

in convention at Omaha. That report was adopted with few dissenting votes by the democratic convention. A state ticket was agreed upon and nominated which was largely democratic. A platform was adopted which gave forth the true ring of democracy, and the subsequent campaign was conducted without the compromise of a single democratic principle or the least injury to the democratic party organization of the state. The "all night wrangle" among the anti-monopolists, referred to by Judge Howard, was caused by what they termed a "heads I win and tails you lose" policy on the part of the democrats. Such combinations are always desirable on the part of the party proposing it, and there is no more reason for claiming that Mr. Morton was the father of fusion in 1884, than there is for claiming that any other member of the majority side of that convention was its father. It was the act of a democratic convention, at the solicitation of a weaker faction which sought to cast their fortunes with them—and not the act of an individual. D. P. ROLFE.

An admirable venture in journalism is "THE CONSERVATIVE," a weekly paper which has been established in Nebraska City, Neb., with J. Sterling Morton as editor. The prospectus says:

"THE CONSERVATIVE has been established and will be published in the interest of the conservation of all that is deemed desirable in the social, industrial and political life of the United States.

"It will advocate the conservation of the public funds by rigorous honesty and frugality in the administration of precinct, town, city, county, state and national affairs. It will demonstrate that the greater burdens of taxation upon the American people are caused by extravagance and mismanagement in local governments. And THE CONSERVATIVE will insist that to preserve democratic forms of government, local, state and national affairs must be committed to men qualified and fitted, by study, experience and high character, to manage them. THE CONSERVATIVE will, in short, advocate and defend the civil service merit system, by which only an efficient, honest, safe and just government of the people can be perpetuated.

"THE CONSERVATIVE will, under all circumstances, at all times, and in defiance of all opposition, declare for and stand up for equal rights to all the intelligent citizenship of the republic.

"THE CONSERVATIVE will recognize no attempted division of American citizens into antagonisms by which designing men endeavor to separate Americans into 'plain people' and 'rich people,' into 'laboring classes' and 'capitalistic classes.'

"THE CONSERVATIVE will treat all Americans as laborers, either with hands or heads—doing either manual or mental

work—or both. There is no menacing 'leisure class' in the United States. Conflicts between money and muscle have nearly always been inaugurated by politicians seeking prominence and profits through public offices.

"THE CONSERVATIVE will defend the rights of labor. It will respect the rights of capital. It will contend that capital without labor or labor without capital is as incapable of producing prosperity as eggs are incapable of producing chickens without incubation."

There is more, equally good. Surely when there is a field for all the "iconoclasts" and "freethinkers" and such things that are published, there is also room in the west and a constituency for one paper that calls itself frankly a conservative of what is good and sound in our institutions. There must be wholesome-thinking men enough in the country somewhere and to all of them we commend Mr. Morton's paper.—Railway Age.

**REFUNDED AT PLUTOCRATIC PRICES.** The oft-reiterated falsehood, that under the gold

standard money is constantly getting scarcer and scarcer, is persistently refuted by plenty of money offering at lower rates of interest everywhere in the United States. In 1869 Otoe county issued one hundred and fifty thousand dollars of bonds drawing ten per cent interest and having twenty years in which to mature.

At the end of twenty years the said bonds were refunded at eight per cent interest. And now, in August, 1898, the county commissioners—two of whom are advocates of more money by free coinage of silver at 16 to 1—place one hundred thousand dollars of Otoe county bonds at four per cent. How money appreciates under the gold standard!

Among the signs of the times is the appearance and title of THE CONSERVATIVE, published by the Morton Printing Company at Nebraska City, Neb. This publication indicates the coming reaction from the wild delirium of populism, which in 1896 aspired to political control of the United States. THE CONSERVATIVE is published weekly at the popular price of \$1.50 a year. Its editor, J. Sterling Morton, is widely known as a practical farmer, an experienced statesman and a veteran defender of the sound money cause. He is well qualified to write for the American people at large, as well as to lead his own party—the democratic—out of the bondage of populism into the promised land of public honesty and true contentment. The upholders of sound money in all parts of the country should subscribe for THE CONSERVATIVE, and thus become conversant with the aspirations and resources of the great Central West where American energy has accomplished so much.—Sound Money.

THE CONSERVATIVE, edited by J. Sterling Morton, is the latest venture on the sea of Nebraska journalism. But it really is no venture, for the great ability and wide experience of the editor assure a successful paper from the start. Mr. Morton is by far the brainiest man in the democratic party of Nebraska today. He has forgotten more than most of the so-called leaders of that party ever knew. They need to start into the kindergarten of political economy and gradually work up before they can ever hope to enter his class. THE CONSERVATIVE will advocate all that is truest and best in American citizenship, as the editor sees it. It is published weekly, at Nebraska City.—Tecumseh Chieftain.

Bridge repairing seems much more profitable than bridge building. The Otoe county commissioners paid on August 2, 1898, to Henderson Brothers, of Missouri, the following sums of money on the following unitemized, indefinite, unbusinesslike bills:

Otoe county to Henderson Bros., Dr.	
14 ft. Flat N. E. Paul at \$1.21	\$16.94
Wing and retaining walls	9.50
Repairs Douglas	46.50
Repairs N. W. Syracuse	38.50
Sixth St. bridge, Nebraska City	34.75

Paid.....\$146.19  
August 2, 1898.

Otoe county to Henderson Bros., Dr.	
76 ft. pile bridge N. E. Dunbar at \$2.50	\$193.80
Wings and retaining walls	23.75
Repairs, South Douglas	152.00
Repairs, West Douglas	43.00
58 ft. N. W. Neb. City at \$2.55	147.90
Wings and retaining walls	21.00
Repairs, N. W. Talmage	36.50
Repairs, S. W. City	164.00
Bridge, N. E. Douglas	47.50

Paid.....\$829.45  
August 2, 1898.

Otoe county to Henderson Bros., Dr.	
36 ft. combination bridge, West Talmage, at \$2.61	\$ 93.96
40 ft. approaches, at \$1.17	46.80
Repair, West Talmage	43.00
Repair, bridge S. E. Douglas	87.00
50 ft. pile bridge N. E. Paul at \$2.55	147.90
Wings and retaining walls	23.00
Repair, N. E. Julian	46.00
Bridge N. E. Burr	54.00
Repair, Nebraska City	130.00

Paid.....\$671.66  
August 2, 1898.

Then comes this bill for work done on roads:

One team, 22 2-10 days at \$2.75	\$ 61.05
" " 22 2-10 " " 2.50	55.50
" " 19 5-10 " " 2.75	53.62
" " 17 7-10 " " 2.75	48.67
" " 17 7-10 " " 2.50	44.25
" " 12 8-10 " " 2.75	35.20
" " 7 9-10 " " 2.75	21.72
" man 22 2-10 " " 1.50	33.30
" " 20 2-10 " " 1.50	30.30
" " 20 4-10 " " 1.50	30.60

\$414.21

The above bill paid by county commissioners to Walker Bros., for grading near Richard Cleve's farm, August 2, 1898.

How many yards of earth were moved? How many other teams get