

THE STANDARD

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY, BY WM. T. CROASDALE, AT NO. 42 UNIVERSITY PLACE.

VOL. IX.

NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 1891.

No. 16.

THE MINIMUM DEMAND.—It is to be hoped that the men who are "holding over" as the present custodians of Democratic opinions and machinery are wise enough to see that there must be no more attempts to commit their party to the role of an assistant Republican party. Death alone can relieve some of those men of the terror inspired by the words "Free Trade," but death is doing that work quite as rapidly as could reasonably be expected. The so-called Protectionist Democrats are mostly old men and they will not last long. The few exceptions are younger men who are influenced by personal interest, but they will either abandon Protectionism or the Democratic party inside of the next few years. They had better abandon it now if they propose to attempt any more straddles in its platforms.

A few years ago it was regarded as an act of great audacity to declare for a tariff for revenue only, and after such a declaration had been made there arose a school of hair splitting interpreters who attempted to show that there was an important difference between a tariff for revenue only and a tariff only for revenue. One or the other phrase—we forget which—was supposed to be reconcilable with that other incomprehensible thing, incidental protection purposely sought. There must be no more of this nonsense, and no filing of caveats in platforms that there is no intent to reduce the tariff sufficiently to lower wages. Again, the training schools for campaign idiots must invent no more such marching cries as

Don't, don't, don't be afraid;
Tariff Reform is not Free Trade.

The Democratic party is going to need all the votes it can get next year, and it cannot afford to insult a majority of its own members, and alienate the only new recruits it can expect, by such tactics. The people are beginning to understand that the tariff is a heavy burden uncomfortably adjusted, and they would be glad to get rid of it altogether if they could see how to do so. The only thing that holds such people back from Free Trade is a fear that it is what Ingalls would call an "iridescent dream." The man who says he would not bring about Free Trade if it were possible to do so, earns the contempt of these people.

This is demonstrated by the action of the recent Kansas City Commercial Congress. That such a body should demand free silver coinage and numerous paternal performances by the Federal Government was to be expected, since it was composed of delegates from States in which these issues are just now prevalent. But there was a sharp discussion when the "congress" came to consider the tariff question. Probably most of those present were "no-party" men but there were also many Democrats and Republicans there. Most of the "no-party" or third party men were, until quite recently, Republicans. It was, therefore, a most significant fact when the tariff question came up, that with the exception of those who are still Republicans, there was unanimity in expressing unalterable opposition to the protective tariff principle and in favoring a tariff for revenue only.

Here is the one thing on which the revolted Republicans of the West, the uneasy Democrats of the South and the Democrats of the Eastern and Central States are in accord. They cannot now unite on the silver question, they cannot yet join hands on the transporta-

tion question, but they can unite in opposition to Protection and in demanding, so long as any Federal taxes are still raised by tariffs, that such taxes shall be laid with a sole view to the raising of revenue. Nothing short of this will attract toward the Democratic party those revolted Republicans who are clamoring for a third party that will try for half a dozen things at once and obtain none of them. Nothing short of this will satisfy those Democrats whose Alliance sympathies draw them toward a third party movement. Nothing short of this will satisfy the real Free Traders who are weary of conciliating "Protectionist Democrats," and who propose that henceforth *they* shall be the men to be conciliated. There must be no more cowardly compromises and dishonest evasions in the Democratic platforms. On the silver question and some others they must frankly agree to disagree, but on the tariff question they must declare against Protection in any form, incidental or intentional, and treat the tariff as a tax, necessary so long as a substitute is not found, but a burden that people properly desire to lighten as much as possible and to get rid of when they can. This is the minimum demand, and the old Whigs, the Bourbons and Moss-backs in the Democratic party had better begin to adapt themselves to the situation.

NOW FOR REAL BALLOT REFORM.—The attempt surreptitiously to amend the ballot law in the interest of party machines, with a view to making independent nominations ineffective, was participated in by both parties at Albany, and it discredits the pretensions of both to any sincere and intelligent regard for an honest system of voting. Everybody recognizes the many inconveniences attending the multiple ballot system, but so long as that system is maintained it is essential that the provision of the existing law allowing the representatives of independent candidates to place the names of regular party candidates on the special ballots printed by their direction shall continue. To confine the committees representing independent candidates to one ticket is equivalent to the strangling of such movements at their birth. Senator Saxton cannot or will not see this, and his conduct concerning the recent amendments of last year's law has, to say the least, shaken the confidence in him of most sincere ballot reformers.

It is no fault of the advocates of ballot reform that the expense, confusion and inconvenience attending the printing of so many ballots is essential to the maintenance of the right of independent nomination. They never wanted the multiple ballot. They only accepted it when they found that Governor Hill could not be forced or persuaded into signing a bill that provided for the placing of the names of all duly registered candidates on a single ticket. We think they were right in accepting what they could get, because any change from the old system was an improvement, and the change made did give us ballots printed at public expense, and secret booths for the preparation of ballots. If the law had been honestly enforced, it would have accomplished better results, but it did accomplish much good in some districts. What is needed now is a determined effort to enforce it, and to elect members of the Legislature who can be depended on to work and vote

for the real Australian ballot, and no more fooling with expedients and substitutes.

It is an unfortunate fact that as political affairs are conducted in this city it is impossible to run a legislative ticket on an issue like this without bringing in national politics. New York is a Democratic city, and it is entirely right that each of its Democratic districts should be represented in the Senate and Assembly by a Democrat. Furthermore, our local interests would be endangered by the dominance of a party that would accept the rural ideas on taxation, for instance. Nevertheless, in all efforts for municipal reform Republican support always had to be purchased by nominating Republican candidates for offices to which they would have no chance of election in a straight party contest. It is time that this policy was abandoned. Let all who desire the establishment of the Australian system of voting organize at once to elect members of the Legislature who are fit to go there, and who can be depended on to vote for such a law. Let this effort specifically avoid any attempt to alter the political complexion of the representatives from this city. Let Democrats be nominated in districts that party carried last Fall, and Republicans in districts the Republicans then carried. Let the organization have that one issue and, without making State nominations, carry it with State politics, refusing to vote for, and promising to vote against, any candidate for Governor who does not make a specific promise to recommend the Australian system and to sign any bill passed for its establishment.

That will mean business. With a vigorous campaign, and the support of the men who really want fair elections, we could elect several members and make a demonstration that would compel the passage of the bill by the next Legislature. It does not matter whether Governor Hill signs or vetoes the absurd and imperfect bill now before him. The danger, even if we escape it, conveys a sufficient warning. Our only safety is in the so-called "blanket ballot," and we must have it next year in time for use in 1892. Have the ballot reformers the courage to do their duty?

SINGLE TAX CLUBS.—A member of a Single Tax club in a western city writes us that he fears that their club will have to disband because it is hard to raise enough money to pay its rent. He says there are more Single Tax men than ever before, and that they are active in various organizations, but that they neglect the Single Tax club. We have had similar complaints from other cities, but we do not regard them as occasions for regret. It is a mistake to permit any Single Tax club to go out of existence, but the activity of the Single Tax men in other organizations that are actually potential in shaping public opinion is even more important than the maintenance of Single Tax clubs. There is no reason, however, why such a dilemma should ever come about. The trouble with many Single Tax clubs has been that they aimed at the impossible. It is not practicable to have a considerable body of men in each city or town devote time and money continuously to work that shows no immediate results. When a club affording social opportunities can be maintained, a club house is the right thing, but a club room that is not used is a burden that people should not impose on themselves.

The ideal Single Tax club for a small community is one consisting practically of an executive committee and a list of members who can be reached when any occasion requires a meeting of Single Tax men. The committee may meet periodically, but when a meeting of the whole club is called it should be to listen to an address, elect its officers, or to consider some question affecting the town or State in which it is situated.

Such clubs can be maintained at very little cost, and they will attract members who do not care to obligate themselves to attend frequent business meetings, or to listen over and over again to the same speeches. There is no reason why such a club should not exist in every town and village in which fifteen or twenty Single Taxers can be found. Eventually, these organizations should report to the members of the National Committee for their respective States until State committees are formed. For the present they need merely to adopt the platform of the National League and report to the secretary of the National Committee.

In the course of time, when the National Committee is relieved of its petition work, it will probably be able to send out a few lecturers, and then these clubs will be invaluable in getting up meetings. Let them be formed, by all means; but do not let them impose on their members obligations that will interfere in any way with effective individual work.

THE "STORY OF THE WEEK."—In this issue of THE STANDARD we begin the regular publication of a new department, the "Story of the Week." We cannot hope to make it perfect at once, nor even to approach our ideal before several instalments shall have appeared. It will be our aim to give a clear and adequate account of the serious news of the world—the kind of news that becomes history. There is an open field for this kind of work. It is a field that the magazines do not occupy, partly because their articles are disconnected, but chiefly because the subjects with which they deal are often out of the current of discussion before the magazines are able to present them to the public. Neither is the field covered by the daily press. For this there are many reasons. Daily newspapers tend toward sensationalism, and though they do not neglect important news, it usually has a secondary place in the mind of the man at the desk. It is not, on this account, wholly excluded, but it seldom appears in such form as to enable the reader to readily grasp its significance. It is "pitchforked" into the paper, and in effect the reader is told that "he pays his money and he takes his choice."

Men to whom life is something more than baseball and horse racing or a daily round of sensation will corroborate us in saying that through the daily press, as at present conducted, it is impossible to intelligently follow the development of current history without devoting an amount of time and labor to the systematic and regular examination and comparison of newspapers which only men of comfortable leisure can afford. To assist the public in doing this with the least possible expenditure of time and labor on their part is one of the duties of the journalist, and it is our purpose in this new department of THE STANDARD to perform this duty as perfectly as circumstances permit, striving constantly to make the department readable, comprehensive, trustworthy, and free from partisan color.

The frivolous news to which so much space is given in the daily papers will be wholly ignored, but every occurrence, from whatever part of the world reported or to whatever class of events it may belong, whether scientific, religious, social or political, if it relate to serious affairs, will be recorded. Nor shall we merely record these events from week to week. We shall assume that their relations if known to the reader are only vaguely remembered, and seek to make them intelligible to him in all their bearings and enable him to think and reason regarding them. We shall, in narrative form, describe their relations. For example, one of the occurrences of the current week is the letter of Secretary Blaine to Rudini, the Italian Premier. It is a long letter and we cannot publish it in full. To those who

have occasion to see the full text, **THE STANDARD** will be an index to the daily papers in which it is contained, but we give the substance of the letter with sufficient clearness and fullness to enable the reader to understand it. If, however, we were to publish only an abstract of the letter, or even its full text, the reader, whose attention had not before been directed to the subject, would be utterly incompetent to form any opinion respecting its merits or its probable effect, and if he wished to qualify himself to judge of either he would find it necessary to make researches in the daily papers for a long period. This work we save him by giving him, in connection with the news of the week—Mr. Blaine's letter—a story of the preceding events of which that news was the culmination. We aim to do this in such form as to enable the mind of the reader with as little effort as possible to grasp the whole situation.

We find it necessary to close our record with the Saturday preceding our publication day, because the story of a week's occurrences cannot always be written from day to day, the full meaning of many events not being immediately apparent, while many others demand research, of which the items give no evidence until their fullness and accuracy has come to be appreciated by careful readers. One criticism to which such work is sure to be subjected is that some readers will think they have read it all before. If such people will honestly put themselves to the test they will find that they have not read it all before, and that there is much of it that they have not read understandingly at all, for this is not the summary of the news in any one paper, but the result of the laborious reading of all the dailies of New York and many printed elsewhere. Thousands of busy men confess that they cannot find time to read the daily papers. **THE STANDARD** proposes to do this for them, to look up all necessary references and authorities, and to enable every one of its readers in a single hour's reading to keep himself posted as to all happenings of importance from week to week. This department alone will be worth the price of **THE STANDARD** to every busy man, and it will give to every student of public affairs at the end of the year not only a history of that year, but an index to the publications in which the full text of important documents can be found. We know of no other paper that renders this service.

THE SUN AND HANCOCK.—The New York Sun makes no attempt to answer our query as to why it, as a newspaper, failed to print a satisfactory report of an event important enough to be commented on frequently in its editorial columns. All it has to say is this:

Our Single Tax contemporary, **THE STANDARD**, speaks of "the paper that stabbed Hancock in the back," meaning, of course, the Sun. When you wish to abuse this journal and can't find anything else to say, just accuse it of stabbing Hancock.

The truth is that the alleged stab was after Hancock's defeat was accomplished, and was simply designed to condemn him for a foolish, fatal letter he had written some time before, in which he described the tariff as merely a local issue.

This is disingenuous, to say the least of it. The famous intimation that Hancock's only claim to the Presidency was to be found in the fact that he was a good man who weighed 250 pounds appeared in the Sun before election day. His defeat had perhaps been accomplished before that paragraph was printed, but no one can say so with certainty, and certainly the publication of such an utterance before election could only have been made with a view to making his defeat more certain or more overwhelming. The universal feeling among Democrats concerning the animus prompting that utterance is well founded, and this reply to **THE STANDARD** confirms the opinion that the Sun desired the defeat of the Democratic candidate for the Presidency in 1880.

We had always supposed that this desire was due to the failure of the Democratic National Convention to nominate Mr. Tilden. We are now authoritatively informed that the "stab" was "simply designed to condemn" General Hancock "for a foolish, fatal letter he had written some time before, in which he described the tariff as merely a local issue." If the Sun had made this declaration long ago, it would have escaped much condemnation that it has received. There is not a Free Trader in the country who does not agree with it in declaring that General Hancock's letter was foolish and fatal, and that he almost deserved to be defeated on account of it. It was one of the Sun's Protectionist friends who inveigled the General into writing the letter, however, and it was written solely to allay the fears of Protectionists, who called themselves Democrats. Why, then, should it have aroused the wrath of the Sun, a Protectionist paper?

THE PRESIDENT'S TRIP.—Mr. Harrison has been well received everywhere in the South and it would not be surprising if he came back with the idea that he is really a highly popular man down there. This would be a delusion, but a wholesome one for a man who has professed to believe that the Southern States need the villainous bayonet rule proposed by the Force bill, that the President persistently championed during the recent session of Congress. Such trips as that now making by Mr. Harrison rarely accomplish their immediate object, but anything that makes the people of so large a country as this better acquainted one with another, does good. It is well that the people of the South shall see that the present President of the United States is as commonplace in appearance as he is in fact, and it is even more important that Mr. Harrison shall demonstrate to some of his supporters that a Republican President who has advocated the Force bill can swing around the circle with just as much assurance of freedom from insult or injury in the South as in the North.

A BANKER'S BLUNDER.—Some one once said that "men engaged in particular trades often know less of the philosophy of their own trades than the philosopher." The only criticism this remark deserves is that it assumes a knowledge on the part of business men which but few possess. Its better form would be, that "men engaged in particular trades often know *nothing* of the philosophy of their own trades." This is especially true of bankers. A striking example is afforded in the speech of J. Edward Simmons before a committee of the New York Legislature in opposition to the pending bill for reducing the rate of interest from 6 to 5 per cent. He wanted to know if we had enough money in this State, or if we could obtain enough at the present rate of interest; and thought that every banker would say that "the demand for money in this State at the present moment is greater than the supply." Then appealing to "common sense," which was certainly a prayer in the right direction, however vainly it appears to have been made, he asked how we can "expect to increase the supply of money if we lower our bid from 6 to 5 per cent." Here is a distinct acceptance of the fundamental fallacy of the school of unlimited issues. It is in effect a declaration that money itself is scarce. Well may it be asked, then, Why not meet the difficulty by making it plentiful? Money is a mere medium of exchange and governmental token for the extinction of debt. If it is so scarce that it commands any premium at all, why not issue more and extinguish the premium? The truth is that the interest of which Mr. Simmons speaks is not a premium on money, which might be abolished by increas-

ing its volume; it is economic interest for the use of tangible, labor-produced things, which restrictive laws can neither abolish nor diminish. Mr. Simmonds is, no doubt, an excellent judge of promissory notes; and if he were as good a judge of the money function, he would not thus lay broad and deep foundations for those greenback theories which he regards with so much contempt.

THE MUSEUM ON SUNDAYS.—A number of persons are urging the trustees of the Metropolitan Museum of Art to open the museum on Sunday afternoon "for the benefit of working people." The petition ought to be granted without the slightest regard to whether working people, as such, attend or not. All the resistance to the proposal comes from a foolish blindness to actual facts. People do go to the park, and to all other places of resort, by the thousand on every fair Sunday. Many of them prefer to go to beer gardens, and those so inclined apparently have no difficulty in gratifying their desire. The supposition that anything the directors of the Metropolitan Museum can do will have any effect, one way or the other, on the general habits of the people with regard to the observance of Sunday is absurd. The only question open to them is this: Taking it for granted that thousands of people will visit the park every pleasant Sunday, shall those among the visitors who have a taste for art have opportunity to visit the museum? If the object of the Trustees is to encourage such taste they will open their doors. If that is not their object, we cannot understand why they have started the museum or why they contribute money to keep it up. We fear there is a good deal more of stubbornness than conviction about the attitude of these gentlemen.

THE WRONG STATE.—In the course of a recent article complimenting a paper for its presentation of the Single Tax question, we spoke of it as the *Workman*, published at Grand Rapids, Mich. This was a singular slip of the pen, because the paper we intended to mention was the *Workman*, published at Grand Island, Neb. It is an excellent paper, doing good service for the Single Tax cause, and it shows a clear comprehension of the doctrine it has espoused.

THE TARIFF DEBATE IN BOSTON.

MALDEN, Mass., April 17.—The Free Traders and Protectionists of Boston had an opportunity to hear their doctrines defended in Vermont Temple, on the 15th of April, by Thos. G. Shearman, of New York, and ex-Congressman Roswell G. Horr, of Michigan. The meeting was arranged by the Protectionists, and, in consonance with their belief in high taxation, the high prices levied on seats caused the audience to be smaller than was consistent with the importance of the questions discussed. Mr. Albert Clark, secretary of the Home Market Club, presided, and introduced as the first speaker of the evening ex-Congressman Horr.

Mr. Horr began his speech in a very happy vein, as is his wont, and before many minutes had his audience in sympathy with him. Before proceeding very far, however, it was clear that he was strongly inclined to wave "the bloody shirt." He appealed again and again to the prejudices of his audience, and, being well able to raise a laugh at his opponent's expense, secured a liberal share of applause.

When Mr. Shearman stepped to the front, the Free Traders began to brighten. Mr. Shearman has been represented as rather inclined to be statistical, and statistics are never so interesting to an audience as a laugh. Whatever may be the gentleman's usual tactics, he certainly did not dose the people with statistics, but with a master hand wrought havoc with his opponent's statements with his own ammunition. His satirical apostrophe to the McKinley bill, as the author of all prosperity in the United States, evoked rounds of applause and won the hearts of his hearers. Mr. Shearman's arguments were to the point, and answered all the previous speaker's questions which bore on the issue of the evening.

Mr. Horr then followed, but he was not the happy, good-natured man of the early evening. It must be said that, though arguing in public, Mr. Horr lost his head, and his second speech consisted in

representing all Free Traders as traitors, and all Protectionists as patriots. He talked grandly of the "protection to American labor," accorded by the McKinley bill; showed his little pieces of tin purporting to have been manufactured in America; boasted of the linen industry, and what he intended doing with the first yard of linen made in this country; declared that the tax on pig iron had lessened the price, and finally offered to wager Mr. Shearman that the tax on tin plate would lessen the price of tin plate, and suggested that Mr. Shearman "put up or shut up." Such tactics may suit the "wild and woolly West," but certainly in "cultured Boston" they were a little out of place.

Mr. Shearman then took up the question again, as cool, unruffled and gentlemanly as ever. He courteously declined "to put up or shut up," and then proceeded to work. Right here his knowledge of facts and figures stood him in good stead. To refute Mr. Horr's statement regarding cost of pig iron, he showed how more than thirty years ago, before any improvements in the manufacture of pig iron had occurred, and before any tax had been put upon it, pig iron sold in this country for \$18 a ton and the nation did a large export trade in it. Since the tax had been imposed their export trade had ceased, pig iron sold here to-day for \$18.50 a ton, while in England it sold for about \$12 a ton. He also showed that while the duty on pig iron was \$11 a ton, the difference in cost of production here and in England was eleven cents a ton. It is needless to say that this disposed of the pig iron question for the rest of the debate.

