

measure referred to in my paragraph. An honorary minister, Mr. Donald MacKinnon, has withdrawn from the ministry on the ground I believe, that the present Bill does not go far enough. It will however be a great step in advance for Victoria, and will give us a good ground upon which to fight, the exemption of improvements from local taxation, as well as knowledge more or less accurate of the value of the lands of the State, and of the improvements. I hope before long to be able to inform readers of the REVIEW that the Bill has become law.

A. C. NICHOLS.

EUROA, Victoria.

GERMANY.

The German Single Taxers keep hammering away. Every issue of the *Bodenreform*, brings news of three or four towns having adopted the taxation of unearned increment on land.

The issue of Jan. 20, reports my own home town, Hildesheim, having fallen in line. On Dec. 18 the seaport town Cuxhaven, on the mouth of the river Elbe adopted it, and this was a remarkable victory inasmuch as its town council is composed of twenty-one landowners to two non-landowners. Although the speculators made great lamentations, the pressure of the people against the city fathers was so great that they had to yield.

And a hot fight has started in the council of Konigsberg over a bill to tax the increase of land value since October 1872 while its opponents have the date of April 1, 1905, but after a wrangling begun Sept. 15 it ended on Jan. 12 with a victory of 55 votes against 30.

That the German Single Taxers are alive is shown by their having rented the Royal Opera House, Jan. 7, producing by home talent and professional actors the Land Question in five tablaux, stating that in spite of the extraordinary expense of 4,000 marks they had a surplus, the amount of which will be announced in next issue of the *Bodenreform*.

F. BURGDORFF.

CLEVELAND HEIGHTS, Ohio.

THE FELS FUND.

The collection of the Fels Fund is progressing. The work is not yet thoroughly organized, but circular appeals will shortly be mailed. Hon. Tom L. Johnson will be treasurer of this fund.

Our readers are requested to send to Mr. Daniel Kiefer, who has charge of the work, the names of any likely contributor to this fund for the Great Forward Movement.

GOD'S LAWS.

(*For the Review.*)

Some of God's laws by ancient seers, were
penned on sacred page,
While some are only now discerned, by
scholars wise and sage.
Some He engraved in solid rock, or wrote
on limpid stream,
Or vap'rous air; and some in fiery letters
gleam.
Some from the wise and prudent hid,
to babes in lore are shown;
And error taught by learned fools, by sim-
ple truth's o'erthrown.
Oh, let us then with open minds, search
Nature's open book;
And learn from reading Nature's page, to
Nature's God to look,
Then let us quit our human schemes, for
God's appointed way—
His work to frame our social laws— our's
merely to obey!

E. I. S. H.

QUEENSLAND, Aus.

OWNERSHIP AND PROPERTY.

An obstacle to the acceptance of the Single Tax which is frequently encountered is the widespread, if not general, impression, especially by farmers, that private ownership of land would be extinguished, and that the government would become the universal landlord. Henry George made clear and emphatic the distinction between permanent possession combined with absolute control of a site by an individual, on the one hand, and private property in the unearned