

# The Conservative.

VOL. III.

NEBRASKA CITY, NEB., THURSDAY, JAN. 10, 1901.

NO 27.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

OFFICES: OVERLAND THEATRE BLOCK.

J. STERLING MORTON, EDITOR.

A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE DISCUSSION OF POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIOLOGICAL QUESTIONS.

CIRCULATION THIS WEEK 9,630 COPIES.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

One dollar and a half per year, in advance, postpaid, to any part of the United States or Canada. Remittances made payable to The Morton Printing Company.

Address, THE CONSERVATIVE, Nebraska City, Neb.

Advertising Rates made known upon application.

Entered at the postoffice at Nebraska City Neb., as Second Class matter, July 29th, 1898.

**DIVIDE THE COST.** There is no reason why municipalities and railroad companies should not divide the costs of improvements intended to prevent accidents to life and property. Such improvements are of mutual advantage. To illustrate, in Nebraska City there ought to be constructed at an early day, by the Missouri Pacific and the Burlington, a viaduct over their tracks on south Eleventh street. By the laws of Nebraska the companies are compelled, as we are informed, to put up that viaduct upon proper representation of a sufficient number of reputable real estate owners in and about the vicinity. To induce the building of this viaduct at the earliest possible moment, the common council might, in exchange for the same, give the right of way through a certain street or streets into which it is possible the Burlington or Missouri Pacific may desire to run their tracks before many more years come and go.

In the states of Connecticut, Massachusetts and New York the cost of eliminating dangerous grade crossings—that is, crossings which are not elevated above the tracks or made under them—is, under existing law, divided. In the western there is perhaps more reason for the commonwealth paying part of the cost for wiping out dangerous grade crossings than there is in the older Middle and Atlantic seaboard states. In Nebraska, and in fact throughout the northwest, the railroads have done very much to pioneer the country. In advance of settlement some of the roads penetrated as far west in this state as Kearney before any farm work had been

accomplished within a hundred miles of that place and before any settlers had even taken claims on the land.

The grade crossings throughout Otoe county are exceedingly dangerous and it is fair to presume that they are only about equal in peril to grade crossings in other counties of the commonwealth. The legislature ought to take this matter up and provide equitable law, by which the counties, municipalities and the state may divide the cost of putting all common wagon roads either under or over grade crossings. Human life should not be jeopardized by grade crossings anywhere in the state of Nebraska. The twentieth century will erase grade crossings from the face of the earth, even in the lands of pagans.

**BOUNTIES FOR SOLDIERS.**

That the Philippine war is not popular with the men who are doing the fighting is evident from the recommendation of General MacArthur that a bounty of \$250 be paid to soldiers who reenlist. The South African war is apparently equally unpopular. England was compelled to quadruple the pay of enlisted men to fill up the depleted ranks. When the government is imperiled either from invasion or insurrection a volunteer soldiery can be relied upon as a safe and sure means of defence, but it cannot be depended upon to carry on a war of conquest and subjugation. The war in the Philippines, so unwisely begun, means the payment of large bounties now and an enormous pension list later. The commanding generals in both South Africa and the Philippines have declared their respective wars to be over and have gone home. If, then, the fighting in the Philippines is only play at warfare, it would be interesting to know the size of the bounty that would be required in the event of a real, live war.

**JUDGE KINNE.**

THE CONSERVATIVE publishes in this issue an excellent paper by Judge L. G. Kinne, chairman of the Iowa board of control of state institutions, setting forth the practical workings of the law under which the board is operating. THE CONSERVATIVE commends the paper of Judge Kinne to those interested in reforming the management of our state institutions and respectfully submits it to the consideration of the legislature which is now in session.

**MRS. J. H. MILLARD.** The years drift onward with ceaseless flow and carry to a shoreless and unknown sea the generations of mankind as dead leaves are borne upon a mountain torrent. Every week some loved one is snatched by the resistless tide and taken forever from the dear light of day and the adoration of children and friends.

Omaha numbered among her pioneer mothers none more competent, more beautiful and admirable in character than the wife of Mr. Joseph H. Millard. During forty years she walked among her neighbors and friends a queenly figure in the social life of the city. Her happiness was to make others happy; her efforts to build up all goodly charities and to provide solace and comfort for the afflicted were manifold, efficient and constant. The innumerable good deeds of her sweet and pure life glow in the memories of those whom she, without ostentation and in generous and gracious sympathy, assisted and comforted, like the eternal stars. Her stately presence and her benignant manners will cheer her household and friends no more. But as the sun after it has gone down continues to glorify the horizon with beautiful colorings, so her life and its benefactions will tinge and hallow the lives of the loved husband and children whom she has preceded in that returnless voyage which all must make into the unknown and the inexplicable.

**A STATE FAIR.** If the state board of agriculture has concluded that the people of Nebraska will not patronize a state fair generously enough to maintain it, and hold it above bankruptcy; why should that board ask for an appropriation of fifty thousand dollars to carry on a state fair?

If the people decline to voluntarily sustain the state board of agriculture in holding a fair why should they be taxed to uphold it? When a private enterprise fails to pay a profit it is generally abandoned and the projectors or proprietors take up some other line of business. When a state fair has ceased to command popular patronage sufficient to run it economically and successfully it is time to give up holding a state fair. But it is not right, nor fair, nor equitable to appropriate money out of the public treasury to perpetuate and foster an institution that the state has repudiated by non-patronage.