

just talk with Mr. Fillebrown. He puts it in a common-sensible way;" and so the leaven works.

What we have here in the way of this Froebel work, is, I hope, only a part of much that is going on everywhere. But it would be well to emphasize its importance more strongly and bring it into the front in all places as of equal value with the purely technical. Mr. Fillebrown has formed audiences out of a large number of the unconverted, by means of banquets, where the guests have Anti minds, but willing ears. If the people can be induced to listen, they will talk further, and there is no doubt that the discussions thus arising will go far toward the final leavening of public opinion.

In these modern times, when martyrdom is out of date, there is every opportunity for the formation of organizations based on a union of differences. The power of such unions will astonish us when we come into the full working of them, and my suggestion is that we do all in our power to form as many of them as possible.

BOSTON, Mass., June 25th.



EDWARD OSGOOD BROWN.

Judge Edward Osgood Brown, who took his seat upon the Illinois Circuit Court Bench at Chicago on the 22nd of June last, is a Single Tax man of fifteen years' standing, and of national reputation.

He was born in sight of salt water at Salem, Mass., in 1847, and received his academic education in the Salem public schools and at Brown University, Rhode Island, graduating from Brown in 1867. He then passed through the Dane law school at Harvard, taking the first honors of his class in 1869. Two years later he was admitted to the bar of Rhode Island, having filled in the intervening time as assistant clerk of the Supreme Court of that State. After practicing a year in Rhode Island, Mr. Brown came to Chicago in 1872, along with his college classmate, Orville Peckham, who has been for many years the attorney of the First National Bank of Chicago, of which Lyman J. Gage was president at the time of his appointment to a place in President McKinley's cabinet.

The two friends began practice in Chicago together as Peckham & Brown, and until Mr. Brown's election to the bench on the 1st of last June, the firm still existed as Peckham, Brown & Packard. Mr. Brown's practice was general during the whole thirty-one years of his professional career, although for twenty-five years of that period he had much to do in connection with the legal business of the bank of which his partner is the attorney and his firm the counsel. His name is identified professionally with several litigations of exceptional importance in which he scored notable triumphs. Among these was one involving the constitutionality of the statute establishing the Probate Court of Cook County, and another in which the constitutionality of the law creating the Chicago Sanitary district was sustained. For several years after 1894 he was counsel for the Lincoln Park Commissioners, and in that capacity had charge of the successful litigation in support of the rights of the State of Illinois to the shallows of Lake Michigan. He acquired a deserved reputation, in this connection, for special knowledge and skill with reference to the laws affecting riparian rights, a subject regarding which he is probably the best equipped lawyer in Illinois, if not in the United States. Mr. Brown was counsel also for the West Park Commissioners in a difficult but successful litigation for the recovery from the National Bank of Illinois of public funds involved in the

famous Dreyer defalcation. Another of his celebrated cases was that of the Monadnock Building of Chicago against the Union Elevated Railway Company, recently decided in his favor by the Supreme Court of Illinois. These and various other important interests which Mr. Brown has represented during the past quarter of a century, amply verify the prophecy of his law-school days when he won the first honors of his class.

Devoted as he has always been to his profession, and must needs have been to secure a place in the front rank at the Chicago bar, whence his recent call to the bench has taken him, Judge Brown has not neglected to gratify his discriminating literary tastes nor to cultivate his marked literary abilities. Although he has never entered the literary field in any professional way, he is an extensive collector and reader of choice literature; and several essays and pamphlets have come from his pen which are delightful alike for their sound sense, their inspiring democratic spirit, and their excellent literary quality. This side of his character is to some extent expressed by his membership in the "Chicago Literary Club," of which he was one of the founders nearly thirty years ago.

Another club which Judge Brown helped to organize and to which he still belongs is the "Iroquois," the leading Democratic club of Chicago, of which Judge Murray F. Tuley is now the president. He belongs also to the "North Chicago Turngemeinde" and the "Chicago Historical Society," and during the World's Fair was president of the "Massachusetts Society."

