

## FREDERICK H. MONROE.

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(See Frontispiece.)

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F. H. Monroe was born in 1865, at Arcola, Ill. His father was a lawyer. His childhood was spent mainly in Chicago, and at the early age of eleven, he was train boy on the C. B. & Q. R. R., and a year or so later was herding cattle in western Kansas. Several more years on a farm, working as section hand and as a carpenter on the Kansas Division of the U. P. R. R., completed the practical education of this hustling, alert young man, and who shall say it was not an education worth while?

But all this time the youth was acquiring knowledge of another sort. It speaks volumes for the character of his persistency that at eighteen years of age he secured a certificate to teach the district school. Four years of teaching followed, in which the young man studied and read.

"Progress and Poverty" he read in 1886. He became a Single Taxer and was secretary of the Single Tax Club of Denver, for several years between 1888 and 1895. In the following year he went to Chicago and joined the Single Tax Club there, but resigned when the Club decided to form an independent Single Tax party.

Mr. Monroe's work as head of the Henry George Lecture Bureau, is well known. Under his direction many of the strongest platform men in the movement have addressed audiences on the Single Tax and related reforms in nearly every city, village and hamlet in the United States. This list includes such splendid apostles as the late Ernest Howard Crosby, John Z. White, Herbert Bigelow, Henry George, Jr., J. W. Bengough, Chas. Frederick Adams, Henry Hardinge and recently, Miss Grace Isabel Colbron.

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THOSE present at the Fels Fund Single Tax Conference at Boston last Fall will remember the eloquent five minute speech of S. Richard Fuller. In a speech before the City Club of Chicago on "Roman Government in Caesar's Time," he concluded as follows:

"From the darkest moment in the past, men have tried to learn how to live together. We catalogue these efforts as the evolution of civilization. To the evolved intelligence of today it is not a true civilization, where poverty and misery persist, while the abundance of material things jumps ahead by leaps and bounds. It is no answer to the cry of starving Rome that 'Lucullus dines well today.'

"We ask ourselves why it is that civilization is slow in coming? Why drag heavily the chariot wheels of a rational social order? Every conceivable experiment in taxation that ingenuity could devise, leaves us as stupidly helpless as at any moment in the last three thousand years. We have never yet with unanimity sought for a natural law. Who shall tell us how to hitch to the stars in their orderly processes our little go-cart of civilization? Thousands believe that the answer has come, and that a natural law of taxation is to commend itself to the practical use of mankind, as unhesitatingly as one pulls daily from heaven the thunderbolt to light his streets, pull his trains, and speed his messages from continent to continent.

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DEATH OF W. B. STEWART.

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The death of W. B. Stewart, of Minnesota, removes another devoted Single Taxer. Mr. Stewart was born in 1867. He entered the navy and served with Admiral Schley before the war. While in the navy he read "Progress and Poverty," and both he and his father became converts.

Mr. Stewart died March 17th, of pneumonia from a cold contracted last February.

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THE interest being taken in political economy is illustrated by the 1912 report of the John Crerar Library, of Chicago. This is primarily a reference library for scientific works. The statistics of books called for show that while the books on political economy are only four per cent. of the total volumes, they are credited with