

brilliant anarchist writer, at present residing in Pulaski, this state, is now a Single Taxer.

W. E. Alexander, of Lewisburg, who has a score of converts to his credit in Marshall County, writes me that an old schoolmate, Rev. W. B. Nance, a missionary to China, recently returned on a visit, called on him and congratulated him as a brother single taxer. He had read some of Henry George's work while in China and declared that he "regarded single tax as the ushering in of God's Kingdom on Earth." Both then turned their batteries on the missionary's brother, the leading merchant of Lewisburg, with good prospects of effecting a speedy capitulation.

Alexander's latest converts are the Gregorys, father and son, photographers, the former an exceptionally clear thinker and lucid reasoner.

Ellis Cocke, Esq., a Federal Court lawyer of Nashville, will have a bill introduced at the present session of the Legislature, known as the "Volunteer Homestead Law."

The bill is simply an enabling act, authorizing the establishment of volunteer homesteads in aid of the public schools of the various counties of the State. Such counties as choose to avail themselves of the act may solicit contributions of land or money; the latter in any sum from one dollar up, the same to be applied to the purchase of urban or rural lots, these to be leased to worthy landless poor at 6 per cent. per annum of original cost.

Mr. Cocke believes that in fifty years the public schools will draw a regular income, sufficient for their entire support, from this source.

Many educators, including State Superintendent of Public Education Mynders, are said to be heartily in favor of the bill.

Single Taxers will doubtless write to Mr. Cocke, Prof. Mynders, and their respective representatives in the Legislature and to their local papers, urging their support of the measure, with the amendment that the rental shall be "6 per cent. of the annual assessed value."

The *Memphis News-Scimitar* urges the following experiment in taxation. It would have the State exempt real-estate from taxation and reduce the State tax rate on personal property to four mills on the dollar. It would place heavy penalties on tax-dodging. Between the light tax rate and the heavy penalty the *News-Scimitar* believes that it would be feasible to "remove all State taxes on land and thus dispose of the jealousies between different communities as to which possesses the highest and pays the most towards the State expenses."

U. S. Senator Carmack is one of the owners of this paper. State Senator Rains, an active Bryan Democrat, is the principle owner. These are leaders of Tennessee's Democracy (?)

News—Foreign.

TORONTO.

CHEERING NEWS FROM CANADA.

The news of the passing of the \$700 Exemption Act in Toronto by a referendum of the voters, which was carried by a majority of 7,327, will come as a cheering message to Single Tax workers everywhere. This together with the adoption by the city of Edmonton, Alta., of a measure permitting the exemption of all improvements, shows that our brothers of Canada have worked to some purpose. No wonder that there is a feeling of exhilaration at these steps which brings measurably nearer the abolition of all taxes on improvements. The *Toronto News* prints interviews with Messrs. W. A. Douglas, Vice-President of the Single Tax Association of Toronto, A. C. Thompson, its president, A. B. Farmer, its secretary, and Ald. Dr. Noble. The last named has this to say: "I am father of the \$700 tax exemption scheme. I am glad it has passed, and I think it will prove a good thing. Personally, I intend to push it along in the Legislature at as early a date as possible. I believe, according to *The World*, that Prof. Goldwin Smith recently stated that if we kept on increasing the taxes of the rich man that the latter would cease to be charitable. We don't want charity, and we don't want paupers. We desire every Canadian to have a home of his own; and I believe this is a step in the right direction."

PROGRESS IN GREAT BRITAIN.

Indications are not lacking that the movement in Great Britain is gathering strength as it proceeds. A letter addressed to the President of the National Liberal Federation by the Tyneside branch of the English League for the Taxation of Land Values containing the following significant paragraph is signed by Chas. Trevelyan, M.P., who is the President of the League, and bears the name among others of Augustine Birrell, who is far better known in the United States as a brilliant essayist than as land reformer or member of Parliament, in which august body he has served for many years with signal ability:

"We hope that this does not imply that the National Liberal Federation intends to meet the 'raging and tearing propaganda' for tariff reform with a merely negative policy. This, in our opinion, would be a very grave mistake, not only as a matter of principle but also as a matter of tactics. The word of command by leaders to the Free-traders of Britain should not be 'As you were,' but 'Forward! Not less Free Trade, but more.' It is far the most important part of the duty of the Progressive leaders to-day to create a strong hope in the mind of the average man that a Liberal Government will mean radical and fearless social reform. Disappointment and dissatis-