

the brunt of the campaign. How few they were in number! Heroes of a campaign who gave night after night of the best that is in them: Morris VanVeen, George Lloyd, M. W. Norwalk, Dr. Sneiderman, Benjamin W. Burger, Bradford DuBois! To these men, who made real sacrifice of time, money and energy, differing as you may with this method of keeping the torch burning, gentlemen of the opposition—hats off!

JOSEPH DANA MILLER.

## Death of A. M. Molina

ANTONIO M. MOLINA, born in the City of Ponce, Porto Rico, in 1849, died suddenly of apoplexy in his home in East Orange, N. J., on Oct. 15, at the age of 72. He died as he would have wished, lapsing into a peaceful unconsciousness after spending the evening among members of his family and leaving them for his room in apparently good spirits.

Mr. Molina received his elementary education in Porto Rico and completed it with a university education in Paris, Brussels and London. In 1875 he married Terese de St. Remy. Three sons and a daughter were born of this union, Antonio H., Edward C. and Henry George Molina. A daughter, Caroline, is the wife of Gaston Haxo. All three sons have made their mark, one being a distinguished oculist and another a well known civil engineer. To the son, Henry George Molina, Mrs. Henry George presented a cradle.

Mr. Molina was exiled from Porto Rico on account of his political views, and became an American citizen before his marriage.

Some time before the George campaign of 1886 he was given a copy of "Progress and Poverty" by Mrs. Dr. J. J. Henna. The reading of this book made a profound impression on him and the rest of his life was devoted to the propagation of George's ideas. These he preached in and out of season. He took a prominent part in the campaign of 1886, being one of the original 18 who nominated George and also took part in the campaign of 1897.

The accidental meeting of Mr. Molina with Dr. Felix Vitale, of Montevideo, about 1900, had quite unusual consequences. The story is told in the SINGLE TAX YEAR BOOK. Dr. Vitale, who was visiting New York in connection with a monograph on Tuberculosis he was publishing, had occasion to interview Messrs. Munn & Co., the publishers of the *Scientific American*. In their offices he met Mr. Molina. Inevitably, economic questions arose in conversation. A long and animated debate ensued, out of which Dr. Vitale came a convinced apostle of the Georgist philosophy.

Returning to South America, with the new truth in ferment within him, Dr. Vitale determined to make its saving value known to Spanish speaking peoples. His little work, "Poverty and Discontent" (*Poberza y Descontento*), is probably the most persuasive exposition of Georgism in any foreign language. In the form of a fictitious Official Report prepared by order of Antonio M. Molinas, (Minister of

Education of Greece,) Dr. Micario Bios, the assumed envoy of the government, gives an account of his investigations into the economic problems of other nations, particularly those of the United States. So plausible was the work that it was widely accepted and quoted as an official document. It was circulated by the hundred thousand through a great publishing house of Barcelona.

Dr. Baldomero Argente, well known writer on economics in Spain, became through this little work a disciple of Henry George, and later translated his works. Dr. Manuel Herrera y Reissig, the leading economist of South America, was another convert of Dr. Vitale's book. The two became great friends, co-operating in the organization of the forward movement in the southern continent. Dr. Herrera's book, "The Land Tax," (*El Impuesto Territorial*), was the first aggressive militant work on the subject in those countries. Action soon followed its publication in 1913. The South American Single Tax Committee and the Argentine Single Tax League were founded simultaneously. The campaign that followed had wide-reaching effects. The SINGLE TAX REVIEW has from month to month referred to these activities, which have culminated in the recently formed Georgist Liberal Party in the Argentine.

This incident in the many-sided activities of Mr. Molina in the Georgist cause should encourage every Single Taxer convinced of the justice and immense importance of the Single Tax in the economic readjustment of the world, to neglect no single opportunity that may offer to bring a new adherent to our ranks. In his chance conversation with Dr. Vitale, Mr. Molina, in wholehearted devotion to the Georgist philosophy, was building better than he could at the time possibly know.

In addition to his profound interest in and knowledge of political economy Mr. Molina had a passion for science in general. He knew by heart the work of such writers as Herbert Spencer, Charles Darwin, Huxley and Ernst Haeckel. He was associated with the *Scientific American* for thirty years and was editor of the Spanish edition for about twenty years. He had great talent for music and would have been a fine pianist had he devoted himself to it.

Excepting Louis F. Post he was almost the last of the group surrounding Henry George in the campaign of 1886.

THERE are more than 3,000,000 idle in the nation, and labor leaders say that the number is nearer 5,000,000. Government statistics put it more conservatively at 2,000,000 New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, Detroit and Cleveland send out the worst reports. In the State of Oklahoma, where there are vast tracts of unused land, 18,000 are without employment. The State Labor Commissioner of California says, "There is a surplus of men in the State at present." The Georgia Commissioner of Labor reports "a superabundance of unskilled labor."

Yet in every one of these localities there is a natural opportunity—a vacant lot, an unploughed acre, an unused mine.