

specialty of the study of the diseases of the mind than to be placed at the mercy of an incompetent, who owes his appointment to political service in behalf of the appointive power.

The present standard of recognition bars the appointment of first-class medical talent as the work of a physician devoted to his profession prevents any activity in ward politics. Until the state appreciates the necessity for the appointment of specialists, the present deplorable condition in state institutions will continue. When an individual is sick he employs to attend him some one who has made a special study of medical science and practice and does not take into account his qualifications as a blacksmith, or his standing as a political leader in the community. So it is with hospitals and asylums under private ownership, the highest order of medical ability and medicinal care is secured for the patient. The state could maintain the dependent at private institutions at less cost and at the same time secure for them better and more intelligent treatment than under the present system of state ownership and control.

**SURPLUS OF WAR REVENUE.** The reduction of the war taxes is being agitated.

The surplus is from eight to ten millions a month. Experience teaches that it is best to collect no more by taxation than the legitimate expenses of government require. Otherwise a surplus fund is created, either to accumulate in the vaults of the treasury and thus withdrawn from circulation or to be placed in banks to be used at a profit to them. There is another greater objection to the accumulation of a surplus, viz., the temptation it affords enterprising congressmen to indulge their extravagant fancies by reckless appropriations for public buildings and improvements. The average congressman is not genuinely contented until adequate arrangements have been made for the withdrawal of every dollar of available cash from the treasury. Arrangements will probably be made to leave the surplus with the people instead of placing it where it is in constant danger of a raid by ambitious statesmen.

**CARPET BAGGERS.** Political excitement in Kentucky continues at a high pitch. The feeling is very intense on both sides because of the arrest of several of the republican state officers, charged with complicity in the alleged plot to assassinate Goebel. Caleb Powers, secretary of state, after a preliminary examination, was held without bail to answer, at the next term of court, to the charge of being a party to the alleged conspiracy. The principle witness of the state is Wharton Golden, a republican and former political asso-

ciate of Governor Taylor. Justus Goebel, of Cincinnati, a brother of the senator, has been active in the prosecution. Because of his activity and the authority he is alleged to have arrogated to himself, the republicans are protesting against what they call the "carpet bag" government, they accuse Goebel of attempting to establish and have appealed to the president for assistance.

In 1865 the shoe was on the other foot. The republicans, in reconstructing the southern states, took the government out of the hands of the people and placed it in charge of northern adventurers, temporarily sojourning in the South; hence the appellation, "carpet bagger." If Kentucky is now inflicted with this kind of government, the republicans have slight cause for complaint as they established the precedent.

#### J. STERLING MORTON'S LECTURE.

The final lecture of the Beatrice Literary Club lecture course for this season was given last evening at the Paddock, the theme being "The Beginnings of a State," and the lecturer J. Sterling Morton, of Nebraska City. The usual splendid audience that has ever greeted the numbers of this course, was present and the entertainment was worthy of the man, and the occasion.

The address was replete with historical incident and will prove a valuable contribution to the historical literature of Nebraska. It was the story of the beginning of Nebraska. He traced its beginning from the cradle of the Corsican Napoleon Bonaparte and from the cradle of Thomas Jefferson in the eastern shadows of the Alleghanies. The first became the first consul of France in the dawn of the nineteenth century and as the autocrat of France, sold that vast domain—known to the world as Louisiana—to the United States for \$15,000,000, thus opening out an empire three times larger than the territory then owned by the United States, to the enterprise and resistless energy of the giant young republic. It was Thomas Jefferson who negotiated and made the purchase, and but for the fact that these two greatest of men were born, the history of the world would have been different and the destiny of this republic far different than its present. Thus were Jefferson, the author of the declaration of independence, the founder and originator of the plan of government for the republic, and Napoleon Bonaparte, closely identified with the beginnings of Nebraska.—Beatrice Express.

His lecture was the best address of the season's course, and was listened to throughout with the closest attention and interest. His pictures of early days in the territorial life of our state, and of the unique and picturesque characters of many of its early founders and the personal worth and talents of many of its law makers, were a matter of per-

sonal knowledge and recollection by Mr. Morton, as he was one of its first citizens and assisted in all of its formative period.

He contrasted in vivid language the methods in government of those early days of frugality and official honesty and integrity, with the later days of speculation and extravagance and dishonest politics, picturing the degeneracy of the body politic in this the beginning of the twentieth century in words full of strength and feeling.

Mr. Morton is not an apologist for any of the modern chicanery in party politics, and he is a bitter and relentless foe to any of the latter day vagaries of the political demagogue, and his emphatic stand upon those points in his address last night elicited the heartiest applause from an audience strongly in sympathy with his fearless and manly position upon these issues.—Beatrice Times.

J. Sterling Morton did a generous act today by announcing to the Beatrice lecture club that he intended donating his services rendered by last night's lecture to the club. He learned that the proceeds of the lecture course were being devoted to the public library and this fact was what prompted his generous offer which was highly appreciated by the management, as well as it will be by the public.—State Journal.

#### SENATOR PROCTOR'S APPEAL TO AMERICAN HONOR.

To Senator Redfield Proctor of Vermont must be accorded the credit of placing the folly, bad faith and peril of the Porto Rico tariff bill before the senate in its true light. In plain and homely phrase he brushed aside all the pleas of necessity, precedent and generosity that have been invented to excuse the fatal and mysterious change in the republican policy. He recalled the promise of General Miles, the solemn invocation of Secretary Root, the unequivocal message of President McKinley and the original free trade bills of the senate and house, and expressed his amazement that—

"Presto! without notice or apparent reason, these bills had been laid aside and a bill reported levying a tax upon Porto Rico exports and imports."

These few words dismiss into the limbo of false pretense all the claims and professions of Speaker Henderson and other apologists for the volte face that they possess exclusive and superior reasons justifying the change of front. If any man in Washington is in a position to know the facts Senator Proctor is that man. He has been in touch with the administration in regard to these insular affairs from the beginning. From the day when his speech aroused the American conscience to the necessity of putting an end to the abomination of Spanish rule in Cuba the American people have reposed peculiar confidence