

The Railroad trainman, Volume 19  
1902

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Henry George.  
a series of three articles

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IT is fitting that the City of Brotherly Love, which was the birthplace of American independence, should also have been the birthplace of the man who first showed mankind how to live out the belief in the brotherhood of man and Fatherhood of God.

Henry George was born in a small brick house in the older part of Philadelphia, September 2, 1839, nearly half a century after the death of Adam Smith. His father, Richard Samuel Henry George, was a book publisher at that time, but afterwards returned to a former position in the custom house. He was of English extraction, while Mrs. George was of English and Scotch.

Henry was one of ten children and the oldest of four boys. His father was a devoted churchman, being a vestryman in St. Paul's Episcopal church, and the children were all strictly brought up.

Young Henry attended the Episcopal academy for several years but, at his earnest wish, was taken out and sent to Henry Y. Lauderbarh, who afterwards spoke of him as being remarkable for quickness of thought, originality and general information. But knowing that his father's small income of eight hundred dollars was not equal to giving his family all the luxuries. Henry felt that he ought to be at work and left school in his fourteenth year, to be errand boy in a china and glass house at two dollars a week.

His education, however, did not stop when he left school, for he was naturally studious and his home had an atmosphere of books which encouraged reading and study. He also had a remarkable ability to retain knowledge which served him well in later years. Through the influence of his uncle, Thomas Latimer, he attended scientific lectures at the Franklin Institute.

Living not far from the wharves, and spending much of his time among the shipping, had an influence in giving him a taste for the sea and a desire to be a sailor, which shortly afterwards his father allowed him to gratify, much as he wished to keep his boy at home.

Henry sailed from New York early in April, 1855, as foremast boy on the Hindoo, Captain Miller, bound for Australia and India. Just before starting he wrote home from New York: "I signed the shipping articles at \$6 a month and two months advance which I got in the morning. . . . I ate my first meal, sailor style, today and did not dislike it at all. Working around in the open air gives one such an appetite that he can eat almost anything. We shall go to sea on Monday morning early. I should love to see you all again before I go, but that is impossible. I shall write again tomorrow and, if possible, get the pilot to take a letter when he leaves, though it is doubtful that I shall be able to write one." After one hundred and ninety-seven days of sailing, the Hindoo sighted Australia and no one was more pleased to see land again than Henry George. He had probably been homesick more than once, for there are entries in his diary like the following: "Would have given anything to have been back to breakfast!" and "Thus closed the most miserable Fourth of July that I have ever yet spent."

This voyage gave him the first insight into the hardships which sailors have to endure, not only from the necessity of the case, but from the great power put into the hands of captains.

Within a month the Hindoo was reloaded and off for India and the impressions of this sixteen-year-old boy on seeing the far-off country are remarkable, but there is room to quote only a small part of what he wrote in his diary: "The night air was misty and chilly and a monkey jacket proved very comfortable. The day soon began to break, revealing a beautiful scene. The river, at times very broad and again contracting its stream into a channel hardly large enough for a ship of average size to turn in, was bordered by small native villages, surrounded by large fruit trees, through which the little bamboo huts peeped. As we advanced, the mists which had hitherto hung over the river cleared away, affording a more extensive prospect. The water was covered with boats of all sizes, very queer looking to the eye of an American. They were most of them bound to Calcutta with the produce and rude manufactures of the country — bricks, tiles, earthenware, pots, etc. They had low bows and very high sterns. They were pulled by from four to ten men and steered by an old fellow wrapped up in a sort of cloth, seated on a high platform at the stern. Some had sails to help them along, in which there were more holes than threads. . . . One feature which is peculiar to Calcutta was the number of dead bodies floating down in all stages of decomposition, covered by crows, who were actively engaged in picking them to pieces. The first one

I saw filled me with horror and disgust, but like the natives, you soon cease to pay any attention to them."

