



THE



PROGRESSIVE



FARMER.

THE INDUSTRIAL AND EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS OF OUR PEOPLE PARAMOUNT TO ALL OTHER CONSIDERATIONS OF STATE POLICY.

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No. 31.

OUR FARMERS' CLUBS.

What our Farmers are Doing and How the Work of Organizing is Progressing.

CEDAR GROVE CLUB.

Our club met on the 4th inst. with a good attendance and much interest was manifested in the proceedings. The subject under discussion was: "How to prevent cultivated land from washing," upon which Messrs. G. D. Conrad, S. A. Alspaugh, J. I. Craft and A. W. Bevel made short but interesting speeches. The conclusion arrived at was that the remedy was found in deep plowing.

Mr. A. W. Bevel asked the question, "which is the best way to plow, up and down or across a hill to prevent washing?" which elicited the reply, which opinion prevailed, that the plowing should be done across the hill.

The Cedar Grove Club believes in exciting a spirit of emulation among its members and offers a premium of ten bushels of wheat to the member who produces the largest yield of wheat from one acre of land.

This club had eight delegates at the first county convention but will largely increase this number at the next.

We commend the suggestion of a farmers' dinner made by a correspondent in the last issue of the PROGRESSIVE FARMER, but want it at some other place than Winston. Some central point in the country would be preferable.

W. A. BEVEL, Secretary.

ORGANIZING IN MONTGOMERY.

A large gathering of farmers assembled at Wadeville school house on Saturday, Aug. 25th, and organized a club with the following officers: J. F. Crowder, President; S. S. Ballard, Vice President; J. J. Elbert, Secretary; M. S. Christholm, Treasurer. An executive committee was chosen, consisting of E. F. DeBerry, J. A. Hall, J. C. McRae. Several petitions were then handed in for membership, to be acted upon at the next meeting. Our club is known as Clark's Creek, Wadeville Club No. 1.

J. F. CROWDER.

The farmers of Kernersville township will meet at Pine Grove, in that township, Saturday afternoon next at 2 o'clock to organize a Farmers' Club.

UNCLE SAM'S CASH.

An advance sheet from the annual report for 1886 of the director of the mint shows that there are in the Federal treasury in gold bullion \$42,386,096; in silver bullion \$3,467,563; in gold coin, \$189,529,603; in silver dollars, \$181,253,566; in fractional silver coin, \$28,904,681; in gold certificates, \$55,129,870; in silver certificates, \$27,861,450; in United States notes, \$41,118,316; in national bank notes, \$4,034,416; and in fractional currency, \$2,667, making a total of \$572,688,228. In the national banks of the country there are in gold coin \$104,530,587; in silver dollars, \$6,757,263; in fractional silver coin, \$2,913,304; in gold certificates, \$41,446,430; in silver certificates, \$2,812,290; in United States notes, \$79,656,783; in national bank notes, \$25,129,938; in fractional currency, \$452,361, making a total of \$262,698,956. In the banks other than national and in general circulation there are in gold coin, \$254,259,840; in silver dollars, \$45,712,457; in fractional silver coin, \$43,241,512; in gold certificates, \$34,597,945; in silver certificates, \$86,303,935; in United States notes, \$225,963,362; in national bank notes, \$282,535,100; and in fractional currency, \$6,499,059, making a total of \$979,113,210. This makes the total circulation of the country, \$1,815,500,394, the figures all being revised to July 1, 1886.

State Items.

—Mr. Eli Zimmerman raised 317 bushels of wheat this year from 16 bushels he sowed last Fall.—Davidson Dispatch.

—This promises to be a brisk fall in Goldsboro. Trade in every branch of business is already picking up.—Goldsboro Argus.

—We have seen some very fine tobacco cured from this year's crop. It was a very bright, and had a good body.—Tar River Talker.

—Mr. R. P. Reinhardt is now having the seed threshed from a portion of his clover crop. He will get about 80 bushels.—Farmers in Burke county are still preparing wheat land. From all indications there will be more wheat sowed this year than was last.—Piedmont Press.

—Our farmers are not nearly so blue as they were a month ago. There has been a wonderful outcome in all the crops. Tobacco especially has come out. What proportion of brights there will be, nobody knows; but the prospects for those are better than the other side of the Ridge.—Asheville Citizen.

