

Memorabilia

HENRY George, in a handwritten letter dated January 6, 1887, on letter paper of *The Standard*, 25 Ann Street, New York, wrote to John G. Kennedy of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, as follows:

"Dear Sir: In beginning the second year of the publication of *The Standard*, I wish to thank you for what you have already done to aid its circulation, and to ask that when the subscriptions you have sent us expire you will try to secure their renewal, and, at the same time, if possible, to still further increase the list.

"It will take only a small increase in our list of subscribers to make *The Standard* that full success, which, in the interests of the cause it advocates I am confident you wish it to be. I feel that it has done good work in the year that has past and hope to make it still more useful in the year to come. Yours faithfully, (signed) Henry George."

Again on February 25, 1888 Mr. George wrote:

"My dear Sir: Many thanks for your faith and sympathy; I have many such letters, but do not wish to publish anything that will seem like praise of myself or a reflection upon Dr. McGlynn. Yours very truly, (signed) Henry George."

Arnold A. Weinstein, President of the Henry George School, in acknowledgement of this material, which will be kept in the school's file of memorabilia, said, "I found the letters to be fascinating, more especially from the viewpoint that George's everyday correspondence was a mirror of the nature and high quality of his published writings."

Another letter relating to Henry George was turned over to the school by Agnes deMille. It was written by Daniel James, the grandson of William James, who was at that time (1944)

with the American Field Service in Calcutta. He made this recommendation to an elector of the Hall of Fame:

"I have a candidate—the philosopher and economist, Henry George. I would like to tell you briefly, for what it is worth, why I wish you would consider his name for a place along side the other greats at your next meeting.

"Henry George's philosophy, running throughout his books, is a sermon against hypocrisy, a lesson in tolerance, justice, selflessness, simplicity of living and bigness in relationships with other men. It's clear, straight, understandable.

"His economic theories are more alive today, than the time when he was making observations on the strange phenomena of a society in which, with an advance of progress, poverty and misery increased.

"The Hall of Fame is not an advertising agency, but I feel that in the interest of people the world around, by his admittance to the Hall of Fame, those who'd never heard of Henry George, nor read his books, will wonder who is this great man. The world needs to know Henry George now. I believe it to be the one simple, practical plan for the down-trodden of Asia.

"Whether there will ever be one free, united world is a question, but at any rate it will never be realized until the lot of the Asiatic is improved. I have so much faith in the intelligent Indian, and in the application of a single tax, that I've decided to remain in India—merchant seaman turned teacher.

"I won't write more. I feel strongly about this, Sir, that is why I'm asking you, if you would be so good as to consider, if you have not already done so, the merits of Henry George. Sincerely yours, Daniel James."