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FARMERS' DEPARTMENT.

Henceforth the "Farmers' Department" will constitute a special and valuable feature of this paper. Until the services of a competent, practical, live man can be secured we shall rely upon our agricultural exchanges, and such contributions as we may be able to command. Every farmer who reads the PATRIOT (and nine-tenths of its readers are farmers,) we constitute our agent and correspondent. We earnestly invite their co-operation in building up this department of the paper. With your help and encouragement, friends, we promise you an agricultural newspaper second to none in the State. Your hearty co-operation is essential to our success. Write short articles for the "Department," and induce your neighbors to become subscribers and contributors. "Members of the Farmers' Alliance, Patrons of Husbandry and farmers who are not identified with any organization, are all cordially welcome to the "Farmers' Department." Don't stand back because of any apprehension that your communications may not come up to the civil service standard in punctuation, grammar and spelling. All correspondence will be carefully revised and put in good shape for publication. *Write on one side of the paper.* Address

THE PATRIOT,
Greensboro, N. C.

State Auditor Sanderlin was a farmer and a successful one. He was a progressive farmer. He introduced new ideas, new crops, new methods of cultivation, new machinery, and he made known to his fellow farmers, diligently and patriotically, the results of his experiments. He has done as much as any other one man to advance the agricultural interests of the State. He was a good preacher, and his speeches in the late campaign were masterpieces.

Commissioner Robinson is getting ready to resume the work of establishing county experiment farms and organizing farmers' institutes. The Commissioner is right. Every neighborhood ought to organize a farmers' institute and keep it alive.

The biennial bills to abolish the homestead, and revive the whipping post, have been introduced in the Legislature. No doubt the same bills will be introduced two years hence.

Will some official or member favor the "Farmers' Department" with the names and postoffice addresses of the officers of the State Grange?

A FARMERS' CONVENTION.

We were about to suggest some organized effort on the part of the farmers, looking to such legislation at Raleigh as the farming interests in the State seem to imperatively demand. In this we have been anticipated, the suggestion emanating, we are glad to say, from the farmers themselves. The Northampton county Alliance calls for a Farmers' Convention at Raleigh, on February 4th, to be composed of two practical farmers from each county in North Carolina and to be representative of that class, to recommend to the Legislature the enactment of such laws as will be advantageous to the interest of the agricultural classes of the State, and the reform of existing laws wherever needed to the same end.

This is the right and proper thing to do. The *Progressive Farmer* endorses it and urges the farmers to formulate and present their needs to the Legislature in practical shape. Now, what sort of legislation does the agricultural interests of the State demand? There ought to be no two opinions among farmers on this point. By all means let the convention assemble. Then do away with "whereases" and get down to the point. Say exactly what you want, and leave the responsibility with the Legislature. We must move on or we shall get badly left.

The Senate joint resolution authorizing the State commissioner of agriculture to offer a premium of $200 for the largest yield of corn, $100 for wheat, $100 for oats and $50 for Irish potatoes produced on a single acre of land in North Carolina, was debated and amended to death in the Senate last week. Amendments intended to make the thing ridiculous were offered, to-wit:

$100 each for the largest yield of hay, cotton, tobacco, ground peas, field peas, rice, cabbage, sorghum, sweet potatoes, blackberries and sand-fiddlers.

There would seem to be no excuse for such trifling. The resolution was suggested and prepared by Commissioner Robinson, and its treatment in the Senate does not reflect any credit on that body.

Senator Lucas is a farmer, and he spoke for every intelligent farmer in the State when he said in the Democratic caucus last week that "the farmers of the State were for the best man for Senator, the man who could best serve the interests of North Carolina, whether he were a farmer, a lawyer or anything else. He deprecated the spirit that would enforce the whole weight of any class for the sake of electing to high place a representative of that class because of class considerations alone. He pleaded for a broader view than this in the matter of State politics." Every reflecting farmer will heartily endorse these sentiments.

