THE STANDARD

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THE STANDARD.

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CONTENTS:

Editorial. Is the Single Tax a Tax?—International Copyright—How to Restore the Productivity of New England Farms—George William Curtis and His Work—Our Army and Navy—The Life of William Lloyd Garrison—Patrick Edward Dove's "Political Science"—A Chance to Defeat Allison—It Somehow Can't See—The Place to Begin—A Gallant Fight in Buffalo—An Appeal that Should be Heeded—The Tilden Library—Trusts—Notes

Notes and Queries. State Canals in England—A Man Who Thinks He Increases Land Values—A Kansas Professor's Display of Ignorance—Royalty's Mistake—Will Land Still be Bought and Sold—Sending Workmen Back to England—The Margin of Production.

Letters to the Editor. A Demolisher Who Ceased to Demolish—Uncle Tom Wants More Literature—The Do-Nothings — Mr. Buell Makes a Correction—Experience of a French Convert—Willing to Speak in Massachusetts.

A Lay Sermon to Preachers. W. E. Brokaw.

Where to Begin. Henry Ferris.

Logical Politics. Rev. John W. Kramer.

Progress in London.

Foreign Notes.

Public Improvements.

Ballot Reform. Mr. Lawrence Dunham's Report on the Working of the New Ballot Law in Massachusetts—Messrs. Altemus and Abarbanell on Governor Abbett's Attitude—The East Side League—The St. Louis Election—Press Comments.

Society Notes.

The English Radicals—Their Growing Power.

The Free Trade Fight. Some Democratic Opinions—Ex-President Cleveland, Congressman Mills, ex-Secretary Whitney, Colonel Lamont and Others on the Result of the Recent Elections—New Club in Philadelphia—The Wool Question in Minnesota—Western Farmers for Free Trade.

The Single Tax in Canada.

Personal.

Dramatic Trusts.

Municipal Lighting—The Buffalo Effort.

Straws That Show the Wind.

Australia—The Movement in Victoria—John Brunton.

Rewarding the Speculators—Assessments in New York.

Single Tax News. Address by the Enrolment Committee—The Manhattan Club—Father Huntington at Chicago—A State Organization for Louisiana Proposed—In the California Mines—Economics and the Church—Progress in Scotland.

New Ideas, Methods and Inventions.

The Hod-Carrier's Prayer.

Rural Italy in the Nineteenth Century.

The Anarchists' Memorial Meeting.

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

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

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

EDITORIAL.

Our good single tax worker, W. E. Brokaw of Bristol, South Dakota, whose Lay Sermon to Preachers on another page is well worth their attention, seems to find some difficulty in the fact that the term single tax does not clearly express the difference in kind between the one source of revenue on which we would rely for the support of government and the exactions we would abolish. He thinks we "should either maintain that the single tax *is* a tax, and that all other taxation (so-called) is robbery, or else admit that all taxation is unjust, and call our method by another name. In some articles in the Boulder Age, in which he very well puts the case for the single tax, he takes the first alternative, adopting a definition of Elisha Mulford, which is:

> A tax is a taking by the nation for its own necessary use of that which it alone holds in full in its original right.

But this is not the meaning of the word "tax" in the English language. And anyone who attempts to put arbitrary meanings on a word in common use will find himself under the constant necessity of explaining what he means every time he uses the word, and even then he will find himself misunderstood. Nor can any line be drawn, as Mr. Brokaw seems to think, between the single tax and all other government imposts on the ground that while they can be shifted from the first payer to others, the single tax can not. Mr. Brokaw well explains why the single tax cannot be shifted. But if he will look into the matter he will see that this is also true of some other taxes, such, for instance, as taxes on incomes, taxes on legacies and successions, taxes on yachts, pleasure carriages, or other things used for the gratification of the owner. These are little resorted to, largely for the reason that they cannot be shifted, but they are nevertheless embraced in the category of taxes, from which Mr. Brokaw wishes to distinguish the single tax.

But there is no real difficulty about the matter. The truth is, as I have often said, that the single tax is only a tax in form. It is not a tax in the sense of being a taking by the government of anything that belongs to individuals. This must necessarily be explained whenever we urge the taking of land values for public purposes. And it is as easy to explain, while styling our reform the single tax, as it would be were we to call it by any other name. Any other name would of itself have to be explained, and it would moreover be apt to give rise to misconceptions. In fact, we have been impelled to the use of the term single tax by constant and persistent misconceptions as to our method. Until we got to using this term there was a general disposition on the part of our opponents to charge, and on the part of those who did not thoroughly understand us to think, that what we proposed was to divide land up in equal portions, or to formally assume possession, and either let it out to government tenants or improve or cultivate it on government account. I wish I had a dollar for every man I have met who in perfect good faith has asked me how even after we had made an equal division of land we proposed to keep it divided. And I think that every one who for any length of time has advocated our ideas has had the same experience. We have ceased to hear such questions since we have accustomed the public to the term single tax.

I am fully conscious that the terms single tax and single tax men do not fully suggest what we aim at. But it is impossible to find any term that would, without at the same time seeming bombastic and being liable to grave misconceptions. And the term single tax, while it does not express everything, does express clearly, and in a way that will admit of no misconception, what is now of first importance—our method. I think from experience that it was one of the happiest ideas that ever occurred to me when I put to Thomas G. Shearman's tract the title, "The Single Tax," and one of the happiest ideas that ever occurred to him to accept it. But I may perhaps as well say that this was not a stroke of that kind of genius that discovered gravitation, since the term single tax is but the English of the term used by our French predecessors of a century ago who advocated the *impot unique* and were called physiocrats. Whether they gave themselves this name or it was given to them by others, it is not unlikely that it had something to do with the fact that they made so little impression. Physiocrats to the popular mind may mean anything, or everything, or nothing, but single tax and single tax men give a definite impression. Those who hear of us without knowing anything more about us know at least that we want to reduce and simplify taxation.

I had frequent illustrations of this on my last visit to Great Britain, in the statements of newspapers and individuals that I had changed my position since in that country before, and was now advocating much more moderate and rational measures. I had not changed an iota. The change was in their impressions.

Some time last winter Mr. Labouchere (addressing a meeting of his constituents in Northampton, if my memory serves me), declared that he was totally opposed to Henry George—that he was not in favor of taking the land from the landlords and making it the property of the state, but he was in favor of putting taxes on land values. Last month Mr. Labouchere addressed a meeting of the junior liberals in Glasgow. He said:

> I am not in favor of land nationalization until I distinctly understand what that means. I am in favor of the country levying a fair tax upon land. It seems to me that you have no necessity to nationalize the land when you can call upon the landlords to pay their proportionate amount of taxation. I spoke of taxing property, but you must make a special tax upon the property of land, because land never really did belong to the landlord. . . . I think you ought to have the tax upon land depend upon the value of the land. If a landlord can get an increased rent from his land, it is because the land has gone up in value—not from his exertions, but from the increased wealth of the community. I am not prepared to allow the landlord to fix his own rent. I want fixity of tenure, and some sort of land court to decide upon the rent. I think you would find the working of it more advantageous to the entire community by getting a tax out of land than if you had nationalization.

Leaving out his land court business, which he would soon find unnecessary, Mr. Labouchere is a good enough single tax man for present practical purposes, though probably as yet very limited. That he should think he is proposing anything different from us is largely because our friends on the other side of the water have used such terms as land restoration and land nationalization, and are only now beginning to use the term single tax. When our Scottish friends first adopted the name "Land restoration league," I thought it an exceedingly good one, because it suggested the idea of going back to the ancient ways. But though the land restoration leagues have never proposed anything but the single tax, their very title seems to have suggested and fostered the notion that they wished to take formal possession of the land. With the term single tax this notion is obviously inconsistent.

The impressions suggested by a name or a term are often vastly important. As I have said from the beginning, we will not have to wait until we have fully instructed a majority of the people in our whole philosophy in order to carry our measures. It does not require majorities to make revolutions. Every practical step will be carried by the aid of men who do not fully understand or who do not favor our full aim. Whoever looks to-day will see that our ideas are not merely being directly propagated, but are spreading by insensible diffusion. To this it seems to me the use of the term single tax is largely contributing. And when the time for chrystallization on some practical measure comes—as come it will, and that ere long—it will seem as if single tax men started from the ground as the clansmen at the call of Roderick Dhu.

The American copyright league, which is, I believe, largely composed of authors of one sort or another, at a recent meeting in this city indorsed for presentation to congress a copyright bill which proposes to give copyright to foreign authors only on condition that their books shall be printed in the United States from type set by United States compositors, and shall be finished by United States bookbinders. E. C. Steadman, the "banker poet," disgraced the poet part of him, however it may have been with the banker, by presiding and presumably indorsing this action. For it is a shame that anyone claiming citizenship in the republic of letters should approve such a miserable, huckstering apology for a copyright act.

There is but one honest, manly thing to do, and that is to give as full protection to foreign authors as our laws accord to our own. On this basis all other civilized nations are ready to meet us. That American authors cannot to-day avail themselves of the copyright laws of other countries is due only to the fact that we have persistently refused to give to foreign authors reciprocal advantages in the United States. We have only to consent to this act of justice, only to accede to the principle of doing to others as we would be done by, to enter into the international copyright compact.

But instead of this just and simple course, what this copyright league bill proposes is to take a sneaking advantage of foreign authors, foreign publishers and foreign printers, by smuggling a mean protective proviso into what ought to be an act of international comity. It proposes securing to foreign authors their just rights of property in the United States only when their books are printed by American printers on protected American type, bound by American bookbinders with protected material, and published by protected American publish-

ers. That is to say, the great American nation will stop stealing if given a few sixpenny jobs! Bald, barefaced piracy is more manly and no more dishonest than this attempt to degrade an act of justice into a pitiful dicker.

The truth about this American copyright league bill is that it is not an authors' bill at all. It is simply a bill promoted by the large publishers, who have now called to their aid the boss printers, and its object is not to secure the rights of foreign authors in this country and of American authors abroad, so much as to concentrate the business of publishing foreign books in the hands of a few large houses.

If the interests of the publishers and boss printers and boss bookbinders are to be allowed to dominate any acceptance of international copyright, why not the interests of the journeymen printers and journeymen bookbinders? Why should not the bill also provide that no book shall be granted copyright unless it shall have been set up by members of the typographical union, printed by members of the pressmen's union and bound by members of the bookbinders' union?

We Americans have as a nation a mean and sordid reputation. We are reputed to worship above all gods the almighty dollar. Is this any wonder when an association, supposed to represent American authors, instead of appealing to the honesty and justice of their countrymen, must needs put forward a pitiful plea for getting ahead of foreigners by compelling them to do their printing here? We are a very big nation, but if the American copyright league fairly represents us and rightly understands the only motive that can move us, we are a very big nation with a very small soul.

The Philadelphia Times, in an article on the decay of rural New England, says:

> Perhaps Henry George could explain how his single tax theory would make the sons of New England farmers who rush away from the farms on which they were bred go back to them and undertake to restore them to their original productiveness.

I think I can. And since the Springfield Republican and other papers have asked pretty much the same question, it may be as well to try.

The single tax, by abolishing custom houses, would restore to New England the natural advantage of position which the tariff has taken from her.

New England has on the northeast, north and northwest of her, Canada; on the west and southwest of her, the rest of the United States. On the seaward side she has the Atlantic ocean—that is to say, the rest of the world. Her natural position is thus central between large populations, and in the line of great trade. But the effect of the tariff wall which has been stealthily built up on her Canadian and Atlantic borders has been to artificially change her position from a central country to a frontier country. The New England farmers' sons, in going west, are in reality going from the circumference toward the center—from land which is becoming more poorly situated to land which is becoming relatively better situated.

The single tax, by abolishing custom houses and making trade between New England and Canada and the rest of the world as free as it is between New England and the other American states, would restore to New England the advantage of position which she once had, and make her land more profitable to the application of labor.

American farmers are everywhere being crushed by taxation. The national system of taxation taxes the farming industry mercilessly for the avowed benefit of capitalists engaged in other industries, and the state systems of taxation make the farmers pay relatively a far larger share than is imposed on the rich men of the towns and cities. This crushing out process tells more quickly in New England because the effect of the tariff has been to make her a frontier instead of a central section. The single tax would reverse all this. It would relieve the farmers of the undue taxation that now falls upon them while restoring to New England her natural advantages.

As matters stand to day, if a New Englander's son comes back and takes up one of these abandoned farms he at once subjects himself to a fine in the shape of taxation, and this in many cases is more than he can pay and live, even though he gets his land for nothing. Under the single tax he would have no taxes whatever to pay, direct or indirect, until in consequence of the advantage of locality he not only got a full return for his capital and labor, but a value above that attached to the land itself. The consequence would be that men could make money on New England farms where now they can only lingeringly starve.

The effect of the discriminations of our railway system has been to enable the transportation of farm produce for thousands of miles from the west cheaper than for short distances in New England. The adoption of the single tax would soon be followed by the opening of the railways as public highways, thus doing away with artificial discriminations against New England.

The trouble with New England is that in selfishly trying to rob other sections of the Union she has destroyed her own prosperity. The way for her to regain prosperity is to turn her back on the system of thievery miscalled protection, and seek to do justly.

The issue of the Philadelphia Times in which I find this query contains a glowing tribute to George William Curtis, styling him "the most conspicuous figure in the great intellectual struggles of the present generation for integrity in public administration and equal rights for every class and condition of mankind." The Times recalls the day, in December, 1860, when, in obedience to the threats of a mob and the admonition of a republican mayor, Concert hall, in Philadelphia, was closed against a lecture by Mr. Curtis on the subject of "The Policy of Honesty." Alluding to the manner in which Mr. Curtis has always refused party reward and how he has "stood guard over the integrity of public trust in his own party" and out of it, the Times declares that "the time has come when good citizens of every faith honor George William Curtis as the ablest and noblest American reformer of modern politics."

This praise is deserved, and it is pleasant to see it given. Civil service reform, with which in late years Mr. Curtis has particularly identified himself, is a small thing in comparison with some of the more fundamental reforms that are needed, but in pressing this forward he has strikingly shown the power of character. What gives Mr. Curtis his influence is not mere ability, though he has that in high degree, but that his fellow citizens have come to know him as a man of spotless integrity, of high and pure motives, and of a good life. And so long as these qualities command respect and leadership the heart of the nation is sound.

The Times speaks approvingly of Mr. Curtis's refusal to become a candidate for public office. Under conditions that have existed this is indeed a matter for approval, for Mr. Curtis could not have successfully gone into politics without assuming specific or implied pledges to rings and machines which would have lessened his self respect and destroyed his usefulness. But this ought not to be. Jefferson stated the correct rule. While men of the highest type will not seek public office, neither should they refuse when called on by their fellow citizens to represent a principle or to assume a public trust. The republic ought to be able to command the services of her best and ablest. She has not been able to do so because our political methods have been such as to give an advantage to the unscrupulous and to weight, if not indeed practically to disqualify, the best. But the Australian ballot, which has now made a firm lodgment in the American system, will change these conditons, by breaking the power of the rings and machines, and giving to the candidate put forward by independent citizens as full a presentation to the voters as the nominee of the regular ticket.

When this reform shall have been fully adopted and the changes to which it will lead in thought and methods shall have come, the day in which cunning intriguers like Hill can thrice fill the gubernatorial chair of the Empire state, and men of such small mental capacity as Harrison can become president, will have passed. Political managers will have to yield to the demand of the people for greater ability and higher character, and we will begin to see men like Gladstone in American public life. Though Mr. Curtis could never have degraded himself like that miserable apology, "the scholar in politics," Henry Cabot Lodge of Massachusetts, it is well he has never accepted a nomination at the hands of his party. Nevertheless his proper place is in the United States senate, rather than in the editorial room of Harper's Weekly, influential as that position is.

Speaking of civil service reform, it is time attention were called to the fact that there are other parts of the service of the United States that want reform, and want it badly. Our military and naval service is a disgrace to the republic.

In the civil service and in the aristocratic part of the military and naval service the trouble is that so many want to get in and so few are willing to get out. But as to the enlisted men of our army and navy, the constant complaint is that enough men can not be had, and that those who are enlisted desert by the wholesale whenever they can. In fact, enlisted men are only retained in these services by guarding and treating them like convicts, chasing them like runaway slaves when they escape, and punishing them most cruelly when they are recaptured. All sorts of plans for stopping desertions are proposed by epauleted office holders, from branding deserters with the letter D, to establishing army beer shops—all plans except the right one.

Why do not commissioned officers of the army and navy run away, and why is no one discussing the expediency of branding them or establishing beer shops for them? Because they have good pay, easy times and are treated like gentlemen. Why do the enlisted men run away? Because they have poor pay, hard times and are treated like dogs.

The politicians of both parties are profuse in their expressions of devotion to the sailor and soldier, and under the plea of this regard the working masses are being taxed to pay millions in swindling pensions. Yet not a single voice is lifted against such treatment of sailors and soldiers in the service of the republic as drives them to desert as often as they can. The fact is that the American army and navy are organized on the pattern of the armies of Europe when the commissioned officers were composed of nobles and the ranks filled up with serfs. The same undemocratic distinction exists in our army and navy to-day. The graduates of Annapolis and West Point form a privileged class of life office holders whom taxpayers are obliged to support for the rest of their days, and who regard the American citizen who enters the army or navy by enlistment as the noble of four quarterings regarded the peasant.

If we are to have an army and a navy this whole system ought to be broken up. There should be but one entrance to army or navy, by enlistment, and West Point and Annapolis ought to be retained for the supplementary instruction of officers who have risen from the ranks.

The Knights of Labor, the Federation of labor, the democratic societies, ought to take this matter up. If it ever gets fairly before the American people they are democratic enough, in the true meaning of the word, to decide against this aristocratic feature of our government in spite of all that the army and navy rings in Washington can do.

If we must have an army and navy, abolish all rewards for capturing deserters and let all the enlisted men go. We have enough officers in the navy to man, from stem to stern, all vessels that there is any excuse for keeping at sea, and enough commissioned officers in the army to do all the Indian fighting now needed. The truth is that the American republic needs no army or navy. We are so strong and so situated that we can have no war with a foreign power unless we go to work to kick somebody into fighting us, and even in that case our army and navy would be of no use. All that we need is that our young men should become accustomed to the use of arms in the state militia and the free trade that would enable Americans to build ships and go to sea. The millions that we are annually spending on a standing army and navy are worse than wasted. The first act of a true and thoroughgoing civil service reform would be to abolish both.

One of the significant things at the ballot reform meeting in Cooper union on the Saturday before election was the declaration by William M. Ivins, a prominent democrat and late chamberlain of New York city, that he was in favor of abolishing the tariff, root and branch, and sweeping away every custom house. Before the last election it was only single tax men who indulged in such statements. Very gratifying, too, was the declaration of George Cary Eggleston that he was a Jeffersonian democrat, basing his whole political creed on the declaration that all men are created equal and are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights. The way the single tax men in the audience cheered Mr. Eggleston showed that by this utterance they recognized in him a long lost brother. By and by, when he sees more fully what is involved in the Jeffersonian principle he too will realize where he belongs.

The most notable book that has been published in the United States for a long time is the Garrisons' life of their father, the fourth and final volume of which has been issued by the Century company. It is not merely the biography of a man whose life marked an epoch; of a man who will loom larger and grander as years lengthen the perspective; it is the fullest record yet made of the great, and for a long time seemingly hopeless, struggle against American slavery. The children of the great abolitionist have written in a reverent and loving, yet candid

spirit, and though the numerous notes and the copious extracts from speeches, journals, public documents and private correspondence lengthen out the work into four octavo volumes of near 500 pages each, they have made it a mine of information. And it is information of a kind most interesting and instructive to the abolitionists of this generation, the single tax men who are carrying into a wider field the same struggle for human rights and equal freedom in which Garrison and his fellows toiled so arduously and so successfully. One has but to look over these volumes to see that had he been of our generation, the William Lloyd Garrison whose works do follow him would have been in the single tax ranks where the William Lloyd Garrison of the present stands to-day; that he would have seen, just as Francis G. Shaw saw, that liberty is not assured until equal rights to land are secured, and that he would have embraced our cause with equal ardor. For the youth who swore allegiance to Liberty; who abandoned all that men most strive for to be Freedom's servant and soldier; who in the cause of the despised and the oppressed met obloquy, persecution, violence, a hatred such as perhaps on this continent no man ever faced, and who met it with a faith that nothing could daunt, with a steadfastness that knew no thought of quailing, no shadow of turning—grew with the passing years. Out of the narrow bonds of the degrading protectionist superstition he emerged while yet it was in its strength into the broad clear sunlight of a belief in absolute free trade, the "international law of God." He threw off the shackles of a dogmatic creed without losing his faith in the verities that lie beneath all creeds. From a patriotic American he emerged into the higher, deeper patriotism of a citizen of the world. And were he in vigor to-day he would have thrown himself with all the zeal of a nature that tolerated no half measures into the world-wide struggle against industrial slavery to which the struggle against chattel slavery was a necessary prelude.

If ever a man lived a fully rounded life it was William Lloyd Garrison. Seldom indeed does one who sows such seed live to see the harvest reaped. Seldom indeed does one who encounters the full force of the storm, which must always beat round him who in a generation that has ignored it raises the standard of a great truth, live to find curses changed to blessings and to be honored where he has been despised. It is not often that in a city where a reformer has been hated and hunted that statues rise to his memory so quickly as in Boston they have risen to Garrison. Though he did not see all—who can?—Garrison to his dying day saw much yet to do; custom houses to be abolished, women to be enfranchised, armies to be disbanded and navies sold for old junk, education to be broadened and law to be simplified—for his sympathy was with all advance. Yet his life work was done when slavery was abolished. Most dramatic was the scene in the little dingy printing office, when on the completion of the thirty-fifth volume of the Liberator, Garrison set the last paragraph of his last article and emptied the last handful into the form, and at sixty closed, in full accomplishment of the great object he had struggled for, the editorial career he had begun at twenty.

Very pleasant is the picture of the man which one gets in these volumes. Intense, and perhaps in some respects narrow, with no toleration for any compromise of principle, and burning with righteous indignation against wrong and everything that paltered with wrong, Garrison was anything but the gloomy, sour fanatic, and in reality as far removed from the picture painted of him in the imagination of the great majority of Americans before the war as a man could well be. Of poetical temperament and talent, with deep religious feelings, of generous, trustful nature, easily deceived and mistaken as to small things, but with a clear eye in great matters and a quick discernment of deep currents, he was in all the walks of private life good and true, hopeful and joyful. The loving affection with which his children have built this monument to their father's memory, for such indeed it is, is one of the most pleasant features of the book, though it is never obtrusive. Nor is it less a monument to the memory of their mother. "Who is the woman?" is as pertinent when the question is of good as when it is of bad, and were it not for the loving, patient, strengthening woman, glimpses of whom we get in these pages, William Lloyd Garrison could hardly have lived the life and done the work it was given him to do.

But I only started to speak of this book, not to review it. That I hope will be done hereafter in THE STANDARD by one who better links the movement toward liberty that is past and won with that which it is our privilege to be able to help forward.

Charles Harden of Centercook, N. H., writing to John Filmer of this city, says:

Wife found a copy of Dove's "Theory of Human Progression" in our village library a few days after we saw reference to it in THE STANDARD. We have been reading portions of it with much interest.

The gentleman who borrowed my copy of Dove's "Political Science" has not returned it. Horace White of the Evening Post writes:

I have a copy of the work referred to. Its title page is as follows: "The Elements of Political Science, in two books: book 1 on method; book 2 on doctrine, with an account of Andrew Tarranton, the founder of English political economy. By Patrick Edward Dove, author of the 'Theory of Human Progression.' Edinburgh, Johnstone & Hunter, Princess street; London, Robert Theobald. MDCCCLIV."

It is a volume of 470 pages.

We have received a number of orders for Patrick Edward Dove's "Theory of Human Progression," but not enough as yet to warrant its republication.

Judge Maguire writes from San Francisco:

I believe that the publication of Mr. Dove's book would materially promote the single tax movement, and I therefore desire to be placed on your list as a subscriber for a copy, or for two copies, if its publication should depend upon an extra subscription.

Joseph Leggett of San Francisco also writes in the same strain:

Dove's book must be published. The old worthy must be resurrected. He deserves it, and his resurrection must have the effect to give a new impetus to our glorious cause. I want a copy of his book for my personal perusal, and I am willing to take five or six copies for distribution if necessary. I hereby subscribe in advance for one copy of the book, and, if necessary to insure the publication, put me down for six. There ought to be no delay. Let us strike this new iron while it is hot.

On Tuesday, the 12th, I debate with ex-Congressman Horr before the Young men's Christian association of Syracuse. On the 14th I speak in Toronto and on the 15th in Kingston. On the 20th I lecture in the Tremont temple, Boston, for the Boston typographical union. On the 21st I lecture in Lynn, Mass.; on the 22d in Lewiston, Maine; on the 23d in Worcester and on the 25th in Lawrence. On December 9th I speak before the Woman's club in Brooklyn, on December 16th before the Young men's Christian association of Youngstown, Ohio; on the 18th before the Teacher's institute at Pottsville, Pa., and on the 19th at York, Pa.

HENRY GEORGE.

A CHANCE TO DEFEAT ALLISON.

There is some possibility that dissatisfaction in the ranks of his own party may prevent the re-election of Senator Allison of Iowa. The republican majority on joint ballot is very small, and the refusal of three or four men to enter the caucus would give them the power to name another republican if the democrats would vote for him. It is to be hoped that the democrats will have the good sense to take this course if the opportunity is opened to them.

Senator Allison deserves defeat more thoroughly than any other reputable man in the ranks of the republican party. He is at heart a free trader, or at least a tariff for revenue man. He has freely expressed his opinion in the past and he has exercised a powerful influence in bringing many Iowa republicans to an understanding of the folly and dishonesty of the protective policy. There is not the slightest reason to suppose that he has changed his opinions on this question.

But Senator Allison has long been one of the leaders of the republican party. He is and has been a presidential possibility. He doubtless feels that his former opposition to the party's fetich stands in the way of his nomination, and he sees even more clearly that his party can never be turned away from the worship of that fetich. Hence, after talking tariff reduction for years, when the issue became a living one, with a cynical disregard of consistency, and the good opinion of those who had more or less pinned their faith to him, he turned and prostrated himself before the fetich, and posed as a more ultra protectionist than "Pig Iron" Kelly himself. He became the author of the monstrous senate bill to increase the existing tariff taxes, and thus made a bid for the leadership of the ultra protectionists.