Mr. Horr's next remarks were confined to the men who had supported Protection, beginning at George Washington. He eulogized each and every one, and thought that if those men believed in it we safely could, encouraging thinking by proxy, as it were.

Those who expected Mr. Shearman to respond with a like list of opponents of Protection were disappointed. He quietly remarked that he could name as formidable and imposing a list of names of men who had upheld the burning of witches and similar practices. This pleased the crowd, as it was a novel yet complete answer. He then proceeded to show up the characteristics of these men, and certainly Protectionists must have winced when it was shown that Alexander Hamilton supported the theory as the best means of bringing about the aristocracy he so strongly desired.

This ended the debate, and the questions that followed showed who were the thinkers in the audience. Very few questions were asked Mr. Shearman, but the Free Traders plied Mr. Horr with questions faster than he could answer them.

One was, "What brought British capitalists here, and what did they bring with them?" Mr. Horr thought they came because they could do better here, and brought British gold with them. Mr. Shearman here asked leave to put a question. He wanted to know if the capitalists did not bring with them, in exchange for what they got here, some of those hated British "goods?" Mr. Horr said, "No, they brought British gold in shiploads." "Where in Britain is that gold mined?" asked Mr. Shearman. Mr. Horr replied that it was not mined in Britain. Mr. Shearman then asked, "Did any of it come from America?" This, however, was too much for Mr. Horr's endurance, and he cried out emphatically, "No, not a bit of it!" Mr. Shearman looked at him comically a moment, shook his head and took his seat, and the meeting broke up amid roars of laughter.

On the whole the Single Tax Free Traders may congratulate themselves that their cause was represented by so able and gentlemanly a speaker, and the writer, among others, felt proud to shake the hand of the learned gentleman at the close of the meeting.

ELLA M. FRYE.

THE FLOP OF VOORHEES.

The worshipers at the shrine of that prince of milk and water Democrats, David B. Hill, are just now trying to make the public believe they amount to something in a political way, by airing themselves through the columns of such newspapers as will give them space. These airings usually take the form of an interview by some imaginary reporter, and after a series of contortions that evolved nothing of consequence, the alleged interview is represented as ending in about the following manner:

"If Mr. Cleveland should not be available as the Democratic candidate before the next national convention, who do you look upon as being the most likely to receive that distinction?"

"It is too early to advance any opinion on that subject, as the next national convention is a long way off yet, but I think very kindly of Mr. Hill."

Senator Voorhees recently said something like this, vide your reference to the "Tall (but ungainly) sycamore of the Wabash" in the last issue of THE STANDARD, and still later, Senator Pugh delivered himself of almost the same stereotyped utterances. It looks as if these alleged interviews were part of a concerted scheme of a ring in the Democratic party to thrust Cleveland back and push Hill to the fore in the coming contest. There is some significance in the fact that these interviews are, pretty generally, given to the public in the columns of Republican newspapers. With the exception of those organs, like the New

York Sun and Atlanta Constitution, that are more Republican than Democratic, inasmuch as they are advocates of a continuance of a high protective tariff policy, there are very few papers of Democratic proclivities that give currency to such anti-reform sentiment. It is from this class of newspapers that these men receive the greatest encouragement and encomium. Does this fact not teach us that the Republican managers fear Mr. Cleveland more than any other man as a possible candidate in 1892? It does, and it should be considered as a great and known quantity in determining the conduct of those who will be called upon to shape the action of the next Democratic National Convention.

I was surprised at Voorhees' action in flopping back into his old position as a spoilsman. It shows that for personal gain he resorted to the basest deception. When he voted to retain the duty on coal some two or three years ago, the Indianapolis Sentinel rebuked him very severely. From this time on until he squared himself, the sentiment against his return to the Senate was very marked and growing in intensity. As soon as Congress adjourned, however, he set about the task of purging himself of the bad record he had made, and some time later a barbecue was announced for Rockville, Ind., at which the Senator was to deliver his key-note speech. He delivered it and it was a hummer, one of the most radical speeches that had ever been made in Indiana. A day or two later he told Frank Blue, of Terre Haute (the Senator's home), that he had culled some of the best points of his address from THE STANDARD.

This speech had the effect he anticipated and desired. The sentiment immediately veered in his favor, and from that time 'till the Legislature met no other man was considered as his opponent for the position, and he was unanimously chosen by the caucus. Thus it will be seen how his present action ill comports with his conduct when his official life was in jeopardy.

I consider Mr. Cleveland the strongest man by all odds that the Democracy can put up in '92, his silver letter to the contrary notwithstanding.

He displayed courage at a time when devotion to principle was needed, an invaluable service to the people by nipping in the bud a movement for the displacement of the Tariff question by a minor issue. The people will recognize this long before the time comes for casting the ballots, that will again make him the chief executive of our land. I fully concur in the attitude of THE STANDARD. Money men are divided. Single Tax men are not. Let us stick to the single question upon which all agree until it is settled.

St. Louis, Mo.

L. P. CUSTER.

JUST TAXATION.

The sphere of just taxation is necessarily limited exclusively to the just and equitable collection of the necessary government revenues. Its province is neither to restore stolen property to its rightful owners, nor to confiscate it to the State. That is the function solely of criminal law. Thieves and robbers can justly be dispossessed of their plunder only after due trial and conviction in our courts. To attempt retrieving stolen property, by a uniform assessment on all property, is to punish alike the innocent with the guilty. By thus taking from the innocent what is not hers, the State commits the very crime of theft for which she punishes the individual. Underlying the whole question of just taxation is that of the just rights of property. The whole system rests on the individual's exclusive right to his own production, founded on the premise that all wealth belongs exclusively to its creator.

There are, in the world, two kinds of property, (1) that produced by the individual, and (2) that which the individual did not produce. Failure to comprehend the Single Tax is mainly due to failure to comprehend clearly the distinction between these two kinds of property.

Admit that the individual has an exclusive right to himself, and logically you must admit also his exclusive right to the product of that self—that is, to the fruit of his own labor. This exclusive right must also carry with it the unrestricted right to use, trade, give, will or bequeath that product as he chooses, so long as he thereby infringes no equal right of another, nor inflicts on others any physical injury.

But, in order to guarantee him in this exclusive, this sacred right, it becomes necessary that no other man shall be allowed to forcibly take or exact from him, under any pretence whatever, even the most infinitesimal part or share of what he has thus produced.

Now, if no one man has a right to take from this individual even the smallest imaginable share of his individual product, then neither have two men the right to do it. Neither have ten men, one hundred men, one thousand men, one million men, nor sixty-five million men (even though banded together under the name of United States Government), the right to forcibly take from him, under the name of taxation or any other, one iota of that individual production.

What the individual has made or produced belongs exclusively,

undividedly, solely and sacredly to him, and to him alone, as against the world, not even the State having a right to force him to yield up a share.

And, even when that individual property passes from the original producer's hands in exchange for other individual products to supply his wants, this inherent right of exemption from outside thievery, by individual or State, remains intact.

The second class of property is that which the individual alone did not make—the earth and unearned increment.

The earth not having been made by any individual, is consequently not individual, but common property, and belongs equally to all men. As with a vessel jointly owned, it is impossible to cut up and divide the earth so as to give each his pro rata share. Therefore, the only way, as with the ship, is to divide the income from it among the owners. With it comes that increased value of land which is created by the community or the government. This and this only, if anything, belongs to its creator, the government—and to the government it should go.

If, by better schools, better streets, better transportation facilities, better fire-fighting appliances, better police protection, etc., in any section, life and property are rendered more secure or enjoyable, the increased advantage is at once reflected in increased land values. And as the land owner thus eventually reaps the whole pecuniary benefit of government, it is but just that he should bear its whole pecuniary expense.

It has been objected that a land tax would not yield sufficient revenue to support the Government. If this were true (which we deny), it would simply prove that the pecuniary cost of government was greater than its pecuniary benefits. It would only prove that the total annual benefits of the Government—which are fully summed up in the total annual rental values of land—are less than government annually costs. And Government has no more right than the individual to take anything without giving an equivalent in return. Its right to tax is only in proportion to the benefit it bestows. Forcibly taking anything beyond that is as much robbery when done by the Government as when done by the individual. If there is such a thing as unearned increment—rental values of bare land—that and that only can the Government have any right to take.

This is the logical doctrine of the Single Tax, to deny or overthrow which is to deny and overthrow all the just rights of property, and to enter, without compass, chronometer or guiding star, on the trackless ocean of chaotic ownership.

Under the present system we must support both the Government and the idle landlord, whom it licenses to take what really belongs to it, and then, in lieu thereof, year by year, it perpetually confiscates, by other than land taxation, an equal amount of our property. Under the Single Tax we would support the Government only, and let those landlords shift for themselves. If, to take from the innocent purchaser, without compensation, a stolen horse, and return it to its rightful owner, is not confiscation, then neither is it confiscation to return our stolen domain to its rightful owners. Buyers can purchase no better titles than sellers have to give.

Boston, Mass.

D. WEBSTER GROH.

HOW THE PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX WORKS.

The following item was clipped from the San Francisco Chronicle of February 27:

Very recently several million dollars of certificates were received at the Sub-Treasury in this city, but they have all disappeared. The cause of the sudden demand for Government notes lies in the fact that on Monday next the State and municipal assessments will be levied, and the banks are anxious to get rid of their money "on hand." Within the past week the Sub-Treasury has received over \$3,000,000 in gold from the banks, giving notes in exchange not subject to taxation. In round figures the amount of money which will escape taxation by this artifice will not be less than \$5,000,000. The State and county will lose \$100,000 in taxes.

Having been an employee of the Assessor's office for some years past, and having had access to all statements filed, I am in a position to vouch for the truthfulness and accuracy of the above article.

The assessment laws of this State provide that a sworn statement of all personal property in one's possession at 12 o'clock noon on the first Monday of March in each year, shall be made and filed with the Assessor of each county; and every year, at just about the aforementioned time, all our banking institutions find it convenient, and, I dare say, deem it proper and in keeping with the principles of good government, to convert their money into government notes, and thereby escape taxation. Not only is this practice carried out by our banking firms, but our large mercantile houses, wholesale and retail, consider it to their interest to deposit in bank all their money on hand, thus shifting their responsibility and feeling assured at the same time that the banks will not be caught napping.

While our mints are running to their full capacity, and placing in circulation vast amounts of money, yet it is a matter of record (vide Assessor's Personal Property Roll) that the amount of "money on hand" grows beautifully less yearly.

In striking contrast to this palpable evasion of the law by the rich,

the poorer and middle classes are forced, under penalty of the law, to file a sworn statement, setting forth all their earthly possessions, and are closely and rigidly questioned relative to the value of their belongings, and should the Assessor be in doubt as to the contents of an affidavit, he forthwith sends his deputy to summarily and arbitrarily assess the unfortunate individual. In this manner is the law vindicated. What a howling farce such a system is, indeed.

San Francisco, Cal.

W. C. McClosky.

STORY OF THE WEEK

ENDING SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 1891.

WESTERN COMMERCIAL CONGRESS.—The first meeting of this body, composed of representative men from both the northern and the southern sections of the West, began at Kansas City, Mo., April 14, and adjourned April 17. The idea originated with State Senator Kelly, of Kansas, a Republican Protectionist. By means of Senator Kelly's influence, the Kansas Legislature was induced by concurrent resolution to appropriate the necessary funds and to authorize Governor Humphrey to invite the co-operation of all the States west of the Mississippi River, together with Mississippi, Alabama, Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, Michigan and Ohio. It was intended that the Congress should be composed of members of the Legislatures of the States comprised in the call; but this idea was abandoned, and the Governors appointed delegates instead. Several commercial organizations also sent representatives.

As a preliminary, an Executive Committee had been appointed, of which Senator Kelly was chairman. In that capacity he called the convention to order, and on motion of Governor Francis, of Missouri, was elected temporary chairman.

On accepting the chair, Senator Kelly delivered an address, which was loudly applauded until he announced that he was a Protectionist. Then, in the language of a local paper, "a heavy, solemn silence prevailed." The sentiment of the Congress on this point was soon after strongly emphasized by enthusiastic applause when Governor Francis said, "we need freer trade with the Old World, as well as with South America, Mexico and Canada."

President Harrison sent a letter in which he wrote of the necessity of larger markets; of his preference for a home market; and of the impossibility, according to his view, of attaining a largely increased market for our staple farm products without impairing our home market by opening manufacturing trades to a competition in which the foreign producers, paying a lower scale of wages, would have an advantage. He also remarked the concession farmers make, when they insist that prices of farm produce are too low, that things may be too cheap; and suggested that coal as well as corn may be too cheap. Of the currency question, he said that any dollar issued by the United States, paper or coin, must be made and kept as good as any other dollar. The more of such money the better. But when any dollar is valued at less than any other we have passed the limit of safe experiment in finance. In conclusion, he expressed a long-cherished belief in bi-metalism; and favoring the fullest use of silver compatible with the maintenance of the parity of the gold and silver dollar; he opposed silver monometalism.

Letters were read from Senator Pepper, of Kansas; Secretary Rusk, Michael DeYoung, of California; Charles Francis Adams; ex-Senator Farwell, of Illinois; and H. K. Thurber, of New York.

For the permanent organization the following officers were chosen: Chairman, Governor Francis, of Missouri; secretary, J. W. Springer, of Illinois; treasurer, W. A. Cox, of Missouri; vice-presidents, P. P. Elder, of Kansas; W. T. Rolph, of Kentucky; George H. Barbour, of Michigan; E. C. Ridley, of Minnesota; J. S. Madison, of Mississippi; Nathan Frank, of Missouri; W. J. Bryan, of Nebraska; C. G. Jones, of Oklahoma; P. D. Wood, of Louisiana; W. H. Cate, of Arkansas; W. C. Conner, of Texas; W. M. Ferry, of Utah; E. P. Wilson, of Washington; P. E. Crumley, of Ohio; R. M. Widney, of California; A. L. Welch, of Colorado; T. L. Long, of Alabama; James H. Barnett, of Iowa; George G. Tanner, of Indiana; Frank H. Jones, of Illinois.

On the second day, ex-Governor Glick, of Kansas, spoke to the question: "General Business and Agricultural Depression—Cause and Remedy." He attacked high tariffs and demanded low tariffs with a greater free list—the raising of the boycott we have placed on American commerce,—and an increase of the volume of currency. He was followed by Speaker Elder, of Kansas, who opposed reciprocity, because it applies only to South American commerce. The next speaker was Dr. Parsons, delegate from the Agricultural Department at Washington; after whom came U. S. Hall, president of the Missouri Farmers' Alliance. Mr. Hall attributed agricultural depression to three causes—high tariffs, low volume of currency and excessive passenger and freight charges. The tariff question he regarded as the most important of the three. The next speaker and the last at the morning session was State Senator McKelvey, of Ohio, who regarded the enormous patronage of foreign markets, which transfers millions of dollars to foreign producers at the very

time that money is needed most at home, as one of the gravest causes of depression in American commerce.

At the afternoon session the report of the Committee on Rules, allowing each delegate one vote, was discussed. Smalley, of Minnesota, Niblach, of Indiana and Terry, of Arkansas, argued that each State should be allowed the same number of votes; but they were defeated and the report was adopted. On the call of States for resolutions an abundant variety was offered.

The principal speaker in the afternoon was Congressman Crisp, of Georgia, who is reported to have given "an hour of Free Trade, properly guarded." The evening session was taken up with the discussion of local subjects.

The Committee on Resolutions, of which E. V. Smalley was chairman, reported on the third day. By a vote of 11 to 8 it recommended free and unlimited coinage of silver; and legal tender notes, redeemable in both gold and silver, sufficient to restore the equilibrium between money and all other products. It denounced the protective tariff principle; and favored the passage, as early as practicable, of laws placing the tariff on a purely revenue basis. The control of inter-State commerce and the improvement of water ways by the general Government was approved. A long list of special demands bearing on the latter point, was incorporated in the resolutions; and in a varied collection of minor proportion, recommendations for the settlement of Indians on lands in severalty, for the exclusion of undesirable immigrants, and for the abolition of alien land ownership, were incorporated. The minority report indorsed reciprocity, demanded continuance of present tariff laws until tested, and objected to the legal tender and free coinage resolutions of the majority report. It also proposed a non-partisan tariff commission. It opposed a tariff for revenue only, and supported the "time-honored, patriotic American principle, that in all tariff laws a moderate protection to American industry should be kept in view."

These reports produced a hot debate. Mr. Smalley spoke for the minority. After a debate between him and General Warner on the silver coinage issue, a viva voce vote on that clause of the minority report was taken and it was defeated. Mr. Smalley then said, referring particularly to the tariff issue, that there had been too much politics in the committee and that the tariff and silver resolutions were adopted by a strict party vote. He did not expect, on accepting the chairmanship of the committee, to have the Democratic platform crowded down his throat, and intimated that the purpose of the Congress was to weld together the Democrats and the Farmers' Alliance. Speaker Niblach, of Indiana, denied the charge that there had been partisan discussion in the committee. After several prominent delegates had participated in the tariff debate, General Warner offered the following as a substitute for both reports: "We favor neither Free Trade nor the exclusion of trade, but favor a tariff for revenue limited to the actual needs of the Government, economically administered, but so levied as to cover differences in the industrial conditions between this and other countries, but not to create or foster monopolies." As a substitute for both reports the resolution was ruled out of order, but being renewed as a substitute for the minority report, it was adopted.

The debate on the minority report as amended then began and soon became acrimonious, the minority members of the committee asserting that the Congress was nothing but a Democratic convention. Several Republican delegates withdrew. The minority report being put to a vote, viva voce, was defeated, the Warner substitute and all.

The majority report revived exciting debate. Finally a vote was taken by call of States, and the report was adopted—66 to 55. The resolutions, as reported by the majority, were then adopted as a whole.

This done, Mr. Smalley, arising to a question of personal privilege, said the Congress had degenerated into a Democratic pow-wow, and as a non-partisan delegate, he desired to resign the chairmanship of the Committee on Resolutions. He withdrew.

After an Executive Committee had been appointed from the various States, and authorized to call the next meeting, the Congress adjourned.

THE FARMERS' ALLIANCES.—Frank McGrath, President of the Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union of Kansas, calls a meeting of that organization at Cincinnati, May 19 next, to confer relative to the national gathering to be held in that city. The national gathering referred to was recently called by C. A. Power, of Indiana, and others. Its purpose is to unite all the discontented elements of the country in a third party, and McGrath evidently approves the purpose, for in his address to the body over which he presides in Kansas he writes that unless the South unite with the Northwest in a third party, the Northwest will give its old time majorities.

The significance of McGrath's act will be more apparent when it is understood that his body belongs to what is known as the

"Southern Alliance," while the third party conference to be held at Cincinnati in May is a political offshoot of what is known as the "Northern Alliance." These rival organizations are described by Louis F. Post in his article entitled "The New Party in Kansas," in THE STANDARD of March 18, 1891.

It is important to know, also, that McGrath, though a member of the Alliance, was, until nine months ago, an active and shrewd Republican politician. He attended the Republican Congressional Convention of the Sixth District to secure the renomination of the then incumbent. Failing in that he bolted the convention and became so ardent a People's Party man that when the State Alliance elected a president to succeed Congressman Clover, it selected McGrath. In the following Winter, when the Senatorial contest was at its height, an Alliance newspaper published a letter purporting to have been sent to McGrath by the then member of Congress from the Sixth District, for whose renomination McGrath had unsuccessfully worked, in which McGrath was promised a sum of money for secret support for the Senate of his quondam protege. An investigation was begun, but hushed, lest an adverse report against the president of the State Alliance might prejudice the Alliance in the pending Senatorial fight.

At a secret conference of leaders of the Iowa Alliance (Northern) at Des Moines, the advisability of suggesting a Gubernatorial nominee to the Republicans was considered; and the encroachments of the Southern Alliance, which is rapidly absorbing the Northern in Iowa, were discussed. It is understood that harmony, relative to the second matter, was recommended, and that a recommendation for Governor was considered as impolitic, but it has since been reported that a name was selected to be presented to the Republicans as that of their candidate for Governor.

