

1.
In our modern theory of life,
~~what~~ the in which the individual
has certain rights, certain privileges,
a voice in the making and main-
taining of the laws which are to govern
him. Under this system Kingdoms
are waning and falling, monarchies
are crumbling into ruin and
out of the dead bodies of a worn out
systems of government, life is spring-
ing forth, and the only way this life
could show itself is in a Democracy;
Democracy is the expression of the
modern theory of life in Government.

The most important thing in a Gov.
is its mode of taxation, the way by which
it collects its revenues.

Now carrying out our modern theory
of life the only ~~possible~~ way to tax the
people is a direct tax. Let every man
know exactly what he pays for the
support of his government, and pay in
proportion to his ability. The income
tax is nothing but an expression
of this ~~theory~~ ^{idea} in law, and the
wise men of America struck
American civilization the most severe
blow possible. It will take us a century

to live it down. They have thrown us back into the Middle Ages, in one phase of our government, and that the most important phase, taxation.

We are now working under the principle stated by Louis XIV's celebrated financial minister Colbert, that "the act of taxation consists in, so fleecing the goose as to procure the largest quantity of feathers with the least possible amount of hissing". It is the desire of the money heads of our government to procure the largest possible amount of taxes from our people without their knowing that they are paying them, or for what they are paying it. And so the burden of our government falls not upon those who are most able to pay it, and whom the Gov. most protects, but upon the poorer class who has the least protection, but are forced to meet the brunt of the taxes. Thus we have the money lords who are sitting astride our Gov. well protected and out of danger, carried along by the Gov. while the poor classes are strained to death to supply food for

the maintenance of this Gov. house,
 and as the grass which supply life
 for the animal is trampled under
 foot by the beast and ~~paste~~ pressed
 deeper into the mud by the burden
 he bears so it is now with this
 Gov. of ours and the men who support
 it. Those men rose up at the
 ballot box and sent men to make a
 law that should take the rider off the
 Gov. horse and make that ^{now} that is a
 burden a support for the Gov. but our
 8 wise men standing as a body
 guard baffled the last hope of the
 honest men that a man should
 support ~~in accordance with~~
 according to his ability, but said the
 more ability he has the more the
 government shall support him.
 It stands forth as a Gov. which
 supports those who can stand alone
 and crushes those who need support.

Now here is an example as proof
 of what I say. A U. S. farmer with
 a stocked farm assessed at \$2280.00
 was taxed \$25.94 the total proceeds
 of his labor, capital, and land for the
 year was \$800.00. Mechanics who

earned but spent more than that
 Amt. paid nothing. Now in this
 case the farmers ~~produce~~^{wealth} was in
 farm produce which you all know is
 hard to handle, and harder to ~~turn~~ into
 money, while the mechanic was
 in dry cash, yet the farmer paid
 \$25.00 for the support of the Gov. and
 the mechanic paid naught.

Yet we boast of our freedom and
 independence. God forbid that
 we should boast only in our
 infirmities! Now we stand
 up and advocate the only remedy for
 the evils of our Gov. and our
 opponents say we don't ~~use~~ need
 it.

I received a ~~of~~ letter from a farmer
 the other day, and he said the papers
 say times are easier, and money more
 plentiful, but Mr. Wright our
 farmers can't see it that way.

If a wider crisis out we are going
 faster now, does not the ground
 that supports that horse cry back
 and you are hitting us harder.
 The people cry for redress, and for God
 sake give us a little chance to breath, don't
 crush us entirely out.