, pres, single tax club.

THE STANDARD.

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It is a good suggestion which the New York Evening Telegram makes that the campaign for the next presidency should not be put off till 1892. But it is a suggestion that single tax men and tariff reformers have been acting on ever since the close of the campaign of 1888. The single tax enrollment committee has for months had out among the people over 2,000 active volunteer missionaries of whom it knows and with whom it is in constant personal correspondence, besides an army of workers as yet unknown to it, who are bringing the truth home to their neighbors and friends. The Reform club has been and still is engaged in completing a systematic canvass of the state of New York, classifying the voters according to politics and occupation, and placing selected tariff reform literature where it will be most effective, besides promoting the agitation in a less complete and systematic way, but effectively, in other states. The democratic societies, of which Chauncey Black is the official head, have in most places been hard at work restoring tone to the democratic party. Single tax clubs are springing up and laboring with energy and enthusiasm in all the principal cities and in many of the smaller towns. And every now and again cases similar in many respects to that of the Crescent democratic club of Baltimore are reported. Beyond these agencies which have practically decided not to put off the next presidential campaign until 1892, numerous organizations and hosts of individuals that are not heard of outside their own neighborhoods are preparing the way for the overthrow of protection.

To these agencies little or no attention is paid by the daily press. Even people who are interested in the tax reform movement know little outside their immediate circles of friends of the work that is being done, and the general public knows nothing at all of the broad sweep the movement is taking. It is only when some demonstration like that of the picnic in Indiana which was addressed by Senator Voorhees occurs that the effect of this quiet work is seen. Then it seems that all at once a new idea has taken possession of the minds of the people. That the idea has been long fermenting is not thought of. But it has taken work—long, patient, hard, and at times discouraging work—to produce these effects; and the same kind of work, multiplied in intensity but made lighter by numbers and more encouraging because its effects are visible, will produce effects far more startling in the near future. The protection superstition is as surely doomed in the United States to-day as it was in England when Cobden, Bright, Thompson, and their associates went among the farmers and preached the truths of freedom. By the time we are called upon to elect another president the tariff question, no longer a mystery in figures, will be a live political issue, so clearly defined that the democratic party will be compelled to

declare itself without equivocation or go into history on that issue as the whigs did on the slavery issue.

What will count strongly for free traders in the coming presidential contest will be the workingmen's vote. We had it last fall, but not generally nor in a whole hearted way. Now, however, workingmen generally are beginning to realize what a fraud protection to American industry is. For this we are largely indebted to the protectionists who in the late campaign claimed and promised so much for protection. Both claim and promise are buried beneath the rains of of strikes against reduction of wages, and in every factory town and mining district the feeling is strong and growing stronger that the protective tariff is a snare with which to catch workingmen's votes on election day and their wages the remainder of the year.

Nor is it the class commonly called workingmen alone who are waking up to the swindling character of the protection delusion. It was the farmer who voted for protection last fall against the vote of the workingmen of cities. This was so not alone of the presidential election but also in congressional elections, for it will be remembered that Tom L. Johnson, on a straight out free trade platform, had a majority in so much of his district as lies within the city of Cleveland, and was defeated in the country precincts. But the farmers too are beginning to see that they were deceived. The idea of a home market among prosperous miners and mechanics was very seductive, but a home market among miners and mechanics who are on the verge of starvation while striking against reductions of wages is not the kind of a home market they were bargaining for.

Workmen in the Connellsville coke region are enjoying the high American wages which the system of protection to American industry has secured. Of more than 14,000 ovens, 12,000 are reported as idle, owing to a strike of immense proportions. This is in strict accordance with the theory that protection protects labor. Congress puts on a heavy tariff, which enables employers to make larger profits and qualifies them to pay higher wages, and then the workmen strike to force the employers to disgorge the higher wages that congress intended they should pay. The employers in their turn resist the strike, and being better fitted than the men for a contest of endurance, force the latter to the verge of starvation and thence into submission or conflict with the conspiracy law. There is a missing link somewhere in a scheme intended to raise wages which results only in strikes and reductions for the workmen and more power and greater profits for the monopolist. Congress could accomplish its object with greater certainty if it established a commission to divide the profits of protected industries between the monopolist and his men, and better still if it levied a tax for the express purpose of subsidizing American labor by paying pensions to workingmen. But the object would be best accomplished by clearing away all obstructions that it has the constitutional power to remove, and allowing the men to earn what they can and to get and keep what they earn.

Among the strikes which form a prominent feature in current news, is a little one at a furnace belonging to Carnegie near Baltimore. There are 225 men out, and this strike, unlike the recent larger one that Carnegie settled, is for an advance of wages. Workingmen are a restless kind of people. Nothing appears to satisfy them. Congress does all it can for them by restricting trade so as to enable the employer out of larger profits to pay higher wages, but the workmen strike when their wages are lowered and they also strike when wages are not increased. The best way to deal with such turbulent people is to let them alone. If they are so ungrateful as to bring the doctrine of protection into disrepute by refusing to work when the protected em-

ployer declines to divide the profits of protection with them, they deserve no mercy at the hands of a congress paternally disposed. Let congress take off the restrictions and leave protected American labor without the protection under which it is now suffering. That alone would not stop workmen from striking, for they have a curious notion that when some people get a good supply of labor products without working, and workers get only a small supply though they work faithfully, there is something wrong in the distribution of what work produces; but it would do something, and if the same principle were carried to its ultimate the American workman would be able to protect himself without striking and without intervention of congress.

It is not among miners alone that strikes are in progress. The carpet industry is threatened, and even Higgins, who had so much to say last fall about the protection the tariff throws around American labor, has reduced wages in his factory to the extent of twenty-five per cent, and, despite his abhorrence of the pauper labor of Europe, has employed a lot of hungry Italians to take the place of his protected employees, who have refused to work at the reduced wages. This is a fact which must have peculiar interest for John Morrison, president of the United progressive carpet workers' association, who, seeing last fall that the tariff was injurious to his trade, nevertheless allowed the representation to go forth uncontradicted that the American carpet industry is dependent on tariff restrictions.

There is something pathetic in the efforts of the Commercial Advertiser to understand the single tax. Its latest struggle is over the claim that land is the gift of God and therefore belongs equally to all the people—only a little fallacy, so it thinks, if it were not that we who use it say that the land must be left in the possession of individuals and only its value taken for public use. Hence it argues that the logic of the Henry George religious argument is in substance this: "The land itself, which is the gift of God, must be left in the possession of those who improve it. The value of the land, which is not the gift of God but the creation of those who improve it, belongs equally to all." This the Advertiser calls muddled logic, and so it is; but it is the logic of the Advertiser and not of single tax advocates. We do say that the land should be left in the possession of those who improve it, and we do say that its value belongs equally to all; but we do not say that the value of land is the creation of those who improve it. Single tax men know something about political economy, a great deal more apparently than the Advertiser does, and this teaches them that land values are created by demand for land, and vary according to its desirableness. That value of land which is created by those who improve, is an improvement value, and we insist that it should be exempt from taxation; but the value that is created by competition for the privilege of exclusive possession of choice parts is a value of common property and belongs to the community. There is no inconsistency in saying that though the land belongs to all, it should be occupied in severalty and its value taken for the benefit of all. On the contrary, the taking of rent for common use is the surest method of securing to all the land which the God of all has given them. If the Commercial Advertiser keeps on fooling with this question it will be surprised after a while to discover that it knows something about it.

Our friends throughout the country will find no better source of information useful to the single tax cause than the offices of real estate agents. We have before us as we write a circular issued by W. A. Mahony, an old and prominent real estate agent of Columbus, Ohio, which plainly illustrates this. Mr. Mahony, to promote investments in Columbus lands, uses the very kind of facts and arguments

that a single tax advocate might use to promote the objects of our reform. He tells of a recent sale which shows a profit in thirty years of seventy-seven per cent a year. Thirty years ago a tract of twenty-one acres was purchased for \$4,000. Part of it was sold a year ago for \$40,000, eight acres have now been sold for \$32,000, and the remainder, still unsold, is held at \$24,000. When it is remembered that the land has produced nothing whatever, but that in all this time its increase represents only a scarcity value, the wrong of landownership may be appreciated. It is often said, when instances of this kind are mentioned, that such a high percentage is little compared with what is made in dealing in other things than land. This is not true, for monopoly is an essential factor in such large profits. But waiving that, when profits, large or small, are made in transactions relative to labor products, the profits are largely, if not wholly, produced in the transaction itself; that is to say, the aggregate of labor products is greater in consequence of the transaction. There is no confiscation, no imposition of a taxing power. But the profits of mere land ownership, whether large or small, are not produced by the land or by the transaction. The aggregate wealth of the community is no greater than before. The increased price does not represent something produced and added to the general stock of wealth, but something taken from one member of the community and transferred to another, without other equivalent than the right to use a natural opportunity for production. What gives value to the land, what gave value to the land that Mr. Mahony sold, was, not any labor or enterprise of the owner, but growth of population. And this Mr. Mahony recognizes, for referring to the prediction of a distinguished visitor to Columbus that the city would soon be inhabited by 500,000 people, Mr. Mahony says: "If Columbus realizes the growth which he predicts, how is it possible that investments in real estate here can be otherwise than profitable?"

The Providence Journal has solemnly come to the conclusion that if we cannot own land we cannot own anything; and on this fragile foundation it builds its opposition to the single tax. It will find it pretty difficult to make thoughtful people see that we cannot use land without owning it. We use the ocean without owning it, and no one thinks of disputing the ownership of fish caught in the ocean. So we could use mines without owning them, and yet have an absolute property right in metals taken from the mines. It is the ownership of the ocean that would menace property rights in fish taken from the ocean, just as ownership of mines now menaces and to a great extent destroys property rights in metals taken from mines. If a fisherman were compelled to divide his catch with an ocean owner for the privilege of fishing at all, his right of property in the fish, the product of his labor, would be to that extent denied. And this is precisely what happens to the miner when he gives up a part of his mineral product for the privilege of digging; it is what happens to the farmer when he gives part of his produce for the privilege of farming; it is what happens to the builder when he gives part of the value of his building for the privilege of building. In the case of the fish, the ocean owner would do nothing for the fish he received, just as in the case of minerals, the mine owner does nothing for the metal he gets. The producer gives something for nothing, and the land owner gives nothing for what he takes; for honest trade is an exchange of labor for labor, and when a laborer gets in exchange for his product something that labor does not and cannot produce, but which is provided by nature, he is divested of part of the products of his labor without compensation, and if this be done by force either of law or of arms he is a victim of confiscation. Land ownership is inconsistent with private property in labor products.

A correspondent of the Press has a pretty clear idea of the way in which the

benefits of suppressing Mormonism in Salt Lake City would be distributed. He is not a single tax man, but he understands as fully as any single tax man could that whatever tends to benefit a city enriches the owners of the land on which the city is built. The growth of land values there, he says, is retarded only by the blighting influences of Mormonism, and believing that the Gentile ticket will prevail at the next election he predicts a boom in what he calls property values. Indeed, he observes, that mere confidence in the defeat of the Mormons has already induced many people to quietly buy land. How clearly the economic truths underlying the single tax are seen even by its enemies when they are not thinking of the reform to which those truths so directly point!

The people of Seattle are complaining of the rapacity of the landlords of that town who, since the fire, have doubled rents. But why should there be any complaint on this score? If landlords have a right absolutely to own their land, and our laws say they have, who shall complain of them for doing as they will with their own? People are not compelled to buy nor tenants to occupy, and if people will buy and tenants will occupy, why should not landlords take advantage of the market to get as much as they can without working for it? That is what we are all striving to do—to get the most with the least effort. It is this that promotes invention and extends commerce, and if a landlord sees his opportunity to get more with less or no effort, he is acting only according to human nature. The question is, not whether a man shall be permitted to get as high a price as he can for what belongs to him, but whether certain things do or in justice can belong to him. If land is justly private property its owners have as much right to demand for it all they can get as they have to sell the products of their labor for the highest price possible. But if land is not justly private property, the way to assert common rights is not to hurl epithets at the beneficiaries of a system which makes private something that is rightfully common. It is complaints like these of the good people of Seattle that go to prove the fundamental idea in men's minds that land ought not to be property in the same sense that labor products are.

Protectionists say that they and free traders agree that the tariff enables the sugar trust to extort an enormous tax from every one, but charge free traders with opposing the idea of putting sugar on the free list. Free traders are not opposed to putting sugar on the free list. It is the protectionists of sugar growing regions who oppose it. Free traders demand that all tariffs shall be abandoned, but they are fighting a protectionist combination of the most complex character, and it is good policy for them not to bother about a little outpost when a stronghold is undergoing assault. It is also good policy for the protectionists to offer up the sugar tariff as one of its weakest points. Hence the protectionists are begging free traders to accept the sugar tariff as a sacrifice, and free traders are persistently ignoring the sugar tariff when more powerful interests than the sugar interest are under fire. Free traders suppose that to free sugar now might postpone the time when the protected barons of Pennsylvania would be bereft of their power, and they claim that when protection is routed from its strongholds, a little outpost like the protected sugar interest will be delivered up in the general surrender.