Those republicans in Iowa and other western states who, while nourishing their hatred of the democratic party, have envied its free trade tendencies and hoped to see their own leaders undertake the work of reducing the tariff, must have utterly lost heart when Senator Allison allowed the use of his name to bolster up the senate bill at the last session of congress. If they care anything for political honesty they will desire that his cynical abandonment of principle shall be rebuked, and if they have any influence with any republican members-elect in the Iowa legislature they will use that influence to prevent Senator Allison's re-election, and to help put a low tariff republican in his place. If the attempt is made it ought to be heartily seconded by the democrats.

IT SOMEHOW CAN'T SEE.

The Springfield Republican, in commenting on Mr. Shearman's recent article in the Forum, says that whether the figures are accurate or not, "we have assuredly been treated in recent years to an astonishing growth of individual fortunes far out of proportion to any corresponding improvement in the condition of the working classes," and it goes on to say that "Mr. Shearman's contention is not to be weakened by denying this fact, nor by pointing out here and there mistakes in his individual estimates."

The Republican thinks, however, that great disparities of fortune would continue to exist "under the most equitable and just and perfect system of taxation that could be devised." This, however, it says, constitutes no valid argument against the abolition of any features of present tax systems which tend to hasten the accumulation of wealth in the hands of the few. As to the tariff, it says that though "the federal taxes upon imports are paid largely by the masses of the people irrespective of ability to pay, and while no doubt a certain few have been enormously benefited at the expense of the many by the high protective features of the tariff, yet we are to remember that the vastly greater sum of local taxation is paid largely by the property owning classes, theoretically at least, and in the main practically, according to ability." It goes on then to speak of the single tax, and after declaring that the Goulds and Vanderbilts are not land owners, it says that "if Mr. Shearman is correct in saying that such a tax cannot be shifted, but must rest wholly on the shoulders of a single class of property owners, we have a last state of opportunity for wealth concentration far worse than the first."

It is simply amazing that a paper capable of discussing any subject with intelligence should remain so impenetrably ignorant of the relations between man and land. Who on earth owns land more valuable than that specially enriched by the sovereign power for the benefit of the Goulds, Vanderbilts and others enjoying a monopoly of the public highways of this country? By what process of reasoning does the Republican arrive at the conclusion that the property owning classes do not shift their taxes that would not warrant the protectionist argument that tariff taxes are paid by the importers? It certainly does not refer exclusively to land owners in that declaration.

If the Republican could once get clearly into its head the fact that the more any product of industry is taxed the dearer and more inaccessible it becomes, whereas the more land is taxed the cheaper and more accessible it becomes, it might get a faint glimmer of a truth that would dispel its absurd notions that railroads are not built on land, and that a tax on land values—a tax that men will pay in exact proportion to the special privileges that they enjoy—could fall on a class or tend to accelerate the concentration of wealth.

THE PLACE TO BEGIN.

Mr Henry Ferris, whose article, "Where to Begin," is printed elsewhere, is a single tax free trader, and has no desire to resist or deny the full logic of our doctrines. We think he is mistaken in assuming that this is a protectionist country, and we doubt if he has had opportunity to fully familiarize himself with the wonderful work that our alliance with the tariff reform movement has accomplished in breaking down prejudice and preparing the minds of men for the acceptance of absolute free trade, which inevitably leads to the single tax.

The men who have rendered our cause this service will be, however, the first to recognize the importance and value of Mr. Ferris's suggestion as to the importance of local work that shall bring the folly and wrongfulness of taxing improvements home to the people of every municipality. Our Buffalo friends have, as Mr. Ferris has gladly acknowledged, in a personal conversation since his article was written, taken a long step in the direction he favors, and the Manhattan single tax club in New York is preparing for a thorough investigation of the inequalities of real estate taxation in this city.

The same work should, however, be undertaken everywhere, and Mr. Ferris's arguments in its behalf and his clear demonstration of the importance of the work should help to stimulate our friends to action. Our free trade campaign is one of education and recruiting. When we are strong enough to start vigorous practical work, Mr. Ferris has pointed out where such work will most probably begin.

A GALLANT FIGHT IN BUFFALO.

The question of municipal lighting is one about which men may differ without regard to their opinions on the single tax, so far as it relates to the furnishing of gas or electricity for the purpose, but there can be no such difference among single tax men concerning the impropriety of allowing private corporations to use streets and other public property, without compensation, for the personal profit and advantage of their stock holders. A perception of this fact has led most single tax people to advocate the municipal ownership and operation of plants for supplying cities with water and light.

Our friends in Buffalo are decidedly in favor of such a plan, and they have taken an active part in the effort to relieve their city from the extortionate exactions of the local electric light company, by establishing a municipal system for lighting the streets. The movement has met with a temporary reverse through a combination of stupidity and greed, but it cannot

fail, in the long run, to win; for the examples of Chicago and of Dunkirk will force all intelligent men to see that the public interests demand that the existing system shall be abolished. This is one of those questions, that once raised, can be answered in but one way.

We give elsewhere the story of the gallant fight thus far made in Buffalo as an example worthy of being followed by single tax men everywhere. It is, of itself, a good thing to do, but incidentally the agitation of such questions not only brings our friends into intimate and friendly co-operation with outsiders, but it compels the consideration of economic principles and opens the minds of men for their consideration. It is in such fashion that the soil must be prepared for sowing the seed of true economic ideas.

Dead issues must be buried by raising live issues, and as soon as the fact becomes apparent that single tax men everywhere constitute a body of men who can be depended on for effective work in behalf of minor reforms, they and the great radical reform that they advocate will be sure of a more favorable hearing than has hitherto been accorded them.

AN APPEAL THAT SHOULD BE HEEDED.

The single tax enrollment committee has determined to press forward its work with renewed vigor for the coming year. It will endeavor to largely increase the number of signatures to the petition to congress, but it will also continue the work of organization and make as wide a distribution of single tax literature as the means at its disposal will permit. Its appeal for funds is not merely for immediate cash, though that is needed, but for pledges of definite sums payable at stated intervals that will enable it to make arrangements in advance for needed work. An agreement to pay five, ten, twenty, one hundred dollars, or any other sum, monthly will give strength and stability to its efforts.

This committee, it must be remembered, is a voluntary body, organized to do a specific work, yet it has in doing that work found it imperative that it shall lend assistance and direction in the organization of clubs and become a central bureau of correspondence. For the present it accepts this task, but it is the unanimous desire of its members to finish their work as speedily as possible by presenting the petition and then turn over their other duties to a representative committee appointed, probably, by a national single tax league. The committee hopes to push on the work of organization during the next six or eight months with such vigor that we shall have enough clubs to assure the success of any effort they may make to organize for concerted work in behalf of free trade in the congressional elections of next November.

In order that this may be accomplished, however, the committee must have an assured income, and no better service can be rendered to the single tax cause than that rendered by a liberal response to its appeal printed elsewhere, and now going out to known single tax men.

THE TILDEN LIBRARY.

Unless the court of appeals shall reverse the supreme court, Mr. Tilden's scheme for a public library in the city of New York will come to nothing, and the bulk of his property will go to heirs for whom he did not intend it. The reason for this is the uncertainty of the clause in the Tilden will which made provision for the library. The clause contained a request that the trustees incorporate a trust with power to establish and maintain a free library and reading room in the city of New York, for which Mr. Tilden's residuary estate was to be used; but if the trust were not incorporated within a certain period, then the trustees were authorized to apply the residuary estate "to such charitable, educational and scientific purposes as in their judgment would render the bequest the most widely and substantially beneficial to the interests of mankind." This clause the court holds is not sufficiently definite to be capable of enforcement by judicial proceedings, and therefore declares the will in that respect invalid.

Mr. Tilden's lack of decisiveness was well known, but it was generally supposed that he was too good a lawyer to give way to this characteristic when laying the foundations for a trust. Even laymen must see that a trust which does not impose legal obligations on the trustees cannot be safely upheld; and how an experienced lawyer, familiar with the statutes adopted to circumscribe the domain of trusts, came to make such a blunder is incomprehensible.

Such a library as Mr. Tilden proposed would have been a desirable addition to the institutions of New York; but why should New York be dependent for public libraries on the good intentions of dying millionaires and the professional skill of their lawyers? The maintenance of a public library is a proper object of taxation, and this city could place one in every ward by a tax that would at the same time promote the prosperity of the city. Without increasing taxes on personal property or landed improvements by a penny, enough money for the purpose could be raised by a slight increase of the valuations of under-appraised land. Indeed, every tax might be abolished, save the one on land values, and New York could meet all her liabilities and maintain in addition such libraries as Mr. Tilden proposed, without taxing anything but the land, and without taxing that to its full value.

TRUSTS.

Judge Barrett's decision against the sugar trust has been affirmed by the general term of his court, and will soon go to the court of appeals. The two principle grounds of affirmance are those relied upon by Judge Barrett, namely, the illegality of combinations to control markets and prices, and the lack of power in corporations to pool their franchises.

There is no reason to suppose the court of appeals will take a different view of the matter, and great rejoicing may be expected to follow this attempt at judicial interference with trusts. But it will all come to nothing. The whole commercial tendency of the time is away from competition and toward the trust idea; and against this tendency the courts are practically as powerless as was the pope's bull against the comet.

But to admit that there is such a tendency is not to admit that it is either a natural or a beneficial tendency. It is in truth a disease. And like all diseases it has a cause, and will persist despite the doctors while that cause remains. The cause is an obstruction to natural flow and re-flow in the channels of production and trade, a protective tariff, taxes on industry and enterprise, and at the bottom of all, the monopoly of natural opportunities for industry and enterprise. Remove these obstructions and competition, free competition, health-giving competition—the very life of trade—will sweep away trusts. Let the obstructions remain, and the complete subjugation of the individual will result.

The county democrats are sighing for a Moses to lead them back to power. They say that all they need is leadership, and that with a capable man at their head they would soon recover their lost prestige. We think the county democrats are mistaken. If this town is to be governed by a machine, independent citizens will prefer one machine to two. There is not the slightest reason why any man who has no personal end to serve, and only seeks good government, should prefer the county machine to that now in power. There are, however, thousands of people who would like to see this city rescued from boss rule, and there are doubtless thousands of democrats who would like to see here a real democratic organization in full accord with the national principles of the party, in the government of which all real democrats should have a voice. There is no such organization now, and there has not been such for years. One cannot be formed with the express purpose of making war on Tammany in the interest of a rival machine, but a serious and earnest effort to organize a democratic party in New York, without regard to halls, would have a fair chance of success. Anyone, however, who imagines that the bosses of the "counties" are the men to lead such a movement has no conception of what is needed.

The New York sympathizers with the anarchists executed two years ago at Chicago had a celebration last Monday night in Cooper union. They had things their own way, and we are glad to see that the police made no attempt to interfere with them. Such talk as they indulged in is not likely to commend their doctrines to the favor of the majority of the American people, but has the very reverse effect. We are glad that this fact is tacitly recognized and that the police force has apparently abandoned the idea that the censorship of the utterances of speakers at public meetings is a part of its duty. If the mass of Americans were foolish enough to accept the leadership of Shevitch and Most the salvation of the republic would be a task too great for all the policemen it could employ. At present we see no signs of such a danger.

Mr. Chauncey Depew tells a Tribune reporter that "Mr. Cleveland isn't a very great man, but he has given the democratic party the first fighting idea it has had in twenty-five years." Now, Mr. Depew doubtless is "a very great man." What fighting idea has he given the republican party?

Mr. G. W. Smalley, the London correspondent of the New York Tribune, ought to abandon all pretense to Americanism and enter the British parliament as a full fledged tory. Commenting on the election of Mr. Haggis, the radical alderman of Croydon, as deputy chairman of the London county council, he declares that the radicals are finding that public opinion will not sustain them in attempting to run the council on purely party lines, and then indulges in an ardent eulogy of Lord Rosebery as chairman. In another place Mr. Smalley expresses his delight that Mr. John Morley has denounced "land nationalization" as robbery and avowed himself as "dead against the abolition of the monarchy, and against the abolition of the house of lords, if it could be reformed into a body of life peers." This, says our American-born tory, has caused Mr. Morley to be denounced by cranks and to be "more respected than ever" by "genuine liberals."

The interesting thing about this is that it appears in the New York Tribune and that it is part of a long cable dispatch in which Mr. Smalley prates of the delight of "the thoroughly anti-American Briton" with the recent "anti-republican victories in the United States." Mr. Smalley speaks of the "bigoted free trade antipathy to what is distinctly American," and shows generally the bigotry, narrowness and disregard of truth that characterize alike the British tory and the American protectionist. The close connection of the two in sympathy becomes more apparent, but Mr. Smalley is a visible sign of it. The Tribune would be openly a tory paper if it were not for the fear of losing the Irish vote that Blaine so carefully cultivated.

The Toronto Globe, the leading liberal paper of Canada, is a liberal paper in the true sense of the word. It has for a long time been substantially a single tax paper, but in the article reprinted elsewhere from its columns it states the doctrine without disguise, and congratulates one of its correspondents that he has almost "seen the cat." Some American paper of similar prominence will take a like attitude before many years.

The New York World is urging the passage of a law in this state compelling corporations to pay wages weekly. This would probably be a good thing under existing conditions, but if the World would go more deeply into the subject it would see that there is a way by which all necessity for such state interference can be obviated. When all men willing to work have unimpeded opportunity to apply their labor to production employers must pay weekly, if the men desire it, or go without workmen.

People who have a notion that the single tax is "agin scriptur" ought to read carefully Mr. Brokaw's "Lay Sermon to Preachers." By the time they have concluded, they will see that both the Old and New Testaments bear ample evidence that our doctrine is a great primal truth apparent from the beginning of religious and ethical thought. "The earth hath He given to the children of men;" "the land shall not be sold forever (new version, in perpetuity), for the land is Mine; for ye are strangers and sojourners;" "moreover, the profit of the earth is for all." Here is the whole gospel of the single tax in three verses of scripture.

Father Huntington's address at Chicago appears to have been a most effective one, and it was received with enthusiasm by a large audience. It was characterized by a noble enthusiasm for freedom that is in striking contrast with the utterances of ministers who have turned Christianity into a sort of fatalism which brings despair instead of glad tidings to the poor and lowly.

Rev. Dr. Kramer preaches elsewhere a sermon on "Logical Politics" that should be taken to heart by those who have been trying to drag down the democratic party from the high plane of principle to which it was elevated by Mr. Cleveland's first tariff message. The faith of such men in a party's future counts for more votes, in the long run, than the hedging of cowards and the tricks of those incapable of any thought on political principles.

The New York Sun appears to have no doubt that the radicals will dominate the liberal party when it next comes to power, but it is not quite sure that this means that the single tax will be applied in England. No one can speak with confidence as to the exact nature of the immediate remedies likely to be attempted, but there is no question that the final outcome will be the single tax. One thing in its favor is that it solves the disendowment problem without permitting the cry of confiscation to be effectively raised. Taking away from the churches property they legally hold is one thing, but taxing land held by churches is a different thing, and resistance to such a proposal by the endowed institutions will command no sympathy from either non-conformists or non churchgoers.

Two weeks ago THE STANDARD printed a signed article by Mr. J. T. Altemus reviewing the work for ballot reform in New Jersey, in which Mr. Altemus declared Governor Abbett to be a friend of the measure. Last week we published a protest from the Standard single tax club of Jersey City against the statements contained in the letter of Mr. Altemus. In this issue we print a letter from Mr. Altemus and a statement from Mr. Abarbanell in response to the resolution of the Standard club. Both sides have been given a fair hearing, and the controversy discloses a radical difference of opinion as to the best method for advancing ballot reform in New Jersey. We have no doubt that this difference of opinion is an honest one, but we can see no reason for prolonging the controversy. The election is over and a democratic governor and legislature will be called on to meet the responsibility of passing a bill. If it is a satisfactory measure all ballot reformers will rejoice, and if it is not satisfactory to reasonable friends of the cause, the judgment of those who sought a different result will be justified. Meanwhile, Messrs. Abarbanell and Altemus insist that a good bill will pass. If this proves to be the case, the fact will show that they exercised sound judgment. Until this is settled quarreling over the matter will be worse than folly.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

The Liverpool Weekly Post recently declared that inquiries have been forwarded by the board of trade asking information concerning canals, designed to obtain information on which at the next session of parliament legislation can be based for the acquisition by the government of the entire canal system of Great Britain. The object is said to be the imposition of some check on railway freight charges.

NEW YORK.—Suppose I buy two or three blocks of rickety buildings, together with the land, in a poor neighborhood in the city of New York, and pulling down the old buildings erect new and magnificent ones. I maintain that I am entitled to the increase in the value of the land, because without my foresight, capital, labor and enterprise the land might have remained at a low value.

NOT CONVINCED.

The question for you to consider is not whether you are entitled to the land value which you think you have produced, but whether you are entitled to the improvement value which you have produced. Under present systems of taxation you make these improvements under heavy penalties; under the single tax there would be no penalty, but a condition only that as the location grew in value it, and not the improvements, should be taxed according to value. When you shall have considered the question from the fiscal and industrial sides, you will probably see that from the moral side also the single tax is right. If your improvements attract people to the particular land improved without affecting the value of adjoining land, the added value is really improvement value and would not be taxed. But if population moves to and around your land so as to increase values generally, why should your neighbors reap the benefit of your enterprise? Should not they pay on the increase of their land values? But if they pay on the increase of their values, how can you escape paying on the increase of your values? Because you made the values? You will not claim that. So far as land values are concerned, all you have done has been, in conjunction with your neighbors, to appropriate land that other people want to use. True, you have done the thing that has attracted the people there, but your natural reward for that is the profit on your improvements. You cannot be secured a profit on the land monopoly without taxing some one else, and surely you would not ask for that.

M. V. Thomas, writing from San Francisco, says: "My sales for THE STANDARD increases steadily. We look for a genuine boom when Mr. George arrives."

LAWRENCE, Kan.—Will you please answer the following objections made to "Progress and Poverty" by the professor of political economy in the state university:

(1) The tax on land could in no way cover justly the entire taxable property of the country.

(2) The common ownership of land would remove the benefits of competition.

(3) Land granted to the citizen has been granted and accepted in good faith. That faith cannot be broken.

(4) It is next to an impossibility to separate the earnings of capital from the earnings of rent. A. L. G.

It is difficult to briefly answer these questions because no reasons go with them. They are mere unfounded statements, which read more like the declarations of a village oracle than the utterances of a well balanced college professor.

(1) The tax on land would not cover any kind of property except land. But land is justly the only kind of taxable property. When you tax labor products you tax labor; but when you tax land values you tax the price of permission to labor. The former discourages and robs labor, while the latter removes its burdens and increases its rewards. The former is confiscation of property, the latter equalization of privileges.

(2) Instead of destroying competition, common ownership of land would free competition from the obstructions that now make it appear like a social evil. With land monopolized, competition crushes industry; with land made common, industry would flourish under competition. Speculative land values and taxes on industry and enterprise tend to concentration of business opportunities and to the choking of competition; but when land values are normal and appropriated to public uses in lieu of taxation, competition is free and its benefits are diffused.

(3) All land now privately held was orginally granted subject to taxation. The right of the state to subject it to taxation according to prevailing ideas of the best mode of taxation is indisputable. In some only of the states the constitution requires land to be taxed uniformly with other property; but these are constitutional provisions, subject to amendment. They are no part of the grant. The people cannot be thus irrevocably bound to any particular method of taxation. The right of the people to select any particular kind of property for taxation, and to tax it even to its full value, for public purposes, is so well understood that it is unnecessary to discuss the higher question of the right of any generation to grant away the right in the land of future generations. The professor needs to study a little law.

(4) The earnings of land and the earnings of capital cannot be separated! Are you sure the professor said this? If he did he ought to study a little political economy.

It was a great mistake to refuse Barnum a place in the lord mayor's show in London. If the managers of that ancient hippodrome thus neglect the assistance of the ablest talent and refuse to add new features when the opportunity is offered, their circus will become a flat and dismal failure. If there was any enterprise about monarchy Barnum would be made master of ceremonies at the royal shows also.

SCRANTON, Pa.—Some of our friends claim that the buying and selling of land will go on under the single tax, while others claim that it would cease because there would no longer be any profit in it. Which view is right.

J. HOBERTON.

So long as the common right to land was asserted by means of the single tax there would be buying and selling, leasing and hiring, much as at present; with this essential difference, however, that the difference between the tax and the value would be in the nature of wages for collecting the tax, and that landlords instead of being parasites as now would be very like what real estate dealers are now.

Secretary Windom has almost made up his mind to send back to England twenty-five glass blowers who recently came over here to work at a factory at Icanville, Pa. The reason for sending them back is that there is a strong reason for believing that they had made before starting an agreement that assured them work and saved them from any danger of becoming a burden to the community in which they might settle. This seems a singular reason for sending men back, but it is part of the logic of protection. So long as a system is maintained that makes work a boon and a tariff is kept up on the pretence that it is the duty of the government to see that what little work there is is fairly distributed to American workmen, we may look for just such legislation as that which commands the return of these glass blowers.

AUBURNDALE, Mass.—What is the meaning of "land below the margin of production?"

K. J.

Land varies in desirableness. The most desirable has high value; the least desirable no value at all. Between these extreme points there is land the demand for which is such that no one will use it unless he can do so without rent. This land is said to be at the margin of production. Better land will yield rent. Poorer land will not find a user on any terms. The subject is discussed in chapter 2, book 3, of "Progress and Poverty."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A Demolisher Who Ceased to Demolish.

To the Editor of THE STANDARD: If the editor of the Detroit Free Press has ever realized the absurdity of the old idea that "labor is paid out of a fund annually set aside for that purpose," the paper has never given any evidence of it. Your criticism in THE STANDARD of September 28 is to me too charitable to him. In discussing the London dock strike he could only discuss it with the knowledge he possessed of such subjects. The editor of the Free Press cannot conceive of any other form of taxation but "tariff for revenue." With this cardinal principle of popular democracy before him the Free Press editor set out last winter to expose the fallacies of the "Henry George system of taxing land values only." He began by showing how a protective tariff upon the products of labor caused such products to be dearer to the consumer, and as a result made them more scarce. While he was discussing the tariff question he got on swimmingly, but when he came to draw the parallel between labor products and land he only got as far as "Hence it is plain that a tax upon 'land value' would have the same effect upon land, i. e., to make land dearer." Just here the "politico-economic" editor stopped short, never again to discuss the "fallacies of the Henry George single tax theory."

The "politico-economic" editor of the Free Press reminds me of a lady I once heard of, who said that if there was anything she could tell better than another it was good indigo. It was this way: Just put a lump of indigo into a basin of water, and if it was good it would either sink, or float, and really she did not know just which. If there is anything the Free Press editor could tell it was how to make things more scarce. It was this way: If you tax things you will make them dearer; if you make them dearer you will make them more scarce. If you tax land value you will either make land or land value more scarce, and really the Free Press editor did not say which. The Detroit Free Press is the chief organ of the democratic machine in Michigan, and as such is opposed to both "ballot reform" and "the single tax;" but when the editor undertook to expose the fallacies of "the single tax" he evidently did not know as much of the subject as when he stopped. What he proposed to expose as a fallacy became to him as he proceeded a truth so plain that from it there was no escape. Land value was not a labor product, as other things are, but the product of a whole civilized community. He saw too that it grows as the community grows. He also saw that land value is now in the hands of a very small number of the community. He saw too that to tax land value annually would take the annual increase of value from those who held land, but it could not make land more scarce. He saw that land was not wealth as other things were wealth. He saw, in fact, just what Henry George showed him, as well as every other editor in the land years ago, that to place all taxes upon the value of land would destroy land speculation, because it would take for public use the increase which now goes into private coffers. He saw the opportunities which would be furnished for the unemployed to employ themselves. He saw all that any intelligent man must see who examines the subject, and he has since held his peace because as yet the single tax is not a "democratic measure."

J. M. MCGREGOR.

Wants More Literature.

To the Editor of THE STANDARD: To relieve the enrollment committee somewhat I would suggest that every worker who has a small number of signers should take care of his own signers in supplying them with literature, etc. I have so far sixty signers and am willing to look after them, provided somebody furnishes me with tracts and papers. My appeal for literature in THE STANDARD some weeks ago was nobly responded to, but I am about on the end of my tether again. I have distributed nearly all the literature received; just enough at a time to keep the appetite sharp for more. UNCLE TOM.

Bryn Mawr, October 28, 1889.

The Do Nothings.

To the Editor of THE STANDARD: There is a class of men who more than any others are keeping back this movement. These are the men who, believing in our principles, do nothing to aid us—who will not even attend our public meetings and signify by their presence that though compelled by silence, or prevented from taking active part in the movement, they are, nevertheless, in sympathy with us. The number of such men is very great—greater than most of us suppose.

Here in Jersey City I have full reason to believe that there are hundreds of them. They run no risk in identifying themselves with the movement, for of that class I am not now speaking. It is of the men who, looking upon the single tax as unlikely to be realized in their time, are not willing to place their shoulders to the wheel. "It will come," they say, "in time, but we cannot hasten it." This is precisely the mistake they make. For they can hasten it very materially, and can help to make possible its speedy realization if they will but come out and work for it. And how little is demanded of them!

Look, for example, at what can be accomplished with a truck or two filled with speakers. With the active co-operation, or even with the silent assistance of these men we could have ten Sunday night meetings in Jersey City instead of the two we contemplate during the coming winter.

I am impatient with this class of men who are content to be the mere idle camp followers at a time when the fight of the ages is on. JOSEPH DANA MILLER.

Jersey City, Nov. 9, 1889.

Mr. Buell Makes a Correction.

To the Editor of THE STANDARD: In my letter to THE STANDARD explaining how ballot reform was accomplished in Minnesota I said that so far as I knew no single tax man had anything to do with putting the measure through the legislature.

I just now recived a letter from Mr. J. C. McGaughey, saying that a vigorous young single tax league has just been started in Winona, and that Hon. I. A. Keyes, the author of the bill, is one of the most active members. It gives me pleasure to make the correction.

Edward C. Gale, a Yale graduate and an attorney here, has presented the single tax league with about $100 worth of free trade literature, mostly Mr. Shearman's tracts. C. J. BUELL.

Minneapolis, Minn., Nov. 4.

The Experience of a French Convert.

To the Editor of THE STANDARD: I was struck a little while ago with a suggestion made by a correspondent in THE STANDARD, that single tax men should hold "experience" meetings after the plan of the Methodist church, and that persons should be encouraged to get up and tell how, when and where they came to "see the light." Acting upon this thought, I wish to give my own experience:

It was a year ago, in Normandy, on the banks of the little river which winds lazily through the meadows of Neufchatel. I was stretched out on the grass with an American tourist whom I called "Monsieur Georges," because his true name was too difficult for my French tongue to pronounce, and because whenever I saw him he had a book of a certain Henry George in his hand, much as a cure here with his breviary. That afternoon he opened the book, and I read: "In our civilization women faint and children moan." . . .