On June 14th, 1856, the Hindoo, after an absence of a year and sixty-five days, landed again at New York and Henry found a warm welcome for him at his home. Not being able to find work for some time and feeling the restraints of conventional life, his mind naturally turned again to the sea, but good advice prevailed, and he finally obtained a position with King & Baird, printers. One of his fellow-workers said of him afterwards: "Henry George was a remarkably bright boy, always in discussion with the other boys in the office."

It was at this time that his attention was first called to the subject of political economy from the remark of one of the printers that wages are low in old countries and high in new countries. The reason for this he did not discover until years afterward, but he was not satisfied until he had found the reason.

He was bitterly opposed to slavery, although his father and mother, who were apologists for it, argued that the stories of cruelty practiced by masters upon their slaves were exaggerated. Henry replied: "If slaves were property their masters, having the right to do as they pleased with their own property, could ill-treat and even kill them if so disposed."

In less than a year he left King & Baird's because, as he wrote to a friend, "I would not quietly submit to the impositions and domineering insolence of the foreman of the room in which I then worked. I was learning nothing and making little (\$2 a week) when I left."

In the meantime he was studying penmanship and bookkeeping and had written to friends in Oregon to ask what prospects there were for him on the Pacific Coast. He was unhappy at the restraints of his home life and wanted more freedom as well as permanent employment, both of which he hoped for in the far West.

As a temporary expedient he shipped as a seaman on a vessel bound to Boston, but on his return the business prospect was no better. He wrote to a friend: "The times here are very hard and are getting worse and worse every day, factory after factory suspending and discharging its hands. There are thousands of hardworking mechanics now out of employment in this city. . . . There is a ship loading here for San Francisco, on board of which I have been promised a berth, but in the present stagnation of business it is doubtful whether she will get off before a "month or two at least."

He received an appointment as ship's steward on board the Shubrick at forty dollars a month, although he was obliged to sign a contract for a year's service. On December 22d, 1857, at the age of nineteen, he left his home to seek his fortune in the new West.

Off Cape Hatteras the ship, which was a new one built in Philadelphia for service on the Pacific Coast, encountered a terrible storm which made it necessary to stop at the West Indies for repairs. He wrote in a letter to his parents: "I am now setting out for myself in the world, and though young in years, I have every confidence in my ability to go through whatever may be before me. But of that I shall say nothing. Let the future alone prove."

The Shubrick arrived at the Golden Gate in the latter part of May and young George was full of hope for the future. His first business was to get free from his contract and in the meantime he expected to hear from his friends in Oregon. As nothing came from them, he looked for work in San Francisco. Finding nothing, he went with his cousin, James George, to the Frazer river to try his luck at gold digging. He worked his way up as a seaman, but on his arrival at Victoria, he found that the stream was so swollen that nothing could be done in the way of gold hunting, so he accepted a place as clerk in his cousin's store.

Here he worked hard, sleeping a part of the time in the loft, which was reached by a ladder. In reply to a question from his sister who made his bed, he replied. "Why, bless you, my dear little sister, I had none to make. Part of the time I slept rolled up in my blanket on the counter or on a pile of flour and afterwards I had a straw mattress on some boards. The only difference between my sleeping and waking costumes was that during the day I wore both boots and cap and at night dispensed with them."

But the two cousins disagreed and young Henry decided to return to San Francisco, where he arrived in November, 1858, absolutely destitute. Fortune favored him, however, for he met on the street an old friend from Philadelphia, a former fellow-compositor at King & Baird's, through whose influence Henry obtained a position as typesetter. He boarded at the "What Cheer House," well known at that time, which contained a well-selected library, including books on political economy, which he read with great interest.

Again his unlucky star followed him, for owing to lack of business in the printing house, young George again found himself without employment. He accepted the first position that offered, that of weigher in a rice mill, which position he soon lost, owing to the closing of the mill.

After various vicissitudes he obtained a position as typesetter on the *Home Journal* at twelve dollars a week, the usual pay for a minor, and life again was more encouraging.

After he became of age his wages were raised to thirty dollars a week. From this sum he hoped to save enough to visit his home, but soon afterward he met Miss Anna Corsina Fox, an orphan of seventeen, who had just returned from a convent school in Los Angeles, and the two became fast friends.