The legislature of protection Michigan has passed a law making it a crime for any one to combine "in any manner to prevent or restrict free competition in the production or sale" of any product. It is well for the protection administration of the United States government that Michigan lacks the power to indict it. For what is this government under its protection regime but a combination to restrict competition?

Scepterless Kings.

In drear old Egypt, where the shadowy stream
Of the Nile sweeps by on its way to the sea,
And with sullen murmur slides in between
Where high, dark walls frown juttingly—

Above, in the cliff o'er the water's flow,
There sit three carven figures of stone,
Somber and grand, from a kingly throne,
Each looking far on the flood below.

Silent, majestic, in garments olden,
Defiant of time, they seem to dream
Of the past, when Egypt's days were golden,
And argosies peopled the dark, old stream.

Though rising sand around them crept,
Down gliding through the rifted steep,
Through storm and sun each kingly brow
Eternal, lofty vigil keeps.

Nations of earth arose and fell,
And races of kings in procession swept
Before the gaze of these figures of stone
Ere Greeks went warring or Helen wept.

A million suns with level heat
Have lighted those faces proudly calm,
A thousand storms have fiercely beat
The scars which the night dews soothed with balm.

O ancient of days! O kingly forms!
O scepterless kings of fallen races,
Is it true you speak when the sun's ray warms
And lights at dawn your wind-worn faces?

O tell us thy secret tragical story,
Teach us the cause of thy people's decay;
What was the crown and the woe of thy glory?
Help us to traverse our difficult way!

In scorn imperial there they are,
Throned on the cliffs where the hot sand falls;
Where the hoarse Nile growls to the rocky bar,

And the far lone heron faintly calls.
Wrapped in silence deep as death,
With shadows of pain in the slumbrous eyes,

They sit in state on their tragic thrones
Waiting the slow sand's steady rise.
HAMLIN GARLAND.
Jamaica Plain, Boston, Mass.

A SINGLE TAX EMPEROR.

Joseph II "Sees the Oat" a Hundred Years Ago

BOULOGNE-SUR-MER, France, July 24, 1889.—Mrs. Jenny Streinz of Vienna sends me for *Deutsch Land* the following, which I hasten to lay also before the readers of *THE STANDARD*. It is an extract from the work "Oestreichische Geschichte für das Volk" (Austrian History for the People), written by different authors for the instruction of the late Crown Prince Rudolph. The extract is from Vol. XIV, edited by Albert Jäger, and published in Vienna in 1867:

What philosophical and politico-economical views Emperor Joseph II entertained and from what stand he looked upon things, is best shown by the following project of tax regulation worked out by himself personally:

"A clear, correct standard of taxation," says the emperor, "is certainly the greatest good fortune of a country. Through it alone the real means are obtained, to supply the true wants of the state in the cheapest and fairest way and to found (support) everything good in the county, (und alles gute im Lande zu stiften).

"Land, which nature has destined to man's sustenance, is the only source from which every thing comes and to which every thing flows back, and the existence of which constantly remains in spite of all changes. From this the unmistakable truth is yielded, that land alone can furnish the wants of the state and that in natural fairness no distinctions can be made in this. Taking this as granted, it follows, as a matter of course, that there must be perfect equity between imperial land (the land held by the nobility), government land, peasant land and church land. All ought to be taxed only according to surface, fertility and position in a proportionate classification."

The emperor says in what follows, that to these philosophical and economical principles every historical right has to yield the place.

"If laws and conditions," says he, "are opposed to this, they yet cannot weaken the truth and conviction that the welfare of the state makes this principle one it cannot get along without. (Unentbehrlich.)

"So it was nonsense to believe that governing classes owned the land before there were subjects, and that they gave it under certain conditions to these. Would they not have starved or run away immediately, if nobody worked the land? It would be just the same if a king fancied that the land belonged to him and not to the people.

"The foregoing shows the necessity of introducing a new system of contributions (taxes) by which we shall tax equally all land of all proprietors without distinction.

"If in this way the almost infallible method of covering the necessities of the state by the land tax is found, all other taxes especially the excise and salt tax must be done away with. Also all police regulations of prices have to be stopped and free trade in farm products and free manufacturing of all necessities of life in cities as well as in the country, without privileged guilds, has to be established. Such an institution, which would leave all industry free, could not help giving an astonishing impulse to the nation."

Through the whole project of the emperor runs the principle that historical and inherited rights have got ahead of natural rights, and that these latter must be re-established, not by any compromise between the two, but by overthrowing the former altogether. Of course the ill-will and ignorance with which the reforms of the emperor were brought into partial execution against the opposition of clergy and landlords prevented their immense value from being shown, and the man who edited these papers for the benefit of the late crown prince styles the views of the emperor erroneous.

But the future will decide who was in error—those who close their eyes to the light, or the great man who, more than a century before Henry George, proclaimed the eternal principles he is advocating, principles which I now believe will be accepted the world over before this, or at least the next, generation will have passed away.

MICHAEL FLURSCHEIM.

CIVILIZING AFRICA.

May I draw your attention to the proposed conference of European powers to be held shortly, for the purpose of dividing up the lands of the Congo Region and the interior of Africa among the leading nations of Europe. These districts are already inhabited by tribes of negroes who regard the territory as theirs by immemorial possession and present use. They are gathered under rude governments—rude, indeed, but well organized, and sufficiently developed to preserve order, and to insure a large amount of justice while securing individual liberty. They are, to be sure, wanting in some of the advantages of more civilized nations, such as Gatling guns and dynamite, police courts and saloons, boodle aldermen and coal barons.

But what evidences most distinctly their barbarous condition is the fact that they have no poverty; they actually believe that all the members of the tribe have rights in the soil, and therefore if a man is not using his land to good purpose he has to stand aside and let some one else use it. Of course, under such conditions they lack that beautiful contrast between the rich and the poor which, as we know, does so much to bring out the loftier virtues of our race. The European nations now propose to introduce the higher civilization into Africa and, following American precedents, to form a kind of trust for that purpose. They intend to offer the blessings of corrupt politics and to the aborigines industrial depression. Yes, even if need be, to thrust them upon them. But, in all seriousness, is it not time that Christian people refrained from making might the test of right and putting Force in place of God? May they not be establishing a most dangerous precedent that will yet recoil upon themselves? If because they are the stronger they have a right to parcel out the land of Africa, may not a day be coming when Africa will learn the lesson and will turn upon her tyrants with the weapons they have taught her to use?

The facts I have stated have been given me by a personal friend, a negro of high education and large views, himself a citizen of Liberia. As an evidence of the security of life and property in the regions of dark Africa he says he is ready to traverse the continent alone with a

bag of gold in his hand, so long at least as he does not come across a European trader. Nor if he went without money would he fear to be refused food or lodging, or to be arrested as a tramp.

JAMES O. S. HUNTINGTON, O. H. C.

SOCIETY NOTES.

The improved condition of the weather has added not a little to the festivities of the week at the favored summer resorts, and from Bar Harbor to Long Branch, and from Narragansett Pier to Lenox, there has been a succession of agreeable occurrences, among which tennis tournaments and yacht races have occupied a prominent position. The harbors of New London and Newport have through the week presented a gala appearance, and for the last three nights the harbor of the latter place has vied with fairyland, each yacht endeavoring to outdo the others in point of illuminations, so that, a mile off the coast of Newport, the place seemed to be studded with brilliant jewels.—[N. Y. Tribune, August 12.]

Mrs. Eliza Taylor died yesterday morning at her home in the alley between Fifteenth and Sixteenth and Market and Congress. The unfortunate woman is supposed to have starved to death. About two weeks ago she gave birth to a child, but fortunately, perhaps, the little one was dead. According to the story of the neighbors, her husband deserted her and left her without means. Four or five days ago she managed to get up and go to the grocery for something to eat, but she was too weak to cook it, and yesterday morning, when her condition was discovered, she had gone nearly a week without food. Dr. Sam Woody was sent for, but he could do nothing for her, and in a short time death ended her sufferings. City Undertaker Lefert buried the body this morning.—[Louisville Times, August 2.]

Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt has not been seen very frequently in public since her arrival from Europe. Those who have the privilege of looking into her jewel casket, however, say that she has added largely to her collection of precious stones during her absence. Among other novelties she has purchased a necklace of large and very brilliant diamonds, which are strung like beads, and are absolutely without any setting. The Princess Louise of Wales has a similar one among her wedding presents, but the cost of them is so great on account of the waste in cutting the priceless stones and piercing them that they are not likely to become common even among foreign royalties or domestic millionaires.

A dispatch from Lawrence, Mass., dated August 3, says: David Boyd, an employe of in the Washington mills, attempted suicide this forenoon by taking a dose of paris green. He has been employed in that mill for some time, his wages being \$1.10 per day, with which he provided support for his family, who reside at 3 Melvin street. His wages were reduced to \$1 per day, which caused him to become despondent, and he was heard to say that he was tired of life. This morning he left his house, and while absent procured the paris green, which he swallowed and returned home.

There seems to be a continually increasing tendency toward more richness of dress at all public entertainments, and at the August hops the long rays of light sent out by the jewels, the blending of soft, rich colors, the gleam of fair white arms and uncovered shoulders, the gay and spirituelle combinations of tulle and flowers, the shimmer of silks and the splendor of brocades make a picture bright with color and variety. White is the principal wear, as it has been in London and Paris throughout the season, and diamonds blaze from the hair, the neck, and the front of the gown. Often the portion of the bodice that is trimmed with lace from shoulder to shoulder is one mass of gems and more than one great lady wears a diamond stomacher. It cannot be said that the glitter of so many jewels is universally becoming.

William F. Kane, thirty-seven years of age, a machinist, was found dead in a lodging room at 42 Bennet street, Boston, at 5 o'clock, a few days ago. He had turned on the gas after stopping every crack around the door and windows, and died of suffocation. He is supposed to have lived in Worcester, and was a member of the Grand army. Despondency caused by lack of work was the cause.

Mrs. Hicks-Lord is the lucky possessor of a really magnificent fan. It is composed of the finest and daintiest point d'Alencon, combining flowers, leaves and lilies in an original manner. The frame is of white figures, with any quantity of ornamentation in gold. It is worn suspended from a chain of diamonds and pearls.

A female burglar, about sixty-five years of age, was arrested at Braintree, Mass., last week. She would give no name, but stated that she had subsisted in the woods on berries for the past two weeks and had no home.

General Henry Dupont, a powder manufacturer, died last week. He left an estate valued at from \$10,000,000 to \$15,000,000.

Joseph Loftendahl, a despondent Cambridgeport blacksmith, who has been out of work for a long time, shot himself through the right temple last week. He died immediately after firing a single shot. He used a .32 caliber English bull dog revolver. He had spent the evening in company with acquaintances in East Boston who were endeavoring to get him a situation. Loftendahl had formerly lived in East Boston, at which time he was employed at a blacksmith shop on or near London street. Since then he had been employed in Boston, Cambridge and other places. He was a Swede and was married.

SOME RADICAL SUGGESTIONS FOR CONSTITUTION MAKING.(1)

Dr. M. R. Levenson has addressed a letter to the members of the constitutional conventions of North and South Dakota, Washington and Montana, which has been printed in pamphlet form. It contains too many new, and consequently startling, ideas to have much effect upon those to whom it is addressed, for conventions only formulate what the public mind has been accustomed to; but it is brimful of suggestions worthy of the consideration of thoughtful men.

Dr. Levenson lays down this fundamental principle which he suggests should be incorporated in the declarations of rights, "Whenever the direct or probable consequences of any act affect those only who, being of full age and of sound mind, are freely assenting thereto, such act is outside the domain of law."

This is striking at paternalism with a vengeance. Accept this principle and a man may drink all he pleases, gamble all he wants to, and commit suicide as freely as if he were an ancient Roman. But even as to such things, is it right and is it wise for the community to step in and prevent him? The matter is worth thinking about.

As for the legislature, Dr. Levenson would have that composed of all the people. He would not merely adopt the referendum, but he would have the body of the people styled the legislature by the constitution, in order to conform to the constitution of the United States, and make United States senators elective by popular vote. He would have an elected body styled a council, committee or sub-legislature, composed of twenty or thirty members, who should prepare whatever measures they might desire to submit to popular vote, and who should have the power of providing by a certain large majority that any bill prepared by them for submission to the people should have operative effect until the time, not exceeding one year from its promulgation, when the people could vote upon it. To this body he would also give power to repeal existing laws which had not been enacted by popular vote. "The reason," Dr. Levenson gives, "for delegating to them this power, is the mass of evil legislation everywhere now in force. Were the legislatures of the world prohibited for the next twenty years from passing any new laws, but with power to repeal what now exists, they would find ample occupation during the entire period in repealing the evil measures of their predecessors."

