

165 South Elliott Place, Brooklyn, N. Y.,

Dec. 20, 1890.

Hon. Albion W. Tourgee,  
Mayville, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

Your favor of the 1st inst. was duly received, and I thank you very much for the kind reply to my letter. I am puzzled at your remark that the single tax would "tend directly and terribly to aggravate the evils which we deplore," particularly since a day or two after your letter came I received a letter from a prominent clergyman, against whose intelligence nobody would dream of raising a question, in which he says: "I think the single tax would do much to change our present purgatory into paradise."

Since the single tax only involves payment for the benefits conferred by society or by government, and since those benefits are paid for now, I fail to see where our misery will be increased by doing in future, under the single tax, precisely what we do now, under our present unjust system of taxation.

I do not understand you.

Respectfully yours,

*B. C. Stickney.*