

# The SINGLE TAX

THE ORGAN OF THE SCOTTISH LAND RESTORATION UNION.

VOL. I.—No. 1.

GLASGOW, JUNE, 1894.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

## THE SINGLE TAX.

Published at the beginning of each Month.  
PRICE ONE PENNY. Post Free, 1/6 per annum,  
payable in advance.

May be had from Robert Stewart, 242 Main Street, Anderston; R. A. Aitkenhead, 13 New City Road; James Simpson, Saltmarket; William Love, Argyle Street; A. M'Kendrick, Jr., 111 Canning Street; D. Campbell, 201 Stirling Road and 180 Parliamentary Road; William Barr, 62 Sauchiehall Street; Thomson, 4½ St. Enoch Square; William Hood, 229 Argyle Street; Hunter, Crown Street, S.S.; James S. Smith, 149 Quarry Street, Hamilton; James Maguire, 532 Springburn Road.

All Communications to be addressed to the EDITOR, *Single Tax*, LAND RESTORATION OFFICE, 45 MONTROSE STREET, GLASGOW.

*"To raise and maintain wages is the great object that all who live by wages ought to seek, and working men are right in supporting any measure that will attain that object. Nor in this are they acting selfishly, for, while the question of wages is the most important of questions to labourers, it is also the most important of questions to society at large. Whatever improves the condition of the lowest and broadest social stratum must promote the true interests of all. Where the wages of common labour are high, and remunerative employment is easy to obtain, prosperity will be general; where wages are highest there will be the largest production and the most equitable distribution of wealth. There will invention be most active, and the brain best guide the hand; there will be the greatest comfort, the widest diffusion of knowledge, the purest morals, and the truest patriotism. If we would have a healthy, a happy, an enlightened, and a virtuous people—if we would have a pure Government, firmly based on the popular will and quickly responsive to it—we must strive to raise wages and keep them high."—Henry George, "Protection or Free Trade."*

## OUR MISSION.

IN this, our first appearance, we are not very ambitious-looking, but we are nevertheless ambitious to be up and doing in the good cause of Land Restoration. The time, we believe, is opportune for a monthly pronouncement by the Scottish Single Taxmen. In Scotland and England, in America, and in our Australasian Colonies the Single Tax method of Land Restoration is being advocated with genuine healthy persistency, and the agency of the press is everywhere being enlisted an advocate. In America there are now some fifty or more Single Tax Newspapers; and in the Colonies a vigorous propaganda is being well maintained by several prints exclusively devoted to its service. But what is more particularly pleasing, is, that in New Zealand a first instalment—a small tax on land values—has been secured and has worked marvellously well; has realised to the full the expectations of Single Taxers. Referring

to the subject, the Premier of the Colony recently said:—

"The Government said to the struggling settler they would exempt his improvements. To the one above him they said, 'You shall not be touched by the progressive tax;' and to those who held large tracts of country, mostly unimproved, keeping cattle and sheep where there should be smiling homes and happy people, they said, 'Pay a little more to the taxation of the country.' Their opponents said they were going in for confiscation. There was to be a revolution, there would be no money and no employment in New Zealand, it was to go down and down until it was last in the Australasian group. What is the result to-day? New Zealand is at the top and the other colonies down below. . . . Through our progressive tax great improvements are taking place in this part of the colony. I notice paragraphs speaking of the number of ploughmen engaged, steadings going up, and improvements generally being made at a most rapid rate. This is just what we wanted. Ploughmen have work, carpenters have work, and there is an improvement in the social, commercial, and political position of the people."

So that we have commenced in this far away isolated New Zealand our journey through the Single Tax avenue to economic freedom and to industrial emancipation. Encouraging work truly. The first step gained. It may seem a weak and hesitating advance, but it will make the next step forward easier, and it is a finger-post on the way not likely to be ignored. The Single Tax, briefly, is a proposal to take the values of land, apart from improvements, in taxation, for public purposes, and to relieve industry of the burdens of taxation. It is a simple remedy, merely a transferring of taxation from labour and the products of labour to land values. But we claim for it that it will also solve the labour problem, and that this solution of the labour problem is the key to the solution of the wider social problem now confronting civilisation, and which, as John Ruskin says, "Society must settle or it will settle Society." The labour problem has arisen and is with us because of an unjust distribution of wealth. This and other minor tributaries have their source, we believe, in land monopoly. It is easy to see, given this primary monopoly of land, how all other hurtful monopolies are reared. Land monopoly keeps pace with the "slaves of the lamp of knowledge" that invention brings, and but quickens the advance to greater and greater inequalities. Landowners are induced to keep desirable land out of use in anticipation of securing a greater future value. Labour and capital are thrown out of employment. Idle hands and idle lands add greater complica-

tions. But to those who care to examine into these phenomena the labour problem is after all but the land question.

