

Mecklenburg Times.

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VOL. IV.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., FRIDAY JUNE 24, 1892.

NO. 184

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CONDITION OF AGRICULTURE IN NORTH CAROLINA.

We are in receipt of the annual report of the Bureau of Labor Statistics of this State, which contains letters from farmers in all the counties giving the condition of agriculture. The letters present a variety of opinions as to whether farming pays or not, with suggestions as to what is needed to bring about an improved state of affairs.

We make a few extracts from correspondents for the benefit of our readers:

An Alamance correspondent says: "If the Department of Agriculture can induce the farmers to change and diversify their crops, it will do more good than all the sub-Treasury bills Congress can pass."

Ashe county writer says: "Too much drinking carried on in this county."

Burke county writer says: "A farmer can succeed only by a close application to his profession as such."

Bertie county writer says: "Small farmers who own land are living well, and many handling money. The poor white men who have always done their own work, are living more abundantly and more comfortably by far than they did in the anti-war times. Some negroes are saving money: One has saved \$10,000."

Cumberland county writer says: "I don't think an increase in the circulating medium would be any disadvantage to the farmer."

Cleveland county writer says: "We are hard times when we make them hard by our bad management."

Clay county writer says: "I make all compost in winter and save all from two barns, and generally I have enough to go over all the lands I cultivate."

Chatham county writer says: "The mortgage system, I believe, has more to do with making hard times than any other one thing."

Caswell county writer says: "I hear a great deal of complaint, but I am of the opinion that it comes from bad management. We need work and improvement more than we need legislation or the sub-treasury bill."

Davidson county writer says: "I think the trouble lies in our financial system."

Edgecombe county writer says: "Abolish the odious free school tax and renew the whipping post."

Haywood county writer says: "Education is on a boom: farmers are independent: all who have not paid their taxes have money on hand."

Iredell county writer says: "I think farming will pay if conducted properly. I do not belong to the Farmers' Alliance. I buy for cash wherever my money will go the farthest, and when I have not the money, I manage to get along till I get it. I have never signed a mortgage or given one for anything."

Mason county writer says: "We need roads upon which we can move."

Mecklenburg writer says: "Farmers have been taught to expect too much from legislation alone as a remedial factor to independence. I believe there is as much money, and more freedom and independence, in farming than any other avocation."

Montgomery county farmer says: "If the Government would furnish

the farmers with money at three or four per cent, they could work out of debt."

Nash county writer says the trouble is "corruption of the people in each neighborhood." He thinks the free school system should be abolished.

Orange county writer says: "The condition of agriculture in my section is more hopeful than it has been in the past. Let us do a part of our legislating at home in our corn, wheat, oats and other fields, and be sure to stop the holes in the hog trough."

Person county writer says: "Before the American Tobacco Trust was organized we got much better prices, as we raise the bright tobacco in this section, but now the price is just half. Farmers are gloomy and making no money."

Randolph county writer says: "One of the great evils is, farmers have no regular time to begin or quit work. We need a system of regular hours to begin and regular hours to leave off. Let the day be ten or eight hours: have some regularity about it. Laboring people do not value time as they should. None of them put in more than half the time, except in busy crop time."

Transylvania county writer says: "Give us more money and brains to develop this country and it would be the garden spot sought for from all over the world." Another writer says all we lack is "education and railroads."

Union county writer says: "The condition of the wage-hand and tenant is very bad in this country. The wage-hand is better off than the tenant. They do not work enough to make good crops."

Wake county writer says: "I think there ought to be more money per caput."

Warren county writer says: "Dispense with the negro and cotton in a great measure, and go to work ourselves. Do away with greenbacks and return to State banks of issue; monetize silver as soon as possible, and raise all we need at home, including horses and mules." Another writer says the trouble is too much "Manipulated guano."

Watauga writer says the trouble is the McKinley law.

Wayne county writer says: "We should reduce the number of dogs."

Yancey county writer says: "We need more home-made fertilizer; more 'elbow grease'. If we had these our corn-crib would not be in Kansas and our smoke-houses in Cincinnati and Chicago. We are devoting too much of our time to tobacco and cotton and not enough to hog and hominy; hence, the mortgage system. Take down the McKinley bill. Modify the tariff and reduce the revenue, and do as a nation as we would have all men to do unto us, and all will be well. It is to be hoped that the Farmers' Alliance will accomplish something, though I can't see it in the sub-treasury bill."