—The farmers around Milo have commenced cutting tobacco.—Mr. Julian Dunn is in jail for six months for selling liquor on Sunday. The Judge in sentencing Dunn said, so far as he was concerned, he proposed to see that the law in regard to the sale of liquor on Sunday or to minors was enforced.—Smithfield Herald.

—The upland cotton and corn crops will doubtless reach an average if not a little beyond, this year.—Mr. Wilson Furr, a young man of Locust Level, Stanly county, was found dead in his barn on the night of the 21st inst., by his wife, and it is supposed that he was kicked to death by a mule.—Montgomery Vidette.

—Geo. Hauser, of big watermelon fame, writes Frank Hege that his largest melon now weighs 75 pounds and is gaining from one pound to a pound and a half a day, and that it will not be mature before the middle of this month. Frank has engaged it, and when it is pulled it will be on exhibition at the sign of the "big coffee pot."—Salem Press.

—Mr. John Spoon, of Alamance county, who is 77 years old, sold a load of tobacco at the Globe Warehouse yesterday. It was the first tobacco he ever raised and the first he ever saw on a warehouse floor. He has never taken but one chew of tobacco. Three years ago he was married in his 74th year.—Durham Recorder.

—Notwithstanding the poor crop prospects in this section at one time which was occasioned by the excessive rains, we are pleased to learn that the indications now point to an abundant yield of cotton, while the corn crop on uplands is quite promising. We hear of several large cotton planters whose crops are the best in ten years.—Rockingham Spirit of the South.

—Mr. D. A. Morrison is about commencing the erection of a tobacco factory, 40x80, on water street near the warehouse of Messrs. Mott & Cowles. The rent has been guaranteed and a tenant for the factory is almost secured.—The corn crop this year is going to be capital, cotton is going to be much better than it was last season, and our people are likely to be better off by Christmas, notwithstanding the bad prospects of the spring than they have been in five years.—The meeting at Salisbury yesterday of persons interested in the proposed Smithville-Bristol Railroad was attended from Rowan, Stanly, Davie, Wilkes, Surry, Watauga and Ashe. The meeting was enthusiastic, and the representatives of these counties pledged them for sums ranging from \$50,000 to \$100,000.—Statesville Landmark.

—Wilmington had 5,000 people in 1844. Raleigh had about 4,000. Wilmington now has 20,000. Raleigh probably about 10,000. When Gen. Washington visited Wilmington in the nineties of the last century it had 1,100 inhabitants. In the Revolutionary War it had 300. In 1844 it had four churches. It now has probably thirty or more.—Wilmington Star.

—There is a large crop of wild grapes, commonly called burlaces, this season. "The woods are full of 'em."—As usual the farmer who is raising his own supplies this year is going to be in a better financial condition when the year closes.—On Saturday we received some samples of cured tobacco from Mr. Jenkins, overseer of the farm of the late Capt. J. R. Thigpen, near Penny Hill. These samples are the brightest we have yet seen. Those of our farmers who tried tobacco this year seem much pleased with the experiment.—Greenville Reflector.

—The time is near at hand when the farmer will begin to turn over to the mortgagee the crop he has toiled so hard to make, and when that is done what will he have to show for his work?—nothing.—A porpoise factory has been established at Hatteras, with the aid of Wilmington capitalists, and the company having procured special machinery and skilled laborers from Europe, purpose supplying the market with leather, oil and fertilizers. Sometimes eighty or ninety powerful creatures about eight feet long are netted at a single haul.—Washington Progress.

THE BEST CLOVER MIXTURE FOR ONE ACRE.

Mr. B. P. Williams of Wake county furnishes the following to the Raleigh News and Observer:

"Prepare the land thoroughly by ploughing and harrowing repeatedly until the surface is friable and mellow. Sow down 500 pounds of high grade ammoniated guano and harrow it in. When so prepared sow upon it ten pounds of red clover seed, ten pounds of tall meadow oat-grass seed, ten pounds of red top seed, five pounds of blue grass seed, and brush in. Sow in September or February.

EARLY GREEN FEED.

For one acre of early green feed, plow and cross plow one acre of level land near the stable. Scatter upon the plowed land eight or ten two-horse wagon loads of stable manure, or 600 to 800 pounds of cotton seed meal. Then harrow and cross harrow and cross-harrow the land until it is smooth and mellow. Sow upon it two and a half bushels of rye, plow in shallow and harrow again. By following the above instructions and sowing by or before September 20th, a large quantity of very early choice feed can be made, and a splendid crop of either cotton, corn or millet can be made upon the land after the feed is cut off. It has proved many times to be the best and most profitable acre on the farm.