"Yes," repeated my companion, "women faint and children moan; they are terribly poor, and close by them are heaps of wealth; they are naked, and close by them are heaps of clothing; they are starving and all around them is plenty of food." And then he lapsed into silence and gazed meditatively at the misty-blue of the far horizon.

"But how shall the people be raised out of poverty, how shall they be clothed and fed?" I asked at length.

"Through the land," said my American friend, and then a great light began concerning private property in land. I armed myself with the current political economy, I drew arguments from my philosophy lectures, I cried out for help to Kant himself, but all in vain. I was beaten. The illustration of Robinson Crusoe and the island defeated me. I had been obliged to acknowledge that private property in land had no other basis than that of first occupancy. Robinson took possession of the island. The island was *his*. Another shipwrecked man is thrown on the island, but he can live there only by permission of the first. His natural and indefeasible rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness amount to nothing more than mere words. So it is with us, who, when we come into this life, find the island—the whole planet—held by unfeeling Robinson Crusoes.

I left my companion that afternoon without making him any answer, but I took his idea with me; and one day, several months later, when my American friend, accompanying me home, said: "It is the same house always, it is no longer the same man," I did not say no.

Paris, Oct. 31. C. M. GARNIER.

Willing to Speak in Massachusetts.

To the Editor of THE STANDARD: Our association here having profited by the assistance and encouragement of visiting members of other clubs, and desiring to encourage the practice, I wish to state to our friends in Massachusetts that I expect to spend a two weeks' (or more) vacation near Lawrence (from about the 20th of November to December 8), and as "labor is rest and pain sweet in such a cause as ours," I should be happy to speak before any single tax club of not too great distance, asking car fare only. Address, until the 20th, 23 Gooding street, Pawtucket; after the 20th to December 8, in care of Mr. Samuel Rodley, box 58, North Andover, Mass. EDWARD BARKER,

Pres. Single Tax Association.

A LAY SERMON TO PREACHERS.

Preachers of all denominations usually claim to be called of God to preach. Jesus made the same claim, for we find that when he went into the meeting house at Nazareth one Sabbath, there was handed to him the book of Isaiah. "And when he had opened the book he found the place where it was written: The spirit of the Lord is upon me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the broken hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord. And he closed the book, and he gave it again to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him. And he began to say unto them, This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears."

Let me ask you who believe you are called to preach, if that is what you are to preach? Jesus said: "Follow me." "Open thy mouth, judge righteously, and plead the cause of the poor and needy." —Prov. 31, 9. "Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and show my people their transgression."—Isaiah, 58, 1. As a follower of Jesus, it is your duty to "plead the cause of the poor," and to preach the glad tidings of deliverance to them, remembering that "godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is" as well as "of that which is to come."

But in order to do so, it is necessary to know why they are poor. "The righteous considereth the cause of the poor." —Prov. 29, 7. For "whoso mocketh the poor reproacheth his Maker," and to advise the poor without first considering their cause is to mock them. "Blessed is he that considereth the poor."—Psalm 41, 1. Not "he that giveth to the poor," but "he that considereth" them. The psalmist said of God, "He will regard the prayer of the destitute," and that "this shall be written for the generations to come;" "for He shall stand at the right hand of the poor, to save him from those that condemn his soul." To consider the poor you must listen to their complaints, and learn what they think is the cause of their poverty. "Whoso stoppeth his ears at the cry of the poor, he also shall cry himself, but shall not be heard."—Prov. 21, 13. The words of the prophet Isaiah are true to-day: "O my people, they which lead thee cause thee to err." So, also, is this proverb: "The destruction of the poor is their poverty."

It is popular nowadays to teach that intemperance, improvidence, laziness and lack of economy are the cause of poverty. But he that considereth the poor will find vast numbers among them who have not those vices, but have the opposite virtues. If he further considers the rich he will find among them all the vices named. So long as there is one righteous poor man there must be other causes of poverty than those named. Beware of the scriptural condemnation: "Woe unto them that decree unrighteous decrees, to turn aside the needy from judgment, and to take away the right from the poor of my people, that widows may be their prey, and that they may rob the fatherless." "There is a generation whose teeth are as swords, and their jaw teeth as knives, to devour the poor from off the earth and the needy from among men."—Prov. 30, 14. Such is this generation. Some 15,000 children under five years of age die in one year in New York city alone—crowded out of this world. Over half the children born in that city die that young! Listen to the cry of the starving poor, going up from all our cities, our mining districts, and even from the prairies, and then reread that proverb.

But "the expectation of the poor shall not perish forever," for the oppression of the poor, for the sighing of the needy, now will I arise, saith the Lord; I will set him in safely from him that would ensnare him." "that the man of the earth may no more oppress." "The Lord will maintain the cause of the afflicted and the right of the poor." You believe you are coworkers with God. Will you assist Him in this work? Then listen:

"To do justice and judgment is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice." "Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke?" "Learn to do well; righten the oppressed." "Remove violence and spoil, and execute judgment and justice, take away your exactions from my people," "Deliver him that is spoiled out of the hand of the oppressor." "Defend the poor and fatherless; do justice to the afflicted and needy; rid them out of the hand of the wicked." "Thus, saith the Lord, keep equity, and do justice." "That which is altogether just shalt thou follow, that thou mayest live and inherit the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee."

To whom did God give the land? "The earth hath he given to the children of men." To some of the children or to all? If not to all, what right can the disinherited have to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness?" If to all, why are so many born disinherited? Because those who have led the people have caused them to err. They have disobeyed the command: "The land shall not be sold forever; for the land is mine; for ye are strangers and sojourners with me." The Cherokees have kept this command and Chief Mayes says: "The Cherokees will remain as they are—a free people with a home for its citizens; no paupers." And the Israelites were told to do so, "to the end that there be no poor among you."

"Moreover, the profit of the earth is for all." "Woe unto him that useth his neighbor's service without wages, and giveth him not for his work." Jesus tells us who our neighbor is. That "profit of the earth," variously called "land value," "ground rent," "rent" and "unearned increment," "is for all" because it is caused by the growth of the community and its competition for the use of land. And he who receives that "profit," whether he receives it as interest on a mortgage, rent from a tenant, profits from the sale of land, or otherwise, "useth his neighbor's service without wages," because he "giveth him not for his work;" for all he gives in return for that "profit" is the privilege of using the earth, which is not his to give.

But the trouble is that the individual must either take this "profit" or give it to another, whereas it "is for all." The evil then, is not an individual one, it is a social one. The remedy, then, is not with the individual, but with the nation—organized society. "Righteousness exalteth a nation; but sin is a reproach to any people." Here in America each one is responsible for the acts of the nation, so far as his influence and vote goes. The preacher's responsibility is great, for his influence as a teacher is great. It is his duty to point out the sins of the nation, and also to point out the path of righteousness—justice.

"He that oppresseth the poor reproacheth his Maker." In so far as you do not point out the path of justice you are guilty of that oppression, whether ignorantly or not. But ignorance can not long be an excuse. Remember Paul's injunction: "Whatsoever things be true, . . whatsoever things are just, . . . think on these things."

There are many of us now crying, "Take away your exactions from my people." For it is not only unjust in principle, but injurious to the last degree in practice, to tax one man more for making land useful and employing labor upon it than another is taxed for holding land idle and keeping labor off of it. To tax labor or its products is to discourage industry and rob the poor. As taxes are needed for the welfare of the community, it is only in accordance with natural, or divine, law that the community makes use of this common fund (land value) before it resorts to the confiscation of what properly belongs to the individual—his personal property and improvements.

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

Teach the people to send honest men to make their laws. They have been sending lawyers to do that. He whom you profess to serve said: "Woe unto you, also, lawyers! for ye lade men with burdens grievous to be borne, and ye yourselves touch not the burdens with one of your fingers." "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments; for this is the whole duty of man." These commandments to "defend the poor," "righten the oppressed" and "plead the cause of the poor and needy," are pressing hard upon you to-day. If you do not understand the subject it is your duty to "consider the cause of the poor" and hear their cry.

Weigh the evidence they give, and study the remedy they offer, before mocking them with the advice to be economical, temperate and industrious. Listen to the tramp as well as the millionaire. Have no respect of persons. And "if any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God?" "He hath showed thee, O man, what is good: and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to humble thyself to walk with God." Remember the second commandment: "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself," for "love is the fulfilling of the law."

W. E. BROKAW.

Bristol, S. Dak., October, 1889.

WHERE TO BEGIN.

I have long thought it strange that with all the earnest and persistent work of single tax men, the single tax scheme has nowhere yet been put in practice. So far as I have seen there is no place where taxation has been readjusted with the idea of exempting improvements and taxing land values only. This is the more surprising because the reform is an eminently practical one, and one which is loudly called for simply as a measure for improving the government of cities, entirely apart from its radical character; and as the arguments in its favor are exceedingly strong, and such as quickly commend themselves to tax payers, it is the more remarkable that no successful effort has been made to put the reform into practical effect.

No doubt the reason for this is largely the notion that the first essential is to convert enough people to the belief in common rights in the land—the idea that men who do not believe in this, or in its corollary, free trade, will of course oppose the single tax reform. This seems to me a great mistake. I have no doubt, in fact I know of my own experience, that men will warmly support the readjustment of municipal taxation on single tax lines who look upon the idea of making land common property as robbery and communism, and who are fighting free trade tooth and nail. Of course a man who thinks his way through the question, whose philosophy is consistent and harmonious, will perceive the essential connection. But most men are not philosophers. They do not think out logical and consistent doctrines at all. They haven't time. Then besides, conversion and change of life involves admitting that one has been a fool. Most men will not do this; and if you insist that they shall be consistent, that they can't have one foot on each side of the fence, they preserve their consistency by keeping both feet on the wrong side.

Now just think for a moment what it would be to have the single tax plan put in force in a single town, and even to a limited degree. The effects of such a small reform in a year would do more to convert the heathen than books and tracts and speeches would do in a century. What we need to do next is, not to get a protectionist country to adopt free trade, but to get one small city to readjust its taxation so as to bear on land values only. This is to my mind the place to begin.

The single tax is in the main a question for cities. The value of farming land, if it have any value at all, is insignificant. Now the questions of taxation and revenue in cities, and of municipal government, are burning questions, in which there is already intense interest, and which are now being actively debated. It is in this debate that the single tax most appropriately presents itself, and it is here that single tax arguments may be urged with most convincing force.

The main part of the revenue of all American cities is derived from a tax on real estate—that is, on land and improvements. The present work for single tax men is to take an active part in the discussion of reform in city government by proposing and advocating simply the readjusting of the present taxation on real estate, so that it shall bear on land alone, improvements being exempted.

The arguments for this change are such as appeal with great force to all tax payers. The impolicy of taxing improvements may be brought home to many men who are quite blind to its injustice, although a preception of the injustice is pretty sure to follow later. The effects of such a change in promoting improvement, in attracting capital, in increasing the wealth and population of a city, may be shown with ease and force, and fall upon willing ears. The expedients of cities for attracting capital, the inducements offered to manufacturers to locate, the exemption of new industries from taxation, all show an eager desire to accomplish just what this reform in taxation would accomplish; and it is becoming manifest, too, even without any pointing out, in how many cases all these schemes are frustrated by the one obstacle which nothing but the single tax will remove—the inevitable greed of the land owner.

This proposition to readjust taxation should not be complicated at first by any proposition to increase it. The result of the proposed plan may be most effectively contrasted with that of the present plan if no change in the amount of tax is proposed. To illustrate: Let us assume that in a given city the total value of land and of improvements is equal—that of the assessed value of "real estate," one-half is land and one-half buildings. This is probably not far from correct in the average case. Now, few blocks in any city are solidly built up. Suppose that in one block there are twenty lots worth $5,000 each, and that upon fifteen of them are buildings worth $5 000 each. This gives a total assessment of $175,000. If the tax rate is one per cent, the amount of revenue raised will be $1,750, and improved lots will pay $100 each, while unimproved lots pay $50 each. Now, suppose that the same amount of tax is to be raised, and laid upon land only. The rate will be one and three-quarters per cent, and each lot will pay $87.50. This will be a reduction of $12 50 on fifteen lots, and an increase of $37.50 on five. Supposing men to act from selfish motives alone, five will oppose the change, while fifteen will support it.

Now, in a debate of the sort which follows such a proposition, the injustice of making men who improve pay taxes for those who do not, the folly of putting the heaviest burdens on the most desirable class and exempting the speculator, the immense public benefits to be gained by levying taxes on land only, are points which can be demonstrated with most telling force. They are plain and simple, and the arguments for reform appeal both to the principle and to the pocket. But, most of all, they are not confused and complicated with vexed questions like that of free trade, or abstract ones like that of common property in land, about which men will stop to wrangle and forget the present question. The issue is clear, the arguments plain and forcible, and the question is a pressing one, demanding attention and calling for settlement NOW.

Large bodies move slowly. Congress may dally with "protection" for twenty years. There is nothing to press sweeping tax reforms through state legislatures. But most cities have power to cease taxing improvements and to adjust municipal taxation as they think best. This reform accomplished in one city would be by far the greatest practical advance the single tax cause has made. One shrewd, level headed single tax man might accomplish it. Is not this clearly the point at which definite, effective single tax work ought to begin?

HENRY FERRIS.

Philadelphia, Nov. 2.

LOGICAL POLITICS.

Professor Sumner, in an article which no otherwise concerns me here, refers to the teaching of early and medieval fathers on liberty. Tertullian is quoted, addressing heathen: "We are your brothers by the right of one mother—nature." Gregory the Great also: "Since our Redeemer, Creator of all creatures, deigned to put on human form, in order by his divine grace to break the bonds of the servitude by which we were held as captives, that He might restore us to our ancient liberty, it is fitting and advantageous that those whom nature has made free and whom the law of nations has made subject to servitude, should be restored by enfranchisement to that liberty in which they were born."

It is not a little strange that both the democratic church and the democratic party have been untrue to liberty and to the people. My thought is of modern

times. If the Christian church had been faithful to these early utterances there never would have been that misuse of the bible which attempted to uphold slavery. If but one score of strong men in the pulpits of the south could have perceived the truth and had maintained it, they would have silenced the pro-slavery utterances of other pulpits north and south. And the cruel war would not have been. The salvation of the Protestant side of the church needs that truth to-day; but its leaders are rejecting it.

The democratic party in this country arose as the champion of liberty and the people. Jefferson saw a true light and kindled his torch from it; Madison received it in a hand that seemed weary and timid sometimes; Jackson held it aloft, and its brightness summoned the hosts of toilers who made the democratic party great enough to dominate this land for unlimited time had its councils kept the torch fed from Jeffersonian principles. The party lost its strength by an alliance with the aristocracy of the south, which destroyed its power in the north; and then it assumed the ridiculous half "protective" position in trying to recover strength in the north. It was all inconsistency. Principle was sacrificed to what seemed expediency. Fidelity to Jefferson's teaching would have given us the gradual abolition of slavery with only the turbulence of a fierce wrangle Jefferson would have the party stand for *men*. Instead of that it cultivated the state rights doctrine—a true child of pure American democracy, but the cult was in utter forgetfulness that the state rights principle was taught by Jefferson for the benefit of men and not for the further advantage of the strong and rich against the weak and poor. The party became faithless to its fundamental idea.

And so in the north. High tariff rates imposed during the war had made many manufacturers, monopolists and speculators rich. These had a large following from mechanical toilers deluded by the persuasion that their interests were parallel to, if not identical with, the schemes of the greedy human wolves who were preying on their neighbors, and from those stupid farmers who had been growing poor and could not discern the reason. Instead of taking pains to educate the blind followers of seeing and avaricious leaders, the democratic party thought it policy to accept half the doctrine of the republicans, and to apologize for discarding the other half,

Now will that party learn the lesson? Grover Cleveland has forced it to face in the right direction. Democratic or Jeffersonian societies are being formed. They seem to be controlled by men who are above mere place seeking. Can they force the party to the study of what is true—of righteousness in political thought? There is an earnest cry in England for "a new liberalism." The same questions are in the front there that make a cry here for a new democracy. However just the principle of home rule for Ireland, it has not been possible to arouse the enthusiasm in Great Britain for it which alone can command success. The progressive liberals see that they must join to it matters that concern the welfare of the English *people*—the working people. The democratic party here should follow a similar course; if it is wise it will. These democratic societies ought to heed every cry of the people and thoroughly study every demand for reform. In each and every declaration of rights adopted by the several states of the Union the Jeffersonian idea was recognized, that the country is for men, not men for the country; that a man for the state should not be expected unless the state is first for the man; and democracy became the dominant power in the land under the promise that labor rather than capital, men rather than vested interests, the people rather than a few among the people, would have a fair interpretation of every declaration of rights. This promise has not been adhered to. There are signs of an earnest purpose to go back to it. Every burden must be examined, every proposed remedy be studied, and every right path be boldly followed. All this may drive the honest Randalls into the republican party, may compel the Hills to fall in with the march toward righteousness, will bring hundreds of thousands of laboring men—white and black—who never voted the democratic ticket to rally around the standard thus held ahigh. This is the logic of the democratic party.

With no irreverence let me say it; there is apparent at the present more hope for that party than for the Christian church. The former is turning back to the teaching of its patriotic founder; the church is not looking intently at her divine rabbi. JOHN W. KRAMER.

PROGRESS IN LONDON.

What the County Council Is Doing—Mr. William Saunders Raises the Single Tax Question and Proposes that the Council Ask Parliament for Power to Impose a Special Improvement Tax on Land Owners—Street Subways.

LONDON, Oct. 31.—In my last letter I spoke of the large improvement which is to be made in the Strand by pulling down the houses on the south side of Holywell street, and I pointed out that, as the scheme stood, the persons who would be mainly benefited by this costly improvement would be the owners of property on the north side of the narrow street. This week the scheme came up again before the council on a further report from the improvement committee. This report was to the effect that it was desirable that the property on the north side of the street should be also scheduled, so that the council if it chose might acquire both sides of the street and recoup itself by selling at an enhanced price the land it did not want for the roadway. This report, with a slight addition of only local importance, met with the general approval of the council. Before it had been finally passed, however, Mr. William Saunders rose to move an amendment to the effect that instead of buying the additional land it would be better to apply to parliament for power to impose a special improvement rate upon the property immediately benefited. Mr. Saunders contended that public bodies when they purchased land under compulsory powers always had to pay an extravagant price, and when they came to sell again were obliged to content themselves with considerably less than the full market value. The consequence was that the anticipated profit altogether disappeared.

In support of this contention, Mr. Saunders quoted as follows from a previous report of the same committee:

> Your committee has under consideration a proposed improvement by which the owners of houses immediately adjacent would profit largely by the alteration. If the property were scheduled, the council would have to pay so much for the owners' and tenants' interest, that according to past experience, the recoupment would be thereby absorbed and the transaction become profitless.

At the same time, said Mr. Saunders, compulsory purchase nearly always involved compulsory disturbance of occupiers, thus causing an immense amount of inconvenience. Both these disadvantages would be avoided by a special rate. At this point the chairman of council, Lord Rosebery, intervened and ruled that though Mr. Saunders's proposal was of great importance, he could not allow it to be moved as an amendment to the committee's report, because it was of a general character and should, therefore, be brought forward as a resolution with proper notice. Mr. Saunders, therefore, announced his intention of bringing up the question of a special rate under a notice of motion at the next meeting.

Another question of considerable importance to Londoners, which yesterday occupied the attention of the council, was that of subways under the streets. In this matter London is far behind Paris. Under the middle of almost every street in Paris there is a large subway some seven or eight feet high by three feet wide. These subways, or sewers, as they are called (egouts), were primarily intended for channels to convey into the river the surface water that falls on the street, but they are so built that the stream of water in ordinary weather does not interfere with the use of the upper part of the sewer for all kinds of pipes and wires. The consequence of this system of subways is that Paris is admirably supplied with all kinds of underground conveniences. For example, within the area of the city, telegraphic messages are not sent over electric wires, but are blown through tubes. Thus, while a message of twelve words in London costs twelve cents, a Parisian can send a whole postcard covered with his own handwriting from one end of Paris to the other for a charge of six cents (thirty centimes), and the time taken in transmission and delivery is actually less than that required by the telegraphic system.

The aspect of subways which, however, most impressed itself upon the county council was the cost entailed on the community by their absence. Whether we have subways or not we must have gas pipes, water pipes, electric telegraph wires and electric lighting mains, and there is a constant tendency to increase the number of these underground conveniences. Each of the bodies, public or private, which has charge of these pipes and wires, is constantly ripping up the streets to repair its underground property. In one parish alone last year there were no less than 2 956 separate openings of the streets, and many other parishes show an almost equally large record. The expense of this system is enormous, and the only way of avoiding it is by leaving ample subways, and compelling all companies to use them for their mains. It has now been decided by the council to promote a bill in parliament next session to secure these objects. We may, therefore, hope that in the course of a few years we shall be freed from the constantly recurring nuisance of having the traffic of our main streets blocked, while gangs of workmen are excavating great trenches down the roadway.

Connected with the question of railways is that of overhead wires, a disfigurement and a danger from which New York suffers even more than London. In Paris there are no overhead wires to be seen, all telegraph and telephone wires being conveyed along the great sewer subways above described. At its meeting last week the London county council decided to apply to parliament for power to deal with overhead wires. Most of the powers to be asked for have reference to the registration and inspection of these wires so as to insure their safety. But the council also asks to be allowed to prescribe that wires be carried underground. This is really the only radical way of dealing with the question. Already all the telegraph wires, which in England belong to the post office, are in London and other towns placed underground, and therefore, as soon as we have a good system of subways, there will be no hardship in compelling private wire owners to follow the example set by the government.

FOREIGN NOTES.

Sir Robert Peel was the liberal candidate in the recent Brighton parliamentary contest. He was defeated, but he reduced the tory majority by some *eight hundred* votes. It would seem that the present Sir Robert is as radical to-day as was the Sir Robert Peel of forty years ago, when he confessed himself won over to free trade. Here are one of the handbills circulated among the electors:

WHY RENTS AND RATES ARE SO HIGH IN BRIGHTON.

Brighton has grown rapidly. But who has paid for its growth?

Not the lease-giving landlords, but leaseholders and occupiers—private residents, lodging house keepers and tradesmen.

North, east and west, on the Ogle, Stanford and Goldsmid estates, ninety-nine years' leases are the rule.

These lands, as land, pay local rates until they are built upon. The local rates are then paid by the house occupier, be he lease holder or merely tenant

The landowner draws his clear rent every year, all the same!

His property is increased in value.

Every house increases the value of the unbuilt land near it.

Every town improvement does the same.

But the owner of the land pays nothing to the town.

He puts into his pocket an increased rental, and the Brighton house occupiers pay the rates for all improvements and administration.

Many people go to live outside Brighton to escape our rates and our high rents.

Building extensions are arrested—our prosperity is lessened!

SIR ROBERT PEEL WOULD REMOVE THIS GRIEVANCE!

He will vote for a measure making the rich ground landlords pay something to your local rates, and so reduce your heavy burdens.

This is nothing but justice.

Residents, Lodging-house Keepers and Tradesmen! Study your own interests,

VOTE FOR SIR ROBERT PEEL!

Some five or six years ago the tolls of the Waterloo bridge, London, were abolished. The passenger toll had been one halfpenny for each foot passenger, so that a workman living on the south side and working on the north, as the majority did, had to pay just sixpence a week. Did he profit by the freeing of the bridge? Not a bit (says the Church Reformer). There is a court of about twenty small two-roomed houses within 400 yards of the south end of the bridge. On the bridge being freed, just sixpence a week was clapped on to the rent of each of these. The rents of all the adjoining streets have similarly been raised, either at once or since. It is the same with an actual rise of wages as with savings. The report comes from Woolwich that the laborers in the royal arsenal, who have recently had their wages raised one shilling a week, have already been compelled to give up to the landlord one half of the advantage thus gained, in the shape of sixpence a week additional rent.

The mutual improvement society of the Dartford Congregational church had a discussion on the land question a short time ago. The well known single taxer, Silas M. Burroughs, whose factory is located in that town, occupied the chair and made a good single tax speech.

The Hon. Philip Stanhope in a recent speech discussed the system of mineral royalties prevailing in England. He claimed that the enormous royalties charged the mining companies by the mine owners was handicapping the mining industries of the country. He advocated taxing these royalties for local purposes. He gave some startling instances of the working of the system. One royalty owner in the neighborhood received as much as £4 000 from one coal mine, and did not contribute a farthing to the local taxes. The Darlaston iron and steel company during three years only realized a profit of £2,000 a year, and the whole of it was taken by the landlord as royalty. The company applied to him to abate his claim but he flatly refused to do it, and appropriated the whole of their profits.

Some interesting facts about taxation were brought to light by the investigations of the valuation committee of the London county council. Thus of Kensington, the report says:

> The value of the vacant land is not less than £1,700 000. Practically, this value is not at present taxed at all, the fraction of it rated being so small as not to be worth consideration. For example, certain fields in Kensington, of a selling value of £400,000, are now taxed at only £62 a year toward relief of rates. A plot of land, 100 feet by 90 feet, at Kensington court, recently realized £16,000, or nearly £2 per square foot.

In Paddington from 100 to 150 acres, of a selling value of about £3,000 per acre, now, as vacant land, escapes rating altogether.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS.

Mr. Buell Shows How They Should be Paid For by Contrasting the Actual Results of a Good and a Bad System.

Mr. C. J. Buell of Minneapolis has an article in the Northwestern Labor Union of last week which proves very clearly how easily public improvements can be made when they are paid for by those who reap especial benefits from them, and how many more such improvements are made when people are determined that this is the way they shall be paid for. He takes the two cities of St. Paul and Minneapolis, which he says differ very much in the matter of street improvements, the streets of St. Paul being much better paved and better kept than those of Minneapolis. Why?

Because the entire cost of opening, widening, extending, grading, paving, curbing and sidewalk laying is met by assessments against benefited property. This work, together with the putting in of water mains, cleaning and sprinkling of streets, and cleaning snow from walks, does not cost the city anything in general taxes, and hence helps to keep the general tax levy down considerably below what it is in Minneapolis, where much of this expense is made to come out of the people in the shape of general taxes.

As Mr. Buell shows, this is no hardship on these adjoining property holders, for the value added to their property is far more than the tax assessed. Thus he says he himself owned a lot in St. Paul, on Langford avenue. He offered it for sale before the street was graded, but could not get the price he asked. When the street was graded his assessment was only $155, but he shortly after was able to sell his lot for $250 more than he had asked for it before the grading. "Now," says Mr. Buell:

> The benefit in the shape of increased value goes to the lot owners anyhow, whether they pay for the work or not. Here in Minneapolis the lot owners get the benefit just the same, though the work is paid for out of a ward fund and a large part of the costs comes out of people who own no lots to get any benefit.

