

EX-PRESIDENT PERKINS. Human lives are regulated by will-power and the capabilities for success. The individual selects a calling, enters upon it during the early years of responsibility and begins in it at zero. Necessarily he rises or falls by his own thoughts, words and acts. He remains at zero, goes below zero or mounts towards, or to the maximum height in the avocation which he has selected.

In December, 1868, Chas. E. Perkins, then a superintendent on the Burlington system in Iowa, visited Nebraska City with Henry Strong, then a solicitor and general counsel for the same corporation. That was more than thirty years ago and from that date to this the editor of THE CONSERVATIVE has known Mr. Perkins. In all those years his characteristics, intellectual and moral, have been of the highest, most admirable and forceful type. And in every relation of life he has been a model of loyal, cheerful, self-forgetting devotion to duty. His career has been most useful and practical. It has been such that the most ambitious and affectionate parent may commend it to a son as worthy of emulation. And when one conscientiously—after an intimate acquaintance of more than a quarter of a century—declares that a man has character so solid and sound that he would have his sons pattern after it, further praise is impossible.

Few men know how much, how earnestly and efficiently Mr. Perkins labored to open up the resources of Nebraska by building the B. & M. lines. He antagonized in his advocacy of the value and possibilities of Nebraska lands older and more experienced men, among them that great financial leader of investors from Boston, James F. Joy, who declared as late as 1866, the lands in this state absolutely valueless for agriculture. But at last Mr. Perkins and the few Boston men whom he could influence as against the judgment of Mr. Joy, began the building of the road from Platts-mouth to Lincoln.

But in 1874 and 1875 the grasshoppers came down upon the state and completely destroyed the crops in many counties along the western limit of settlements. There was absolute hunger and freezing nakedness confronting some of the pioneers, and then it was that Mr. Perkins, more than any other dozen men inspired the editor of THE CONSERVATIVE to organize the Nebraska Relief and Aid Society. He headed the heavy donation lists with a gift of five thousand dollars. The society had among its active members Gen. E. O. C. Ord, E. B. Chandler,

Judge Wakeley, Alvin Saunders and other responsible citizens, and during its career distributed in goods and cash more than two hundred and fifty thousand dollars among the stricken settlers. Without that aid families might have perished, farms been abandoned and the state reverted in part to wilderness. Not one of the Nebraskans who has a recollection of those terrible years and the trials and hardships then entailed can fail to recall the great and generous farsightedness and the judicious management of Mr. Perkins at that time. Under his orders all commodities for the sufferers were carried gratuitously over the B. & M. and in thousands of ways he contributed to the Nebraska Relief and Aid Society's useful activity and success. It was a crucial period in the history of the commonwealth. And now after a service of forty years he resigns from the presidency of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy road, leaving a name synonymous with uprightness, honor, truth, and a record of persistent work which even a mogul locomotive engine could hardly duplicate. He is a man for those who have ambition, love the truth and admire honesty, to copy.

His successor is not wanting in the elements which have made Mr. Perkins so valuable an officer and so good a citizen. Like his lamented father, George S. Harris, who managed the settlement of millions of acres of Nebraska B. & M. lands, the new president of the C. B. & Q. is strong, honest and unflinching in doing right and carefully and conscientiously guarding and promoting the vast interests entrusted to his conservation.

REINCARNATION OF THREE IN ONE. The new populist list combination for the pursuit of political offices recently dined at Columbus, Ohio. Croker of New York and Clark of Montana were missed from among a lot of prominent reformers. But the peerless perpetual from Nebraska was present. His speech connected Jefferson and Jackson and Lincoln in a manner to offend each of those patriots. However, the reincarnation of the three, the speaker inferentially admitted, might have been possible in the one man who was then addressing the new combine.

NO GREASE. Some commoner watered-stock, it is said, is paying the largest dividends of any aqueous security in America. It has no bottom whatever. Not a press, not a font of type, not even a keg of printer's ink. It is by a trust, for a trust, in trust for a beneficiary who will not allow kerosene to be used where he is because he so abhors the Standard Oil Company.

DREADFUL. It is not the smallpox, typhoid fever, pneumonia, nor diphtheria that Nebraska law-makers are awed before, nor the possible ravages of those terrible disorders that make them tremble. The great calamity, the hideous disaster, the gigantic evil that causes the average partisan to howl with wretched anguish—that is, too much incorporated cash—may crawl in if not fenced out by fool statutes.

Just yell out "trusts" and the Nebraska legislature turns as white as skimmed milk. The populists have the "trust" scare in chronic form and are emotionally insane for fear the dollar will get above the man so far that the man cannot pocket it. And many of the republicans have intermittent types of the same craziness so that they are incapable of useful service as repealing legislators.

PAINED. The bounced-out-of-the-pulpit preacher who, in the Lincoln Independent, exhorts for populist purity among public men, laments the exposure of the condition of William V. Allen on the day of the late electoral vote count. The aforesaid apostle of temperance thinks it very intensely awful that Curtis should have intimated that Allen, in the senate, on that occasion was too drunk to count, or even to open and read a telegram. Who will ever believe that William Vincent Allen was ever drunk? Will the landlords at any hotel in Lincoln or Norfolk? Will Gen. Joe Hawley of Connecticut or other United States senators credit such a charge?

LARGE RETURNS ON NOTHING. In proportion to capital invested—if all accounts are true—the new organ of Bryanarchy at Lincoln is making bigger returns than stock in the Standard Oil Company. The wells, machinery, ships, pipe lines, tank cars, lands, warehouses, and general plants of the Standard Oil Company, at auction, will come nearer selling for what they are capitalized at than will the fake plants of the fake organ alluded to.

DIVIDENDS ON WINDED STOCK. The men most denunciatory of dividends upon watered stocks have nothing to say against dividends on winded stocks. They make a living on aerated flabbergast which they peddle out as oratory.

MONEY AND SATISFACTION. Money is the only thing which men work and struggle to get that never gives them any satisfaction until they let go of it.