

The nuclei of all our towns and cities of any import are the governmental institutions. As soon as a community in a new and rural section can secure the public school, post office, court house, and the gaol, they have laid the foundation of a town. The merchants and men of business soon gather around these institutions. Soon the town is built, and by the maintenance of these the city is established. Now, what blood-money, if any, is to be found in these? And just here permit me to say, the only apology I have again to offer for using so rude a speech as "blood money" is because I find it in the holy Book, and it is enough for its servant to be as refined as his master. We shall best reach the correct answer by inquiring into the sources of revenue.

These sources are *direct taxation*, that is, the government of our country comes to us and asks a certain portion out of every bushel of produce, or goods and chattels, we secure through trade and commerce. Or, in other words, they impose a certain tax upon all successful labor. Do you object? "No, it is money they demand." Well, what is money? Is it not the equivalent of labor? You have heard of a bank failing. The bank note was just as good paper and as well stamped the morning after it failed as it was the evening before. What made the difference? They could not substantiate that there was sufficient labor capital behind it. So it is a tax upon successful labor. What do they give us in return for this? They give us the absolute and unquestionable control of certain portions of their possessions under certain restrictions, upon, or out of which, to make our livelihood. They say to us, "Describe your lines, and, when we have agreed upon them, put up your limits. Then control this as you please, (so long as your control does not infringe upon the rights of your neighbor,) build your home to suit your convenience or taste, enjoy the comforts or luxuries of that home in your own way, sleep with your doors open or shut, and so far as our knowledge or consent is concerned, no one, except by our permission or consent, shall trespass upon it or interfere. You can, within these proscribed limits, say to every intruder, "hands