

articles have been widely copied. Even the old Cobden organ, published in Liverpool, England, and the *Liberator* of Auckland, New Zealand, have reproduced addresses made by him which were published in reform papers in this country.

As a poet, Mr. Cumming has received many compliments. We reproduce in another column some lines from Mr. Cumming's pen which show his facility for strong homely presentation in verse that flows smoothly and embodies well expressed truths in vigorous couplets.

HAINES D. ALBRIGHT.

Haines D. Albright, candidate for Congress from the 4th District of Pennsylvania, is an active Single Taxer. In a card issued to the voters of his district he says:

"In times like these every man who desires to do something for his country should strive to make known to his fellow citizens the necessary causal relation which subsists between unwise tax laws and hard times." Elsewhere on the same card he says:

"Unscientific tax laws have a tendency to check productive business activity and, to encourage wasteful disuse of valuable land, and thus make rents abnormally high, the raw materials of industry costly, business dull and unprofitable, wages low and employment hard to find."

The Fourth Congressional District is strongly republican, but many of the voters are independent and ready for a change. In 1905 Mr. Berry, a Single Tax democrat, carried it by over 10,000 majority. The people now have more cause for dissatisfaction than they then had, and it is not impossible that they are going to express that dissatisfaction at the polls in November by a "land slide," which is not unknown even in Philadelphia. Mr. Albright will have the active aid of such men of the faith as the Philadelphia guard have proved themselves to be in many a hard fought campaign.

WESTERN STARR.

The Democratic candidate for Congress from Wilmette, Ill., was born at Davenport, Iowa, in 1854. He was educated

in the public schools of Rock Island, Ill., and in 1870 worked as a farm hand, later on the St. Louis bridge, and later still in the mine mills of Colorado.

In 1877 he had accumulated a little money, with which he entered Oberlin in April of that year. In 1880 he took his degree at Cornell, and afterwards he took the Columbia law course in New York City, and was admitted to the practice of law in that city in 1882. In 1882 he went to Chicago, and taught private school and practiced his profession until the following year, when a business engagement took him to Dakota territory, which at that time included what are now North and South Dakota. Here he was appointed assessor under the territorial government. In 1890 he returned to Chicago where he carried on a real estate brokerage business, and also continued the practice of his profession. In Chicago he held the position of secretary of the civil service reform committee of the Civic Federation, and was later chairman of that body.

These facts in the active life of Mr. Starr were told by John Z. White in the *SINGLE TAX REVIEW*, for April 1904. It is interesting to note the causes that made the subject of this sketch a Single Taxer. It was the robbery of the people involved in colossal railroad land grants that opened his eyes to the evils of land monopoly. Says Mr. White in the sketch of the life of Mr. Starr: "In collusion with dishonest officialism the power shown by the great corporations, especially the Northern Pacific Railroad, startled him. \* \* He found that this road had been granted every other section of land for forty miles on each side of its track, this of course being equal to a solid strip forty miles wide clear across the state. And when a settler had taken possession of a farm anywhere within these limits the road was permitted to take any unclaimed section within ten miles beyond the forty mile limit. \* \* The same sort of conditions that disturbed Starr in North Dakota rivetted the attention of Henry George in California."

In 1898 Western Starr formally joined the Single Tax movement, giving it the support of a ready pen and oratorical