

And that light is only just beginning to shine. Its dawn will grow brighter and brighter unto the perfect day.

The expressions of kindness and respect so generally evoked by his death show that the character of the man and the value of his labours are widely known and appreciated. His sudden death at the post of duty, battling for the right, has drawn to the movement an amount of public attention which no other event could have done. Henry George is dead, but the great movement which he inaugurated, the cause he loved so well, still lives and will continue to live and grow until the kingdom of justice comes and God's will shall "be done on earth as it is in Heaven."—*Joseph Legget in the "San Francisco Examiner."*

#### His Name will be held Sacred.

Henry George is dead, but he has kindled a flame which can never be extinguished as long as the earth remains. As long as the human soul yearns for liberty, founded upon justice, and enthroned in love, for that social order promised in the prayer, "Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven," Henry George's name will be held sacred. He proclaimed to the world a profoundly religious philosophy, a sublime truth, full of hope and cheer for the heavy laden and oppressed. And therein lay his marvellous power over the hearts and minds of men. Under his master touch the Christianity which Christ taught has been quickened; a faith that was dead in millions of lives has been revived.

The effect of the revelation upon himself and upon his followers is best described by those eloquent words in the concluding chapter of "Progress and Poverty"—

"I have in this enquiry followed the course of my own thought. When, in mind, I set out on it, I had no theory to support, no conclusions to prove. Only, when I first realised the squalid misery of a great city, it appalled and tormented me, and would not let me rest for thinking of what caused it and how it could be cured.

"But out of this enquiry has come to me something I did not think to find, and a faith that was dead revived.

"The yearning for a future life is natural and deep. It grows with intellectual growth, and perhaps none really feel it more than those who have begun to see how great is the universe and how infinite are the vistas which every advance in knowledge opens before us—vistas which require nothing short of eternity to explore.

*National Single Taxer.*

#### What He Taught.

This, and this alone, I contend for—that he who makes should have; that he who saves should enjoy. I ask on behalf of the poor nothing whatever that properly belongs to the rich.—*Henry George.*

#### Why He Fought.

He who will hear, to him the clarions of the battle call. How they call, and call, and call, till the heart swells that hears them! Strong soul and high endeavour, the world needs them now.—*Henry George.*

#### Reminiscences by Mr. Michael Davitt, M.P.

I have heard of the death of Henry George (writes Michael Davitt in the *London Chronicle*) with the deepest sorrow. He was one of my dearest friends. His simple but great qualities endeared him to all who had the privilege of his intimacy. I have never met a man more absolutely devoted to principle than George. He resembled Kossuth in his steadfast and unflinching loyalty to one great idea. This idea was the pole-star of his action in whatever movement he helped by his powerful advocacy or in anything he wrote in furtherance of a cause. And his honesty was as absolutely manifest in all he did or said, as his writings are eloquent with the ring of sterling sincerity and conviction.

No other reformer of this century has held so unique a position as George has occupied in the English-speaking world. Greater men there have been, of course, within the circumscribed bounds of nations as political leaders and statesmen. But George was neither a statesman nor a politician, and yet not alone in his own country but here in Great Britain and in Ireland

and away at the Antipodes, he evoked an enthusiasm for the great principle he stood for such as no other man of the century has called into existence without the accessories of party machinery or the platform of a Parliament. This, in a measure, was due to the great truth embodied in his propaganda of land nationalisation and to the remedy which that reform offers for the major social evils arising out of a society founded upon our Governments manipulated by monopoly. But such a reform had been preached long before the advent of "the Prophet of San Francisco." Fintain Lalor in Ireland, and Ernest Jones in England, had in their day ably advocated the same doctrine of "the land for the people," but without creating any movement of any moment to carry the principle into the domain of practical politics.

#### MAGNETIC POWER.

George's personality helped the cause almost as much as his books. He possessed the magnetic faculty of creating disciples wherever he went. Men rallied to the reform he so eloquently pleaded for, because he inspired them with his own high ideals and with the intensity of his devotion to the cause of suffering humanity. There was a charm of individuality about him which only true and transparently honest natures carry with them into their labours for a beneficent end. George was essentially the economic apostle of the poor and disinherited. No man ever united more loveable gifts with brighter talents in unselfish devotion to a world-wide movement for the betterment of labouring mankind than he whose loss will be mourned by millions of sorrowing friends and followers throughout the world to-morrow.