Shortly after this the *Home Journal* was sold and Henry George became part owner of the *Evening Journal*, in regard to which he wrote later to his sister: "For the past week I have been working very hard. I have bought an interest in a little paper, copies of which I send you by this mail. We are pushing it — bound to make it a paying concern or perish in the attempt (that is, the paper, not your respected brother). I think we have a good prospect and in a little while will have a good property which will be an independence for a life time."

About this time his father lost his position in the custom house, which added to the strain Henry George was under, for he and his partners were working hard to make the *Journal* a success.

In the meantime the war had begun, and Henry wrote in a letter to his sister: "Truly, it seems that we have fallen upon evil days. A little while ago all was fair and bright and now the storm howls around us with a strength and fury that almost unnerves one. Our country is being torn to pieces, and ourselves, our homes, filled with distress. As to the ultimate end I have no doubt. If civil war should pass over the whole country, leaving nothing but devastation behind it, I think my faith in the ultimate good would remain unchanged; but it is hard to feel so of our individual cases. On great events and movements we can philosophise, but when it comes down to ourselves, to our homes, to those we love, then we can only feel; our philosophy goes to the dogs."

The hard work and privation resulted in nothing and the partnership was dissolved, one of the partners buying out the others, and Henry George was again hunting for work, in debt for his board.

In the meantime the acquaintance between him and Annie Fox had ripened into something deeper and the two read together whenever it was possible. An uncle of Annie's objected to Mr. George because of his poverty and one evening ordered him from the house, although the house in which Annie lived was not his. Annie refused to stay any longer where her lover could not come and intended to try to get a position as teacher in Los Angeles. But young Henry objected, saying he could not see her and asked if she would be willing to marry him in his poverty-stricken condition. She

willingly consented and the two were quietly married, he twenty-two and she eighteen years of age.

In a few days he found a position as typesetter on the *Sacramento Union*, and a few months later came the news of the death of his sister Jennie, to whom he was devotedly attached.

In the course of time a little boy was born to them and times were hard and work was scarce. However, he stayed with the *Union* for more than a year. After various changes he, with two of his friends, bought the San Francisco *Evening Journal*, borrowing a part of the money and promising to pay the rest in work. But times grew no better and much of the time Mr. and Mrs. George did not have enough to eat. Then a second little boy came and Mr. George, in a fit of desperation, went out to get some money. He stopped a man — a stranger — on the street, told him of his condition, and begged five dollars, which the man gave him. In a few weeks work came, though irregularly, but the little family managed, with the utmost economy, to live.

About this time Mr. George began writing short articles, some of which were published. Then came the assassination of Lincoln. Fired by excitement Mr. George wrote a communication headed "Sic Semper Tyrannis," which he put into the box of the editor of the *Alta California*. What was his joy the next morning to see it as the leading editorial in the paper. A few days later he was engaged as special reporter on the paper, which position he held for a short time. Later he went to Sacramento to set type.

While there he joined the Sacramento Lyceum, a debating society, in whose debates Mr. George took part. He wrote for various publications and soon was engaged by the San Francisco *Times* as typesetter, reporter, editorial writer, and finally, managing editor, in the meantime doing much other literary work.

Shortly after this he was sent to New York by the San Francisco *Herald* to try to get the paper admitted to the Associated Press or, in case of failure, to establish a special news service.

## II.

THE great question which had for years been troubling Henry George, and which he could not yet answer, came to him again with renewed vigor as he walked the streets of New York and saw the awful contrast between the very rich and the very poor.

Seventeen years later, in accepting the nomination for mayor of New York, he said: "Years ago I came to this city from the West, unknown, knowing nobody, and I saw and recognized for the first time the shocking contrast between monstrous wealth and debasing want. And here I made a vow from which I have never faltered, to seek out and remedy, if I could the cause that condemned little children to lead such a life as you know them to lead in the squalid districts."

