

THE ROANOKE NEWS.

THURSDAY JUNE 16, 1892.

FARMERS'

ORGANIZATIONS AND THEIR LEGITIMATE LINE OF ACTION.

The great fault of farmers' organization lies in their failure to deal with the practical facts of farm life, and in their tendency to undertake action in matters which they are without power to settle.

The history of farm organizations shows that they have had a permanent success just in proportion as they have given their attention to the solving of the practical problems of rural life, and failure has inevitably awaited them when they have neglected these matters of everyday concern to dabble in questions which they have no power to solve.

The point to be remembered is that a farmers' organization should be just what its name implies—an organization intended to act for the benefit of individuals because they are farmers.

With this brief discussion of the line of action which the successful organization must avoid, it is easy to point out in

a general way what it may do. In broad terms its field covers everything which may improve the condition of the tiller of the soil, by placing either knowledge or material resources at his disposal.

After educational work, the most important field is the unification of farming interests. The strength of united effort, of co-operation can be realized by its practical demonstration.

Farming, perhaps above any other occupation, is subject to immutable laws of nature, and bad seasons and years of disaster are inevitable, but there can be such organization and mutual co-operation as will secure an intelligent and equitable diversification of production which will reduce to a minimum the natural risks.

The greatest need of American agriculture to-day is organization upon the plan of mutual co-operation in all lines of interest, backed by brains and directed with energy, such an organization as will unite farmers' interests without segregating farmers as a class from other citizens.

THE NOMINEES.

SKETCHES OF THE DEMOCRATIC STATE TICKET.

With this issue we complete the sketches of the nominees on the State Democratic ticket, with those of Donald W. Bain and John C. Scarborough, who are last but not least.

DONALD W. BAIN.

Donald W. Bain, the nominee for State treasurer, is a native of Raleigh where he has always resided. He was born April 2, 1841, and entered the service of the State just before the late war, as clerk in the office of the comptroller, and in 1865 became chief clerk of the treasury department, by appointment of the Hon. Jonathan Worth, then provisional treasurer.

he holds in public regard. He is also prominent in the State and general councils of his church, the Methodist Episcopal. Since 1883 he has been secretary of the North Carolina annual conference, and has twice in 1886 and 1890, been one of its representatives at the great meetings of the general conference.

JOHN C. SCARBOROUGH.

Nominated at the recent Democratic convention as the candidate for the office of superintendent of public instruction, was born in Wake county, September 22, 1841, and is therefore in his fifty-first year. He entered in his twentieth year, when he had just finished his preparations to enter college, the company so honorably known as the Raleigh Rifles, assigned to the Fourth—afterwards the Fourteenth regiment of North Carolina troops—acting as sergeant of his company.

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