Mr. Brower, the member of Congress from the Greensboro district, introduced a bill in the House Monday for the repeal of the tax on tobacco, and wanted it referred to the committee on war claims, but his motion was denied. Why he wants the war claims committee to pass on the tobacco tax no one knows.—Durham *Plant.*

Quite mistaken. Brower knows. He is a member of the committee on war claims, and he knows that the committee will report the bill favorably to the House.

Commissioner Robinson's review of last year's farming operations looks doleful enough. He says:

"The year just closing has been one of vicissitudes to the farmers of the State. The spring was unfavorable to most farm work; the weather during the summer, in most sections, was likewise not what would have been desired. The result is the corn crop will be unusually short; cotton will be below the average, and the tobacco crop also will be shorter than for several years past."

Finger Boards.

—Coal suffers as much deterioration from exposure to wet as wood.

—If smut is found in the corn fodder throw it out and burn it. It is poisonous.

—Make fire-wood of the crooked rail. It will make more trouble than it is worth.

—"A little at a time and often" is a good rule to follow in oiling carriage axles.

—If the colt's feet grow out of shape during the winter, rasp them down to a level.

—Attention to the little things on a farm makes the biggest sort of a difference in its success.

—Dip the points of nails and spikes in grease before attempting to drive them into hard wood.

—Look to the corn crib. Much of the corn went into it when "not quite so dry as it might have been."

—Nine chances out of ten you will feed your horses more hay this winter than is necessary, or good for them.

—To gather the leaves from the valuable woodland where they constitute the only fertilizer, is a blunder.

—Examine the harness for weak spots before starting out. The horses generally feel good in cold weather, and try the harness severely.

—A "bacon rind" will help the axe in splitting hard wood as much as did the saw in sawing it, and a little of that same on the axe helve will give a better grip.

—A fifty cent thermometer in the cow stable may save a man fifty dollars' worth of feed, gain him fifty dollars' worth of extra butter, and teach him five hundred dollars' worth of cow sense all in a single winter.

—This finger board points straight to the note you will surely have to pay if you sign any order, agreement, contract, acknowledgement, receipt, or any other paper for a stranger.

—If so situated that you cannot raise lambs for the first early markets, have them come after the grass has started, and the weather is warm, and put them on the early winter market at eight or nine months old. Ewes carry lambs five months.

—Where's the sense in comparing warm water with a hole in a frozen over run a hundred yards from the stable for the cows drinking? No man with gumption, not to say humanity, lets his cows drink in such a place.

Dairy and Stock.

—Is everything snug and warm?

—A good breeding sow is a good investment.

—More clover hay, more colts, more fodder corn, more cows.

—Do not winter ticks on the sheep, nor worms in the horses.

—He is a wise farmer who puts his surplus mares to breeding.

—A colt six months old will do well if fed good hay, and one quart of this ration: one part oil meal, one part oats, and two parts of bran. A colt a year old or older, should have twice or three times as much, according to size.

—The east is slowly warming up to an appreciation of draft horses. The idea is to go slower, take bigger loads and last longer. The nervous trotting horse goes all to pieces when hitched to heavy loads. A walking gait saves both nerve and muscle. It is the economical gait.

—We have become a convert to the special food theory, and have gone back on all corn for making meat of any kind and especially for all young growing animals. We mix bran, wheat or rye with corn meal and we do not give our animals any more of this mixture than we used to of clear corn meal, and they grow faster and do better. This corn meal notion is a big leak. We are glad to know that careful experiments verify these new ideas. Now, farmers, make an advance and feed less corn, and you will save money.

Familiar Talks.

[American Farm Journal.]

—Of course there will be cholera among the hogs if they do not get food which will feed the whole body, and if they get a kind of food which stimulates, irritates, and inflames the stomach and bowels. There are foods which are excellent, and will never injure the swine, if fed just right; and then again, there are foods which are all right in their place and united with other foods.