The Single Tax will shatter these expectations of the landowners to get more, as more is produced, by putting a period to their taxing powers, and at the same time open up the land, free from monopoly charges, to all, on terms of perfect equality. Trade depression has become chronic now, and has a wide-world footing. It means to the wage-earners, who suffer by it, poverty of the worst kind—undeserved poverty. "Organisation, by all means," says Ruskin, "but before you have organisation you must have honesty." Just so: and a first step to a fair quantity of this commodity is to abolish this undeserved poverty. We believe land monopoly to be the bottom cause of all the trouble, and we urge the remedy advanced by Henry George, the Single Tax, as the only feasible method for the destruction of land monopoly, and for opening up, at the point of least resistance, the natural and only opportunities to labour—the land. Our work will be to keep our question and what is being done with it the wide world over well to the front, and to guide the loose ideas abroad on the land question generally. We shall endeavour each month to provide a faithful account of the progress of the movement, and to appear every time in an attractive garb. We, therefore, appeal with confidence to our members, to land reformers, and to all sympathetic political and social reformers to spread the *Single Tax* in every direction possible, and so help us to bring to a speedy end this primary inequality—Private Property in Land.

## MICHAEL DAVITT ON THE LAND QUESTION.

LANDLORDISM THE ROOT EVIL.

LOWER WAGES, STRIKES, AND SOCIAL MISERY ALL TRACEABLE TO A SINGLE SOURCE.

A POWERFUL INDICTMENT.

The following is an excerpt from a letter by Mr. Michael Davitt to the *Daily Chronicle*:—

No intelligent working man can give a moment's rational study to the Labour problem of these countries without discovering where

THE ROOT EVIL OF OUR INDUSTRIAL SYSTEM lies. Underpaid toil, the social wretchedness associated with the labouring poor, the misery of the unemployed, and the shame and suffering of the pauperised workers of the community

are referable for cause and existence to laws which enable a small class of men to own and control the land and the mineral wealth of the United Kingdom. It is in the rent-taxes levied upon the use of these natural agencies which are the very life of our social and industrial organisms, where low wages, depression, and strikes really originate. The outcry against "Capital" on the part of advanced labour advocates tends to disguise an older and more formidable enemy of Labour, and landlords not a few are astute enough to send this clamant Labour on this seductive scent in order to divert attention from a system which is in fealty the parent of capitalism and all its works and pomps. The capitalist is the objective agency whereby the worker is made to surrender to profit what a just system of wealth distribution would award his labour, but the efficient cause of this underpaid sweat and toil is found in the laws which enable an idle interest to tax both capital and labour, and to dictate as well the conditions under which one or both shall prosecute the enterprise of wealth production.

To the unthinking portion of our wage-earning classes landlordism is an institution which concerns only the aristocracy, farmers and agricultural labourers. Its pernicious economic ramifications throughout the entire industrial life of the community are seldom or ever referred to or recognised on labour platforms. Yet from the banker and merchant in the City to the pedlar of pencils in the Strand EVERY MAN, WOMAN, AND CHILD WORKER IN LONDON, AND IN THE UNITED KINGDOM AS WELL, PAYS A TAX TO SOME LANDLORD,

which operates as a deduction from profit and a reduction of wages. The wool in our clothing, the leather in our shoes, the iron or wood of the miner's pick, or the editor's pen, every tool with which a day's work is performed in every branch of industry, every piece of machinery which manufacturers produce, and every inch of land on which a workshop or an office stands, every warehouse where merchandise is bartered, every shop in which food is sold, or clothing made, have all to pay rent, directly or indirectly to landlordism in one or more of its many forms of application. The total annual sum which is thus deducted from the yearly earnings of the entire industrial community of these countries is variously estimated at from £300,000,000 to £500,000,000,

or not much short of an amount equalling eighty per cent of the entire annual pay of the whole of the wage-earning classes of the United Kingdom. When it is borne in mind that the people of London are compelled to pay some £12,000,000 a year in ground-rents alone the above figures will come well within the range of possible accuracy. We need only call to mind the number of other great industrial centres in Great Britain and the economic value of the limited areas on which they stand; the royalties represented in the coal and other ore of our mineral produce; in the gas consumed in workshops and dwellings; in the manufactured iron in mills, in ships, and implements of every kind; and to add the £60,000,000 or £70,000,000 levied upon agricultural industry, to grasp an idea of the stupendous burden which an antiquated feudal system lays upon the shoulders of British and Irish industry every year.

