

spirited men of affairs whose wise counsels are in the long run apt to prevail. There has never been so close a field or so sharp an issue presented before as now appears in this Hamilton Place Object Lesson.

If your Honor will amend your measure, and the Legislature will pass your measure so amended, as to provide that if the abutters prefer to sell rather than pay for their own betterment the city may purchase at an appraised value, improve and re-sell, Boston may take its first lesson in the course of instruction taken by the City of Paris a generation ago.

One of the pregnant possibilities of the situation ought to command unanimous support. A complete reorganization of Hamilton Place would open the way to give Boston a single inexpensive object lesson of a five hundred foot street fitted with every modern improvement and perfection of appointment, inferior to none other in the world.

The execution of such a plan in its perfection is easily possible without the slightest injury or injustice to the landowner, but rather leaving to him by far the best end of the bargain, as against the 599,999 other inhabitants of the City of Boston.

C. B. FILLEBROWN.

FROM JOHN B. HOWARTH'S RECENT ADDRESS IN DETROIT.

(From the *Informers*.)

"The Puritans came to this country in 1620 to secure religious liberty. They were successful. You may worship God after the dictates of your own conscience, or you need not worship at all in this country. So, also, have we secured personal liberty by the abolition of chattel slavery. Then we have secured in this country political liberty. Under the law every man is equal to another; but there is yet another goal to reach, and that is industrial liberty. I may start to swim across a stream and succeed in swimming three-fourths the distance and come within a few feet of reaching the other side and then give out and drown. I am really no better off than if I gave out close to the shore from which I started. So with this question of liberty. We must add industrial liberty to our achievements or our civilization will prove a failure.

THE SINGLE TAX.

This is what the Single Tax would do. It would give us industrial liberty. The weight of the whole world could not crush an egg-shell if there was nothing behind it to crush it against. Neither could greedy employers crush labor if the natural opportunity for one's self-employment were open to it. There are two factors in the production of all wealth—Land and Labor—and when land is as free to labor as water and sunshine, industrial liberty will have been attained. The single tax will absorb the rental or interest value of land, that is to

say the speculative value, and the tax on industry and personal property will be removed.

By taking the rental value of land in taxes there will be no profit in speculating in land, and landowners would be forced to use their land by building more houses, which would cheapen rents, or they would of necessity sell or abandon their vacant holdings so those who were seeking locations could purchase reasonably or enter them.

Father Bundy, Walter H. Stowers, President Chas. S. Webb and others asked several questions of the speaker, one of which was to know "if the Single Tax would really cure social ills," to which the speaker replied that "if he did not believe that the Single Tax would cure involuntary poverty and thereby greatly lessen crime and immorality, that he would not be there expounding the doctrine that evening."

The "reformer" taught the doctrine of brotherly love, of fraternity, the Golden Rule, equality. But Jesus did not die upon the cross. His principles still live. Henry George pointed out the way to industrial liberty—and through it to mental and moral freedom—and while he was performing this great service, one of the greatest that man has ever performed, he was left in his obscurity, neglected and despised—save by a few faithful followers. Such popular heroes as Grover Cleveland, Tom Platt, Chauncey M. Depew and Addicks held the public ear and were lifted up to exalted places. Henry George "died in the harness," fighting for his principles—for justice.

JAMES A. LOGSDON,
In the *Worker's Advocate*,
Chicago, Ill.

CAUSE OF HIGHER RENTS.

Noting the increase of rents in New York an exchange attributes it to increase in the price of house-building material. That is doubtless an element. But the last assessment of the Borough of Manhattan discloses another. The site values alone of Manhattan have increased \$180,000,000 in two years. This increase in the cost of house sites goes far to parallel the increase in the cost of building materials. It is enough to build 1,800 houses costing \$100,000 each.—*The Public*.

This is the way you are stumped in argument by the wise opponents of the Single Tax. Get them to agree that equality of opportunity is desirable no matter what inequalities of capacity may exist. You may be able to get them to admit as much. But then they say that, of course, inequality of capacity constitutes inequality of opportunity. Why so it does. Then cannot we perceive that equality of opportunity is a dream? Why, of course. How stupid of us not to have seen it before. And the cheerful idiot goes away satisfied and happy