#### ARRESTED AS A SUSPECT

I first met George in New York in 1880. It was in the office of the *Irish World*. I had read "Progress and Poverty" crossing the prairies from San Francisco, and I recollect having urged the gifted author on meeting him to bring out a cheap edition in London as soon as possible. This, he told me, he had already resolved upon doing. He was deeply interested in the Land League agitation which was then in progress, and readily accepted from Mr. Patrick Ford a commission to go to Ireland as special commissioner for his paper. It was his first visit to Europe. Hew as only a short time in Ireland until poor Mr. Forster's bungling gave George his first experience of English rule and first taste of popularity. He was "reasonably suspected" of being in Loughrea, County Galway, in 1881, for some illegal end, was arrested on orders from Dublin Castle, and locked up for the night. Possibly the bewildered Chief Secretary had never heard of the author of "Progress and Poverty," and only knew of him as the special correspondent of the *Irish World*. The immediate outcry raised in America and by some of the English papers caused an instant release of the "suspect." George never bore any ill-will towards the late Mr. Forster over the incident at Loughrea. He usually referred to it afterwards as an amusing experience.

#### "PROGRESS AND POVERTY."

The arrest had one good effect. It made George's name and book known to hundreds of thousands who had probably never heard of either before. The sale of "Progress and Poverty" was phenomenal on this side of the Atlantic. No book on so dry a subject as political economy ever before achieved such a success. The author made no profit out of it. Another man less lost in the labour of inculcating a principle would have made a fortune out of the enormous demand there was for the work. George cared only for the good which he believed his book was destined to do. He was always indifferent as to the monetary value of his labours. An English admirer, knowing he was a poor man with a wife and family to support, handed him a cheque one day in my hotel here in London. The late Mr. William Saunders was present. George looked at the cheque and without a moment's hesitation handed it to Mr. Saunders, with the remark, "This will help to 'spread the light' here in Great Britain." The cheque was for £1,000.

#### A SAD PROPHECY.

One of his first appearances before an English audience was at St. James's Hall, London, in 1882. Mr. Labouchere, M.P., was in the chair.

George had been much exercised in his mind for a week previous to the meeting about appearing in evening dress. He had never before donned that badge of society servitude, and he assented to the infliction with a very bad grace. Those who urged him to conform to this usage were horrified to see him step on to the platform in a pair of heavy unpolished shoes, with the bottoms of his dress pants turned up as if in defiance of the laws of custom. He was heedless of personal appearance, and had always the heartiest laugh at himself when some thoughtless mishap of this kind excited merriment among his intimate friends. He invariably impressed you as a man who had lost himself in his work, and was careful only to see that no personal care should stand in the way of that work being well done.

His son told me in New York, in May last, that the father's health was not satisfactory. Knowing this, my reply to a question put to me a fortnight ago by an American journalist, as to what I thought of George's candidature for the mayoralty of Greater New York, turns out to have been sadly prophetic. I answered, "I think it will kill him."

#### A Personal Picture.

##### HENRY GEORGE AT HOME.

There is an interesting picture of Henry George in an interview which Mr. C. H. Meltzer contributes to the *New York Criterion* for October. The author of "Progress and Poverty" was at his home at Fort Hamilton, which is a little distance out from New York. This was the man Mr. Meltzer found:—

"A short, spare figure, topped by a large intellectual head. A lofty forehead, bald save for a fringe of what was once bright reddish hair, now streaked with paler tints. A long, strong, slightly curving nose, sure index to a vigorous and determined character. Blue, earnest, and abstracted eyes, which now and then flash with observant interest through the projecting spectacles. A bushy beard, a heavy, thick moustache; not wholly hiding the firm outline of a mouth that tells of will and resolute force. Below the eyes, and bordering the nose, deep, patient furrows, lines of care and thought and suffering. The ears are ugly—large and long, and oddly shaped. And they are set at an unusually wide angle, as though straining to catch every faintest sound of the great human tragedy."

Then as to his manner, it was retiring, yet not shy:—

"And when he talks or thinks most earnestly he lifts his head high, as if taking counsel not with earth but heaven. It does not surprise me after observing this, to find that though some brand him as an Anarchist and hint at atheism, he believes in an all-guiling heavenly Providence."

Mrs. George, a pleasant, self-possessed, and unaffected lady in the forties, showed the visitor over her husband's two studies. The first was a plain room—plain and a trifle dreary, as George himself perhaps thought, since he did most of his work in the other. Here is a description of it:—

"Spartan simplicity marks this study. The walls are white. The roof is rather low. Abundant light streams in from a broad window looking down upon the road and from two smaller side windows. The centre of the room is occupied by a small, narrow, and exceedingly inadequate flat desk, littered all over with manuscript. Letters and pamphlets, in admired disorder, are strewn here and there among the loose sheets of what I take to be Mr. George's coming *magnum opus*. On open bookshelves round the walls are ranged some hundreds of plainly and cheaply bound volumes, chiefly works on political economy."

#### Scottish Land Restoration Union. SOCIAL MEETING.

*A Social Gathering of the members and friends of the Scottish Land Restoration Union will be held in the Mid City Hall, 37 Albion Street, Glasgow, on Friday 10th December, 1897—Ex Bailie Burt, President, will occupy the chair. Tea will be served at 7.30 p.m. A Single Tax of 1s. 3d. will be levied for each ticket. Write to the Secretary, 56 George Square, Glasgow, if you intend being present.*