What services, direct or indirect, are rendered to the 40,000,000 people in these islands by the landlord class, which can lay any reasonable claim to the privileges of taxing to this extent the produce of the toil and enterprise of the industrial democracy? Do they confer any single national, social, moral, educational, or material benefit upon the community from whom this tribute is extorted year by year? Even Mr. Stead, who has recently come with characteristic chivalry to the rescue of the aristocracy, would I think, find it difficult to specify the public virtue or services which would constitute a moral or economic equivalent for

THE BURTHEN WHICH LANDLORDISM LAYS UPON THE PRODUCING CLASSES.

And when we remember all which this idle interest is privileged to take from the annual wealth of these countries, and measure this vast sum with the comparative smallness of the

total amount of all the sums which have been in question between employers and wage-earners in all the Labour disputes of the last twenty years, is it not a matter of amazement that underpaid workers have not focussed their attention and efforts upon the sweeping away of these antiquated land laws which have been fruitful only in pauperism, half starved labour, and the anarchy of strikes, and kindred contentions?

To say, as one Irish member did the other night, that the Land League would have no existence were it not for Irish absenteeism, is only to manifest a total ignorance of the fundamental purpose of the Irish land movement. The tenants and land workers of Ireland rose against the whole system of landlordism, by which the chief industry of the country was being bled to death—a country already reduced by this social cancer to the lowest degree of material progress of any country in Europe. To continue to support such a rent-extracting system as it existed before the Land League would have amounted to industrial suicide on the part of Ireland.

Absenteeism is the least of the major evils of landlordism. In addition to being rack-renters and evictors

THE IRISH LANDLORDS HAVE BEEN MODELS OF HOW TO MAKE LIFE WORSE THAN ORNAMENTALLY USELESS.

The flunkeyism which they breed, the contempt for work or business pursuits, which is characteristic of the class have had a more pernicious influence upon the social life of Ireland than the absence of the Clanricardes, Sligoes, and others who choose to live in other lands could ever exercise.

It is much the same in Great Britain. The effects may not be as apparent with you as they are with us, but the main evil of the system works its results in more insidious ways. It has, if possible, a deadlier hold upon the industrial vitals of Great Britain than upon Ireland; and it will not be the first or the last of the services which Irish agitations have rendered to the cause of the industrial classes of England, Scotland, and Wales, if one outcome of the Home Rule movement should be a constitutional revolt in Great Britain also against landlordism, both in land and in government.—Yours truly,

MICHAEL DAVITT.

Ballybrack, Co. Dublin, Aug. 23.

### THE SCOTTISH LOCAL GOVERNMENT BILL.

In all the numerous clauses of this Bill no mention is made whatever of giving powers to the new local councils, to be created, to tax land values for the upkeep of local government. These councils will quicken life in every district. The control and management of local affairs will certainly necessitate increased rates. Drainage, more effective lighting, the making of roads, and other improvements, spell more taxation. Now, a greater expenditure of public money in this way is certain to enhance the value of all vacant land, and the users of such land will require to pay this increased price. Every improvement made will make the landowners richer and the people co-relatively the poorer. Desirable land will be held out of use in anticipation of a further rise in value in due time. Surely it is time such injustice should cease. If public improvements add a greater value to land is it not fair that such value should be taken in taxation to pay for such improvements? Without power to tax these values for the uses of the communities who create them, what is the good of this new local government constitution? What is the good of saying "here are superior tools to cultivate your garden," if the increased produce of the gardeners is to be taken from them by those who own the garden, in increased rents? Mere political freedom does not tend towards a more equitable distribution of wealth, even though it be the widest possible concession. Past legislation in this regard teaches us this. Poverty and the unemployed keep pace with the extension of the franchise and the creation of democratic constitutions. Just now we have a local debt of over £200,000,000. The actual money held on loan by the Glasgow Corporation

in May last was £6,374,813. The land values of Glasgow are computed to be close on £2,000,000 per annum. One hundred years ago they were less by at least two thirds of that amount. The rates fall exclusively on occupancy and property. The expenditure of the rates raises and maintains the city's ground values. Fancy monopoly prices reign supreme on vacant sites. Builders cannot build on the landowner's terms, and the people are huddled together in narrow streets and are severely rack-rented. If any improvement comes to a locality, such as the Phoenix Recreation Grounds, up go the rents all round. Such will be the fate of the new Parish Councils. Their every effort will be met by increased rates and higher rents, and in the fulness of time, should they extend their boundaries, their people will suffer as the Glasgow people are suffering.