The Ohio Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union (Southern Alliance) organizes at Columbus with Alva J. Agee for president.

THE ITALIAN CONTROVERSY.—Mr. Blaine has communicated to the Government of the King of Italy the position of the United States regarding the questions now in dispute between the two nations. Those questions arose out of the lynching in New Orleans of natives of Italy, still subjects of the King, who were in custody charged with murdering the New Orleans Chief of Police.

There were in Italy, if there are not yet, two great societies organized for brigandage, the Mafia of Sicily and the Camorra of Naples. The Mafia, though it has at different periods borne different names, originated in the middle ages. It is a government within the government—a law unto itself, and death is the only punishment it inflicts. At one time the society was powerful beyond control; but since the annexation of Sicily to Italy and the strengthening of the Italian Government, it has declined. In Louisiana, however, where there has been considerable immigration from Sicily, the society grew until it attracted the attention of the police at New Orleans, and measures calculated to suppress it were undertaken. While these were in progress, Chief of Police Hennessy was murdered in the street. The crime was charged to the Mafia, and criminal proceedings were instituted against several Sicilians, some of them wealthy men, and one of them consul for Bolivia, who had fallen under suspicion.

The proceedings culminated in a jury trial, which closed on the thirteenth of last March. As to two of the prisoners the jury disagreed, but all the others were acquitted. Proof of guilt had been so convincing, except as to two of the prisoners against whom nothing criminal was shown, that the judge who presided at the trial expressed from the bench his astonishment at the verdict. Immediately upon the publication of the news the city was in a ferment of indignation. A public meeting was held at Clay's statue, and inspired with the idea that the jury had been either bribed or intimidated by the Mafia, it adjourned, after several violent speeches, to the parish prison where the acquitted prisoners had been remanded on another charge. The prison was soon surrounded by an immense throng. Armed men forced open the doors, and rushing into the building hunted out and summarily killed the objects of the popular rage.

Communication with the State Department of the United States was immediately opened regarding the subject by the representatives of the Italian Government, and Mr. Blaine, after a conference between himself, the President and the Italian Minister, sent a telegram to Governor Nicolls, of Louisiana. In this telegram Mr. Blaine said it was represented that subjects of the King of Italy were among the victims of the massacre; that our treaty guarantees to Italian subjects constant protection and security; and that the President deeply regretted the occurrence, and hoped Governor Nicolls would co-operate with him in maintaining our national obligations toward Italian subjects still within the perils of the excitement, and that all offenders against the law might be brought to justice. Governor Nicolls acknowledged receipt of Mr. Blaine's telegram in a letter which explained that the mob had not acted against Italians as such; that the trouble was at an end; and that the Grand Jury

was then investigating the whole subject under a charge from the court.

Negotiations between the United States and Italy continued. In the course of them Baron Fava, Italian Minister, brought to the State Department a translation in his own handwriting of a telegram from Marquis Rudini, the Italian Premier, by which the Italian Government demanded the punishment of the murderers of the Italian subjects in New Orleans, and an indemnity for the victims. This message also informed the department that public opinion in Italy was impatient, and gave notice that "if concrete provisions were not at once taken," open dissatisfaction would be shown "by recalling the Minister of His Majesty from a country where he is unable to obtain justice." This was Rudini's first message. Upon delivering it Baron Fava announced his peremptory recall, and soon after, he took passage for Italy. Communication between the two governments has since been carried on through the Marquis Imperiali, the Italian Chargé d'Affaires, through whom Mr. Blaine replied to Rudini's message by declaring that the United States distinctly recognized the principle of indemnity to those Italian subjects who were wronged by a violation of the treaty of 1871, but was unable to give assurance in advance of a trial and verdict of guilty that the murderers would be punished. Mr. Blaine's reply having been conveyed to the Italian Government, Rudini, by a second message, directed the Marquis Imperiali to explain that nothing was asked by Italy but the prompt institution of judicial proceedings through regular channels, and to repeat that demand, with the assurance that until the Federal Government should have explicitly declared that regular proceedings should be promptly begun, the "diplomatic incident" could not be considered as closed. Rudini noted also in this communication the recognition by Mr. Blaine "that an indemnity is due to the families of the victims in virtue of the treaty in force between the two countries."

This communication was delivered by Imperiali on the 2d of April. For several days it remained unanswered, and rumors were current that unless an answer was received by the 11th the entire Italian Legation would be recalled, and our Minister at Rome sent home. Later rumors changed the time limit to the 14th, and still later ones denied that any limitation had been fixed or threat made. Meantime, no information could be obtained from the State Department. But on the 15th, Mr. Blaine's letter, dated the 14th, was given out for publication, and appeared in the papers of the following day. This is the letter already referred to as stating the position of the United States regarding the question between this country and Italy, which arose out of the New Orleans lynching.

Mr. Blaine disclaims at the outset any desire to change the meaning of Rudini's telegram regarding proceedings against the lynchers; and for the purpose of showing that Rudini's second message contained a material qualification and not a repetition of the demands of the first, he quotes from Baron Fava's translation of the first: "Our right, therefore, to demand and obtain the punishment of the murderers and an indemnity for the victims is unquestionable." Beyond this no further attention is paid to Italy's first demand.

Proceeding to the second demand, that relating to indemnity, Mr. Blaine says in substance:

I did not "recognize that an indemnity is due to the families of the victims in virtue of the treaty in force between the two countries;" but in answer to Baron Fava's assertion that our Government refused to consider the demand for indemnity, I said that we distinctly recognized the principle of indemnity to Italian subjects injured by a violation of rights secured by treaty. This assurance leaves unsettled the question whether the treaty has been violated. On this point the President, after examining the facts and taking full time for decision, directs the submission of certain consideration to the Italian Government.

As a valuable precedent, reference is made to a similar question arising under our treaty with Spain. In 1851, a mob in New Orleans attacked the property of Spanish subjects, including the Consul; and American citizens were involved in the losses. The Spanish Minister demanded indemnification, and Mr. Webster, then Secretary of State under President Fillmore, admitted the right of the Spanish Consul, but denied that of the Spanish subjects. The latter, he held, were entitled only to such protection as is afforded to our own citizens. Congress subsequently indemnified the Spanish Consul and also the other Spanish subjects; but this was in recognition of pardons from the Queen of Spain to Americans who had been sent to the mines for invading Cuba, and was held not to contravene the original position of Mr. Webster. The right of judicial remedy is assured to the Italian subjects, as it was to those of Spain. Their widows and children may sue leaders and members of the mob—either in the State or the Federal courts.

There are, however, some differences between the Spanish case and this. In that, no personal injury was offered; the authorities tried to preserve peace; and the mob acted in the heat of blood, and not pursuant to any plan, and was composed of irresponsible and unknown persons.

In this case the President has instructed the Attorney-General to

make full inquiry, and report whether criminal proceedings will lie in the Federal Courts. If a Federal prosecution can be maintained, the case will be presented to the next Federal Grand Jury. If, as seems probable, criminal proceedings can be taken only in the courts of Louisiana, the President can do no more than to urge performance of their duty on the State officers. If the usual procedure is not resorted to by the State, it will then be the duty of the United States to consider whether some other form of redress may be asked. While the State Grand Jury is investigating the affair, the United States cannot assume that it will fail to present indictments.

The United States did not, by its treaty with Italy, insure the lives or property of Italian subjects. The treaty limits the rights guaranteed to citizens of each nation in the territory of the other, to equal treatment and free access to the courts. Foreign residents are not made a favored class. Where injuries to foreigners are not acts of the Government or its officers, but of a mob, it is believed that there is no right of indemnity, unless the peace officers have connived at the outrage, or, having timely notice, have grossly neglected necessary precautions. If, therefore, it should appear that Italian subjects were among those killed by the New Orleans mob; that they were domiciled agreeably to our treaty, "and not in violation of our immigration laws;" that they "were abiding in the peace of the United States and obeying the laws thereof, and of the State of Louisiana;" and that the public officers were guilty of connivance or gross neglect, and have refused to bring the guilty to trial, the President would feel "that a case was established that should be submitted to the consideration of Congress, with a view to the relief of the families of the Italian subjects who had lost their lives by lawless violence."

In the Chamber of Deputies at Rome, Rudini, on the 15th, offered a narrative of the affair, in which he said that, even if a favorable solution of the problem were not obtained, no grave complications would arise; but it would be a matter of profound regret that a civilized people like those of the United States should ignore the principles of right and justice universally proclaimed and scrupulously observed in Europe.

THE CONNECTICUT DEADLOCK.—Proceedings are begun in the courts of Connecticut to determine the claims of Luzon B. Morris to the office of Governor of that State.

At the election last Fall the Democratic candidate was Judge Morris, the Republican candidate was Samuel E. Merwin, and there were a Prohibition and a Labor candidate. Elections in Connecticut are held at town meetings, which are literally mass meetings of all the voters of the "town," or "township" as in some States it is called. The Town Clerk calls the meeting to order, and a Moderator is chosen by a *viva voce* vote from the voters present. The Moderator decides all questions; but in accordance with parliamentary practice, his decisions are subject to reversal on appeal to the meeting, which remains in open session until the votes are counted and certified. When the count is complete, lists of the persons voted for, showing the number of votes given for each, are made and certified by the Moderator, and on the results as shown by these lists, it is the duty of the Legislature to declare the election.

The Moderators' lists last Fall gave 67,662 votes to Morris, 63,976 to Merwin and 3,660 to other candidates. Here was a clear plurality for Morris. But by the constitution of the State a majority is required to elect, and the legal proceedings instituted this week are intended to determine whether the plurality candidate also had a majority of all the votes cast. On the face of the returns his majority was 26. It was claimed by the Republicans, however, that in some towns illegal votes had been counted, and in others legal votes had been rejected, sufficient in the aggregate to extinguish this small majority.

When the General Assembly met in January, lists showing the results as reported by the Moderators were officially laid before that body, whose constitutional duty it then became, in the separate Houses, to declare the result; and if no person appeared to have a majority, then to proceed on the second day of the session, by joint ballot of both Houses, to choose from the names of the two persons having the greatest number of votes. Accordingly, the Senate on the first day declared the election of Morris and all the other Democratic candidates. The House, through a committee, reported that no person had received a majority. It then became necessary to proceed to joint ballot on the second day of the session; but the House, instead of adjourning, took recesses from day to day and claimed that thereby the second legislative day was postponed. On that theory it has not yet arrived.

This made a deadlock between the two Houses, and Governor Bulkeley, whose term had expired in January, remained in office under the constitutional provision that State officers shall hold office until their successors are duly qualified.

The Senate recognized Morris as Governor, and Governor Hill, of New York, refused to honor two extradition warrants for fugitive criminals, issued by Bulkeley. But Bulkeley has continued to hold and to exercise the functions of the office.

Several efforts to compromise the deadlock were made. The "Judson bill," passed by the House, enabled the candidates to bring the question into the courts, which, if they should find that no person had received a majority, or that ballots were illegally cast or rejected, were to enter judgment accordingly, and the General Assembly was to make declaration in conformity to the judgment. When the "Judson bill" came to the Senate, Senator Seymour moved to substitute what came to be known as the "Seymour bill." This provided that the Democratic candidates should be recognized *prima facie*, as incumbents of the respective offices for which they were candidates; that within ten days the Republican candidates might institute proceedings in the Supreme Court, whose decision should be final; and that until the validity of the election should be determined, Morris might make no appointments except to his personal staff. The so-called "Thayer bill" in the Senate was offered as a substitute for the Judson and the Seymour bills. After requiring that a majority should be necessary to elect, and that in cases of mere plurality the General Assembly should select, it provided that if the General Assembly did not do so on the first or the second calendar day of the session the plurality candidate should take office. Ex-Gov. Waller, being consulted by the Democrats, proposed as a compromise the submission of the question to popular vote. He did not pretend that there was any constitutional authority for this, but argued that as arbitration seemed to be necessary, it was safer to submit the controversy to the whole people than to the courts.

This was the situation until early in April, when the House adjourned until the second Wednesday in November. The Democrats endeavored to prevent adjournment by withdrawing and leaving the House without a quorum; but five Democrats were unable to retire from the hall in time to escape the Speaker's eye, and the Republicans refusing to excuse them, the quorum was complete and the motion prevailed.

The affair remained in this condition until the beginning of proceedings before the courts in the present week. These proceedings are brought in the name of Morris against Gov. Bulkeley, and are what is known as *quo warranto*, a proceeding intended to compel a defendant to show to the court by what right he holds an office. Lest the former Lieutenant-Governor might claim to hold over as Bulkeley's successor, if Bulkeley should be ousted, a proceeding is instituted by J. W. Alsop, the Democratic candidate for Lieutenant-Governor, against the Lieutenant-Governor whose term expired with that of Governor Bulkeley.

It is feared that the courts may decide against Morris without determining the real question in controversy, on the ground that he can have no claim to the office even if he received a majority, until both Houses of the Legislature shall have declared the result in his favor.

NEW YORK.—The Committee on Cities of the New York Senate, for which William M. Ivins has been the efficient counsel, presents a preliminary report, proposing among other reforms a constitutional amendment forbidding special city charters, and requiring general laws for municipal corporations. The chairman, Senator Fassett, explained that the whole drift of the report was in the direction of the doctrine of home rule for cities. This is the committee by which much valuable information regarding the practical operation of tax laws in New York City was elicited last Fall, some parts of which were printed in full in THE STANDARD at the time. On the question of taxation the preliminary report reads: "Nothing could be more absurd than the entire system for the assessment and taxation of individual personal property. It may be said to wholly fail of its purpose. As this tax is imposed in New York City, it violates every principle of just and rational taxation. The testimony as to the manner in which the lists are prepared, assessments determined and exemptions allowed, reads more like the work of a satirist than a chapter out of the history of the government of the greatest city of the world."

By a strict party vote the Lower House of the Legislature, which is Democratic, passed a bill calling a Constitutional Convention for May, 1892. The Republicans wished representation based on the Assembly District apportionment of 1875, which remains unchanged, while the Democrats proposed the Federal Census of 1890 as the basis. This was the issue, nominally at least. The Constitution of New York requires that in every twentieth year, beginning with 1866, the question, "Shall there be a convention to revise the Constitution and amend the same?" shall be submitted to the people; and makes it the duty of the Legislature, at its next session, if the people decide in the affirmative, to provide by law for the election of delegates to the convention. In 1886 this question was voted on, and by a majority of nearly half a million the people demanded a convention. But both parties in the Legislature have ignored the matter. The contest in the Lower House, by which, by a Democratic majority, the convention was provided for, indicates that in the Senate, where the Republicans are in control, the bill will be defeated or pushed aside.

Governor Hill gave his final Gubernatorial reception at the Executive Mansion in Albany on the 15th.

RHODE ISLAND.—The Legislature has elected a Chief Justice. The House, which is Democratic, had frequently asked the Senate, which is Republican, to meet it in Grand Committee, or, as the expression is in most States, in joint session, for the purpose of this election. The Senate had refused, because in Grand Committee the Democrats now are in the majority, whereas at the May session the Republicans will be. On the 15th, however, the Republicans were caught napping. By reason of the number of Republican absentees the Democrats were momentarily in the majority in the Senate, when a renewal of the invitation to go into Grand Committee came up from the House, and was promptly accepted. A motion to reconsider was laid on the table. This parliamentary device made the acceptance conclusive, under the rule that a motion to reconsider, when laid on the table, cannot be taken up during the session.

On the following day a motion to take from the table was made. Governor Davis, presiding, overruled it, quoting a decision of Speaker Reed in support of his ruling, when a decision of the Democratic Speaker of the Rhode Island House was cited to him in opposition. An appeal was taken, but before it could be acted on the Democrats withdrew and left the Senate without a quorum.

Thereupon the Republicans decided to make no further opposition, and going the next day into Grand Committee with the House, Senior-Associate Justice Charles Matteson was elected Chief Justice. The Democrats then moved the appointment of a committee to notify Judge Matteson, and that the Grand Committee take a recess. The purpose was to secure Judge Matteson's acceptance, which would create a vacancy, and to fill that vacancy on the reassembling of the Grand Committee. But the Republicans moved an adjournment instead of a recess; and that motion taking precedence, two Democrats inadvertently voted for it, thereby dissolving the Grand Committee.

Judge Matteson has accepted; but the vacancy caused by his promotion will not now be filled until the May session, when the Republicans will have a majority.

SOUTH CAROLINA.—Congress having made an appropriation for the benefit of mechanical and agricultural colleges, the Legislature of South Carolina divided the portion of that State equally between the Clemson Agricultural College for whites, and the Claflin College for blacks. The Secretary of the Interior now notifies the South Carolina authorities that their appropriation will be withheld until they agree to divide it in proportion to the white and black school population of the State as shown by the census of 1890. This would give 36.7 per cent. to the white school and 63.3 to the black. Governor Tillman, replying that he has no power to make such a distribution, and would not exercise it if he had, demands the money unconditionally.

The first white Republican meeting ever held in South Carolina convened at the Capitol in Columbia. It was attended by many old Democrats, who say that the Democratic party has merged into the farmers' movement, and that the principles of that they will not subscribe to. Delegates were elected to the Republican League to be held at Cincinnati on the 21st of April.

BALLOT REFORM.—A bill introduced in the Senate by Senator Saxton prohibits the putting of independent candidates on more than one ballot, and allows regular nominees to prevent the coupling of their names with those of independent candidates. When the bill reached the House its dangerous character to independent politics was discovered by ballot reformers, and they appeared in large numbers before the House Committee. The bill was reported favorably, however, and went to the Governor, who refused a hearing to its adversaries for lack of time, but offered to consider a type-written brief. This was prepared and forwarded by all the leading organizations and a large number of prominent individuals identified with ballot reform in New York. Besides explaining objections to the purpose and effect of the proposed amendments, the brief disclosed a variety of inaccuracies which, should the bill become a law, would make it one of the most slovenly of statutes. The brief is signed by William G. Choate, E. Ellery Anderson, Henry E. Howland, Henry R. Beekman and Everett P. Wheeler, counsel for the objectors; and with it went a strong letter signed by George William Curtis, president, and Carl Schurz, vice-president of the Civil Service Reform Association; Henry A. Oakley, vice-president People's Municipal League; R. W. G. Welling, president City Reform Club; Louis F. Post, president Manhattan Single Tax Club, and Horace E. Deming, chairman Electoral Reform Committee of Reform Club of New York.

At an interview between Senator Saxton and the New York ballot reformers, he declared his friendship for ballot reform and adherence to the blanket ballot plan; and attributed anything wrong which there might be in the bill to errors of judgment. The blunders he desired to correct, and the caveat clause he was willing to withdraw if the Governor would return the bill; and he asserted his intention of endeavoring to secure the passage of a concurrent resolution asking its return.

The peculiar character of the New York ballot law suggested these amendments, and makes them dangerous. Under the law the names of all candidates are not printed on one ballot, as is the case with most ballot reform laws, but each group is printed on a separate ballot. All these ballots are given to the voter, and in the booth, prior to voting, he selects any one of them. Having changed its face to suit himself, he folds and deposits it. The others are surrendered for destruction.

The Minnesota Legislature passed a ballot bill extending the law now in force in large cities to the whole State. The Democrats tried to frame the bill so as to bunch candidates according to party, and to allow voters to indicate their choice by making a cross opposite either the party names or the names of candidates; but the Alliance men and the Republicans were successful in so amending it as to do away with the bunching and to require voters to place their mark opposite each candidate of their choice. The bill had hardly been passed by the House when in some mysterious manner it was stolen.

The Delaware House of Representatives passes a proposed constitutional amendment prescribing that though all elections shall be by ballot, the Legislature shall determine the means, methods and instruments of voting, so as to best secure secrecy and independence, preserve the freedom and purity of elections, and prevent fraud, corruption and intimidation. The primary purpose of the change is to pave the way for the use of a voting machine.

The Baker Ballot Reform bill passed the Pennsylvania Legislature Tuesday, April 14, by a vote of 173 ayes to 16 noes.