And the result is that in Minneapolis the greatest amount of jobbery prevails, the aldermen, of course, favoring the disposal of the taxes, which are paid by all, in making improvements that will benefit a favored few. Whereas if the system of taxing the adjoining holders was in force such malversation would be impossible.

Mr. Buell's contrast of the condition of the streets in the two cities is a striking one and should certainly show the Minneapolis people that there is a screw loose somewhere.

BALLOT REFORM.

THE MASSACHUSETTS LAW.

A Detailed Report of the Voting Under It at the Election of November 5—A Perfect Success From the Start.

At the invitation of Mr. George Fred. Williams and Mr. Richard H. Dana, treasurer of the Ballot act league of Massachusetts, I went on to Boston to watch the election on Tuesday, November 5.

The ballot act of Massachusetts makes the following provisions:

All ballots for use in state and city elections shall be printed and distributed at public expense; those for state elections by the secretary of the commonwealth, and those for city elections by the respective city clerks.

Nominations may be made (1) by conventions, (2) by caucuses, (3) by nomination papers. A convention, to be recognized by the state, must be that of a party which polled at least three per cent of the entire vote cast at the preceding election in the state, or the electoral district for which the nomination is made, *unless* all the delegates to such convention are elected under the caucus act of 1888 (Statutes 1888, chap. 441). This clause opens the way for new parties to get the names of their nominees on the official ballot otherwise than by nomination papers.

In order to get the name of a caucus nominee on the official ballot, the caucus must in every case be held under the caucus act of 1888.

Nomination papers must be signed by qualified voters of the district for which the nomination is made. The number of signatures must be at least one for every one hundred votes cast at the last preceding election in that district, but in no case less than fifty.

For offices filled by the voters of the state at large, not less than one thousand signatures are required.

A voter can subscribe to one nomination for each officer to be filled, and to one only.

One of the signers of each nomination paper must take oath to the truth of the statements contained therein, and the registrars of voters must certify that the signatures are the names of qualified voters in the district for which the nomination is made.

Nominating conventions and caucuses must cause a certificate to be prepared and signed under oath by the presiding officer and secretary of the convention or caucus, giving the names and residences of nominees, the offices for which they are nominated and their political or party designation.

Certificates of nomination and nomination papers must be filed with the secretary of state at least fourteen days previous to the day of election. Any duly nominated candidate may withdraw his name by filing a properly acknowledged request with the secretary of state (for state officers) ten days, or with the city clerk (for city officers) five days before election. Objections may be made to any candidate by filing notice thereof with the secretary.

Every ballot shall contain the names of all candidates duly nominated for the offices specified in the ballot; the names of candidates for each office to be arranged alphabetically under the designation of the office, and blank spaces sufficient to write in as many names as are to be voted for for such office left below the printed names, to enable voters to vote for men not on the list should they wish to do so.

The ballot shall be substantially of a specified length and two, three, or more times a specified width, as may be necessary to accommodate the whole number of nominees. It shall be creased so as to fold to the specified width, and indorsed so as to show when folded in those creases, "Official ballot for" followed by the designation of the polling place, the date of the election, and a facsimile of the signature of the officer who issued it.

Five days before election copies of the ballot in its final shape shall be sent to the registrars of voters in each city and town, who shall immediately post them in public places in each voting precinct. A complete list of nominations must also be published in at least two papers of each county. Specimen ballots on tinted paper and cards of instructions to voters are sent to each polling place and are conspicuously posted outside of the guard rail as well as in every voting shelf. Duplicate packages of ballots, instruction cards, and specimen ballots are to be sent to each precinct by different conveyance.

Voters cannot remain within the inclosed space more than ten minutes, nor occupy a shelf more than five minutes if there are others voters waiting and all the shelves are occupied. No ballots can be taken from the polling place. Spoiled or imperfect ballots must be returned to the ballot clerk and another obtained from him, which must be voted or returned. No voter can have more than one ballot at a time, and he shall not be given more than three altogether.

There are penalties for defacing or destroying the official lists of candidates, for defacing, destroying, or carrying away the cards of instruction, sample ballots, pencils or other supplies, or from hindering others from voting; for suppression or delay of any official paper or matter connected with an election; for delaying, destroying, or having outside of the ruling official ballots; for neglect of official duty, putting distinguishing marks on ballots, or in any way attempting to defeat the evident purpose of the law.

Although the law does not require any specified form to be followed in the making out of certificates of nomination, only providing that certain information must be given, the secretary had blanks prepared for conventions, caucuses and nomination papers, which he supplied from his office to all applicants. These blanks being uniform and containing all the required information in concise form, saved much labor at the office; for it was only necessary to see that the names and dates were filled in properly to be sure that the nomination complied with the law.

Portfolios were then arranged at the state house in which the nominations were classified as they were received, and a book was prepared with blanks for filling out the ballot as it should be printed for each of the eight hundred and odd polling precincts of the state. These books being complete, when the last day for filing withdrawals had passed, they were given to the printers, and as soon as possible complete lists of the candidates were struck off exactly in the order in which they would appear on the ballot. Then the ballots were printed, bunched for each precinct, with the tinted fac similes, cards of instruction and lists of penalties, and sent to the town and city clerks, whose business it was to see that each precinct or polling place within his jurisdiction had its bundle in proper season.

On the 13th of September the secretary issued a circular to selectmen, town clerks, registrars of voters, calling their attention to the provisions of the law, especially with regard to their duties in connection with nominations, appointment of extra election officers, handling of ballots, etc., and of providing polling places with guard rail, voting shelves and supplies for marking ballots.

The nominations having been filed, the lists published and posted, the ballots printed and sent out to each town so that they should be received at least twelve hours before the opening of the polls, the work of the secretary's office was done. Too great credit cannot be given to the efficient manner in which this, the most onerous part of the work entailed by the new law, was done. Only one man was added to the staff in the secretary's office, and but a small amount of overtime work done by the regular force.

Election day opened cloudy and cool. At 7 o'clock precisely the warden of precinct 4, ward 10, read his warrant and proceeded to examine the ballot box, to break open the sealed package of ballots, and to post up the fac similes and cards of instruction. At 7:14 the polls were declared open and three men who were waiting filed in as their names were checked, received their ballots and went to the shelves to prepare them. Within five minutes these three men had voted and left the room. The first of them was four and one-quarter minutes in voting, but the others took less time; the last one prepared his ballot, voted and left the room before the first had marked his ballot. There were 240 voters registered in this precinct, of whom 198 voted during the day.

This voting room was a fair sample of all the others which I saw in the city. A wooden rail runs across the room, three feet high and six feet from the entrance. In the middle of the rail is a bar which lifts up, leaving an opening about two and a half feet wide. The voter steps to the rail, gives his name to the ballot clerk, who sits behind a table to the right of the entrance through the rail, and when it is checked passes through the opening and is handed a ballot from the table. Passing on to the far side of the room, at a convenient height from the floor, he finds a long shelf divided into compartments by board partitions. Into one of these compartments he goes, his shoulders filling it nearly from side to side, and thus preventing any one from seeing what is on the shelf in front of him. Placing his ballot on the shelf, with the pencil he finds lying there he marks a cross (x) opposite the names he wishes to vote for; then folding the ballot as it was when given to him, he takes it to the ballot box, which is to the left of the opening in the guard rail and fully six feet from it, and placing it thereon, with the indorsement up, in sight, has his name again checked on a duplicate list, and votes.

Standing there for half an hour I watched a number of men vote, and most of them took a little more than two minutes to prepare their ballots.

The result of the day's observations was that it took the average voter about two and one-half minutes to prepare his ballot, and that he spent about three minutes within the rail. At one polling place a man, apparently a clerk or bookkeeper, was one minute and three-quarters fixing his ballot and two minutes and five seconds inside the rail. A man in greasy overalls, evidently an engineer or machinist, was just two minutes, and a bright young lawyer one minute and a quarter, in marking their ballots.

During the morning I watched the voting at some half dozen precincts in different parts of the city, from Beacon hill, where the voters were generally of the richer class, to the river district, where all the voters were laboring men. In some of these precincts most of the election officers were colored. My experience and that of all the observers I talked with was that as a rule the laboring men were much more willing to ask questions and to take advice and instruction than were the richer class. Among these were some who seemed to think that they knew all about it and were inclined to snub anyone who presumed to advise them; consequently, fewer mistakes were made in the lower than in the upper wards of the city. At the Beacon hill polling place, out of eighty-two voters, two had spoiled their ballots in marking, whereas, down by the river, out of ninety odd ballots, none had been spoiled.

Leaving the city we went out to Dedham, the county town of Norfolk county. In this town, in which were cast 1,040 votes, there is but one polling place, the town hall. The law requires for the number of registered voters (about 1,200) sixteen voting shelves; but in order to be on the safe side the selectmen had provided twenty. When the polls opened at 7 o'clock there were between fifty and sixty people waiting to vote; and although these were passed into the inclosure just as fast as the clerk could check their names, the booths were never *all* full, nor were they so at any time during the day. Seventy votes were prepared and cast in the first twenty minutes that the polls were open. The selectman, however, said that that rate could not be kept up, as most of those men were clerks, etc., who were in a hurry to catch the train for Boston, and they were probably above the average in intelligence and quickness of movement.

Here, as everywhere, the people we saw were all pleased with the working of the new system. The first thing everyone remarked was the absence from the neighborhood of the polls of the political workers and ticket peddlers. Our attention was universally called to the entire absence of "pulling and hauling." The factory hands and laboring men at Dedham came in while we were at the polls, it being noon hour, and they said: "Why, it used to be as much as your life's worth to come here; there'd be a hundred pulling and hauling at you, shoving one ticket or another into your hand, and when you'd get nearly up to the box they'd grab the ticket away from you, and the fight 'ud begin again, till you was lucky if you kept the coat on your back." Now they walked quietly in, their names were checked, and they prepared their ballots in peace and privacy. The chairman of the local democratic committee said that there was nothing for his men to do but to bring in voters who lived at a distance, and after getting them in not to know how they would vote; and this when one of the most exciting contests that has taken place for years was stirring up the county.

As to the counting, that was a very much simpler matter than had been feared. The tally sheets had the names of candidates printed down the margin in the same order as on the ballot and grouped in the same way, by office, with blank spaces under each group for written names. In case a ballot gave no vote for an office it was counted as blank, so that the votes for each office should correspond with the total vote. The sheets were ruled in very narrow columns by blue lines, a red line being substituted after every fifth column to facilitate counting, and were wide enough to allow for two hundred ballots. One clerk called off the names voted for from the ballots, another clerk checked them on the tally sheet, and the inspectors looked over their shoulders and saw that they called and checked honestly. The total number of checks for each office must agree with the whole number of ballots given out, less those returned spoiled, and thus an absolute proof of the correctness of the count was established.

The average rate of counting was about one hundred ballots an hour; the full returns from every precinct in the city were in the city hall by eleven o'clock, and at Dedham the returns from all but three towns of Norfolk county were received by the same hour.

The result of the election shows that everywhere the dread of being known to vote against your party—that great stumbling block of all reform movements—has been done away with, for under this system no one can tell how a man votes.

A striking example of the breaking of party power is shown in Norfolk county. The sheriff of the county, Mr. A. B. Endicott, is a democrat, appointed some years ago by Governor Robinson to fill an unexpired term; he was later nominated by both parties and elected, filling the office most satisfactorily. One of his deputies, Mr. J. W. Bradler, who is a great republican worker and wire puller, wished to be sheriff, and gaining control of the republican convention was nominated as the party candidate. The democrats nominated Mr. Endicott, and a number of republicans and independents started "nomination papers" for him and obtained 2,300 signatures; Mr. Endicott's name therefore appeared on the ballots with the designation "Democratic, Citizens," after it. A strong fight was made, which on the republican side degenerated into bitter personal attacks; the party whip was cracked and Mr. Bradler was to be forced upon the community; but they had reckoned without their host; the voters, with an official ballot before them, a lead pencil in their hands, and securely screened from observation by the voting compartments, were not afraid of the party whip or of any other form of ancient terrorism. They voted as they pleased, and while the county gives over 1,800 republican plurality, Mr. Endicott is elected by 3,118 majority. In this same republican county Mr. Williams, a mugwump democrat, was elected to the legislature by a majority of 124, whereas a year ago his opponent had a majority of 206. Two other mugwump democrats were elected in this county. This shows the tremendous power given to the independent vote by the new system. It will work in two ways; first, it will enable the voters to rebuke the party rings by defeating bad candidates; and, secondly, it will force the nomination of acceptable men on party tickets.

The great success of this the first trial of a really secret ballot in this country is largely due to the labors of the Massachusetts ballot act league. Its members worked out all the details of the machinery for carrying out the law, a great deal of time being spent over the arrangements of the voting shelves and polling places. A most important part of the preparatory work consisted in practical lessons in the working of the system given by the members of the league. Meetings were held at which a short speech was made on the subject, illustrated by a fully equipped polling place arranged on the platform, and members of the audience were invited to come up and go through the process of voting. All this work, with the distribution of pamphlets containing the ballot law, the caucus law, forms for nomination certificates and papers, and suggestions to voters, with a sample ballot, the duties of election officers, etc., prepared the people of the state for the new law, and was a great help to the secretary of state and the city clerks, who most effectively co-operated with the league.

The new system has proved itself to be in practice a very simple thing. The voter has nothing to do that he is not already accustomed to except the preparation of his ballot in the compartment.

How advantageous was the position of the Massachusetss man at the voting shelf with his official ballot before him as compared with that of his New York friend, who had to make sure that the tickets given him by the party worker were really what they purported to be; and who, if he did not wish to vote a straight party ticket, had to do his scratching or pasting under the eyes of a crowd of political hangers on instead of in the privacy of a specially provided compartment.

I was constantly struck on election day with the difference in the working of the Massachusetts and the Connecticut law.

In Connecticut, under the sort of wooden nutmeg law with which the legislature and governor thought to quiet our demand for reform, there was the same old fighting for voters, the ticket peddler met you outside the hundred feet distance which the law required him to keep from the polls, and the gauntlet had to be run as of old. In Massachusetts that is all done away with; a man could walk up to any polling place as comfortably as he could go into any shop in town.

In Connecticut the workers, having given out the ballots they wanted voted, watched their man safely past the booth where ballots were given out by the inspector, and having seen that he took none there, watched him through the booth, and, if he stayed there more than barely long enough to put his ballot in the envelope, suspected him of playing false. In Massachusetts, on the contrary, each man had to prepare his own ballot, and to make his own choice for eighteen offices to be filled from a list of forty-three names before him, and with the full opportunity to add as many names of his own choosing as he saw fit. Even by giving the voter a stencil (as was done in some precincts) so cut as to bring the crosses opposite the names of the straight party ticket or of any special combination, the worker could not be sure of his man; because the voter had to stay at the shelf long enough to mark all those names, and it was impossible to ascertain whether he used the stencil or not.

The official ballot containing all the names of candidates for the same office, given out only by a sworn officer within the polling place, and enforced secrecy in the preparation of such ballots, are the only safeguards of an uncorrupted vote; and the Massachusetts election conclusively proves that such a system is not only possible in this country but that it is a perfect success.

All the objections which the "practical politician" dared to avow are answered completely, the real objection of such men—the impossibility of working their "blocks of five"—is made manifest; and surely all good citizens must now unite to secure at once for every state of the Union such a system as that which worked so triumphantly in Massachusetts.

LAWRENCE DUNHAM.

GOV. ABBETT AND BALLOT REFORM.

Mr. J. T. Altemus Replies to the Strictures of the Jersey City Club.

In the last issue of THE STANDARD appeared an article denouncing the article which I wrote, and which was published in a previous number of this paper, upon the ballot reform movement in New Jersey. In that article I endeavored to be perfectly fair, and to state the exact situation from the facts in my possession. The result of the election in New Jersey proves that my judgment was correct and that the great mass of voters who gave Leon Abbett 12,000 majority for governor believed that he was perfectly honest in the stand he had taken upon the question of ballot reform. At the meeting of the Standard

single tax club of Jersey City which passed the resolution, there were only nine members present and two of these gentlemen voted against it. Those gentlemen who voted for the resolution, and who have always opposed me, will find that when the legislature convenes that a genuine ballot reform bill will be passed and will be signed by Governor Abbett. It will not be the Connecticut bill, but it will be such a bill as all honest ballot reformers can agree upon and will be satisfied with. Governor Abbett, as I stated in my article, is heartily in favor of ballot reform. He was misrepresented all through the campaign by men who were working for General Grubb. To show to the readers of THE STANDARD that I am right in regard to Governor Abbett's position, I will give the following letter, which was written to me during the campaign:

"In compliance with your request that I should write you a letter stating my exact position upon ballot reform, I will say that I have always been in favor of such a revision of the election laws as will prevent bribery and intimidation at the polls and will furnish to the citizen absolute secrecy of voting. There is an attempt on the part of some men, who claim to be ballot reformers, to turn the movement into a partisan one. I have been misrepresented and efforts have been made to place me in a false position on this question. This is not a partisan question. It is one in which all good citizens, irrespective of party, are interested. I repeat what I said in a previous letter to you, that I will do all in my power to have a genuine ballot reform bill passed at the next session of the legislature, and it will be such a bill as all parties can agree upon. Your association presented the following resolution to the Hudson county democratic convention, October 8, 1889:

"Resolved, That this convention does hereby instruct its candidate for senator, if elected, to vote for and urge the passage by the coming legislature of a genuine ballot reform bill, embracing the essential features of an absolute secret ballot; an official ticket printed and distributed at the expense of the state and the right of nomination by petition."

That body adopted this resolution. This speaks my sentiments and the sentiments of my party. I shall honestly and faithfully abide by them, if elected governor. I am very truly yours, LEON ABBETT.

What more can anyone ask? I shall not take up the space of THE STANDARD to say anything more on this question, for it is a personal fight. I shall carry on the fight elsewhere. The readers of THE STANDARD will see that the article of mine was not prevaricating or misleading, and that I had good grounds for taking the stand I did.

J. T. ALTEMUS.

Mr. Abarbanell Also Replies.

Mr. J. R. Abarbanell, president of the Hudson county ballot reform association, also writes to THE STANDARD denying, point blank, the various charges made by the resolution of the Standard club.

He declares that so far from consenting to the Connecticut system, the Hudson county association required each candidate to "promise to urge the passage of and to vote for a genuine ballot reform bill, embracing the following essential features: (a) Absolute secrecy in voting; (b) official ballots printed and distributed at the public expense; (c) the right of nomination by petition.

In relation to the charge that the word "exclusive" was purposely omitted, Mr. Abarbanell quotes the report of the executive committee of his association, read at the Jersey City ballot reform meeting, which declared: "By an official ballot it is expressly understood that we mean a ballot to be given by the proper officers to the voter at the polling place, and nowhere else obtainable."

In answer to the charge that he and his friends were only "professed ballot reformers" Mr. Abarbanell recalls his contribution to the literature of ballot reform, while he asks his critics to point out an essential feature of the Australian system omitted by the Hudson county association.

In answer to the charge that ballot reform as urged by his association means nothing, Mr. Abarbanell says: "In this case it means that the governor of the state, the senator and every member of the assembly from Hudson county are pledged in writing to the passage of a genuine ballot reform bill, embracing all the essential features—something that no other ballot reform association in the state of New Jersey, or any other state, has been able to accomplish."

The East Side League.

The East side ballot reform league organized on Nov. 4, by the election of Mr. Julius Blumberger as temporary chairman, and Mr. A. Stephen Aaronstamn as secretary. The league held its second meeting on Friday evening, 15th, and proposes to do active work for ballot reform on the east side. Its meeting place is at Pacific hall, 109 East Broadway. The secretary's address is No. 45 East Broadway.

The St. Louis Election.

The school election in St. Louis was only a partial application of the new Australian system. An official ballot was provided, and so the assessment of candidates was done away with and the evils of bogus tickets, etc., prevented. But the secrecy of the ballot was not maintained. The next state or regular municipal election will test the law in its completeness. But even as it was the system worked well, and the elections were quiet and orderly. It would seem that the city did not care to go to the expense of erecting booths and compartments, which would make the voting secret, for so unimportant an election.

At the meeting in Portland, Me., last week of the Maine woman suffrage association, the following resolution, among others, was adopted: "That this association recognizes with joy the great value of the Australian ballot system, as recently shown in the elections in Massachusetts and other states, and earnestly commends to the voters of Maine the purpose of electing members to the next legislature who will vote to make this system the law of our commonwealth."

John H. Cooney, Worcester, Mass.—The Australian ballot system is a grand success; it has come to stay. In the precinct in which I voted 195 votes were cast in the ten booths in the hour between 12.10 and 1.10 This is the greatest democratic precinct in the city.

Press Comments.

The Australian ballot system is an unquestionable success—that is the verdict of all sorts and conditions of men, except, no doubt, the vote peddlers and other political hangers on, whose occupation is taken away. All manner of evils and discomforts of elections disappear in the use of this system. There are no possible frauds of deceiving tickets, headed "republican" and cunningly concealing democratic nominations, or vice versa; no "selling out," no "combines," no "deals," such as did so much in New York toward electing Harrison and Hill last fall—none of these things is possible.—[Springfield, Mass., Republican.

The expense of the state and city elections to the city of Boston under the Australian system is estimated at from $85,000 to $90,000. This expenditure is money well invested, considering the freedom of action secured to the citizen in depositing his ballot. He cannot be run down now by vote distributors, and pulled one way and another, in order that he may be browbeaten into voting as others dictate.—[Boston Transcript.

As to the Australian system of voting, we have nothing but praise, and as we have said, the democrats have nothing to say against it. It worked admirably.—[Lynn, Mass., Bee.

The result of the election in Massachusetts answers the chief objection Governor Hill raised against the Australian ballot system, when he vetoed the Saxton bill last winter—that it was an untried system. A large commonwealth used it easily and speedily, and without disorder or dishontsty. During the campaign in New York, too, the voters of the laboring class expressed themselves frequently and emphatically in favor of the reform. These two facts may influence Governor Hill to handle an Australian ballot system bill with favor the next time one is presented to him. He will be given the chance.—[Pittsburg Commercial Gazette.

So far, then, as the "test" in the Bay state is concerned, the Australian ballot system is the only way to vote. Let us have it as soon as possible in the Empire state.—[Utica, N. Y., Herald.

Ballot reform, gentlemen; off with your hats. Here is an issue that is worthy of much honor.—[Voice (prohibitionist).

Ballot reform is coming.—[Rochester, N. Y., Times.

Out of the smoke of this off-year election, one signal advantage has already loomed in sight. A great stride toward purer politics has been made in the adoption of the Australian ballot system in Massachusetts and in the successful way in which it has been put to proof.—[Philadelphia Record.

The Journal may talk until the pigs fly, but it will not succeed in convincing any intelligent person that Tuesday's elections were not a defeat for protection and a most emphatic rebuke to the blocks-of-five administration.—[Indianapolis Sentinel.

The experience so far as it has gone seems to show that the new method is practicable, and while, of course, it cannot change the hearts of either politicians or voters, it bids fair to render more difficult abuses that were easy under the old system.—[Pittsburg Dispatch.

The governor of New York and the governor of Connecticut vetoed the Australian ballot reform a few months ago. They had better get off the track now. The wonderful success of the Australian ballot in its first extensive trial is a feather in the cap of Henry George, who was the first to advocate it in this country.—[Boston Globe.

There has seldom been a state election, indeed, in which the independent voter, and the honest reformer has had so good an opportunity of expressing his opinion on matters of wide political import in a way to make them felt.—[Boston Post.

Another Important Effect.

Boston Globe.

In precinct three of the same ward, an old fellow emerged through the railing after having deposited his ballot, looking very much like a man who had achieved one of the great undertakings of his life.

"This country'll soon be Catholic entirely," said he to another old chap who was just going in to vote.

"How do you make that out, Mike?" asked No. 2.

"Because," replied Mike, "ye can't vote now for a man unless you make the sign of the cross first."

SOCIETY NOTES.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., Oct. 30—Early this morning William Conway and W. M Brady, old and trusted clerks for the big clothing firm of A. N. Schuster & Co. here, were arrested at the Union depot, just as they were about to leave for Kansas City with over $1,000 worth of goods stolen from the firm. Conway is a married man, has been working for the firm for nearly ten years and has been only paid $30 per month. He said to a newspaper correspondent that out of that sum he was expected to dress and support his family, and he had stolen that he might live. A. N. Schuster & Co. is one of the richest firms in the city, Mr. Schuster being worth over $1,000,000. He is president of the Y. M. C. A.

Mrs. Schenley, of the Schenley family who own a good part of Pittsburg, has given to the city for park and other purposes property valued at $1,000,000. The Schenleys live in England most of the time.

The executive board of the Chicago turners' societies appointed a committee to wait upon the county board to-day to urge the adoption of some means whereby the children who are unable to attend school because of lack of proper clothing can be supplied from the county's funds. A similar request was made on the board two weeks ago, but was not acted upon because there were insufficient funds to meet the demands for relief. The adoption of an emergency measure was urged to-day, which will give relief at least to the most urgent cases of destitution, among the public school children.

The studio of Louis Tiffany in East Seventy-second street, which in its every-day attire is considered one of the marvels of modern architecture, was last week given up in aid of the New York infirmary for women and children. Dollars of wealthy New Yorkers were exchanged for a sight of the studio and for Japanese chrysanthemums which were sold by pretty girls attired in real Japanese costumes of richly embroidered silks and crepes. The rooms were filled with curios brought from all parts of the world, and for the evenings of the sale the studio proper was hung with dozens of lanterns brought from Paris, in shape and color much like pumpkins. The effect was weird. Perched away up in the point of the roof, surrounded by palms and chrysanthemum plants, was an orchestra which played afternoon and evening, and just beneath on a large beam was an immense Japanese vase, in which incense was kept burning.

An old man stumbled along the Bowery early one night a little while ago, and when near Fourth street half walked, half fell against an elevated railroad pillar. He held himself there for a minute or two, and then a policeman came along and took him to the Mercer street station house. He gave his name in a faint, lifeless way as James Robinson, said he was sixty years old, and that he had no home. Then the sergeant asked the officer who brought the old man in what the charge was, and the officer replied that he didn't know exactly, but the old fellow seemed out of place on the Bowery leaning against the elevated railroad pillar, and so he brought him along. The sergeant sent for a doctor to see if he would say that the old man was sick. "Well, what's the matter with him, doctor?" asked the sergeant. "Starvation, that's what the matter is; starvation and want of a home." They sent the old man in an ambulance to St. Vincent's hospital.