As to elections, Dr. Levenson proposes the Australian ballot, and the proportional system of representation (which he says has been for many years in successful operation in Denmark) in order to give to all opinions their proper representation in the council and other legislative bodies. And very properly he would do away with all restrictions upon the power of the people to elect whom they chose. On this point he observes:

The persons to be elected are to be elected not for their benefit, but for the benefit of those who elect them. By limiting the field of choice of the electors you may chance to shut out the fittest men in the whole world, whom otherwise you might induce to serve you. Besides, you desire that the representation shall be perfect: this it cannot be so long as the electors have not the opportunity of voting for the man they most prefer. These principles apply to all offices which are to be filled by popular election; hence, no limitation or restriction of any kind should be set, limiting the persons from whom the people may make choice.

Dr. Levenson would do away with the office of governor, and would have the council choose one of its members as a depository of the executive power, to be exercised under its supervision. The term he would make a short one, say, one year.

As to franchises he makes the following recommendations:

Whenever a franchise of any kind is granted, provide that the full value of such fran-

chise shall be assessed for taxation; that the franchise itself may be resumed at any time without compensation, and that no third persons shall by any act of the corporation acquire any benefits or rights to the use of the benefits arising from such franchise so as to hold or enjoy them after the resumption of such franchise by the state.

Provide, also, that no charter of incorporation shall be deemed a contract, but that the state may proceed at any time to alter or repeal the same, as it may think fit; that nothing shall be deemed the property of any corporation on its dissolution, except the products of labor to which it may have become entitled.

As to taxation, he says:

Nature herself has provided the fund whence resources for all proper objects of government can be abundantly supplied.

That which Ricardo designated by the term rent, which John S. Mill called the "uncaptured increment of land," the fittest term for which is, perhaps, "the economic rent of land"—that value which inures to land by the growth of society, which is the product of the labor of no individual, but of the joint labors of all the members of the community, forms the only and all-sufficient fund from which the demands of government should be supplied. The value of the land, or rather of the forces of nature, when appropriated by individuals, should be secured to the community by a tax thereon, carefully excluding from such tax all improvements or other products of labor applied to the land or to such natural forces. This would include the taxation of franchises before recommended on other grounds, and would check the monopolization of natural forces by those who do not desire to utilize them but seek only to profit by the rise in value which will accrue thereto through the labors of others.

The constitutions ought to include, Dr. Levenson says, self-operative provisions for the assembling of future constitutional conventions. He thus illustrates the necessity for this:

In 1886 the people of the state of New York, by an overwhelming majority, required its legislature to provide for the election of a constitutional convention. By a sort of battledore and shuttlecock game between a tricky executive and the tricky legislature which the party bosses impose upon the people of New York, and call the representatives of the people, no provision has yet been made, nor is there any likelihood that for some years to come provision will be made for the election of the convention so positively ordered by the people of that state.

Perhaps the most suggestive part of this exceedingly suggestive pamphlet is that treating of the provisions for the administration of justice. All the bitter things which Dr. Levenson says of the administration of justice among the English speaking people are abundantly deserved. Law with us is little better than a shield for the rich and a mockery to the poor, and men habitually suffer wrong rather than undergo the cost and risk involved in an appeal to the tribunals maintained at such expense for the avowed purpose of administering justice. He would have a minister for justice selected by the people, to hold office for a long term, but liable to suspension on the demand of, say, one-third of the number of citizens by whom he was elected, or by a two-thirds vote of the council. This suspension to be good until the people could pass on the matter at a general election.

The state he would have divided into primary and appellate districts, in each of which the minister for justice should appoint a judge, a deputy judge and an eleemosynary advocate. This appointing power to need no confirmation, and the judges not to be removable except for cause and by a tribunal to consist of a member of the council and two appellate judges. The mode of procedure he thus explains:

Suppose one man to have occasion to complain of another; he goes to the nearest primary judge and makes his statement. His statement is to be true, under the like penalties for mendacity as now exist in the case of perjury. In a small percentage of cases the primary judge will decide that, on his own statement, the complainant has no ground for suit. The complainant, if dissatisfied, will at once appeal from this decision to the appellate judge. In the majority of cases, and in case the appellate judge shall reverse the judgment of the primary judge, this latter sends to the person complained of to come before him at a certain time, or, if he lives in a different judicial district, will send a transcript of the complainant's statement by mail to the judge of that district, in order that he may summon the person complained of. The statement of the latter being received, either party cross-examines the other to the fullest extent, either to establish his own case or to disprove his opponent's.

In a vast majority of cases the cause will now be ripe for decision; in a few, further evidence will be required. Each party is called upon to admit, deny, or require evidence of those points which are necessary to establish his opponent's case.

The denial by a party of a fact which he knows to be true will subject him to the pen-

alties of mendacity; the requiring proof of a fact which he ought to have known to be true will be visited by requiring him to pay the costs of proving the same in any event.

By this means the necessity for being prepared with evidence to prove technical facts which no man with any sense of decency, if put on his honor before the public gaze, would dare to deny—a necessity which now adds so greatly to the expense of litigation, and often defeats the party who ought to succeed—would be completely obviated.

By the means above indicated, simple cases in the course of a few days, the most complicated (except where witnesses are absent from the state) in the course of about a month or six weeks, would be brought to a conclusion in the primary court. Either party being dissatisfied, appeals, and the appeal is heard and decided within from one week to thirty days from the taking of the appeal.

Procedure similar to the foregoing has place also in penal cases, but as in these the accused is generally in custody, the suit is determined even more expeditiously, with the right to the accused at any time to apply for a rehearing or new trial, on the ground of fresh evidence or any other sufficient cause.

Of the simplicity of this method of procedure Dr. Levenson says:

The New York code of procedure contains over 3,500 sections, many of them of great length and some really consisting of many sections under one number. Of these 3,500 sections about 2,500 relate to contentious litigation. The Californian code of procedure contains 2,000 sections, whereof about 1,200 provide for contentious litigation. In 1885 I introduced into the legislature of California a bill to establish a simple, speedy and inexpensive system of procedure in civil cases, which also was intended to provide for cases of contentious litigation. As against the 2,500 sections of the New York code and the 1,200 sections of the California code my code contained but 125 sections! I repeat here the challenge I have often heretofore made to Californian and New York lawyers to find or imagine a case provided for in their 1,200 or 2,500 sections which is not also provided for, and, as I contend, better provided for, in my code of 125 sections!

And he adds:

Contrast, I pray you, the system here presented with the agony, long drawn out, which now tortures every litigant and the chance—nay, the almost certainty—of escape at present offered to every delinquent who can purchase the needful delay.

Of pardons and of fees, Dr. Levenson says:

A pardon adds insult to injury. A rehearing is what a man, unjustly condemned, ought to have, so that his innocence may be proclaimed. The minister for justice should have the power to remit the whole or any part of the sentence of a convict, in consideration of any service rendered by him to the state; but such remission should be granted only after a public inquiry into the grounds thereof.

There should under no circumstances be any court fees required of a suitor in advance. It is not they who litigate who derive benefit from the tribunals, but those who do not. The former are those whom the law has failed to protect, and for this reason they are driven to the courts. But the courts should have power to require payment of an amercement by those who, by unjustly commencing or resisting a suit, have rendered the litigation necessary.

These are the main points of an exceedingly suggestive pamphlet. They are proposed by a man who has made a life study of the science of legislation, and however radical some of them may seem, they are all worthy of most careful consideration.

Our American system of government is merely something of an improvement on what the English system was a hundred years ago. Until the recent adoption of the Australian ballot by some of our states we have since that time made no substantial advance. In fact, if anything, we have gone backward. Although the monarchy yet remains an expensive form, and the house of lords yet sits, and the non-payment of members of parliament yet operates as a virtual property qualification, the government of England today is in important respects nearer the people and more within their control than our own. It is time we got rid of the self-satisfied complacency with which we have as a people been accustomed to look upon our polity, and began to consider where it can be improved. The new states that this year frame constitutions will probably follow in the old ruts—set up their copies of king, lords and house of commons, and in the wisdom of the present attempt to tie the hands of the future. But Dr. Levenson will have done something that will yet bear fruit if he shall have set a few thoughtful men here and there to considering how our constitutions and laws may be adapted to the needs of the times. And this much it is certain his letter will accomplish.

PERSONAL.

William Saunders of London is steadily getting better and is attending to his duties in the London county council.

T. L. McCready, formerly of THE STANDARD, is now associate editor of Mr. Pentecost's paper, the Twentieth Century.

H. Martin Williams writes from St. Louis: "We are doing better work here than ever before, and feel greatly encouraged."

C. J. Buell of Minneapolis has been appointed by the board of trade as one of a committee to investigate and report on the question of taxation. Associated with him on this committee are C. A. Pillsbury, the well known miller, and several leading business men.

P. H. Carroll has left Nashville, Tenn., for Evansville, Ind. Mr. Carroll is president of the Nashville single tax club, and Mr. M. Turner, vice-president, will officiate in his absence.

Abraham Lincoln Henderson, though not yet two years old, is the largest and handsomest dog in the three kingdoms, and withal a perfect gentleman of a dog. He is a pure St. Bernard of the best strain and belongs to Isaac Henderson the novelist, author of "The Prelate" and "Agatha Page," who is now living in London. Isaac Henderson is a New Yorker, and was the publisher of the Evening Post at the time Henry Villard bought it. Since then he has spent most of his time in Europe. "Agatha Page" is to be brought out in London in the fall, in a cheap edition and with an additional chapter.

The most picturesquely ugly dog in the three kingdoms is Bully Moore, the property of a single tax Irishman, Mr. Thomas Moore of Nottingham. Bully Moore has an under jaw like a crocodile, and is such a grotesque exaggeration of a bulldog that if you have on castiron pantaloons or are on the safe side of the fence you can't help laughing when you first see him. But he is really a very modest, amiable dog, who indulges in no useless barking, is sworn friends with a cat, and is evidently slow to take hold. But if he ever did take hold he would be very slow to let go.

In Quincy, Ill., a new and effective worker is William Uhlen, who has sent in one lot of petitions and is at work on another. Mr. Uhlen, who is an active member of the Knights of Labor, says workingmen everywhere ought to push the single tax, which will place laboring men in such a position that they will be independent. Then they can go ahead with other reforms.

Was Chattel Slavery Worse Than This?

The Godley coal mine near Braceville, Ill., was one of the mines visited by a World reporter a couple of weeks ago. Here is his account: Turning from the main road we were soon in the midst of the poverty stricken people. What miserable apologies for homes were their habitations! The negro colony was the first one we stopped at. The men were fine specimens of the race, but hunger and idleness were fast telling upon their massive frames. Men, women and children were alike bareheaded and barefooted, with nothing but rags of clothing to cover their bodies. Take the family of William Pinnick as a fair specimen of the colored colony's condition. Husband and wife and five small children comprise the family. Their house is merely a shanty of two rooms and almost barren of furniture. Their earthly possessions include a table, stove, two chairs and two worn out mattresses for beds, with rags for coverings. A little vegetable garden in the rear is their only means of subsistence outside of charity, and their stock is nearly exhausted. Unless, as in the days of old, the manna of the charitable descends upon this wilderness of woe, death from starvation will be their fate.

"Where did you come from?" I asked the head of the Pinnick family.

"The Wilmington company brought us here from Virginia, near Richmond, on false promises of steady work, good wages and nice homes," exclaimed the stalwart negro with much bitterness. "They advanced the transportation money, and kept so much a month from our wages to pay them back. I had just paid the last dollar when the strike came, and I had not been able to save a cent for hard times like these. How I wish I could get my family back to old Virginia!" "Were you a slave before the war?" "Yes, but I am worse off now. I was better fed and clothed, and had less work to do when in slavery. Our masters owned and paid for us, so they took good care of us. Now we are in rags and starving. I would rather be a slave again than endure this much longer."

A Protection Paper Inadvertently Tells the Truth About the Tariff.

Mauch Chunk Times.

Why is it so many silk mills have been erected in our region—at Mauch Chunk, Weatherly, Catasauqua, Stroudsburg, Allentown, Bethlehem, and other places, but not a single woolen mill? The question is easily answered. There is no tariff tax on raw silk as there is on raw wool. If raw silk were taxed no such institution as a silk mill would be known in our midst or within a hundred miles. And that tells the whole story.

(1) Constitution making, by M. R. Levenson, Ph. D., A. M. Pamphlet, price 15 cents. Published by the author at The Princeton, W. 57th street.

IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

Single Taxers Beginning to Take an Active Part in Politics.

SYDNEY, N. S. W.—Next to the holding of the first single tax conference in Australia, the most noteworthy event from a single tax point of view has been the starting of the first purely single tax paper, which, I am sorry to say, has not received the financial support it deserved. After running for a quarter as a weekly in a splendid manner, it has dropped into a monthly, at which it will probably remain for the present. The publication of the paper has been of great use. It has awakened many to the crying need of the hour, and has sown good seed in a large number of receptive minds. Both the metropolitan and country press show signs of the influence exerted by the new reform. The Daily Telegraph, which has thrown open its columns to us very courteously throughout, has had several leaders, and and leaderettes on the single tax, most, if not all, of which I may say have been written by one of the foremost literary champions the single tax cause on this side of the line can boast. It also published three signed articles by myself, one giving a sketch of the single tax conference, and the other two on "The Irish Delegates and the Single Tax." I may say that the two last were founded on the little pamphlet on the Irish question published by Henry George some years ago, slightly seasoned, of course, to suit the local palate.

