

city, county or state of their adoption. And senators and members alike have represented Nebraska who never did, and never can, point out a single acre or spot of ground which has been improved or made better by their coming and living here. Many have been elected—like the notorious Kem—who had not a dollar's interest in the state or people and who never did anything except hold offices and draw salaries out of tax-raised funds.

The question "What has he done for the public good?" should be asked as to every candidate upon every ticket in Nebraska. Those who have done nothing; who have improved no real estate; who have founded and embellished no homes; who have not tied up with the lands and anchored in the soil of the commonwealth, ought not to be voted for by anybody. Good government can only be secured by the election of intelligent, conscientious and competent men who can show something that they have done for the common good while discharging the duties of private citizenship. Let us have no more deserting Kems who carry away their earnings to another state.

The farmer who cultivates ten acres perfectly, is more desirable than one who only half-cultivates a thousand acres. The former helps pay taxes; the latter cannot.

THE NURSE QUESTION.

Surgeon-General Sternberg's statement in regard to

the presence of women in field-hospitals is as follows:

"My position with reference to the inadvisability of sending female nurses to our camps of instruction or with our armies in the field has given great offense to some members of the Red Cross society.

I have gladly accepted the assistance offered us in the way of delicacies for the sick, etc., and we have now a large number of trained female nurses on duty at our general hospitals, where they are giving great satisfaction; but I see no reason to change my views with reference to the sending of female nurses with our troops in the field. They are an encumbrance to an army mobilized for active operations. This objection does not apply to the sending of immune female nurses to our yellow-fever hospitals near Santiago, and I have already sent nearly one hundred."

The wounded soldiers would perhaps not vote with the surgeon-general in this matter.

GEORGE ELIOT.

No modern writer evolved more epigrams than George Eliot. And having attended a communistic camp-meeting, where leading populists aired their eloquence, and vast avalanches of tawdry metaphors of thorn-crowns and gold crosses slid down onto innocent

ignorance and massed discontent like lava from the verbal volcanoes in eruption, George Eliot, with intense descriptiveness, wrote:

"Blessed is the man who, having nothing to say, abstains from giving us wordy evidence of the fact."

How much speaking will populist leaders do in Nebraska or elsewhere this autumn on the money question if they "abstain from giving us wordy evidence of the fact" that they have nothing to say?

AN INJUNCTION.

The writ of injunction should be invoked in behalf of the taxpayers of every county in Nebraska where the commissioners permit the payment of unitemized, unspecific and unbusiness-like accounts. Every board of county commissioners should be enjoined from paying out public funds except in liquidation of definitely stated and precisely detailed liabilities.

In Otoe county no charges for bridge repairs should be paid until the bridge mended shall have been located as to quarter section, section, town and range and a detailed statement of the labor and material required and consumed in the repairing sworn to by the claimant. An injunction upon Otoe county commissioners to preclude the payment of any bills except those verified as above suggested should issue at once and be made permanent.

The man who knows and is constantly telling all about how to build up a city or improve the common weal, and takes delight in criticising those who deal in deeds rather than words, is invariably a drone, a burden and a nuisance.

THE POP APPLE TREE.

This new tree will produce sixteen bushels of fruit where one is grown now. But the new apples will be so much inferior to the standard varieties, like the Jonathan, Winesap, Rome Beauty and Rawles' Genet, that it will require twice as many of them to make a pie or a barrel of cider, or to buy a gold dollar. Quantity in apples and quantity in dollars is not as desirable as quality, and statutes can make people prefer poor apples to good apples just as easily as statutes can render the silver bullion in a dollar of that metal equally desired with the gold bullion in a dollar of that metal. Legislation can produce apples by enactment as readily as it can, by that process, evolve values.

Many men do not allow their principles to take root, but pull them up every now and then, as children do flowers they have planted, to see if they are growing. THE CONSERVATIVE can count a large number of public men who have been distinctively successful in pulling up set after set of political principles and replacing them with new ones that grew until they took root in

official places. They have looked upon politics which yielded no offices, as farmers look upon fields too infertile for crops. The mendicant who asks alms because of poverty is more honest and worthy, generally, than the man who demands office as pay for having adhered to a political principle. He who asks remuneration for being honest and steadfast is not honest and steadfast at all.

THE LITTLE JOKER—POLITICAL.

Elderly citizens remember the famous three-card Monte games played by the celebrated Canada Bill on the pioneer passenger trains of the Union Pacific and other railroads in this propinquity. The skill with which Bill manipulated the cards, the celerity with which he flung them upon the table, faces down, and the urbanity with which—in an alluring voice—he said: "Now gentlemen, where is the jack?" "Who will bet me ten dollars that he can find the little joker" have never been surpassed.

But all are equalled by the great three-card Monte assemblage which convened at Lincoln on August 2, 1898. At this political Monte Carlo the deft dealer is populism. The cards are handled with consummate skill. They are thrown face down. And the invitation to turn and show up the jack, democrat, and also "the little joker" of a silver republican is delivered to the public with the most persuasive suavity of tone. Fairness and equity to the memory of Canada Bill, however, compel us to admit that, while he, as an individual, was an incomparable and peerless blackleg, the composite gambler conventioned at Lincoln, in a trinity of chances political, threw the cards more adroitly and with a tact more bewildering than the deceased William ever exercised. Three-card Monte politics are a puzzle. Those who do not bet upon them may be secure from embarrassment and disasters.

The Democrat has received J. Sterling Morton's new paper, THE CONSERVATIVE. The paper is interesting, because nothing that Mr. Morton writes lacks interest, even though one disagrees with much it contains. THE CONSERVATIVE is to be issued weekly "in the interest of the conservation of all that is deemed desirable in the social, industrial and political life of the United States." The paper will "declare for the continuance of the gold standard" and "combat the free coinage of silver at 16 to 1." This appears to be the real purpose of the paper, and we know of none so capable of defending the gold standard as Mr. Morton. His diction is elegant, his rhetoric alluring and his sophistry the boldest of any writer defending the destruction of one of the country's metallic money. —Adams County Democrat.