

own employers upon the natural opportunities freely opened to them by the tax which prevented monopolization.

With natural opportunities thus free to labor; with capital and improvements exempt from tax, and exchange released from restrictions, the spectacle of willing men unable to turn their labor into the things they are suffering for would become impossible; the recurring paroxysms which paralyze industry would cease; every wheel of production would be set in motion; demand would keep pace with supply, and supply with demand; trade would increase in every direction, and wealth augment on every hand.

General note for it that the tax is not a tax on the product but on the opportunity to produce it. Everywhere that land had increased a value there would be a corresponding increase in the value of the opportunity to produce it. The opportunity to produce it would be increased in value as much as the value of the product. The opportunity to produce it would be increased in value as much as the value of the product. The opportunity to produce it would be increased in value as much as the value of the product.

That the bonus that wherever labor is more productive must now be paid before labor can be hired would disappear. The laborer would not have to pay out half his means or mortgage his labor for years in order to obtain land to cultivate; the holder of a city house would not have to pay out as much for a small lot as for the house he built upon it; the company that proposed to erect a manufactory would not have to spend a great part of its capital for a site. And when a new lot would be sold from year to year the state would be in the position to buy it for a small sum.

Consider the effect of this change upon the labor market. The position would no longer be unequal as now, inasmuch as laborers competing with each other for employment, and in their competition raising their wages to the point of bare subsistence, capitalists would everywhere be competing for labor, and wages would rise to the fair amount of labor. For into the labor market would have entered the greatest of all competitors for the employment of labor, a competitor effectually equal to all others in strength—the demand of labor itself. The employers of labor would not have to turn to the market for labor, but against the ability of laborers to become their own employers, all feeling the stimulus of greater trade and increased profits, but against the ability of laborers to become their own employers.