

**ARBORICULTURE.** The law-makers of Nebraska, which has been aptly named "the tree planters' state," are now in session. They perfectly understand the importance of encouraging the growth of groves and forests. Therefore the following rough draft of a terse and comprehensive enactment for the stimulation of arboriculture in this commonwealth is respectfully submitted to their consideration for revisal, improvement or amendment. It is hoped that something practical and beneficent may be accomplished for forestry during the present session of the legislature.

AN ACT FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF FORESTRY.

SECTION 1.—That upon any tract of land in the state of Nebraska, there may be selected by the owner, or owners, as a permanent forest reservation, a portion not to exceed one-eighth of the total area of said tract, which shall be appraised for taxation at one dollar per acre.

SEC. 2.—If such selection is an original forest, containing not less than 170 trees in each acre, it shall become subject to this act upon filing with the clerk of the county in which it is situated, a description of such selection as is hereafter provided.

SEC. 3.—If any land owner shall plant not less than 170 trees on each acre of selected forest reservation, and shall cultivate and maintain the same for three years, then it shall become subject to this act, as herein provided.

SEC. 4.—Upon any tract selected as a forest reservation which contains 100 or more original forest trees on each acre, the owner may plant a sufficient number of forest trees which shall make up the required 170 trees per acre, when the same shall become subject to this act, as in Section 3.

SEC. 5.—No land owner shall receive the benefit of this act who shall permit cattle, horses, sheep, hogs or goats to pasture upon such reservation.

SEC. 6.—Whenever any tree or trees shall be removed, or die, the owner shall plant others, which shall at all times maintain the full number required by this act.

SEC. 7.—Not more than one-fifth of the full number of trees in any forest reservation shall be removed in any one year, excepting that such trees as may die naturally may be removed, when other trees shall be planted.

SEC. 8.—Ash, maple, pine, oak, hickory, basswood, elm, black locust, honey locust, Kentucky coffee tree, chestnut, walnut, butternut, larch, tulip tree, mulberry, osage, orange, sassafras and catalpa shall be considered forest trees within the meaning of this act.

SEC. 9.—It shall be the duty of the clerk in every county to keep a record of all forest reservations as the same

shall be filed with him, and he shall require the owner or agent to subscribe under oath the extent and description of the land reserved, and that the number of trees is as required by this act, and that he will maintain the same according to the intent of this enactment.

SEC. 10.—It shall be the duty of the assessor to personally examine the various forest reservations when the real estate is appraised, and to note upon his return, the conditions of the trees, in order that the intent of this act may be complied with. And if the reservation is properly planted and continuously cared for, he shall appraise the same at one dollar per acre.

HEAVY INSURANCE ON EX-SENATOR BRICE.

It is reported that the late ex-Senator Calvin S. Brice of Ohio carried about \$500,000 insurance upon his life, \$350,000 of which was taken out last spring, and upon which he had only paid one premium. The rest of the large amount had been written since, so that on all his life insurance he had paid but one annual premium. The Travelers' of Hartford loses \$20,000, re-insured for the Union Central, which carried \$100,000 on Mr. Brice's life. The other companies in which the \$350,000 insurance was placed are the following: Northwestern Mutual, \$30,000; Mutual (N. Y.), \$100,000; Equitable, \$100,000; New York Life, \$20,000.—The Standard, December 24, 1898.

**A CENTURY.** A century begins with one (1) and ends with one hundred (100). The first year therefore of the nineteenth century was eighteen hundred and one (1801) and the first year of the twentieth century will be nineteen hundred and one (1901.)

Silver is sixteen times less popular now than the one (gold) with which it was proposed to establish forever a ratio.

A Spanish writer is sorry for the people of Cuba and Porto Rico, "in the hands of a race which may properly be called the 'grand exterminator.'"

In certain parts of Germany expurgated editions of the Bible are published for children's reading. "The entire Bible," some German educators say, "is not a book which should be in the hands of the school-children."

The espousal of the debts of a bankrupt and the subsequent election of that bankrupt to office with the distinct understanding that political patronage may and will liquidate pecuniary obligations is a dangerous thing to a county, state or republic.

MAJOR CHARLES MORTON, OF THE FOURTH CAVALRY.

Major Chas. Morton arrived at Walla Walla on Tuesday night and has assumed command at the fort. The major has been in the service 36 years and is every inch a soldier, and a Missourian by birth. He entered the volunteer service in 1861 and was honorably discharged in 1864, commended for his soldierly qualities, and was recommended for a medal of honor for gallantry at Shiloh. He was presented with a revolver in 1863 by his division commander for leading a charge on a guerilla camp. After discharge he organized the militia in his neighborhood to repel the invasion of his state by General Price and was presented by the district commander with a revolver found on the body of Bill Anderson, the rebel leader who was slain in the action. He was appointed to West Point in 1865, graduated in 1869, and appointed a lieutenant of the Third cavalry, a particularly active regiment, for the next 25 years, serving in Arizona where the citizens presented him with two revolvers for gallantry in a series of engagements with the Apaches, and for which he was complimented in general orders by the department commander and brevetted. He was recommended for promotion by the commander of the cavalry forces for his conduct at the battle of the Rosebud in 1876, and he commanded the cavalry that drove the enemy from its line of intrenchments at San Juan, July 2, 1898, and seized and held the most advanced line of the position, and protested against the proposition to abandon it. The Associated Press dispatches sent from before Santiago, July 18, speak of him as follows:

"Captain Chas. Morton, commanding a battalion of the Third cavalry, when he finally approached the open space across which the dash was made for the right of the San Juan position, found himself surrounded by men of two or three different regiments, mostly, however, of his own. He did not hesitate. It was not a moment for hesitation. Mauser bullets and shrapnel were flying thick and fast through the air and men were falling on every side. Morton put all the men near him into line, and gave the order to charge, led the forward movement and quickly took the most advanced position on the right, driving the Spaniards from a hacienda, which he found there, back upon a battery of theirs down under the walls of San Juan barracks. He held this position against superior odds for a long time before relief was sent him. Had he waited to separate his men from those of other regiments who had become mixed up with them in the scramble through the brush, this movement might have been far less successful, as every moment of delay in the advance meant loss."—Walla Walla Statesman.