

But with her went from out our social
skies
A light, and voice like a remembered
song.

Some saints have lived who on the ensan-
guined field
Walked with the balm of healing in their
hands;

And not until the eye of God is sealed
Fadeth the glory where some woman
stands,

Shedding strange radiance from her ten-
der eyes;
Now in the town, and now in court or
camp—

Some woman with her deed of sacrifice,
Lighting the world like an eternal lamp.

And she to whom War's tragedy of pain
Had brought its tears—whose husband,
brother, friend

Passed in the cannonading to the slain—
Walked with her lonely sorrow to the
end.

But in that sorrow's self-forgetfulness
She wrought whose splendid task is done
too soon;

Because she lived, the evil days are less
Bridging these civic nights to highest
noon.

And mid the populous town, its walls that
rise,
Its massive structures wrought of myriad
hands,

This story of a woman's sacrifice
Shines like a beacon where the city
stands.

This shall outlive its mortar and its stone.
This shall be told where cities rise and
fall;

A woman working in its ways alone
With loving hands built bastions round
its wall.

FAILURE.

The Great Financier sat in his
sumptuous office and thought ear-
nestly.

"My life has been a great suc-
cess. I have secured everything that
the heart of man could desire, money,
fame, power—everything."

"But you have not secured me,"
whispered a something from out the
surrounding silence.

"What are you?" queried the Great
Financier.

"I am Love."

"But I have secured control of the
money of the country. I have se-
cured control of the coal mines of
the country. I control the grain mar-
kets, the railroads, the mills and the
factories."

"But you do not control me," said a
chilling voice from out of the sur-
rounding silence.

"What is it that I do not control?"
queried the Great Financier.

"I am Death."

And when they found the Great

Financier in the morning they found
him captive instead of captor.—The
Commoner.

GEORGE FOSTER PEABODY'S DEM- OCRATIC SANITY.

This letter from George Foster Peabody, of
the great banking house of Spencer, Trask
& Co., New York, and until recently the
treasurer of the Democratic National Com-
mittee, strikes a clear and true note of gen-
uine democracy. It was published in the
Brooklyn Eagle of January 5, and is re-
produced here as an indication of hopeful
tendencies of the radical sort among con-
servative men.

My attention has been called to a
complimentary reference to me in your
editorial columns of December 15,
which issue of the paper I did not see.

I thank you for your designation
of me as "safe and sane." May I ven-
ture upon your further courtesy to
presume upon the patience of your
readers who, though not interested in
personal views, are rightly interested
in the attitude of Democrats to the
subtle and grave dangers that now
confront the country? I am in sym-
pathy with the position of those Dem-
ocrats called by the Auburn Citizen
"the liberal element" in the party;
with the exception that I think the
party should go farther than some
"liberals" may now be ready to go.

I trust and believe that I am both
"safe and sane" in my Democracy, but
I gather from the article that there
are differences of interpretation of that
phrase. It is, I think, both "safe and
sane" for party managers to be true
to the platform and honestly advo-
cate the principles proclaimed. I be-
lieve it is "sane" to look facts in the
face and strive to deal with the dyna-
mics of the matter in hand, and that it
is always "safe" to trust the people to
manage all of their affairs. Especially
"sane and safe" is it to trust the peo-
ple about rights granted by the com-
munity—such as the use of the public
streets on and above, as well as be-
low, the surface, and corporate claims
based on the grant of the public right
of "eminent domain."

I believe that the time has come for
the Democratic party to be true to its
foundation principles of human lib-
erty and personal rights. I believe
these include the common rights of the
whole community, and we should find
the righteous method of now applying
them to the conditions created by the
present enormous production of wealth
by the brains and hands of men made
more efficient through education.

A patent fact in the social structure

of to-day is that the average man does
not have continuous employment, and
further that the whole surplus pro-
duction beyond the daily consump-
tion, is to so large an extent divided
among the few who may not unfairly
be called "possessors of privileges." I
think that three sources of privilege
will account for this: First, franchise
privilege granted by representatives
of the people; second, taxation of the
many for the benefit of the few, the
so-called protective tariff; and, third,
increasingly concentrated control of
land, the foundation source of
all wealth. The special fact un-
der the third clause is the al-
most invariable valuation of land
for taxation on a basis of favor-
itism for the holders of unimproved
land, and also to the great advantage
of those holding large tracts of land.

Holding these convictions, I favor
an early organization of the rank and
file of those Democrats who believe
that personal and public rights can be
now enforced with due regard to prop-
erty rights—Democrats who mean to
make the fight to do this on definite
lines of principle, win or lose, at the
next election. I favor, therefore, a
simple and short and frank platform,
that is radical in saying what it
means. Such a platform will drive
from the party those who have been
in the past so skillful in explaining
away the indefinite platform attacks
upon the Republican protective tariff
as put in for effect; that is to say,
in bad faith. I believe that with such
a platform the party will be practical-
ly single-minded if it shall find a lead-
er who will be trustworthy because he
is experienced and of known character
and capacity and believes in the plat-
form; one who is not merely concerned
to get into office on a popular wave of
disgust with the party in power; not
a man who makes rash promises to
right every wrong, but a man who be-
lieves in making haste surely, if slow-
ly, to right great and fundamental
wrongs, which have been entrenched
through generations by cunning legis-
lation, and too often by collusive ex-
ecutive action or omission.