The single tax party has played a very prominent part in two bye-elections that have just taken place. Both seats became vacant through the death of the members. In the first case, that of Central Cumberland—the county in which Sydney is situated—there were several Richards in the field, but all retired eventually except three, of whom one was a protectionist and the other two, Messrs. Brodie and Dale, were free traders. Mr. Dale had retired at the recent general election in favor of a very much stronger candidate than himself, and earned the gratitude of the party thereby. When the vacancy occurred he went straight for the seat, and claimed that the free trade party had promised him their support. If my information be correct, such a promise—which the free trade council admitted having given—should never have been made, inasmuch as it is alleged that Mr. Dale's retirement had no influence on the result, since hardly anybody would have voted for him if he had gone to the poll, and nobody's seat was endangered thereby. It was generally admitted that he was a duffer and he denounced a tax on land values as unjust. Under these circumstances the executive council of the Single tax league—which was formed at the conference and empowered to act on behalf of the whole body—met for the first time and passed a resolution calling upon the electors of Central Cumberland to support Mr. Brodie, who talked—and allowed members of the league at his meetings to talk—straight single tax. Indeed, Frank Cotton, our lecturer, was chairman of his committee, and he, with several other single taxers, worked energetically to secure Brodie's return. Four single taxers, who also happened to be members of the free trade and liberal association, signed a declaration to the effect that the council had never been called upon even to consider the question of supporting Mr. Dale. This declaration, with the signatures attached, was published by Mr. Brodie's committee in the leading morning paper the next day, with a sort of introductory prelude and concluding war flourish, in which the action of the council in proclaiming throughout the electorate that a promise of support had been made was attributed to "three or four wire pullers." By chance a meeting of the council of the Free trade and liberal association was held last evening. The advertisement was read out by the secretary, and a storm broke which raged for over two hours. Sir Henry Parkes led off by expressing astonishment that members of the council should be so lost to all sense of principle as to imperil the great free trade cause by promoting a split in the ranks. Three out of the four members of the council whose names were appended to the declaration were present, and defended their action with vigor. The excitement increased as the evening wore on. Finally a resolution condemning the action of the single tax quartet was moved by an irate advocate of a tariff for revenue only, and was in

danger of being carried when some oil was poured on the troubled waters by one of our party, the previous question was moved, and the vote of censure fell to the ground. The next day the three candidates went to the poll. I am glad to say that the protectionist was beaten, but, notwithstanding all our exertions, the single tax man was at the bottom of the poll. The Free trade and liberal association triumphed, but we taught them a lesson which they are not likely to forget—and that was never to risk a seat by omitting to consult the advocates of the single tax.

At the second bye election the conservative and radical branches of the free trade party—as represented by the association and the league—worked more in harmony together. I wrote to the free trade candidate asking him two simple questions and urging an immediate reply, "as the league was considering the advisability of putting a single tax candidate in the field," whereupon he wrote back, in very bad English, to be sure, but expressing sympathy with our views. We accordingly decided to give him our support, and half a dozen speakers held meetings on the night before the election and talked single tax till they were hoarse. The election came off yesterday, with the result that the protectionist candidate—who was supported by the liquor interest and, what was far more important, by all the railway men—was returned by twenty-five votes, far more protectionist electors taking the trouble to record their votes than free traders, and the constituency being really at heart free trade. Parties in the house are now so evenly matched that a general election is inevitable before very long. All the papers are agreed that the result of the protectionist victory yesterday means a speedy resort to the polls. So soon as parliament gets through the amending land bill, on which measure both parties are agreed, strife will begin, and the political deadlock can only end in one way.

I may state that the Free trade and liberal association, to which I have so frequently referred, is a very recent formation. It is the old Free trade association—an eminently conservative body which worships a custom house as the Egyptians worshiped a cow—reinforced by the progressive portion of the free trade party which believes, like the members of the Financial reform association at home, in a trade which is really free, and which, I need hardly say, contains many members who favor the single tax. We are, in fact, very strong in the council, and during the recent election utilized the association by getting them to print and distribute over 60,000 copies of Estelle's splendid speech.

And the latest addition to our ranks is a youth scarcely twenty years of age, whose small worldly wealth might be compressed in a carpet bag, and who has the most fluent gift of oratory I have heard for a very long time. We first made his acquaintance at a meeting which he attended as delegate from the socialist league and delivered a ten minutes' harangue on the evils of protection. He is now taking the stump on a Sunday afternoon in the domain, or people's park, where a very large number are being converted to the single tax. But enough for the present. I will leave for next month an account of the position assumed by the different sections of the church in relation to the greatest of all modern reforms.

PERCY R. MEGGY.

Sec'y Sydney branch Single tax league.

Lord Chief Justice Coleridge's Views.

Lord Chief Justice Coleridge, of England, in Queen's Rooms, Glasgow, May 25, 1887, to the Judicial Society.

It seems an elementary proposition that a free people can deal as it thinks fit with its common stock, and can prescribe to its citizens rules for its enjoyment, alienation and transmission. Yet in practice this seems to be anything but admitted. There are estates on these islands of more than a million acres; these islands are not very large; it is plainly conceivable that estates might grow to fifteen million acres or to more. Further, it is quite reasonably possible that the growth of a vast emporium of commerce might be checked, or even a whole trade lost to the country by the simple will of one, or it may be more than one, great landowner. Sweden is a country, speaking comparatively, small and poor; but I have read in a book of authority that in Sweden at the time of the reformation three-fifths of the land were in mortmain and what was actually the fact in Sweden might come to be the fact in Great Britain. These things might be for the general advantage, and if they could be shown to be so, by all means they should be maintained. But if not, does any man with anything which he is pleased to call his mind, deny that a state of law under which such mischief could exist, under which a country itself would exist, not for its people, but for a mere handful of them, ought to be instantly and absolutely set aside?

SOMETHING ABOUT ALABAMA.

The Coming Southern Stronghold of Protection is Not Altogether Satisfied With Results of Last Year's Victory.

From a personal letter to the editor from E. Q. Norton of Mobile, Ala., we take the following interesting items.

ITEM 1.

Nearly two years ago I aided in forming a land and labor club here, and we had at one time forty-two names on our roll. Members signed their names to the constitution and by laws, practically admitting that they believed in the single tax. When the late presidential election brought up the question of free trade vs. protection the club was broken up, because almost every member believed in protection. Not only this, but my worst opposition came from the class of men who thought they were single tax men.

Now notice—Within the last two months there has been such a revulsion of opinion that there are now but few of these men who hold the views they did before the late campaign, and to-day, of my personal knowledge, I can say, after a canvass among these men, not two in twenty advocate protection, and without a single exception all either openly advocate the single tax or are interested in studying it.

ITEM 2.

A club called the "Alabama republican club" was sought to be started here a few weeks ago, and has died from lack of material; the most active men in the late campaign on the republican side now ignoring or openly deriding that party which promised "plenty of work at good wages."

ITEM 3.

A republican party composed of members all over the state sought to enlist the democrats whose interests it thought were with the party who favored protection, and these two elements, it was openly claimed, were to break the "solid south," and so eliminate the race question by dividing the people upon other lines. This movement has "died aborning," the leaders quarrelled among themselves for distribution of federal offices, and left the field to the various labor organizations, clubs, farmers' alliances, wheels, etc., which are slowly but surely getting together.

ITEM 4.

Questions of labor, wages, government control of railroads, telephones, convict systems, pluck-me stores, etc., now fill all papers, and the greatest measure of attention is given the subject of taxation, holding of land out of use, and kindred subjects.

Where six months ago we had to beg for an insertion in the press of articles bearing upon the land question, now such articles are not only welcome but sought after by publishers, who have letters from their readers asking for more light upon this question.

ITEM 5.

Six months ago business men of this city sought to obstruct and destroy my business because I then advocated the single tax. Now they come to my store to discuss the question, and beg for reading matter.

Let Us Remove the Mote in Our Own Eyes.

Meade County, So. Dak., Times

It does seem strange that the people of England should consent to tax themselves to support in luxury and wantonness a class of people who never produced a particle of wealth in their lives. But we ought to be a little modest in our criticisms, for we have the same thing in this country under another name. The people have not only consented, but have actually voted to tax themselves for the benefit of a class of idlers who toil not, and yet live in splendor upon the labor of others. In England they call it the "Divine right of kings." In this country they call it "Protection to American labor." Both are superstitious, both are lies. The only thing laborers have to sell is their labor. This comes in from pauper Europe free, and our laborers must compete with the laborers of the whole world. But in everything the laborers have to buy they are limited to a "home market," from which foreign competition is cut off by a 47 per cent tariff.

He Sold Two Layers of Earth and Kept the Rest.

English Correspondence of American Mechanist.

Passing through Kent my informant remarked that the mean level of the ground had been lowered about six feet, the material having gone to London in the form of brick. He pointed out one tract, the owner of which received \$2,000 per acre for the privilege of removing the clay for making brick; then after this was removed an excellent bed of gravel was found, for which he received another \$2,000 an acre. As the top soil is removed and saved, he still had his land intact, except that it was located a little nearer the center of the earth.

TARIFF NOTES.

There will be music on the tariff in the next congress. The dance has hardly commenced, although Grover Cleveland called all hands in his famous message.—[Pittsburg Post.]

A good many factories are shutting down about this time. This is what was predicted in the event of the passage of the Mills bill and the reelection of Cleveland. But the Mills bill was not passed, Harrison was elected and the tariff was saved. And still the manufacturers are failing. The tariff organs are a little slow with their explanation of these things.—[Philadelphia Times.]

The New York Tribune, the Chicago Tribune, the Chicago Inter Ocean, the St. Louis Globe Democrat, the Cincinnati Commercial-Gazette, the Boston Advertiser and the Hartford Post—all republican papers—have denounced the sugar trust for practicing extortion, and have demanded that the tariff duties which make this extortion possible shall be repealed or reduced. In doing this they literally give away the whole case for the protectionists.—[Indianapolis Sentinel.]

Henry Clay thought that twenty per cent was the highest tariff rate permissible. How would that distinguished man have cast his vote on a proposition to reduce an average rate of forty-seven per cent to forty-two per cent? But Henry Clay did not live to witness the capacity of the creatures he assisted to put at nurse at the public tent. They are grown so swollen with the bounty of the republic that they seem to themselves greater than the thing they feed on.—[Philadelphia Record.]

The woolen manufacturers in the United States find themselves reduced to a very simple choice—between free wool and bankruptcy. As they perceive more clearly the futility of political expedients and mourn the collapse of their trade they are beginning to think their contributions last year to the Harrison campaign fund were about the worst investments they could possibly have made.—[Philadelphia Record.]

The effect of high protection is being felt all over the land. The shattered hopes, the hollow eyes, the broken down constitutions of toil-worn and weary laborers, their distressed families and destitute homes are but the results of labor robbed to feed the bloated trusts combined for their oppression.—[Middletown, Ohio, Signal.]

Senator Hoar of Massachusetts thinks that works of art should be free from customs. Now let him give one good sensible reason why luxuries of art should come in free and raw sugar be taxed 2.8 cents a pound. The millionaire indulges in works of art and the millions indulge in sugar. Relieve the millionaires and make pack horses of the millions. This is what legislation has been doing for twenty years.—[Boulder, Col., Sentinel.]

Every man who votes for a protective tariff does so in the hope of being enabled by it to get hold of other people's property.—[Hamilton, Ont., Times.]

Simultaneously with the strikes caused by reduction of wages in the over-protected republic comes the statement that the steady rise of workingmen's wages in Great Britain is so general as to attract attention.—[St. John, N. B., Telegraph.]

Why is the republican press so silent on the tariff question? The great industrial and commercial revival that we were to have after Harrison's election has not materialized, it is true; but why should they lose faith in a high tariff and lay low for months without so much as beating the tom-tom of protection. Is "protection" dead or are they giving us a quiet sneak in this business? Can this country be flourishing like the palm tree and no one find it out? Let us have a rosy report of the wonderful revival of business that was promised under protection. There are thousands of people in business who would be encouraged by such a report now.—[Albany Union.]

It sounds like a death knell to liberty, independence, and manhood when we read that a train carrying fifty-two tons of provisions for the relief the starving Illinois miners left Chicago recently. It is food sent to able, willing workers because the coal operators have decided that they shall not work unless they agree to accept starvation wages. This is indeed a dismal scene in free America in the year 1889.—[Washington Craftsman.]

Twelve thousand miners and cokers compelled to quit work in the Connellsville region is another of the sad pictures which are furnishing the sequel to the republican campaign promise of "four years of unexampled prosperity."—[Boston Globe.]

The fact that Carnegie, Phipps & Co. were able, when their hands struck, to fill the vacant places with Italians and Hungarians is a whole sermon in itself upon the left-handed benefits which the American workingman reaps from protection. Everything for which he spends the fruits of his labor is taxed in order, as he is told, to keep out the products of foreign labor. But the foreign labor itself comes in free to take his place whenever he has a disagreement with capital as to the rate of wages.—[Detroit Free Press.]

