

tive cure—for periodic “business depressions” and so-called “profitless profits.” Only in this direction appears to lie the surest pathway to the truest and greatest progress of the ages.

Ella Wheeler Wilcox has aptly said:

“To sit in silence, when we should protest,
Makes cowards out of men. The human race
Has climbed on protest. Had no voice been raised
Against injustice, ignorance and lust,
The Inquisition yet would serve the law
And guillotines decide our least disputes.”

—K. P. ALEXANDER.

Land Values

WHEN Judge Gary's father reached Chicago, landing at Fort Dearborn in 1831, he had \$1,000, but carefully refrained from investing it along the lake front, says the Portland *Realtor*. Someone tried to “unload” a lake front farm on him for \$1,000. But Erastus Gary, father of the steel king, couldn't be caught with that proposition; “the land,” he said, “will never be of value.”

If the old gentleman had invested his thousand dollars in lake front land and kept it, that one farm now would be worth \$100,000,000 and a great deal more.

When you invest in real estate, especially if you intend to keep it for your children, as you should do, remember that the value of your land is created by people; human beings create land value.

A gold mine or an oil well may make land valuable temporarily. But permanent value comes from human life.

If a man asks you what you think such a piece of land is worth, you ask how many people pass by it on foot, the kind of people, rich or poor, what would that land be worth for a house to live in. Ask how much merchandise could be sold in a store on that corner and what kind of merchandise. Land on which you can sell pig iron has one value. Land on which you can sell diamonds or cigars has a higher value.

But human beings give all the real value in the long run.

The little fort built on the edge of Lake Michigan to keep out the Indians becomes a city of millions. The farm that could be bought for a thousand dollars becomes worth a hundred million and three times that.

And the gigantically increased value goes to the man that owns the land, although he may not have added anything to that value.

—Pasadena (Calif.) *Star-News*.

Will Atkinson Abridgements

WILL ATKINSON has placed in our hands a large quantity of his abridgements of “Progress and Poverty” and “The Land Question.” These will be sent while they last at 2 cents each in quantities of fifty or one hundred.

What the Great Have Said of the Land Rights of Men

YOU recently published a letter from a Single Taxer who, discouraged by the slight effect he has seen from his preaching of that Gospel, begins to doubt as to whether he is right and asks your opinion. You tell him that long, human experience has shown the Single Tax to be wrong.

Now, Mr. Editor, I hate to destroy your simple faith in the righteousness of things as they are as to earth-ownership, but I must remind you that many hoary wrongs—slavery for instance—had been just as universally accepted as land-ownership and for a longer period, and yet have gone into the discard as immoral. And to strengthen my compatriot's failing faith allow me to quote a few of the many things notable men have had to say on this subject.

“The earth He hath given to the children of men”

“The land shall not be sold for ever.”—*Holy Writ*.

“The earth is given to mankind in common.”—JOHN LOCKE.

“Those who make private property of the gift of God pretend in vain to be innocent.”—POPE GREGORY THE GREAT.

“The land of every country belongs to the people of that country.”

“No man made the land; it is the original inheritance of the whole species.”—JOHN STUART MILL.

“The earth is the common property of the human race.”—THOMAS PAINE.

“The earth is common to all.”—TOLSTOY.

“The earth is given as common stock for man to labor and live on.”

“The earth belongs in usufruct to the living, the dead have neither power nor right over it.”—THOMAS JEFFERSON.

“The notion of selling the land of the World-Creator is a ridiculous impossibility.”—THOMAS CARLYLE.

“Land is not and cannot be property.”—FROUDE.

“Landlords are the only great body of men whose interest is diametrically opposed to the interest of the nation.”—H. S. BUCKLE.

“Equity does not permit property in land.”

“The right of mankind at large to the earth's surface is still valid, all deeds, customs and laws to the contrary notwithstanding.”—HERBERT SPENCER.

“My reason teaches me the land cannot be sold.”—BLACK HAWK.

“The land belongs to all for the use of each.”—TECUMSEH.

“Every proprietor of land owes to the community a ground rent.”—THOMAS PAINE.

“If all men were tenants to the public it would put an end to taxes and leave never a beggar.”—WM. PENN.

“A tax on ground rent would not raise the rent of houses.”—ADAM SMITH.