I would assert in such platform gov-
ernment ownership as the future pol-
icy for all businesses based on rights
to use of streets or roads or the ex-
ercise of eminent domain, as the
only equitable solution of this greatest
modern problem. I would assert the
necessity of municipal operation of
street railroads and lighting facilities,
as of water distribution, as the only

sure reliance for pure politics in our vast centers of population and to offset the serious hindrances caused by street mains and railroad construction and operation, and to avoid unnecessary duplicate and competitive construction, always in the end paid for by the people. I think a sound Democratic platform should oppose the proposition of the Republican President to have railroad rates fixed by a commission who will deal with the managers of what is still private property; such power must in the nature of the case produce a crop of scandals, and the most compact machine for political influence the world has ever known.

The private toll roads of early days were made public highways free to all travelers and commerce. A score of years of practical experience in official relation to the modern highway of commerce, the railroad, convinces me that neither economy nor efficiency will permit the use of these highways by separate owners of engines and cars, and that consolidated and cooperative management is essential to their largest usefulness. I have for ten years or more held the confident opinion that government ownership of all railroads was the one final solution; but the details must be worked out patiently and the steps taken conservatively.

I believe that economic laws, (although hidden), are as sure in their working as the law of gravitation. The concentration of control of the railroads of the United States into comparatively few hands was not the definite conscious purpose of these few, but has in effect been forced by business conditions and the economic competition which, because of the instinctive even though unconscious hunger for land monopoly, built railroads both too fast and too poorly. The combination of the protective tariff and the land monopoly, as in the case of the United States Steel Corporation, adds force to the argument that these few but great corporate interests when concentrated will practically control the government unless the government now deals with the evident dangers on some basis of economic law. The now compact Anthracite Coal Combine which has the double strength of land monopoly and railroad corporation, is another instance in point.

The temptation is perhaps natural to consider these stupendous aggregations of corporate wealth which so

challenge both admiration and antagonism as the cause of many evils; they are an effect of the cause—legislation based upon false economic standards. We should be careful to seek for the basic and not the superficial remedy. The true remedy must be found through righteous and equitable taxation of all corporate values—and until the government shall recover for the people the franchise values they should be taxed as is the case in the State of New York.

Do the officials of any of these monopolies ask that the tax assessor place their properties on the tax list at the value quoted on the market for the securities? A former president of the Steel Corporation stated under oath that the iron ore lands were of sufficient value to justify the full par issue of the common stock. Would the directors welcome the assessment of those lands at the value their president swore to? Again the present price of the Great Northern Railway stock is believed to be based upon the confidence that the iron ore lands held by the company will in the future prove of untold value. Would that company, organized to operate a railway as a public carrier, retain these lands unused if they were taxed at the value indicated in the market price of the stock?

I hope that the Democratic party will in this matter follow the lines indicated by the Liberal party of England in its advocacy of the principle of ground rent taxation.

I would not ignore the fact that individuals of wealth, and corporations, honestly believe that they pay an undue share of taxes; but they are, I think, deceived as to the rightful owners of the increment in land and franchise values. Do we ever hear of any great railroad or other corporation using publicly its great influence in behalf of a strict enforcement of the law that all property shall be assessed at its full value? Full and fair taxation is the government's right and true remedy for very many of the crying ills of the day. When the life of the nation is supposed to be threatened by war the propriety and honesty of compelling a man to give his time and risk his life, and also pay extraordinary taxes, is admitted. Is not the true life of the nation more seriously endangered by unjust taxation and the misuse of governmental powers than by any war?

The Democratic party can and should deal with the dangers that con-

front the country and promptly propose a sound economic remedy with righteous principles of taxation and the return to simplicity and economy by an immediate reduction of our army and navy.

THE DEBT OF AMERICAN DEMOCRACY TO GREECE.

Speech of Judge Edward Osgood Brown, of Chicago, at the first American meeting held at Hull House, Chicago, under the auspices of Miss Jane Addams in cooperation with the Greek colony of Chicago, January 3, 1906. The president of the organization committee was the Rev. Leon Pegeas, the secretary was Dr. C. Petroulas, and the subject for discussion was "The Progress of the Greeks in America and Their Relations with the American People."

I am asked to-night to speak to the men and women of the Greek Colony of Chicago a few words of the welcome that we of this great western city of the plains, who love "with the veneration of worshippers and the gratitude of children," the country from which they came, are glad to bid them.

As I thought of what I might say, there came to me the question: Are we not all in this western world colonists of Greece in a sense essentially true?

If the mark of a colony is indebtedness to the mother country, not alone for material and physical ancestry, but for political institutions and laws, for culture, for the arts of expression in literature and design, for great molding and guiding principles in philosophy and the conduct of life, for all that which stamps what is best in a developing community with its impress, are we not all colonists of Greece? Is not the only Chicago which we can really love a Greek Colony?

From the great works of Greek genius have sprung, directly or indirectly, all the noblest creations of the human intellect. To all the great minds who have struggled for liberty since the age of Pericles, the spirit of Greece has been inspiration. By the pursuits in which she taught men to engage, have they been made wiser, happier and better. Fresh in eternal youth, her glory and influence will survive so long as civilization lasts.

How, then, can we fail of an affectionate interest in those who, with the same intellectual and moral indebtedness as we to those wonderful men who were the proud offspring of her youth, belong also to them by physical kinship and descent?