Mrs. ex-Secretary Whitney's house is at No. 2 West Fifty-seventh street. It was bought for her by Col. Price, her brother, who paid $1,000,000 for it. It is one of the most palatial of New York residences. The ball room is paneled with Italian marble panels which cost some $5,000 apiece, and costly woodwork, mosaic flooring and marble pillars make the reception rooms attractive. It is said that 600 guests can be entertained in these great apartments.

The following letter appeared in a recent issue of the San Francisco Examiner: To the Editor of the Examiner—Sir: Will you kindly give me a point as to how I can maintain myself, my aged mother, my widowed sister and her two children? I am a man aged twenty-eight, of sixteen years' business experience in this city, qualified to act as book keeper, bill, entry, shipping or corresponding clerk, salesman or stenographer. I have answered over three hundred applications for "help wanted," appearing in the Examiner and elsewhere, accompanying them with references given me by four prominent wholesale establishments, and have personally applied to nearly every wholesale house in town, yet, notwithstanding, I can get nothing to do. . . . A letter addressed to the general post office will always find me, as I am ashamed to give you my address.

WM. X. HENDERSON.

THE ENGLISH RADICALS.

Their Growing Power Inside the Liberal Party—Their Demand for a Change in the Land Laws.

The New York Sun is not a paper from whose editorial page radical reformers can often draw comfort, but in its issue of last Monday there appears an editorial article on English politics that affords much satisfaction to single tax men.

The Sun attributes Mr. Labouchere's recent speech-making tour in Scotland to a design to serve notice on the liberal leaders that the radicals intend to "dominate in fact, if not ostensibly, the next liberal cabinet." It refers to the formation within the liberal party of a radical organization with its own "whip"—an organization that refused to follow Gladstone in voting with the tories on the royal grants. The Sun says that the division on this question showed that the radicals embrace nearly three-fourths of those ordinarily voting with Mr. Gladstone, and that since then Mr. Labouchere has made no secret of the aspirations of himself and his friends. It says:

The Gladstonians, he takes for granted, will preponderate in the next house of commons, and he predicts that the radicals will form a larger majority than they now do of Mr. Gladstone's followers. They will, he says, insist upon proportional representation in the next liberal cabinet. He concedes that the first business of the new ministry will be the passage of a home rule bill for Ireland, and he acquiesces in the retention of Irish members at Westminster. The promise to the Parnellites once fulfilled, however, the execution of the radical programme will begin. The first plank in his platform, so the Scotchmen were informed by Mr. Labouchere, would be the abolition of septennial parliaments, and a reversion to the triennial parliaments which existed in the reign of Anne. This fundamental reform accomplished, it would never again be possible for an accidental reactionist majority to thwart the will of the country for a long term of years. He would also put an end to an absurd anomaly of the franchise in the United Kingdom, whereby an elector may vote more than once, if he happen to own real estate in more than one parliamentary district.

Having thus renovated the legislative machinery, the radicals, according to Mr. Labouchere, would use it for the following ends: They would not only disestablish the church of England and the kirk of Scotland, but they would disendow them also. How the funds thus confiscated or reclaimed would be applied we are not told, but perhaps they would be employed in providing better dwellings for the urban poor, which is another prominent feature of the radical programme. But the capital reform contemplated is a trenchant alteration in the tenure and occupation of land. "We will make," said Mr. Labouchere, "such a change in the land laws that the landlords will hardly recognize the country after we have put our hands to it." Whether this means that the radicals have decided to carry out the land nationalization doctrines of Mr. Henry George we are not informed, but we know that Mr. Keay, the lately elected member for Dundee, is an avowed advocate of those theories.

The tory land owners must listen with a shudder to this proclamation of radical designs. They rebelled against the last liberal cabinet, but they now see that Mr. Labouchere's little finger will be thicker than Mr. Gladstone's loins. Yet, however unwelcome may be the outlook to conservatives, the advent of the radicals to power is the logical and inevitable outcome of the close approach to universal suffrage brought about by the latest extensions and readjustments of the franchise.

The Progress of Ballot Reform.

New York Times.

Nothing is more noteworthy or more encouraging in the rather dreary political movement of this fall than the strong interest taken in ballot reform by the workingmen, quite independent of all parties. In this work Mr. Henry George is doing very effective and intelligent service, not only in this state, but in New Jersey. His argument is simple and sagacious. He shows his hearers that no essential change can be made toward what they regard as reform in any direction through political agencies unless the ballot is made practically independent, pure, and efficient through its absolute secrecy and by ridding political movements of the heavy burden of expense now entailed in merely getting tickets to the polls. This latter branch of the reform is quite as important as the secrecy of the ballot, because it makes intelligent combination possible without the use of the large sums of money now required, especially in the cities. Taking the whole reform together, it is in every sense a movement for emancipation, in which the more numerous and less wealthy classes have the greatest interest.

Do We Need That 35 Per Cent Duty on Raisins?

San Francisco Examiner.

The history of industry does not show many advances like the conquest by California of the first place in the raisin production of the world. Spain had held almost a monopoly of raisin growing for hundreds of years. Fathers had handed down their skill to their sons through generation after generation. The course of trade had become worn into a rut so deep that nothing seemed likely ever to change it. Seven years ago California challenged Malaga with a production of one box to her rival's fifty. To day a single district in this state surpasses the whole of Spain. And our supremacy has come to stay. One Californian acre will produce more grapes than three Spanish acres, and there is nothing in the Spanish climate to match our hot, dry summers for curing raisins. Our growers put brains in their work; they use machinery where it can be used to advantage, and half a dozen years are enough for them to acquire the inherited experience of centuries. They have practically conquered the American market and they are already well on the way toward the possession of the markets of the world.

David and His Hobbies.

New York Tribune.

Edward Everett Hale advises every man to cultivate a hobby of some sort. But some persons do have such extraordinary hobbies, you know. There is David B. Hill, for instance. He has two well developed hobbies—catering to the saloons and killing ballot reform measures.

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THE FREE TRADE FIGHT.

SOME DEMOCRATIC OPINIONS.

The Tariff Issue the Controlling One in Last Week's Elections.

Ex President Cleveland is reported as saying: "It is evident that the leaven of tariff reform has at last leavened the whole lump. The west, which has suffered most from the unjust burden of tariff taxation, has awakened. The state platforms of both Iowa and Ohio were abreast of the St. Louis platform on the subject of tariff reform.

"The people have considered and passed judgment. It was for the people to decide. They are now deciding. It is enough for me to say that I am satisfied at the indications and results of Tuesday's elections.

"The verdict in Virginia indicates that the south is still faithful to the democracy of Jefferson and Jackson."

Congressman Mills of Texas has no faith in the republican theory that the results of the recent elections are due to local cause. He says: "In Ohio and Iowa the republican defeat was due to the connection of the party with the prohibitionists as well as dissatisfaction with their course upon the tariff. In New Jersey the democrats made their fight on the tariff and won handsomely upon it, as they did last year. Our success in New York, as well as the splendid showing we made in Massachusetts, is due, in my judgment, to our position on that question.

"The truth is," Mr. Mills continued, "the doctrine of tariff reform is steadily growing. We are losing none of our strength, while the accesions to our ranks continues daily. Some of our friends censure President Cleveland for making the tariff the issue in the late campaign. It was a bold, courageous act. We needed such an issue. The times were ripe for it. It is better to suffer defeat while battling for an honest principle than to succeed without it. Our future fights will be made on the lines of the '88 campaign.

"What evidence have you that the sentiment in favor of tariff reform is spreading?" a Herald reporter asked Mr. Mills.

"The best evidence is that out in Missouri, where there has been no election this year, the people have been calling upon their senators and representatives in congress to take the stump and enlighten them upon the tariff question. I am told that in many cases they have traveled from five to twenty-five miles to be present upon such an occasion. Another evidence is the demand which reaches me from all over the country for tariff literature. There is not a day that my mail does not contain letters asking for copies of my speeches or somebody else's, or copies of the old bill or for some data bearing upon the subject. These letters come to me from Kansas, Iowa, Illinois, New York and New England."

"Is it the mechanics or the farmers who thus address you?"

"I have no means of knowing, but of one thing I am certain. The working people—those who are employed in the protected industries—are with us. It was to these people that we addressed ourselves last year. I found them invariably an intelligent, thinking class. Wherever they understood the subject—and all they needed was an opportunity—we made votes. That was notably the case in New Jersey and Connecticut. The farmers, the very class we expected to have with us, were against us. The class whose interests were most closely allied to us were against us. We shall not neglect them again, as we did before, and the result will be seen in the strength we shall gain from that quarter."

"You speak of next year. What do you expect to accomplish next year?"

"We shall carry the next house beyond a doubt. We shall make gains in the south, in the west and in New England. The people are just beginning to understand our position. They see that we have the right side of the argument, and they will be with us."

Colonel Daniel S. Lamont is reported as saying that the recent elections show a general cause operating throughout the country in behalf of democratic success. He points out the fact that the democratic state conventions everywhere indorsed the stand for tariff reform taken by the national democratic convention at St. Louis, and says that the so-called educational campaign of last year is now beginning to make its influence felt, particularly in the northwest.

Ex Secretary Whitney sees in the returns evidence that voters are leaving the republican party for good. He regards the result in Ohio as practically a national victory for the principles embodied in the St. Louis platform. The voters, he says, have in substance said: "The democratic party was right last fall and we have just found it out."

Ex-Mayor Weston of Grand Rapids, Michigan, chairman of the Michigan democratic state committee, attributes the democratic successes chiefly to the discussion of the tariff question. "The voters," he says, "are at last getting their eyes open, and the solid northwest of the republican party is irretrievably broken."

Governor-elect Boies of Iowa thinks that opposition to the prohibitory law was probably the chief factor in the Iowa fight, and that the railway question had considerable influence. He said to a reporter: "The campaign was in the main confined to state issues, all except the tariff question, but now that a majority of the people of Iowa have once broken the ice and voted the democratic ticket, I do not think it would be hard to convince them, especially the farmers, how hostile to their best interests the present so-called protective tariff is."

Farmers Favor Free Trade.

St. Louis.—At a recent meeting of the Interstate wheat growers' association President Colman shook things up considerably and talked all sorts of free trade heresy. It was resolved "by the farmers of the states lying between the Mississippi and Missouri river valleys and of the states of Oregon, Washington and California," that the president and congress be petitioned to make such reciprocity treaties with foreign nations as to remove certain duties from farm products shipped abroad; that steps be taken to destroy the existing monopolies and trusts and prevent the formation of others; that the present laws placing a duty upon farming implements and raw material used in their manufacture be repealed.

They resolved that they were more deeply interested in the adoption of such measures than in the success of any political party.

A resolution was also passed asking that Superintendent of Census Porter collect complete statistics of the farm mortgage question.

Minnesota.

E. L. Ryder, Secretary Single Tax League, Minneapolis, Minn.—A large number of gentlemen were present Wednesday evening to hear Mr. Edward Russell, an old line republican, formerly editor of the Davenport Gazette, but now of Minneapolis, address the league on "The Wool Tariff and Its Effects." He prefaced his remarks by complimenting the league on its enthusiasm and its intelligent discussion of economic subjects. Our tariff, he said, was merely for protection, so called. The tariff on wool was purely a protective one. The comfort of every one of us, especially in this northern climate, was dependent on the cost of wool. While we hear a great deal said about the wool manufacturers, and the wool raisers, we hear nothing about the interest of the wool users, who amounted now to somewhere near 60 000,000 of people. Special interests were constantly at work lobbying against the interests of the masses. He thought the great question of the future was one of putting an end to the whole protective system.

G. D. Kleinfelder, Philadelphia, Pa.—We recently organized what is known as the Philadelphia tariff reform club, and selected the following permanent officers: President, William M. Ayres; vice president, Conrad B. Day; secretary, B. F. Back; treasurer, Thos. B Parks; executive committee, John M. Ward, H. McNally, George M. L Nicholson, Willard F. Kline and G D Kleinfelder. The times are propitious, and it is predicted that we will have a membership of 3,000 in one year's time.

THE SINGLE TAX IN CANADA.

The Leading Liberal Paper of the Dominion Congratulates a Merchant on Nearly Seeing the Light.

Mr. Thomas Thompson of Toronto recently wrote a letter to the Globe of that city, complaining of the high assessments on vacant land confirmed by the court of revision. He says that real estate is bought at ten per cent down and is thus given a fictitious value, but at the same time he complains that under the existing system a fine is put on improvements. Mr. Thompson's complaint is somewhat mixed, and the only really interesting thing about it at this distance is that it has called out from the Toronto Globe, the leading liberal paper of Canada, an editorial reply which fully commits the paper to the single tax. The Globe says:

Mr. Thomas Thompson reasons, from some opinions that we do not share, to a conclusion which is very nearly correct. He remarks upon the impropriety of taxing people for improving land, and truly a greater absurdity cannot be easily imagined. If he had gone on to the logical conclusion that no improvements whatever should be taxed he would have struck the bullseye. When merchants wake up to the fact that they, whether owners or renters of buildings, are great sufferers by the system which taxes buildings instead of taxing land values, we shall soon see a reasonably just assessment law, and one constructed on a principle which will exclude stocks as well as improvements from taxation.

We cannot at all agree, however, with Mr. Thompson's apparent opinion that the speculative value of land should not be assessed. This opinion is very naturally shared by Mr. S. H. Janes, who has been skillful and fortunate enough, we believe, to obtain no inconsiderable share of the "unearned increment" within recent years. The particular merit of a sound system of assessment would be that it would place at least a large portion of the unearned increment in the city treasury.

To Mr. Thompson's opinion that the assessment value of land should be the cash value, and that the cash value should be reckoned at the sum which the land would produce if made the best of by rent-yielding buildings, we have to object that it would be impossible for an assessor to decide what sort of buildings would pay best in that locality. Interminable disputes would come from such a speculative system of assessment. In taxation we must go on realities. Now, the sum upon which a man is willing to pay ten per cent down and the customary interest secured by mortgage or note is surely the cash value of the land he takes in exchange. In estimating the value of merchandise, horses, buildings, or any other property, we should take the cash paid and the interest-bearing securities given with the cash as truly representative of the cash value. To deal with land as Mr. Janes suggests would simply be to favor the land speculators at the expense of the city treasury. As for the plea that the land may decrease in value, that might better be urged on behalf of a stock of merchandise, or a building, or any perishable thing that is taxed. Finally, we have to admit that the present system may, as Mr. Thompson points out, sometimes bear unjustly upon those who hold a family property for associations' sake But this is only one of the innumerable injustices of the law. Consider, for instance, that hundreds of men earning small incomes as clerks, journalists, superintendents, etc., etc, pay much more income tax than is paid by hundreds of merchants, lawyers, capitalists, stockholders, etc., who spend ten times more in a year than the former earn. Under a properly reformed assessment system it would be impossible to levy one copper more on land held for associations' sake than on any other similarly situated land. We have a great deal of respect for Mr Thomas Thompson, there is no man whose rights we should be quicker to champion, but we cannot feel altogether sorry that so enterprising and influential a merchant has felt the iniquity of the assessment system, has come so near the conclusion that buildings should be exempted, and has, in fact, almost "seen the cat." Mr. Thompson is one of the men who keep on thinking, and we are confident he will go for a much more radical and logical reform than he suggests before his thinking comes to a stop.

PERSONAL.

James A. Herne will give a dramatic reading of Prof. Garland's sketch, "Under the Lion's Paw," in Tremont temple, Boston, December 8, before the Boston typographical union. William Lloyd Garrison and Prof. Garland will also deliver addresses. Mr. Herne, with his theatrical company, play "Drifting Apart" in Milford, Mass., on the 14 th; New Bedford, Mass., on the 15th, and Brockton, Mass., on the 16th.

Dr. Alfred Russell Wallace has written to the London Star denying that he had proclaimed himself a socialist. He says: "I did not authorize the paragraph in the Star; and such a bald statement does not at all represent my views. Hitherto I have been doubtful whether socialism in any form would be the future of humanity, and altogether skeptical of the possibility of carrying out any scheme of socialism in the present phase of human development. But my opinions on both these points have been changed by a careful study of that remarkable book, 'Looking Backward,' which for the first time, so far as I know, sets forth a practical and altogether unobjectionable scheme of socialistic life and solves all the difficulties of the problem in a most complete and satisfactory manner. My conclusions as to the practicability and advisability of such a scheme of social economy as Mr Bellamy expounds in no way affect my advocacy of land nationalization, which I believe to be—so far as this country is concerned—the indispensable preliminary to any realization of Mr. Bellamy's views. I shall therefore continue to advocate it as earnestly as I have hitherto done, while I shall not advocate any of the forms of socialism usually propounded in this country."

S D. Guion of Brooklyn has helped prepare the Toronto people for Henry George's visit by writing two good single tax articles to the Toronto Advance.

George B. Guenther of Galloway, Ill., contributes an admirable article entitled "Land, Labor and Capital" to the Mining Review of Rich Hill, Mo.

Howard Rich has opened a single tax discussion in the Hamilton, Ohio, Daily News, with a strong letter and the usual result—an editorial that claims to upset the whole "beautiful theory."

W. E. Brokaw has contributed a series of free trade articles to the Grant county, So. Dak., Review.

Professor Stuart has declined what would have been the unanimous nomination of the progressive party, to the deputy chairmanship of the London county council, on the ground that he can better devote himself to the amelioration of the condition of the people in the house of commons, on the platform and otherwise, than by performing the work of chairman.

Mr. August Desroches, treasurer of the Rochester single tax club, passed through New York last week, on his way to Washington. He reports much activity and enthusiasm in Rochester.

The society of ladies at Quincy, Ill., before which Judge Perry recently lectured, was referred to in THE STANDARD, as the Atlantic; it should have been the Atlantis.

Might Buy Votes, But Wouldn't Do a Shabby Trick.

Mail and Express.

A democratic captain dropped some of his ballots into the outside open overcoat pocket of the republican captain in the same election district. The latter did not know it and gave out some of them, thinking them to be the same honest republican ballots which he knew he had put into the same pocket. That was a shabby trick, the like of which no republican would perform.

DRAMATIC TRUSTS.

A Veteran Manager Describes the Evil, and Proposes the Boycott as a Remedy—Mr. Herne Sets Him Right.

A member of the Helen Blyth dramatic company, writing from St. Paul, Minn., asks THE STANDARD to draw attention to an article by a veteran manager, appearing in the Minneapolis Spectator. Lack of space prevents the publication of more than a summary of the article. But we publish in addition a communication from Mr. James A. Herne, whose long theatrical experience, both as an actor and as a manager, not only gives to his utterances the weight of authority but makes his reply to the question raised the more worthy of careful consideration.

The writer in the Spectator sets out by pointing to the fact that, whereas in 1860 there were in this country "fifty complete circuses, each owned by a single individual, who was generally a performer himself," we behold to-day "'the Greatest Show on Earth,' costing five million dollars; 'the Greatest Aggregation,' costing some other number of millions," and a few other gigantic enterprises. "The circus of our boyhood has almost passed away" The many small circuses have been rolled into a few big ones, and small capital and individual effort have less and less hope of successful competition.

As with the circus, so with the theatrical business. The management is concentrating into fewer and fewer hands, until "one manager boasts of twenty-three theaters, another of nineteen, another of ten," and "a lady advertises that she controls twenty plays, with more to follow." In fact, "in New York and Boston five firms control the larger theaters of the country." The young manager or young star can make but small way against such formidable competitors, the star often having the pleasure of walking home after playing a season under disadvantages that result in bad business, and if he plays next season he does not attempt an independent course, but goes out under one of the large managements for wages, which, through competition of others in a similar plight, have been reduced until they are just a little above the starvation point. Indeed, "actors are cheaper than freaks," and are glad to accept engagements under the dime show "fakir," "Pat" or "Jake."

"We look in vain," says the writer in the Spectator, in conclusion, "for the remedy to this state of affairs; and as our experiences tell us a change must come, we hope these are the dark clouds whose breaking will show us the silver lining. As from the people all vices spring, so from the people must the remedy come. And while a complicated monopoly like the coal and oil companies may be beyond the immediate grasp, yet many equally destructive are so simply formed they may be as simply destroyed. Let every body, of men or women, lodge of workmen, or of knights; or of any body that live by labor, let them both by official and individual action agree to withhold their patronage from these jackal managers who value the public as the wild Indian values cattle, for their hide and tallow. Let Americans no longer be the laughing stock of Europe, but exercise that God given intelligence which is the noblest attribute of man."

To the foregoing Mr. Herne makes the following reply:

To the Editor of THE STANDARD: After a careful persusal of the communication entitled "Dramatic Trusts," by "A Veteran Manager," which you did me the honor to submit for my consideration, I am constrained to say that I am surprised that one who so clearly sees and keenly feels the wrongs he so vividly sets forth, does not see the remedy for them. The method which he proposes is no remedy. He has fallen into the same error that has been fatal to so many, and which is one of the great detriments to the success of our cause, viz.: that of striking at individuals instead of at the privileges which create the power of the individuals. He suggests a "boycott" on the monopolistic managers The boycott is not a remedy. In the first place it is impracticable, and if practicable, is as unjust as it it is ineffective. The "Veteran Manager" does not seem to see that the boycott of one monopoly means simply to pave the way for another monopoly—that in killing "Pat and Jake" he gives birth and life to "Dennis and Abraham." Boycotts, dynamite bombs and strikes are effective only so far as they serve to show that great wrongs exist; that the people are oppressed beyond endurance; that they are ready to resort to desperate measures rather than submit to present conditions; but they never have been, are not now, nor ever will be remedies for those wrongs or conditions. Let our "Veteran Manager" look beyond his own environment and he will see that the one, only and positive remedy for social injustice of which he, in common with all wage earners, is a victim, lies in the single tax pure and simple, aided only by ballot reform. Let him advocate these as the only weapons with which to strike; let him bear in mind that to help his own class he must help all other classes, and he will find that not only the "dramatic trusts," but the coal and oil trusts he now deems so difficult to reach, will tumble headlong into the bottomless chasm which their own tyranny has made. Land values to the community, the ballot box to the people—justice to all.

JAMES A. HERNE.

MUNICIPAL LIGHTING.

An Earnest Fight in Buffalo—Monopoly Still Triumphant—Dunkirk's Experience.

The city of Buffalo pays to local electric companies $164 25 a year for each of the arc lights used in its streets. The charge is vastly higher than that paid by numerous smaller places, and there has been much grumbling, and finally there was a general demand for reduction. This in turn led to an agitation in favor of the ownership of its own electric plant by the city, and the single tax men and the Knights of Labor took an active part in advocating this proposal. The Buffalo economic association, of which many of the most active single tax men are members, took the lead in the public discussion of the question.

Finally a number of members of the Merchants' exchange signed a call on the president of that body for a meeting of its members to consider the advisability of the city erecting erecting or procuring the necessary plant for lighting its own streets. The trustees decided that they had no power to call a meeting of the exchange for such a purpose, but they voted the use of its rooms for a public meeting of the citizens. This meeting was held on October 2, at midday. Of course the busiest people of the city could not be present, and the local papers say that the hall was packed with attorneys and other servants of the corporations. As soon as a president and a secretary were chosen, an alderman, familiarly known as Sam Scheu, moved to adjourn, but the motion was not seconded.

Speeches were made by a number of people including Alderman Barnum, the president of the meeting. He charged that there was a ring in the board of aldermen determined to perpetuate the existing high prices, and that the representatives of the electric light companies are always represented in the board. The arguments as presented seem to leave no doubt that the city is greatly overcharged, but Lawyer Box, who posed as a tax payer representing no lighting company, opposed any increase of the city's debt on the score of economy, and some other speeches in the same line were made.

George J Sicard made a speech attempting to prove that the Electric Brush company is not making money, and of course in the interest of the poor company he opposed any attempt to have the city relieve it from its ruinous obligation.

The Courier flatly declares that the meeting was packed in the interest of the companies, and the Express significantly declares in a head line that "many friends of electric light were there." Mr. Sicard, the attorney for the companies, read a statement of the cost of lights, as follows:

	Number of Lights.	Price per Light.
Albany, N. Y.	481	$182 50
Rochester, N. Y.	252	104 50
Kansas City, Mo.	60	200 00
Salem, Mass.	160	164 25
Hoboken, N. J.	10	146 00
Manchester, N. H.	235	156 95
Fargo, Dak.	25	240 00
Newark, N. J.	81	146 00
Dayton, Ohio	122	150 00
Akron, Ohio	171	157 48
Kalamazoo, Mich.	128	182 50
Springfield, Ill.	100	137 50
Boston, Mass.	700	237 50
Des Moines, Iowa	88	141 00
Texarkana, Ark.	18	160 00
Grand Rapids, Mich.	110	140 00
Washington, D. C.	350	182 50
Camden, N. J.	85	146 00
Plymouth, Pa.	12	146 00
Duluth, Minn.	180	127 00
Scranton, Pa. (coal dust fuel)	322	73 00
Binghamton, N. Y.	100	140 00
Syracuse, N. Y.	300	144 00
Fall River, Mass.	50	180 00
Philadelphia, Pa.	33	200 75
Aspen, Col.	16	216 00
Montgomery, Ala.	100	155 10
East Saginaw, Mich.	126	140 00
Average		$160 59

This list carefully avoided mentioning many cities that could more naturally have been given for the purpose of comparing the cost of their lights with that of Buffalo. These were given by other speakers, and here are a few of them with the price per light per year: Troy, $158; New Orleans, $130; New York, $127; St. Paul, $127; Hudson, $116; Utica, $111; Pittsburg, $104; West Troy, $96; St. Louis, $75.

Even in the list made up by the lighting company there were but nine cities that paid more than Buffalo, and hence the showing was not encouraging to the people, though the meeting at the Merchants' exchange sided with the companies. That this meeting did not represent the opinions of the workingmen was clearly proven by the action of the local assembly of Knights of Labor, which passed resolutions favoring the ownership by the city of its own electric lighting plant, and thanked Messrs. Barnum, Matthews, Ferguson and others for their action at the meeting. The knights also indorsed the efforts made by the Buffalo tax reform club and the Times to bring the tax question before the people for consideration.

The most significant omission of figures by the agents of the monopoly were those relating to Chicago, where the electric lighting plant is owned and operated by the municipality. When Mr. Sicard put Scranton, Pa., at $73 per light in his list, he significantly put in brackets the words "coal dust fuel." He failed, however, to put in Chicago at $50 with the words "municipal plant" in brackets. This is, however, a matter still dwelt upon strongly by the Economic association and its allies.

