

lord of the manor, are soon found to be something which has not been from eternity, something which has crept in unawares, something which has swallowed up the rights and the lands which once belonged to the people.—Edward A. Freeman.

RELATED THINGS

CONTRIBUTIONS AND REPRINT

THE APPEAL OF THE PEERS.

Gilbert K. Chesterton in the London Daily News of
January 15, 1910.

Would you call upon the people; in what ear shall it be told?

Call on God, whose name is pity, though our sins be very old.

Will you call on street and township? Who but you have made the smoke

Something heavier than a vapor, something sharper than a joke?

Who but you have taxed the townsmen of their tired and ugly tilth,

Who but you have made men forfeit for their right to live in filth?

Will you call on croft and village? On what village will you call,

That four centuries of your lordship has not left a tithe too small?

Hamlets breaking, homesteads drifting, peasants tramping, towns erased;

Lo! my Lords, we gave you England—and you give us back a waste.

Yea, a desert labeled England, where (you know, and well you know),

That the village Hampdens wither and the village idiots grow,

That the pride of grass grows mighty and the hope of man grows small.

Will you call on croft and village? Let the rabbits hear your call.

Will you call on crest and scutcheon? We might heed you, if we knew

Even one gutter-thief whose thousands cannot cut his way to you—

If there lived on earth one upstart from whose filthy face you shrank,

We would hear, my Lords, more gravely, of the grace and scorn of rank.

Now, if in your mob of merchants, usurers, idlers, cads, you keep

One that did have Norman fathers; let your Norman fathers sleep.

Let God's good grass blow above them where their pointed pennons blew,

They were thieves and thugs and smiters; they were better men than you.

Will you call on cross and altar? and in God's name where were you

When the crashing walls of convents let the Tudor axes through?

Tell us of your deeds, Crusaders! Waken Ariosto's muse!

How you stood the Church's champions when the Church had land to lose—

You, the Russells, with the ashes of a hundred altars shod,

You, the Howards, with your wallets bursting with the gold of God,

Will you call on cross and altar—will you name the holy name?

No, by heaven you shall not name it. Smite your very mouths for shame.

Would you call upon the people? Would you waken these things then?

Call on God, whose name is pity; do not ask too much of men.

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SIX REASONS FOR TAXING LAND VALUES.

The Lord Advocate, the Right Hon. Alexander Ure, K. C., M. P., at the Alexandra Palace, London, June 28th, 1909, as Sent Out by the Land Values Publication Dept., 376-377 Strand, London, W. C., in Postal Card Form, With Portrait of Mr. Ure.

1. The land comes from the hands of the Creator, and does not owe its existence to man.

2. It is limited in quantity. You can no more add to the area of the country than you can add a cubit to your stature.

3. It is necessary for our existence; it is necessary for our production; it is necessary to us when we wish to exchange our products.

4. Land does not owe its value to anything which its owner chooses to spend upon it.

5. Land owes its value entirely to the presence and activity and expenditure of the community.

6. Land cannot be carried away, and cannot be concealed.

Yet they tell us that land is the same as any other commodity! What a terrible mess men get themselves into when they venture to make such an assertion! It is a hopelessly fallacious assertion. I say that possessing these characteristics land is a peculiar subject for special taxation.

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BACK TO THE LAND.

David Lloyd George at Queen's Hall, London, December 31, 1909, As Reported in the London Chronicle.*

Has it ever occurred to you why the House of Lords did not follow the advice of Lord Rosebery not to reject the Budget, but to put it into operation for a year? Now, I want you to follow that, as it is by no means a bad test of their sincerity. What did Lord Rosebery say—and he

*Mr. Henry George, Jr., says of this speech: "This was the Chancellor's greatest speech yet."