LABOR.—The appointment of the Royal Labor Commission in England, by omitting Michael Davitt, who had been proposed by the Irish Members of Parliament, caused ill-feeling among them; and Mr. McCarthy was urgent in demanding the reasons, until Mr. Davitt wrote him to desist. Radical labor reformers are also dissatisfied, because the labor members of the Commission are all from the old style trade union class. The object of this Commission is to inquire into the conditions of labor, and into questions affecting the relation of employers and employed, and their respective combinations; and to report whether any, and if so what, legislation can, with advantage be directed to remedy any of the evils. It lies with the Commission itself to determine whether its examinations and deliberations shall be made public. There are twenty-seven Commissioners, and Lord Hartington is chairman. Among the other members are Sir Edward Harland, the steamship builder of Belfast; Chairman Bolton, of the Caledonian Railway; Jesse Collins, of the Agricultural Laborers; Secretary Burt, of the Northumberland Miners' Association; Professor Marshall, of Cambridge; Sir Frederick Pollock; Managing Director Ismay, of the White Star Line; Chairman Livery of the South Metropolitan Gas Company, and Thomas Mann, President of the Dockers' Union. The names are regarded as indicating that there will be no consideration of radical questions. There are six labor representatives, mere trade unionists, and eleven large employers; while the sympathy of the other members is considered as being with the employing class. Of the chairman, Lord Hartington, Harold Frederic, correspondent of the New York Times, says that he has never done a day's work, knows nothing of labor problems, is dull and lazy, and possesses vast unearned wealth.

The striking weavers of Bradford, England, arranged for a meeting in the public square on April 12th. The municipal authorities prohibited it, and 10,000 people assembled in the square to protest. The police tried to disperse the meeting but failed, and the soldiery were summoned. A fierce struggle followed. The assemblage was driven back and scattered with batons and bayonets, and seven men were arrested. Efforts have been made by citizens to arbitrate the strike, but the mill owners refuse. Since the disorder regarding the meeting, the Mayor has received a letter of warning that strikers had been detailed to kill him, the chairman of the Watch Committee, and the Chief Constable. Placards are out announcing a mass meeting in the square to be held on Sunday night.

Theo. L. DeVinne proposes, after April 1, 1892, to give his employees a share of net profits, forfeitable in case of strike or other interference with management.

The strikers at the Bell pottery, Finley, Ohio, attacked the men hired to take their places. A general riot and several arrests of strikers followed.

In the freestone lockout at Boston last year, the employers formed the "Progressive Freestone Cutters Union," which employees were required to join. When the lockout was declared off, it was supposed that this requirement would no longer be made, but work on the public library is now refused to non-members of this association, and complaints to the authorities have been made.

The lake seamen demand a raise of wages to \$2 from \$1.50, and threaten to strike if the increase is refused.

A mass meeting of miners held at Indianapolis for the purpose of conferring with operators relative to the call for the coming year was informed by the operators that miners must accept last year's scale and individually sign a waiver of their rights under the eight

our law of the State and the law requiring coal to be weighed before screening. No arrangement was concluded.

The Clark Thread Mills strike, at Newark, N. J., after lasting eighteen weeks, is declared off, the company agreeing as fast as possible to take in all the strikers except the leaders, whom they will not employ under any circumstances. The strike began as a protest against peculiar disciplinary methods of the superintendent.

The puddlers of the Phoenix Iron Works, at Phoenixville, Pa., refuse to work longer without more help, and the mills are closed.

The cigarmakers of Chicago got permission from their national organization to strike for an increase of \$1 per 1,000.

The Trenton street railroads reduce drivers' wages from \$1.75 to \$1.25 per day.

Boston painters strike for \$3 for a day of eight hours.—Vessel owners at Cleveland, Buffalo and Detroit declare intention to reduce sailors' wages.—Three New York firms of cloth hat and cap makers caused the arrest of four members of the executive committee of the journeymen's union on a charge of extortion, in demanding pay of strikers for lost time as a condition of settling the strike. The accused were placed under \$1,000 bail.—The men in the saw mill district at Eau Claire, Wis., agree in mass meeting to ask the lumber corporations to operate their mills ten hours a day instead of eleven. But one mill had started, and the object of the meeting was to secure an harmonious arrangement in advance of the beginning of work, in order to avoid a strike.—The Chapin-Hall Lumber Co., of Newark, N. J., states that it proposes to run ten hours a day the present year, and requires each employee to answer in writing, yes or no, whether he personally desires to remain in the employment of the company, and whether his present wages are satisfactory.—The pattern makers of New York decide to demand an eight hour day from May 1st.—The Central Labor Union vacates the seats of Typographical Union No. 6 and D. A. 231, K. of L.—Carpenters at Long Branch, N. J., strike for a reduction of daily time from ten to nine hours.—The first annual convention of the Ready Made Clothing Operatives of the United States met in New York City. Twenty-one unions were represented by forty-five delegates. The credentials of John Crowley, of the Clothing Operatives' National Union, were rejected on the ground that no such union exists. Crowley replies that, excepting a few cutters, the convention represents only the sweating system, its constituency belonging to unions whose members work in filthy tenement houses and sweat shops.—The leaders at the Miners' International Congress begin arrangements for the appointment of a general strike committee, composed of representatives of French, English, German and Belgian miners. The committee is to sit at Brussels during the strike, unless the Belgian Government interferes. The Miners' International Congress, of which the pending strike is the outcome, was held at Paris early in the present month. The question of declaring a general strike brought on a stormy debate, and the congress adjourned for the day with the question pending. Upon reconvening Belgium was selected as the field of the eight-hour fight for the English, French and German unions, the date of the strike being referred to the General Council. In the progress of the debate it appeared that Belgian miners receive but two shillings a day, the French three, and the Germans from three to four. The English delegates gave pledges at the congress to prevent the exportation of English coal to Belgium during the strike, and a similar pledge regarding Germany was soon after made in a conference at Bochum. If American exportations of coal threaten the Belgian miners, communications with mining organizations here are to be opened. To meet the emergency of this strike, an employers' organization has been formed at Brussels for the purpose of indemnifying coal companies affected by the strike. These companies are to receive a stipulated sum for every ton of coal which, by reason of the strike, they fail to produce, their present daily output being the basis of calculation. For this purpose a fund of 2,000,000 francs is pledged.

RELIGION.—The Presbyterian Church has developed a case of professorial heresy, which the New York Presbytery is investigating. Charles A. Briggs, Robinson Professor of Biblical Theology in Union Theological Seminary at the City of New York, began his inaugural address, when installed last January, by declaring that the three great fountains of divine authority which must harmonize, are the bible, the church, and the reason; and to make them harmonize, obstructions erected by misguided men must be remedied. Of the three, he stated that none was more obstructed than the bible, which is kept out of harmony with the others by superstitious reverence, belief in the inspiration of each word, mistake as to its authenticity, belief in its unerrancy, and acceptance of its miracles as historical truths. A Tennessee presbytery complained to that of New York, which has jurisdiction of Professor Briggs; and action ranging all the way from mild criticism to a demand for dismissal was taken by various other presbyteries. The New York Presbytery convened this week, and appointed a committee to examine Professor Briggs's inaugural address and report at a meeting to be held in May, in time for the gathering of the

General Assembly of the Church, which convenes at Detroit in June. The Professor's heresy did not prevent his election as a delegate to the General Assembly, though his vote was lower than that of any delegate from the New York Presbytery.

The State Liberal Association, a freethinkers' body of Texas, met at San Antonio. The delegates, numbering 100, represented the free thinkers of thirty-two cities in the State.

Lieut. Charles A. Totten, of the United States Army and assigned as Military Instructor at Yale, publishes a mathematical computation, based on Scripture texts, from which he predicts the second coming of Christ before the close of the present century. By this prediction Lieutenant Totten does not mean that the millennium will come or the world end, events which he does not expect for a million years; but that Christ, coming again, will make the world better, as he did before.

One hundred and six clergymen and fifty-two laymen of the Episcopal Church address Bishop Potter of the New York Diocese in a protest against the conduct of Rev. W. S. Rainsford and Rev. Heber Newton, in admitting dissenting clergymen to their pulpits. The gist of the complaint is, that whatever may be the qualifications of piety or learning of dissenting preachers, they "are not responsible to the Church for the doctrines which they teach," and that their admission into an Episcopal pulpit is in direct contravention of the Canons. Several of the signers now claim that their signatures were procured by deceitful methods.

Arrangements have been completed at the Vatican, in Rome, to reorganize the Catholic Church in Brazil. There is now but one ecclesiastical province, Bahia; but a new one—Rio Janeiro—is to be carved out of the first.

WOMAN.—Sir Henry Parkes, the Premier of New South Wales, announces that the Government will introduce a bill for the enfranchisement of women.

The first class of law students composed entirely of women which was ever organized, graduates from the University of New York.

Miss Phoebe Cousins, secretary of the Executive Committee of the Board of Lady Managers of the World's Fair, was discharged by the Board, and Susan Gale Cook appointed in her place. Miss Cousins claims that her discharge is legally ineffectual; and, as far as possible, she holds possession of the office.

PROTECTION OR FREE TRADE?—Thomas G. Shearman and Roswell G. Horr debate the tariff question in Tremont Temple, Boston.

Welsh tin plate manufacturers announce a reduction of output July 1st, owing to the diminished American demand anticipated as a result of the McKinley law.

The wages of the Sheffield cutlers are reduced 5 per cent., owing to loss of American trade, in consequence of the McKinley law.

On an \$800 importation of welts for gloves, the customs officials at New York impose a tariff of \$11,000 under the McKinley law.

The New Haven, Conn., Rolling Mill Company suspends. The duty on scrap iron, \$6.72 per ton, is given as the cause.

Heretofore cars to and from Canada, by way of American sea-ports, sealed by American consuls, have been allowed to pass into and out of the United States without examination. This course is to be abandoned, and goods exported or imported by Canadians through the United States, are to be treated as if intended for consumption here.

It is unofficially reported that a treaty with Spain for reciprocal trade between this country and Cuba, under the provisions of the reciprocity clause of the McKinley bill, has been concluded by John W. Foster, ex-Minister to Spain, who was specially retained by the United States Government for the purpose. Spain proposed an exchange of American flour for Cuban tobacco at reduced duties. This Mr. Foster refused, and threatened that unless reductions of duty on our exports to Cuba were made, our Government would reimpose the duty on sugar on the 1st of January next. Spain is said to have been reluctantly constrained to agree, lest a reimposition of our sugar duty should cause Cuba to secede.

Crops in Europe having failed, it is expected that the French and German Governments will suspend duties on cereals, so as to make a market for American grain in those countries.

RAILROADS.—On the 14th, by order of the Board of Rulings of the Trunk Line and Central Traffic Associations, the sales and acceptance of all forms of tickets, by way of the Chicago and Alton Railroad, was stopped by those companies that sustained the action of the Board. These included the New York Central, the West Shore, the Baltimore and Ohio, the Pennsylvania, the Erie, and the Ontario and Western. The Delaware and Hudson Canal Company, the New York, Chicago and St. Louis, known as the "Nickel Plate," and the St. Louis and Kansas City, assure the Alton of their friendly disposition, and refuse to join in the boycott. The cause of the

boycott is the refusal of the Alton to discontinue paying commissions to agents securing business.

Judge Holmes, of Des Moines, Iowa, in a case before him, holds that railways may abandon unprofitable stations.

In a collision of the east-bound fast mail and the Toledo express at Kipton Station, forty miles west of Cleveland, Ohio, on the Lake Shore Railroad, six postal clerks and two engineers were killed. When the collision occurred, the Toledo express had slowed up to pull on a siding, but the fast mail was running at full speed.

TAXATION.—The Conference Committee of the Ohio Legislature agree to provide that all manufacturers must, for purposes of taxation, list their manufactured goods as well as their raw materials.

PENOLOGY.—The Werts Prison Parole bill became a law in New Jersey by the signature of Governor Abbett. Under it a Court of Parole, to consist of the Court of Pardons and the Keeper of the State Prison, is established. Prisoners having good records, and presenting a contract for immediate employment contingent on their release, may be paroled by this court. While on parole they must lead an exemplary life, avoid evil companions, refrain from the use of intoxicating liquors, work continuously, and remain within the State. The Governor is their legal guardian. They must report in writing monthly whether they have violated any rule for their conduct, and inform the Governor how much they have earned, what time they have been idle and why, and the nature of their expenditures. When a paroled prisoner is discovered leading an unsatisfactory life any police officer or constable may arrest him, and on an order of the Governor or Court of Parole return him to prison. Certain classes, if their lives on parole are honestly led, may be entirely discharged and restored to citizenship. On conviction for any crime a prisoner on parole has his remitted time added to his new sentence. When the parole time is served with a good record, the prisoner is restored to citizenship as matter of right.

CURRENCY.—The Secretary of the Treasury decides, for the purpose of making money easier and guarding against future stringencies, to put into circulation, in round numbers, \$21,000,000 of the subsidiary coin now in the Treasury.

THE WHISKEY TRUST.—The annual meeting of "The Distilling and Cattle-Feeding Company," known commonly as the "Whiskey Trust," met at Peoria, Ill. In the annual report of the president, confidence was expressed in the innocence of Secretary Gibson regarding his indictment at Chicago; but Gibson was not re-elected. It is reported that the sales by the company for the past year aggregated 44,748,171 gallons, an increase of nearly 4,000,000 over the sales of the previous year. Satisfaction with the tests of a new method of distillation—the Japanese—for which the company controls the patent, is indicated.

The reference to Gibson is an allusion to an alleged attempt last February to destroy an independent distillery in Chicago. It is charged that Gibson hired a watchman to throw a liquid, supplied by Gibson, into a tank of alcohol, assuring him that an explosion would take place, but not before he could escape from the building. The watchman communicated with the Federal Secret Service, and was instructed to play into Gibson's hands. This he did. An arrangement to receive the fluid from Gibson having been made, the latter, upon arriving in Chicago, was arrested, and a bottle containing liquid was taken from his person. When the bottle was opened and its contents sprinkled upon inflammable substances, they set fire to everything they touched. Experts reported that if the watchman had done as he swears Gibson directed him to, the distillery with everyone in it, the watchman included, would have been blown to nothingness.

DEATHS.—Francis B. Spinola, born on Long Island, March 19, 1821, died at Washington, D. C., April 13, 1891. At the time of his death he represented the Tenth New York District in Congress.

REPUBLICAN POLITICS.—President Harrison has begun a trip from Washington to San Francisco, in a special car said to be the most luxurious in which a President has ever traveled. He speaks at all important points. A similar trip is proposed for Mr. Blaine, to occur after the political effect of the President's tour shall have subsided.

DEMOCRATIC POLITICS.—Grover Cleveland spoke on the occasion of the celebration of Jefferson's birthday at the New York Democratic Club.

Congressman Wilson, chairman of the Executive Committee of the National Democratic Clubs, proposes a plan of campaign comprising a Democratic organization in every voting precinct in the

country, with a superintendent and organizer in each county. He will travel across the continent to confer with State and local organizations.

CIVIL SERVICE REFORM.—The Secretary of the Navy issues orders declaring the positions of foremen and master mechanics in the Brooklyn, N. Y., and Norfolk, Va., Navy Yards vacant after June 1, and convening a Board of Naval Officers to examine applicants for the vacancies. The examinations begin May 11, and are open to all citizens who give evidence of experience in the kind of work for which they seek employment. Inquiries will relate to knowledge of the work, executive ability, trade antecedents and experience, physical qualifications, elementary education, and personal character.

It is reported that a similar step will soon be taken at the Portsmouth, the Mare Island, and the Washington Navy Yards.

NATIONALISM.—The trustees of the Keawah Colony in Tulare, established as a model of the Bellamy system, were convicted in the United States District Court at Los Angeles, Cal., of cutting timber on Government lands. Timber entries had been made on the big timber lands of Tulare County. The Land Commission ordered their withdrawal, but the filers protested and went on with the work of building a road to the claims. These lands were the seat of the colony.

ELECTIONS.—The official count shows that at the Mayoralty election at Chicago, the result of which was until then in doubt, Hempstead Washburne, the Republican candidate, was elected by 369 plurality.

The Democrats carried the local election in Trenton, N. J., by more than 1,000, though that city is usually close. This result is attributed to the attempt of the protected potteries there to reduce wages nearly 33 per cent., and to the lockouts and strikes, still in progress, which followed.

POVERTY.—Ballington Booth, Marshal of the Salvation Army, in a lecture to a large audience at Baltimore, says that unless there is soon a great change in New York, the slums of which he recently inspected in disguise, it will be as bad as ever Darkest England was.

Judge Roger A. Pryor charges a jury that a doctor owes the same duty to a charity patient as to any other. He may decline to visit a patient without pay; but, having undertaken the service, the fact that he is to receive none does not qualify his liability respecting the degree of care and skill he must exercise.

MISCELLANEOUS.—William T. Baker, President of the Chicago Board of Trade, is unanimously elected President of the Board of Directors of the World's Fair, in place of Lyman J. Gage, resigned.

Annie Besant, arriving in New York as a delegate to the Theosophical Society Reunion at Boston, is given a Sunday night reception by John W. Lovell, and the following night delivers a lecture on "Poverty in London."

The first consignment of samples of China tobacco is received in London.

It is reported that Germany has decided to make a commercial treaty with Belgium, Switzerland and Italy.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.—The preliminary steps necessary to a national federation of the Australian Colonies are complete. A constitution has been adopted by the convention held for that purpose at Sydney, New South Wales; and upon its approval by the popularly elected conventions of at least three colonies, nothing will remain to bring the new nation into existence but the mere formality of approval by the British Government.

In 1853 William C. Wentworth urged a federation of the colonies. Henry, now Sir Henry Parkes, then opposed it. He is now the leader in the movement. After Wentworth the subject was not taken up until 1883, when a partial scheme of union was framed in Sydney by delegates from the colonies. But it was only a makeshift. In 1885 the British Parliament established a Federal Council of Australasia, consisting of two members from each self-governing colony and one from each Crown colony. The Crown delegated certain powers, and the colonies had the privilege of delegating their powers; but the Council had no authority in any colony unless specially given, and New South Wales, South Australia and New Zealand would have nothing to do with it. Delegates from the other colonies met in 1886 and 1888, and again in 1889, when South Australia joined. No organic union was effected. Arrangements for a military and naval system were made, and for discussion by representatives of all Australasian questions of general interest, but nothing more.

In February, 1890, Sir Henry Parkes brought about a federation

conference, attended by delegates from New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia, New Zealand, Tasmania and Fiji. An address to the Crown was adopted, declaring that in the opinion of the conference the best interests and the present and future prosperity of the Australasian Colonies would be promoted by an early union under the Crown, and recommending a national Australasian convention empowered to report an adequate scheme for a federal constitution.

The recent convention was accordingly authorized, and its work is now complete. The constitution which it adopts calls the Colonies, States, and the Federation "The Commonwealth of Australia." The Legislature is to consist of a Senate and a House of Representatives. Eight Senators from each State are to be chosen by the State Legislature for terms of six years, half to retire every three years. Members of the House are to be elected every three years, according to population, each State being entitled, however, to not less than four. The Legislature has powers similar to those of our Congress, except that it controls the postal and telegraphic service, and enacts marriage and divorce laws. The Chief Executive is to be a Governor-General, appointed by the Crown and advised by a council of seven Ministers, selected from among the members of either House. He is to be Commander-in-Chief, and he may veto legislation. There is a Supreme Court similar to ours, except that in some cases an appeal lies to the Crown. The Legislature may establish uniform tariffs, and until it does so, present tariffs are to remain as to foreign countries, but entire free trade between the States is guaranteed, to take effect at once. Surplus revenues are to be distributed among the States. Amendments of the constitution are to be made by a majority vote of the Legislature and of constitutional conventions of a majority of the States.

After adopting the constitution, it was resolved to submit a draft to conventions elected in each colony by popular vote, and when three or more conventions should have approved, to petition the Imperial Government to establish the instrument.

The work was completed and the Convention adjourned April 9.

MUTINIES IN BRITISH INDIA.—This week brings news that Commissioner Quinton was decapitated by the Manipuris and his body mutilated. Also that Lieutenant Grant, commanding a small body of Sepoys, upon being attacked by the Senaputty, the Manipuri commander-in-chief, at the head of a large Manipuri force at Fort Thahol, resisted the attack with complete success and killed the leader; and that Captain Presgrave has defeated 300 Manipuris, and pursuing them with mounted infantry, killed fifty.