When Mr. George talked of poverty he knew whereof he spoke. For years adversity had followed close at his heels. He returned to California, having been unable to establish the permanent newspaper connection which was his mission in New York, and could find no employment in literary work, as he hoped. He even lost the nomination for the legislature because he refused to pay the required assessment. Later, however, he accepted the position of editor of the *Oakland Transcript*, and it was while he was editor of this paper that the solution of the great social problem came to him.

Soon after this he was offered by his friend, Governor Wright, the position of managing editor of the *Sacramento Reporter*, the policy of the paper being to make war upon the growing monopolies in California. But Mr. George's influence with his pen had become great and the Central Pacific railroad found it best to buy out the *Reporter*, thus hoping to silence the young editor. Mr. George was therefore obliged to resign his position, as the policy of the paper was completely changed and he could not write in opposition to his principles.

He wrote a pamphlet entitled "The Subsidy Question and the Democratic Party," in which he said: "Railroad subsidies, like protective duties, are condemned by the economic principle that the development of industry should be left free to take its natural direction. \* \* They are condemned by the Democratic principle which forbids the enrichment of one citizen at the expense of another, and the giving to one citizen of advantages denied to another." This pamphlet had a large circulation and served to make Mr. George better known.

It was followed a year later by a much more important pamphlet entitled, "Our Land and Land Policy, National and State," In which he briefly sets forth his ideas in regard to land holding and taxation.

Mr. George has been charged by his enemies with plagiarism, because his ideas were not new, but had been promulgated in France under the name "*impot unique*" and by Patrick Edward Dove a century before. It is, therefore, well to quote here what Mr. George said in later years:

"When I first came to see what is the root of our social difficulties and how this fundamental wrong might be cured in the easiest way, by concentrating taxes on land values, I had worked out the whole thing for myself without conscious aid that I can remember, unless it might have been the light I got from Bisset's "*Strength of Nations*," as to the economic character of the feudal system. When I published "Our Land and Land Policy" I had not even heard of the Physiocrats and the "*impot unique*." But I knew that if it was really a star I had seen, others must have seen it too."

In his "Land and Land Policy" Mr. George wrote: "It by no means follows that there should be no such thing as property in land, but merely that there should be no monopolization — no standing between the man who is willing to work and the field which nature offers for his labor." But before he wrote "Progress and Poverty" he realized his mistake and advocated the abolition of property in land. "What is necessary for the use of land is not its private ownership, but the security of improvements," he wrote later in "*Progress and Poverty*."

In the latter part of 1871 he, together with Wm. M. Hinton and A. H. Rapp, both printers, established the first penny newspaper west of the Rocky Mountains, called the *Daily Evening Post*. The total capital was \$1,800. In less than five months the *Post* was sold for a good price but Mr. George continued to edit it. In its national politics it opposed "carpetbag reconstruction" and centralization, and supported Horace Greeley for president.

In 1872 Mr. George was sent to Baltimore as delegate to the Democratic national convention.

The *Post* grew in size and influence and its price was raised to five cents a copy. It fearlessly opposed wrong and injustice, which policy often brought Mr. George into personal danger, but this had no deterring effect on his work.

A local panic four years later embarrassed business to such an extent that the paper had to be given up, to the great disappointment of Mr. George, who was thus deprived of his weapon against social wrongs.

He soon afterwards obtained a position as state inspector of gas meters, which afforded him a living and time for more permanent literary work.

When the Hayes-Tilden presidential campaign came on, Mr. George took an active interest in it, advocating Tilden because of his free trade tendencies. He was invited to deliver an address before the "Tilden-Hendricks Club," of San Francisco — his first

set speech, although he had often taken part in debates. His subject was "The Question Before the People," and he took high moral ground, differing from the usual political orator.

In this speech he said: "Fellow citizens, negro slavery is dead, but cast your eyes over the north today and see a worse than negro slavery taking root under the pressure of the policy you are asked as republicans to support by your votes. Be not deceived! You might as well charge the bullet or the knife with being the cause of the death of a murdered man as to think that all the things of which you complain result from the accident of having had bad men in office. What can any change of men avail so long as the policy which is the primary cause of these evils is unchanged?"

