

was only twenty thousand, the work is to be postponed. So private interest supercedes public needs.

A lot in Atlanta recently sold for ninety-seven thousand dollars, it was needed for building purposes; fifty years ago five thousand and would have been full value.

The public creates a value, the private individual absorbs the profit. It is by lessons like these that the truth is impressed upon the mind of the average tax payer.

Some enterprising capitalist in your section should come south and establish a colony on our beautiful cosy land; it would be an ideal Italy with none of its drawbacks.

Thoughtful men now realize that wars are costly, wasteful, wicked, and looking to the cause find that the failure to equitably adjust the land question is the controlling and influencing cause. The slaughter now going on in the East may be traced to this and no other influence. Thousands of years ago men were wiser than now. In the sacred history this story is told. "So Joshua took the whole land according to all that the Lord said unto Moses and Joshua and gave it for an inheritance unto Israel according unto their division by their tribes. And the land rested from war," Joshua XI: 23d.

Possibly there may arise in our day a Ruler wise and strong enough to cause "the land to rest from war."

If so he will owe his inspiration to the author of "Progress and Poverty."

WILLIAM RILEY BOYD.
Atlanta, Georgia.

WOMEN'S NATIONAL SINGLE TAX CONFERENCE.

The Fifth Annual convention of the Womens' National Single Tax League will be held in Philadelphia, Pa., on the 15th, 16th and 17th of June, 1905, on the invitation of the Women's Henry George League of that city.

Sessions will be held afternoon and evening on Thursday and Friday, and the election of officers will be held on Saturday morning.

Well known Single Taxers, both men and women, will make addresses, and delegates are expected from many clubs in the State.

Women who believe in the Single Tax may become members of the National League by forwarding their name, address and one dollar to Mrs. Jennie L. Munroe, 150 A Street, N. E. Washington, D. C., the National Treasurer.

For information as to entertainment, address Mrs. E. B. Montgomery, 2253 N. Camac St., Philadelphia, Pa.

The League was organized in Washington, D. C., and has held annual conventions in New York City, New Haven, Conn., St. Louis, Mo., and this is the first meeting held in Philadelphia.

BOOK REVIEWS.

ANOTHER BOOK FROM PASTOR WAGNER.*

This little book is another message from the apostle of the Simple Life, and one paragraph we venture to quote: "*One thing is necessary, that man make a good use of his life.*" Life is the highest gift we have; it must not be wasted for mere smoke (?) it ought to serve the purpose which was in the mind of the Lord of Life when he gave it to us. In order to realize that purpose life needs to be a normal one. A normal life is a simplified life disencumbered of useless baggage and working a maximum of beauty, justice, confidence in God and human bounty—a maximum of happiness with a minimum of embarrassments. Wherein simplicity fails, overgrowing weed invades the garden of life; the unnecessary, the wrong and the false take the place of the necessary, the important, the authentic."

Pastor Wagner and the Simple Life are the reigning "fads," if it be not irreverent to speak of sincere convictions in this style. We imagine that Christian Science—ignoring its professions of physical cures by faith—is teaching the same thing in much more profound and subtle ways. There is something amusing in the simple faith of Pastor Wagner in the Simple Life. This life is not possible in the civilization of today. Thoreau to practice it had to flee from civilization. And so Pastor Wagner, with his plan for a return to what is really the essence of primitive Christianity, is curiously oblivious to so much that nullifies his teachings—or, at all events, makes it largely purposeless.

J. D. M.

JOHN FARRELL.

A memorial volume containing a collection of the poems of John Farrell has been published by the friends of the late poet at Sydney. The longest poem in the book, "My Sundowner," gives its name to the collection, and there is a memoir with notes by Bertram Stevens. Five hundred copies have been printed and two hundred have been sold at one guinea a volume. It is a large 8 vo., and the frontispiece is a handsome portrait of the poet and Single Taxer who won fame by his stirring songs and his earnest advocacy of our cause in Australia.