The testimony of the poor needle workers at Wells Memorial hall, Boston, Tuesday evening—\$3 a week for sixteen hours' work a day in the sweat shops of America—is full of food for thought on the part of good citizens. How eloquently such things speak for "the protection of American industry."—[Boston Globe.]

The republican papers are asking: If protection is such an injury to this country, why are British capitalists so anxious to invest here? One answer to this childish question is easy. This great country is prosperous in spite of high protection, and would be more prosperous if its enormous burden of needless taxation were removed.—[Boston Globe.]

THE DISPOSAL OF THE DEAD.

Condensed from a paper read before the Medical Society of the County of Kings, by John M. Percock, M. D.

Since a remote period mankind has adopted four principal methods for the disposal of the dead—interment, embalment, entombment, and incineration.

The earliest mode of burial was interment. The word burial is derived from an old Anglo-Saxon word which means concealment. The Hebrews buried in caves or sepulchers, or in graves in the open fields. They were very exact in all the minute relative to the final disposition of the dead. After death the body was well washed, generally with a strong solution of native carbonate of soda, anointed with highly aromatic unguents, and swathed in numerous folds of linen. According to Pliny, earth burial was customary in the early days of Rome. The law of the famous Twelve Tables expressly forbade the burying or burning of the dead within the city, or within sixty feet of any house, without the consent of its owner. Large tracts of land in the suburbs of Rome were donated by the patricians and appropriated to purposes of interment. These were the origin of cemeteries (places of repose). The primitive Christians in Rome buried in the catacombs. Many of these subterranean passages are of great antiquity and were connected with quarries hewn long before the Rome of Romulus and Remus was founded. They represent whole cities of the dead and contain in all about 6,000,000 bodies. Burial and not cremation seems to have been the one design and purpose of the catacombs. The early Christians regarded cremation as a pagan rite, entirely antagonistic to their belief in the resurrection of the body.

With the propagation of Christianity, the baneful practice of church burial became more and more popular. Several decrees were issued to stop the evil, but in vain; the canon bearing on the matter was erased, and the law concerning it became a dead letter. The churches could not accommodate all the dead, consequently the majority of the bodies of the faithful were interred in the surrounding church yards. Medical authorities in the eighteenth century pointed out the danger accruing from intramural interment, and the governing powers of civilized countries were appealed to. In England the whole system of intramural interment was checked by Mr. Chadwick and other sanitary reformers in 1844. Measures were afterward carried out for closing grave yards in crowded cities and placing interment in cemeteries under sanitary control.

At the present day the custom of burial within cities is on the wane. Cemeteries are to be found in the vicinity of all centers of population both at home and abroad. They are, as a rule, far different from the old church yards, and are more spacious than formerly; yet in a new country like this, with an almost boundless domain, the incontrovertible fact confronts us that in many burial places, and not very far away either, one grave is not permitted to be set apart for one body.

The late Rev. Dr. Beugless says: "Of the great cemeteries about New York, there is not one, not even Woodlawn and Greenwood, in the public lots of which three or more bodies are not put in one grave, that of John Doe who died from a 'bare bodkin' being sandwiched between those of Richard Roe and James Low who were the victims respectively of smallpox and yellow fever."

The "Potter's field" of New York city is located at present on Hart's island. Since 1869 more than 60,000 bodies have been buried there. There are no single interments, the bodies are placed in trenches, dug in regular rows, forty-five feet long, fourteen feet wide and ten feet deep. Each of these pits will hold one hundred and fifty bodies, which are laid three deep in six rows of twenty-five each. In 1887, 4,158 bodies were buried on Hart's island; the interments average about thirty per day. In the public or poor quarter of Calvary cemetery a trench is dug seven feet wide, ten to twelve feet deep and of indefinite length, in which the coffins are stowed tier upon tier, making a flight of steps, five or more deep, and with not enough earth to hide one from the next.

A positive danger lurks in this form of burial, as when numerous bodies have been interred in a space of limited size and within a comparatively short period of time, the earth becomes so saturated with the foul products of decomposition that it is incapable of further absorption, the modes described of burying the pau-

per dead in pits of putridity is a disgrace to our vaunted Christianity and a blot on our civilization. If land be too dear to give the dead poor a decent burial, respectful to the departed and innocuous to the living, a thousand times better it would be that their bodies should be burned and their ashes buried.

The proposed incineration of Isaac by Abraham on Mount Moriah appears to have been the first authenticated case of burning the dead. Although not consummated, it undoubtedly had the approval and authorization of Jehovah.

The Assyrian tombs discovered on the banks of the Euphrates and Tigris furnish unmistakable evidence of cremation. The Jews practiced incineration for sanitary reasons in times of plague and pestilence; the bodies were burned in the vale of Tophet. Cremation was adopted in Asia at a very early period. It was known to the Hindoos from a remote date. From India it extended to the western world, and was followed there by the Thracians, Celts, Sarmatians and other nations. Though the last funeral fires expired in the fourth century, yet the Indo-Germanic nations burned their dead until late in the mediæval times. The first mention of incineration in Greek literature occurs in Iliad, and refers to the funeral of Patroclus and Hector. Homer did not regard the process as an innovation, but rather as the common usage. Many of the notable men of Greece were incinerated—Solon, Alcibiades, Pyrrhus, Plutarch and others. Cremation was not in general favor among the Romans until toward the termination of the republic. The amount of spices, oils and balsams destroyed at incinerations was enormous. Pliny reports that Nero used up more incense, myrrh and other aromatics at the cremation of Poppæa than could be produced by the whole of Arabia in one year.

As Christianity spread, incineration became gradually obsolete, and the dead were consigned to the slow and loathsome process of putrefaction in the grave or tomb. For centuries cremation lay buried in oblivion; it was not entirely forgotten, as efforts for its revival were made at long intervals. These endeavors were brought to a climax in 1868, when cremation was introduced at the Medical international congress at Florence as a sanitary measure of great importance. A lively enthusiasm was then kindled and an impetus given, resulting in the growth of the movement, despite the determined opposition shown toward it.

The process of cremation, as conducted at Gotha by means of the Siemen's apparatus, is thus described:

"The body is borne into the chapel and placed in a catafalque which stands in front of the altar. The section of the chapel floor upon which the body rests constitutes the floor of a lift, or elevator. As the funeral service proceeds the elevator invisibly and noiselessly descends, bearing the body to the basement directly in front of the incinerator, which by means of superheated air, has been raised to a white heat within, at a temperature of about 1,500 degrees Fahrenheit. As the door of the incinerator is opened to receive the body, the intruding cold air cools it to a delicate rose tint; and the body, resting on a metallic bed, covered with a cloth of asbestos, or of linen soaked in alum, passes over rollers into this bath of rosy light. Immediately it becomes incandescent, in which condition it remains until incineration is complete. This requires about an hour per hundred pounds of the original weight. There remain only a few handfuls of pure pearly ashes, equivalent to about four per cent of the original. These are dropped by means of a lever into the ash chamber below, and are drawn thence into an urn of terra cotta, marble, alabaster, or other suitable material, and returned by means of the elevator to the catafalque. The service or ceremony being now over, the friends of the deceased find the ashes just where they had last seen the body of the departed, and may bear them thence to the columbarium or mortuary chapel.

"No fuel or flame of foreign substance comes in contact with the body. The process is accompanied with no perceptible sound or smell or smoke—absolutely nothing that can offend the sensibilities of the most fastidious. All the smoke and volatile products of combustion are passed through a generating furnace before being turned loose into the air, and are absolutely purified."

Europe has twenty-four crematories, situated at London, Paris, Rome, Brus-

sels, Gotha, Dresden, Florence, Copenhagen, Milan, and other places. In the United States there are twenty-two cremation societies and ten crematories; the latter are located at Fresh Pond, L. I., Washington, Pa., Lancaster, Buffalo, Pittsburg, Cincinnati, Los Angeles, Detroit, St. Louis and Philadelphia. Crematories are in course of construction in Baltimore, San Francisco, Davenport, San Antonio and Louisville. At Fresh Pond, L. I., the first body was incinerated on December 4, 1885. Up to November 25, 1888, 229 cremations have taken place there. The charge for each incineration is \$35. The actual cost to the company for same is \$15.

We are now living in a practical age, when the question of economy is an important one, and in times when by touching a man's pocket we come in contact with a very sensitive portion of his organization. It is universally conceded that there is useless and extravagant display on funeral occasions. Every year sees families in New York, Brooklyn, and elsewhere, homeless and breadless because of the enormous and unnecessary expense incurred in burying the dead. An evening paper not long since informed its readers that, "A millionaire pill doctor named Henry Hillen was buried at Wilmington, Mass., in a \$10,000 coffin which it took two years to make. There was a \$10,000 box to inclose the coffin, the total expenses of the funeral reaching nearly \$25,000." And further that "Mrs. Hillen, widow of the Wilmington, Mass., pill maker, goes to her husband's tomb every day, leaves a bunch of flowers, asks the corpse how he passed the night and pays a man \$5 a day for visiting the tomb at evening and crying, 'Good night, Dr. Hillen; we hope you will rest well.' She frequently 'tries on' her own coffin, which, like her husband's, cost \$10,000; but when at the pill works she is said to be 'all business.'"

Combustion is the means that nature employs for the destruction of the dead body. It may be prolonged for an indefinite period in the grave. In the retort of the crematorium or the funeral pyre the body is reduced to its constituent elements in a few hours. The final result is the same in each case. The difference lies in the time in which the result takes place. In cremation the result is attained in an hour without any injurious consequences to the living; in earth burial, in an eighth, quarter, or half a century, with more or less menace to health.

In earth burial the length of time necessary to effect complete decomposition varies according to the character of the ground. It may be accepted as a rule in favorable soils, porous and well aerated, decomposition will be fully accomplished in from three to four years; and in soils, dense, clayey, or wet, the putrefactive process may be delayed from ten to fifteen years longer.

Dr. Buck in his work on Hygiene remarks: "It is impossible for anyone to say how long the *materies morbi* may continue to live underground. If organic matter can be boiled or frozen without losing its vitality, and seeds three thousand years old will sprout when planted, it would be hardihood to assert that the poison of cholera, or smallpox, or typhus may not for years lie dormant, but not dead, in the moist temperature of the grave."

The report of a committee of the American public health association, read at St. Louis, May, 1886, Dr. James M. Kellar of Arkansas chairman, states: "... The time has come for us to face squarely the problem how to dispose of the dead with safety to the living. And your committee has an abiding faith that you will earnestly and at once say that the earth was made for the living and not for the dead, and that pure air, pure water, and pure soil are absolutely necessary for perfect health. Only skeptics deny that the dead do poison these three essentials of human life."

It has been ascertained that the plague which broke out in Modena in 1838 was caused by excavations made in the ground where three hundred years before victims of the plague had been buried. A similar occurrence took place a few years ago in Derbyshire, England, and the terrible violence of the cholera in London in 1854 was charged to the upturning of the soil wherein the plague-stricken of 1665 were buried. In 1806 the New York board of health advised the removal of all graveyards within the city limits, and recommended that the then existing burial places be converted into public parks. This was done to some extent, and Wash-

ington square, which was then the "Potter's field" of New York, is one of the fruits of this recommendation. A physician who lived several years on its western border declares it impossible to raise children on the ground floor of houses in that vicinity.

In the strata of air lying in a prolonged calm above a cemetery, Professor Selmi of Bologna discovered an organic corpuscle which poisons the atmosphere to the detriment of the living economy, and which, when injected under the skin of a pigeon, caused a typhus-like disease that ended in death in three days. Dr. Domingo Freire of Rio Janeiro asserts that, while investigating the causes of a recent epidemic of yellow fever, he discovered the significant fact that the soil of the cemeteries in which the victims of the outbreak were buried was positively alive with microbian organisms exactly identical with those found in the vomit and blood of those who had died of the disease. Some of this soil was dried, and then placed in a cage with a guinea pig. The animal became ill and died within a few days. When its tissues were examined after death, they were found to present all the characteristic changes which yellow fever brings about. It is now known that earth worms are capable of bringing to the surface from the grave myriads of bacilli and bacteria which modern science has shown to be the vital principle (or rather the deadly principle) of all forms of zymotic disease.

Time will not permit extended reference to entombment. The monument erected by Artemisia to the memory of Mausolus, the mausoleum of Hadrian, now the castle of St. Angelo, and the pyramids, have been the wonder of ages.

Embalming is the process of preserving animal bodies from decomposition by introducing anti-septic substances into the spaces left vacant by the removal of the internal parts. This art was extensively practiced by the ancient Egyptians, Assyrians and Persians. It was carried to the highest point of perfection by the Egyptians. The mummies found at this day in sepulchers, where they had lain for over three thousand years, testify to the completeness of the method reached in those early days. It has been estimated that more than 400,000 human mummies were made in Egypt from the beginning of the art of embalming until its discontinuance in the seventh century. Herodotus and Diodorus agree in the statement that there were three grades of embalming. The first cost about \$1,225; the second about \$375, and the third was very cheap.

