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GUEST EDITORIAL

As Henry George once explained, he did not believe the Single Tax was a "panacea" but he did believe that freedom was, and that Single Tax was but the "tap-root of freedom."

George explained his belief in man's natural right to freedom of "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" as stated in the Declaration of Independence. He fortified this idea by stating in the Introductory to Progress and Poverty that "all motion seeks the line of least resistance"; and he applied this axiom to man's endeavors to make a living.

Those who believe that man follows this course because he is lazy or greedy misjudge its fundamental truth.

As men grow more weary and discouraged trying to stave off poverty for themselves and their loved ones, they may resort to violence. When the rich turn to crimes of various kinds it is due to their ignorance, or their fear of losing their wealth.

On pages 462 and 463 of Progress and Poverty George strikes the keynote to his belief in the harmony that will lead on to a better world. He wrote: "Shortsighted is the philosophy which counts on selfishness as the master motive of human action. It is blind to facts of which the world is full. ... Give it what name you will; there is yet a force which overcomes and drives out selfishness; a force which is the electricity of the moral universe; a force beside which all others are weak."

I believe one's religious creed may be summed up on his aspiration for spiritual truth as shown by the way he treats people. "Be noble," said Emerson, "and the nobleness sleeping in others will rise to meet thine own."

-- Mabel L. Rees