

Or if it were thought better to pay it out of the income there would still be left an *increase* in income over the previous year of £37,000,000.

And what would be the proportion between the ten millions and the total foreign investments of £3,750,000,000? Is it not one-three-hundred and seventy-fifth part? The poor weary Titan. How can he be expected to meet an emergency without somebody's help.

Nobody suggests that there are no poor in the United Kingdom. There are, and far too many of them. But nobody suggests or, at least ought to suggest that they should contribute more than they are now paying, so long as there are such crowds of wealthy people who are well able to meet all demands.

Consider the way in which wealth is distributed, and judge whether there ought to be complaints of taxation-weariness:—

“By the *Doomsday Book* of 1875 (a) it appeared that one-fourth of the total acreage (excluding plots under one acre) is held by 1,200 owners, at an average for each of 16,200, acres; another fourth by 6,200 persons at an average of 3,150 acres; another fourth is held by 50,770 persons, averaging 380 acres each; and the remaining fourth by 261,830 persons, averaging 70 acres each (Caird). Peers, in number about 600, hold rather more than one-fifth of all the land in the kingdom. Thus one-half of the whole territory is in the hands of only 7,400 individuals; the other half is divided among 312,050 individuals” (b).

As the number of persons who owned less than one acre was 703,000, and the total population was about 33,000,000, we may construct the following table showing the number of owners of land, their average holdings, and the totals owned by each group:—

Number of Persons.	Average Holdings in acres	Totals in acres.
1,200	16,200	19,530,000
6,200	3,150	19,530,000
50,770	380	19,292,600
261,830	70	18,328,100
600 (Peers) owned one-fifth of the total.		
703,000 owned less than 1 acre.		
31,976,400 owned nothing.		

(a) That is the latest official investigation. There is, probably, no very substantial change.

(b) Encyclopedia Britanica quoted in *The Encyclopedia of Social Reforms* (Bliss) pp. 792,3. Mr. Escott gives the same figures in *England, its People, Policy and Pursuits*, p. 180. I presume that the figures do not include urban properties.