The people of Buffalo did not, however, have to go so far from home to find conclusive demonstration of the economy of a municipal plant. In 1887 the city of Dunkirk bought a large engine for its water works, and with a view to future growth it obtained one twice as large as it then needed. That year Assemblyman Frost from Chatauqua county introduced a bill authorizing Dunkirk to attach an electric light plant to its water works. For some reason the strikers and the corporation lobby failed to notice this little local bill and it got safely through and became a law. When, however, the city had got its plant and was about to start up, a Standard oil agent applied for an injunction to prevent the city from lighting its own streets, but the injunction was refused. Since that time the city has, without the aid of coal dust fuel, lighted its own streets at a cost of less than $50 per light per year. At one of the meetings of the Buffalo economic society the following extract from a letter to one of its members from the mayor of Dunkirk was read:

> The cost of each arc light per night, running all night and every night, is 13½ cents. The capacity of the arc light is 2 000 candle power, and they are 55 in number. The system is the Western electric of Chicago, and we claim that we are having better results than they are having at Erie or Buffalo. We are greatly pleased with our system. Our plant complete cost $11,025 31. This includes two Rice engines of 50-horse power each, two dynamos of 35 arc lights each, and all necessary apparatus. The length of the line is about 11 miles. In order to make sufficient room for the plant in the water works building, an addition was made at an expense of $1,630 50, making the total cost of plant and building $13,338.71. You are aware our city owns and operates its water works, and the great saving comes from the city owning and operating both plants.

In view of evidence like this the single tax men, Knights of Labor and others interested in Buffalo are not likely to give up their fight because they have been beaten in a packed meeting, and the readers of THE STANDARD are likely to hear, from time to time, of further progress in Buffalo, where a very live set of men are forcing questions of government and taxation on public attention.

STRAWS THAT SHOW THE WIND.

The ballot reform question is, as we have frequently stated, not a mere wage labor issue. It is a measure in the interest of all who desire to see popular representation and republican government perpetuated. It belongs to no party and is, we are pleased to know, favored by the best elements in all parties and classes. *But to be beneficial, ballot reform must be genuine, not bogus.*—[Paterson, N. J., Labor Standard.

It has been urged against the Australian system which, heaven be praised we now have in Indiana, that it was impracticable because of the length of time required to cast a ballot. That objection, if honestly entertained by anybody is set aside by the experience of Montana last week. There they had a practical test of our law, and all the ballots in many precincts were cast by noon. The secret ballot, even if a little inconvenient, is what is needed where there is bribery or intimidation, and nobody desiring honest elections should object to it.—[Rockville, Ind., Tribune.

We have studied on the Henry George single tax theory considerable lately, but the more we study it the less we think of the scheme. We cannot see how it will benefit the laboring man to any great degree, and there are other things in it that are impossibilities. If the workingmen could pick up gold dollars on our streets, it would be very nice, but that will never be.—[Quincy, Ill., Journal of Industry.

Now that Mr. Thomas G. Shearman has proved that more than half of the total wealth of this country of 60,000,000 people is owned by 25,000 persons, the question arises with a good deal of force, what are the 59,975,000 going to do about it?—[Boston Globe.

We find in our orthodox republican contemporary, the Worcester Spy, the editorial statement that: "New England is progressing backward. The forests are encroaching upon the New Hampshire and Vermont farms, and Massachusetts is overrun with bears." If this be true, what is the cause of it? It cannot be accident, and it must have an economic cause. We should like to hear how the Spy explains it.—[Boston Globe.

The Buffalo central labor union are also anxious for the publication of the assessment rolls. The News, in referring to the subject, says: "What Buffalo needs more than anything else are assessors who will tax the rich man's property as well as the poor man's property. The poor people of Buffalo pay the taxes, and the rich will hold them to it as long as they will stand it. Residence property worth $60,000 on the west side is assessed $30,000, while a poor man's house on an unpretentious street on the east side worth $2,000 is assessed $1,600 or $1,800. It is unfair, and there should be a change."—[Hamilton, Ont., Times.

AUSTRALIA.

The Land Nationalization Society and Its Work—Effects of the London Dock Strike—Stirring of the Protection Idea—Other Matters of Interest.

MELBOURNE, Australia, Sept. 30.—You are no doubt already aware that a society has been formed here called the Land nationalization society of Victoria. We do not number very many as yet. There is a committee of fifteen, all of whom are enthusiastic in the general cause, although not yet agreed on some minor points. We in the first instance called the society the the Land values tax association of Victoria, but it was changed to Land nationalization, because the latter expressed the notion most prevalent in the minds of the public.

You have also probably heard that the sum of £21,000 was sent from Victoria to aid the London dock strikers and their families. Mr. R. Jones, who is a subscriber to THE STANDARD, took an active part in promoting a public meeting to aid the strikers, interesting several members of parliament and clergymen, and with Mr. Valentine inducing the Trade's hall council to bear the expense. The meeting was very successful, although little was said by the members of our society, they being kept in the back ground, which was likewise the case at other meetings. Several of the churches contributed to the funds, and, remarkable to say, the chamber of commerce sent a very handsome sum. Perhaps they recognize that good wages makes brisk trade. I do not remember so general or sympathetic a feeling being called forth by any other strike of workmen. But what excited feeling was the great discrepancy in wage of these men and the rate of wages here. The cost of living has greatly advanced on account of increase in rents, and the price of food is on the rise—even eggs being taxed, parliament having added them to the list of protected articles. The farmers are not satisfied and want more protection to make them level with the manufacturers. Sythings are on the down grade. Several suicides have resulted from the late land boom and the fall in inflated values. There exists in Melbourne a charity organization society to prevent fraud on the charitable. The Rev. Dr. Strong says poverty is on the increase; with increase of wealth in heaps there is a drawing away of the same from the masses.

Things have not yet reached so bad a state as with you, but, as Mr. Strong says, there are women working at tailoring for three shillings a day, in houses of the poorest kind, with very small back yards, because land is now so dear. The discovery of rich silver hills on the borders of the colonies of New South Wales and South Australia, about latitude 33 degrees south, caused a silver boom. Several companies were promoted in Melbourne, in connection with which a demand for offices has resulted in the erection of a number of eight and nine story office buildings, until the thing has been overdone and many offices must go unlet.

However, the great mining district of Broken hill and that westward give indications of untold riches. The £10 shares of the original Broken hill silver mine are now worth £50. Silver, lead, tin and gold lands are waiting development. Much of this country is unalienated by New South Wales and South Australian governments, and is let on mining leases and brings in a small rent to the state. There are labor covenants obliging the lease holders to have a given amount of work done on a leasehold, though this is not always strictly carried out. Tracts of land in Victoria, where over a square mile in extent, are taxed threepence in the pound.

Mr. James Weir, one of our members, gave a lecture on our land system, showing that one million sterling was paid annually in rent for about a quarter of a square mile of Melbourne, and reckoning that the revenue of Victoria is eight millions, it is seen that the rents of Melbourne alone would pay all the government expenses if it were taken by the single tax, and most people have a faint perception of this and regret that the government ever sold the land.

The spread of the idea of the taxation of land values has been going on here for years, principally through the efforts of the late Mr. Gresham, and he had no immediate successor as able and enthusiastic as himself. In fact, until the advent of "Progress and Poverty," there were few who thought it worth while to promote any agitation. The proprietor of the Age, the paper with the largest circulation, wrote an excellent article on "Land Values in Melbourne," reaching the same conclusion as Henry George, viz, placing taxes on land values and exempting improvements. This was published ten years ago in the Melbourne Review, but since then, whether it is because he has become a large landed proprietor or because the newspaper is supported by advertisers in the land owning line, there has prevailed a boycotting of the single tax idea.

Two members of our legislative assembly, Dr. William Maloney and Mr. W. T. Carter, are advocating the idea, however. But still many men cling to the idea of compensation to land owners.

Mr. Robert Jones is promoting a monthly magazine called "Progress," devoted to land tax reform in the first place and then woman's political advance, temperance, vegetarianism and the plebiscite.

A new paper is being published in Melbourne called the Daily Mail, supported by an ex-M. P., Mr. David Gaunson, barrister; it is likely to give some room to the discussion of the land question, but I fear it will be protectionist, as that policy is in the ascendant here, both Dr. Maloney and Mr. Carter being declared protectionists.

Land nationalization gets some support at the trades council, but the single tax I am afraid does not on account of the protection idea. So when Henry George comes to Australia he will get the warmest welcome from South Australia and the Sydney people, but in Melbourne it is doubtful how things will go, the monevocracy holding the newspaper press. The town clerk, Mr. Fitzgibbon, wrote a pamphlet "The Essence of 'Progress and Poverty,'" in which he calls Henry George the devil. JOHN BRUNTON.

REWARDING THE SPECULATORS.

Some Figures From New York's Assessment Rolls That Show Why Vacant Lot Owning is Profitable.

One of the finest apartment houses in this city is the Dakota, on Eighth avenue, opposite the park, between Seventy-second and Seventy-third streets. It is a light sandstone and brick building, of handsome design and costly construction and really an ornament to the city. Moreover the building and renting of the Dakota has done considerable to bring population to that part of the city, for it and the row of houses connected with it were among the first of the five residence buildings to go up in that section. The building occupies eight lots, 200 feet on the avenue and 100 on each street. The block below, between Seventy-first and Seventy-second streets, has a frontage on Eighth avenue in every way as desirable as the frontage occupied by the Dakota. Both plots have a corner on Seventy second street, a broad street, and both front on the park. But the frontage on the Seventy-first and Seventy-second street block is vacant, unimproved property.

How have the assessors rewarded the people who built the Dakota? By taxing them on a valuation of $650,000. How have they rewarded the owner of the eight unimproved vacant lots on the block below the Dakota? By taxing him on a valuation of $78,000. The tax rate being two per cent, the owner of the Dakota pays annually $13 000 taxes, while the vacant lot owner pays $1,560. That is, for having built a fine house and benefited the city, *the owner of the Dakota is compelled to pay over eight times as much taxes as his neighbor.*

A similar case is presented in the assessments of the lots on the frontage between Seventy-eighth and Seventy-ninth streets and Fifth avenue. On the corner of Seventy-eighth street there has been built a very fine granite residence. It occupies with the garden attached four lots—that is, half the frontage between the streets. It is a beautiful house, an ornament even to Fifth avenue. It is assessed at $268,000. Next it are four vacant lots, comprising the other half of the frontage. They extend to Seventy-ninth, a broad street, and are more desirable than the lots on which the granite residence stands. The assessment on the vacant lots is $82,000. That is to say, the owner of the house pays seven times as much taxes as the vacant lot owner.

Take another case. On the south side of One Hundred and Sixteenth street, just west of Lenox (Sixth) avenue, are three four-story residences, and next them are three vacant lots. The assessments on the houses average $56,000 per house. The assessments on the lots are $10,000 per lot. Thus, in this instance, the house builder or owner pays over three and one-half times what the vacant lot owner pays.

Here, now, are some assessments on property sold within the last two or three weeks, and a comparison of the selling price and assessed valuation. First some vacant lots:

South side 102d street, east of Ninth avenue. Six lots, sold for $60,000; assessed at $18,000, or 30 per cent of their value.

North side 131st street, east of Fifth avenue. Two lots, sold for $13,000; assessed at $5,400, or 42½ per cent of their value.

Between 58th and 59th streets, west of Sixth avenue. Sold for $165,000; assessed at $72,000, or 43⅗ per cent of their value.

South side 89th street, west of First avenue. Four lots, sold for $28,000; assessed at $10,000, or 35 per cent of their value.

South side 199th street, east of Fifth avenue. Two lots, sold for $15 000; assessed at $5 600, or 37 per cent of their value.

The average assessment in the above five parcels of vacant land is 37½ per cent.

Now some improved property:

The four-story dwelling No. 38 West Fifty-seventh street. Sold for $100 000; assessed at $65,000, or 65 per cent of value.

The four story dwelling No. 417 West Twenty-first street. Sold for $12,000; assessed at $7,500, or 62½ per cent of value.

The four-story dwelling 163 East 113th street. Sold for $11,750; assessed at $7,000, or 68 per cent of value.

The five-story brick store and tenement 223 Rivington street. Sold for $23,900; assessed at $10,000, or 41 per cent of value.

The average assessment on the above four buildings is 60 per cent.

Thus, in every $1,000 worth of land, the owners of the vacant lots are assessed $375, while the house owners are assessed $600 on each $1,000 worth of land and $600 more on each $1,000 worth of buildings.

SINGLE TAX NEWS.

THE PETITION.

SINGLE TAX ENROLLMENT COMMITTEE,
36 CLINTON PLACE.
NEW YORK, Nov. 12, 1889.

The following address has just been issued by this committee, and is being mailed as rapidly as possible to single tax men and others:

"This committee was organized shortly after the last presidential election, and got to work about the 1st of December, 1888. As is announced in the address which is sent to the signers of the petition, it is 'practically a voluntary body, proposing to do a needed work,' and 'it claims no authority over individuals or organizations enlisted in our work.'

"At the close of the last presidential campaign there was a general feeling of depression among single tax advocates. The committee that had conducted the single tax campaign in behalf of Mr. Cleveland's election called Mr. George and others into consultation to consider what steps should be taken to hold together our scattered forces and keep alive an active interest in our work. It was decided to prepare a petition in the form since largely circulated and signed, and this committee was appointed to gather funds and carry out the project. A small number of our friends thereupon pledged themselves to the regular payment of sufficient money to meet the fixed expenses of the committee for rent, postage, stationery, clerk hire, etc., and then called upon single tax people generally for contributions for the circulation of literature.

"All such contributions, unless there was a special request to the contrary, have been acknowledged from week to week in THE STANDARD, and amounted, up to the issue of that paper for November 2, to $1,715.24. This sum has not been sufficient to meet the actual expenses for distributing literature, and the committe has found itself sometimes crippled, because the urgent appeals of active workers were such that its regular fund was taken to pay for tracts, etc.

"The petition has been widely circulated throughout the country, and we now have signatures from every state and territory except Alaska. The total number of signatures at the last report was 67,567. Each signer has received petitions, blanks and a package of tracts. All the names thus received have been enrolled on cards and alphabetically classified under the proper post office addresses. The committee thus has a permanent enrollment, which can serve as an addressing list at any time for the wide distribution of literature among people more or less inclined toward our ideas, and who have been led to expect such tracts as are likely to be sent them. In addition to this enrollment we have a separate one of over 2,000 workers, who have been placed on that list because they have sent in petitions, contributed money, or otherwise indicated their readiness for active work.

"It was the original expectation of the committee to present the petition at the coming session of congress, and it will yet do so unless the friends of the cause see the necessity of going forward with the work. Its presentation, even to a hostile congress, cannot fail to draw attention to our ideas and purpose, while the form of the petition will not only be novel, but its arrangement, being bound into books, will make it easy for congressmen to see that their own constituents are asking for legislation in our direction. The effect would however be greater if the number of signatures could be largely increased, and with the start made during the present year there is not the shadow of a doubt that the number could be more than doubled in a few months.

"The mere presentation of the petition, however, is the least important part of this work. Its circulation has provided the most convenient means for starting argument on economic topics, and given to every one of our workers an opportunity to freely approach men otherwise inaccessible. The feeling that they have something to do, and that they are working in unison with others throughout the country for a definite aim, has had wonderful effect in stimulating interest and activity among our people, while it has enabled us to obtain the names of numerous adherents to the single tax doctrine who were entirely unknown to us when the work began. One immediate effect has been the stimulation of organization in all directions, so that we now have considerably over a hundred organizations scattered over the twenty-seven states and territories, and this number is increasing with great rapidity. From all parts of the country the committee has received promises that clubs will be organized during the coming winter. Wherever such organizations have been willing to pay the mere expense of copying the names of signers in their own neighborhoods, such names have been forwarded to them and this has given them opportunity for direct local work in the way of circulating documents and obtaining new members for their clubs. The direct result has been the reawakening of active interest among practical men. These men have done much to win respect for our movement and to make it an acknowledged factor in public affairs.

"This committee is willing to carry this work further and to push it with all the energy that the means at its command will warrant. The services of all of the members of the committee are purely gratuitous, but when work is active, several clerks have to be employed, and the expenses for clerk hire, etc., necessarily increase in proportion to the work done. In order to cover these expenses so as to continue to leave all general contributions to be applied to the circulation of literature, at least $3,000, and if possible $5,000, ought to be raised through contributions of individuals who will pay either a lump sum at once or pledge themselves to contribute regularly for a stated time. Should such contributions exceed in amount that required for the regular work of the committee, the surplus, together with all money received through popular contributions, will be applied to the circulation of literature among the signers. It is highly important that men who have once had their attention directed to this subject by the presentation of the petition, should from time to time receive further instruction in our principles. It is the particular desire of the committee to send out one or two special editions of THE STANDARD over the list of signers, as it finds by experience that the paper is more generally read than tracts, and is likely to be handed around from man to man in places where our doctrines at present are but little understood.

"The efforts of the past year have given to the committee an admirable piece of propaganda machinery, that can be used for promoting the cause of free trade at the congressional elections next year, but which ought to be used constantly between now and that time for spreading single tax doctrines. The work of organization can now be pressed forward more easily and more rapidly than ever before, and the latter will prepare the way for representative state and national organizations that can carry the work forward, after the enrollment committee has completed the task it has undertaken and presented the petition to congress.

"This circular is sent to you in the hope that you will agree to contribute periodically for the term of one year or less, towards defraying the fixed expenses of the committee, or that you will contribute a lump sum for that purpose, aside from any contributions you may be disposed to make in the future for the distribution of literature. If calls upon your purse for the advancement of local work render it impossible for you to thus contribute, please be kind enough to inform us of that fact, so that the committee may speedily learn the amount of the fund it is likely to have at its disposal.

"This circular is sent to all those enrolled as workers on the committee's list, many of whom we know can only render personal services. Such persons can, however, by judicious effort, bring the subject to the attention of friends not known to the committee and urge them to contribute what they are able. It is also sent to many friends of the cause who have not, thus far, taken any active interest in the committee's work, and the attention of such is called to the extract from Mr. George's recent article in THE STANDARD, printed on another page.

"This circular will also be sent to many who are not advocates of our full doctrines, but who fully comprehend the important bearing that the work of the single tax men has had in educating the people to a comprehension of the impropriety of taxes on personal property, and into the advocacy of absolute free trade. All contributions will be acknowledged in THE STANDARD and the contributor's name will be given, unless there is a special request to the contrary.

Wm. T. Croasdale, August Lewis, Louis F. Post, Read Gordon, G. St. J. Leavens."

What the committee asks is, not merely cash contributions, but agreements to contribute regularly toward the support of its work for the coming year. Agreements to contribute will be acknowledged in bulk, and the receipt for the payment of each installment will be acknowledged privately. The circulars have not all gone out yet, but a number of responses have come in, pledging definite amounts, and in some instances the full amount pledged has accompanied the subscription. The subscriptions thus far received are as follows:

Henry George, New York	$120
August Lewis, New York	250
B. H. Nadal, New York	75
Albert O. Young, Tuckahoe, N. Y	5?
Thomas G. Shearman, New York	250
Tom L. Johnson, Cleveland, Ohio	250
Webouck farm, Sharon, Conn.	75
S. B. Clarke, New York	25
W. T. Croasdale, New York	36
Mark W. Cross, Boston	25
Anonymous, Indianapolis, Ind	25
Total	$1183

The accounts for the first year's work practically closed with the acknowledgment of receipts in the last issue of THE STANDARD, amounting to $1,793 98, and we begin in this week's report cash contributers toward the new work of the second year as follows:

A Pagan, Jersey City	$1 00
C. A. Siringo, Devil's Gap, Idaho	1 00
Charles Wagner, Grater's Falls, Pa.	50
Harry Bowerman, New York city	5 00
Thomas Taylor, Youngstown, Ohio	50
Bryan Fazakerly, Memphis, Tenn.	1 00
John Meek, Memphis, Tenn.	1 00
James Dickson, Glencoe, Ore.	1 00
Sundry stamps	76
Total	$11 76

The enrollment now stands as follows:

Reported last week	67,800
Received during week ending Nov. 12	164
Total	67,964

The committee proposes to push the work with renewed vigor, and earnestly appeals to all friends of the cause to begin active work in securing signatures, organizing clubs and gathering funds for the campaign.

WM. T. CROASDALE, Chairman.

CHICAGO.

Father Huntington's Meeting—A Fine Audience and a Good Address—Features of Local Work.

CHICAGO, Nov. 1.—Our club held its meeting last night in the Madison street theater in honor of Father Huntington, who had accepted an invitation to address us. The attendance was large, and the character of the audience, as the Daily Globe put it, "was eminently respectable," including Bishop McLaren, Canon Knowles, Father Larrabee, Rev. S. C. Edsall, Rev. C F. Goss, Elder William F. Black, Rev. Charles Ferguson, Rev. Frank Leavitt and many other ministers, besides a large contingent of ladies and an encouraging number of business and professional men. Our own membership was present almost to a man and woman, and I have never seen a happier lot or a more enthusiastic.

Henry K. Lloyd, a gentleman of wide celebrity in journalism, presided with characteristic grace, and in introducing Father Huntington made a peculiarly felicitous five-minute speech that fairly charmed the audience.

Father Huntington was received with the most flattering demonstrations of favor. From the very first sentence he caught the attention of his auditors, and from that on he held the house as with a spell. No one left, and scores who dropped in casually were held till the close, the aisles and entrance being crowded when the glowing peroration was pronounced in a tone that thrilled every heart.

Father Huntington's subject was "The Religious Phase of the Social Question." Following is a part of his address:

"When discussing this question we have got to take some ground. That common ground to-night is that a man's limits are not to be too narrow for the full development of all his faculties. All of us agree that man is meant to be man. The purpose of man's Maker is that man shall find full development of all his faculties, physical, mental and moral, and anything that prevents development is wrong and must be swept away. Given man, and you have as the postulate liberty. We must take man as we find him here on this planet. He has got to live here and be in the fullest sense a man. We find man possessed of not only faculties but needs. To develop his physical power he must have food and clothing and a home. Whatever man is to be is based on the fact that he must live. He is made to live on the land. He is a land animal. The land is his sphere. The fertile land is his dwelling place while he is here. Man stands in a certain definite relation to the earth. He must have his support from it. Whatever interferes between men and his habitat goes so far to hurt and cramp man; to make him servile. It is quite impossible to look at land in the same light as any other material. The land was placed as an original storehouse from which man was to draw his supplies. Man's liberty has something to do with land. The land is so constructed that man finds it ready for use.

"The normal relation of man to this world is that he should be free. Revelation says that man was placed on the land to dress it and to keep it. It was a curse that man should earn his bread by the sweat of his brow, and yet the curse may be turned into a blessing. Labor and sorrow became man's strength. Man was to work out his salvation and by his labor was to achieve liberty. That is the plain statement of revelation. It is repeated in the great commandment of the labor question, which is, 'Six days shalt thou labor.' By willing service man can rise to greatness and liberty.

"The stupendous fact of history was that the eternal God became Man. When He did so He went to work. He worked in a carpenter's shop. God is the working energy of the universe. Anything which stands between man and his work is an infernal injustice and terrible tyranny. Land is the passive and man the active element in the world. Production is not the end for which man was put here. He was put here to live, to learn and to love. He has got now to crawl on his hands and knees to that tyrant, the competitive producer. Competitive production holds man in slavery, and the masters of the slaves cannot grow to their full manhood any more than can the slaves themselves. Slave-labor is unproductive. You can not get ahead with it. We do not any longer enslave men's bodies, but is it any less injustice to enslave that other element, land? By pretending to leave man free, but enslaving the land, you are hindering, not only production, but progress. You are putting a bar in the way of God's eternal purpose.

"But you say you must leave man free to use his land or not, as he pleases. You say land is property. I deny it. Property is what is proper. What is peculiar to a man, what belongs to a man by his natural constitution, or what man has made to bear it, were a part of, an extension of, himself. We say in one of our prayers that "God's *property* is always to have mercy." Men's property is what they have made; but did man ever make the land? By what right, then, do you place land in the same category with what man has made? "Land is not property; it is opportunity." Liberty is the free development of man's faculties and powers. Man has the right to live; but life exists because of this earth, and an equal right to live implies an equal right to land. Governments exist for no other purpose than to secure to men their natural rights. Happiness means the ideal condition of life.

"There is another natural right which precedes the right to live—it is the right to land, because man cannot exist without land. Life demands support, and an equal right to life means an equal right to land. Man can not live without land and he can not live on land unless you give him land to live on. I can not prove the right of man to live, but you believe it, every one of you. We find, looking back into history, that the human race has existed in certain collective relations which we call races. First he exists in the family, and then we have the nation. Nations exist in limited territory. The national life is really the life of all those individuals, plus all natural powers and forces. You must take in the land with the people. The people belong to the land and the land belongs to the people. We don't propose to give every family a home on the land now, because we have outgrown that thing. What we mean is this, that every man has a right to live and each man has as much right to the land as every other man.

"How is it possible to have any distribution of land except by parceling land out? All we ask is the worth of the land, and it that is divided up among us we have all got what belongs to us. What we propose to do is this, not to have paid down a certain sum for the land. We will take the worth of the land year by year. If you call that a tax you may do so, but I call it a good deal more."

In continuing Father Huntington referred to the teachings of the book of Amos, and argued from it that his theories had their warrant in the Scriptures.

The address was a model of what a single tax speech should be. It was full of bristling and brilliant points, and there were flashes of wit and ripples of humor that made it irresistible, even the good bishop and the grave clergy yielding to it and applauding with enthusiasm. Round after round of applause greeted some of the more stirring passages, and at the end there was a tumult of hand clapping, which but feebly expressed the feeling of the audience toward the orator. It is safe to say that the Madison street theater never held a better pleased or more sympathetic crowd.

On Thursday, November 14, John Gibbons, LL.D., will deliver an address before the Chicago single tax club. He is a powerful orator, a ripe scholar and a distinguished lawyer. His subject will be "Farm Mortgages."

An address on the drainage question is being sent out by our club. We will probably hold several public meetings for agitation during the next six weeks

WARREN W. BAILEY.

ECONOMICS AND THE CHURCH.

Mr. Albert Spicer Addresses the English Congregational Union on the Social Question and the Duties of the Church—The Single Tax Doctrine Presented.

The Congregational union of England and Wales held its autumn meeting at Hull last month. The gathering included ministers and delegates from all parts of the United Kingdom, and representatives of the Congregational churches in Canada and Australia, forming in all one of the most influential religious bodies in the world. A significant feature of the meeting was the reading of a paper by Mr. Albert Spicer, J. P., on "Christian economics with reference to the land question," and its subsequent discussion by the convention.