Judge James E. Maguire, who was in the audience, pronounced it the "ablest political address to which he had ever listened," and it was printed for distribution as a campaign document. He was asked to stump the state and sprang at once into a reputation.

In the early part of 1877 he was invited to give a lecture on political economy before the University of California. In closing this lecture he said: "You will see that the true law of social life is the law of love, the law of liberty, the law of each for all and all for each; that the golden rule of morals is also the golden rule of the science of wealth; that the highest expressions of religious truth include the widest generalization of political economy."

He gave his best to his audience and told his wife when he went home that "his utterances had been well received by the students, but by the authorities with a polite and dignified quietness that made him think that he might not be invited to lecture again," and he never was.

In the same year he was asked to deliver a lecture at the Fourth of July celebration in San Francisco in one of the theatres. Some of his remarks in this speech were prophetic. He said: "We are yet laying the foundations of empire, while stronger run the currents of change and mightier are the forces that marshal and meet. For let us not disguise it — republican government is yet but an experiment. That it has worked well so far, determines nothing. That republican institutions would work well under the social conditions of the youth of the republic — cheap land, high wages and little distinction between rich and poor there was never any doubt, for they were working well before. The doubt about republican institutions is as to whether they will work when population becomes dense, wages low, and a great gulf separates rich and poor. Can we speak of it as a doubt? Nothing in political philosophy can be dearer than that under such conditions republican government must break down. In the long run, no

nation can be freer than its most oppressed, richer than its poorest, wiser than its most ignorant."

He closed with that eloquent apostrophe to liberty which he afterwards embodied with little change in "Progress and Poverty."

Comments upon this speech were varied. He had not given the usual spread-eagle Fourth of July oration, but told some unpleasant truths. One newspaper said in regard to it, "The gas-measurer kindly spoke for several hours on the Goddess of Liberty and other school reader topics." His work was already beginning to tell.

The strikes and general labor depression of 1877 brought the labor question to Henry George, as well as to many others, and in September of that year he started to write a magazine article which should be an "inquiry into the cause of industrial depressions, and of increase of want, with the increase of wealth and was to indicate a remedy." But he found that a magazine article was far too short and his work grew upon him until the great book of the century, "Progress and Poverty," was written.

In the meantime a small company of his followers had met in the office of James G. Maguire and formed "The Land Reform League of California," of which Joseph Leggett was elected president. The first work of the league was to ask Mr. George to deliver a public lecture, which he did before a small audience. Other lectures followed, one of them being "Moses" before the Young Men's Hebrew Association in San Francisco.

Meanwhile he worked hard on "Progress and Poverty," which he finished in March, 1879, less than a year and a half. The manuscript was sent to D. Appleton & Co., of New York, but was declined as not likely to pay the expense of publishing. Other firms were approached, but with the same result, Harper considering the work "revolutionary." However, Mr. George was not daunted, but published 500 copies by subscription at three dollars apiece. Later Appleton published it.

In regard to its publication Mr. George wrote: "If the book gets well started, gets before the public in such a way as to attract attention, I have no fear for it. I know what it will encounter; but, for all that, it has in it the power of truth. . . . The professors will first ignore, then pooh-pooh, and then try to hold the shattered fragments of their theories together; but this book opens the discussion along lines on which they can not make a successful defense." And his prophecy has proved true.

The book received considerable notice and was immediately translated into German by C. D. F. von Gutschow, a German then living in California, who was deeply impressed with it.

Soon a cheaper edition was issued, Mr. George receiving a smaller royalty; but then, and afterwards, he was more anxious that his ideas should be spread than that he should receive a large income.

He shortly after this lost his position as inspector because of the election of a Republican governor and the consequent changes. His friend, John Russell Young, who was then in New York, and who knew Mr. George's financial embarrassment, wrote hopefully of being able to get him a newspaper position in New York and Mr. George immediately came East, leaving his family in California. Two or three of his articles were accepted by magazines, but he did not get the position.

