

# Allen Salisbury, Reviver Of the American System

No presentation of the history of the fight for the American System of political-economy in the 19th Century, would be complete without acknowledging the role of Allen Salisbury, a now-deceased leader of Lyndon LaRouche's political-philosophical association, the International Caucus of Labor Committees. It was Allen who rediscovered, and brought alive for millions of Americans, the real political battle over free trade which lay behind the Civil War, and resurrected for them great thinkers such as Henry C. Carey.



The tangible fruit of this work was his book, *The Civil War and the American System, America's Battle with Brit-*

*ain, 1860-1876*, which today is still an indispensable source for the writings of Carey and his fellow combatants from that period.

Allen's work, as all valuable historical research, can only be appreciated if it is understood as coming from his *passion* for both the truth, and the welfare of mankind. Allen was first inspired on this topic, in reaction to the mid-1970s cinematic fraud called *Roots*, which he understood to be a deadly assault on African-Americans', as well as others' knowledge of the history of the United States. He polemicized wittily, and effectively, against those whom he considered the new slave-masters; but he didn't stop there. Rather, he chose to present the *real* history of the fight against free trade, which he knew to be the only true and principled fight against slavery.

As one of his collaborators in this work, I have often thought of how invaluable Allen would have been today, against the scurrilous vilifiers of Abraham Lincoln and others of his tradition—had Allen not suffered an untimely death at the age of 43 in 1992. Lacking him, we rely on creating new young historians, to wage the battle for truth.

—Nancy Spannaus