—Under the first head comes hotel swill and skim-milk. When these are allowed to ferment and putrify they are poisonous and will kill the hogs. They should be fed food free from fermentation. All corn and all whey are bad foods. 'Tis true old hogs will thrive for awhile on them, but as neither are complete foods, young pigs will not do well on them. I raise hundreds of hogs and never have any cholera or other kindred disorders, because I give our hogs, and pigs as well, a variety of foods. I keep them on grass as much and as long as possible.

—Clover is a better food for hogs than corn. It is better all summer and will make better meat, more of it and cheaper. We mean this. Take an acre of good clover and it will make more growth, good meat and profit than an acre put into corn for hogs. Put clover in with your plans in keeping hogs. One winter we fed our hogs corn and bright clover hay and they did well. They ate the clover just like cattle. Last year we fed them raw turnips and rye ground entire. This was good food. They had two meals of raw turnips and one of rye meal slop. The young pigs came active and strong. Concentrated and heat producing foods are not healthy for hogs. I think cholera is bred into the hogs, or is much the result of conditions. This is common sense science and agrees with my experience.

—The butter factory is to be an important factor in coming farming. From this industry we can get the milk, kept at home, for starting the calves, and with linseed meal and bran or oat meal we can make them grow fast. While these sensible things are being done to bring immediate income and profit we are adding to the value of the soil, the important part of the farm. A butter factory can be made a success anywhere where the people will. There must be joint action and a complete co-operation. Elect one man, the best one, manager, and let him hire an expert to do the work. Make the outfit handy and complete; but not costly. Sell the butter, return the butter milk, or turn it to the best account in feeding hogs, one-fourth of a mile away. Divide the net proceeds among the patrons, pro rata. Every man speak a good word, be manly and stand by the business. All aim to get cows of the same breeding, by crossing them with a good Jersey bull and raise the heifers. The women will bless the men, and the men will be happy, as by means of the cows there will always be ready money coming in, not so much heavy work, and a knowing that the farm is all the time growing richer. A butter factory is a boon to the farmer's wife.

—It does not pay to have pigs come when the snow is on the ground, unless you have specially warm and roomy quarters for them. When born in cold weather the little pigs huddle together in the nests and do not stir about. This causes the fat to accumulate about the heart and interferes with its pulsations. The effect is a panting or straining effort to fill the lungs, as the circulation of the blood is retarded and the air cells are congested. This panting is called "thumps" and unless the pig is relieved it speedily dies from exhaustion. It cannot suck for want of breath. The best way is to have the pigs come later when they can be put out on the ground and then they will follow the sow about and get the needful exercise. The middle of December is early enough to stint the sows. They can be turned to grass sooner and this cheapens the cost of raising.

—Put a thermometer in the stables and see how many shivers it indicates.

A novel proposition is pending in the Legislature to create a sheep fund by taxing female dogs.

—The broker, in that he makes his money "on the street," is literally on the highway of prosperity.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

"They must upward still, and onward,
Who would keep abreast of truth."

"THERE ARE TWO SOUTHS."

One is the Old South, the South of Theory and Failure—The Other the South of Diversified Industry, the Business South.

Col. J. P. Hanson, (Protection Democrat), of Georgia, at the meeting of the American Protective League in New York, Jan. 17th:

"There are two Souths—one is the old South, the political South, the solid South, the South of exclusive agriculture, of theory and failure. The other is the new South, the business South, the South of diversified industry, of practical methods, the South of progress. They were evolved from different conditions, at different periods, and inspired by different sentiments, hopes and purposes. One lives in the memory of the past, and is guided by its dead traditions; the other in the present and future, learning wisdom from expensive experience. Each was designed for a mission—to fill a place in the history of the country. For the good that was and is in both of them we love them, while not unmindful of their faults, their mistakes, perhaps their political sin.

"African slavery and its free trade hand maid prevented, in their day the industrial growth of the South and finally produced secession and war. Universal freedom and twenty years under protection have promoted this growth, inspired our people with confidence and hope and brought to the country a union in fact and a season of profound and universal peace. If 'Southern industrial growth' is the strongest bond of union and peace, the Union and the peace of the Union are the pledges of this industrial growth. Because this is true, and for many other reasons, I appreciate the Union as I never appreciated it before, I love the Union as I never loved it before, and, looking to the best interests of my State, my section and my country, of mankind, I trust that God in his providence will strengthen it with each succeeding year and make its blessings perpetual.