But just at this time came the Garfield-Hancock presidential campaign and Mr. George was asked to talk for free trade, which offer he gladly accepted. His first speech was so radical that the committee begged him not to make any more. He believed in real free trade, not "tariff reform."

In the meantime the sale of "Progress and Poverty" was increasing to a remarkable extent. No book on political economy had ever sold so well.

Mr. George did considerable writing and started an article for Appleton's Journal which developed into the little book on "The Irish Land Question; What It Involves and How Alone It Can Be Settled." This dealt with the land question in general, not alone the Irish land question.

About this time — 1880 and 1881 — his magazine articles brought him enough for a simple living for himself and family, who had come from California. He also gave lectures, which were usually well attended, as by this time he was well known over the country as the author of "Progress and Poverty."

In the fall of 1881 he sailed with his wife and two daughters to England as correspondent for the *Irish World*, for which he received passage both ways for the three, and sixty dollars a week.

His reputation was now made, not only in his own country, but across the ocean, and in the two years since "Progress and Poverty" was published between 75,000 and 100,000 copies had been sold. Among the adherents to his doctrine were Judge James E. Maguire, John Russell Young, Rev. R. Heber Newton, Thomas G. She[a]rman and Francis G. Shaw. He had set the people to thinking and Alfred Russell Wallace said that "Progress and Poverty" was "undoubtedly the most remarkable and important work of the present century."

Another of his followers was Louis F. Post, at present editor of the *Chicago Public*. Mr. Post was at that time chief editorial writer for *Truth*, and from a cursory reading of "Progress and Poverty" had written in careless criticism about it; but a second and more careful reading convinced him of his error and he became one of Mr. George's closest followers. The book was published as a serial in *Truth*.

Thus the poor, obscure printer became one of the best known, most talked of men in the civilized world.

### III.

THE Georges landed in Queenstown and went directly to Dublin. Ireland was at this time in an excited state; John Dillon and J. J. O'Kelly had just been added to the nearly five hundred political prisoners; Parnell had issued the no-rent manifesto and the Land League in consequence had been suppressed.

"With an area of only thirty-two thousand square miles and a population of little more than five millions." Mr. George wrote, "Ireland now required for its government in a time of profound peace 15,000 military constables and 40,000 picked troops."

These were exciting and troublesome times for Ireland and Mr. George was in the midst of the fight. Parnell was inclined to be conservative and temporizing, while Davitt was radical and wanted to circulate "Progress and Poverty" as much as possible, although he did not agree with George as to methods.

In the meantime Mr. George was lecturing in England and Scotland and assisting in getting out a six-penny edition of "Progress and Poverty." In Ireland, where he made a correspondence trip in company with James Leigh Jones, one of the masters of Eton college, the two were arrested as being "suspicious strangers," but were detained only a few hours.

Mr. George's arrest helped to call attention to the cheap edition of "Progress and Poverty," which sold fast and was reviewed by the London Times, copies being sent to New Zealand and Melbourne.

Mr. George had gone to England hardly noticed, but when he returned to New York he was given a complimentary dinner at Delmonico's.

He wrote an article for the North American Review, entitled "Money In Elections." in which he advocated the Australian secret ballot. He also got out a paper edition of "Progress and Poverty." and "The Land Question," both of which sold rapidly, but yielded little profit, as Mr. George gave away many copies and allowed liberal discount on large orders in order that his ideas might be spread as wide as possible.

Later the Free Soil Society was organized, with Louis F. Post as president, Rev. R. Heber Newton, treasurer, and Charles P. Adams, secretary. This society did not live long, but was, nevertheless, productive of good.

Mr. George began a work on the tariff question, which had to be laid aside while he wrote a series of articles under the heading "Problems of the Time," for Frank Leslie's Magazine, afterwards published in book form under the title "Social Problems."

He suffered a great loss at this time in the unaccountable disappearance of his manuscript of "Protection or Free Trade," which amounted to nearly a hundred printed pages, and was obliged to rewrite it.

