

THE OBSERVER

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NOW IS THE TIME TO SWAT THE FLY.

Uncle Sam is waging a relentless war on the deadly house-fly and in a late bulletin prepared by the Department of Agriculture, valuable information is given on the best means of combating this deadly pest. The most effective way of exterminating the fly, according to the bulletin, is to eradicate his breeding places. The breeding season of the fly begins early in March and continues throughout the spring and summer months. All dirt should be removed from the premises, stables cleaned and decaying vegetables destroyed.

The fly has rightly been called the undertaker's traveling salesman, and in addition to his regular line of "typhoid bugs," he carries a side line of tuberculosis, Asiatic Cholera and other disease germs. Now is the time to "swat the fly."

TAXES AND THINGS.
By ANDREW MARKER.

The legislature has adjourned. Now let us all join heartily in singing the Doxology.

And now come the taxes. Brethren, let us pray!

And so it goes: when it isn't snowing, it's raining, one damp thing after another.

I can't help but sympathize with the taxpayer and the devil: They both get hell all the time.

Between the taxpayer and the devil I am inclined to think the devil has the best of it. At any rate he doesn't have to worry his head off about his taxes. His followers attend to that.

The streets of hell, I am told, are all paved (with good intentions) but I never hear of a city council levying any street assessments thereon.

From all that I have heard the devil has vast possessions. The extent of his wealth is not definitely known; it is surmised by some that he is a heavy stockholder in the steel trust, the Standard Oil Co., and other great corporations. But this is merely conjecture, it is not on record that any deputy assessor has ever gone to the devil to get the true cash valuation of his possessions.

This is all the more strange when we consider that the taxing authorities are astonishingly vigilant in ferreting out our vices and laying a tax thereon. For instance if we wish to take a little glass of beer, the internal revenue officer gets peeved because we don't ask him to have one with us, and makes us pay for the stamp of his disapproval. Or if we

wish to buy a box of cigars to smoke in the privacy of our own home, we have to break Uncle Sam's seal and pay a fine for it, before we can indulge our most gentlemanly vice. Now the devil is supposed to be the father of the whole Folly Family and why he is allowed to go free while his children are taxed and sur-taxed is more

than I can understand. I wonder if this is why so many people are constantly saying they wish the tax commission would go to the devil? for really that is just where they should go. All property owners should be treated alike.

Taxes are indeed heavy, but do not be discouraged, brethren. They are not so heavy as they might be, nor perhaps as high as they will be.

And as long as we are able to elude our creditors and pay the interest on our mortgages, we must not only expect that there will be taxes but that these taxes will increase in exact proportion to our financial desperation.

Government must have commissions—industrial commissions, insurance commissions, matrimonial commissions, mad house commissions, and even tax commissions, and of course, government must have the money. "Even as you and I."

And if, under the accumulated burden, our property sinks in actual cash value, government must perforce raise the levy.

And there is no use getting fussy and profane about it. If you object to having your property taxed out of existence, government may get sore and confiscate it bodily without any polite formality at all.

Under the right of "Eminent domain" government can either shear its sheep or skin them, as seemeth to it best. Government gives and government taketh away; blessed be the name of government.

Quid Est Demonstrando—The taxpayer is between the jaws of a pair of shears that never interfere with or

cut each other but always trim what comes between.

Sometimes, like my late illustrious friend and literary collaborator, William Shakespeare, I all alone bewep my outcast state, desiring this man's land and that man's wealth myself almost desponding. For, ah me, has not my neighbor houses and lots, broad acres with their golden prophecy of dollar wheat, while I must plod through life an indigent renter of other people's property, with no title deeds except a poor tax title to a plot of ground in the potter's field?

And then the voice of philosophy whispers in my ear, "let not your heart be troubled." The assessor is abroad in the land at this very minute, and lo! he hath nothing on you. Rejoice thereat and be exceedingly glad, and be not sorrowful that your possessions (such as they are) are all in heaven. For neither moth nor rust can corrupt them there nor deputy assessors break through and tax. Verily, verily, I say unto you the indigent renter hath his reward."

And so philosophy leaveth out her seven pillars and I go down to my house justified while the gilded Pharisee goeth up to the Tax Temple to be shorn of all that which he hath.

If the taxes imposed by government were the only ones we had to pay there might still be some hope for us. But there are other taxes which we allow our vices to impose on us. And this assessor vice has many deputies, all drawing big salaries and with nothing to do but devise new methods of levy. There is Deputy Indolence, for instance, he is a worse publican than Levi, for he has never yet realized the error of

"Dividend Day" Next Saturday in Premium Parlor IN THE BALCONY

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A splendid showing now displayed in our ready-to-wear department. Scores of beautiful new styles in coats, suits, dresses, skirts and waists. **MAKE YOUR EASTER SELECTION NOW**—ONLY 5 WEEKS FROM SUNDAY TILL EASTER

New Spring Suits

Some new styles just received—Remember not one single suit left from previous seasons—jaunty, new pleated backs and Norfolk effects for Misses and small Women—New dip front models and also new high waisted empire effects—and oh such full skirts! All the new cloths and colors **\$15.00 \$17.50 \$20.00 \$25.00 \$30.00 \$32.50**

New Spring Coats

New styles just received—No coats left over from last season. Dozens of different styles in 3-4 lengths, short box coats, belted backs and also new dip front models. Come in coverts, in sand and putty shades, checks and many other novelty weaves **\$8.00 \$10.00 \$12.50 \$15.00 \$17.50 \$20.00 \$25.00**

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New distinctive and exclusive models in silks, serges, challies, crepes, chudda cloth and coverts—full skirts, new Eton and high waisted effects **\$12.50 \$15.00 \$17.50 \$20.00 \$25.00 \$30.00**

New Spring Skirts

You are always sure of the style when buying here—everything is always new—not one single skirt left from last season—what other store can say this—New skirts **\$5.00 \$6.50 \$7.50 \$8.50 \$11.00**



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Of New Spring Millinery

New "Tipperary" models and many military models are much in evidence. It will be a pleasure to show them. Exclusiveness and distinctiveness are only found here and at moderate prices.

N. K. West & Co.
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The Newest Arrivals Here In Spring Dress Goods

Black and white checks, hair line striped goods, new Belgian blues, new sand colored goods, new white and cream suitings, new basket weaves, granite cloths, diagonals, Henriettes in Spring shades, wool charmeuse in new colors, and French serges in a full line of colors including all the new shades, new tweed coatings in a great variety of combinations. Priced, yard **30¢ to \$3.50**

New Silks at N. K. West's

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 New figured Rajah silk at **65¢**
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 To contribute to their enterprises, the co-operation, foresight and timely assistance which a good Bank can properly bestow.

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CHINESE ROOT AND HERB REMEDIES

Cures Bodily Diseases With Root and Herb Treatment
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HERE IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO SELECT THE HIGHEST CLASS BICYCLE IT IS POSSIBLE FOR MONEY AND SKILL TO PRODUCE. DOUBLE AND SINGLE TIRES. FULLY GUARANTEED. SEE MY SHOW WINDOWS THIS WEEK.

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Read the advertisements.