It is not too much to say that John Farrell's poetry indicates the high water mark of Australian poetry. The following on Charles Gordon is an example of a certain

* My Appeal to America, by Charles Wagner, author of the Simple Life. Small, 12mo., 61 pp. Price, 50 cents. McClure, Phillips & Co., New York. Proceeds from the sale of this work will be contributed to the fund now being raised to buy land for a church of which Mr. Wagner will be the pastor.

style of the poet, though Farrell's harp was one of many strings :

"Brave Christian soldiers who on hostile walls
Won mortal glory, envied by thy peers ;
Then found thy duty through unnoticed years
Down in the gloom of gaols and hospitals !

"What need hast thou of our poor prayers
who wast
In thy high self-denial half divine ;
Whose name as a clear beacon light will shine
Above the name of Kings, till Time has past.

"So lie, while through the world the requiems roll,
By the dark Nile, and have for monument
A story of brave deeds and high intent—
A name round which love makes an aureole !"

An even stronger and more vigorous touch is present in "Australia to England," from which we quote :

"Your way has been to pluck the blade
Too readily, and train the guns.
We here, apart and unafraid
Of envious foes, are but your sons.
We stretched a heedless hand to smutch
Our spotless flag with Murder's blight—
For one less sacriligious touch
God's vengeance blasted Uzza white !

"You vaunted most of forts and fleets,
And courage proved in battle feasts,
The courage of the beast that eats
His torn and quivering fellow beasts;
Your pride of deadliest armament—
What is it but the self-same dint
Of joy with which the Caveman bent
To shape a bloodier axe of flint !

All of this poem is indeed well worth quoting, but we have not the space.

John Farrell was a brave and great soul. He began as a protectionist, being editor of a local paper of protection leanings. But the reading of Progress and Poverty in 1884 changed the course of Farrell's life. It was perhaps true that Mr. Farrell did not immediately perceive the connection between the truths expounded in Progress and Poverty and the philosophy of free trade. But he came finally to see it, and in 1887 published in the Sidney Daily Telegraph a powerful attack on Protection which he wittily defined as "a scheme of salvation by destruction."

When in 1890 Henry George arrived in Sydney, Mr. Farrell was among the first to meet him, he and other Single Taxers securing rooms at hotels near the wharf, some sleeping, most of them watching for some sign on the horizon of the *Mariposa* that bore the beloved leader to Australian shores.

On the morning of the 8th of January, 1908, John Farrell laid down his life work, and with his going passed as indomitable and fearless a spirit as ever breathed. To him the movement in Australia owes much, and upon the poetry of his time and land he has left a notable impress. J. D. M.

PERSONALS.

Mr. J. C. Porterfield, of Houston, Texas, was recently in this city on a visit, and made calls on a number of Single Taxers in the vicinity.

Hon. W. H. Rose, recently elected mayor of Kansas City, Kansas, is an old Single Taxer, and was one of those who took a prominent part in the Ohio campaign of two years ago.

Mayor-elect Dunne of Chicago is a Single Taxer, and has been a member of the Henry George Association of Chicago for many years, and his recent victory on a public ownership ticket in that city is to be hailed as in some measure the apprehension by the people of the truths regarding public utilities which the association has helped to popularize.

Rev. Herbert Bigelow lectured in Duluth, Minn., on February 28th.

Frank H. Howe, of Columbus, Ohio, lectured on the Single Tax a short time ago before the Political Economy class of the Ohio State University.

Mr. J. B. Vining, Secretary of Charities and Correction, of Cleveland, Ohio, has an article in the *Commons* of Chicago, describing "Boyville," a novel refuge for the homeless and delinquent boys of the city, where they may come in touch with the country hillside and the green of summer. Mr. Vining thus writes in concluding :

"No more interesting sight can be seen than the gathering of these lads on a Sunday morning in the summer, beneath one of the large maple trees, where singing and Sunday service are held, and no more appreciative audience could be addressed than these so-called bad boys. A glint of sunshine, a bright cloud, the song of a bird, the bleating of a sheep, the lowing of the herds—all join in making music and a picture which is food to the souls of these troubled lads. In the winter time, the coasting on the hillside, skating on the ponds, the game of "fox and geese," together with the work and study of the day, so unite in making happy hearts and sound bodies that within fifteen minutes after the lights are out in the dormitory every lad is sound asleep."

Mr. Fred Skirrow, 59 Fell Lane, Keighley, Yorkshire, England, wants a copy of No. 1,