Mr. Spicer divided his subject into four parts:

1. The facts relating to the present social position.

2. The causes producing this state of things.

3. The reasons why Christian men, and especially a large representative body like the Congregational union, should consider them.

4. The direction in which we should seek a remedy.

Under the first head he showed the depopulation of the agricultural districts, and congestion and impoverishment of the great centers. He said:

Dr. Ogle's paper, recently read before the statistical society, proved that counties like Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridge, Huntington and Rutland have lost during the last thirty years 6, 8, 10 and nearly 12 per cent of their inhabitants, to say nothing of the loss of their natural increase. He also shows that this loss of population consists of about 13.2 per cent of men and 10 per cent of women, and that it includes those between five and forty-five years old, thus clearly demonstrating that the best life blood of the rural districts is gradually drifting into our great towns and cities.

He also quoted Alfred Russell Wallace, who from the census returns proved that "a total of nearly two millions of people have

in the short space of ten years, been forced by the struggle for existence to leave the country for the towns!"

Turning then to the cities, Mr. Spicer showed the state of things in London. He quoted a recent report of the school board which showed that 25,000 school children were in a state of semi-starvation, only kept alive by "free breakfasts." He continued:

All this has been corroborated by the recent work published by Mr. Booth, on "The Labor and Life of the People in East London." After very careful inquiries, the author shows that in that district, consisting of a population of 900,000, there are thirty-five per cent, or 314,000, belonging to different classes of poverty, sinking to want. Again, Archdeacon Farrar recently stated in convocation that there are in London 100,000 paupers, 80,000 fallen women, and 60,000 married people living in single rooms, and that to this mass some two hundred and forty souls are being added every hour.

The figures for the whole country showed that forty-five per cent of all those who reach the age of sixty are or have been practically paupers.

The average lifetime of what we may call the well to-do of society is fifty-five years, that of artisans or skilled workmen is thirty-seven, while that of the working classes is only twenty five, and eighty-two per cent of their children die before they reach five five years old.

And Mr. Spicer proved by quotations from newspapers and writers that things were much the same in the new colonies.

The cause of these conditions, Mr. Spicer claimed, was mainly that the people were disinherited. The rights of the whole people to the soil that were recognized under the feudal system, when the landlords paid almost all the expenses of government, have been disregarded. Taxation, shifted from the landlords on to industry and the products of industry, is crippling the worker while it relieves the monopolist. And as a result of not taxing land values, land is everywhere withheld from use. Mr. Spicer showed that the inability of the people to get at the land was the cause of their poverty and degradation, and claimed that rent, the value of land, constituted a fund which belonged to the whole people and should be used for the benefit of the whole people.

As to the position of the Congregational church on this question, Mr. Spicer said:

There are many thousands in the country deeply interested in this question; it only needs leaders in the different centers, who, having studied the subject themselves, are prepared manfully and earnestly to grapple with it wherever opportunity affords. The Congregational ministry of our land is rightly respected, and in determining to solve this problem they will increase the respect in which they are held, and they will draw to us many who in the past have been alienated by our failure to appreciate and help the sad position of so many of our fellow countrymen.

The Congregational union is, I maintain, therefore in a specially happy and unique position for arousing interest and showing how the subject can be handled effectively, and, at the same time, in harmony with righteousness and justice.

The address closed with a discussion of the various remedies proposed, and a strong and convincing argument for the abolition of all taxes on industry and the concentration of taxation on land values. In reply to those who might say that this was confiscation, Mr. Spicer said:

I would remind such that this same argument applies with equal force to every act of parliament that has been passed which has taken from hitherto privileged classes rights and advantages in order that a share of those rights and advantages should be distributed among a larger number of the community. In this direction I need only refer to the repeal of the corn laws—free trade (only now partial)—reform bills, education acts, endowed schools act, etc.

The people of the United Kingdom are gradually becoming enfranchised, and I hold that one of the first duties of a parliament representative of the people should be to undo the wrong of former years. To claim compensation for that which has been so unjustly taken for many years might be fairly considered—such, for example, as is demanded from landowners who are found to have succeeded to an estate without legal title. But I say let bygones be bygones; as to the the future, we must see that labor is freed from all fetters, and that landowners bear that share of the country's burdens which is legitimately theirs.

An extended and interesting discussion followed, in which the speakers expressed their pleasure that the union had taken up such subjects; the duty of the church in the solution of the social problem was acknowledged, and Mr. Spicer's arguments were considered at length. The session closed by a short speech of Mr. Spicer, in which he expressed his satisfaction with the remarks that his paper had called forth.

The Manhattan Club.

At last Thursday's meeting of the Manhattan single tax club the principal business was the consideration and adoption of a new constitution. The most important changes made by this constitution are the provisions for monthly business meetings instead of weekly, and the management of the affairs of the club by a managing board of four officers and five directors, instead of six officers and seventeen directors, as at present. Meetings for propaganda and social purposes will take the place of the three or four business meetings in the month that have been abolished.

A delegation from the "central committee" of clubs in this vicinity presented a proposition for the Manhattan club to send delegates to the committee. A short debate resulted in the appointment of a committee to give the reasons of the Manhattan club for not wishing to send delegates to the central committee.

On Sunday evening Mr. Thomas G. Shearman addressed a good meeting in the club rooms. His subject was "The Dangers that Menace Our Republic," and he dwelt mainly on the evils of the tariff and the legislation that would be necessary to abolish them. He thought that the next congress would have sufficient tariff reform sentiment to pass a reform bill, which would of course be vetoed by the president. And there was no objection to this, for finding it impossible to get a gradual reduction the people would demand, what was better, namely, the entire abolition of the whole tariff and internal revenue system. And this abolition would come, he thought, some time after the next presidential election, when some tariff reformer, perhaps Grover Cleveland, would occupy Mr. Harrison's place.

Mr. Shearman held that the passage of a reform measure like the Morrison bill would simply have given a new lease of life to protectionism by destroying some of its evils. He then proceeded to discuss the possible methods of raising the money now raised by the customs duties, and said that in his opinion when the people had been educated so far as to abolish the tariff they would be ready for the single tax on land values.

John DeWitt Warner will deliver the address this Sunday evening.

PROGRESS IN SCOTLAND.

The Single Tax In the Glasgow Municipal Election—Of Course There Are Single Tax Candidates—Seven Tories Have Declared In Its Favor Also—Significant Utterance of Sir George Trevelyan.

GLASGOW, Scotland.—The Scottish land restoration league here has republished Henry George's sermon, "Thy kingdom come," in pamphlet form for general distribution.

We are busy running our men for the municipal elections. Mr. McHugh, with six other men, is contesting. Seven tories who are standing have declared in favor of the single tax.

Sir G. O. Trevelyan, M. P., recently made a great speech in Aberdeen. He said that the taxation of land values, or as we put it, of ground rents, is now no fad, and that the question must be faced.

Professor J. M. D. Muklejohn has joined our Land restoration league.

R. BARTON, secretary.

Brooklyn.

A Brooklyn man who does not care to have his name mentioned declares that he is really ashamed that he has not sooner done something for the petition. He is poor and hard-worked, but he sends $1 in stamps, and asks for some blank petitions, besides sending in his own name. He says, if all other single tax men will do as much in proportion to their means, the committee will have sufficient funds to make a magnificent and persistent campaign.

New Jersey.

Thomas B. Usher, a member of the Hudson county single tax club, has been elected to the New Jersey state legislature. He is well known as a single tax man, and is of course for the Australian system of voting.

New York State.

H. B. Buddenburg, Buffalo, N. Y., sends to the enrollment committee the signatures of eleven of the most prominent workers of the Central labor union in that city. All of these men are prominent leaders in the labor movement, and are becoming interested in the single tax. Among the signatures sent in by Mr. Buddenburg is that of Thomas Leonard, a citizen who refuses to pay his city taxes because, after improving his little home by putting up a veranda at a cost of $125, the assessors raised the valuation of his property $500. These assessors are unconsciously working for the single tax.

F. S. Arnold of Poughkeepsie writes that the single tax club there, of which he is secretary, wishing to obtain "accurate information as to who owns the United States," at its regular meeting, on October 21, passed resolutions similar to those passed by other single tax clubs, calling upon Superintendent Porter and Secretary Noble to show in the next census report what percentage of the people of this country occupy their own homes and what proportion of the farms are mortgaged and to what extent. The resolutions are signed by William C. Albro, president; F. S. Arnold, secretary; Townsend P. Lyon, treasurer, and Henry Bartlett and Edward Burgess of the executive committee.

The secretary of the Buffalo single tax club, H. B. Buddenburg, whose address is 8 4 Clinton street, writes:

Please say to our single tax friends that the Buffalo club will gladly furnish those desiring our circular containing the tabular statement recently published in THE STANDARD, postage free, at the printer's rates of $2 per 1,000 copies, or $1 per 500 copies. The call for these circulars from various quarters has been so heavy that our little club finds it necessary to ask our friends to help us meet the printer's bills. I would also ask that the gentleman from Buffalo writing in THE STANDARD over the signature of F. P. Jones please send me his address.

Massachusetts.

R. Scott, Whitman, Mass., in sending in a number of signatures to the petition of the enrollment committee, calls attention to the fact that most of them are from men in Brockton, where as yet there is no organization. He thinks that a good strong single tax club could be organized there, and urges that THE STANDARD call attention of Brockton men to this fact.

Edwin F. Clark, Malden, Mass.—We have recently organized a single tax club. We have had several public meetings, which have been considerably noticed by the press. No definite line of propaganda has been laid out, except that as individuals we have contributed many articles to our local daily paper, whose columns are open to us. Many of us belong to the Malden deliberative assembly, an organization for the debate of live questions. The president of our club, George W. Cox, is vice-president of the assembly.

One of the resolutions passed at the eight hour mass meeting of Boston carpenters in Faneuil hall, Oct. 21, was one which has been unanimously carried in so many single tax club organizations in this country, namely that "Robert P. Porter, superintendent of the eleventh census, be respectfully requested to collect the data to show in the next census what percentage of the people in this country occupy their own homes and farms, and what proportion are tenants; and of those who occupy their own homes and farms what proportion have their property free from debt; and of the homes and farms which are under mortgage what percentage of the value is so mortgaged."

Pennsylvania.

Richard Eyre, Johnstown, Pa.—Since the flood we have not done much. Men are so unsettled, and have their minds so wrapped up in other things, that they cannot be aroused to take an interest in questions of principle. However, I am beginning to obtain signatures once more.

Rhode Island.

George J. N. Vienalt, Pawtucket, R. I.—There is no trouble about getting signatures, and all my spare time is devoted to propagating single tax and free trade ideas.

C. B. Prior, Providence.—We are to have a public meeting, under the auspies of the Single tax association of Rhode Island, in Franklin lyceum hall, on Thursday evening, November 21. William Lloyd Garrison of Boston will read a paper on "Taxation," and Henry B. Gardiner, esq., of Brown university will preside.

Ohio.

A. C. Hughes, sec. single tax club, Youngstown, Ohio.—We are pushing the discussion of the single tax at every turn. Our president, Billy Radcliffe, reaches many by outdoor speaking on Saturday evenings. The lecture committee of the Young men's Christian association has included Henry George in the season's course. This will result in many men's eyes being opened. The Hon. Wm. McKinley talks protection here, but will not answer questions.

Illinois.

Louis Lesaulnier, Red Bud, Ill.—About five hundred of Henry George's book, and thousands of STANDARDS and tracts that I have distributed free are bearing fruit in far districts. I still find the petition excellent to start a discussion. I have had one claim for the $100 reward I offered to any one who can show a better tax than the single tax. The claimant offered an income tax. I convinced him that an income tax is wrong, because all other taxes outside of the single tax are robbery; the income tax is unwise, because it tempts men to lie and is easy of evasion. The single tax cannot be evaded unless state officers neglect their duty. It is the only tax under which a man gets full value for what he pays in a monopoly of natural opportunities. I now have a new lot of Henry George's publications upon my desk, which I sell at regular prices, and return the money if the book is returned in good order; but inability to pay does not bar anybody from obtaining a book if I have any lying idle.

Missouri.

J. W. Steele, St. Louis.—Our league here is doing well, and we shall on Nov. 12, open a course of lectures on social questions, in which some ministers and several prominent men of the city will take part.

Iowa

H. B. Allison, Des Moines.—At an election of officers for our single tax club I was elected president and J. Ballangee, secretary. Our cause is growing like a green bay tree planted near the river. I have made forty stock sales this fall so far, and have sown single tax seed at each transaction. The ruinous protection theory has reduced our farmers to bedrock of hard times, and they are ready for any change. The days of the tariffs are numbered. We have immense crops of corn, oats, potatoes, hay and apples, but cannot get any price for them. Corn is selling here for 18 cents per bushel; oats, 14; potatoes, 12 to 15; apples, 25. The price of stock cattle is lower than they have been for twenty years. Good cows are selling from $15 to $20 per head, and two-year heifers from $10 to $15.

West Virginia.

W. I. Boreman, Parkersburg, W. Va.—We are so busy with our school house campaigning that little attention has been paid to the petition. We had a royal meeting out in the woods, about eleven miles from here, on Thursday night, October 24. Opposition was hot. The school house was full of people, and the debate kept up from 7 30 until 10 30 o'clock. Sometimes our opponents would be on top and sometimes ourselves. They want us to come again, and think that by that time they can finish us.

Louisiana.

R. S. Cameron, Colfax, La.—Nearly all of the signatures to the petition that I have forwarded are from practical farmers. Our local conditions are such that the evils of landlordism are apparent. The best lands are owned by a few men, and operated by negro tenants, who deal with pluck me stores. The result is that the small white farmers have been for a generation relegated to the poorer lands. In North Louisiana we have some of the very best agricultural land, and much of the very worst in the Union. I find little difficulty in bringing the industrious farmer who tills the poor land to see just exactly why it is that he is so located. Very many wish for more information, and the tracts already on hand will have a good effect. I think the time has arrived when the organization of a single tax league for the state of Louisiana would be fruitful of much good. There is a great deal of unrest among the masses, and it is altogether probable that quiet will never be restored until some great change is made in existing conditions. The farmer's unions, alliances, etc., are being besieged by rag money arguments and similar nonsense, and it is clear to me that if the single tax men had a central organization for the state, much could be done for the cause by presenting to these unions, etc., "the only remedy given under heaven."

Arkansas.

Superintendent Porter has made the same reply to the Little Rock single tax club's resolutions calling for a showing in the next census of the extent of farm mortgages that he had made to all the other single tax clubs, namely, that "it is not contemplated by the act under which the eleventh census is to be taken." Sol. F. Clark, president of the club, writes: "Our club advances slowly, and there is a manifest growth of interest in the single tax idea throughout the community."

California.

James W. Harwood, Diamond Springs, Cal.—I am an old pioneer miner, but mining is a poor business at present. The land adapted to it is taken up for ranches, and the men who have to live on them could not make a living out of them were it not for the quartz mines. I would like to see a land value tax, and then they would drop the mining land like hot iron. I am an old republican, but I have seen the cat, and I now am a single tax man and free trader forever.

Texas.

J. H. Hall, McGregor, Texas.—I have obtained seventeen more names for the petition to congress—all that a pressure of business has permitted. I am satisfied that there is no better field for the diffusion of the single tax doctrine than here in this new country, where able and willing men vainly seek work while vast natural resources lay undeveloped all around. With the assistance of some others I hope to get the question into general discussion this winter.

Higher Ante.

(With apologies to Hiawatha.)

Boston Herald.

He was shrewd and energetic,
And no man in all South Boston
Could in politics discount him.
For the ward in his vest pocket
All men knew with ease he carried.
And before him his ancestors
That same ward with ease had carried,
For of boodle they had plenty,
And right royally they spent it.
Yea, the man that voted their way
He was sure at least of one V;
So in after times 'twas settled
That each voter should get one V.
But old Massachusetts' rulers
Wisdom sought from new Australia,
From the festive kangaroo's home,
From the place across the ocean
Where those people once assembled
Who for their own country's welfare
Said farewell unto their country.
So old Massachusetts' rulers
Brought new law into South Boston,
And the shrewd and energetic
Politician who had carried
That big ward in his vest pocket,
To himself did muse as follows:
"I'm run down by this new ballot;
For the law has raised the ante,
An' my V don't count for nothin'
'Ginst the X of this new ballot!"

NEW IDEAS, METHODS AND INVENTIONS.

A Pneumatic Tire for Bicycles.

A pneumatic tire for bicycles has been invented in Belfast, Ireland, which, if all that is claimed for it be true, must make a new era in this method of recreation. The tire for a full roadster is about two and a half inches in diameter, and is composed of an outer covering of rubber, graduated in thickness from about quarter of an inch, where it touches the ground, and protected by canvas, where it is attached to the rim, which is very broad, and nearly flat. Inside this outer covering is an inner tube, which contains the air. The air is pumped in with a football blower, and a patent air valve prevents its return. Vibration is practically annihilated. It is intercepted between the rim and the ground, and consequently the frame receives no jar except when an unusually large hole is encountered. A frame so protected should wear out two frames with solid tired wheels; and not only so, but riders will be able to use very much lighter frames without any danger of their collapsing. In a recent fifty-mile road championship, in the Phœnix park, Dublin, one of the competitors rode a racing safety, fitted with "pneumatic" tires, and scaling only twenty three pounds, and yet it passed through the ordeal—an ordeal trying even to the heaviest makes—without the slightest damage. Anti-vibration luggage and camera carriers and spring lamp brackets are quite unnecessary, and the complete absence of noise puts the finishing touch to the comfort and enjoyment of the rider.

A Bridge Over the English Channel.

A bridge over the English channel, joining France with England by rail and cutting down the present time of journey between London and Paris from eleven hours to five, is not only now considered feasible, but some of the most eminent of European engineers have declared their willingness to undertake the task, among them Sir John Fowler and Benjamin Baker, engineers of the Forth bridge, one of the most remarkable engineering feats of the day. The plan is to construct a steel structure across the channel from Folkestone to Cape Grisnez, a distance of twenty four and one-half miles, and though not the narrowest part of that tempestuous waterway—from Dover to Calais is only about twenty miles—it is the shallowest and hence the best suited for bridge construction. On this line the deepest water is about thirty fathoms (180 feet). A million tons of metal would be required, the total cost being estimated at $170,000,000 (£34,000,000), and the time necessary ten years. The white and blue chalk with an underlying base of slate forming the channel bottom is, it is said, sustaining a weight of about ten tons per square foot. The piers, of solid masonry and raised above high water mark, are to be rectangles, each eighty-two feet long, the other dimensions to suit the substructure. Upon these will rest metal columns to carry the superstructure high enough to allow of free navigation below. To build a solid pier of masonry in the boisterous and rolling seas of the English channel would seem, indeed, almost beyond the power of man, but the plan is to build the piers in still water in metal caissons and float them out to their places. Nor is it so bold as would appear, for at Toulon immense masses of brick work, sometimes as much as 100,000 tons weight, have been floated for moles. Indeed, if a pier when sunk is found to be out of position it can be floated again and resunk.

Cold Air Through Pipes.

A company is said to have been organized in New York city to supply cold air just as steam heat and gas are supplied, through pipes laid in the streets. It is proposed in a short time to supply this cold air to the butchers of Washington market, and if the project proves a success, to extend the supply to restaurants and saloons, and possibly summer resorts. The supply may be regulated by a cock. The air is made frigid by the ammonia system.

Making a Complete Newspaper.

One of the novelties at the Paris exposition, says the Builder and Wood Worker, was a newspaper that was made *ab initio* on the spot. The pulp for making the paper was mixed and churned in a large vat, and going through the necessary manipulations the pulp was run off, drained and pressed between large rollers whence it ran to heated rollers, was wound up, then passed to the press, from which it emerged finally as the complete newspaper.

The Pine Tree's Many Uses.

The trunk is made into lumber, the bark into fancy articles, the sap into turpentine, tar and resin, the needles into bagging, the twigs into fuel, the sawdust into packing, the burrs into picture frames, the seeds are eaten by birds and squirrels, the gum from the broken knots in making plasters and other products; from the entire tree, charcoal, masts and spars, a valuable vegetable acid, a good vegetable oil, many useful medicines, chewing gum, pine sap, hog feed in both seeds and roots. And Michigan men are using the roots as fuel for grates.

Artificial Mahogany, Ebony and Satin Woods.

French artisans excel in imitating mahogany, ebony and satin wood, says the Builder and Wood Carver. So nearly do they contrive to render any species of wood of close grain like mahogany in texture, density of hue and polish, that many expert judges will often mistake the imitation for the natural wood. The following is the mode: The surface having been planed and rendered perfectly smooth, the wood is rubbed with diluted nitrous acid, which prepares it for the materials subsequently applied. Afterward, to a filtered mixture of one and one-half ounces of dragon's blood, dissolved in a pint of spirits of wine, is added one-third that quantity of carbonate of soda. The whole constituting a very thin liquid, is brushed with a soft brush over the wood. This process is repeated with very little alteration, and in a short interval of time the wood assumes the external appearance of mahogany. If the composition has been properly made the surface will resemble an artificial mirror, and should this brilliancy ever decline it may be restored by rubbing the surface with a little cold drawn linseed oil.

A Bicycle Railroad.

A successful trial of a new invention in railroading known as the Boynton bicycle system was tried a few weeks ago over a portion of the Sea Beach railroad track, Long island. Over the rail on which the train ran was suspended from strong iron arches a "guardrail," against which pressed uprights from the locomotive and the cars, holding them in their perpendicular position. The train consisted of cycle engine No. 1 and one car of eighteen compartments. The car was fitted to seat one hundred and eight persons, and that number made two trips over the road. It is claimed by the inventor, the Hon. M. E. Boynton, that a speed of one hundred miles an hour can be obtained with this system, although no effort was made to run at a high rate of speed on this occasion, owing to the bad condition of the road bed. The speed reached, however, as near as could be computed on a short track, was at the rate of twenty miles an hour. The road had a rise of 98 feet in 4300 feet of length, and was nearly all curves, and consequently was well adapted for testing every point of the new system except speed. The motion of the train was remarkably smooth and free from jolts. The locomotive weighs twenty-two tons and its total height is 15 feet 6 inches. It has a single driving wheel of 7 feet 9 inches diameter, with double flanges, to ride on a single rail. The cab is two stories high, the upper story being occupied by the engineer, and the lower by the fireman. The engine has two cylinders, 12 by 14 inches each. The passenger cars are 4 feet wide, 14 feet high, in two stories, 40 feet long, and are designed to weigh five tons each. By constructing iron arches and suspending a "guard rail" above each rail, an ordinary single track road may be converted into a double track road for the Boynton system, the locomotives and trains being so narrow that trains will pass each other under such circumstances without danger of coming into contact.

Gas Cheaper as a Fuel Than as an Illuminant.

There is a Thomson-Houston exhibit at the Mechanics fair that shows well the saving when gas is used as a fuel instead of an illuminant, says the Lumberman of San Francisco. An Otto silent gas engine is used. During the evening's run at the fair, the gas engine working the Thomson-Houston electric plant consumes 300 cubic feet of gas, and furnishes 53 16-candle power incandescent lights, while 53 16-candle gas lights, with five-foot burners, would require 618 feet for the same length of time. This is a saving of over 50 per cent., and would in a short time pay for the first outlay of an electric plant, and the consumer would have the benefit of a brighter and more attractive light.

New Insulating Material.

A recent German patent for a new insulating material for electric conductors specifies the use of paper which has been thoroughly soaked in an ammoniacal copper solution. The pasty mass is then pressed against the conducting wires to be covered by means of rollers, and the whole is finally submitted to strong pressure. When dry, the covered wire is passed through a bath of boiling linseed oil, being left in it until the covering is saturated. This makes it elastic and impermeable to moisture. The covering is said to be durable and efficient as a non conductor.

THE HOD-CARRIER'S PRAYER.

Commenting on a lecture by Rev. Dr. Harris before a well-fed, well-dressed audience in Sydney, N. S. W., John Ramsay, writing in the Australian Standard under the nom de plume of "Yasmar," quotes this passage:

Work on, do the work provided, whether work of brain or hand, as a God given task. Work, work, work; pray, pray, pray.

To this Mr. Ramsay makes the following sarcastic reply:

Most excellent advice, and most necessary for the citizen of Darling Point. His is the work of the brain, in writing out receipts for the rent of his rows of houses in the fever plots of the slums, in supervising the laying out of his grounds by the landscape gardener, and in planning legislative schemes to induce everybody to be content with his lot. But he is apt to do these things in a perfunctory way, and needs to be spurred on to a sense of his duty. And so it is with the hod carrier. He is too ready to hang about the statue, and go to sleep in the park, when he should be working. When he knows that he has a delicate wife at home who is doing her share of work by washing three days a week, and ironing till midnight, for other people, in addition to her own house duties, and that his two little girls are selling matches around the bars and theatre doors till eleven o'clock every night, and that his boys are loafing about the wharves all day picking up bits of coal and chips for the fire, he ought certainly to engage in some occupation. Whatever kind of work it may be, let him remember it is a God given task. If he cannot get employment at carrying bricks and mortar up a forty-foot ladder his pride must not prevent him from working at some less congenial task. Let him go into the country—and he need not go far, as there is plenty of unused agricultural land very near Sydney—and settle down to a rural life. With his brawny arms and broad shoulders he could surely raise enough food to fill the mouths that depend upon him. But whether he carries bricks or digs potatoes, let him not neglect to pray. He may choose the most convenient time for praying, but, as it would probably interfere with the progress of the building, and with the amount of wages to be received at the end of the week, to engage in prayer during the day, the most fitting time would perhaps be before going to bed. Then, having given his sick wife the cup of watery gruel which a poorer neighbor has sent in, and having coaxed his hungry little children to sleep by the promise of a big dinner next day, he may proceed to offer up some such petition as this: "Oh, thou invisible and all puissant director of the universe, thou beneficent father of all, as I have been led to believe, permit me, one of thy most insignificant children, to approach thee. I am unworthy to come into thy august presence, and intrude my petty affairs on thy notice seeing that thou art so occupied with the suggestions of the late church congress, the election of a bishop of Sydney, and the reiterated supplications in a popular tune on behalf of the queen of England. I am conscious of the dread consequences which would follow if I presumed so to address an earthly monarch, but though thou art King of kings, I beseech I may be pardoned for approaching thee as a father. Thou hast created all things and hast ordained everything to thy pleasure. Thou hast created the great estates of the land syndicate, and the broad park lands of the rich man, which are capable of growing thousands of tons of wheat, and of depasturing tens of thousands of sheep and cattle, and thou hast also created the pangs of hunger which rack my little ones daily; thou hast ordained the debility and melancholy which heavy toil and want of food have brought to my poor wife, and thou hast created the fortifying beef tea and the blood-giving claret; thou hast created the typhoid germ, and the hot fever tide which rushes through the veins of my dear little boy, and thou hast also created the drug quinine which sells at one pound an ounce; thou hast created the costly orchid of the rich man which he has no time to admire, and thou hast also created the geranium in the jam tin on the window sill which cheers my sick loved ones; thou hast created the kind rich man who builds houses and gives me the work to do because he is not strong enough to carry bricks up a ladder, and thou hast created me strong and muscular above all hod-carriers. Thy ways are inscrutable, but I know thou hast ordered all things well. It is popularly supposed that thou hast given man dominion over the field, but I know this passage is not to be read literally, and refers to some men only. It is also considered that the earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof, but it is evident that, for some wise purpose of thine own, thou hast permitted vast tracts of it to fall into the absolute possession of a few men, possibly because they are purer in heart and more humble than I, thy unworthy creature. Thou being the Great Father of all, these men are my brethren, but in thine own wise discretion thou hast deemed it meet that they should retain dominion over my bit of the field, and to that end thou hast ordained the sacred ordinance of private property in land. To my blind stubborn intellect it might seem better that the broad untilled acres of the earth should produce food for the millions of thy starving children than be devoted to the deer and the fox and the racehorse, but I know that all these things shall be made clear to me in Paradise when I shall be introduced to my brethren, the marquis of Westminster, and Mr. Vanderbilt, and Sir Daniel Cooper, and the marquis of Argyle, and I, with others like myself, shall then be able to express our gratitude to them for the chastening influence they exerted on us on earth. Therefore I beseech thee that I may always keep my strength in order to be able to carry bricks, and that I may never grow old and feeble, as the kind, rich man would then be obliged to carry his own bricks."