The Maharajah of Manipur, in the Province of Assam, was deposed in September last as the result of a revolt headed by his second brother and heir, the Jobraj, and his third brother the Senaputty, whom Lieutenant Grant's troops have killed. When deposed, the Maharajah and his fourth brother, "the Lord of the Elephants," took refuge in Calcutta, where they now are; and the power at Manipur was in the hands of the Jobraj and the Senaputty until the loyal natives excluded the former, after the fight with Quinton, and Lieutenant Grant's troops killed the latter.

James W. Quinton, the British Chief Commissioner of Assam, had been ordered by the Viceroy, Lord Lansdowne, to whom the Maharajah appealed, to proceed to Manipur and settle the trouble. Accompanied by the Forty-second and Forty-fourth native infantry, Commissioner Quinton crossed the frontier, and summoned the tribes to a conference at Manipur, with a view to arresting the Jobraj and the Senaputty. The tribesmen, pretending to obey the summons, mustered in force; and at midnight on the day before that on which the conference was to have been held, attacked Quinton's camp. The attempt at surprise failed, and the tribesmen were driven back: but they returned and kept up the siege night and day for forty-eight hours. Finally the ammunition of the troops gave out, and Quinton ordered them to save themselves as best they could. Scouts sent out during the fight to communicate with headquarters at Shillong, the seat of government in Assam, never returned. The Manipur natives had cut the telegraph wires and killed the messengers.

A letter from the Senaputty announced that Quinton had been murdered because the British troops attacked the palace, massacred the Senaputty's soldiers, desecrated temples, and killing women and children threw them into burning houses. It was feared at the time that the announcement was true, though the reasons given for it were believed to have been concocted. Capt. Boil, a survivor of the battle, has since testified that the Manipuris first fired on the British; and now the murder of Commissioner Quinton is confirmed.

Early in the month the Miranzias in the Cohat Territory, a district of the Peshawer division of the Punjab, attacked the British troops along the whole length of their line. It was telegraphed from Rangoon that a British column passing from one military post to another was fired upon from ambush, Lieut. Forbes and five men being instantly killed, and eleven others wounded; but that the fire was returned with such effect as to enable the British force to retreat. The rising was reported as extending. The reports of the present

week are to the effect that after a hard fight the British forces have defeated a body of Miranzias. Also that the Miranzias occupy the Samana range of hills, and that a general advance is to be made upon them to break their lines.

At Benares, one of the oldest cities in the world, which lies in the northwest of British India, on the banks of the Ganges, the local authorities, for the purpose of erecting new water works, demolished a temple, which had been a place of pilgrimage for Hindoos and Buddhists. The natives at once became violent. The excitement grew. All the shops were closed, and crowds gathered in the principal streets. Riots occurred between the natives, and the municipal authorities supported by British troops. Telegraph wires were cut, and the railway station was plundered. Finally, reinforcements of European and native troops having been sent into the city, and some arrests having been made, the natives were intimidated to a more quiet condition.

GERMANY.—Bismarck, after his long retirement, became a candidate to represent the Geestemunde constituency in the Reichstag. His contestants were the candidate of the Social Democracy, that of the Freisinnige party, and that of the Guelph or Ultramontane party. Bismarck was the candidate of the National Liberals, who somewhat resemble our Republicans. The Freisinnige party resembles the more advanced wing of our Democracy. The polling took place this week. Bismarck received a plurality, but as a majority is necessary to elect, he must make a second contest, with the adversary who in the first contest received next to himself the highest number of votes. This was the Social Democrat.

IRELAND.—The Council of the Irish National League of America, having offered to act as arbitrator for the Irish factions, proposing also a national convention at Baltimore to be attended by the Irish members of Parliament, McCarthy and his party decline, and say that the time for negotiation with the Parnell faction is past.

Parnell writing to the Freeman's Journal concerning McCarthy's charge that he will not carry out the agreement for feeding evicted tenants from reserve funds in Paris, says in substance: "In the Freeman's Journal of March 7, correspondence between myself and McCarthy appears, showed my proposition for the selection of one member of each faction, competent by experience to co-operate in continuing the former system of relief. McCarthy approved and said he would ask his colleagues for permission to agree. He has not responded further, and I hear from other sources that his colleagues decline assent. Last week certain of his colleagues—Tenants Defence Association—passed resolutions calling on me to release funds in Paris in accordance with the arrangement arrived at. None has been arrived at."

Mr. Parnell issues a manifesto to the National League of Great Britain to this effect: I have guarded this organization from English influence. I sought to make English parties subservient to Irish influence and was successful. We were united and strong. Both parties treated with us and we wrung concessions from them. But it is now sought to make the organization subservient to English interests. That policy will end in ruin, and I now call upon my fellow countrymen in Great Britain to assert the principle of national independence. I have constituted a provisional committee, and around this I ask you to rally in the interests of a free and independent Irish party.

Mr. Morley moved in Parliament to amend the Irish land bill by making the approval of the county councils necessary to an advance of money in their respective districts. His object was to compel the Conservatives to give Ireland local self-government. Mr. Parnell moved to make Mr. Morley's amendment operative only when a local Government bill should be passed. Both motions were lost.

Mr. Healy in Parliament, after Mr. Parnell had spoken on the question of Sunday closing of public houses in Ireland, said that Parnell did not represent Cork, and added: "If he wants the test, let him keep his promise to his constituency, and face me in a contest for re-election." Mr. Parnell was silent.

The tenants of the Glensharold estate in Limerick County have abandoned the plan of campaign begun two years ago. For six months they had received no aid, and at the time of their surrender were on the verge of starvation, many deaths being directly traceable to lack of sufficient food. April 11 a delegation waited upon the agents of the estate, and requested to be admitted to their former holdings upon the owner's terms. The terms imposed were one year's rent, less 30 per cent.

AUSTRIA.—In opening the Reichsrath at Vienna, Emperor Francis Joseph announces that reforms will be proposed in the system of direct taxation; but no news regarding their character has yet reached the American side of the Atlantic.

At the Vienna municipal election the Clerical party was beaten by the Liberals and Anti-Semites.

CURRENT THOUGHT.

WEALTH AND ITS OBLIGATIONS.—Cardinal Gibbons, in the North American Review, contributes the Catholic view of wealth and its administration, to a series of moralizing essays which he recites by way of text. These are, "Wealth," by Andrew Carnegie, in the North American Review, for June, 1889; "Mr. Carnegie's Gospel of Wealth," by Gladstone, in the Nineteenth Century, for November, 1890, and "Irresponsible Wealth," by Cardinal Manning, Chief Rabbi Adler, and the Rev. Hugh Price Hughes, in the Nineteenth Century, for December, 1890.

Cardinal Gibbons writes of this discussion as one of extraordinary interest to thinking men; but, after a few general comments, sets about his own task of stating the view of his Church. Preliminarily he considers the obligation of giving. This he traces to the rites, ordinances, and precepts of the Judaic dispensation. The law of charity among the Jews was enacted into specific legislation, but in these days of Christianity it has reached a higher and nobler development. Christians who cannot stand this test may doubt the sincerity of their professions of faith. Pious penuriousness is a stumbling block to the faith of the laboring classes. They cannot reconcile godliness and greed. For the man who acknowledges one common fatherhood and brotherhood, with purse strings drawn tight, there is a fierce contempt; and it may be safely affirmed that one sanctimonious, miserly millionaire works more deadly harm to Christianity than a dozen cases of burglary or drunkenness.

These seem significant phrases; but they signify to the thoughtful more than Cardinal Gibbons intends them to. His mind is upon generosity, not justice. His thought suggests to him nothing more than regret that such thoroughly informed men as Gladstone and Cardinal Manning estimate a shrinkage in England of private charity contemporaneous with enormous increase of wealth, and he is comforted by the reflection that in the United States this condition of things does not exist to the same alarming extent.

After enlarging upon the vast charities of the Catholic Church, and especially commending those that call not for wealth alone, but also for service and sacrifice, the Cardinal describes the homes of the poor as marked by filth and squalor. The light of heaven is being closed out from miserable tenement room and attic; flesh and blood are becoming more cheap and bread more dear; the well being of the car-horses is more solicitously watched than that of the driver; and it is small wonder that strong men, maddened by the tears of wife and cries of starving children, band themselves together, and sometimes resort to deeds of violence. If men may believe those who stand upon the watch towers and scan the signs of the times, a tempest of war to which all former wars were holiday tournaments looms big upon the horizon, and threatens to overwhelm the world in horrors. Wealth and poverty, they say, stand more and more apart, and glare across the widening chasm more fiercely. How imminent the struggle may be, no man can affirm precisely; but signs there are which may well fill us with disquiet. The rich are daily becoming richer, the poor poorer; luxury, high living and the pride of life are on the increase. The thirst for wealth becomes daily more insatiable; the cries of the distressed more sharp, and loud, and poignant.

And to right these manifest wrongs, to avert this awful calamity, what offer comes from the democratic Cardinal of a Church that boasts its democracy? Its children who have given themselves to its service are to teach to one side, the truism that superfluous wealth is a curse and a snare, that honest labor has its rights; to the other, the half truth, "ever the worst of lies," that *some* in the providence of God must labor; and to both, that Christ's reign, if they acknowledge his leadership, is primarily and essentially a reign of peace. Back to Christ, his example and his teaching! This, says the Cardinal, to avert the crisis, is the duty of all good men. But, at once, he shows the futility of the phrase; for he deprecates the fact that the four gospels are no longer to many a living voice. Bishop Nulty phrased the same truth better. His cry was, "Back to the land!" Cardinal Gibbons only touches the surface of his theme. Sometimes he gives promise of piercing to the quick, as when he quotes from Hugh Price Hughes the charge that Carnegie "has pocketed much more than his equitable share," and again when he says that "the tariff question reaches far out and deep down to the very foundations of our social fabric." But he must be acquitted of all radical intentions, when we find him comforted by Carnegie's profession of faith. And he is comforted by it. It is most opportune, he says, when Gladstone, Manning and Hughes in England calmly review the situation and sound a note of warning, that a millionaire like Carnegie should declare it to be the duty of a man of wealth to consider his surplus revenues simply as trust funds, which he is called upon to administer as the mere agent and trustee for his poorer brethren!

This is kind of trusteeship at which temporal courts would laugh. Celestial tribunals may sit in judgment on it in the great hereafter; but in the meantime, its beneficiaries perish from hun-

ger and cold, while the trustees, living in luxury, use the fund to strengthen their power and impoverish their *cestuis que trust*.

THE NEXT FORUM.—Apropos of the recall of the Italian Minister, ex-Secretary Thomas F. Bayard is preparing an article for the May Forum on the power of the United States to enforce treaties violated within a State's jurisdiction. Though suggested by the present controversy with Italy, this paper will cover the whole ground thoroughly, and will refer also especially to cases that arose during Mr. Bayard's own diplomatic experience. The same number of The Forum will contain an explanation of the new Commonwealth of Australia, which has just been formed, by Sir Roderick Cameron, of New York, who is perhaps the best-informed man in the United States on Australian subjects, having been knighted by the Queen for eminent services to Australia by promoting trade with America. The new Australian Commonwealth is a matter of great pride to Americans, because in great measure it has adopted the Constitution and many of the political institutions of our own country. In the May number of The Forum, too, will appear the first of a noteworthy series of articles by General Francis A. Walker on the Census. The title of another timely article in the same number will be "Reciprocity: Why Southward Only?" by Mr. Roger Q. Mills.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

A Belgian firm has completed negotiations with the City of Woonsocket, R. I., which will result in their putting up a factory in that city for the manufacture of fine woolen and worsted yarns, which are now being made by them in Liege, Belgium. The factory, when completed, will employ from 500 to 1,000 hands. The Mail and Express points to this as a result of what it calls "the wage-earners' tariff law," but it isn't anything of the sort. The Woonsocket City Government is composed of men who know a good thing when they see it. They know that the establishment of this factory, and the employment of 500 to 1,000 more "hands" in Woonsocket means adding to the wealth of that city; so they have arranged to furnish at a nominal price a site for the factory, and have agreed to exempt all improvements made by the factory owners on that site for a certain term of years. The Belgians have seen the advantage contained in this offer, and are acting on it, like the shrewd business men they are. The "wage-earners' tariff" has nothing to do with it. If we of New York City could make the same kind of offer to manufacturers generally, every piece of vacant land on this island would have a factory on it in a short time. But until those who are now holding our lands are made to loose their hold, we will not be able to emulate the little Rhode Island town. What will make them loose their hold so that manufacturers' will rush to this island and erect factories and give employment to tens of thousands of people? "The Single Tax will do it!"

* * * *

A memorial service is shortly to be held in Atlanta, Ga., in memory of the late Henry Grady, and those having the matter in charge have invited our Governor to deliver the eulogy. A number of the leading Southern papers have lifted their voice in protest against this. The Richmond State (Dem.) is especially worked up over the matter, and says:

It is strange that in all Georgia, the commonwealth for which Grady did so much, and which boasts of so many eloquent sons, no man can be found so fit to eulogize him as Governor Hill of New York. It is a reflection on the State of Georgia—a reflection on the South as well. The average Georgian, the average Southerner, asked to-day will say that he does not know D. B. Hill. Is this nationally unknown to call upon the dead Grady to come forth from the grave to introduce him and stand sponsor for him? Machine politics ought to at least respect the newly-made tomb.

* * * *

The Morewood, Pa., strikers are gradually going back to work, being forced through hunger, to accept the bosses' terms. Empty bellies exert a powerful influence in making strikers see the error of their ways. Some day working men will realize this fact, and seek for some other and more practical way to secure their rights than by labor strikes.

* * * *

The "Gossip" man of the New York World tells of a store on upper Broadway, which has gained the reputation of being a "hoodoo." A real estate man said: "There have been twenty tenants there within five years and it seems no exaggeration to say that \$30,000 have during that period been spent in fitting up the store by occupants who shortly afterwards moved out. There is no suspicion of ghosts, bad drainage or the like. The people go in and move out. I can remember in the past year or two these various tenants: a mapseller, a florist, 'Bohemia,' a stationer, a picture-dealer, several tailors and six restaurants." There is, as The World says, a "hoodoo" on this property, but it is not the only property in this city that is "hoodooed." If The World and the real estate

agent will hunt up the owner of the property, the "hoodooer" will appear to them in his person, and the rent that he demands for his place will be found to be the "hoodoo," with which he has driven out all the tenants who rented from him in the hope that they might be able to pay his demands and make a living for themselves besides.

A WOOL TARIFF SNARL.

News comes from Philadelphia that the carpet manufacturers and importers are alarmed by the prospect of being assessed double duty on the bulk of their imports of raw material. This danger confronts them as the result of a recent order of the Treasury Department directing the appraisers at the various ports to enforce the "sorting clause" of the McKinley Tariff law against this class of imports. This sorting clause provides that all wools which have been sorted or increased in value by the rejection of any part of the original fleece shall pay twice the duty to which they would otherwise be subjected. This act was originally designed to exclude English sorted wools or matchings, but as it was soon discovered that it would apply equally to every pound of Australian wools used by American mills—because these wools are improved in conditions by skirting, which is a rejection of the refuse portions of the fleece—a provision was inserted in the Tariff law exempting these skirted wools, as heretofore, from the operation of the sorting clause.

Ninety to 95 per cent. of the wool used by the carpet manufacturers of this country is imported. Not 10 per cent. of the American wool production can be used in the manufacture of carpets. If the sorting clause shall be arbitrarily applied to all of the East India and other foreign wools that are brought here for this purpose the Bromleys, the Dornans, the Dobsons and all the big mill's in New York State and New England will have to pay 64 per cent. and 100 per cent. duty on their raw material instead of 32 and 50 per cent., as originally intended by the McKinley law. The effect upon the carpet men can be readily determined. The prices of carpets must be advanced in proportion to the senseless increase in the cost of wool.

It is thought that the Treasury decision was made at the instigation of the Ohio wool growers, backed by some importers who are loaded up with wools brought into the country under the old duties, and who expect to realize large profits from the sale of their stock should the decision be allowed to stand. The new appraisement has already been applied to several importations to this city, and the Philadelphia appraisers have received instructions to take similar action. Many of the leading carpet manufacturers are indignant, especially those whose stock of material is low; and one firm—Sheble & Hill, of Philadelphia—say that this action will weaken the Protectionist sentiment in the wool trade and among the manufacturers, who find their interest sacrificed to the gratification of the ultra-protective theories of the wool growers.

THE CASE PLAINLY STATED.

Here is a simple story, one that will be especially interesting to those who insist that high tariffs mean high wages. Scrap iron, says the Philadelphia Record, is the raw material used by the New Haven (Conn.) Rolling Mill Company. The tariff duty on scrap iron is \$6.72 per ton. If the company did not have to pay this duty it could keep its mills running. It has been employing 125 men, and would employ 250 if it should be unhampered by tariff restriction. As a final effort to go on it made a proposition to its employees, who were getting \$3 to \$4 per day, to reduce their wages from ten to twenty per cent. The offer having been refused, the mills have suspended work indefinitely, and 125 men are thrown out of employment. Now let the high tariff hands play "Protection Is Our Darling," attuned to an old Scotch air.

FAVORING A TAX ON REAL ESTATE ONLY.

Last year, while Mayor of Boston, Mr. Hart appointed a commission to devise an improved method of raising revenues for municipal support. The Commission submitted its report to the Boston City Council last week in which the recommendation is made, in brief, that Boston's revenues shall be derived by a tax on real estate only, and that all forms of personal property be relieved from taxation. The report is summoned up as follows:

In short, we believe that if the total tax levy should be laid upon real estate, and personal property wholly exempted from taxation, the State as a whole, would be more prosperous; labor would be better employed and better paid, and real estate, in spite of the greater burden laid upon it, would increase in value more rapidly than in the past, and would be a better investment than it is.

The Boston Globe enthusiastically endorses the recommendation of the commission, and says that the new idea, if adopted, "would prove so popular that other cities, and eventually the whole State [of Massachusetts] would adopt it." It then goes on to say:

There is a great deal to be said in favor of the plan. Boston would then become the most attractive city in the country for wealthy people to live in and for business men to start new enterprises in. Here alone could they be assured that they would not be

taxed on anything but their land and buildings. Perhaps eventually it might be found advantageous to exempt the buildings also. Such a course would certainly do a great deal to "boom Boston."

A reporter of the World visited Tax Commissioner Coleman last Monday, and solicited his opinion on the recommendation of the Boston Commission. The Commissioner said it expressed the views he had entertained for the past twenty years. Personal taxation, he held, drives away capital, as was proved by his statement before the Fassett Committee, which showed that this city lost several hundred millions annually through this cause. As to where the line between the improvements of real estate and personal property should be drawn, the Commissioner said that which was movable and not essentially a part of the real estate he would consider personal property.

ENGLISH INKLINGS OF SINGLE TAX PRINCIPLES.

The select committee on Town Holdings of the House of Commons, which has to consider the value and taxation of land, on the motion made by William Saunders in 1886, is now sitting in London. Mr. Moulton, Q. C., testified before it on April 10th, his testimony being thus summarized in the Chronicle:

The incidence of the rates was at present unfair and injurious. The landed property in town ought to bear the major portion of the expenditure. The value of the land in town depended upon the communal prosperity, and therefore, a large part of the communal expenditure ought to come out of the property held in the town. In his opinion ground values should contribute to the poor-rate just as well as railways, or anything else that was profitable in a town. Ground rents, he thought, should bear their fair share of civic burdens, because they especially profited by civic expenditure. Houses and buildings were property of a kind which should bear a smaller impost proportionately for these reasons: First, that the property came from an outlay of private capital; secondly, that it was wasting property—in the sense of gradual decay; and, thirdly, that it did not follow that communal expenditure, which improved the value of land, would improve the value of the houses upon it. As an illustration, the witness instanced the case of Rosebery avenue, where a large communal expenditure had greatly increased the value of adjoining land, and at the same time had reduced the value of many houses almost to zero, because they were not suitable to land so valuable, and consequently had to be pulled down. Another reason why the annual value derived from the house should not be taxed at the same rate as the value derived from land was that the annual return from houses did not represent the same sum as an annual return from land. An annual return of £100 from ground rents represented double the same annual return received from house rents.

PERSONAL.

