

all real estate, immediately or ultimately; not of unimproved lands alone, but of all improvements on land; not of city lots only, but of the farms and small homes of the people of the city. If it is adopted, all existing values will be upset, and a panic may follow. The holders of mortgages will scramble to realize before real estate becomes worthless. Our long-delayed but finally rising wave of prosperity will roll back."

This article may reach some individuals who are willing to lend a hand during the last days of the campaign. I would urge them to consider our needs quickly.

Those of us who live in the state, and earnestly desire this reform, have given of our time and money generously. The work is but half done, and the hardest fight yet to come. We need financial assistance more than we do physical. Good, short articles for publication, from those who are familiar with the amendment—bearing directly upon the Local Option feature it entails, will be valuable. Money may be sent to the Hon. E. N. Burdick, 610 Charles Building, Denver, Colo.



## THE IMPORTANCE TO RELIGIOUS TEACHERS OF THE SOCIAL PROBLEM

BY THE VERY REVEREND RICHARD LALOR BURTSSELL.\*

(Expressly for the Review.)

Clergymen must interest themselves in the promotion of the temporal, as well as the spiritual welfare of the people. New projects are now offering themselves every day for the betterment of the temporal condition of men. It is therefore important that clergymen should keep in the van in the study of social problems. They are guides in the question of justice, and unless they look below the surface of mooted questions, they will be liable to place themselves in an erroneous position which may thwart their search for the spiritual well being of their neighbor.

In the matter of the Single Tax the principle underlying it, if once understood, appeals evermore to sympathy and cooperation for its spread. This

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\*Richard Lalor Burtzell, one of the highest canonical authorities in the Catholic Church in America, was born in New York City, April 14th, 1840. He was educated in New York, at St. Francis Xavier's College; in Montreal, at the Sulpicians' College, and in Rome, at the Propaganda.

His ecclesiastical career has extended over a period of forty years, most of it having been spent in New York City. He was ordained to the priesthood by Mgr. Clementi, Archbishop of Damascus, August 10, 1862, having crowned a very successful career at Rome with the title of Doctor of Divinity at the age of twenty-two.

The first few years of his ministry were spent as assistant to the late Rt. Rev. Mgr. Preston, vicar general, as the pastor of St. Ann's Church. In 1868, he was appointed to organize the parish of the Epiphany, where reside the richest as well as the poorest of the city. Within a few years the steeple of the Church of the Epiphany towered high over the adjoining buildings, a magnificent tribute to priestly zeal and fidelity to his flock.

### A PRIEST-FINANCIER.

Dr. Burtzell succeeded in building a rectory and an elegant schoolhouse, and after a few years had cleared the church of its financial encumbrance. The importance and diffi-

principle is the important difference between the control of the natural bounties and the control of the results of labor, whether bodily or mental.

The control of the natural bounties must always be subject to the interest of the whole community, to which Providence has given them. Public franchises may give, let or hire these natural bounties, but as each generation has equal share in them, there can be no alienation of them which would conflict with the rights of the succeeding generation. The aim of the Single Tax is to make the speculative value of these natural bounties, which springs from the needs of the community, the source of all revenues for the maintenance and betterment of the community. This would insure for each individual the control of all the fruits of each one's mental or bodily work. Every incentive is thus given to the development of each one's ability, energy and industry. The right of all in the natural bounties is secured by the application to all of the benefits which come from the natural growth or activity of the community itself. Such an advance in the adjustment of the rights of the community and of each individual would vastly promote contentment, and afford opportunities for improvement that would take away the greatest impediment which the moralist finds to the spiritual progress of men.

It is impossible for clergymen who are really zealous not to perceive the constant intertwining of the temporal and spiritual interests of men. The Single Tax gives an admirable solution of the problem of reconciling the progress of the individual with the advancement of the community. Ample recompense is secured to the individual's toil, his abilities are thoroughly appreciated and rewarded. At the same time all that rightfully belongs to the community may be secured for all its members.

This is a true remedy for the overwhelming distress which now completely absorbs all the energies of innumerable poor people for their primary bodily needs, in such a way as to scarcely allow any time, much less any energy in behalf of their spiritual wants.

Clergymen should study and promote the development of all righteous plans for the diminution of the ills of the temporal life so as to make the way easier for spiritual progress.

culty of this work will be appreciated when it is borne in mind that the Church of the Epiphany cost about \$250,000 and that every cent of the debt was paid in less than twenty years.

#### THE WELL-REMEMBERED PETITION.

In 1890 Dr. Burtzell was transferred to St. Mary's Church, in Kingston. His parishioners were so loath to part with him that they got up a monster petition for his restoration, which, in the course of a few weeks, was signed by 50,000 persons. On November 14th, 1900, his congregation at Rondout presented him a solid gold chalice on the occasion of his ninth anniversary as pastor of St. Mary's.

He is known and loved by every citizen in Kingston and is a familiar and welcome figure at all public gatherings.

#### SCHOLAR AND LINGUIST.

He is a linguist, being the master of English, French, Italian and Latin, and is well versed in Greek and Hebrew.

At the Plenary Council of Archbishops and Bishops of the United States, which was held in Baltimore, in 1884, Dr. Burtzell acted as theologian to Bishop Moore, of Florida, and his counsel and wisdom were eagerly sought in the formation of statutory law for the government of the Church in this country.

During the celebrated Dr. McGlynn controversy Father Burtzell was counsel to the noted divine.

Dr. Burtzell has never made any concealment of his single tax convictions. He has not thought it foreign to his high office to mingle with his religious ministrations the teaching of social righteousness; and in the few admirably chosen sentences that follow above he reiterates his profound belief in the true economic gospel.