

is one of the striking advantages of irrigation, since it permits of intensive and diversified cultivation.—H. Durham, in Land of Sunshine.

THE ORIGIN OF THE IDEA OF ABOLISHING THE GENERAL PROPERTY TAX.

An extract from a sermon delivered in the Vine Street Congregational church, Cincinnati, November 24, by the pastor, Rev. Herbert S. Bigelow.

It is pleasant to remember that in the same year our fathers began their war of protest against the tax levies of King George, across the water in the mother country there was born the idea of a new system of taxation, which, had it been adopted then, would have prevented that war, and which, as it grows in form, is certain to unite the nations in a closer brotherhood than is possible while tariff laws remain the bulwark of national jealousies, and national selfishness.

In 1750 there was born in Scotland one Thomas Spence, the son of a mat maker. When the war of the revolution broke out, Spence was a school-teacher in Newcastle, Scotland. The councilmen of Newcastle determined to inclose a portion of the common. Much as our government might open an Indian reservation for settlement, these city fathers divided among a few, lands which until then had been held in common. The citizens objected. It does not appear that they objected to the private occupation of the lands, but they declared that they were joint stockholders in the landed estate, and they contended that it was the duty of the city officials to collect rents from these holders of the city lands, and that from these rentals a dividend should be declared in favor of the citizens. The case was carried into court and decided in favor of the people.

Spence reflected upon this. He asked himself the question: If the rents of one portion of the land should be divided among all the people, why should not the ground rent of all the land be considered a public asset? Then the problem as to a just method of distributing this rental presented itself, and he solved it as Henry George solved it a century later, and recognized the doctrine of the common and inalienable inheritance in the land by substituting ground taxes for all other taxes.

In 1775 Spence read an essay setting forth this plan before the members of a Philosophical society of which he was a member. It is unnecessary to state that there was an intolerable amount

of wisdom in that essay, for this society took the first opportunity of striking the name of Thomas Spence from its roll—the only name that could save those philosophers from oblivion. This society, like some modern ones, appears to have been organized for the purpose of searching after the truth, but with no intention of finding it.

The people of Newcastle were like the peasants of Gadara. They preferred to drive a prophet from their shores rather than let the price of pork go down. In a word, they boycotted Spence's school and thus deprived him of a livelihood. Those teachers are best paid who make a profession of telling men what they already know. They starve who presume to teach men what they need to learn.

Does the world grow better? The most signal political victory of the year was won in Cuyahoga county, by Tom L. Johnson, shall I say in spite of, or because of, the fact that he was known to be a fearless advocate of the idea for which Spence lay in a London jail a century ago?

THE OUTLANDER GRIEVANCES.

An extract from an address delivered by Western Starr at Handel hall, Chicago, November 4, under the auspices of the Chicago branch of the American Transvaal league.

The Outlanders, unnaturalized foreigners, were an aggregation of adventurers from every land under the sun, about 60,000 in number, drawn from every rank and station in life, and of whom less than half were English. These English clamored for the rights of citizenship in the South African Republic and declined as a rule to abandon allegiance to the British sovereign. The Outlanders took advantage of the situation, the growing embarrassments between the Transvaal and the English government, to crowd both into difficulties with a view to hawking their influence. They howled about a recognition of the English language in the schools; they complained of the enormous taxes paid by the mining industry; they demanded recognition as an industry in the volksraad; they objected to the government monopoly in explosives; but no one or all of these and other ostensible grievances were real, and their outcry was not sincere.

Let us note the real reasons in the official reports of representatives of the capitalist Outlanders who conspired with Rhodes and Jameson.

The capitalist mine owners openly said that the Outlanders "did not care a fig" for the franchise. An American, one Hammond, a mining engineer, em-

ployed as an expert by the mining corporations and largely interested, said in London on November 18, 1899:

There are in South Africa millions of Kaffirs and it does seem preposterous that we are not able to obtain 70,000 or 80,000 Kaffirs to work upon the mines. With good government there should be an abundance of labor, and with an abundance of labor there will be no difficulty in cutting down wages, because it is preposterous to pay a Kaffir the present wages. He would be quite as well satisfied, in fact he would work longer, if you gave him half the amount. (Reported in Financial News of November 26.)

Preposterous Hammond, expatriated by that one speech. One of Mr. Hammond's associates, a Mr. Rudd, said openly:

If they could only get one-half the natives to work three months of the year, it would work wonders. . . . They should try some cogent form of inducement or practically compel the native through taxation or in some other way to contribute his quota to the good of the community and to a certain extent he would then have to work. . . . If under the cry of civilization, we in Egypt lately mowed down 10,000 or 20,000 Dervishes with Maxims surely it cannot be considered a hardship to compel the natives in South Africa to give three months in the year to do a little honest work.

Civilization Rudd, a child, or a fool, or drunk. It was estimated that if only one of these great companies had the power to force the natives to work for wages low enough, that company could increase its profits \$10,000,000 a year. But, to the sorrow of these advocates of a new system of slavery, the Transvaal government had established labor laws and regulations which interfered with the utopian and entirely benevolent aspirations of the mine owning companies.

The republic taxed the gold product of the Rand 2½ per cent., they taxed all miners of gold alike. English or German Jews, or Boers, or Americans, all who produced gold paid their taxes under a general law. American miners along our Alaskan boundary pay not 2½ per cent. but ten per cent. of their output to British agents as taxes and we hear no wail from the English colonial offices over the oppression. An examination of the returns of 20 representative mining companies of the Rand shows that their dividends for the year 1899 averaged over 68 per cent., some of them more than 100 per cent., and if one of them by having a free hand to enslave the natives could add \$10,000,000 to its yearly dividends it would mean an increase of over 25 per cent. in dividends on the capital stock of the greatest mining section the world has ever known. This is the secret of the Outlanders' interest. It

was this that Rhodes meant when he said, February 23, 1900:

We have done our duty in preserving and protecting the greatest commercial asset in the world, her majesty's flag.