Archivist J. R. Abarbanell of the Thirteen Club has written for Belford's Magazine an interesting article on "The Thirteen Superstition Among the Fair Sex," in which he has embodied a number of autograph letters on the subject which he has received from ladies, prominent in society, literary and dramatic circles. The article will appear in the May number of Belford's and is very apropos, in view of the ladies' dinner to be given by the Thirteen Club on the 13th of that month at Sherry's.

* * *

A. B. Farquhar, of York, Pa., a short time ago wrote a series of nine papers on "The Silver Question," which appeared in the York Gazette. He has since had them printed in pamphlet form for circulation. His conclusion is in accord with ex-President Cleveland's declaration in his letter to the Reform Club's Cooper Union meeting. Mr. Farquhar says he will be amply recompensed if this pamphlet "will bear some appreciable part in fixing the attention of Democratic citizens on that first essential of good government, an untarnished public credit."

* * *

Mr. Chester T. Edkins and Miss Leni L. Perry, of Greensburg, Ind., were united in marriage on April 1. In the list of wedding presents and donors appears, "Magnificent volume of 'Protection or Free Trade?' W. O. Foley."

* * *

Congressman Jerry Simpson was in Buffalo last Sunday. He told a reporter that the farmers in that section of New York State were joining the Alliance very extensively. Speaking of the advance made by the Alliance, Mr. Simpson said: "It will only take about a year and a half now to clean out the rump of the Republican party that is left. It is doomed. It has nothing on which to go to the people. It can't be forever depending on its past and ringing the changes on war issues. The only thing that might save the Republican party, so far as I can see, is war, and that I believe we will have if Jim Blaine keeps up his operations very long."

THEY ALL DO IT.

Chicago News.

"I met Mr. Knickerbocker in a shabby coat awhile ago. He has not failed, has he?"

"Oh, no; he only puts that coat on when he goes to the Assessor's to give in his property for assessment."

THE FACT PLAINLY SHOWN.

Boston Globe.

The fact is that the land in a hundred-acre farm is generally worth less, and hence would be taxed less, than the land in a well-situated building lot in town.

SO IT WOULD.

Indianapolis Sentinel.

If reducing the tariff on sugar reduces the price of sugar, reducing the tariff on clothing, furniture, shelter and medicines would reduce the price of clothing, furniture, shelter and medicines.

SINGLE TAX NEWS.

SINGLE TAX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE,
42 UNIVERSITY PLACE, New York, April 21, 1891. }

Our "workers" have done somewhat better in the matter of the petition this week, though the returns are still far from satisfactory. The requisitions on this Committee for petition blanks since April 1st have been most encouraging, and 5,075 have been sent out to our friends, who "intend getting actively to work." As only 1,046 signatures have been returned, it is evident that some of those who started out with such good intentions are very slow at getting off their coats.

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

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

Subscriptions toward expenses of this committee's work remain as reported last week, viz., \$1618.40.

Cash contributions for week ending April 21, are as follows:

S. D. Gulon, Brooklyn, N. Y.....	\$ 70
J. E. Caldwell, Amarillo, Texas.....	1 00
"Petitions," St. Louis, Mo.....	10

\$1 80

Contributions previously acknowledged..... 1,494 05

Total..... \$1,495 85

The enrollment now stands as follows:

Reported last week.....	103,387
Signatures received since last report.....	400

Total..... 103,687

For news budget, see roll of States.

GEO. ST. JOHN LEAVENS, Secretary.

L. W. HOCH, THE MAYOR OF ADRIAN, MICHIGAN.

The municipal election in Michigan on the 7th of April brought another Single Taxer to the front in the person of L. W. Hoch, who was elected Mayor of Adrian by a majority of 182 votes. He took the office on the following Monday evening, and presided at the session of the City Council. Mr. Hoch read his inaugural address from the Mayor's desk.

He began by drawing the attention of the Aldermen to the large responsibility that had been given into their and his hands by the people of Adrian, and hoped the results would prove that that confidence had not been misplaced. Continuing, Mr. Hoch said:

"True economy in municipal government is not found in scanty provision for its important and vital departments, and our support of these should be as generous and far-reaching as possible.

"There is something about existing methods of raising revenues for municipal purposes which makes the fullest realization of the wants and needs of civilized communities well nigh impossible. There is not a citizen who does not see the necessity, or at least the great desirability, of many public improvements which, while not unreasonable, or even extravagant, are still through sheer necessity placed far beyond the scope of our consideration. And yet it is more than likely that if a proposition should come from this body to-night to inaugurate and carry out a plan by which this great public need might be satisfied, it would be met in many quarters by the most determined resistance, and would be defeated by an overwhelming force of public sentiment—simply because the general tax is already too high, and the necessary increase could not be borne without absolute hardship to a large majority of our citizens.

"The great problem for municipalities to determine, as the needs of population and civilization multiply, is not so much how to keep within certain bounds in the matter of expense, as how to remedy existing systems of taxation so that the burdens of government may be more equally and equitably distributed among all the people. These are the causes, in my judgment, why material progress in public improvements does not keep pace with public needs in all civilized communities, and furnish the reason why the strictest economy consistent with the public welfare should guide us in our every act.

"In all improvements there is a distinct line which distinguishes public from private benefits, and I believe that in so far as paying or any other public improvement confers a private benefit, the expense should be shared by those benefited. It is difficult to discern exact justice by defraying wholly by general tax the expense of special improvement of any particular thoroughfare. To some specific extent abutting property is benefited thereby over all other property, and to that extent it ought to be made to assume the burden of expense. This is a matter which it is well for us to fully consider, before a dangerous precedent becomes too firmly established.

"Other matters of great common interest at the present time are those involved in the subjects of public lighting and water supply. While the time may be somewhat remote when the city can own and operate these systems independently, still our treatment of these subjects should be with that object in view. To provide the citizens with water and light is as much a public function as is the furnishing of fire or police protection, or the satisfaction of any common need, and is essentially in the direction of true economy and the most efficient public service.

"I am confident that in the consideration of all matters of necessity and improvements pertaining to the city that may come before you during the

year, you will be guided by wisdom and fairness, and that the experience in public affairs which most of you can bring to the performance of your official duties presages a continuance of the safe and judicious management of the city's affairs that marked the labors of the retiring administration, and gives us promise of the approval of the public whose servants we are."

Mayor Hoch's address was greeted with a hearty burst of applause. One of the Aldermen (Stearns), who evidently was not pleased with the election of Mr. Hoch, had the bad taste to refuse to act as chairman of the committee on finance, to which position he had been named by the new Mayor. This was the only unpleasant incident of the evening. When the Council adjourned, the outgoing and new Aldermen accepted Mr. Hoch's invitation to join him in a little supper which had been prepared in an adjoining restaurant.

The Detroit Evening News has these kind words to say of the young Mayor.

Len W. Hoch is the new young man Mayor of Adrian, and his biography may be read to children as a receipt by which to make their lives sublime and leave behind them tracks in the sands of time, as it were. He is but thirty-one years old and has risen to political and business prominence simply by lifting himself by his own boot-straps. What he is he owes entirely to his own efforts, without assistance. He was born in Coldwater, and spent the first thirteen years of his life in Adrian. His parents were not rich, and when very young Mr. Hoch made the great stroke of his life and joined the journalistic profession as devil in the Adrian Times office. He learned the trade and worked in numerous and divers places, always saved his money, and finally drifted back to Adrian in 1885 and began the grocery business with his brother. The business grew and now their sign is written over two big stores. He is a Democrat, a Single Tax and Henry George man, and widely posted on economic notions.

A SINGLE TAXER ELECTED JUSTICE OF THE PEACE AT COHOES, N. Y.

J. S. Crane, a prominent Single Taxer of Cohoes, writes the following note to Benj. Doblin, under date of April 15:

"I swept the town yesterday, carrying three wards out of five—one of them a strong Republican ward. My majority is about 400, and I ran ahead of my ticket in every ward. Yours, for the Single Tax and Free Trade,

J. S. CRANE."

SINGLE TAX IN THE COMMERCIAL CONGRESS.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., April 17.—In selecting delegates to the Western Commercial Congress being held here this week, no special favor was shown to Single Tax advocates, but there were several in attendance, and Mr. Stockwell, a delegate from Minneapolis, offered a Single Tax resolution. The Congress seems to have been called mainly to discuss the "Money Question;" but the programme comprehends nearly all the principal economic questions of the day. The standpoint from which the money question is being treated can be inferred from the assertion by one of the more notable speakers that "a corner on money is a corner on all other corners combined, and can control the social and political, as well as the producing labor and property interests of the nation." Wednesday afternoon the resolutions were read; Mr. Stockwell's Single Tax resolution being one of them. While it did not of course cause the demonstration that followed the reading of those favoring Free Trade, Free Coinage, and one or two others, it was quite a surprise to me that fully one third of the large audience applauded, and no sound of disapproval was heard. This was encouraging, and was made to appear more significant, when, a few minutes later a resolution recommending a uniform system for the assessment of all real and personal property was received with perfect indifference. Up to this time (Friday), no one has had the courage to introduce a resolution favoring "Protection to Home Industries." Following the reading of resolutions, Congressman Crisp made an address on taxation. His speech was thoroughly anti-protection, even ignoring incidental protection. In speaking of direct and indirect taxes, he explained that "that question can therefore be put aside, that it is not practicable to have a direct tax. I think that everyone in this country has agreed that you must get the greater part of the revenue for the support of the Government from customs."

Congressman Breckenridge, of Arkansas, spoke at the evening session of the same day, on the same subject, and said, "A country must have revenue, but how? An indirect tax is a secret tax, and there should be nothing secret in the legislation of the country." Chauncey J. Filley (better known as "Boss" Filley), of St. Louis, made the only speech in support of Protection. It is putting it mildly to say his arguments were not new. One of the resolutions already agreed on in the Committee is that demanding a tariff for revenue only.

R. F. YOUNG.

WOMEN'S ENROLMENT COMMITTEE.

MAUCH CHUNG, Pa., April 18.—Though silent we have not been idle the past two or three weeks. We are glad to be able to report considerable progress in our work; the "plan of work" mentioned in our last report has been favorably received by many Single Tax women who are working with us; classes for the "new political economy" are being formed in many places. We hope to start many such classes, and that the members will become earnest Single Taxers. We are also sending a list of questions to all the Single Tax women whose addresses we can obtain, and we earnestly request all who have received them to answer as promptly as possible. From the answers already received we learn that women are, and have been doing much good work for the Single Tax. Most of our reports still come from isolated Single Tax women. They deserve much praise for working on alone so long, as some have done. Realizing that "in union there is strength," we are now working in harmony with Miss S. M. Gay and her committee. As our work is along similar lines, and for the same end, we can supplement and aid each other, thus doing more effective work with the least waste of time and money. The Traverse Bay Eagle, Traverse City, Mich., will print short articles on the Single Tax every week. Will not some of our Single Tax women take advantage of this opening and write a brief article at least once a month? If only four women would do

this regularly, the paper would have an article every week. This is too good an opportunity to lose, so do let us take up our pens and go to work.

C. ESTELLA BACHMAN, Secretary.

SINGLE TAX LETTER WRITERS.

A "local option in 'taxation'" bill has been introduced into the Pennsylvania Legislature. It authorizes counties, townships, cities, etc., to place local option on land values alone, on land and improvement values together or separately. It has been referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, which consists of Hons. Graham, Riter, Baldwin, Bliss, Brooks, Cochrane, Brown, Davis, Hays, J. C. Johnson, Keyser, Finley, McCullough, Quay, W. F. Stewart, Taggart, Whitley, Wherry, Skinner, Rowland, Farrell, Quigley, Luhr, and J. H. Lafferty, all of whom can be addressed at Harrisburg, Pa. Letters to these gentlemen should urge home rule and the advisability of permitting each community to decide the advisability of permitting each community to decide such matters according to local circumstances, rather than discuss the Single Tax with them.

—Hon. J. Sloat Fassett, Senate Chamber, Albany, N. Y., says: "The succession tax bill does not propose to tax personal property more, but to tax more of it." He asks, "If our present system of taxing real estate is not a tax on land values, what is it?"

Please send me addresses and names of members of the State Legislature. I have Ohio, Illinois, Missouri, New York, and Pennsylvania, but would like the others.

42 University Place.

W. J. ATKINSON.

NEW YORK CITY.

The lecturer before the Manhattan Single Tax Club last Sunday evening was Abner C. Thomas, Esq., who spoke on "The Philosophy of Taxation." He gave a brief history of the various forms of taxation which had been in vogue for four centuries, and explained the various methods of levying taxes in those days. The Single Tax on land values was, to his mind, the only equitable tax. After he had concluded his address an interesting hour was spent in asking questions and discussing various points made by Mr. Thomas. There will be a lecture, as usual, next Sunday evening.

The Club assembled in special meeting on Monday evening, in accordance with a request signed by the required number of members, to consider the following resolutions:

That the Manhattan Single Tax Club appoint five members as representatives, to meet similar representatives from other clubs and associations, for the purpose of forming a committee, association, or league to agitate for local self-government, especially regarding taxation, by the counties, cities and villages of the State of New York.

That the delegates be invited to meet at the rooms of this club * * on the ——— day of ———, 1891.

The resolutions were adopted, and a committee, consisting of Messrs. Doblin, Dunham, Post, Everett and Britigan were appointed to fill the blanks and carry out the instructions contained therein. The Board of Managers meets on Friday evening.

BROOKLYN.

J. T. O'Neill.—This (Wednesday) evening G. W. Thompson will give a reading of Henrik Ibsen's prose drama, "An Enemy of Society." Last Wednesday evening Strausbury Norse, editor of the True Nationalist, spoke on "The Necessary Steps to Thorough Reform." The lecture was one of the best delivered before the club in sometime.

S. G. Gulon.—The New York Herald sometime since asserted that Henry George's theories regarding land were as "false as Satan." I made a request in writing to the Herald as follows:

To the Editor of the Herald: The Herald says that Henry George's theories regarding land are as "false as Satan." Will the Herald please state its reasons for asserting that they are false? Myself and many others would be much pleased to know wherein they are false, so that we may be able to successfully refute the fallacies of the Henry George theorists.

Needless to say I have received no answer.

MASSACHUSETTS.

S. T., Boston.—The Young Men's Democratic Club, of Massachusetts, celebrated Jefferson's birthday by a banquet at the American House, on the evening of April 13, when speeches were made by Congressmen Benton McMullin, of Tennessee, and O'Neil, of Massachusetts, and Governor Russell. Protectionists refer to the above organization as the "Free Trade contingent of the Democratic party."

B. N. Winnertblad, Cambridgeport.—Eleven petitions; among them one women. I have given some of my blanks to two friends, who will be heard from soon.

CONNECTICUT.

Joseph McGuinness, Brooklyn.—I have just returned from a brief health trip to New London, Conn. I took literature and petitions along, hoping to stir things up. I return a few signed petitions. Found it difficult to arouse the people of the sleepy old town, until I struck George Williams, an old Greenbacker, on the day of my departure. I succeeded in making him see the full outlines of the cat. He is full of enthusiasm, and promised to go to work with a will to arouse some sentiment in the town. He is well supplied with tracts and petitions, and I am confident he will be heard from shortly. I impressed it on him, that the country was alive to this issue, that over one hundred thousand petitions were signed, of which but a small portion came from his State, and that there was no good reason why his State should not keep step with the others. He promised not to halt until he had secured at least two hundred signatures. And I believe he will keep his word.

PENNSYLVANIA.

"Uncle Tom," Bryn Mawr.—Fifteen petitions. To feel the pulse of those who had received Single Tax literature, the address of the sender had been written on the outside of the wrapper or envelope. One old, horny-handed granger, who all his life has been voting the Democratic ticket without knowing why, returned the last batch of papers sent him, writing on the inside of the wrapper that "Benjamin Holland does not wish those papers." Any man who murders the Queen's English like this ought certainly be in

favor of a system of taxation that would allow him to save money enough to employ a teacher to correct his grammatical errors. Benjamin signed the petition last year and has read enough about the Single Tax to be on the fence.

Mr. Tryon Lewis, of Radnor, Pa., has been notified that he would receive THE STANDARD for four weeks, etc. He writes: "You will please not send any more papers to me, as they do not express my views as regards taxation." Mr. Lewis is a chronic kicker about taxation; is a large farmer, both in body and possessions; has been a member of the Legislature; has presumably read "Social Problems," as a copy had been sent him last year; he has been on the list of the letter writing corps; is a vice-president of the Tariff Reform Association of Chester, Delaware and Montgomery Counties, and after all we do not express his views as regards taxation. Mr. Lewis is also a Demi-crut, and at least ought to Try on THE STANDARD.

VIRGINIA.

Eugene Withers, Danville.—Seven petitions. I don't have much chance to solicit signatures; but when I can I get the signatures of those who come in my office; my efforts to circulate copies of "Protection or Free Trade?" are much more successful than I dared to hope for. I think that nearly every man who reads that book becomes at once an out-and-out Free Trader, and that means a man who at least is not a bitter opponent of the Single Tax. It is meeting with the greatest favor among the farmers and laboring men. I think if our men would go to work that even in Virginia we would move forward at a rapid rate. I wish that some one would suggest to me a way by which I could excite the interest of the Richmond Single Taxers. I am about to give up in despair, for it seems impossible to get more than one man interested. I hope that some of THE STANDARD readers will suggest some means that will enable me to rouse them from their apparent indifference. I hope that the letter-writing corps will use their utmost endeavors on the Richmond Dispatch. It is a very bitter opponent of our cause, and at times not a fair one.

Thomas Williamson, Lexington.—I have put ten copies of "Protection or Free Trade" in Buena Vista and ten in Lexington and I keep ten for distribution. Those at the book stores will be sold for 25 cents and I will use 15 cents to buy more. I have got only one signer here, but have made the gospel known. On a recent trip to Wheeling I saw in letters nearly a foot long, near Parkersburg, the legend, "Free Trade for '92 Single Tax," some of Brother Boreman's work, I suspect. Free Trade sentiment is increasing here and Cleveland is the favorite for '92.

TEXAS.

L. L. Sloss, Pearsall.—Through the good offices of R. C. Gossett, lecturer of the Medina County Alliance, I received an urgent request from the Devine sub-Alliance to meet with and address the County Alliance on the 10th inst. I accepted, and on that evening I appeared before that body at the Duncan schoolhouse, and talked to them on Free Trade, with the result that on the following day I had the pleasure of hearing Professor Hall, of the Divine High School move "That the County Alliance purchase one copy of 'Social Problems,' 'Protection or Free Trade' and (I believe) 'Property in Land' for each of the sub-Alliances in the county." The motion was carried, but was afterward altered to read "ten sets" of the books. Before I left Devine on my return home I was pledged a good house, good audience and expenses paid if I would return in two or three weeks and lecture on the Single Tax. Of course I accepted. "The fields are already white unto the harvest."

OHIO.

Billy Radcliffe, S. T., Youngstown.—I have not been able to do the cause much good the last few weeks, as I have been very busy putting up goods for my Summer tripon the road, and I will be out singing and talking again by May 1. I will travel by rail this season, and will cross Ohio from Steubenville to Cincinnati, making Cincinnati about May 20; then I will work north to Toledo. I wish to say to my Ohio friends, if you have any desire to spread the light and have "Protection or Free Trade?" talked up and sold on the street at ten cents, just send your money to the Hand-to-Hand Club and order the books sent to me, and I will give the people a talk and put out as many as I can in every town I visit, and what money I take in on the books I will put into tracts for free distribution, accounting through THE STANDARD every week or two. All together now, "Down goes McKinley." I have between times disposed of about half of the 500 "Protection or Free Trade's?" I got, and will be able to run the rest off in a few days.

J. S. Maclean, Columbus.—Fourteen petitions. Every week, on the arrival of THE STANDARD, I scan the list, expecting to find that some one in Columbus has waked up and sent you a good big batch; but it begins to look like a forlorn hope. Surely, the Single Tax men and Free Traders of Ohio, if of any part of the country, should need no incentive at the present time. Soon the eyes of the whole world will be upon us, and we will do well to prepare ourselves to help defeat "McKinley and Protection," in the attempt to be made this Fall to carry the State for the one, and the Gubernatorial chair for the other, especially as it is certain the issue will be "clean cut," and as the fight will really be a skirmish, preceding the great battle of '92, the result of the one will, to say the least, have a great effect on that of the other.

