

whole country, each taking up some subject that he has investigated thoroughly, and putting it into readable form. These bulletins should be widely circulated among the farmers of the state so that they may become interested in the work of the station. It was for them that this station was planted, and indeed without their co operation and support there would be little need for such an institution. Men who desire to make a study of practical farming can obtain much valuable information from these bulletins. In short, they are indispensable, and should occupy a prominent shelf in every farmer's library.

State conventions have come and gone. Full delegations have been selected to attend the national conventions which will shortly be held in Chicago and St. Louis. As usual the men with their barrels, tried to manipulate the conventions, and to send men to represent our state who were allies of the bumper element, and hostile to clean politics. By the foresight and wisdom of the conventions this element was neglected, and in almost every case men were chosen who will represent their constituency in an honest and impartial manner. It is a relief to the better element in both parties to know and feel that the unscrupulous politicians, who have by the aid of the "ring" managed to run the political machinery of this state in such a manner that all gain would accrue to them individually and not their parties, can no longer muster sufficient force to trample under foot the sacred rights of their constituents for the sake of private gain. We sincerely hope the time will never come again when this bumper element shall be permitted by the people of this state to dictate to them. Political parties should be managed with a view to benefit the people, and not to benefit dishonest and disreputable men who pose as leaders. We are glad to note a general awakening among all classes to the realization of the fact that they have been hoodwinked, and by intimidation forced to support the rascals who have proved to be their enemies. The only fault we have to find is that the people have been asleep too long. If the spirit that pervaded the late conventions had been manifested years ago Nebraska would now have some claim to a political system bordering on decency.

Congress is just now occupied by rehashing the oft-told story, free trade versus protection. Indeed the tariff question has come to be the dividing line between the ruling parties, and it is but fair that our representatives put in their time discussing this all-important question. We call it important, for it is a question that seriously concerns the laboring man on the one hand and vested industries on the other. That the laboring man is better paid with a protective tariff than he would be without it does not seem plausible. True, his daily wages may average him 50 cents more than the wages of an English laborer, but when he has to pay, for all articles purchased by him, about twice as much as he would with the duties off, it seems reasonable to suppose that at the end of the year his financial condition cannot be better with a high tariff.

To say that the tariff keeps up wages is absurd. Wages will increase or decrease according to the number of working men. If one man offers to work for less than another the manufacturer will hire him without ceremony. What difference does it make to him who he hires? He will take the cheapest labor he can get, without regard to the rights of the laboring man. It don't make any difference to him whether the man he hires is an American citizen paying taxes to support the manufacturing interests of this country or

whether he be a foreigner, so long as he can do the work and do it cheap. Yet the factory man has the audacity to demand that his employes purchase at his will.

This is what a protective tariff does for the laborer. By unceasing toil and a desire to see our country prosperous the laboring man has sacrificed himself on the altar of protection. Shall he continue to do so? We believe it is not to his interest to do so longer. He has denied himself many years in order to promote home industries. Now our manufacturing interests are as firmly established as those of any other country. They are able to stand alone. Then why not allow the whole nation to enjoy the privileges of low priced articles instead of permitting a few manufacturing concerns to grow rich at the expense of the laborers of this country. Nebraska wants a reduction of tariff, and we are pleased to learn that our Republican congressmen are going to vote for a partial reduction at least, whether it agrees with the boss rule business of "stick to party on this question" or not.

Another of our nation's greatest statesmen has been called to rest. The career of Roscoe Conkling was brilliant and useful, yet not what it might have been had the party to which he belonged been quicker to appreciate his services. He was among the first to join the Republican party. By unceasing toil he helped to place it upon a solid foundation. In him were all the elements of a party commander. By the magic of his presence, and the power of his oratory he was the man ably fitted to hold his party's bark in the channel of success. Other men, not so worthy as he, sought his scalp. They took it for he would not resist. He towered above party whenever any great issue came up. His aim was not to enrich himself at the expense of his party. He chose rather to serve it. His great and only blemish was his aristocratic bearing. He had slight sympathy for the lower classes, and did nothing towards raising them to a higher plain of citizenship. His mission seemed to be to deal with great men, and consequently the lower classes were neglected. His party, through the influence of a few, cast him off because they feared him. Neglected, rejected, forgotten until death siezed him; this was his fate. Then, and not till then, did his party begin to appreciate his services. At his death all were anxious to kneel at his shrine. Then they saw, when it was too late, how he had been neglected. His magnificent faculty for grappling with weighty questions; his uncompromising disposition; and his untiring efforts to make his party supreme, together with his fidelity, honesty and patriotism, will live and grow upon the minds of the members of the party to which he belonged, and will serve as a noble example for them to follow in the years that are to come. Destiny marked out his path as it often has for other men. Many a man fitted to receive honors from his country has been neglected until death, untimely death, snatched him from earth. Conkling was not an exception.

JEFERSON.

KNIGHT PRIZE ORATION.

While examining a popular history of the United States, a few days ago, I read in reference to Jefferson: "His great services in the Revolution, his draft of the Declaration of Independence, his acquisition of Louisiana, and the purity and grandeur of his character placed him in public estimation next to Washington." This is generally believed to be true. Examine his career for proof of the statement. If it be true, the reputation of Jefferson will not suffer from the exam-