Mr. Rudd meant this also when he said, November 6, 1900:

If it were true that the war was caused by capitalists or undertaken on behalf of the mines, the empire owes them a deep debt of gratitude . . . South Africa is not a dear asset at the cost of the present war.

A Mr. J. B. Robinson said, November 7, 1900:

If we for one moment consider the immense value of both the states that Great Britain has just acquired, we cannot but come to the conclusion that the money expended in this war, which is roughly estimated at £80,000,000 to £70,000,000, is of minor importance.

Since Mr. Robinson's wisdom and philanthropy and dazzling moral philosophy has burst upon the world, 13 months of warfare have ensued, the cost of the war has expanded from £70,000,000 to more than £200,000,000. England's army of a quarter of a million of men has been whipped to a standstill, and about one-third of the child life of the Transvaal has been exterminated. As an object lesson for thoughtful men this affords innumerable problems, but the one which has more vital interest than any other to the lover of liberty is this: with a huckster at the helm, how fares your ship of state?

A REPUBLIC IN NORTH CAROLINA.

Public Opinion for July 4 reprinted from the June number of the Woman's Home Companion, of Springfield, O., an article by Landon Knight on the Cherokee republic in the western part of North Carolina. "Its citizens are the descendants of the eastern branch of the tribe which was left behind when the Cherokees were removed to the west bank of the Mississippi in the first quarter of the last century." We reprint from Public Opinion.

The chief, or president, of the republic is elected by a plurality vote of the qualified electors. He must be at least 30 years of age and a native of the republic. He holds office for four years, and receives a compensation of \$500 a year. He is not only the chief executive of the nation, but is its first citizen; and he is always regarded as the personal friend and adviser of his people in their individual capacity, and he frequently adjusts disputes and settles controversies between them in order to save expense of litigation. The president has a cabinet of three members, who are appointed by himself and confirmed by the legislature. They are selected from the most substantial men of the nation, and though the

pay is nominal they never shirk duty. They are the advisers of the president, and he never acts in matters of importance without first consulting with them.

The legislative branch of the government is vested entirely in one grand council, or house of representatives, which is almost omnipotent. Its members are elected biennially. They must be citizens and freeholders of the republic and 21 years of age, and during the time for which they are elected receive one dollar a day. The speaker of congress, who is elected by that body, has a compensation of one dollar and a half while the house is in session. This is limited to 30 days, but the president can convene it in extraordinary session whenever the exigencies of public affairs may require it. In the congress is solely vested the right to make treaties, dispose of national property, levy taxes, create or abolish courts, allot lands, and, in fact, to do anything else which may affect the welfare of the people or territory of the Cherokee republic. Any act may be vetoed by the president, but nevertheless becomes a law if passed over his veto by a majority vote. Matters of foreign relations are in the hands of congress, but as a matter of fact the work is delegated to a minister.

Citizenship is of two kinds, natural and acquired. It can be acquired alone by intermarriage, and that is possible only to whites. Intermarriage with the Negro is considered miscegenation, and is therefore treated as a crime. The title to all real property is primarily vested in the government; but when a citizen reaches the age of 16, or a Cherokee girl marries a white man, the right accrues to select any section of unappropriated land, and upon application to the legislature it is segregated, a patent issued, and the applicant becomes its owner to all intents and purposes, except for sale, which is prohibited unless the purchaser be a native. All male citizens over 16 years of age are invested with the franchise, which is freely used, and the selling or purchasing of votes is made a severe misdemeanor.

Their first constitution provided that trial by jury should never be denied. In addition to these there are other laws prescribing a statute of limitations, fixing punishments for embezzlement and perjury, and, in fact, making all other regulations for an equitable and orderly adminis-

tration of justice. They were never a polygamous people, and some of their most stringent laws are directed against it and the violation of the Sabbath. They are the only people who are citizens of two separate republics. Under the treaty of 1817 they were made citizens of the United States for the purpose of voting for federal officers, and this privilege was later confirmed and provision made for counting their vote as a part of that of North Carolina.

One of the most striking characteristics of the Cherokee—a trait which distinguishes him from all other American aborigines—is the fact that he adopted the Christian religion almost as soon as he came in contact with it. When the capital was moved from Qualla to its present site at Ellah Wadh, one of the first provisions was for a school, which has grown and expanded into a very interesting institution. The course of instruction is comprehensive, embracing everything from the primary department to the equivalent of a high-school education. The industrial idea is also a prominent feature in it. The girls are taught to sew, cook, and, in fact, everything necessary to make them good housekeepers, while the boys are familiarized by actual experience with the principles of carpentry, shoemaking, iron-work and agriculture. The Cherokees are engaged to some extent in manufacturing, but they are essentially an agricultural people, and the industrial education is already beginning to show in the farms of the country. As a rule they are better cultivated, are provided with better houses, and are better stocked than are the farms of the white man in that section.

HANEY VS. HEARST.

"And it serves him just right, too," says Mrs. Dillingham, "only they ought to have got that man Hearst. He is the one who has been making all the trouble and the others were just his tools. I should think he would be ashamed of himself with the education he has had and he has a good mother, too."

Mrs. Dillingham had just been reading that several employes of the Chicago American had been sentenced for contempt of court and her manner was unusually vehement.

Far be it from me to contradict Mrs. Dillingham. I don't know exactly what these men said nor what they said it about, so I can't offer my