Another interruption came in the form of another invitation to visit England on a lecture tour, which he gladly accepted. He was now well known all over England, more than forty thousand copies of "Progress and Poverty" having been sold in the six-penny edition.

He arrived in Liverpool on the last day of December, 1883. He was called upon in London by Mr. Champion, the treasurer, and Mr. Frost, the secretary, of the Land Reform Union, who told him that unless he advocated the nationalization of capital, including machinery, they would oppose him. Mr. George replied that he had come to lecture on those principles set forth in "Progress and Poverty," and that the socialists might support or oppose him as they liked. The treasurer and secretary of the union supported him and he gave his lectures as he had planned.

He lectured in St. James's hall, London, to a crowded audience, Henry Labouchere presiding. This lecture was reported throughout Great Britain and assured for him everywhere large audiences. In Scotland his lectures resulted in the formation of the Scottish Land Restoration League, which started off with nearly two thousand members.

On his return to New York the workingmen got up a mass meeting in Cooper Union, for by this time Mr. George had identified himself with that class rather than the class that gave him the dinner at Delmonico's.

Although he lectured occasionally, he spent most of his time immediately after his return in writing an answer to an article by the Duke of Argyle in the Nineteenth Century, entitled "The Prophet of San Francisco," his reply being published in the same periodical. Both articles were afterwards published in pamphlet under the heading, "Property in Land." In his answer Mr. George ignored all the personal thrusts made by the Duke and confined himself to arguments.

This finished, Mr. George again started to work on "Protection or Free Trade," which was again interrupted by another short lecture trip to Great Britain. On his return he wrote articles for the North American Review, but worked chiefly on "Protection or Free Trade," some chapters of which were published in a newspaper syndicate. The book appeared early in 1886.

About this time he met Tom L. Johnson, who had just become a convert to the doctrine taught by Mr. George. Mr. Johnson proved to be a staunch and devoted friend up to the time of Mr. George's death.

In this same year—1886—he was nominated for mayor of New York by the labor unions. He objected decidedly when the subject was first mentioned to him as the trades union men had not been very harmonious and he did not care to make himself ridiculous. But he was assured by the leaders that harmony had been restored and, supported by many of his friends, he consented under conditions contained in a letter to James P. Archibald, secretary of the Labor Conference, in which he said he would accept the nomination if thirty thousand citizens should sign such a request. More than the requisite number of signatures were obtained and Mr. George was nominated by a large majority. He did not want the responsibilities of the office, but knew that his principles would thus get before the public.

The campaign was a hot one, Mr. George often making twelve or fourteen speeches a day; but he was "counted out," although there was little doubt of his election. But he was conceded 68,000 votes and had an educational campaign.

In January of the next year Mr. George started a weekly paper, The Standard, his aim being, as he said in his salutatory, "to make this paper the worthy exponent and

advocate of a great party yet unnamed that is now beginning to form, but at the same time to make the contents so varied and interesting as to insure for it a general circulation."

This crusade led to the formation of the Anti-Poverty Society, Dr. McGlynn being made president and Mr. George vice president. Immense meetings were held and men and women flocked to the standard.

Much of interest in Mr. George's life about this time must be omitted from lack of space, for it would mean a history of state and national politics.

In 1889 he went again to England to lecture and had large and interested audiences.

The next year, at the urgent request of Charles L. Garland, member of the New South Wales Parliament, Mr. George, with his wife, started for Australia, via San Francisco, Mr. George lecturing on the way. He met with a warm reception everywhere, especially in San Francisco, which he had left twelve years ago, poor and unknown. He was still poor, but no longer unknown.

Mr. and Mrs. George stopped at Honolulu and Auckland and were met at Sydney by a delegation of hitherto unseen friends. The visit in Australia was a series of lectures, receptions and interviews, which would have worn out a less vigorous man, for when he was not talking or writing he was traveling. He wrote weekly letters to the Standard. His audiences everywhere were large and enthusiastic and Mr. George was at his best.