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Mr. J. W. Phillips Replies to Mr. J. Sol Reid.

For the Mecklenburg Times.
Sir: The issue of the "Mecklenburg Times" of May 27th contains an article from one J. S. Reid, ex-Senator and ex-postmaster, in reply to my article.

He says that the article should receive slight notice as every utterance carries with it great weight, at least a hundred and fifty or sixty pounds avoidance. Now if I wished to ascertain the weight of the ex-postmaster or his able article I would place him in one of the balances and on the other end where he would be found wanting, or his mental capacity might be placed in the inside of a tobacco seed shell where it might travel for twenty years and never cross its track. Now Mr. Editor, he says as for the wilful lie about my Third partyism for himself he hurled back in my face for the author of the statement with scorn and supreme contempt. I hurl it back at him with as much scorn and supreme contempt that he or anyone else that makes such statements about me are the author of them. The ex-postmaster says he did make "prohibition speeches" but says when I said he turned his back on the cause I simply lied wilfully and maliciously. Now Mr. Editor the action of the ex-postmaster speaks louder than words: I will ask him if he has ever been heard to raise his voice against the whiskey traffic in his own town. As to his Redstringism he denies the charge and says it was the Union League. But that as it may I have it from as good men as there is in the county that he attended a Redstring meeting, and when the roll was called, Postmaster Reid's name was on the list. But he can have it to suit himself and call it the Union League. Now Mr. Ex we would like to ask you if you did not initiate your cousin into your League, if so, you must have been the Boss Dog of the concern and was therefore fraternally with the Carpet Bagger. The Union League, the Carpet Baggers and the Canby Constitution all being contemporary you of course was a prime factor in that Constitution one of the most corrupt, detestable, and diabolical acts of legislation that ever darkened any page of North Carolina History. You of course were not included in the twenty thousand disfranchised citizens, the best in the State but the Union League members, the Carpet Baggers, and the Freedmen constituted one political fraternity. Fine record for the would-be Senator of Mecklenburg county. We would say to the Union League man that we will have a meeting at the Grange Hall first Saturday in July at 1 o'clock p. m. Put on your Union League badge, come out and tell us some of the good times you had with Gen. Canby. You say you are on record voting for a bill prohibiting secret political societies. Previous to that you belonged to the Union League since then you were a charter member of the first Alliance (and see of the same) that you could get the chance of. Very consistent man indeed. Now Mr. Editor I would like to ask the wise man Solomon, the prohibition speaker, the Union League man that denounced Redstringism from one end of the county to the other if he did not stand between his neighbors and one Mr. Strons recommending and selling that damnable compound that robbed them out of hundreds of dollars by the use of it. I will ask him if when they came to him for help in the matter if he did not tell them that they had given their notes and the way to get out was to pay them up. I will ask him if when they sued Mr. Niles if he did not say on the stand that he had never raised as good a crop of Irish potatoes in his life as he did from the use of Styrons compound. And on cross-examination say he had used enough of other manure to have made a good crop without the aid of Mr. Strons compound. The ex-Senator says he would not have noticed my squib at such length had it not been for the little prominence I gained by the position the Alliance gave me without much thought. I will just say to the chronic office seeker that the Alliance does not do business in that way, or he might have been filling some prominent office in the order as it is he can step aside. As to his fable of the jackass, we do not know what kind of a skin the ex-Senator wore in 1890 but will say the ears and the braying of the ex-Senator defeated him in the race for the Senate. The people saw his ears and heard his braying and was scared.

GOVERNMENT AIDING WORLD'S FAIR.

The Columbian Half Dollars to be Coined with Devices to be Stamped.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 17th, 1892.—The House committee on the World's Fair today submitted its bill making an appropriation to aid the World's Columbian Exposition and authorized Mr. Darborow to report it favorably to the House.

The bill provides that there shall be coined at the mints of the United States silver half dollars of the legal weight and fineness not exceeding ten million pieces, to be known as the Columbian half dollar, the devices and designs for which shall be prescribed by the director of the mint, the coins to be manufactured from uncurrent subsidiary silver coins now in the treasury.

