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Note: The two poems that follow were suggested by the study of A Perplexed Philosopher, by Henry George - course given by Mr. Bennett Challis.

MR. SPENCER ON THE LAND QUESTION

That man evolved from animals  
Most scientists agree;  
The higher in the scale he got  
The better man was he.

In equal freedom each might live  
In any place on earth,  
As each one was entitled to  
By natural right of birth.

Thus early man and animals  
In common shared the land,  
And this, said Mr. Spencer,  
Was right, you understand.

Yet now, that long ago it chanced  
Land changed to private hands,  
He said this inequality  
Meets equity's demands.

"For," continued Mr. Spencer,  
"As ethics must evolve,  
I've another explanation  
This paradox to solve.

"So even though the land was seized  
And held by fraud and force,  
This really was a benefit  
To those who toiled, of course.

"With all the big improvements built,  
And taxes paid, I say,  
The landless owe the landed now,  
Far more than they can pay!

"But yet, tut tut, we still own land,  
And I can prove this claim  
For we elect a Parliament  
That owns it in our name.

"And thus, you see, men still are free:  
They have both light and air,  
If they keep off my land and yours,  
They may go anywhere!

"What though the many are in want,  
In Justice I've shown why,  
And how each one may have a piece  
Of pie that's in the sky."