In 1888, when already well known at the bar and in the political, literary and social life of Chicago, Mr. Brown was given a copy of Henry George's "Protection or Free Trade;" the donor being George A. Schilling, who subsequently became Gov. Altgeld's secretary of the Illinois Bureau of Labor Statistics and worked up the famous taxation report of that bureau. Schilling was not at that time a single tax man, as he is now, but he had been deeply impressed with George's free trade book, and knowing Mr. Brown to be a free trader advised him to read it. The advice was taken reluctantly, but with the effect of interesting Mr. Brown so deeply in George's more fundamental doctrines that he immediately procured and read "Progress and Poverty," concerning which he had had until then but a languid curiosity. A perusal of George's refutation of the Malthusian theory, not only emancipated him from the false economic ideas he had derived from misplaced confidence in this heresy, but also lifted from his mind the dark cloud of pessimism in which it had been enveloped; and he soon became an outright Single Tax man, proclaiming his faith promptly by joining the "Chicago Single Tax Club," of which Warren Worth Bailey, now editor of the Johnstown (Pa.) *Democrat*, was president. As he afterwards said in a public address, from the moment of his release from the pessimism of Malthus, the skies seemed bluer and the grass greener, while the birds sang sweeter than ever before.

In the winter of 1889 Mr. Brown met Wm. T. Croasdale, who was in attendance upon the Free Trade Conference in Chicago. Learning then of Mr. Brown's acceptance of the Single Tax doctrine, Mr. Croasdale urged him to become more active in the general movement. To this appeal Mr. Brown responded favorably, and since that time his work for the Single Tax has been unceasing, judicious and effective.

He was one of the Illinois delegates in 1890 to the first National Single Tax Conference, held at Cooper Union, New York, where he served with Judge Jas. G. Maguire, Tom L. Johnson, Wm. Lloyd Garrison and others on the Committee on Resolutions, of which Henry George was Chairman. He was himself Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions at the second National Conference, held at Chicago in 1893; and upon that occasion he was made National Committeeman for Illinois, a place he still holds. During the

presidential campaign of 1900 Mr. Brown was President of the "Henry George, Bryan and Stevenson Campaign Club;" and when the special committee for Illinois to promote the Bucklin amendment movement in Colorado was formed in 1902, he was chosen and served as Chairman and Treasurer. His personal relations with both Henry George and Dr. McGlynn were intimate. He frequently welcomed Dr. McGlynn as a guest at his house, and he was among the sympathetic Catholics to whom Henry George submitted, for suggestion, criticism and advice, the manuscript of his open letter to Pope Leo XIII. on the "Condition of Labor."

Judge Brown is a Democrat by party affiliation, and although not a bimetalist and therefore not a Bryan enthusiast in the campaign of 1896, he is a democratic Democrat, whose Democracy goes to the roots. This has made him active and prominent, nationally as well as locally, in the anti-imperialist movement; and in 1900 it brought him earnestly to Bryan's support.

Once prior to the present year he was a candidate for the same office which he now holds. This was ten years ago, when local feeling against the "anarchists" ran high and struck indiscriminately at all manner of unconventional opinion. Being known as a Single Taxer, and also as a warm friend of Gov. Altgeld, and one who approved, both as a lawyer and citizen, of Altgeld's famous "anarchist" pardon, Mr. Brown drew much of this fire and was defeated at the polls. But no pronounced opposition of that kind gathered against him at the election in June of the present year. Standing as he then did upon his merits as an able lawyer, a fair man and a genuine Democrat, the fact that he was a friend of Governor Altgeld and a follower of Henry George rather helped than hurt him, and he was elected with several thousand votes to spare.

Judge Brown brings to the bench not only profound legal learning and long and wide experience at the bar, but also a judicial spirit of the highest order, together with a modesty that charms and a manifest sense of responsibility that assures. In his judicial career single taxers everywhere may expect to find further evidence of the fact that devotion to their just cause produces public men worthy of public confidence.



The tax, Latin *tangere*, to touch, is generally to touch in a tender spot, and from long before the time long ago when, in obedience to the decree of Cæsar Augustus, all went to be taxed, everyone into his own city, down to the present when so many leave their own city, and go to Rhode Island, taxation has been more or less odious to persons aware of being taxed, and it is ever the aim of government to tax the people in such fashion that no matter how heavily touched, they shall not know what it is that touches them. To this end many taxes are imposed the great burden of which is not borne by those against whom they are assessed, or by whom they are in the first instance paid, but is shifted to and ultimately borne in the main by so-called non-taxpayers who seldom know what it is that burdens them. A house tax paid by a landlord is collected by him from his tenant in what they call rent. Hotel bills and railroad fares are in part made up of taxes. The importer of goods includes the import duty in his bill to the wholesaler, who puts it in his bill to the retailer, who in turn charges it up to his customers. Licenses and excise taxes are eventually paid by the consumers of the goods. It will be seen that there are in reality no non-taxpayers among those who earn their living, and that heavy taxpayers so-called are often really taxed but lightly.—JOHN S. CROSBY, in the *Young Men's Journal*.