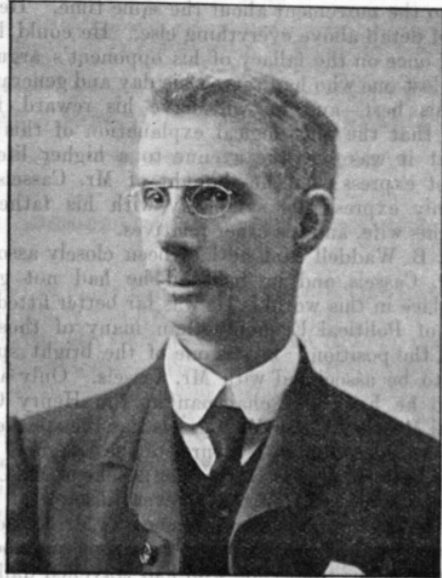


IN MEMORIAM.



JOHN CASSELS.

As we announced in our January number, the Glasgow group of Single Taxers has lost one of its ablest members in the death of John Cassels, which took place at his home at Carmyle, Lanarkshire, on the 28th December, after an illness of only a few days. John Cassels was above all others in the Glasgow movement as a teacher of Henry George's gospel. He could talk always with acceptance on public platforms, but he could do more, he could talk with acceptance to Single Taxers who like himself were recognised as authorities and exponents of the Single Tax faith. From his entrance into the movement over twenty years ago till his death he was active in the fight, and wherever he appeared in any kind of company or society, the discussion was certain to turn on social problems and Henry George's remedy. John Cassels was no mere "wearisome crank with a bee in his bonnet," but a strong man whose exceptional gifts of logical reasoning commanded the attention of the ablest of his audience. He knew the works of the orthodox political economists and the modern school as well, and could at a moment recall their views on the particular point under discussion. He will be gratefully remembered by all who attended his lectures on Political Economy at 13 Dundas Street, and by everyone in the Glasgow movement, for his years of teaching, and outside platform work. Nor was his zeal in the movement confined to such special services as lectures and teaching. When he had no meeting to address he would join in the heckling of a candidate, distribute leaflets, or sell "Land Values" at an open-air meeting. He would readily engage in such efforts as a joyous kind of wind-up to the day's business. He has the everlasting gratitude and warm affection of his co-workers, in whose memory he will always have an abiding place. He was a bold, courageous thinker and a faithful follower of Henry George, whose teaching and philosophy he accepted and expounded for long years with rare skill and untiring zeal.

A meeting of the Executive of the Scottish League for the Taxation of Land Values was held at 13 Dundas Street, Glasgow, on Monday evening, 30th December—ex-Bailie

Burt in the chair. Out of respect for the memory of John Cassels, one of the founders of the organisation in 1890, it was agreed to suspend the ordinary business of the meeting. The following resolution was adopted:—"That this League for the Taxation of Land Values desires to put on record its profound regret at the loss which the movement has sustained by the death of John Cassels; it expresses its heartfelt sympathy with his widow and family, and trusts that the sorrow of parting may be mitigated by the knowledge of the appreciation which Mr. Cassels has won from the friends of the Land Values movement, where his labours were of a valuable and lasting nature."

Mr. Burt, in moving the resolution, said that the familiar objects and surroundings of the room where they were met reminded him of the pleasant associations they had had with Mr. Cassels. He himself had a loss during the year, and they could understand that on account of this he could feel perhaps more keenly what the loss of Mr. Cassels meant. He felt sure that the sympathies of all those present went out to the widow and family, and also to the father and mother and the brothers and sister, in the loss they had sustained. This death struck so deeply into their hearts that words failed them. Death must come to them all, but it came as a greater blow when one who was naturally looking forward to a full and extensive lease of life was suddenly cut down. Those who did not know Mr. Cassels intimately would be unable to appreciate the full loss they had sustained. He himself could hardly think of the movement apart from John Cassels and the Cassels family. He was a kindred soul devoting himself to the solution of the poverty problem, which they all deplored, and which they had set themselves to solve. The motion that he had to submit expressed very inadequately the feelings which they all had in regard to the loss of their respected colleague. They could say of him that he had fought the fight and that he had kept the faith. All that he had to give, had been given.

Mr. John Paul, who seconded the vote of condolence, said he felt, like the chairman, there were no words he could express that would convey in any sense the high appreciation he had for John Cassels. There were times when parting with a friend—as we had done—that our language might seem to be exaggerated, but there was nothing he could say that would convey a sense of the loss we had sustained. John Cassels was an able exponent of the principles taught by Henry George, and no man had a deeper attachment to Henry George and his works. They had all a warm and affectionate regard for John Cassels, for they were all indebted to him in special and lasting ways. His spirit and effort, he thought, would remain with them all, as it certainly would with him. He had often felt in going abroad, speaking for the movement, and answering complicated questions, that it was really John Cassels who was speaking, and not himself. He viewed Mr. Cassels as a very distinguished man held down by a poor environment, on account of which his gifts could not be appreciated as they might have been. They all remembered his lectures in the rooms on "Political Economy," and they all knew how he had sent a wave of enthusiasm over their members for Henry George's principles which was felt far beyond their circle. He alone among them all could do that kind of work; he was a student of Political Economy, apart altogether from his knowledge of the Single Tax philosophy; and he had rendered good service quite outside the ordinary service and devotion to the movement. He was gone, but they could thank God that he had lived. He had years of recollection of him, and memories that would remain. The best days of his own life were associated with John Cassels. He had seen his intellectual eyes open, and had watched the development of his mind and the progress