There remains one other method of preserving the body that is well worthy of notice, and that has not received the attention that its importance demands. It is the desiccation of the remains. Long before the Spanish conquest the Peruvians were adepts in this mode of preserving the dead. The bodies of the Incas, and their queens and countless numbers of their subjects testify to this. The interesting question is often asked whether the ancient Peruvians embalmed their corpses or whether their bodies owe their good preservation to the influence of the climate which is so conducive to mummification. Senor Rivero, the director of the National museum at Lima, having examined hundreds of mummies, was unable to find any preservative substance in them. It is true that in the skulls a brown or blackish mass, in dust or small pieces, has been found, but a chemical and microscopical analysis has proved that the dust and the pieces were composed of cerebral fat and globules of dried blood. All the mummies contain the brain and intestines, and in none of them could Rivero discover any incision which would have been necessary for evisceration had the bodies been subject to embalment. These facts prove that the Peruvians did not have recourse in the preservation of the dead to any elaborate process of embalming as customary among the Egyptians. The bodies were simply desiccated by exposure to the air. The heated soil and calcined sand on the coast dried the corpse, and the pure cold air and dry winds of the interior did the same thing.

The climatic conditions of the imperial city of Cuzco are very favorable to the desiccating process. Here, in the great temple of the Sun, the remains of the Incas have been discovered in a marvelous and life-like condition. Cuzco, the most ancient city of Peru, has an elevation of 11,380 feet above the sea. Surrounded by lofty and snow-capped mountains, it might be supposed to possess a

cold, not to say frigid, climate; but its temperature, though cool, is seldom freezing. In what is called the winter season, from May to November, the pastures and fields are dry and withered, more from drought than from frost.

Dr. G. Bayles of Orange, N. J., in 1874, brought before the Public health association the method of disposal of the dead by desiccation. He tersely remarks: "I can hardly conceive it necessary, therefore, in presenting the subject, to center all our thoughts and experimental operations upon one method, and that a reduction solely by means of fire. Has modern chemistry no other resources? Have our electrologists no practical ideas to present, drawn from their magazine of power? Why may there not be a system of thorough desiccation? The desert sands have buried and desiccated many thousands of unfortunate travelers, as well as their camels. We have an unbroken and reliable chain of evidence, sufficient in itself to establish the fact that by excluding moisture and guarding against excessive changes of temperature we can effect desiccation upon whole bodies, and that they would continue entire and inoffensive for a length of time which we cannot measure."

The seed sown by Dr. Bayles fifteen years ago did not fall upon stony ground, as to-day it is bringing forth fruit. The desiccating method, as a proper means for the disposal of the dead, is now engaging the attention of many sanitarians and scientists, and in due time will be presented for public attention and investigation. In this process, as now conducted, the corpse is placed in a chamber constructed with pipes so arranged as to bring fresh dry air into them and conduct it through the casket, and by forced draughts through a central furnace, where all the gases and fluids taken from the body are consumed. The air current is sufficiently rapid to make an entire change in the space every two seconds. When desiccation begins, the chamber containing the body is hermetically sealed, except as respects the inlet and outlet passages for air, which are closed when the process is completed. It is intended to deposit the desiccated remains in mausoleums, which are to be constructed with a view to durability of material, beauty of design and protection from ghouls. The desiccating method has for its basis the fact that in all animal tissue water is present in greater or less proportion, forming about two-thirds of the weight of the whole body. A man weighing 165 pounds, if completely dried, would therefore lose about 110 pounds from the evaporation of water. An opportunity was lately afforded me of inspecting and examining the body of a man undergoing the process of desiccation. The remains lay in a glass covered metallic case, having been placed therein about nine months ago, and at that time weighed 160 or 170 pounds. Judging by the dried up appearance of the body, I presume that to-day it does not weigh over sixty pounds. The muscles of the trunk, and especially of the extremities, are shrunken and hard. The integument is dry and feels leathery to the touch. The countenance looks natural. There is no evidence of any decomposition. A current of ordinary air is admitted to the casket at one end, it freely circulates around the body and escapes through a tube placed at the other end into a chimney or furnace through which all the volatile products pass before mingling with the atmosphere.

The desiccating process has many commendable features. It complies with all the sanitary requirements, and meets the medico-legal demand that the evidence of crime shall not be destroyed. The rapid abstraction of moisture by this method will do away with the factors in the production of ptomaines which might vitiate the result of a chemico-legal examination. This system is devoid of everything that can shock sensitive minds or offend refined tastes. It does not conflict with the widespread and deep-seated reverence felt for the remains of the dead. The mass of mankind looks not only with aversion but with feelings akin to horror on any process that aims at the immediate destruction of the body. This may be all sentiment; nevertheless no amount of specious reasoning can readily or easily overcome the tender and universal deference for the beloved departed, for it is woven into the very warp and woof of the human heart, and has the religion, the tradition, and the custom of centuries associated with it.

In conclusion, it is well to remember

that various important discoveries and many new ideas of science have been ridiculed, declared preposterous, and bitterly opposed. When Benjamin Franklin made the discovery of the identity of lightning and electricity, it was sneered at, and people asked, "of what use is it?" Dr. Peter Barlow, a distinguished scientist, declared the impracticability of the electric telegraph. Sir Humphrey Davy argued against the use of illuminating gas as a project without scientific value or even possibility. The discovery of the circulation of the blood by Harvey was received with derision as the utterance of a cracked brain impostor. When Jenner introduced and established the practice of vaccination as a protection against small pox, the medical profession at first refused to make trial of his process. He was accused of attempting to bestialize his species by inoculating the human system with diseased matter from a cow's udder. Vaccination was denounced from the pulpit as being diabolical, and the most monstrous statements regarding its effects were disseminated and believed.

With these examples in view, it is evident that the introduction of any change in the present method of the disposal of the dead will naturally encounter suspicion, criticism and opposition, except in the case of the method of desiccation, which seems to have been received, so far as presented, with marked favor.

Believe in Man.

Joaquin Miller.

Believe in man, nor turn away,
Lo! man advances year by year;
Time bears him upward, and his sphere
Of life must broaden day by day.

Believe in man with large belief;
The garnered grain each harvest time
Hath promise, roundness, and full prime,
For all the empty chaff and sheaf.

Believe in man with proud belief;
Truth keeps the bottom of her well,
And when the thief peeps down, the thief
Peeps back at him, perpetual.

Faint not that this or that man fell;
For one that falls, a thousand rise
To lift white progress to the skies;
Truth keeps the bottom of her well.

Protecting Wool.

Philadelphia Record.

The Pioneer woolen fabric mill in San Francisco is offered for sale, because no more money can be made in the woolen industry in California.

The woolen yarn factory of Scheppers Brothers in this city stop, by which 500 working people are thrown out of employment.

Hutchinson, Ogden & Co., woolen yarn spinners at Manayunk, suspend.

The Brunswick knit goods factory at Troy, N. Y., go into liquidation because the creditors refused to accept eighteen cents on the dollar.

The extensive Riverside and Oswego Falls mills go into bankruptcy, by which 1,000 operatives have been turned out of employment.

Eben Sutton's woolen factory and other establishments of like character close because of the untoward condition of the woolen industries.

These events and numerous other facts show plainly enough, so far as manufacturers are concerned, that the tariff on raw wool is a sad blunder. While the duties on wools do not check the importation of foreign products, the duty on raw wool makes the home market for domestic fabrics precarious and perilous to American manufacturers. Whatever the organists pretend, intelligent manufacturers are becoming more thoroughly convinced that free wool is absolutely necessary for the prosperity of their industries.

The Australian Ballot.

"It has been intimated," said Massachusetts Secretary of State Peirce to a Boston Post reporter yesterday, "that the Australian ballot law would deprive the independent voters of some of their independence, and place them more than ever under the authority of the party machine and the bosses. It has been said that if a caucus were called for the last night on which it could legally be held, and things were carried on at such a caucus in a high-handed and arbitrary manner, there would be no appeal for the independent voter who desires only straightforward actions. The independent voters would still be a power, however, for they could go out and placard the town with bills calling on honest citizens to vote against the candidates thus nominated by doubtful means. They could also on the day of election stand outside the polling places and peddle stickers to be placed over the names of such candidates just as before the new ballot law went into effect. If they wished they could distribute on the day of election flyers against such obnoxious candidates. There seems to me to be plenty of chance for the independent voter to make himself felt in the ways I have indicated. I believe the law will do a great deal for independence of thought and voting."

In Other Words, You Want to Exchange Goods for Goods.

Chicago Tribune.

Abstract theories of free trade or protection must be put aside while congress makes an effort to increase the export of manufactures and stop the outflow of gold.

NEW IDEAS, METHODS AND INVENTIONS.

A Penny in the Slot Chair.

A chair has been added to the long list of "penny in the slot" contrivances. "The international public chair" is an invention recently added to the rapidly increasing list of automatic aids to personal comfort and convenience. The seat of the chair in question folds up against the back. By the usual method of dropping a penny into a small box fixed to the side it becomes possible to lower the seat, which flies back to its original position on the person rising, not to be lowered again until a further contribution is made. In view, however, of a temporary absence, any small article, such as a folded newspaper or walking stick, placed between the back and seat will prevent the spring from closing. This chair has been adopted with success in Paris and other continental cities, and no doubt would be quite as well received in our own crowded parks, where free seats are too often not available.

New Electric Apparatus for Medical Treatment.

In connection with the recent discussion in the matter of using electric currents to kill people, it is interesting to note that advances are being made in an opposite direction. Henry E. Stammers of New York has recently perfected an apparatus by which the different currents used in medical treatment can be obtained by connecting with an Edison electric light wire or any other direct current system. Hitherto medical batteries have all been chemical batteries requiring a great deal of trouble and considerable expense for the refilling of the numerous cells, cleaning, etc., etc. This new apparatus comprises a galvanic battery, electro-magnetic or Faradic battery, small incandescent light for examinations and storage batteries for galvanic cautery; also for motor when so ordered. The galvanic current is equal to sixty-five cells of first class acid batteries, and can be increased to 130 or more if necessary. The graduation is much finer than any acid battery, starting from nothing and increasing by the fractional part of a milli-ampere, and never varying in value, even though used for hours at a time. The current is turned on and off the same as water or gas, which is a great convenience; no bother with solutions or cleaning of battery; no polarization, the current is constant and always the same from day to day. The electro-magnetic or Faradic, designed especially for this system, comprises two varieties of current, constructed on a new principle: one marked "coarse," giving a volume of current for muscular contractions; the other, marked "fine," is used for allaying pain, etc. The current is turned on and off the same as water or gas; no liquids, no expense for repairs, no failing to work when most needed. Any small incandescent light, from one-half to six or more candle power can be attached, and the necessary current be adjusted to a nicety.

A Test for Tea.

A Russian analyst gives the following as a test by which tea can be proved to be genuine or not: Take a pinch of tea in a glass, pour upon it a little cold water and shake it up well. Pure tea will only slightly color the water, while a strong infusion is quickly got from the adulterated or painted leaf. Now boil both sorts separately, and let them stand till cool, and the difference between them will be most marked. The false tea will become stronger after a long standing, but will remain transparent. Whereas pure tea will become muddy or milky. This last appearance arises from the tannic acid, which is a natural property in pure tea, but which in artificial tea is entirely absent.

A New Tinplate Process Announced.

A Chicago firm has patented an invention which "competent judges say will revolutionize the tin and steel industry of the world," a process by which molten metal may be rolled into any desired shape, "thus saving all intermediate processes." It was invented originally to roll molten solder into tin plates, but the process is pronounced by experts to be equally applicable to iron and steel in its various forms of plates, structural iron and rails.

Utilizing Sewage in England.

The disposal of sewage in London, as in most large cities, is a question of great importance, and the American engineers who are now visiting England were interested in a visit to two sewage disposal works, one at Wimbledon and the other at Kingston-on-Thames. At Wimbledon the district dealt with contains from 30,000 to 40,000 inhabitants, and there is a fine farm under cultivation. Presses are first used (a disinfectant being, of course, employed) for pressing into thin cakes the solid matter in the sewage, then the liquid is used for irrigating the soil, passing from one field to another, till finally, when it enters the river, it looks as clear as a mountain stream. The presses are quite large affairs, horizontally situated, and are made up of a series of separable compartments, the arrangement being such that the liquid passes through textile strainers while the solid matter is detained in these chambers and pressed into large, square cakes, perhaps five-eighths of an inch thick. After the pressing is finished a car is run under the press, the sections separated, and these cakes drop into the car, breaking up as they fall. This is then worked over and sold as a fertilizer. An air compressor is used for obtaining pressure, and the necessary pumps for elevating the sewage are employed.—[Editorial correspondence of American Machinist.

Why Women Get No Short of Breath.