Before the Secretary of the Treasury shall pay the coins to the exposition satisfactory evidence is to be furnished, showing that at least \$10,000,000 has been collected and disbursed by the local corporation.

The bill also provides for the casting of fifty thousand bronze medals with appropriate devices, emblems and inscriptions, commemorative of the exposition and celebrating the discovery of America. They are to be prepared under the supervision of the Secretary of the Treasury at a cost not to exceed \$50,000.

Richmond & Danville in the Hands of a Receiver.

News and Observer.

The United States Circuit court having appointed receivers of the Richmond & Danville Railroad, the affairs of the entire system have been placed in the hands of Capt. W. H. Green, manager under the receivers. This is a high compliment to Capt. Green, who, we believe is a Johnston county man, and whose steady rise in railroad business is much to his credit and a high evidence of his capacity and ability.

We yesterday received a copy of his circular letter, dated June 16th, announcing that he is to manage the affairs of the system under the receivers. While the effect of this order is to take the line out of the control of the directors, yet we suppose that those officers who have heretofore had active duties to perform will be employed as hitherto. All agents, conductors, &c., will necessarily be continued as usual.

For months there have been efforts made to recognize the R. & D. system, but the various plans appear to have fallen through, and as a result that great system has been taken possession of by the courts. While we know but little about such matters, we assume that the trouble comes from the fact that the road did not earn enough to pay its expenses.

There are some seven thousand miles of line involved, and the traffic, both freight and passenger, must be immense. Probably the rates were put too low. If that is the case the circuit court may direct the receivers to advance the rates, for the court cannot let the property run further into debt unnecessarily. The court must protect the property it has taken possession of and see that as long as it is not increased without good cause. If the road cannot pay expenses at existing rates, the court will probably order an increase in them so as to bring the receipts up to the necessary expenses.

The G. W. Childs Heifer a Grandmother.

Binghampton Republic.

When Mrs. Cleveland was queen of the White House George W. Childs, the Philadelphia editor and philanthropist, presented her with a beautiful Jersey heifer. When the heifer had a calf it was presented to President Roberts of the Pennsylvania Railroad, who christened it Frances Cleveland. Now there is a granddaughter of the Childs heifer, which has been christened Ruth Cleveland.

Third Party in Alamance.

From the Observer.

About one-third of the forty have heretofore been Republicans, four of which have been before the people of Alamance asking to be elected to public office; and there were also two defeated prohibition candidates in the meeting.

Huntersville Letter.

For the Mecklenburg Times.

Abundant rains have visited this section, beginning last Saturday evening. Crops are looking fine, being in fine condition. Wheat is well nigh harvested and was never better.

Mr. L. C. McKay will make 60 or more bushels of his lots not more than three acres in all. The oat crop is magnificent. The outlook for an abundant crop is cheering to one and all and since the hard year just passing has taught every one economy, our people will be more frugal in the future than ever before, no one but the farmer knows the full meaning of hard times. He is fondled if successful, but abused and kicked if he fails to make ends meet, laziness laziness being assigned as the cause of failure and over production the cause of low prices. Ah me! who can blame him for seeking relief from his burdens and, even, if he, in his eagerness to get relief makes mistakes he ought to be sympathized with and not abused by those too who know no more of the trials, disappointments and difficulties of the farmer than the "man in the moon."

The political sea is quiet and serene in these parts, all are too busy attending to business to stop to discuss politics. Many have come and gone within the last week and our town has put on her usual quiet appearance at this season. A great gloom hangs over the town to-day caused by the very sudden death of Mrs. Reococa Hunter wife of R. B. Hunter. The sympathy of the whole community goes out to the bereaved husband and children and relatives, as was attested by the large concourse who gathered this evening to pay the last duty of love and respect at the A. R. P. church of which she was a consistent honored member. May the Lord help the sorrowing in their distress and comfort them as he alone can comfort.

Mrs. Banna Alexander is quite sick at this time and has been for nearly a week.

Mr. Milas Ochler has had a child very sick with cholera infantum.

The general health of the community is very good.

We expected to take in the ceremonies of Baryum Springs today, but indisposition prevented.

