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No. 33.

FARMERS ALLIANCE.

(Capt. S. B. Alexander in Charlotte Home-Democrat.)

CHARLOTTE, N. C., Nov. 28 1887. —The Farmers Alliance is not a political organization—republicans and democrats belong to it in every State where it has organized. It wages no war with any other profession or trade, nor are the members liable in any manner for the debts of other members. The misrepresentations are so numerous, I will not attempt to comment upon them, but will be content by setting forth the purpose of the order for the benefit of your readers.

PURPOSES OF THE FARMERS ALLIANCE.

To encourage education among the agricultural and laboring classes and elevate to higher manhood and womanhood those who bear the burdens of productive industry.

To break up, by frequent meetings, the isolated habits of farmers, improve their social condition, increase their pleasure and strengthen their confidence in, and friendship for each other.

To make the study and improvement of practical agriculture in all its branches a part of the Alliance mission, that its standards may be raised, its profits increased, and its followers made more prosperous and contented.

To encourage the study of the laws of business and trade, the best methods of buying and selling, and the transaction of all kinds of business it may be found desirable for farmers and laborers to engage in, and under all circumstances shall discharge the credit system.

To attend to its own business affairs in its own way, and make no fight against any legitimate business, but shall oppose methods found to be contrary to justice and equity.

To encourage the settling of all disputes among neighbors by arbitration.

To encourage farmers to put their savings in manufactures—not only for profit, but to create a home market for farm products.

The above is the ground work upon which the Alliance rests. It desires only good men, rather than numbers. Dishonesty is a cause of expulsion, and to be a good Alliance member is to be a good citizen.

Very respectfully,

S. B. ALEXANDER.

President N. C. Farmers' Alliance and Co-operative Union.

[The objects of the "Alliance," as stated by Capt. Alexander, are worthy and all right, but why should the members of the Alliance be secret?—*El. Democrat.*]

We are told that American labor cannot compete with European labor; some of the very men who are telling this are importing foreign labor for the very purpose of degrading and competing with American labor. Thousands of foreigners are brought here every year in direct violation of law. Sleep on, dear people and let rights one after another, be stolen away, and when you wake up there will be nothing left you but life, and that will be miserable.

For neat work bring your Job Printing to THE MESSENGER Office.

SOWING DRAGONS TEETH.

It is the height of inconsistency if not unblushing hypocrisy for Chicago monopolists and many in other places to now raise a hue and cry against "foreigners" for whose presence in this country, they themselves are responsible. How long since is it, that placards were posted up over the doors of the offices of Chicago manufacturers, containing the words, "Wanted! One Hundred Workmen" (sometimes it was 500) with the suggestive explanation, "No Americans need Apply." Why were no Americans wanted? Because they would not accept starvation wages. And so Europe was scourged by agents contracting for workmen, who could not speak the English language to come over here by the thousands.

Do our citizen workmen know that as soon as one of those foreign serfs became enlightened enough to learn how he was being defrauded and imposed upon he was at once discharged, and a more ignorant or more servile workman put in his place.

Congress reluctantly listened to the grievances of our American workmen (for they had one weapon of defence, the ballot, the only thing Congress feared) and half heartedly passed the law prohibiting foreign contract labor, but not till those monopolists had planted the dragons teeth in our soil which is bearing a hundred fold harvest. They have sowed the wind and it may take more than one wholesale hanging to allay the storm.—*Examiner.*

SURPRISED TELEGRAPHERS.

NEW YORK, DEC. 2 —For the past ten years the salaries of the telegraph operators on the elevated railroads in this city have remained unchanged, and the men had begun to believe themselves secure in their positions for life. Some time ago they were rendered uneasy, however, by a notice from the superintendent that every operator would be required to instruct one or more students during dull hours.

This week they were told that the students were to be porters and gate-men at stations, who receive about a dollar a day less than the operators.

The latter realize that they are educating men who will be used to force them to accept lower wages, but they do not venture to refuse teaching the "students" as they would undoubtedly be discharged and their places filled by operators out of employment, besides their work on elevated roads has in a measure unfitted them for duty elsewhere. The matter has not yet been officially brought to the attention of the Telegraphic Brotherhood and it is not yet known what action, if any, will be taken by the operators.

A daughter of Congressman (Pig-iron) Kelley, it is said, delivered an address recently, in which she spoke very feelingly in opposition to wage-slavery and the plundering of the working classes. She announced herself a socialist, and said that was the only rational way of raising the condition of the working classes from one of dependence little short of slavery to that of freedom and independence.—*Washington, (D. C.) Craftsman.*

COMBINATION MUST STOP.

When a newspaper of the conservative character of the Philadelphia Ledger points out the cogent fact that at the same time the companies are declaring that they cannot give their miners an advance amounting to less than three cents a ton, they are themselves striking for an advance of twenty-five cents a ton, and adds: "There is not a coal buyer in Philadelphia, probably, who would not give three cents a ton more to insure the miners living wages, but they very naturally object to paying twenty-five cents a ton extra while the miners are deprived of a fair share of wages," the matter should give the coal combination some serious food for reflection. The fact is that the policy of combination by great masses of capital for the purpose of swelling their own profits from the simultaneous decrease of wages and increase of profits has very nearly reached public patience. It is about time to call a halt on such things, and if the corporations have not wisdom enough to do it for themselves the people will be likely to take it up in earnest for them.—*Ec.*

A bright Iowa woman, noting the invention of a ballot-box that cannot be stuffed, remarked: "Now, if some one will invent a voter that cannot be stuffed with beer, brag, or bribery, we shall have made a long stride toward better government."

The strike which has been in progress at the Dunn colliery of John J. Payne & Co., a short distance from Scranton, was settled amicably yesterday, and the 500 miners and laborers who have been idle since the first of August to resist a radical reduction in their wages will resume work next Thursday.

B4

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W. H. TOMLINSON.

[J. R. LEE]

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Respy, J. R. LEE.