

HENRY GEORGE'S HOME814 S. Third St.

In 1844 the family of Henry George, who then was five years of age, moved from 413 South Tenth Street, where the economist was born, to a three-and-one-half story brick house at 814 South Third Street. Here Henry resided until he reached the age of nineteen. His schooling was brief and uneventful. He attended Mrs. Graham's private school on Catherine Street until he was nine, spent a year in the Mount Vernon Grammar School, and a short and disappointing period in the Episcopal Academy. His happiest school experience was with Henry Y. Lauderbauch, who prepared him for high school. In the high school, he said later, he was "for the most part idle"; in less than five months he persuaded his father to put him to work, and before his fourteenth birthday he became errand boy for Samuel Asbury and Company at two dollars a week. He afterwards did clerical work in the office of a marine adjustor. Although not in school, Henry George did considerable reading and loved the sea.

One of his maritime excursions took him, in 1850, to California where he remained, finally becoming a journalist. In 1879 he published "Progress and Poverty", which was issued in the following year in New York and London, and soon acquired a world-wide reputation. This book is an "inquiry into the cause of industrial depression and the increase of want with the increase of wealth", in which the previously held doctrines as to the distribution of wealth and the tendency of wages to a minimum are examined and reconstructed. In the fact that rent tends to increase not only with the increase of population but with all improvements that increase productive power.

Mr. George finds the cause of the well known tendency to the produce of wealth that goes to labor and capital, while in the speculative and holding of land thus engendered he traces the tendency to force wages to a minimum and the primary cause of paroxysms of industrial depression. The remedy for these he declares to be appropriation of rent by the community, thus making land virtually common property, while giving to the user secure possession and leaving to the producer the full advantage of his exertion and investment.

In 1880 Mr. George removed to New York. He published "The Irish Land Question" in 1881, and in the same year visited Ireland and England. In 1883-5 Mr. George made two more trips to England and Scotland speaking on land reform.

In 1886 he was the candidate of the United Labor party for Mayor of New York and received 68,110 votes against 90,552 for Abram S. Hewitt, the Democratic Candidate, and 60,435 for Theodore Roosevelt, the Republican Candidate.

Soon after this Mr. George founded the "Standard", a weekly newspaper. He also published "Social Problems" (1884) and "Protection of Free Trade" (1886). By this time the "Single Tax" doctrine had gathered considerable momentum and Henry George was its foremost proponent. In 1880-90 he revisited England and ventured to Australia to promulgate his tax theory.

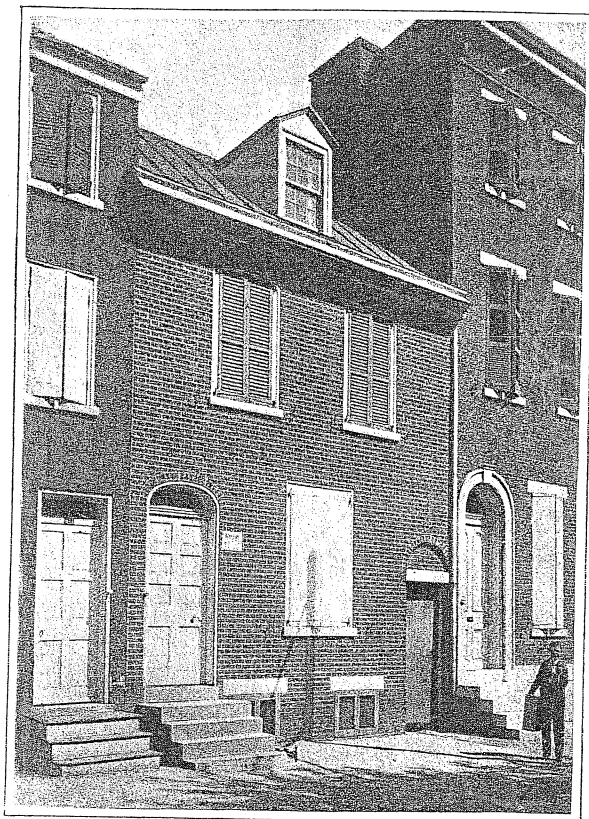
Henry George also published "The Science of Political Economy" (1887); "An Open Letter to the Pope" (1891); and "A Perplexed Philosopher" (1892). He helped Bryan in the Presidential campaign of 1896, urging free-silver. George again sought to be Mayor of New York in 1897 and on the night of April Second, of that year, succumbed to a stroke.

Public services were held in Grand Central Palace and private services in his home at Fort Hamilton. Henry George was buried beside his daughter Jenny, in Greenwood Cemetery, Brooklyn, N. Y.

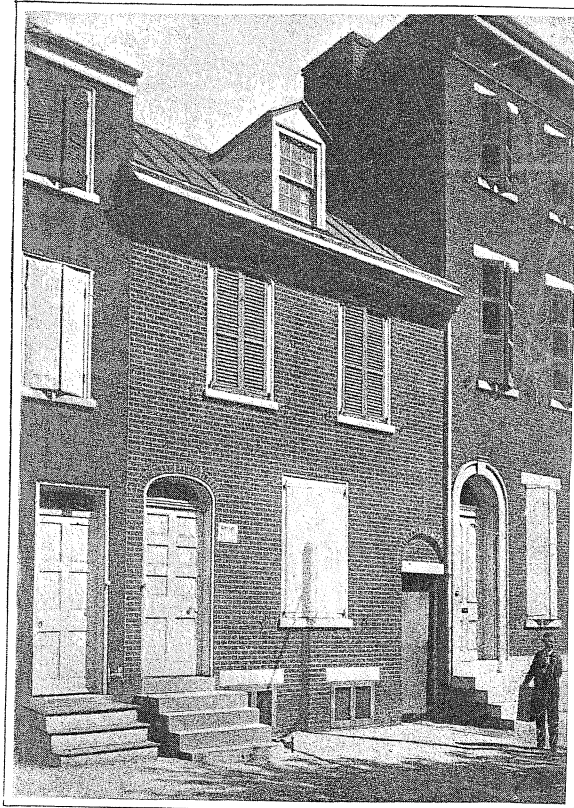
Bibliography:-

- Henry George, Jr. - "The Life of Henry George"
- Appleton - "Encyclopedia of American Biography"
- "Dictionary of American Biography"

Photographed 1934



House where Henry George was born,
east side of Tenth Street, south of Pine, Philadelphia.



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Page from
"The Life of Henry George" by his son Henry George Jr.
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