"Whenever the Union has been assailed, and it has been in jeopardy more than once, the sentiment that opposed it, that sought to dissolve it, was conceived in the womb, nurtured at the breast, dandled upon the knee and rocked in the cradle of free trade. This statement is true, whether tested by the Nullification act of South Carolina or the Confederacy formed at Montgomery, Ala. It is true, because the philosophy of free trade as taught at present, and as always taught in this country, has been, and is, based upon segregation, upon conflict and antagonism between sections and states, classes and interests. This doctrine is contrary to the spirit of the Union, which ceases to be a union in fact when it ceases to be a union of interests.

"The American policy has always promoted the spirit of union. It rests upon community of interest promoted by the union. It recognizes the fact that one section or interest cannot prosper without benefiting all other sections and interests, and that the decline of one reacts upon and weakens all the rest. Whenever this law has been observed the union has grown strong in the affections of a peaceful and prosperous people. Whenever it has been violated the bonds of union have been weakened, and through strife and bitterness our progress has been checked.

"When slavery became a local and sectional issue, the conflict of our national history arose. It involved three questions—slavery, secession and free trade. Slavery was the basis, the primal question; secession and free trade were but incidental questions—the necessities of slavery. I am here in the name of the people of the South, to say to you that the Union is preserved, and we would not dissolve it; that slavery is dead, and we would not restore it; and, for the new South, protection is prospering us, and we intend to perpetuate it.

"For the first time since the war the question of free trade, clean cut and well defined, was carried before the people of the country in the late presidential campaign. This campaign furnished the first instance in our political history in which a great political party appealed to the people in a national election to destroy protection by a reduction of duties, and to perpetuate a system of internal federal taxation. This proposition was overwhelmingly repudiated, and though it came from the political party with which I have always acted, it was based upon, the presumption that the great masses of the American people were as ignorant of the effects of such a policy as were the leaders of this party. If further evidence of the stupidity, inconsistency and insincerity of the free traders is wanted, it is found in the fact that they appealed alike to the prohibition and bar room influences in the States of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut to support the movement in favor of internal taxation and against the policy of protection.

"The majority of the people at the North, a large majority of the Southern whites and nearly all of the Southern blacks are in favor of protection, while a minority of the people of the North and a majority of the Southern whites are in favor of free trade. Reduced to its last analysis, this question assumes this shape now and for the future. Now, as always, the political South—the solid South—is relied upon to furnish the bulk of Congressional votes in opposition to protection, and in support, in these latter days (God help us), of the proposition to make the present onerous, unjust and infamous system of internal taxation permanent. Whatever may be the sentiment of the Southern people with reference to the question of protection, they are overwhelmingly opposed to internal federation taxation, and will co-operate in any movement for its repeal. The political South, as known to you as the solid South, is not the South of progress. It is not the South, nor the representative of the South, that builds our cotton mills and iron furnaces. It is an injustice to the people of the whole country, as its efforts are felt in our federal legislation. I make no criticism of my section and people with reference to a solid South for the control of our local affairs which is not applicable to myself. Whether such policy was necessary or not, whether it was just or unjust, right or wrong, we have all believed in it and have labored to promote it. With equal frankness I admit that through the solid South, made solid for the purpose of local control, we have secured representation in Congress far beyond that to which we are entitled upon the basis of population represented by that portion of our people participating in and deciding our congressional elections.

"This gives us abnormal power in deciding the legislation of the country. As the South is solid in support of free trade, and, as the North is largely in favor of protection, the power of the South, thus acquired and thus wielded, is an injustice to the North. If we persist in the effort to keep and exercise it for this purpose, there can be but one logical result. A solid South in favor of free trade will provoke a solid North in favor of protection, and when the final conflict comes, free trade and the solid South, like secession and slavery, will perish.

