Death of A. J. Steers

A J. STEERS died suddenly on March 2nd at his home in Marlboro, N. J. He was born in the city of Rochester, N. Y., seventy-three years ago. His early years were spent in Quebec, Canada. At eighteen he came to New York, where he lived nearly all his later years. He married a Miss Birmingham when he was twenty-three years old. His wife died about twenty years ago.

He was in the employ of D. Appleton & Co. when that house published "Progress and Poverty." He was the president of one of the Societies of St. Vincent de Paul at the time, and seeing the possibilities of the work persuaded the Appleton's to get out a cheaper edition. To Dr. Edward McGlynn young Steers presented a copy of the book, and this started the great priest on the career that made the latter's name a household word at home and abroad. The story is told in the "Life of Henry George," by Henry George, Jr. (Doubleday, Page edition, Vol. 2, page 402.)

It would take many columns to recount his unceasing activities to advance the cause in which he believed. In later years, however, like so many others, he found no associates to co-operate in organized effort, and for some years remained almost forgotten by those who had known him in early days. But he was willing to help, and was a contributor as well as a subscriber to the Review, though possessed of small means.

We imagine that many will read the news of his death with real sorrow and many with surprise that he had reached the age of 73. For A. J. Steers, as we remember him, bore the appearance of youthfulness and it is hard to imagine him as old in years. Certainly young in heart he remained, never losing faith in the ultimate triumph of righteousness, for this his religious convictions forbade. He was generous, loving and kindly to all about him; he had hosts of friends, and he did his best to make life happier for those who should come after him.

Landholding in Roumania

In Roumania the peasant's land patch is too small—seven and a half to ten acres. Not even a Roumanian peasant, who lives in a sheepskin coat and grows the sheep himself, can live on that patch. This division of land was made sixty years ago, in 1864, and the crowding of the rural population has reached the extreme. The large landholders, 3,700 in number, own forty per cent. of the land of old Roumania, about 13,000,000 acres, equal to half of the area under the plow in Pennsylvania, and this is to be divided to assuage land hunger and stop any taste for Bolshevism. Peasants living on small patches and landholders who have been de-landed, one class after another, do not furnish a basis for raising capital for industry.—Talcott Williams, in Our World.

The Steel Trust depends on control of ore and coal lands and not on machinery and mills. The latter can be quickly duplicated. The former cannot.—Charles Schwab.

To Our Subscribers

THE REVIEW is the militant exponent of the cause bequeathed to us by Henry George. It has been over twenty years in existence. There has been no time when it was not in financial difficulties.

Yet it has kept going. It has today more subscribers, and certainly more friends than it has had all the years of its existence.

It has seen the disappearance of all other Single Tax papers. It is the sole survivor. Because it is always more easy to get support for new journalistic ventures which promise great things, or seem to promise them, other Single Tax papers launched with more or less acclaim did not lack for support. The Review was compelled to witness dissipation of effort which if concentrated on this publication would have enabled it to go forward and would possibly have resulted in the establishment of the Review as a monthly with a circulation which would have given it a far-reaching influence.

We urge upon our friends the need of sending the Review to newspapers, legislators, and public men and women generally. We cannot promise that it will be made a monthly, but the time perhaps is not far distant when its growing influence and the increased interest in the philosophy of social reconstruction which it advocates, will call for this step. That is in the lap of the gods, but if the circulation increases the coming year as it has in the past year or two, this step may be realized.

We print a subscription form which will enable any of our readers to write in the name of some one of influence in their community. Cut this out and enclose one dollar with the name and address of some one to whom the REVIEW may profitably be sent for one year.

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