

CORN. Corn and wheat are two very different things in the American farmer's vocabulary, but at an earlier day, and in England down to the present time, the two words have been used almost interchangeably. Wheat always meant wheat, and corn meant any kind of grain used for food; but as wheat was the grain chiefly used for that purpose, when the English and the first American settlers said corn, they usually meant wheat. This is why the legislation concerning the food supply of Great Britain, which caused much disturbance a hundred years ago, was called the Corn Laws; a thing that used greatly to puzzle young students of English history.

The American pioneers found the natives raising maize exclusively; they had cultivated it for a great length of time, as appears from ears found in prehistoric graves, put there for the consumption of departed red men, who probably found it, however, too hard for their spiritual teeth; little runty nubbins with half a dozen rows of round bluish kernels to a cob. This being the food cereal of the aborigines was called by the settlers the Indians' corn, and as it soon assumed first-rate importance as a crop, it was presently called corn pure and simple, the name that now prevails universally on this side of the water. Writers and travelers of two hundred years ago, however, sometimes speak of "maize, or Indian corn" on one page and "maize, or Indian wheat" on the next.

BY COMPARISON. Nearly all things in this world, the desirable and the undesirable, are relative, and therefore valued by comparison. Health is compared with disease, wealth with penury, satisfaction with disappointments and prosperity with adversity. There is hardly an imaginable thing so good that it might not be better, nor is one conceivable that is so bad that it might not be worse.

Nebraska is most valued by those of its citizens who have seen most of other sections of the American republic, and traveled most in foreign parts. There is nothing which enhances Nebraska lands more than comparing them with other fertile lands in the same latitude. The soil of Nebraska is of a more uniformly and unfailingly productive character than any similarly sized area of land on the globe. It never fails, if precipitation is enough to water it well, in its fertility.

The Conservative has been an interested and observant traveler in nearly every state of the United States of North America and in no other state has he witnessed such a vast breadth of even, regular, unchangeable, productive soil.

By comparison with any other state

as to climate, sanitary conditions, rural landscape and tremendous capabilities of production Nebraska is always a gainer. Relative to all other states Nebraska is the best cattle, cereal, swine, and fruit-producing state in the Union.

By comparison with the fields of France, Belgium, Germany, and England, the fields of Nebraska are made more valuable, more beautiful.

Nowhere on this continent, nowhere in Europe, can lands be found, in this latitude, as easily worked, as inexhaustible, as productive and as generously remunerative to its cultivators and home-builders.

By comparison Nebraska lands grow in estimation. If all Nebraska farmers could see all the farms and farmers outside of Nebraska there would be a "marking up" of prices on these luxuriant plains which would make each acre adequate to twice its present power to buy money.

GOOD GOVERNMENT. Among the best types of American citizenship the faith that good govern-

ment is good business is rapidly growing. The old notion that partyism alone determines the qualifications of a candidate for official position is being surely obliterated from every educated and thoughtful mind. Local governments have been rapidly and fearfully increased as to their cost during the last twenty-five years. There are many cities and counties in the United States today where local taxation makes a fixed charge for citizenship equal to all that an ordinary man can possibly save after paying expenses for himself and family. Municipal taxes must be reduced in every overburdened city, or such city will enter upon a commercial and financial decline. Men with money will get out of an overtaxed community when they can; and those who are out never will come in. Many good towns in Nebraska have taxes up to an unendurable percentage on personal and real values.

The Conservative advises people of Omaha, Lincoln, Hastings, Beatrice, Plattsmouth, Nebraska City and of all other commercial and manufacturing points in the state to take up the study of municipal government. Clubs ought to be formed for the discussion of the best methods of reducing taxes and also of enforcing their honest collection and disbursement.

Nothing could be of greater service to the cities and towns of Nebraska than to enter at once upon the work of putting their governments into the hands of business men for business government with a view of reducing the present taxation and preventing further increase of public indebtedness.

THE CONSERVATIVE OBJECTS. The theory now commonly preached by populism that all corporate capital is a menace to individual rights is a vicious theory and without foundation in fact.

Corporate capital is essential to the material development of the Republic. Corporate capital is the dynamo whence came the forces that pioneered with the steam engine and the steel rails, the prairies of Iowa from the Mississippi to the Missouri. Individually the right to cross that state from river to river in a wagon remained to each American citizen. It still remains. Those who hate capital and railways can take the wagon.

When The Conservative began life in Nebraska in the year 1854 it was more than three hundred miles to a locomotive. Corporate capital had not then assaulted the wilderness nor smitten with its wicked wand the desolation and solitude of the prairies.

Then the individual right to cross Iowa from Council Bluffs to Davenport in a stage coach and to pay twenty-one dollars for the privilege of sitting bolt upright, three on a seat, three days and three nights, was open to all free men. Corporate capital had built no railroads, no Pullman sleepers, no dining cars, and a dollar a meal at stage stations was the privilege of the poor.

How long will Western men of sense and substance be fooled into fighting capital? How long shall mouthy men project themselves into official life by denouncing the benefactions and upbuildings which corporate capital evolves? How long before the people will, with the Conservative, object to the fulminations against capital which agitators and fanatics and rogues rejoice in?

WALL STREET. This much denounced thoroughfare hums with humanity which is busy every day hurrying hither and thither to make money. The men of Wall street are anxious to have the men of the West—farmers on the banks of the Missouri, and manufacturers on the banks of the Mississippi—make for tunes. There is no street in the world where altruism is so strong. The brokers and speculators are all smart enough to know that they can make no gainful trades with paupers. They comprehend fully that railroads must have crops to carry or declare no dividends. They realize completely that farmers must have a surplus of cereals, cattle and hogs in order to furnish railroads any freight to carry to Eastern consumers. And so Wall street, which deals in credits and money, is always solicitous for an all-pervading prosperity. Wall street is from sheer selfishness broadly and intensely altruistic.