"I do not believe in a solid South for the purpose of controlling federal fiscal politics in opposition to the majority sentiment of the people of the North. I do not admit that such a purpose could be founded upon necessity to the South or justice to the North. For this reason, however, I may vote hereafter in our local elections. I never intend to vote for any man to fill any federal position who does not represent what I believe to be sound federal politics touching all questions affecting the prosperity, the power and glory of the country.

"The devotion of Southern free traders to delusive theories and their inattention to facts have been shown during the recent discussion of the Senate tariff bill. From the utterances of Southern Senators, those who are unacquainted with the situation would suppose that the South was in a condition of steady decline, and that, by reason of the tariff, every article of necessity consumed by Southern farmers was enormously enhanced in price. Under protection the South has increased her cotton crop from 3,500,000 to 7,000,000 bales, and never in the history of the country has the purchasing power of a bale of cotton equalled its present purchasing power. Does this denote decline in our agriculture?

"Against 700,000 cotton spindles in 1880, we had over 1,400,000 spindles in 1887. Our 14,000 looms in 1880 had increased to 31,000 in 1887. The value of our cotton mill products rose from $21,000,000 in 1880 to $43,000,000 in 1887. The production of pig iron in the Southern States in 1887 exceeded the production of the whole country in 1880.

"Whatever Southern politicians may say with reference to this question, the business South does not propose to surrender the policy under which our section and the country have achieved these magnificent results. That the political South proposes to destroy the protective system no man of candor or intelligence will deny. In view of this purpose the man or party who will save the political South from itself, and save the country from the political South, will best promote the interests of the South and the country. If the cause of protection fails in this country, it will fail at the hands of the solid South. If the white South loses control of her local affairs, it will be by reason of her folly in using her abnormal political power for the purpose of checking American progress, through the destruction of the American system."

Our Next Centennial.

The centennial celebration of the inauguration of Gen. George Washington, as first president of the United States, is to be observed in New York City the 30th of next April, and great preparations are already being made for the celebration of the event.

There will be an expenditure of $170,000 during the two days that the celebration will be in progress. The general officers of the committee having it in charge are: Hamilton Fish, president; Abram S. Hewitt, chairman; Elbridge T. Gerry, chairman executive committee, and C. W. Bowen, secretary.

The festivities arranged for will include a grand ball at the Metropolitan Opera House, a naval review, a military parade, a commemorative service in St. Paul's church and simultaneous services of praise in all the churches of the city, a poem by Whittier and an oration by Depew and to conclude with a magnificent banquet and a grand diisplay of fireworks.

The spot where the ceremony took place a hundred years ago was a staging in front of the building where the first Congress met. The present sub-treasury building stands there now, at the corner of Wall and Warsaw streets. The historic spot is already marked by a colossal bronze statue of General Washington. It will require an exceptional mind to conceive of the growth and changes that have taken place in New York within a century. The help is given by the oldest inhabitants who enjoy telling of the city as they remember it.

Our Planet's Population.

[New York Graphic.]

Here are some facts about the people who compose the population of the world: There are 3,064 languages in the world; its inhabitants profess more than 1,000 religions. The number of men is about equal to the number of women. The average of life is about 33 years. One-quarter dies previous to the age of 17. To every 1,000 persons only 1 reaches 100 years of life. To every 100 only 6 reach the age of 65, and not more than 1 in 500 live to 80 years of age. There are on the earth 1,000,000,000 inhabitants. Of these 33,033,033 die every year; 91,824 every day; 3,730 every hour, and 60 every minute, or 1 every second. The married are longer lived than the single, and above all those who observe a sober, industrious conduct. Tall men live longer than short ones. Women have more chances of life in their favor previous to 50 years of age than men have, but fewer afterward. The number of marriages is in the proportion of 76 to every 1,000 individuals. Marriages are more frequent after equinoxes—that is during the months of June and December. Those born in spring are generally of more robust constitution than others. Births are more frequent by night than by day, also deaths. The number of men capable of bearing arms is calculated at one-fourth of the population.

A Popular Roll.