In order to ascertain the influence of tight clothing upon the action of the heart during exercise, a dozen young women consented

this summer to run 540 yards in their loose gymnasium garments, and then run the same distance with corsets on. The running time was two minutes and thirty seconds for each person at each trial. After running the above named distance in gymnasium dress, the heart impulse was 152 beats to the minute, the average natural waist girth being 25 inches. The next day corsets were worn during the exercise, and the average girth of waist was reduced to 21 inches. The same distance was run in the same time by all; and, immediately afterward, the average heart impulse was found to be 168 beats per minute. When I state that I should feel myself justified in advising an athlete not to enter a running or rowing race whose heart impulse was 160 beats per minute after a little exercise, even though there were not the slightest evidence of disease, one can form some idea of the wear and tear on this important organ, and the physiological loss entailed upon the system in women who force it to labor for over half their lives under such disadvantage as the tight corset imposes.—[Dr. D. A. Sargent in Scribner's.

STRAWS WHICH SHOW THE WIND.

Of the 300,000 qualified voters in the city of New York 14,000 pay taxes on property and 260,000 pay rents to those who own the property.—[New York Sun.

Vive la France! The teachings of Henry George, who has just left Paris, are beginning to bear fruit. The government has notified every telephone company in that country that the government will take possession of the lines within twelve months. The service will then be furnished the public at cost.—[Cleveland, N. Y., Press.

Around the banquet table at the "Welcome Home" reception given to Henry George at Coney island a few nights ago, were half a dozen prominent building association officers, who, as single tax men, came to join in the tribute of respect for a great teacher. Henry George, we suppose, has no special knowledge of or interest in building associations, but his proposals and his work should have a special interest for building associations, whose business is to encourage and reward thrift and industry.—[New York Home Seeker.

Taxes on the products of labor tend to restrict production. This is obvious to any one who will think. The tendency of such taxes is to diminish consumption and check exchange, and thus to hinder and make ineffective the natural demand for products of labor to satisfy human wants. Therefore no taxes should be imposed on improvements or commodities.—[Meade County, South Dakota Times.

There are in New York city 40,000 working women receiving wages so low that they must embrace vice, apply for charity, or starve.—[New York Sun.

Our present system of taxation taxes one per cent of the savings of the very rich man in taxation, seven per cent of the moderately rich man's, and eighty per cent of the poor man's. And yet it is the poor man's vote that upholds this gross inequality of taxation.—[Topeka, Kas., Jeffersonian.

The aggregated trust funds in this country amount now to more than a billion of dollars and still they centralize and increase.—[Ithaca, N. Y., Ithacan.

For a city where only 113 years ago the Declaration of Independence was written and signed and free government ostensibly instituted, there are altogether too many idle men standing around and altogether too many little children at work in Philadelphia.—[Philadelphia Union.

We do not care to take sides on this single tax controversy at present. We prefer to read and think about it. But we feel quite sure that "unjust taxation," of one kind and another, is a main cause of the poverty and misery of great masses of our fellow men, and we do not like to see any proposition for the improvement of the condition of the toilers treated flippantly. To call a proposition to abolish, or modify, the hardships of life "social rot" is not, as it seems to us, to contribute anything of value to the discussion.—[Hayes Valley, Cal., Advertiser.

The Labor Market in Free Trade England.

The steady rise of workingmen's wages now going on in Great Britain is so general as to attract attention. The London Statist is particularly impressed with "the facility and smoothness with which labor disputes are being settled to the satisfaction of the working people all over the country, affording highly satisfactory evidence of the social and economic progress made of late by the country. Only a few years ago every attempt either to put up or to put down wages was attended by bitter feeling, and often provoked much violence. Now, however, there is a disposition on the part of employers and employed alike to avoid strikes where possible. There is a readiness shown to discuss, to compromise, and to arbitrate, which is highly encouraging for the future. There is hardly a trade in which wages have not risen during the past year or two, and in some cases the rise has been very great." The miners of Lancashire, Yorkshire and the midlands have gained 30 per cent advance during the past year. Seamen and firemen, the weakest in organization of any class of labor, are now asking and striking for advances.

He Would Need an Elixir of Life to Work Out His Sentence.

Boston Globe.

The poor wretch who is detected in trying to pass a forged check for \$10 usually gets at least five years' imprisonment. Figuring this thing out on a pro rata basis, how long would the Milwaukee attorney who passed \$300,000 worth of forgeries have to live to meet his just deserts?

WHEN SLAVERY WAS A POWER.

From "Reminiscences of Frederick Douglass" in the Cosmopolitan for August.

In 1838, not being disposed to wait for the fulfillment of my hope for the final end of slavery, I "moved away" from Baltimore, Md., to New Bedford, Mass. I was not long, after reaching New Bedford, in witnessing a genuine abolition meeting. It was held in an old, dilapidated, deserted church, at the corner of William and Purchase streets, for at that time nothing better in the way of a building could be procured for such a meeting. Nor was the place entirely unsuitable, in view of the treatment it received at the hands of the mob on this occasion; for, very much to the alarm and consternation of the audience assembled, it was the target for brickbats, stones, unsavory eggs, and other missiles. These were called "pro-slavery arguments," and expressed the sentiments of the mass of the people of New Bedford at that day.

It is interesting to notice what one or two men can do in forwarding a righteous cause in the face of a hostile community. The man in this town who illustrated this power most prominently was Mr. John Bailey, a quiet Quaker, one of the most amiable of men, yet one of the most aggressive in the maintenance of his principles. At his invitation, other abolition meetings were speedily held in the same place, and were addressed by gentlemen distinguished for their eloquence. Among them were Henry C. Wright, Stephen S. Foster, James N. Buffum, Edwin Thompson, Nathaniel Whiting, Edmund Quincy, Wendell Phillips, William Lloyd Garrison, Parker Pillsbury and others. The only one of these early abolition speakers now remaining is the venerable Parker Pillsbury, nearly eighty years old, and still a man of wonderful vigor and activity. It was at one of these meetings that I saw and heard for the first time the late

WILLIAM LLOYD GARRISON.

Then, as now, admitted the leader of the anti-slavery movement. It may have been due to my having been a slave, and my intense hatred of slavery, but no face and form ever impressed me with such sentiments and such hopes as did those of William Lloyd Garrison. I saw in a glance that in him the hour and the man were harmoniously met. His trumpet gave no uncertain sound. He carried his heart in his face. There was no contradiction between the speech and the man. His power was not in a fine flow of dazzling rhetoric, but in his character, his convictions, and his high moral purpose. Though comparatively young at the time I first heard him, his head was bald, and his appearance venerable. Ten years of leadership in a persecuted cause had left their tracery in all his features. In some parts of the country he was an outlaw, and would have been shot on sight. Two states had offered large rewards for his head. He had felt the damp walls of two prisons. With a halter about his neck, in the streets of Boston, he had heard the mad mob cry, "Hang him!" "Hang him!" Yet there he stood, erect, self-possessed, serene, neither bewailing his hardships nor glorying in his triumphs.

One of the earliest and most powerful publications in favor of emancipation was the appeal by

MRS. LYDIA MARIA CHILD.

At the time of writing it she was the most popular woman writer in the United States. Her books were read with pleasure in every state of the union. But after this appeal she was even deprived of the privilege of the Boston Athenaeum, which had before honored her with the freedom of the institution. For teaching colored girls to read, Miss Crandall had been imprisoned in Connecticut. For the same offense, Myrtilla Miner was threatened with a mob in Washington, and a school house was destroyed by a mob in New Hampshire. In New York, Chatham street chapel was assailed, and the store of Arthur Tappan threatened by the mob. Neither the press nor the pulpit offered resistance to this mob violence, and the governments of towns and cities appeared little concerned to keep the peace.

The efforts to shield the slave system and make it respectable only increased its odiousness, multiplied its enemies and hastened its destruction. It was a sorry day for slavery when it attempted to rifle the mails; to abolish freedom of speech, the liberty of the press, the right of the people to assemble, the right of petition; to censure John Quincy Adams and to expel Joshua R. Giddings from congress—for these measures only added fuel to the flame of abolitionism. Mr. Giddings subjected himself to the bitter reproaches of the slaveholders by exposing the bloodhound character of the Florida war, which was notoriously undertaken because the slaves of Georgia found more humanity in the breasts of the Seminole savages in Florida than in those of their Christian masters in Georgia, and preferred to run to the one than to stay with the other.

EVERYTHING HELPED US.

The destruction of the anti-slavery press

of James G. Birney, at Cincinnati; the shameless demand made by our government upon England for compensation for the slaves of the brig Creole, who had nobly gained their freedom on the high seas, and were allowed to land in a British port; the successive attempts to filibuster and capture Central America and the island of Cuba, for the extension of slavery; the expulsion of Hon. Samuel Hoar of Massachusetts from Charleston, S. C.; the annexation of Texas for the purpose of strengthening and perpetuating slavery; the hateful and disgraceful war with Mexico; the effort to revive the foreign slave trade; the enactment of the inhuman fugitive slave bill; the repeal of the Missouri compromise; the cold, merciless, and shocking decision of Chief Justice Taney in the Dred Scott case; the persistent attempt under President Buchanan to force slavery into Kansas by border ruffian warfare; the haughty manners and barbarous behavior of southern members of congress; the murderous assault upon Senator Sumner by Preston Brooks of South Carolina; the branding of the hand of Jonathan Walker for assisting a slave to escape; the imprisonment of Mrs. Douglass in Norfolk, Va., for teaching colored children to read; the murder of Elijah P. Lovejoy, at Alton, Ill.; the burning of Pennsylvania hall in Philadelphia; the hunting of slaves in Boston, Christiana and Syracuse; the hanging of John Brown at Harper's Ferry—were so many links in the chain of events that finally roused the loyal nation to the point of resistance to the aggressive spirit of slavery.

Bad and indefensible upon moral grounds as was the system of slavery,

IT NEVER LACKED DEFENDERS.

The money value of the slaves of the United States was reckoned by Henry Clay, in 1839, at twelve hundred millions of dollars. This was enough to buy the support of parties, presses, pulpits, politicians and preachers. No cause was ever so good that it escaped assault, and none was ever so bad that it did not find earnest defenders.

One is amazed at the calmness and patience of the abolitionists in answering the absurd, contradictory and trivial objections with which they were opposed. They would spend hours and write books to refute the Bible argument for slavery. Now nobody cares to argue the question whether the Bible sustains slavery or not. When there are no slave holders to hunt down slaves, there are no eminent doctors of divinity to write pamphlets and preach sermons in favor of the enforcement of the fugitive slave bill. Paul sending Onesimus back to Philemon lost its significance with the abolition of slavery.

In the office of the New York Tribune, forty-five years ago, Horace Greeley introduced me to General Rusk, a senator from Texas. In the politest tones imaginable that statesman proceeded to argue that my right to myself was an error, and that I was still the property of my southern master.

THE NEGRO AS A MAN.

In this respect he was about as badly off at the north as at the south. Fifty years ago Massachusetts to him was something like what Georgia is to him to-day. He was not permitted in the same railway car, in the same steamboat cabin, or on the same deck, with white persons. When I traveled in public conveyances my color usually secured me the luxury of a whole seat. There were instances, however, when this advantage was denied me. On the New York Central railway, between Geneva and Rochester, I had comfortably gathered up myself at night, in a whole seat, for a nap. Failing to observe my color, a white gentleman approached and asked to share the seat with me. I besought him not to sit down, and told him I was a negro. He answered that he didn't care what the devil I was; he wanted to sit down. Drawing aside to make room for him, I said, "Well, my friend, if you can stand it, I can," and I had with him a very pleasant ride and conversation the whole length of the journey. In a street car in Philadelphia the conductor ordered me out; and Mrs. Amy Post, a white lady sitting beside me, said, "No; he shall not go out." "Does he belong to you?" asked the conductor. "He does," replied the lady. "All right," said the conductor, and I held my place. Thus I could ride in a street car, in the City of Brotherly Love—as a piece of property, but not as a person; as a slave, but not as a free man. This was the absurd homage paid at the north to slavery at the south. No matter how well dressed, intelligent and cultivated a man or woman might be; no matter how white they might be—if suspected of being related to the African race, they were promptly subjected to this contemptible proscription on all public conveyances. Entering a crowded car on the road from Boston to New Bedford, and seeing

BUT ONE VACANT SEAT,

I politely asked the gentleman occupying one end of it if the seat was vacant. He did not deign to answer, but with much show of indignation, rose and saun-

tered off to the rear end of the car, preferring to stand rather than to ride in the same seat with me. A little further on, however, "a change came o'er the spirit of his dream." Honorable John Henry Clifford, at one time governor of Massachusetts, and one of the finest looking gentlemen I ever met, came to my seat and held with me a very friendly conversation. His example at once cured the resentment of my offended fellow-passenger, who, upon opportunity, returned to his seat, and made himself quite agreeable during the remainder of the way. His prejudice was simply cowardice. He was afraid of the frowns of others. On the other hand, I have sometimes met persons who, in their zeal to express contempt for this prejudice, have "overstepped the modesty of nature." A white man, not unknown to me, once took my arm in New York, saying he was not ashamed to walk with me in Broadway. It seemed never to occur to him that for any reason I might be ashamed to walk with him.

