...tion. There is not a single Labor Reform journal on the list of papers supplied by the management. The only paper of that character kept on file is the N w Y k St ndard and that is a donation from some f our enterprising Single Tax friends who are indefatigably seeking opportunities to spread the light. There ought to be at least a dozen Labor Reform journals in the Central reading room and a proportionate number at the branches, including such thorough going publications as Michael Davitt's *Labor World*, Hugh O Pentecost's *Twentieth Century*, the *Journal of the Knights of Labor*, the New York *Workmen's Advocate*, the Pittsburg *Labor Tribune* and other exponents of different lines of progressive thought. It is to be hoped that the omission is merely an oversight.

LITERARY NOTES

The National Labour Bureau will publish a history of labor legislation. The chief of the bureau, Mr Wright, has commissioned the Socialist author, Laurence Gronlund, to collect materials.

The *Scottish Canadian* Messrs Imrie & Graham of this city publishers, has now been issued for almost a month and is proving a marked success. It is highly appreciated by the large and influential element to whose interests it is especially devoted and has evidently come to stay.

Rev W. D. P. Bliss, of the Boston *Dawn*, is preparing a "Social Science Library," to be published monthly, by the Humboldt Publishing Co., of New York. The first number, a valuable abridgment of Prof. Rogers "Six Centuries of Work and Wages," will be issued December 15.

It is stated that Henry George whose retirement from the management of the New York *Standard* was announced in last issue intends to devote himself to writing works of political economy. This is a very sensible determination on his part. As a writer he scored one of the most brilliant triumphs of this generation in giving to the world "Progress and Poverty"—as editor and political leader he has been a dead failure.

We have received from the publishers, Messrs Williamson & Co., King St. West, a work entitled "Christianity and Some of its Evidences," being a revised edition of Hon. Oliver Mowat's address recently delivered at Woodstock on that subject. It is a clear and forcible presentation of the arguments in favor of the divine origin of Christianity within a brief space, and will be useful to many who desire to obtain the orthodox side of the discussion in compact form. The book is printed in first-class style and very elegantly bound in white and gold. It is well adapted for a Christmas present.

One of the best—perhaps the best—expositions of the ideas and methods of English Socialism yet published is a volume entitled "Fabian Essays in Socialism." The writers, seven in number, comprise the leading members of the celebrated Fabian Society which has done more than any other agency to leaven the educated and thoughtful class of Englishmen with Socialist ideas. It is edited by Mr. G Bernard Shaw, who contributes two papers, the other writers being Sydney Oliver, Hubert Bland, Sidney Webb, Annie Besant, Wm Clarke and G Wallas. A perusal of this book is calculated to clear up many of the absurd misconceptions which prevail as to the aims of the Socialists. It shows the phenomenal progress made by Socialism, not merely educationally but practically, and points out how rapidly the competitive system is giving place in some directions to monopolies and trusts, and in others to public control of important undertakings formerly left to private enterprise. As may not be generally known, the Socialists are not at all opposed to large commercial and manufacturing trusts, regarding them as a blow at the murderous and inhuman competitive system and the means of dispensing with a host of middlemen and saving the waste and loss of cut throat competition. They regard the present as a transition stage which is inevitably attended by many hardships in the process of crushing out the small manufacturer and trader by the big combines. But they hold that the true way to deal with trusts is not by repression but by regulation. In the end society will be driven to protect itself by bringing the trusts under government control, and regulating prices and wages. It would do Mr. Clarke Wallace, M P, good to read the "Fabian Essays," and then perhaps he would see the absurdity of his anti-combines legislation, which is a crude attempt at something that is neither possible or desirable. But he probably thinks he knows it all.

SAVE YOUR WATER BARREL.