Mr. and Mrs. George came home through the Suez canal and made hurried visits to the principal Italian cities before going again to England on their way back to America, where they arrived in September in time for the first National Single Tax Conference at Cooper Union.

Even Mr. George's strong constitution gave way under the long hard strain of fifty-one years, and In December, 1890, he was stricken with aphasia. When he had sufficiently recovered he was taken by some of his good friends to Bermuda, where he rapidly improved.

In 1891 he began writing the work he had for years been wanting to write—the book which he left unfinished, "The Science of Political Economy."

About the time this was completed Herbert Spencer publicly recanted the sentiments expressed in that great ninth chapter of "Social Statics" and Mr. George wrote in criticism of this "The Perplexed Philosopher."

In August, 1892, the Standard, which for some time had been considerable of a financial burden, came to an end. It had done a good work and had not been published in vain, although its discontinuance was a great disappointment to the friends of the cause.

When President Cleveland sent Federal troops to Chicago at the time of the great railroad strike, a big mass meeting of protest was held at Cooper Union, at which Rev. Thomas A. Ducey, Charles Frederick Adams, James A. Herne and Henry George were the speakers. Mr. George said in his speech: "I yield to nobody In my respect for law and order and my hatred of disorder; but there is something more important even than law and order, and that is the principle of liberty. I yield to nobody in my respect for the right of property; yet I would rather see every locomotive ditched, every car and every depot burned and every rail torn up than to have them preserved by means of a Federal standing army. That is the order that reigned in Warsaw. That is the order in the keeping of which every democratic republic before ours has fallen. I love the American republic better than I love such order."

In the McKinley-Bryan presidential campaign of 1896 Mr. George was actively in favor of Mr. Bryan in spite of his ideas on the money question which Mr. George thought were not sound, but he felt that Mr. McKinley represented monopoly and plutocracy, while Mr. Bryan's sympathies were with the masses, and his disappointment at the result of the election was keen.

He again settled down to work on his "Science of Political Economy," although his former vigor seemed to have left him. He was only fifty-eight years old, yet he had put into his life more than many men would have put into twice that number of years.

Then came the first break in the family, the oldest daughter who had been married a year or more previous, died after a very short illness. Mr. George wrote to a friend: "This is the bitter part of life that we had not tasted, but we have nothing but beautiful memories and my wife and I have rallied for the duties that life still brings."

In 1897 he was asked to run as independent candidate for the mayor of Greater New

York. He was urged by many of his friends, especially Dr. Kelly and Dr. Levenson, not to accept the nomination, principally because of the state of his health. He was warned that death might be the result, but Mr. George, then as ever, put aside every question except that of duty and decided to accept the nomination.

Then followed a memorable campaign, such as New York had never before seen, in which single tax men from New York and Philadelphia made straight-out single tax speeches wherever and whenever they could get an audience, whether on the street or in a hall. It was eminently an educational campaign, for Mr. George's followers were men of principle, not mere politicians eager for office or spoils. Mr. George himself, in spite of failing health, spoke three, four or five times every night until October 28th, when, after speaking in four different sections of the city, he went to his hotel—the Union Square—and soon after midnight was taken with a stroke of apoplexy and in a short time was dead.

He died, as he had lived, fighting for justice and right.

The news was flashed all over the country, "Henry George is dead!" and many there were who mourned him as a dear friend. He had devoted his life to freeing men and women from industrial slavery and the growth of his ideas in the less than twenty years since "Progress and Poverty" was published was phenomenal. His books have been translated into nearly every language and his followers are to be found in every civilized country.

His family life was beautiful and his wife was always ready to assist in whatever seemed to him right. He was a truly great man yet as simple as a child.

His latest book was never finished, but was published as he had left it, edited by his eldest son.

His funeral showed how dear he was to the common people for they came by thousands to the great hall where the body lay in state all day, and even opposing newspapers paid tribute to his sincerity and earnestness of purpose.

Those whose pleasure it was to know him are the richer for his friendship and the world is far in advance of what it would be if Henry George had not lived.