The official Liberal party have declared "in favour of taking the values of land for public purposes." Why do the Government frame such a measure and ignore altogether all mention of this much desired reform? Municipal bodies all over the country are discussing the question of getting powers from Parliament to give effect to it. It cannot be much longer ignored by "the powers that be." The Government have missed a splendid opportunity of showing their supporters that they are prepared when occasion occurs to carry into effect the various items of the Liberal programme. But however much we may regret this failure on the part of the Government, it is the duty of all reformers to speak straight out, and it is pleasing to know that Mr. A. D. Provand, M.P. for Hutchesontown, after the second reading will move

"That it be an instruction to the Committee that they have power to insert in the Bill provisions providing that Parish Councils to be created under the Bill may have power and authority given to them to assess and collect rates on the values of lands situate within their respective areas, after deducting the value of improvements on the same."

Let the other Scotch Radical Members support Mr. Provand, and let the local Liberal organisations throughout the country advise their M.P.'s accordingly. To have the question brought before the Government in the House of Commons is the best service that can be rendered, and Mr. Provand deserves well of social reformers for thus taking occasion by the hand.

### THE CROFTER COMMISSION IN SUTHERLANDSHIRE.

JOHN MURDOCH'S PLEA FOR NO RENTS.

The *Northern Ensign*, Wick, May 15, 1894:—At the Crofter Commission at Dornoch, Mr. Murdoch appeared for some of the crofters, and on being called upon to give his summing up after the evidence had been heard, he spoke to the following effect:—

Mr. Commissioner and gentlemen Assessors,—Much as I might have to say in dealing with crofters' rents on the historic estate of Sutherland, I mean to have pity on you by not asking you to listen to what you may have read elsewhere. There will be repetitions, but there shall be none excepting such as are inevitable. It is admitted on every hand that

THE CROFTERS ACT IS A MARVEL OF LEGISLATION,

coming from the Parliament of a country dominated by a feudal landed proprietary. The conferring of fixity of tenure on small holding tenants-at-will should be accepted as an outstanding proof that a higher Power rules in these lower affairs, and an encouragement to honest men to persevere in the face of all opposition until justice has been won. What has been obtained has been won by the weak and poor in a struggle with the rich and powerful, backed by armed battalions and solemn judges in the highest courts of the nation.

THE RENTS OF UTTERLY INADEQUATE HOLDINGS.

Clearly the smallness and badness of the holdings are the first circumstances to be taken into consideration in determining what is a fair rent, or whether any rent at all should be laid on. I am not going to set up a very high standard

when I merely adopt the dictum of those political economists who say that rent is a remainder after the labourers and the farmers are supported, the interest on the capital invested in the farms repaid, and a reward for management laid up for a rainy day. And when the philosophers laid down that rule, I am very sure they did not contemplate the style of living to which the crofters you have before you have been reduced in regard to food, clothing, furniture, or houses, not to speak of those elegancies and even dainties which have become component parts of what is called civilisation. I did not like to put the question excepting in a very few cases, but I am quite satisfied, or rather dissatisfied, that in this great sheep-feeding and cattle-rearing country beef or mutton every day is utterly unknown among the people on whose lands you are asked to lay rents. I go the length of saying that it is the exception rather than the rule for them to have butcher meat once a week. Civilisation with all its inventions and refinements rises like a beneficent tide and swells around and into the mansions of the lairds and the tacksmen, but the crofters toil on, trying to take a bare subsistence out of a refuse soil, stuck up on peaks of poverty which no assuaging tide ever reaches. According to the fathers of the science of rent, there is no rent where the cultivators of the soil have nothing over a good living. Here it is not merely that there is no rent, but compensation is due to the tenants for being denied the land out of which they could have taken an ample living. I know you cannot award this compensation, but at least you can refrain from laying more than a peppercorn of rent on the miserable lots. Apart from the quality of the land, I found a special claim for exemption from all but a nominal rent in

#### THE SIZE OF THE HOLDINGS.

Even if the land was good, you are not to lay the same rent per acre on it that you would on a full-sized farm capable of yielding support to the husbandman. Of good land let us say that twenty acres arable will support the tenant's family. If you take away one-fourth of the holding the remainder is not worth three-fourths of the rent of the whole, and so on until you come down to a holding of five acres, on which you cannot honestly lay anything approaching to a quarter of the statutory rent. Twenty acres may be worth and fit to yield, say £10, or 10s an acre, but the half is not worth £4, and the quarter cannot be made to yield any rent at all. And this brings me to what I think you are especially called upon by the Act to take into consideration ere you lay on any rent.