It is amusing to see how science sometimes makes a discovery which has been common property among practical men for years. Some one has just found out that all danger from bursting in consequence of frost is overcome by putting a piece of wood loose in the barrel or vessel. A generation and more ago this was discovered in the backwoods, and ever since then country people who want to keep their water barrel from bursting have inserted a thick stick in the water at first approach of frost. This saves the barrel as all the bulging will be around the stick or piece of wood. Townspeople who have moved out to the suburbs this year may profit by this wrinkle and save themselves many dollars by it.—*St Louis Globe Democrat.*

POETRY

TO A FOILED REVOLTER OR REVOLTRESS

I

Courage, my brother or my sister!
Keep on! Liberty is to be subserved whatever occurs;
That is nothing that is quelled by one or two failures, or any number of failures,
Or by the indifference or ingratitude of the people, or by any unfaithfulness,
Or the show of the tushes of power, soldiers, cannon, penal statutes.

II

What we believe in waits latent forever through all the continents and all the islands and archipelagoes of the sea.
What we believe in invites no one, promises nothing, sits in calmness and light, is positive and composed, knows no discouragement,
Waiting patiently, and waiting its time.

III

The battle rages with many a loud alarm, and frequent advance and retreat,
The infidel triumphs or supposes he triumphs,
The prison, scaffold, garrotte, handcuffs, iron necklace and anklet, lead balls do their work,
The named and unnamed heroes pass to other spheres,
The great speakers and writers are exiled, they lie sick in distant lands,
The cause is asleep, the strongest throats are still, choked with their own blood,
The young men drop their eyelashes toward the ground when they meet,
But for all this Liberty has not gone out of place, nor the infidel entered into possession.
When Liberty goes out of a place it is not the first to go, nor the second or third to go,
It waits for all the rest to go, it is the last.
When there are no more memories of heroes and martyrs,
And when all life and all the souls of men and women are discharged from any part of the earth,
Then only shall liberty be discharged from that part of the earth,
And the infidel and the tyrant come into possession.

IV

Then courage! revolter! revoltress!
For till all ceases, neither must you cease.

V

I do not know what you are for (I do not know what I am for myself, nor what anything is for,)
But I will search carefully for it even in being foiled,
In defeat, poverty, imprisonment—for they too are great.
Did we think victory great?
So it is—But now it seems to me, when it cannot be helped that defeat is great,
And that death and dismay are great.

Walt Whitman.

THOUGHTS FOR LABOR REFORMERS.

We who believe what can we fear! There is no backward flow of ideas more than of rivers.—*Victor Hugo.*

Hitch your waggon to a star. Work for those interests which the divinities honor and promote—Justice, Love, Freedom, Knowledge, Utility.—*Emerson.*

Land Reform is the greatest of all anti-slavery measures; abolish slavery and land monopoly would pave the way for its re-establishment. But abolish land monopoly, make every American citizen the owner of a farm adequate to his necessity, and there will be no room for the return of slavery.—*Gerrit Smith in 1850.*

You ask my reasons for believing in women's suffrage. It seems to me almost self evident, an axiom, that every householder and tax payer ought to have a voice in the expenditure of the money we pay, including as it does, interests the most vital to a human being.—*Florence Nightingale.*

A paper, in speaking of a wealthy and, consequently, prominent citizen, says "He was fond of manly sports, could ride, hunt and shoot well." It is getting time that hunting and shooting should be considered unmanly sports. There must be a predominance of the animal in any man's nature who can wantonly kill for sport.—*World's Advance-Thought.*

The one who makes money by wronging his fellow man only acquires that which develops the least happyfying traits of his being. He grasps his wrongly gotten possessions either to satisfy his avarice or to spread them in riotous living. In either case he sows the wind and reaps the whirlwind.

I dreamed in a dream, I saw a city invincible to the attacks of the whole of the rest of the earth,
I dreamed that was the new City of Friends,
Nothing was greater there than the quality of robust love—it led the rest,
It was seen every hour in the actions of the men of that city,
And in all their looks and words.

Walt Whitman.

