

it will stand as one of the most prominent superstitions evolved by a science that tries to serve the God of Science and the Mammon of Capitalism at the same time.

This is only the barest of outlines, and those who desire to enter more deeply into the marvellous analysis of Marx (one of his most exhaustive and elaborate) should consult the third Volume.

The answer to the problem with which we started out then, is :—That surplus profit which becomes rent has as its basis : (1) the different fertility of the soil acting on the equalized market price through competition, and (2) the escape of the landlord from the equalization of profit to an average rate on capital applied to his land. This is the cause of rent and of the consequent antagonism between landlord and capitalist, and ought to make clear many of our present political squabbles. As Marx admirably expresses it : " We can understand such economists as Mill, Cherbulliez, Hillditch, and others, demanding that rent should be handed over to the state to be used for the remission of taxation. That is only the frank expression of the hate which the industrial capitalist feels for the landed proprietor, who appears to him as a useless incumbrance, a superfluity in the otherwise harmonious whole of bourgeois production."