Sometimes other men, like my Broadway friend, took pains to remind me that they would rather be in my company than in that of a low, ignorant white man. It is needless to say that I did not feel flattered by the well intended comparison. On the Eastern railroad, running from Boston to Portland, I was several times beaten and dragged from the cars by conductors and brakemen for attempting to ride with other people. A vigorous testimony was uttered by the abolitionists against this senseless and cruel prejudice. The singular thing was that any negro, as already illustrated, no matter how black, could ride in the same car or cabin with his master and mistress, as a slave, but on no condition could he ride as a freeman and a gentleman. As a slave, his bondage made him free. As a freeman, his freedom made him a slave, and compelled him to ride in a miserable box on the railroad, and on the forward deck, with horses, sheep and swine upon the steamboat. On one of the Boston and Stonington steamers I was refused a cabin passage, and compelled to walk the deck all night or stow myself away with deck freight. Wendell Phillips was along and nobly refused to go into the cabin because I was excluded, accepting the rough passage of the deck with myself, as did Professor James Monroe, now of Oberlin, Ohio, on another and similar occasion.

Far-Sighted Julius Walsh.

St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

The water supply of Denver is now controlled by Mr. Julius Walsh, a millionaire of St. Louis. This interesting fact was learned to day, but as Mr. Walsh is now in Colorado the details of his plans could not be learned. The supply of Denver must come from a large lake in the mountains, fifty miles away. The water now furnished the city is inadequate, and as the city is increasing in population and the demand upon it is growing greater, the question is becoming the most important which the city legislators have to consider. The only available source for an increase of the supply, it is said, is this lake up in the mountains. Mr. Walsh recognized this some time ago and he finally secured control of the lake with the intention, it is said, of holding it until Denver or a syndicate of capitalists finds it necessary to construct water works and run a pipe line from the lake to the city. The investment is regarded as one of the best that Mr. Walsh has ever made and he may himself put in the pipe line and erect suitable works for carrying water through it the year through. A great deal of water, with the exception of that from the lake, available for Denver, comes from streams on which are located gold and silver mines. The water after passing a number of these mills is, of course, more or less impure.

Shooting Down Protected Miners.

Albany Union.

Three weeks ago Sheriff Huston, without any justification of legal warrant (being out

of his jurisdiction), shot Daniel Lillies and Andrew Lawler, two Braidwood miners who were peacefully walking to Braceville. The autocratic sheriff, who is a tool of the coal barons, ordered the men to turn back, though he was outside of his county, and as the strikers turned to obey the sheriff fired two shots at them from his revolver. One bullet struck Lillies in the back of the head, inflicting a scalp wound, and as he lay on the ground senseless and bleeding the Pinkerton men with clubs and pistols beat him in a brutal manner. The other bullet struck Lawler in the head, inflicting a slight wound. He was stooping at the time, or the bullet would have crushed through his brain. This is the way miners are "protected."

The troops were called out to watch over fifty Bohemian and Italian laborers who entered the mines of these coal barons. Governor Fifer found out that there was no occasion for calling out the troops, and the adjutant general withdrew them and sent a bill of expense to Manager Sweet. They are now employing fifty experienced Pinkerton detectives, at four dollars a day, to guard fifty Italian laborers, who are working for less than half the detectives receive, but would not pay experienced miners \$1.80 a day. The coal-miners' strike in Illinois is giving us an example of "protection" to benefit the laborer.

About as Reasonable and About as Likely. St. Louis Republic.

It would be precisely as reasonable to expect the Democrats to choose McKinley for their leader as Randall.

Consumption Cured.

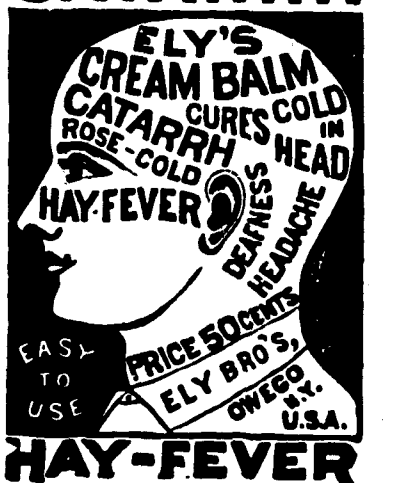
An old physician, retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all throat and lung affections; also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellow-men. Actuated by this motive and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge, to all who desire it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing or using. Sent by mail by addressing with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. Noyes, 149 Power's block, Rochester, N. Y.

The centennial of Washington's inauguration which has been celebrated in such regal style throughout the country, recalls another event for which all our loyal citizens should be thankful, viz: the invention of Pears' soap, the purest, best, most economical, and therefore the most popular of all soaps. For the complexion it cannot be equalled, and its other sterling qualities render it invaluable to all with whom "cleanliness is next to godliness."

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HOW TO PAY FOR THE BRIDGE.

W. A. Phelps in Parkersburg, W. Va., Sentinel.

Again will the seductive levy spread gently over the county of Wood. It will sweetly woo the farm house, the barn, the horse, the cow, the sheep, the hog, the dog, the—no, the cat is kindly spared. Perhaps I do wrongly to mention the fact. I suppose it escaped the memory of the wise man who made the tax laws for the farmer and that it will at once be included on the list; so that next time "Uncle Dick" comes around be prepared to hear: "Any cats? male or female? how many?" and to swear accordingly. "What for?" New bridge across Kanawha. "Well, bridges must be built, and a few cents more or less don't matter. Gee up, Dobbins."

A little snowflake, how soft and white it is; how beautiful it looks in the cold gray light of the winter's evening. Bless the innocent little thing, it could do no harm at all. Why here's another come to join it, and another, and now they come thick and fast! Well, they are so small and innocent that a great many won't do any harm. But the snow falls and falls until the roof groans beneath its weight. Travel is so impeded that starvation is imminent, and all from the little snowflake. Who would have thought it? Just a little tax? Yes, a little on the clothes we buy, a little on the food we eat, the tools we use, the furniture, the house, the farm, the stock, the crops we grow, just a little—but they have grown to be a load. See how the farmer groans beneath the burden, but don't bear it all. Oh, no; look at this woman, she's his wife. See that careworn face and droopy air she has? That's the history of sleepless nights and dead hopes—"Mary wanted a new dress"—*Taxes*. "The children want shoes"—*Taxes*. "How I would like to go to meeting in a new bonnet and a nice dress, so John would feel proud of me, but"—*Taxes*. "Are the farmers tired of carrying their load of taxes?" "Oh, yes, their backs ache, they go in rags, they live on poor food, they must deny their wives and children all the little luxuries that make life pleasant; oh, yes they are tired!" "Don't they want to get rid of the load?" "Yes, indeed!" "Well, why don't they? they had a chance to drop part of it last fall and they voted to keep it on." "Well, you see, the politicians fooled him about that. They made him believe that his load was lighter, because he was making the Englishman take part of it, and if he tried to drop any of it the Englishman would put it all onto him; but that was soon after harvest and he had dust and hay seed in his eyes. He is getting them clear now and beginning to see the joke that was played on him, and four years from now he will drop that part of it, and don't you forget it." "But about this bridge? They are talking of building a bridge that will cost all the way from thirty to a hundred thousand dollars, won't that make him sweat next summer?" "Yes, but there is no way to help that." "There ain't, hey! Did you ever hear of the single tax?" "No." "I thought not; now listen to me and I'll tell you something. Who is going to get the big end of the benefit, the farmer? Oh, no." "Who then?" "Why the land owners in Parkersburg near where the bridge will end. The farmers will build the bridge, and the people passing over the bridge will make the land valuable, and the owner of that land will put that value in his pockets in the shape of rent, or purchase money, see?" "That is so, I never thought of that, it's just robbing the farmers' corn crib, ain't it? but how is your single tax going to help it?" "How! Why this way: What was the ground along the lower end of Market street worth before there were any people in Parkersburg or any houses or bridge there?" "Nothing at all, I suppose." "Certainly not; then who made that land valuable? The whole community, did they not?" "Yes." "Well, we want to take that value for the use of the community. Instead of taxing the farmer to death, till their back aches, and their family is ragged and half starved, we propose to scule that burden down until there is only a "single tax" left, and that will be so light that he will have to get some one to locate it for him, for he won't be able to feel it. Why should the farmer be taxed to build up cities, with their fine houses and paved streets and electric lights and water works and theaters and churches? Don't they? O, yes, they do. You don't know why agricultural land is decreasing in value, do you? You don't know why the boys all leave the farm, do you? Let

me tell you. It's because your wealth is all flowing into the city and stays there. It takes the products of a dozen farms like your's to pay the enormous rent of one of those big business houses. Well, wealth don't grow out of cobble stones, and wealth is the only thing that pays rent. So, my dear farmer, please remember when you grow a bushel of corn next summer, that two pecks will go to land monopoly, one peck for taxes, and you will be lucky if you have one peck left to divide between yourself and the other rascals.

Couldn't Buy Manhattan Island for That Money Now.

London correspondent Minneapolis Journal.

I don't know, of course, whether the cable will send you the report of the most interesting discovery at the Hague, but it can do no harm to mention it here. In examining the public archives at the Hague, the other day, General Grant Wilson had the good fortune to light upon a letter addressed to the states general of the United Netherlands, under date of November 7, 1626, announcing the purchase of Manhattan island by the Dutch West India company, from the Indians, for the magnificent sum of \$24. General Wilson's good fortune, it seems, did not end there. Almost immediately after this first discovery he was so lucky as to find the original deed, which had lain for 263 years among the papers of an old Dutch family. These discoveries were made in the course of researches in which General Wilson was engaged into the genealogy of Mrs. Wilson Bayard, whose ancestors went to the new world in 1647 with the celebrated Peter Stuyvesant, the last of the Dutch governors of the New Netherlands. The general hopes to be able to secure these interesting documents, so that they may remain henceforward in the custody either of the state or of the city of New York.

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The result of the voting thus far has given offh

whole number cast.

67 per cent for the Golden-Rod,

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and the best scattering for numerous other flowers and plants.

The interest in the question has permeated all classes, clergymen and statesmen and poets, teachers and philanthropists, as well as business people and the press, have voted, and it is already interesting to note the preference of some of the best-known persons of the country.

Some clergy men have voted for the Mayflower, but some of the most noted ones declare their preference for the Golden-Rod.

The votes of noted women are most impartially given, although the large number show their preference for the Golden-Rod. Thus, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Edith Wharton, Julia Ward Howe, Julia Ward Howe and Lucy Stone record their votes for the Golden Rod, while Frances E. Willard prefers the Mayflower, Grace Greenwood the Virginia, and the gift of author of "John Ward, teacher," Margaret Deland, the Virginia Laurel. Emily J. Lacey, the famed editor, votes for the Golden-Rod, while the charming actress, Minnie Palmer, chooses the Forget-me-not. Every day report shares the opinion of her fellow net, F. Edwin Booth, Lawrence Barrett and W. H. Crane, that the Golden-Rod is the proper emblem for our country, while Robert Mantel votes for the Mayflower.

Among poets and writers we find further, that John G. Whittier expresses himself for the Golden-Rod while the following all prefer the Mayflower: James O'Rourke, James Redpath, E. L. Godkin, John Boyle O'Reilly and Prof. John F. Co.

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Each ballot entitles to but one vote, and only votes recorded on the printed postal ballots will be recognized.

THE SINGLE TAX MAN AND THE CLERGYMAN.

Adapted from Toronto Grip.



S. T. Man—I just dropped in, sir, to ask if you believe that God made the earth, and if so, that he made it for all his children alike?
 Clergyman—Of course I so believe. God is "no respecter of persons."
 S. T. M.—Then if one man appropriated to his own private use the whole earth, without giving an equivalent of its value, he would be doing an injustice to his fellow men?
 C.—He would, most assuredly.
 S. T. M.—Then if any number of men appropriate any portion of the common heritage, without giving an equivalent to the rest, the injustice would be the same in character?
 C.—True—there's no doubt about that.

S. T. M.—But, if that equivalent were given, wouldn't the equal natural right of all be vindicated and the ends of perfect justice be met?
 C.—Unquestionably; but how can you fix that equivalent, as you call it?
 S. T. M.—Nothing simpler—its annual value to the appropriator; in other words, what the presence of population makes it worth in the shape of rent.
 C.—Yes, that seems reasonable enough.
 S. T. M.—That rental value could be taken in the form of a tax annually, all other taxes direct or indirect being abolished.

C.—I see; that would relieve labor from burdens now borne; but how about landlords?
 S. T. M.—It would extinguish landlordism, that's all. But if, as you believe, God made the earth for all, he never meant that some should live in idleness on the labor of others. "Who will not work shall not eat," you know.
 C.—Young man, there's Christianity and sound reason in these ideas which are quite new to me. Now, if those crank single tax people would devote themselves to something of this sort—
 S. T. M.—Sir, these are the doctrines which the anti-poverty men advocate. Good morning, sir.

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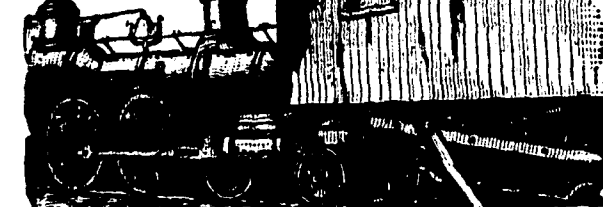
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