Accurately and strictly speaking there is no foundation in nature or in natural laws why a set of words upon parchment should convey the dominion of land.—*Blackstone.*

THE FRENCH LABOR CONGRESSES

Next to the extraordinary [illegible] Socialists have undertaken [illegible] upon the trade unions [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the nature of the [illegible] delegates. A very large [illegible] [illegible] councils and members [illegible] French unions, to which [illegible] masters and men are [illegible] take only a few samples [illegible] a little estaminet in [illegible] same time a town council [illegible] and also a member [illegible] Council, Gustave Delory [illegible] of the Lille Congress, [illegible] few days been elected [illegible] of Lille. Ferroul, the [illegible] who was sent to the [illegible] Halle with Jules Guesde and others of brotherly greetings from the French, is deputy for Narbonne. [illegible] actually as the representative of the town council of Cette to the Lille Socialist Congress. His credentials were made out on the official paper and bore the official stamp of the town council of Cette, all of whose twenty two members are Socialists. And at Roanne the Socialist majority of the town council have not only abolished the middlemen in respect of all work done for them, but this year decided that the money usually voted towards the expenses of the middle class *fête* of July 14th should go to the working class demonstration of May 1st.

Most remarkable of all was the extraordinary earnestness, enthusiasm and unanimity of the men who took part in the two French Congresses. Now and again there was discussion upon small matters of detail, but upon all questions of principle and of serious practice there was a beautiful oneness that bodes ill for the cause of capitalism in France.—*People's Press.*

THE LAND-OWNER A TENANT

Let us see if anything more than occupation, by successive individuals, is contemplated by the social law, or by statute law in England or America. In England the proprietary ownership of all land is by common law in the people as represented by the king, the trustee under the social system of all their common interests, rights, and properties. In the United States it is vested directly in the people. By the constitution and statute of New York State, "the people of the State in their right of sovereignty are deemed to possess the original and ultimate property in and to all lands within the jurisdiction of the State." This I understand to signify precisely what the common law of England and the universal law of nature are; namely, that all property in land was originally vested in the people in common; and if there ever happens a time when no person is in occupation of any portion thereof, the tenancy in common of the whole community immediately goes on again just the same as when, after the first occupant or squatter had relinquished his temporary occupancy, the whole community was again in possession, every man having the right to occupy it, but all in common. So I assert that private ownership, so-called, is not a proprietary quality. It extends to and includes only the use. The absolute ownership of land being, in fact, in the community composed of all individuals.—*Daniel E. Wing in the Popular Science Monthly.*

HARD ON THE LAWYERS.

The *Southern Farm* tells how the Farmer's Alliance is almost doing away with the practice of going to law between members of that organization. In some counties of Georgia the Farmers Alliance has been instrumental in almost doing away with law suits between farmers. According to the old time method, when two farmers disagreed about a trivial matter they carried it to court, each side employing lawyers, until the original item, perhaps only a few dollars in value, which formed the basis of the case, was lost sight of in attorney's fees and court costs. Now, if two farmers disagree, they come together at their County Alliance meeting and in the true fraternal spirit which actuates every Alliance man in his dealings with a brother member they settle their disputes then and there. If they cannot agree, they appoint an arbitration committee in which they have confidence and to whom they confide their grievances, and by the action of this committee they abide to the letter. Could anything be more reasonable than this? Could any procedure equal this? Here we have brothers who are banded together in a common cause, settling the differences which from time to time arise in the family. If every Alliance in the South would make it a point to insist upon arbitration between its members, and urge them never to carry a grievance against a brother farmer into a court house for settlement, we should soon see the border of county lawyers, who are now and have from time immemorial been sucking the life blood from the poor farmers of the land, obliged to do manual labour for a livelihood. We would have to pay fewer judges, jurors, jailers and guards, and the farmers and the country in general would be much better off.

THEY ARE NOT ORGANIZED

Chicago exchanges state that the wholesale dry goods and boot and shoe firms of that city are intending to reduce the wages of their clerks. The *Times* of that city says in discussing the subject "It is hard to believe, but it is none the less true, that men are asked to work by millionaire dry goods men for $6 a week from 7 30 in the morning until 6 in the evening. Yet such is the fact, and many men so circumstanced and with families, etc. are a constant struggle to keep the wolf from the door on this miserable pittance."

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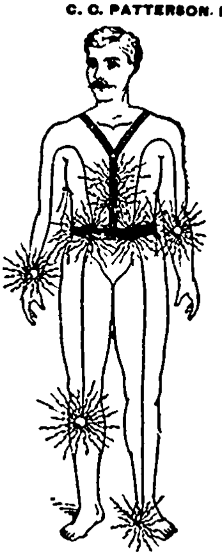

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