

**Alfred Russel Wallace.**

The obituary writers who confine their statements concerning Alfred Russel Wallace to his work as a biologist and an exponent of the doctrine of evolution, fail to do full justice to his memory. In these fields he did much to increase human knowledge. But his greatest work was in behalf of bettering social conditions. He was a student and investigator in the field of political economy as well as in the field of biology. In each case he followed whither his investigations led regardless of old prejudices and protests of powerful interests founded on hoary wrongs. He saw that land monopoly underlies the economic evils of the social state, and he gave to the English Land Nationalization movement the prestige of his name and the aid of his ability as a writer and scientific reasoner. He did not advocate abolition of land monopoly through the method proposed by Henry George but urged the much more difficult and less practical plan of the Nationalization League. But this difference in opinion regarding methods did not interfere with effectiveness in educating the public in the principle of the land for the people. To this education is unquestionably due much of the sentiment now backing Lloyd George in his attack on landlordism. It was a great achievement of Alfred Russell Wallace to help in making the world a more learned place, but still greater were his unselfish efforts to make it a more comfortable one.

S. D.