For thus spoke Fate, by prophet bred
Between the living and the dead:
"Who spills the foremost foeman's life,
His party conquers in the strife!"

ILLINOIS.

Warren Worth Bailey, Chicago, April 17.—We received a notice last Saturday night that the Revenue Committee of the House would take up our petition relating to taxation on Wednesday of this week. It took us rather by surprise, and it was impossible to get together as large a delegation to visit Springfield as we had counted on sending. However, John Z. White and E. O. Brown were able to get away, and they are a host in themselves. Both these gentlemen addressed the committee, Mr. Brown speaking first

for an hour and receiving the close attention of the members and spectators alike. Then Mr. White took the floor, and, after a brief general statement of his views, he submitted himself to the heckling process, carrying things off with his usual success. The members of the committee seemed to be really considering the question at issue, and Chairman Cockrell especially showed interest and an intelligent comprehension of the arguments. However, at this session nothing is likely to be done further than the appointment of a sub-committee charged with the duty of making a thorough examination of the subject of taxation, its report to be rendered to the next Legislature. As Mr. Cockrell himself designs to be upon that sub-committee, it is safe to say that its work will be faithfully and ably done, and I shall look for a report that will not be wholly against us.

John C. Harding, President of the Illinois Federation of Labor, addressed us very briefly yet most suggestively on "The Attitude of Trades Unions Toward the Reform Movement." I regret that I have not his paper by me, so that I might quote from it at some length, for it contained many sentiments worthy of reproduction. He is the head of a great trades organization, yet he flatly declared that the Union is wrong in principle. It restricts the individual and interferes with the exercise of natural rights, and, at best, it is but a mere expedient. The sooner it became possible to discard the union and gave labor perfect freedom the better it would be. He hoped to see the day when it would not be necessary for the producing classes to combine in order to get the results of their labor. For the present, however, the union was a sort of necessary evil, to be maintained and endured pending the solution of the great economic problem that is pressing more and more to the front. He was in doubt whether the Single Tax offered the true solution of that problem, but he had no doubt that the present system of taxation was wrong in principle and profoundly unjust in practice. It bore heavily on the poor and lightly on the rich, while it discouraged enterprise, checked production and lessened the rewards of labor. Nor had he much faith in any independent political movement. He did not believe there was a common ground on which the various reformers could or would meet and unite. Some of them thought the money question paramount; others dreamed of co-operation; still others could see no importance in anything except transportation, while another element was imbued with the idea that the way out of all our social troubles is through sub-treasuries and government loans. The Single Tax people, he knew, professed to have a true and adequate remedy for the disease that afflicts the nation, but how were they going to get the world to recognize the fact, if fact it were? He spoke not in controversy, but as a learner. He wanted its advocates to show that the Single Tax really offered a basis broad enough for all reformers to stand upon.

At the conclusion of Mr. Harding's address Mr. Perry H. Smith, Jr., one of the most prominent of the young Democrats of the city and a man of culture and great wealth, was called on and briefly responded, complimenting the speaker of the evening and paying the club a handsome tribute. He said he was deeply interested in the question of taxation. It was of first and highest importance. Everything else must be kept in the background until that question is settled and settled right.

Mr. White then, by general request, took the floor for the purpose of discussing Mr. Harding's paper. He first told of his trip to Springfield and its results, dwelling on the great obstructions of a constitutional character in the way of reform and the extreme difficulty of taking the first practical step, and then he launched into a most admirable exposition of our principles and methods, exciting frequent applause by his clever hits and telling arguments. It was a masterly speech. As one lady put it, "It was just grand."

We intend to get after the assessors again this year, and with that end in view the following committee on local taxation was appointed last night, instructed to call on the officers in question and urge upon them the importance of equalizing assessments, especially as between unimproved and improved land: Joseph T. Ripley, chairman; J. B. Taylor, E. O. Brown, C. G. Buck; J. Z. White, Judge Bangs, Herbert Darlington, H. W. McFarlane and Axel G. Burman.

A committee was also authorized to take up the "work of extending the circulation of 'Protection or Free Trade?'" This committee will co-operate with Mr. Foord. In this connection it is pleasant to note that on last Sunday the Herald gave a column complimentary notice of the Hand-to-Hand Club's great work in this direction. The article was not merely courteous in tone, it was, indeed, quite friendly.

Among our visitors last night was Mr. Percy H. Roberts, formerly a member of our club. He now resides at Elgin, and he told me that a good Single Tax club would be organized there this evening. He invited several of our people to go out and take part in the affair, and some of them promised to be present. I hope other towns, especially Springfield and Jacksonville, will speedily imitate the Elgin example. There ought to be at least a dozen more active organizations in Illinois.

The South Chicago Single Tax Club is preparing for a big public meeting on the 24th inst. John Z. White has been invited to speak.

Ernest J. Foord, Chicago.—Six petitions. Am so busy selling and planning sales to "Protection or Free Trade," that I have temporarily had to let the petition rest a little while. Believe me, I shall boom the petition branch of our work. The six signatures I obtained at the polls election day. They all signed readily after I had explained that the Single Tax would rid us all of the accursed "personal property tax."

Robert Aitchison, South Chicago.—We have organized a club here and will hold meetings on the second and fourth Fridays of each month. We intend to push the Single Tax question to the front here as much as possible. We expect to have some of our Chicago friends with us at the next meeting, April 24th, when we will endeavor to have the room full of intelligent people to hear the Single Tax method explained to them.

MISSOURI.

Percy Pepon, St. Louis.—Thursday evening, May 7, Henry H. Hoffman will address the Single Tax League at Browman's Hall. This event is looked forward to with much interest. Monday evening, April 27, the

Informal Club, the membership of which is picked from the best of St. Louis, will discuss the Single Tax. Professor W. L. Sheldon, who is arranging the programme, has booked eight speakers on the Single Tax side of the question. The Reform Club (the west end Single Tax organization) is doing good work. It meets the first and third Monday of each month at Garrison avenue and Olive street. The next address will be made by I. H. Lionberger, on the sale of municipal franchises. Highly encouraging reports from the State at large are coming to the State committee. The interest is just now centered on the distribution of the Hand to Hand Club edition of "Protection or Free Trade?" as it should be. A Single Tax meeting will be held Saturday evening April 25th, at Easton and Taylor avenues.

"Pa" Chase, St. Louis.—For the last three years Rev. Wm. Short, of St. Peter's Episcopal Church, has been receiving "Single Tax" tracts from members of "the Benton School." At last he has announced the Single Tax as a means of a great, though not complete and entirely satisfactory, social reform. "It is so simple, so natural," he said, "that many are offended at it, and yet so far-reaching in its magnificent prophecies that those who have studied it are astonished at its possibilities." This was said by him at his lecture on "The Relation of Christianity to Social Reform" before the Reform Club of St. Louis, which is a Henry George club.

G. A. Menger, St. Louis.—Five petitions. The first I have sent in sometime. The Single Tax seems to be growing everywhere.

MINNESOTA.

W. A. Carpenter, Minneapolis.—Saturday evening, 12th inst., I had the pleasure of addressing the Young People's Political Science Club at the Public Library Building, on the Single Tax, and a more attentive and intelligent audience I have never met. The questions these young people asked showed considerable study of the subject, and indicated that they had passed the babyhood stage of objections to the Single Tax philosophy, as witness the following: "Would it be fair to compel an artisan with a humble home to move to a cheaper location, because his lot had become so valuable that he was unable to pay the tax?" "Would not the presence of so much wealth in the public treasury result in corruption?" "Can a man be a consistent Single Taxer and at the same time be a Protectionist?" "Why are you in favor of the removal of the internal revenue taxes?" "What effect would the adoption of the Single Tax have on the selling value of land?" "How would the Single Tax affect the farmer?" These are samples of the questions asked by boys aged fifteen to seventeen years, most of whom are members of our High School. I think great credit is due their efficient teacher, Miss Eloise S. Butler, a thorough-going Single Taxer, by the way, for the manner in which the boys acquitted themselves. At the close of the meeting, each member, as well as the parents and older friends who were present, carried away several tracts, including the Single Tax platform. Two weeks later Mr. M. W. Meagher will speak before the same club in opposition to the Single Tax theory, and the boys have invited me to be present and ask a few questions.

Mr. Buel has lately addressed the students of Caton's Business College on the Single Tax. Verily, the young people seem to be searching after the truth.

In three days last week I disposed of sixty-six copies of "Protection or Free Trade?" to as many acquaintances, without making any special effort. They go like hot cakes.

C. J. Buell, Minneapolis.—Seven petitions. No. 1 is ex-Governor Alexander Gill of this state, who, in private conversation with me a few days ago, voluntarily expressed a desire to see a commission appointed to examine into and report upon the abolition of all tariffs. I immediately handed him a petition which he immediately signed with a remark of hearty approval. No. 2 is one of the most vigorous and uncompromising protectionists to be found in eight states. No. 3 is a prominent physician here, with leanings toward the Single Tax; No. 4 is a vigorous Single Tax worker, who claims that he never signed before. The others are workmen who are Single Taxers, though they do not fully understand the subject. Most Minneapolis workmen are Single Taxers by a sort of absorption process. Set the letter writers on Rev. H. M. Simmons. He believes that the land was intended for all people, but he is woefully ignorant of the effects of the Single Tax. Thinks it would add to the cost of products, and lots of other nonsense.

COLORADO.

Joseph Sinton, Colorado Springs.—Fifteen petitions. It is easy to get signers since the passage of the McKinley Bill. The words "Protection," "Free Trade," "Tariff, etc., are written, printed and spoken a hundred times now to once ten years ago. I find a great many of our Western men are beginning to think that there is a good deal of humbug in this "protection business."

WYOMING.

Wm. Matthews, Black Buttes.—Nineteen petitions.

CALIFORNIA.

H. L. Pleace, San Francisco.—In California we are doing well. Our friend Barry has procured the passage of his contempt bill, and we have secured the reform ballot through the untiring efforts of James G. Maguire, who seems to have gone to Sacramento and snatched victory from defeat. Of course it is somewhat of a malformation, being amended by parties who knew not what they were doing, and did it at such a time that it would be almost fatal to buck against them. The adoption of the bill will give the people of California a chance to have their choice to represent them in Congress. I take it as a grand step forward, and every good citizen will yet feel grateful to the leader in ballot reform, ex-Judge James G. Maguire. During this week we have had several applications for matter of a reform and Single Tax character. I have supplied them, but I feel that there is quite a wide field of labor among the papers on this coast. A Mr. Brown, up in the Santa Cruz Mountains, sent for Single Tax reading matter to give to his brother Farmer Alliance men, and, being so well satisfied, he

sent the second time for another supply. We are holding our regular weekly meetings and have reading rooms open, and are sending out as much literature as we can.

O. L. Long, San Jose.—Thirteen petitions. Judge Maguire stirred up the Nationalists here on the Single Tax a few Sundays ago and made several converts. A Mr. Hines, a prominent Nationalist, was to have debated with the Judge the question, "Resolved, that the Single Tax without injury to any one would abolish undeserved poverty," but has no doubt come to the conclusion that the Judge's argument is unanswerable, as we hear no more of the debate. Mr. Hines contends that land has no value without improvement, and also that the Single Tax would create a gigantic monopoly.

OKLAHOMA TERRITORY.

J. K. McCarty, Norman.—Twenty-one petitions. I find that the nearer home we draw the picture of combination between "Capital and Labor," the more convincing the argument. This being a new country it is not so good a field for work as the older States. Yet, even here, plowed land is assessed much higher than that unused and held for speculation. I will do all I can for the "Single Tax."

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

George Weidenhofer, Adelaide.—Since my last letter the branches have all been doing steady work by means of lectures, distribution of literature, etc. A sharp controversy has also been carried on in the new papers under the heading of Property Tax versus Single Tax. The property tax is favored by some of our wealthy men, who evidently are very anxious to bear the burdens of taxation, and it was with the intention of ventilating the fallacies of this system of taxation that the first letter to the paper was written. Those who took part in the discussion did not touch upon the property tax to any very great extent, but immediately started to discuss the justice of the Single Tax. This bears out what I stated in my previous letter, that the only point discussed at any length is the justice of the tax, its sufficiency as a means of raising revenue being rarely touched upon. "Free Trade and Protection" was treated by Mr. A. Mackie, president of one of our branches, a few weeks ago. Here again the Single Tax came to the front in the discussion which followed, protection receiving very little attention from the audience. The people are fast losing faith in this "remedy," and are quickly giving their attention to the only true reform. On the 28th February, the League formed a branch at Glenelg, the haunts of our aristocracy. The Rev. Hugh Gilmore delivered a magnificent address on "The Land, the People, and the Coming Conflict." The address was a great success in every way, and any that came there to oppose our principle must have been satisfied that there was more in the Single Tax than they had thought, and that to treat the subject with indifference was a greater barrier to the spread of our doctrines than open opposition. In speaking of our work Mr. Gilmore said:

Some of those who are in possession count us disturbers of the peace and pestilent fellows, but we are the true friends of peace, and the friends even of those who are in possession. The political economists left the people without hope, and the hopeless people were desperate and ready for violence. If it was impossible to improve the social conditions, then it would be as well to destroy them. The people in possession have no name bad enough for Henry George, but his message alone averted violence; his message indicated to us the way out of the difficulty and inspired hope. It ever there was a man with a message for his age, who was qualified for his hour and his work, if ever there was a man possessed of a divine inspiration and enthusiasm, that man was Henry George, and in the years to come, when the din of conflict shall have ceased, when the blinding mist of passion shall have passed away, and when men shall live in greater peace and contentment, few names will be held in higher esteem and veneration than Henry George. He showed us a safe, constitutional and equitable method out of our difficulty by the appropriation for general purposes of the unearned land values.

This statement was received most enthusiastically by the audience, numbering between four hundred and five hundred, and at the close of the lecture three hearty cheers were given for Henry George. This meeting was one of the most successful which has been held for a long time.

The Central League is continually receiving letters from different portions of the colony, telling of the progress being made, and from the distribution throughout the country districts of some 15,000 copies of the Pioneer containing a very full exposition of our principles, we expect to get before long a large number of supporters.

At an election meeting held recently, one of the candidates said that he was "opposed to the Single Tax because he knew what that meant to the farmers. His system of taxation would be on the unimproved land values, so that those who held the creamy portion of the land should pay the creamy portion of the taxation." This man has been written to and supplied with literature; he is evidently not far from the kingdom.

The Trades and Labor Council of South Australia, is contesting three of the eight seats vacant in the Legislative Council, the elections for which will take place shortly. The platform includes the taxation of unimproved land values for municipal purposes, a progressive land tax (similar to that proposed by our late Premier, but which was rejected by the House of Assembly), and failing in this, an increase of the present tax of one-half pence on the pound. It is somewhat peculiar to have a plank such as this latter one included in a platform, but it shows that this hitherto somewhat conservative body has at last awakened to the importance of the land question. Besides the inclusion of these two, a plank has been inserted, having for its object the abolition of custom duties to an amount equal to the revenue obtained by land taxation. Taken all around the platform is satisfactory, and shows a distinct advance in the thoughts of the members of the Council. The majority still voted "Protection to native industries," but there was some opposition to its inclusion.

Altogether we have good reason to be satisfied with the continued progress of the good cause for which we are striving and struggling. We are full of hope for the future, and feel confident that although it may be some little time before we get an increase of our present tax on land values, a corresponding remission of other taxes, when we do get the same, the increase will be a substantial one, one which will enable us to make up any ground, which, judging by the acts of parliament passed by other countries, we

may appear to have lost. We feel doubly sure of this because the question discussed is rarely "a small increase of the present tax," but the "Single Tax or nothing." I send my best wishes for the continued prosperity of our movement in the States.

GERMANY.

William Wolff, Bruchsal.—I have just received THE STANDARD of March 11, but am, up to date, without the issue of the 4th. In the case of any other paper I would not mind this, but I cannot afford to lose a copy of THE STANDARD, so please send it to me. Our papers here are telling of a case that shows the beauties of Protection. A bridge is to be built over the Rhine to connect Switzerland with Germany. When the iron structures were placed on this side of the river the custom house officials came down and demanded duty on them. And, I suppose, after the bridge is built, and it thus becomes easy to do business between the two countries, custom officers will be stationed at both entrances to prevent, as far as lies in their power, any business being done.

PUBLISHER'S NOTES.

From all parts of the country come assurances from Single Tax workers that they will do all that they can to promote the circulation of THE STANDARD. Now and then we receive an angry or captious criticism, but this is rarely the case. From other correspondents come suggestions with which we are glad to comply whenever that is possible. Some complain bitterly of the increased price of the paper, but nearly every complaint of this kind comes from those who were accustomed to buy the paper of newsdealers. Now, we might as well talk plainly with all concerned about this matter. When the present proprietor took THE STANDARD it was a five cent paper, and its circulation was but slightly larger than at present. During the four years of its existence various attempts had been made to increase its circulation by making club rates or otherwise reducing its price to subscribers. Not a single one of these efforts accomplished the object sought, and every one of them reduced the income the paper would otherwise have received. People preferred to buy the paper rather than subscribe for it, and the result was that the bulk of its issues were sold at an actual loss.

Of course such a paper could easily be sold at a profit at five cents a copy if it had an enormous sale. It is not in the nature of things that THE STANDARD should have such a sale. It is addressed only to thoughtful people, and it would cease to have any reason for existence if it changed its character with a view to becoming "popular." It was with a full and intimate knowledge of its history that its present proprietor took possession of it. He knowingly assumed a responsibility that carried with it the necessity of care, anxiety and hard work for small pay. If he had not consented to do this the publication of the paper would have stopped, because Mr. George was so worn out with overwork that he could no longer bear the strain. The new proprietor knew that the paper would lose money so long as it was sold at the low wholesale price necessary to enable newsdealers to retail it at 5 cents. He accordingly raised the price to 10 cents and enlarged the paper somewhat to justify the increase. To have continued the old subscription price would have caused the immediate refusal of the news agencies to handle the paper. It was difficult to keep it on the news stands at all with the subscription price only raised to \$3. The usual price for 10 cent papers is \$4. Under the circumstances we were compelled to raise the subscription price, but the percentage of increase was small, and the unusual concession of a yearly rate for four months' subscriptions was made. The man who really wants the paper can raise a dollar if he will try. If this is not true, then no such paper can be published.

These are facts that those who desire the continued existence of an able and influential Single Tax paper must know if they are to work intelligently to increase its prosperity and extend its influence. The people who faithfully supported it when Mr. George owned it as a rule have stood by it since. The men who now fail to support it or who throw obstacles in the way of its success did precisely the same thing before. It is to the former that these publisher's notes are addressed. It concerns other Single Tax men quite as much as it does the proprietor of THE STANDARD. If his object were money making he would make THE STANDARD a radical Free Trade Democratic paper, and leave the Single Tax alone. The capital for such a purpose would be easily attainable. Single Tax men cannot contribute capital, but they can do even better if they will contribute energy and devotion. An increase of 5,000 subscribers through their efforts would make possible an improvement in the quality of the paper that would bring it an equal increase from other directions. It is in the power of the Single Tax people to do this if they will, provided they appreciate its importance and stick to this until it is accomplished, to the exclusion of everything else. They can obtain five thousand new yearly subscribers between now and July 1 if they will go about the work as did the Denver correspondent whose letter appeared in these notes last week.