### Single Tax Items.

The Walsall Chamber of Commerce have been discussing the taxation of land values. On April 30th a member of the Corporation—Mr. John Scott—moved the following resolution—“That in view of the fact that a large part of the municipal expenditure inevitably causes a considerable increase in the ground values within the borough, it is considered equitable that ground landlords should, in some way, be required to share in any expenditure which may add to the value of their land; and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Town Council, the Borough member, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer.” An interesting and lively debate followed. Glasgow came in for a fair share of attention with her 40,000 families living in one roomed houses, and her £2,000,000 per annum land values taken from the users of land by the owners of land for their own behoof.

Publicity on this question through such channels is a hopeful sign of the times. To all other such bodies, particularly the Glasgow Chamber of Commerce, we would say, “Go thou and do likewise.”

Mr. John Crown, of Sunderland, is before the electors of one of the wards as a candidate to the Sunderland Town Council. In his address he states the case plainly as follows:—

“At present all rates are paid by the occupier or user of the land. The landowner pays no rates. We have to pay the rates not only on our own property but on another man's land. Under this system the more rates we pay to improve the town, the more the ground landlords charge us for the use of the town.—They increase the rent as fast as we improve their property.

“The people of Sunderland have spent £2,000,000 during the last 40 years in improving the town. All this money has been pocketed by those who own the 3,000 acres on which the town stands, and the people are now paying £150,000 a year as ground rent for the same land that they paid £30,000 for 40 years ago, and are still steadily adding to its value. We are really paying rates to increase ground rent.

“We must either take for rates what the individual makes or what the community makes. I believe what the community makes should belong to the community and not to the ground landlord. I believe ground rent to be the true source of public revenue, and that we should take it for the public use and have no rates on either Labour Improvements or Machinery.

“One man! One vote! One tax!”

Mr. Crown also writes to the April number of the *Financial Reformer*, Liverpool, the following letter:—

#### GROUND LANDLORDS.

To the Editor of the *Financial Reformer*.

SIR,—Here, at Whitby, we are told the town grew up under the protection of the monastery, but as there were more townspeople than monks, it is more likely that the people protected the monks instead of the monks protecting the people. The abbot of the abbey, the ground landlord, decreed by charter that no townsman was to sell his property without first offering it to himself or his successors. In this way the monastery became owner of 400 houses in the town and neighbourhood.

When King Henry VIII. robbed the Catholic Church of what had become its property, Robinson, in his History of Whitby, says:—“It was found that there were numbers of houses belonging to the Monks, the effect of the operation of the Abbot's Charter, which secured to the Abbot every house that was for sale.” This is how the monks appear to have protected the people.

The king handed over the stolen property—300 houses, 100 cottages, 200 gardens, 2 watermills, 1 windmill, and 21,000 acres of land—to Sir Richard Cholmley, who certainly appears to have swept the board. It is now in the possession of Sir Charles Strickland, who is lord of the manor, and it would be difficult to make a living here without his permission. Market gardeners must pay him £10 an acre rent, and when the vegetables are taken to market the gardener has to pay 3s. for a stand in the “lord's market” on market day. One of his predecessors, in a fit of generosity, embellished the market place by building a toll booth, for the better collection of “his market tolls;” it takes up about half the market place.

Jet is found in the cliffs and on the sea beach, but it cannot be got without payment for the ground landlord's permission, for it is “his jet.” “The flint stones are his also.” They wash out of the cliffs, or are thrown up on the beach, and are collected by poor men very hard up, who receive from the Whitby Local Board one shilling per ton for them, but out of this they must pay the lord of the manor one penny. Talk of Lazarus feeding on the crumbs that fell from Dives's table. Why! here is Dives mean enough to take pennies from tramps—“by law” of course!

Vessels entering the river, even steam tugs must pay him 1s. 4d., and for this sum he graciously permits them to use “his river.” Of course the “salmon are his,” all of them. They can be seen trying to jump over “his mill dam,” over which no one is allowed to haul a boat, and above which boating can only be had by “his permission.” A Fishing Board exists nominally to protect the fish, but in reality to protect the interests of the lord of the manor, for the more fish the greater the rent for the fisheries. The Board thinks, by the last report in local papers, that two shillings per day is a fair wage for able-bodied men, for it was all they were paid.

Sixpence is charged for every load of his sand or his gravel taken from “his sea beach,” and threepence to each person for permission to look at “his ruined abbey,” which is now enclosed by a stone wall. A few years ago Sir Charles enclosed a piece of the public land called the Abbey Plain. The Rev. Haydn Williams headed a number of Whitby townspeople and knocked down the encroaching wall, but though it was not possible to punish Mr. Williams for this, they managed by some legal process to get him six weeks in York Castle for what they called “contempt of court.”