"Ah, Mr. Surplus. I observe that the nabobs in your section have organized a 'Roller Club.' Is it the aim of the organization to revive roller-skating?"

"Oh, no, sir."

"Then what sort of rolling are they intending to assist the growth of?"

"Rolling in wealth, my boy—rolling in wealth."

Answered at Last.

We have received the following in a perfumed, square envelope. If the author will acknowledge it we'll sympathize with her:

Sally—Why is marriage a failure, George?

George—Because the bride never marries the best man.

THE BLUE AND THE GRAY.

[From the Detroit Free Press.]

'Tis the day of the conflict; in battle array
Stand the waiting combatants—the Blue and the Gray.
From the green pasture-lands comes the lowing of herds;
From the forest's deep shadows the music of birds.
In warm, golden splendor the sun's slanting rays
Lie over the broad fields of ripening maize.
A little brook gurgles by hedge-row and thistle;
A quail makes his plaint in a soft, mellow whistle.
All nature is peaceful; yet here, face to face,
They meet for the contest, these souls of one race!
The Gray waits serenely in abatised strength—
The Blue, brave and daring, advances; at length,
In a sea of red clover, so fragrant and sweet,
Just there, on the edge of the meadow, they meet.
An attack, sharp and sudden—a noise—what is this?
A report—it is only a true lover's kiss!
'Tis a glorious capture—and thus ends the fray—
His eyes are blue eyes, and her eyes are gray.

A Laugh Now and Then.

Ought to be a high-bred man—the baker.

The man who has a good deal of brass needs but little gold.

When is a man four-handed? When he doubles his fists, of course.

Real Estate agent: "You fellows charge high for pulling teeth." Dentist: "Don't know about that, we only charge a dollar an acher!"

The editor of the Springfield, (Mass.,) *Union* says: "We ate 3,100,000 bags of peanuts last year." We don't see how he could do it. One bag, and that a small one, lasts us two days.

Mother: "Well Mary, didn't the butcher have pig's feet?" Mary (just returned from market), "Oh, mamma, I went and looked, but I could not see whether he had pig's feet or not, for he had his boots on."

Ignorance is bliss, sometimes. The man who bought a microscope with a view, of examining his food and drink, began to live on distilled water rather than take the risk of swallowing a menagerie. He died in three weeks.

True Love's Long Wait.

A St. Paul special says: James Tyron Butcher, a young lawyer, is the hero of a little romance which seems about to come to a happy ending. Eight years ago he was living in his native city in Virginia, and was a prosperous wooer. But one day he was induced to become a candidate for Congress. The politics of the father, brother and relatives of his sweetheart was different from his, and they bitterly opposed him and compelled the girl to refuse to see him. The lover was defeated, and this widened the breach. Unable to stand it longer he one day quietly disappeared and went to Washington, and thence to St. Paul, where he has prospered and acquired property. He still remembered the young lady he left behind him in Virginia, and a week ago a longing to hear from her came over him and he could not resist the temptation to write. Since the day he left Virginia he had never told her of his whereabouts. Yesterday he received a letter from the lady. She had been waiting for him all these years, and told him so in her letter. She is ready to forgive and forget his politics and he is preparing to return to Virginia and claim his bride.

The Ins and Outs of Waltzing.

"I understand your friend Miss Fickle is a great waltzer."

"I should articulate. She has waltzed into the affections of all the village beaus."

"Does she reverse?"

"Reverse? That is her chief accomplishment. She has accepted several proposals, and reversed her decision as fast as she got a new offer."

Eternal Fitness.

"How was Lucille dressed at the reception this evening?"

"Oh, she had on that everlasting agricultural gown of hers."

"Agricultural?"

"Yes, gros grain, you know."

"Ah, indeed! How was it cut?"

"*A la mode*, of course."

Very Touching.

"Clara, dear, I have good news for you this evening. You know that stock I bought a month ago? Well, it has touched par."

"Hurrah, Clarence! Then I am yours. Run up in the library and tell the old folks; it will touch pa and ma, too."