Great quantities of potatoes are being set out and next year bids fair to be one of great plenty as this is of great scarcity.

The Richmond & Danville.

Raleigh Chronicle.

It is understood that the embarrassment of the Richmond & Danville railroad system was mainly caused by investments that did not turn out well, and not by low freights as some have supposed. So far as North Carolina is concerned, the freight charges of the R. & D. were somewhat lower than the charges of the other leading roads in the State, and when our railroad commissioners were arranging freight rates, those other roads were required to conform more to the price, established by the Richmond & Danville, before there was a Railroad Commission in the State. The partially reduced charges by other roads have not embarrassed them, and hence there is no force in the view that the Richmond & Danville has been crippled by a reduction of freight charges. We have no indication that a receiver is likely to be asked for by any of our other roads.

A. and M. College.

Raleigh Cor. Charlotte Observer.

The board of trustees of the Agricultural and Mechanical College have just purchased thirteen and a half acres of land immediately west of and adjoining the property. They decided to enlarge the agricultural work greatly and will next year have a farm which will be a model. It was ordered that the president of the college or the professors should make trips here and there in the State and speak and work in the interest of the college. All the interests of the latter are to be pushed. In conversation several of the directors expressed their appreciation of the college work. The institution grows in popularity.

Aeronaut Falls.

Mt. Holly News.

Bob Roper, the aeronaut of this place, recently made many convolutions and in one of his voyages in mid air fell in Charlotte jail. While up it is supposed that he became entangled with his "blind tiger," consequently his unfortunate lighting place.

Many Persons

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Upon the receipt of fifteen cents with your name and postoffice address we will mail to you for one year postage paid our Monthly Metropolitan Fashion sheet published by the Butterick Publishing Company of London, England and New York. We also send our twenty page catalogue of Fashions which is issued four times a year Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter. This Catalogue and a fashion sheet every month sixteen copies in all mailed to you free for fifteen (15) a year. Many are unable to buy the high priced fashion journals and we offer this to our friends so that they can secure one that is first class for almost nothing. The fifteen cents just pays the postage so you see we make nothing on them; but we trust that those who become subscribers to the sheet will become customers of ours. That what we do for an advertisement. Send 15c with your name and address written plainly and get the fashion sheet for one year and four catalogues as they are issued.

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Charlotte, N. C.

Third Party in Anson.

Wadesboro Messenger.

During the progress of the meeting Mr. E. W. Flake was called for and made a speech in which he swallowed the St. Louis platform whole, pension back grab and all. Mr. Flake is remarkably prolific of statistics, and is loaded to the muzzle with facts and figures from the Alliance hand book, but the most enjoyable part of his speech was that part in which he told how the \$400,000,000 which the Third party proposes to give the yankee soldiers shall be paid. After hearing Mr. Flake's speech we are only surprised that his brilliant, though simple plan, had not occurred to us before; but then we all live to learn. Mr. Flake would settle that vexed question in this way: He would put the huge government printing presses to work, and it would only be a question of a few hours before the crisp, new bills, which are to bring joy to the yankee soldier's heart were printed. [Mind you, the poor, ragged Confederate soldier has no part nor lot in the millenium to be brought about by the Third party.]

The Colored A. & M. College.

News and Observer.

The trustees of the A. & M. College, at a meeting at Greensboro, have elected Prof. C. H. Moore as vice-president, at a salary of \$900 a year. A sub-committee of three were also appointed to look after the erections of the buildings, so that it will not be necessary to call the full board together except on extraordinary occasions. The buildings are to be of brick, the main one to be four stories, with an observatory. The site selected is the highest around Greensboro, and can be seen from almost any point.

Stricken in the Pulpit.

ALLIANCE, June 14.—The Rev. Mr. Norton of the Union Avenue Methodist Episcopal church, while preaching on Sunday, suddenly threw his hands up and exclaimed "Into thy hands, O Lord, I commit my spirit," and fell backward." He was carried home, where it was discovered that he had been stricken with paralysis.

Needling a Tonic.

For children that want building up, should take **BROWN'S IRON BITTERS.** It is pleasant to take, cures Malaria, Indigestion and Biliousness. All dealers keep it.