The fossils known as “Whitby snakes” are most plentiful north of Whitby. I am told that the poor man who collects them has to pay royalty on the snakes to both the Marquis of Normandy and Sir Charles Mark Palmer, Bart., who are lords of the manor on that part of the coast. The man who collects the fossils has them to grind, polish, and mount as brooches, when they are sold at fourpence each. Yet the noble marquis, who is, I believe, a clergyman of the Church by Law Established, and one of the chaplains to Her Majesty, actually sweats the poor old man out of royalty on the fossils. But it is just possible he may be able to console himself when he reads, “Blessed are the poor, for they shall inherit eternal life.” There is nothing else left here for the poor to inherit, as lords of manors appear to have inherited everything there is.—Yours, &c.,

Whitby, Feb. 8th, 1894.

JOHN CROWN.

The same edition of the *Financial Reformer* contains a full report of the debate between two members of the Financial Reform Association—Mr. J. W. S. Callie and Mr. Edward M'Hugh, and two members of the Fabian Society—Mr. Herbert Bland and Mr. Leonard Hall, on the subject of “Will the remedy propounded in

‘Progress and Poverty’ solve the Labour Problem.” Copies may be had at the Scottish Land Restoration Union, 45 Montrose Street, or at 18 Hocknis Hey, Liverpool.

LAND AND LABOUR.—The Duke of Bedford has presented to the town of Bedford a field of 22 acres in the vicinity of the Promenade on the banks of the Ouse at Bedford, for the purpose of providing a public recreation ground, and to enable the Corporation to complete a scheme for the improvement of the spot. The ground was valued last year at £8,500, when negotiations were opened for its purchase. Gifts of this kind are not so numerous that we can pass them by unrecorded, and we like to give credit where credit is due. But, perhaps, after all it is only robbing Peter to pay Paul, for the Duke has just put £200,000 into his pockets, as the price of 5½ acres and 69 houses required for the extension and isolation of the British Museum. As the *Star* says, “the *Standard* is full of the Duke of Bedford's generosity in the matter. The land is ‘remarkably cheap,’ and we must be thankful to the Duke for ‘consenting to part with it on such reasonable terms.’ We fear we cannot respond to this call for gratitude. The Duke might have driven a harder bargain if he had been dealing with land speculators, but it must not be forgotten that this was land required for a public purpose, to release a great national institution from the immediate pressure of buildings that prevent its development and ruin its stateliness. Close on £40,000 an acre, if taken as the average value of the Duke's London estate, would make the entire property worth nearly five millions sterling. We do not exactly see where the opportunity for gratitude comes in.”

“He who runs may (now) read” SOMETHING ON THE LAND QUESTION. Single Tax cyclists and ramblers get credit for posting by the way the following attractive leaflet:—

#### TAXATION AND THE LAND QUESTION.

##### INTERESTING FACTS.

Who made the Land?—God.  
Who for?—The People.  
Who owns the Land at present?—A section of the People known as Landowners.  
In whose interest do they own it?—Their own.  
Could we live without them?—Certainly. They give us nothing but what nature has already given us.  
Would it be beneficial to live without them?—Yes. As the sum which we now pay them as Ground Rent would defray all Local and Imperial Taxation and leave the produce of

##### LABOUR TO THE LABOURER.

It would make the practice of holding Land idle unprofitable, forcing Land into the market to be used, thus creating a Demand for Labour, Absorbing the Unemployed, and Raising Wages.

##### RATEPAYERS, TAKE NOTE.

The Landowners of Glasgow receive Two Million Pounds yearly in rent, and contribute nothing to Local Taxation. A Tax of Five Shillings in the Pound would cover the City's Taxation.

Published by TRUTH, HONESTY, and JUSTICE.

### SCOTTISH LAND RESTORATION UNION.

At a meeting of Executive held recently the following resolution was passed unanimously:—“That looking to the widespread movement in favour of the taxation of land values for local and imperial purposes, in the colonies of New Zealand and Australia, and to the fact that the Scottish Liberal Association has declared strongly in favour of the taxation of land values, and that the recent memorial of the ninety-four radical members of Parliament to the Chancellor of the Exchequer urged the necessity of giving Municipalities powers to tax land values for the maintenance of local government, this Executive expresses its regret that no provision for such taxation has been made in the Scottish Local Government Bill, and calls upon the government and the liberal members of the House of Commons to see that this principle is embodied in the Bill now before Parliament by amending or adding a clause to this effect to said Bill.”