One man who, in the past, has voluntarily done a great deal to promote the circulation of THE STANDARD is H. W. McFarlane, of Chicago. Without any urging he started out long ago among his acquaintances, and obtained thirty annual subscriptions to THE STANDARD. In a recent letter to the publisher he says:

In my judgement, however, it is far easier to capture a new subscriber by offering him the paper at a discount from the regular price than by any other means. But this alone will not suffice with the most indifferent. With such persons the solicitor will often find it advantageous to explain that he is getting up a club in order that the paper may be secured at the reduced rate; that he has already secured some subscribers—this, of course, after he has made a beginning—showing him their names, some or all of whom may be recognized as friends or acquaintances; and that all are depending upon him to make the undertaking successful. Thus he is made to feel that by subscribing himself, he not only does a favor to the solicitor, but to his friends and acquaintances as well. The desire to please and accommodate one's friends, when convenient, is hardly less strong or natural with the average person, than the very general inclination on the part of many to buy whatever useful or desirable article may be offered to them cheap. But there is another trait in human nature which the skillful "worker" will not fail to discover after some experience and "work" to advantage. I refer to the power of imitation. We are all very strongly tempted, when occasion offers, to do as our neighbors and friends do. In soliciting subscriptions, therefore, it is always

a good plan to exhibit, at the proper time and in the right way, the names already secured. It is for these reasons, chiefly, that I look upon the club method and club rate as the most effective means for reaching and persuading the multitude to become subscribers to THE STANDARD. But, granting that they can be reached in this way, the question arises: How can the plan be put into operation? How can the present readers of the paper be animated and induced to engage in the work of increasing its circulation? This is a question of equal importance with the terms upon which the paper may be offered to new subscribers. On this point I believe the power of association, of united efforts, of enthusiasm, if it can be enlisted, will accomplish more than any pecuniary or other consideration you could offer to "workers." It is well enough, perhaps, to have a standing offer of that kind for those among us who may be aroused to action by the expectation of a "premium" for their services; and it may be wise, also, to allow a reasonable percentage of the subscription price to those who may procure one or more new subscribers at the regular price. This may induce some to engage in the work and perhaps supply a means of livelihood to those who may wish to engage in the business permanently; or it may afford profitable employment to some Single Tax brother or sister who may otherwise be temporarily idle. But I believe the best results will be obtained by arousing enthusiasm for the work among Single Taxers generally, for the good of the cause, by extending the circulation of THE STANDARD, and thereby enable you to carry out the plans for improvement you have outlined in a recent issue. This, I think, can be accomplished by first announcing terms that will meet the various preferences of solicitors or agents, as hinted at above; then make a general call upon all Single Taxers to endeavor to secure subscribers on whichever of the terms offered may suit them best; and then give the news, from week to week, in some department of the paper, concerning the progress of the work, encouraging and inspiring all to renewed application and effort. I do not suggest this as a means for some of us getting our names in the paper (for many of us, alas! are at present more harmed than helped by it), but it is quite natural for one to lose interest and enthusiasm, after securing a few subscribers, if, for all he knows, he is the only one engaged in the work. He realizes how little his small effort amounts to. Even those who may have succeeded in sending in thirty or fifty names are apt to rest satisfied or become discouraged, unless the editor informs them that others are working still. The publication of these results also tends to excite emulation and rivalry among workers, spurring them on to greater effort; while to those who have done nothing, it serves as a constant admonition.

For reasons already stated, it is not possible for us to accept all of Mr. McFarlane's suggestions, but we shall be glad to go as far as possible in the direction indicated with any one who privately informs us that he is willing to make a systematic canvass of his friends. Every one cannot do as much as Mr. McFarlane, but all can do something if they will.

The disposition to try is clearly shown in the following brief extracts from letters received:

J. H. Hall, McGregor, Texas.—These are not avowed Single Taxers but they are enthusiastic Free Traders, and I think by the time they have read four STANDARDS they will see the cat.

Robert Tyson, Toronto, Can.—I am ready for another book. I will use the blanks carefully to promote subscriptions. Do not count me out because I am a Canadian; I am sound on the question that strengthening THE STANDARD is an important and essential part of the Single Tax work. That is, my faith and my works agree therewith, for I have already had the pleasure of sending you four or five subscriptions.

Uncle Tom, Bryn Mawr, Pa.—These gentlemen are very much interested in taxation, both protective and otherwise. I have written to them and will do so again after they have received two or three copies.

J. S. Maclean, Columbus, O.—Six months ago one of these men was a strong advocate of protection. He and a few others equally intelligent swap reading matter, and among them I expect to get a subscriber. This man is an example of the good the petition has already done even if it never does more. When asked to sign it he did not know of the Single Tax, and voted the straight Republican ticket. His attention was aroused, however, and he is now an ardent and enthusiastic worker for the downfall of "the whole infernal system," and will make converts, I have no doubt.

W. E. Brokaw, Watertown, S. D.—I have looked over my lists and selected the names of persons most likely to subscribe. Send me another book for catching men whom I meet in the future.

F. A. McNeill, Tecumseh, Mich.—I feel assured that at least three of the five will become subscribers.

I. J. McCallum, Snow, Tex.—I think I can get several subscribers soon. Please send me two more books, as I shall go on the road in two weeks and can use them to good advantage.

Thomas W. Edkins, Ilion, N. Y.—One of these is a friend of mine whom I converted to the Single Tax. He has since moved to Baltimore, and I am almost sure he will subscribe. Two have thanked me for sending the paper, and I will attend to all of them near the end of the four weeks.

George McGee, Canton, O.—These are intelligent men who have admitted to me that the Single Tax is just and expedient.

R. F. Young, Kansas City, Mo.—I think I can use a few recruit subscriptions to advantage. Free Trade Democrats are good subjects for this kind of work.

Henry C. C. Schakel, Indianapolis, Ind.—I will do the best I can to increase the circulation of THE STANDARD.

Martin Gay, West New Brighton, N. Y.—I enclose two recruit subscriptions and \$1 for a four months' subscription for——.

David McWilliams, Wilmington, Del.—I am glad to see so many engaged in trying to increase the subscription to the best paper published.

F. M. Marquis, Grass Valley, Ore.—Acknowledges receipt of back numbers of THE STANDARD forwarded to him by some unknown friend in Massachusetts, and sends subscriptions to several acquaintances whom he thinks he can induce to take the paper.

H. F. Ring, Houston, Texas.—Enclosed please find twenty-five recruit subscription blanks filled out, and also \$5 in payment for more of this same thing. You are giving us a remarkably good paper.

B. C. Stickney, Brooklyn, N. Y.—I will make all proper efforts to secure subscriptions for THE STANDARD from all five.

C. A. Carlson, Poplar Bluff, Mo.—I recognize the fact that THE STANDARD deserves all the support we are able to give it. Although I consider the contents of a periodical of much higher importance than the fineness of its paper or the size of its type, still the improvement in THE STANDARD'S appearance will probably help to increase its circulation. As a Westerner, allow me to say a word on the silver question. I am surprised at the

enthusiasm displayed by many of our Western Single Tax men on this new issue. Whatever may be said for or against free silver coinage when discussed on its merits, it seems to me that as we increase the number of issues we decrease our chances of success. This is not a case of strengthening a bundle of sticks by adding another stick; it is a case of breaking the camel's back by piling on too many straws.

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

The Chicago Herald and the St. Louis Republic have each devoted over three-quarters of a column recently to a hearty endorsement of this edition. Intelligent tariff reformers everywhere only need to have their attention called to its merits to give it substantial assistance. Every Democrat interested in the success of his party can easily see that it is to his advantage to help, as Free Traders are the natural allies, as Protectionists are the natural enemies of that party. Any man working where a number of others are employed can easily, by showing a sample copy, get orders from nearly all his co-workers. With but very little trouble newsdealers and small shopkeepers can be induced to order ten or more copies, the margin of fifteen cents a copy on a twenty-five cent book being sufficient inducement. In Cleveland the striking painters are being enlisted in the work, they being sold copies at ten cents, and selling the books from house to house at twenty five cents. Local notices are now appearing in many out of town papers, and these assist so greatly in the work that it is worth all the trouble it may take to get them.

Hon. L. M. Hoch, Mayor, Adrian, Mich.—Seventeen dollars for books. Spring election work caused a little standstill in selling "Protection or Free Trade?" Now I hope to push our cause where it will have a lasting effect.

Quincy A. Glass, Winfield, Kas.—Enclosed \$2; send 20 copies to H. and L. Vincent, proprietors of the Nonconformist, which has 20,000 circulation. They will run the first two pages of tract No. 39 in the reading matter next week, and will put it regularly in their list of books for sale.

Sol. F. Clark, Little Rock, Ark.—We have already distributed the 50 purchased by our club, and this seems to have a begotten a desire for more. Enclosed is M. O. for 100 more.

Philip Lewis, Wilmington, Del.—I send you M. O. for \$5 for 50 copies. A number of these are for believers in Protection, but are open to conviction. M. R. Levy, New York City.—\$6.50 cash for 65 books.

G. F. Stephens.—Enclosed is check for \$30 on account of "Protection or Free Trade?" ordered by Single Tax Society of Philadelphia.

S. Byron Welcome, Los Angeles, Cal.—Enclosed find \$5 for 50 copies of the 100 ordered.

Jas. T. Trickett, Chilhowie, Va.—Enclosed find \$1, for which please send me 10 copies of "Protection or Free Trade?" to distribute among friends, and through their influence will be able to order quite a number more.

H. Valet, Philadelphia, Penn.—Enclosed find \$1 and 10 more subscriptions.

John G. Zimmerman, Lebanon, Penn.—Enclosed find \$1 for 10 more books. Expect to send a large order soon.

A. J. Wennerblad, Minneapolis, Minn.—Enclosed find \$2.50 for 25 more books.

J. A. Spoor, Lewis, Iowa.—Enclosed post office order is for 10 more books. I can see the effect of the first lot already.

J. B. Wallace, Sanger, Tex.—W. E. Patterson and I have arranged to send a canvasser in the field with "Protection or Free Trade?" and start him with 20 copies, for which enclosed find \$2. Kindly send at once as they will be sold in Alliance Committee, and I am sure will be seed in good ground.

C. W. Kellogg, Chicago, Ill.—Enclosed find \$10 for 100 copies. I find great pleasure in spreading the Single Tax Gospel, and hope to live to see it in vogue.

T. Johnson, Yankee Jim's, Cal.—Enclosed find \$2 for 20 copies. The Single Tax is gaining here.

Morris Marsh, Shenandoah, Penn.—The 20 copies of "Protection or Free Trade?" were duly received and all placed in good hands, and now I want 20 more copies, for which you will find \$2 enclosed.

D. Webster Groh, Boston, Mass.—\$1 for 10 copies, making total of 51.

L. E. Sperry, Grundy Centre, Iowa.—\$1 for 10 additional copies.

George W. Wood, Undine, Mich.—I enclose \$5 to pay for 50 copies of "Protection or Free Trade?"

S. F. Shorey, Seattle, Wash.—Enclosed find \$10 for 100 more books. I received the 50 and have placed them where they will do good work.

R. B. Shiner, Hollingsworth, Tex.—\$5 for 50 copies.

Israel B. Widdett, Rodantha, N. C.—I received your circular on the 2d, and have already 26 subscriptions, for which I send cash. Will remit again soon.

B. L. D. Stevens, Farmington, Ky.—I received the book, notice "Protection or Free Trade," and I herein enclose \$1 for 10 to start on. I have read it in the Courier Journal, and believe it to be the best thing I ever read on that subject.

W. I. Boreman, Parkersburg, W. Va.—Please send 300 copies "Protection or Free Trade?" as per enclosed slip. I enclose check for same. They go to Democrats of Wood County. Will send for a few hundred more later on.

Oliver T. Erickson, Minneapolis, Minn.—The enclosed draft for \$25 is to pay for 250 additional copies.

Eugene Withers, Danville, Va.—I enclose check for \$2.50, for which send twenty-five copies of "Protection or Free Trade?" I am greatly surprised at the interest that I have succeeded in arousing in this move.

M. M. Coleman, New Haven, Conn.—Enclosed is \$1. Please send me ten more books.

D. R. Brown, Rincon, Cal.—I will see that every Republican tariff sinner in my precinct has one of your books to read, and I propose to make them pay for their reading. Enclosed find list of names, which is the first batch. Also find post office order for \$2.10.

SINGLE TAX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES.

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

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

ARKANSAS.

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

CALIFORNIA.

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

OAKLAND.—Oakland single tax club No. 1. Meets every Friday evening at St. Andrew's Hall, at 1050 1/2 Broadway. Pres., A. J. Gregg; sec., E. Hodgkins.

SAN FRANCISCO.—California single tax society, room 9, 641 Market street. Pres., L. M. Manzer; cor. sec., Thomas Watson, 641 Market street.

COLORADO.

DENVER.—Denver single tax club. Every Thursday evening, 1612 Champa st. Free reading room open every day, 9 a. m. to 9 p. m. Pres., G. H. Phelps; sec., H. C. Miles, 303 16th st.

CONNECTICUT.

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

DELAWARE.

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

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

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

GEORGIA.

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

ILLINOIS.

CHICAGO.—Chicago single tax club. Every Thursday evening, club room 4, Grand Pacific Hotel. Pres., Warren Worth Bailey, 338 Hudson av; sec., F. W. Irwin, 217 La Salle st., room 635.

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

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

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

QUINCY.—Gem City single tax club. Meets every Thursday evening at 7:30, room 4, second floor, n. e. cor. 8th and Hampshire sts. Pres., C. F. Perry; cor. sec. Duke Schroter, 524 York st.

INDIANA.

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

RICHMOND.—Single tax club. Pres., C. S. Schneider, 255 South 2d st.; sec., H. Richie, 913 South A st.

IOWA.

BURLINGTON.—Burlington single tax club. First Saturday of each month, 805 North 5th st. Pres., Wilbur Bosen, 820 Hedge av.; sec. treas., Frank S. Churchill.

KENTUCKY.

LOUISVILLE.—Progress single tax club. Open every evening, 304 West Jefferson st. Business meetings Friday. Pres., Christ. Landolf; sec., W. W. Daniel, 303 Franklin st.

LOUISIANA.

NEW ORLEANS.—Louisiana single tax club. Meets first and third Thursday night at 8 p. m. at 131 Poydras st. Pres., Jas. Middleton; sec., G. W. Roberts, 316 Thalia st.

MAINE.

AUBURN.—Auburn single tax club. Public meetings every Saturday evening, 3 River Road. Pres., A. C. Dunlap; sec., W. G. Andrews, P. O. Box 703.

MARYLAND.

BALTIMORE.—Single tax league of Maryland. Every Monday at 8 p. m., in hall 506 East Baltimore st.; Pres., Wm. J. Ogden, 5 North Carey st.; sec. sec., J. W. Hesel, 38 S. Broadway; cor. sec., Dr. Wm. N. Hill, 1438 E. Baltimore st.

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

MASSACHUSETTS.

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

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

BROOKLYN.—Single tax club. Meets Friday evenings corner Glenwood av. and Vernon st. Pres., Wm. A. McKindrick; sec., A. S. Barnard, 51 Belmont st.

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

HAVERHILL.—Haverhill single tax league. Meets every Thursday evening, at 73 Merrimac st. Pres., Geo. W. Pottingill; cor. sec., Edward E. Colman, 4 Green st.

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

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

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

ROXBURY.—Single tax club. Pres., J. R. Carrott, 30 Court st., Boston; sec., Henry C. Romaine, 969 Tremont st.

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

MINNESOTA.

MINNEAPOLIS.—Minneapolis single tax league. Every Monday evening, at the West Hotel. Pres., C. J. Buell, 402 W. Franklin av.; sec., Oliver, T. Erickson, 2303 Lyndale av., N.

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

MISSOURI.

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

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

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

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

Benton School of Social Science. Meets every Saturday evening at 6530 Waldemar avenue. Pres., Henry S. Chase; sec., W. C. Little.

NEBRASKA.

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

NEW JERSEY.

CAMDEN.—Single tax club. Meets every Saturday evening at Felton hall, n. e. cor. Second and Federal sts. Pres., Aaron Hand; sec., Wm. M. Callingham, 830 Line st.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

NEW YORK.

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

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

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

Women's single tax club. Meetings the first and third Tuesdays, 198 Livingston st. at 3 o'clock. Pres., Miss Eva J. Turner; sec., Mrs. Robert Baker, 864 Greene av.

East Brooklyn single tax club. Meetings every Monday evening, 408 Evergreen av. Pres., James Hamilton; sec., Jas. B. Connell, 448 Central av.

Eastern District single tax club. Meetings first and third Mondays, 334 Broadway. Pres., Joseph McGuinness, 123 S. 9th st., Brooklyn, E. D.; sec., Emily A. Deverall.

Eighteenth ward single tax club. Every Thursday at 8 p. m. at 253 Evergreen av. Pres., J. J. Faulkner; sec., Adolph Pettenkofer, 353 Evergreen av.

ALBANY.—Albany single tax club. Meetings Sunday, 7:30 p. m., Beaver-Block, cor. Pearl and Norton sts. Pres., F. W. Croake; cor. sec., Geo. Noyes.

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

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

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

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

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

West New Brighton.—Richmond County single tax club. Sec., A. B. Stoddard.

NORTH DAKOTA.

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

OHIO.

CINCINNATI.—Cincinnati single tax club. Every Monday night, 7:30 o'clock, Robertson's Hall, Lincoln's Inn Court, 237 Main st. (near P. O.). Pres., Jos. L. Schraer; sec., Dr. David De Beck, 139 W. 9th st.

CLEVELAND.—Central single tax club. First and third Wednesday evenings, 8 p. m.; rooms, 301 and 308 Arcade, Euclid av. Pres., Tom L. Johnson; sec., L. E. Stemon, 7 Greenwood st.

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

GALLON.—Gallon single tax club. Every Monday evening, residence of P. J. Snay, 108 South Union st. Pres., P. J. Snay; sec., Maud E. Snay.

HENLOCK.—Single tax club. Pres., D. P. Sweeney; sec. James G. Hayden.

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

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

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

OREGON.

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

PENNSYLVANIA.

BRADFORD.—Single tax club. Hevenor's hall, 41 Main st. Meetings for discussion every Sunday at 3:30 p. m.

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

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

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

PITTSBURG.—Pittsburg single tax club. Meets every first and third Sunday evening at 7:30, 64 4th av. Pres., Edm. Yardley; sec. Mark F. Roberts, 140 South 24th st.

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

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

RHODE ISLAND.

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

SOUTH DAKOTA.

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

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

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

TENNESSEE.

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

TEXAS.

EL PASO.—Single tax club. Meetings every Saturday evening, 200 1/2 El Paso st. Pres., G. E. Hubbard; sec. and treas., M. W. Stanton; cor. sec., G. H. Higgins.

HOUSTON.—Houston single tax club. Meetings every Tuesday evening, 7:30, Franklin st. Pres., E. P. Alsbury; sec., E. W. Brown.

WEST VIRGINIA.

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

WISCONSIN.

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

THE SINGLE TAX PLATFORM.

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

We assert as our fundamental principle the self-evident truth enunciated in the Declaration of American Independence, that all men are created equal, and are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights.

We hold that all men are equally entitled to the use and enjoyment of what God has created and of what is gained by the general growth and improvement of the community of which they are a part. Therefore, no one should be permitted to hold natural opportunities without a fair return to all for any special privilege thus accorded to him, and that value which the growth and improvement of the community attach to land should be taken for the use of the community.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The single tax, therefore, would—

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

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

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

4. Give us with all the world as perfect freedom of trade as now exists between the states of our Union, thus enabling our people to share, through free exchanges, in all the advantages which nature has given to other countries, or which the peculiar skill of other peoples has enabled them to attain. It would destroy the trusts, monopolies and corruptions which are the outgrowths of the tariff. It would do away with the fines and penalties now levied on anyone who improves a farm, erects a house, builds a machine, or in any way adds to the general stock of wealth. It would leave everyone free to apply labor or expend capital in production or exchange without fine or restriction, and would leave to each the full product of his exertion.

5. It would, on the other hand, by taking for public use that value which attaches to land by reason of the growth and improvement of the community, make the holding of land unprofitable to the mere owner, and profitable only to the user. It would thus make it impossible for speculators and monopolists to hold natural opportunities unused or on a half used, and would throw open to labor the illimitable field of employment which the earth offers to man. It would thus solve the labor problem, do away with involuntary poverty, raise wages in all occupations to the full earnings of labor, make overproduction impossible until all human wants are satisfied, render labor-saving inventions a blessing to all, and cause such an enormous production and such an equitable distribution of wealth as would give to all comfort, leisure and participation in the advantages of an advancing civilization.

With respect to monopolies other than the monopoly of land, we hold that where free competition becomes impossible, as in telegraphs, railroads, water and gas supplies, etc., such business becomes a proper social function, which should be controlled and managed by and for the whole people concerned, through their proper government, local, state or national, as may be.

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VOL. IX., No. 17.
WHOLE No. 226.

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