Rural Italy in the Nineteenth Century.

A writer in a religious weekly gives a summary of the report of Rev. William N Beauclerk, a British diplomatist, on the rural population of Italy. The account brings before one's eyes the wretched French peasantry of the ancient regime as described by Arthur Young. The writer says:

In the concise style suited to such a work, without exaggeration, extenuation, or the expression of personal opinion or sentiment, he gives the simple but frightful facts descriptive of the miseries, the poverty and degradation of the Italian peasantry. In a country pre-eminently beloved and favored by nature, thousands of square miles are left, have been left through twenty centuries, to lapse by neglect into pestilence and death-breeding marshes. Every province of the peninsula save one is wasted with malaria and fever. Thousands perish every year by these scourges, and have so perished, year in and year out, for twenty centuries. Other thousands of square miles remain from century to century in need of irrigation, for the want of which they yield a meager product that could be increased from four to forty fold by water and drainage. Not above one-tenth of the cultivable area is in a fair or high state of cultivation. Wages average from 20 25, 35, to 40 cents a day, according to locality, the rate being far to meager for the comfortable maintenance of existence. In the northern district of Friuli laborers are bound by contract to work for ten cents a day, and board themselves. Women field laborers work on the same conditions at six cents a day. Children are put to farm work before they can speak distinctly, and they may earn two or three cents a day. Thousands of people suffer from chronic hunger. One province contains 74,000 people who never taste meat or wine; although the juice of the grape is one of the staple articles of nourishment produced by the soil. The northern half of the peninsula down to the boundary of, and even into, Umbria, is stricken with that fearful disease, the asturian leprosy, or the pellagra—a wasting malady that drives a large proportion of its victims into melancholia, to suicide, or some other form of insanity, permanent till relieved by death. One-half the families of the province of Verona are tainted with this disease—a disease which is the product of unsanitary living, want of nutrition, and pre-eminently of the musty maize from which the people make their one article of food, polenta, or corn-meal mush. Thousands of laborers are forced to live on about three cents' worth of this musa a day, and perform severe labor in the fields.

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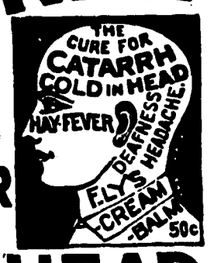

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SINGLE TAX ORGANIZATIONS.

(Secretaries of clubs are requested to send any corrections in the lists below, and all newly formed organizations are asked to report promptly, either to the Executive Committee or The Standard.)

ARKANSAS.

LITTLE ROCK.—Little Rock single tax club. Every alternate Thursday evening, 717 Main st. Pres., Sol F. Clark; sec., O. D. Hemming, 1910 Main st.

CALIFORNIA.

SAN FRANCISCO.—California single tax society. Every Sunday evening, 909½ Market st. Reading room open every evening, 841 Market st. Pres., H. L. Pleace; sec., G. A. Hubbell, 1135 Mission st.

SACRAMENTO.—Single tax club of Sacramento. Every Friday evening, Dr. Reed's office, 6th and K sts. Pres., Dr. Thos. B. Reed; sec., C. W. Farnsworth, 1406 4th st.

OAKLAND.—Single tax club No. 1 meets every Friday evening at St. Andrews hall, 1056½ Broadway. Pres., A. J. Gregg; sec., W. H. Messenger.

SAN DIEGO.—San Diego single tax county committee. Every Monday evening, 139 10th st. Chairman, Geo. B. Whaley, box 1088.

COLORADO.

DENVER.—Denver single tax association. Every Thursday evening, 1448 Lawrence st. Pres., Andrew W. Elder; sec., E. McAuley, 906 Holladay st.

PUEBLO.—Commonwealth single tax club. First and Fourth Thursdays at office of D. B. V. Reeve, Union av. Pres., D. B. V. Reeve; sec., J. W. Brentlinger, Pueblo Smelting and Refining Co.

CANYON CITY.—Single tax committee; sec., Dr. Frank P. Blake.

HAWKXHURST.—Plateau Valley single tax club. Pres., John W. Hawkxhurst; sec., E. H. Parkenson.

CONNECTICUT.

NEW HAVEN.—Tax reform club. Every Friday evening, room 11, 107 Orange st. Pres., Willard D. Warren; sec., Alfred Smith, 105 Day st.

MERIDEN.—Meriden single tax club. 3 p. m. every Sunday, Circle hall. Pres., Wm. Hawthorne; sec., Wm. Willss, P. O. box 1342.

DAKOTA.

STATE.—South Dakota single tax association. Pres., Judge Levi McGee of Rapid City; sec., W. E. Brokaw, box 146, Bristol.

RAPID CITY.—Black Hills single tax league. Last Saturday in each month, Library hall. Pres., Judge Levi McGee; sec., Francis H. Clark.

MADISON.—Lake county single tax club. Chairman, Prof. E. H. Evanson.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

WASHINGTON.—Washington single tax league; always open; regular meeting Friday evening, 609 F street, N. W. Pres., Paul T. Bowen; sec., Wm. Geddes, M. D., 1719 G st., N. W.

GEORGIA.

ATLANTA, Ga.—Atlanta single tax club No. 1. Pres., I. M. Beath; sec., J. Henley Smith, 43 South Broad street.

AUGUSTA.—Augusta single tax club. Every Friday evening, Hussar hall. Pres., Ed. Flury; sec. George Hames, care of Loflin & Meyer.

ILLINOIS.

CHICAGO.—Single tax club No. 1. Every Thursday evening, club room 4, Grand Pacific hotel. Pres., Warren Worth Bailey; sec., T. W. Wittler, 426 Milwaukee ave.

SPRINGFIELD.—Sangamon single tax club. Pres., Joseph Farris; sec., James H. McCrea, 623 Black ave.

JACKSONVILLE.—Morgan Co. tax reform association. Pres., Chas. Alexander; sec., Dan E. Piersen, office of circuit court.

SPARTA.—Single tax committee. Robert Cumming, sec.

INDIANA.

STATE.—Indiana single tax league. Pres., Henry Rawie, Anderson; vice-pres., L. P. Custer, Indianapolis; sec., Thos. J. Hudson, 155 Elm st., Indianapolis. State executive committee, Henry Rawie, Anderson; S. W. Williams, Vincennes; L. O. Bishop, Clinton; Dr. C. A. Kersey, Richmond; Chas. G. Bennett, Evansville; Wm. Henry, Connersville; W. E. McDermut, Ft. Wayne; T. J. Hudson, J. F. White, L. P. Custer, Indianapolis.

INDIANAPOLIS.—Indianapolis single tax league. Every Sunday, 3 p. m., Mansur hall, n. e. cor. Washington and Alabama sts. Pres., L. P. Custer; sec., Thos. J. Hudson, 155 Elm st.

EVANSVILLE.—Single tax association. Pres., Edwin Walker; sec., Charles G. Bennett.

RICHMOND.—Single tax club. Pres., C. S. Schneider, 105 South Third st.; sec., M. Richie, 913 South A st.

IOWA.

DES MOINES.—Single tax club. Pres., H. B. Allison, box 4; sec., J. Ballaugee.

COUNCIL BLUFFS.—Council Bluffs single tax club; second and fourth Sunday of each month, 2:30 p.m.; 724 Sixth s. Pres., Chas. Stevenson; sec., L. Kinnehan, 336 W Broadway.

ALLERTON.—Tax reform club. Every Thursday evening, Vest's hall. Pres., A. J. Morgan; sec., D. D. Shirley.

MASON CITY.—Single tax committee; 1st and 3d evenings of each month at Dr. Osborne's office. Pres., J. A. Scranton; sec., J. S. Mott.

KANSAS.

ABILENE.—Single tax club. Pres., C. W. Brooks; vice-pres., H. Charters; sec., A. L. Russel.

LOUISIANA.

NEW ORLEANS.—Louisiana single tax club. Second, third and fourth Thursdays of each month, at 205 Canal st. Pres., John S. Watters, Maritime association; sec., Geo. W. Roberts, 355 Dryads st.

MAINE.

AUBURN.—Auburn single tax club. Saturday evenings, room 3, Phœnix block, Main st.; reading room open every evening. Pres., Wm. G. Andrews; sec., H. G. Casey.

LEWISTON—Single tax committee. Every Wednesday evening, 79 Summer st. Chairman, F. D. Lyford; sec., Joseph Walsh, 79 Summer st.

MARYLAND.

BALTIMORE.—Single tax league of Maryland. Every Thursday evening, 415 N. Eutaw st. Pres., James T. Kelly; sec., John Salmon, 415 N. Eutaw st.

MASSACHUSETTS.

BOSTON.—Boston single tax league, Wells's memorial hall. Pres., Hamlin Garland; sec., Edwin M. White, 27 Pemberton square.

Neponset single tax league. Every Thursday evening, 389½ Neponset ave., Boston. Pres., John Lavis; sec., Q. A. Lothrop, 43 Walnut st.

Roxbury single tax club. Pres., Frank W. Mendum; sec., Henry C. Romaine, 250 Ruggles st.

STONEHAM.—Stoneham single tax league. Pres., Dr. W. Symington Brown, Stoneham.

LYNN.—Lynn single tax league. 8 p. m. Thursday evenings, Cutter's hall, Market st. Pres., Willard W. Gray; sec., T. P. Perkins, 14 South Common st.

WORCESTER.—Tenth district single tax league of Worcester. Friday evenings, Swedish hall, 32 Front st. Pres., Thomas J. Hastings; sec., Edwin K. Page, Lake View, Worcester.

LAWRENCE.—Lawrence single tax club. Every Thursday evening, Col. J. P. Sweeney's office. Pres., Col. John P. Sweeney; sec., John J. Donovan, city clerk's office.

HYDE PARK.—Single tax club. Sec., F. S. Childs, 40 Charles st.

ORANGE.—Single tax league of Orange. First Wednesday of each month, pres. and secretary's residence. Pres., H. W. Hammond; sec., Charles G. Kidder.

NEWBURYPORT.—Merrimac assembly. Saturday evenings, 48 State st. Pres., Dennis F. Murphy; sec., W. R. Whitmore, 236 Merrimac st.

MALDEN.—Single tax club. Meetings fortnightly at Deliberative hall, Pleasant st. Pres., Geo. W. Cox, Glenwood st.; sec. and treas., Edwin T. Clark, 100 Tremont st.

WHITMAN.—Whitman single tax club. Pres., Thomas Douglas; sec., R. Scott, box 29.

MICHIGAN.

STURGIS.—Sturgis club of investigation. Every Tuesday evening, C. Jacob's justice court room. Pres., Rufus Spalding; sec., Thomas Harding.

MINNESOTA.

MINNEAPOLIS.—Minneapolis single tax league, 502 First ave. s. Pres., C. J. Buell; sec., E. L. Ryder, editor Northwest Trade.

ST. PAUL.—Pres., H. C. McCartey; sec., R. C. Morgan, Northern Pacific railroad office.

MISSOURI.

ST. LOUIS.—St. Louis single tax league s. e. cor. 8th and Olive, meets every Tuesday evening. Rooms open every evening. Pres., H. H. Hoffman; sec., J. W. Steele, 2224 Walnut street.

"Benton School of Social Science." Sunday, 3:30 p. m., 6339 Waldemar ave., Benton. Pres., Dr. Henry S. Chase; sec., Wm. C. Little.

KANSAS CITY.—Kansas City single tax club. 3 p. m., 2d and 4th Sundays of each month, and also 1st and 3d Tuesdays, Beacon Lodge hall, 1204-6 Walnut st. (cor. 12th st.), third floor. Pres., Warren Wassen; sec., B. A. Birmingham, 16th and Woodland sts.

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

NEBRASKA.

OMAHA.—Omaha single tax club. Sunday afternoons, Gate City hall, cor. 13th and Douglas sts. Pres., Rufus A. Parker; sec., Cyrus F. Beckett, 411 N. 23d st.

WYMORE.—Henry George single tax club. Pres., H. C. Jaynes; sec., J. A. Hamm.

NEW JERSEY.

NEWARK.—Newark single tax club. Friday nights, Chester row. Rooms open every day and evening except Thursday and Sunday evenings. Pres., Herbert Boggs; sec., M. G. Gaffney, 43 Warren place.

JERSEY CITY.—Standard single tax club. Public meeting every Sunday night at Humboldt hall, 186 Newark av.; business meetings every other Friday evening at the Avenue house, "Five Corners." Pres., E. N. Jackson, 23 Magnolia av.; sec., Joseph Dana Miller, 267 Grove st.

PATERSON.—Passaic Co. single tax club. Pres., E. W. Nellis; sec., John A. Craig, 192 Hamburg ave.

S. ORANGE.—S. Orange single tax club. Pres., E. H. Wallace; sec., Henry Haase.

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

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

WASHINGTON.—Washington land and tax club. Pres., John Morrison; sec., W. H. Christine.

BAYONNE.—Single tax committee. Chairman, Wm. B. DuBois.

PASSAIC.—Single tax committee of Passaic. Pres., Oscar D. Dodd.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK.—Manhattan single tax club. Thursday, 8 p. m., business meeting; Saturday, 8 p. m., Cart-tail campaign; Sunday, 8 p. m., lecture. Club rooms, 36 Clinton pl.; open every day from 6 p. m. to 12 p. m. Pres., W. H. Faulhaber; sec., A. J. Steers.

Harlem single tax club, room 3, 247 West 125th st. Business meeting every Tuesday, 8:30 p. m. Whist and social evening every Thursday. Pres., Eugene G. Muret; sec., Chas. H. Mitchell.

The West Side single tax club. Every Thursday evening, 490 Eighth ave. Pres., Dr. David Wark; sec., C. Orlo Allen, 335 8th ave.

BROOKLYN.—Brooklyn single tax club. Club house, 56 Livingston st. Open every evening. Discussions Wednesday evenings. Business meetings Friday evenings. Lectures Sunday evenings. Pres., Geo. White; cor. sec., C. A. Durfee, 109 E. 9th st., New York.

The Eastern District single tax club, Wednesday evening, Oriental hall, 316 Bedford ave. Pres., John Britton; cor. sec., Joseph McGuinness, 215 Ross st.

BUFFALO.—Tax reform club. Every Wednesday evening, Yox hall, cor. Watson and Howard sts. Pres., S. C. Rogers; sec., H. B. Buddenburg, 824 Clinton st.

ROCHESTER.—Rochester single tax union. Wednesday, 8 p. m.; Sunday, 3 p. m.; 80 Reynold's Arcade. Pres., J. H. Bluntach; sec., J. M. Campbell, 30 Charlotte st.

ALBANY.—Single tax club. Tuesday evening, 8 p. m., 68 Washington ave. Rooms open every evening. Pres., Alexander Gregory; cor. sec., Robt. Baker, 178 Madison ave.

SYRACUSE.—Single tax club of Onondaga. 26 Butler block. Pres., F. A. Paul; sec., H. R. Perry, 149 South Clinton st.

POUGHKEEPSIE.—Single tax club. Every Thursday evening, 8 p. m., 226 Union st. Pres., W. C. Albro; sec., F. S. Arnold.

AUBURN.—Single tax club. Mondays, 7:30 p. m., College hall. Pres., Dan. Peacock; sec., H. W. Benedict, 6 Morris st.

ELLENVILLE.—Single tax club of Ellenville. First and third Monday of each month, Canal st., over E. Bevier's drug store. Pres., Wm. Lambert; sec., Benj. Hull.

FLUSHING.—Single tax club. Pres., D. C. Beard; sec., Fred Sheffield.

NEW BRIGHTON, S. I.—Richmond county single tax club. Pres., J. S. Cogan; sec., A. B. Stoddard.

NORTHPORT.—Single tax committee. Sec., J. K. Rudyard.

OWEGO.—Single tax committee. Sec., Perry Hyde.

COHOES.—Single tax committee. Pres., P. C. Dandurant; sec., J. S. Crane 128 Ontario st.

GLOVERSVILLE.—Single tax committee. Chairman, A. P. Slade; sec., Dr. Wm. C. Wood, 30 S. Main st.

JAMESTOWN.—Single tax club of Jamestown. Last Saturday evening of each month. Pres., Adam Stormer; sec., F. G. Anderson, 300 Barrett st.

YONKERS.—The Jefferson club, 85 Main st. Always open. Business meeting every Tuesday evening at 7:45.

OHIO.

STATE.—Ohio Single tax league. State executive board: Chairman, C. S. Walker, foot of Evans st., Cincinnati; vice chairman, L. E. Siemon, 7 Greenwood st., Cleveland; treas., W. W. Kile, 23 E. 5th st., Dayton; sec., Edw. L. Hyneman, room 3, 348½ S. High st., Columbus.

CLEVELAND.—Cleveland single tax club. Every Wednesday evening, 8 p. m., 144 Ontario st., room 16. Pres., Tom L. Johnson; sec., C. H. Nau, room 25, Standard block.

CINCINNATI.—Cincinnati single tax club. Every Sunday afternoon at Douglass Castle hall, cor. 6th and Walnut sts. Pres., David De Beck, M.D., 139 W. 9th st.; vice-pres., Jas. E. Jennings, 216 Main st.; sec., Wm. C. Wolff, 272 Vine st.; treas., Jos. L. Schraer, Newport, Ky.

COLUMBUS.—Central single tax club. Sec., Edw. L. Hyneman, 348½ S. High st.

TIFFIN.—Single tax committee. Sec., Dr. H. F. Barnes.

ZANESVILLE.—Central single tax club. Pres., C. A. Potwin; sec., W. H. Longhead, 47 Van Buren st.

DAYTON.—Free land club. Pres., John Biren; Sec., W. W. Kile; 108 E. 5th st.

AKRON.—Akron single tax club. Pres, Jno. McBride; sec., Sam Rodgers.

MIAMISBURG.—Land and labor association of Miamisburg. Pres., C. F. Beall; sec., J. F. Beals.

MANSFIELD.—Mansfield single tax club. Pres., Dr. T. J. Bristor; sec., W. J. Huggins, 66 W. 1st st.

TOLEDO.—Single tax club No. 1 meets at 112 Summit st. every Sunday at 10 a. m. Pres., A. R. Wynn; sec., J. P. Travers.

YOUNGSTOWN.—Every Thursday evening, Ivorites hall. Pres., Billy Radcliffe; sec., A. C. Hughes, 6 S. Market st.

OREGON.

PORTLAND.—Portland ballot reform and single tax club. 2d and 4th Thursdays of each month, Grand Army hall. Pres., R. H. Thompson; sec., S. B. Rutgen, 48 Stark st.

PENNSYLVANIA.

PHILADELPHIA.—Henry George club. Every Thursday, 8 p.m., 904 Walnut st. Cor. sec., A. H. Stephenson, 214 Chestnut st.; rec. sec., O. F. Rotier, 248 S. 10th st.

Kensington single tax club. Every Tuesday evening, 8 p.m., 2021 Frankford ave., Philadelphia. Pres., James Wright; sec., Jno. Moore, 2188 E. Huntingdon st.

PITTSBURG.—Pittsburg single tax club. 1st, 3d and 5th Sundays at 2:30 p.m., Union veteran legion hall, 77 Sixth ave. Pres., Edmund Yardley; sec., Mark F. Roberts, 147 24th st., S. S.

BRADFORD.—Single tax club, St. James place. Open every evening. Meetings Wednesday evening and Sunday afternoon at 3 p. m. Pres., T. J. Tangney; sec., J. C. De Forrest.

READING.—Reading single tax society. Monday evenings, 402½ Penn st. Pres., C. S. Prizer; cor. sec., Grant Nagle, 208 S. Third st.

ERIE.—Erie tax reform league. Pres., W. G. M. Keas; sec., J. L. Babcock.

EDWARDSVILLE.—Jefferson ballot reform and single tax club. First Friday of each month. Pres., J. J. Smythe, M. D.; sec., J. P. Hammond.

LEBANON.—Lebanon single tax and land club. Pres., Adam Belmy; sec., J. G. Zimmerman, 111 N. Fourteenth st.

SCRANTON.—Henry George single tax club. 1st and 3d Friday evenings of each month, Noake's hall, cor. Franklin ave. and Spruce st. Pres., Duncan Wright; sec., Arthur McGee, 914 Capouse ave.

SHENANDOAH.—Single tax club. Sundays, 3 p.m., 415 W. Coal st. Pres., Morris Marsh; sec., Thomas G. Potts.

UPPER LEHIGH.—Single tax committee. Pres., J. B. Carr; sec., George McGee.

JOHNSTOWN, Pa.—Henry George club. Meets every Monday evening for public discussion. Pres. A. J. Moxham; sec., Richard Eyre.

POTTSTOWN.—Single tax club. Meetings 1st and 3d Friday evenings each month in Weitzenkorn's hall. Pres., D. L. Haws; vice-pres., G. J. Lafferty; rec. sec., H. H. Johnson, 530 Walnut st.

RHODE ISLAND.

PROVIDENCE.—Single tax association of Rhode Island. Alternate Friday evenings, room 22, Slade building, cor. Washington and Eddy sts. Pres., Dr. Wm. Barker; sec., Geo. D. Liddell, 145 Transit st.

PAWTUCKET.—Single tax association. Every Wednesday evening, Main st. Pres., Edward Barker; sec., Edgar Farnell, 230 Mineral Spring ave.

TENNESSEE.

MEMPHIS.—Memphis single tax association. Sundays, 4:30 p. m., Luehrman's hotel. Pres., Dr. T. J. Crofford; sec., M. H. McDowell, care of Townsend, Cowie & Co.

TEXAS.

STATE.—Texas tax reform association. Pres., H. F. Ring, Houston; sec., J. B. Cochran.

EL PASO.—El Paso tariff reform club. 1st and 3d Saturdays of each month, county court room, court house. Pres., G. E. Hubbard; sec., A. W. Thomas.

HOUSTON.—Single tax committee. Pres., H. F. Ring; sec., E. W. Brown, care of Germania House.

WEST VIRGINIA.

PARKERSBURGH.—Single tax league. Every Saturday night, 500 Market st. Pres., W. I. Boreman; sec., C. G. Abramson.

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Boston Globe.

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The somewhat appalling circular issued by the German-American organizers of the proletariate, and the notices in the daily papers, brought together a large crowd at the Cooper union meeting on Monday night. The circular alluded to had a black border in the form of a gallows, and the title page called for a "great memorial celebration in honor of the martyrs murdered in Chicago on the 11th of November, 1887." On the following seven pages was an address to the people lauding the virtues of Spies, Parsons, Fischer, Engel and Lingg, and preaching communism, atheism and anarchism, which it describes as "simply the opposite of tyranny."

The meeting was addressed by S. E. Shevitsch and Johann Most; the former spoke in English and the latter in German. Mr. Shevitsch addressed his audience as "fellow murderers," but said, nevertheless, that he had not come there to murder anybody, but to denounce the murder of the anarchists. He reviewed the trial and execution and the judge, jury and police as "criminals or fools." He claimed that to be poor was in the eyes of the public the worst crime.

"Here is Mr. Hugh Pentecost," he said, "as long as he was a minister and drew a salary of $5,000 a year he was respectable, but now he is looked down upon. Yet he is not a foreigner, nor is he found discussing anarchistic principles with a glass of beer in his hand."

Then he went on to say that the people must prepare for a long and bloody revolution. The social revolution cannot be accomplished without blood. He denounced those labor leaders who refused to stand up for the Chicago anarchists two years ago, particularly Henry George, whom he described as one "who had pretended to represent the workingmen."

Johann Most, who followed, made much the same kind of an address. He scored Henry George and Powderly, whom he declared unfit to lace the shoes of the poorest workingman. He went for everybody connected with the Chicago executions, and wound up with a poem which predicted the overthrow of our government and the bloody triumph of anarchy.

On Sunday Hugh O. Pentecost was advertised to address his usual Sunday night meeting on "The Crime of the 11th of November." Mr. Pentecost said that the execution of the Chicago anarchists was a crime. He compared Parsons to George Washington, and said that the only real difference between them was that Washington succeeded and Parsons failed.

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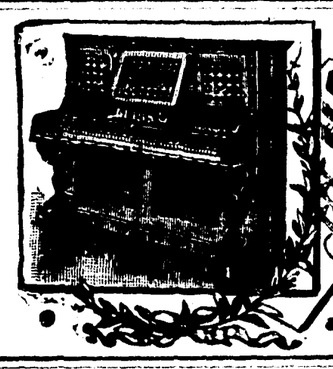

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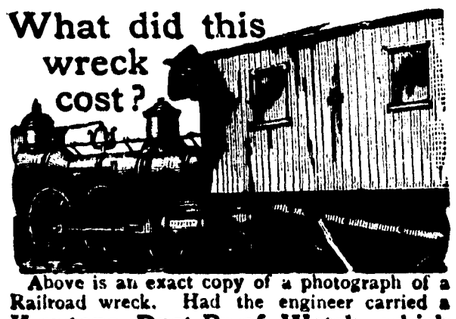

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