## ENGLISH LAND RESTORATION LEAGUE.

### ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the English Land Restoration League was held on Wednesday night last in the hall of the Working Men's Club, Clerkenwell Road. Mr. J. E. Woolacott presided. The Chairman, in reviewing the history of the land restoration movement, said they had now a majority of men in the House of Commons directly pledged to vote for the taxation of land values. The following resolution was moved by Mr. Macdonald, M.P.: "That this meeting of members and friends of the English Land Restoration League again emphatically declares that the land and the rent of land belong of inalienable right to the whole body of the people, and registers its protest against all measures of so-called land reform, by whichever political party they may be proposed, which merely seek to substitute one set of landlords for another, or to increase the number of the landlord class." The resolution was carried, as were others moved by Mr. F. Smith, L.C.C., and Mr. W. Saunders, M.P. Mr. Byles, M.P., Mr. L. H. Berens, and Mr. Headlam also addressed the meeting.

### THE SECOND BALLOT WANTED.

Speaking to his constituents at Newcastle, Monday, 21st May, Mr. John Morley referred to the action of the Independent Labour Party in opposing both the Tories and the Liberals, as work calculated to make the Tories rejoice. He is desirous of increasing Labour representation in Parliament. "When I first came down among you," he said, "I stated that if you have got a man whom you can trust to represent Labour—a Labour man, a working man—I will retire in his favour to-morrow. I have never taken up any other position, and now if you will convince me that it is the desire of this constituency I will go further, and I will say if you convince me that the great body of the weekly wage earners in this constituency desire that I should give way to a Labour representative, I will give way." Just so, but rightly or wrongly the Independent Labour Party are likely to go to the poll with their man saying, in the words of Lord Roseberry:—"A plague on both your houses," and the Tory may slip in. Now, what is wanted to protect the constituencies affected, from the degradation of minority representation, is the Second Ballot; which means, that in a three cornered fight the winning man must have a clear majority over the other two, and failing that the two highest stand against each other—*A Second Ballot*. Why are the Liberals so very reticent about this simple measure of justice and fairplay to all concerned?

### LABOUR COLONIES.

"The distance between Edinburgh and Glasgow ought to be

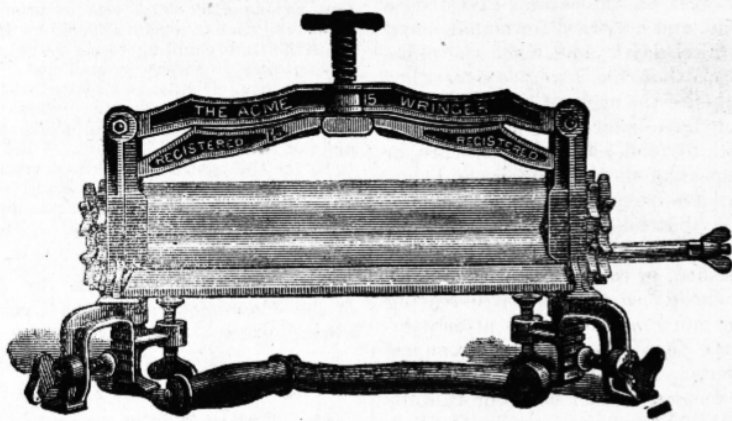
#### ONE STRETCH OF VILLAGE LIFE.

That part of the nation which ought to be the peasantry had drifted into cities because three-fourths of Scotland was in the hands of a few owners, and because this was so, most of the people were prevented from tilling the soil. To prevent this state of matters from becoming worse labour colonies were required. Home colonies were also necessary to shape the national village life which had all but died out. There was no reason why a thousand people should not be taken out of the slums of the city and started at cowfeeding if the City Fathers would only take an interest in them.—Lecture by Miss Julie Sutter on "The Social Need and its Cure," at the Glasgow Association for Improving the Condition of the People, Tuesday, 22nd May.

To our mind labour colonies can only at best provide for some of the unemployed. But if "the peasantry have drifted into the cities because three-fourths of the land of Scotland are in the hands of a few owners" why plead for labour colonies? Why not destroy the "drifting" powers of these landowners and let the people go on the land and organise their own home colonies. It is

## "ACME" HOUSEHOLD SPECIALITIES

ARE THE BEST.



"ACME"  
WRINGER.

"ACME"  
WRINGER.

THE value of a Wringer depends very much on the quality of the India-Rubber on the Rollers. All our Wringers are numbered, and our Rollers are guaranteed. Our name is on every machine, and as there are many imitations in the market, see the "ACME WRINGER" before you purchase.

### SOMETHING NEW.

We are now covering our Rollers by an entirely New Process, and with best White India-Rubber only. All Rollers done by this Process give GREATER THICKNESS OF RUBBER ON SPINDLE. GREATER ELASTICITY OF ROLLERS, AS WELL AS GREATER DURABILITY AND WRINGING POWER.

Repairs of all kinds promptly executed, and all repairs and New Rollers branded

"ACME"  
WARRANTED.

### "ACME" MACHINE CO.,

MANUFACTURERS OF WASHING MACHINES, WRINGING MACHINES, MANGLES, ICE CREAM FREEZERS, PERAMBULATORS, MAILCARTS, KNIFE AND FORK CLEANERS, Etc.

HENRIETTA STREET, GLASGOW.

OUR SPECIALITIES TO BE HAD THROUGH ALL IRONMONGERS.

only when labour is wronged that it needs special protection. Give labour freedom to go upon the land and to keep what it produces from the land, and the labour problem will cease to disturb society. Miss Sutter knows the cause of the trouble and in honestly stating it she suggests the remedy—land restoration.

#### THE SCOTTISH

### LAND RESTORATION UNION.

OBJECT—The restoration of the land to the people by the imposition of a Single Tax on the value of the land, apart from improvements, thereby relieving industry of all taxation and opening up natural opportunities to labour.

OFFICE—45 MONTROSE STREET, GLASGOW.

Minimum Annual Subscription, ONE SHILLING.

DAVID M'LARDY, President.  
NORMAN M'LENNAN, Secretary.

WANTED.—CORRESPONDENTS in every parish in the Kingdom for the New Labour Army, and to sell TRACKS FOR THE TIMES.—Address, E. C., 5 Palace Chambers, Westminster.

### JOHN KINNAIRD,

DYER, CLEANER, AND OSTRICH FEATHER DRESSER.

Gentlemen's Clothes Cleaned and Dyed.

#### BRANCHES—

100 CANNING STREET. 285 GARSCUBE ROAD.  
578 GALLOWGATE STREET. 176 MAIN ST., ANDERSTON  
81 PAISLEY ROAD, WEST.

WORKS—164 SPRINGFIELD ROAD, DALMARNOCK.

### THE MIKADO TEA ROOMS,

21 JAMAICA STREET, GLASGOW,

Are eminently suited for

CONVERSAZIONI, SMOKING CONCERTS, PRESENTATIONS, SUPPER PARTIES, AND LIKE GATHERINGS.

The Accommodation is perfect, including Smoking Rooms, Lavatories, &c.

The Favourite Resort of Football Clubs.

### SHANKLAND'S RESTAURANT,

65 INGRAM STREET

(Near City Hall, Corner of Albion Street).

Most Reasonable Charges and Instantly Served.

### CLEARANCE SALE OF BOOKS

ON ALL SUBJECTS AT

R. GIBSON'S,  
16 QUEEN STREET.

### CYCLES.

Best Value in the City at

MILLIKEN'S, 189 HIGH STREET  
(Opposite College Station).

Pneumatics, from £7. Specialty, 32 lbs., £9.  
12 Months Guarantee.

#### THE

PEOPLE'S PALACE,  
WATSON STREET, GALLOWGATE, GLASGOW.

PRE-EMINENTLY A PLACE OF  
ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE PEOPLE.

PRICES TO SUIT THE POCKET OF  
THE WORKING CLASS.

THE CHEAPEST ENTERTAINMENT IN EUROPE.

COMPLETE CHANGE EVERY WEEK.

WIVES AND SWEETHEARTS FREE EVERY  
FRIDAY NIGHT WHEN ACCOMPANIED  
BY A GENTLEMAN.

WILL CLOSE FROM 11th JUNE TILL 6th AUGUST,  
FOR ANNUAL CLEANING, &c.

### PRINTING OF ALL KINDS

NEATLY, CHEAPLY, AND PROMPTLY EXECUTED.

Business Cards, Invoices, and Statements, 5s. per 1,000.  
Wedding Invitations, Visiting Cards, Memoriam Cards.

R. A. AITKENHEAD,  
PRINTER AND STATIONER,  
13 NEW CITY ROAD, GLASGOW.

### A BOOK FOR MARRIED WOMEN.

Every Married Woman should possess a copy of this book, as it contains knowledge that it would be difficult to get in any other book. It is the outcome of my own experience, and information is given that Women want to know, and yet are ashamed to ask a doctor for. Post Free for Postal Order for 1s. 3d.

DR. T. R. ALLINSON,

4 SPANISH PLACE, MANCHESTER SQUARE, LONDON, W.

Printed for the SCOTTISH LAND RESTORATION UNION  
by MURRAY & DONNELLY, 74 Argyle Street, Glasgow.  
June, 1894.