A PROFITABLE YIELD.

The most profitable yield, per acre, which he have heard of in this section the present year, is the following by Mr. F. M. Gray, of Lanesboro: On 2 1/2 acres of ground, in grape vines, he made 1230 gallons of wine which he sells for \$1.00 per single gallon or 80c per gallon, per barrel. Three hundred of the vines were set out four years ago, and 700 three years ago. Mr. Gray expects to give most of his time and attention to grape culture and wine making, and, judging by the success attending his experiment, there is reason to believe that he will be eminently successful in the end. Judges of wine pronounce his make excellent, and we are of the opinion that it is just so.—Wadesboro Intelligencer.

TO THE LADIES OF FORSYTH AND ADJACENT COUNTIES.

The N. C. State Horticultural Society will hold its Sixth Annual Fruit Fair in Winston-Salem next year. It took some work to bring it here, amongst the rest a promise that our people would give the society the best fair that had yet been held. We would ask you, ladies, to help redeem this promise by beginning now to get ready for it. Your department will consist of Jellies, Pickles, Preserves, Canned and dried fruits, &c. Some of these must be prepared now in order to have them ready next August, and we hope that all who are interested, (and surely you will be so when the time comes,) will have the fair in mind whilst making your fall jellies and preserves.

Our premium list at the last Fair footed up over \$100 on this class, and if possible, we will have a still fuller one next year. So please begin now, ladies, and we will know that your department will not fail to meet the expectations of the Executive Committee.

LINEBACK BROS.

TEACHER'S INSTITUTE.

LEWISVILLE, N. C., Sept. 6, 1886.

EDITOR PROGRESSIVE FARMER:—The Teacher's Institute held at this place by our County Superintendent was quite a success.

The Institute was opened August 6th with a goodly number of teachers present. The following gentlemen attended most of them regularly, viz: W. H. Goslen, P. T. Lehman, E. P. Sprinkle, J. H. Conrad, D. A. Binkley, J. W. Pratt, E. E. Kiser, J. B. Sprinkle, W. E. Vest, C. A. Pratt, and one lady. Miss Lula Hunter, and G. V. Dull, Jno. A. Dull and L. J. Conrad, were also enrolled, as at a future day they aim to make teaching their profession. There were four colored teachers in attendance.

The exercises consisted mainly in a review of the common school branches, together with normal instruction by Prof. Butner, who made all these subjects as interesting as a clear exhibition could render them.

The Institute closed August 27th, the teachers feeling that they were much improved, as well by the exercises as by association with each other.

D. A. BINKLEY.

SILOS.

Silos and ensilage are attracting attention in the Scotland neck section. Capt. W. H. Kitchin and Mr. John C. Randolph have built silos and intend to fill them with green forage. We saw Mr. Randolph's which was built on top of the ground with plank. The building has double walls about four inches apart, the space being filled with earth closely packed to exclude the air. An ordinary roof is put on it, but between the eaves and the wall is a space of about two feet left open for filling and for getting out ensilage. The ensilage is covered by boards laid flat upon it and these boards are covered with earth. The silo is about 13 by 16 feet and did not cost, including the lumber, more than sixty dollars. The expense would be repaid in one winter by the improvement in stock and the increased quantity of milk and butter.—Roanoke News.

TRANSPLANTING TREES.

In setting out young trees from the nursery to the orchard, we have always found them in best condition if dug in autumn, carefully heeled for winter, and set out in spring. In heeling them in, it is important, and in fact absolutely essential, to do the work in the best manner, allowing no interstices to remain among the roots by compactly applying fine mellow earth, banking the soil partly up to the stems for additional protection, and selecting a well drained, sheltered place. If the whole

are surrounded with a ridge of smoothly beaten earth, the mice will be excluded from them, as these animals will not ascend steep and smooth earth under snow.

When the trees are carefully taken out in the spring, small, white fibers may be seen protruding from the cut ends and as these need not be disturbed, they will be ready to aid in immediate growth. But when the trees are dug from the nursery rows in the spring, the roots being more or less cut or broken after the movement for growth has commenced, some check is necessarily given to them.

It will be observed that there are three requisites for the best success in the course we have recommended, namely—lifting in autumn, careful heeling in and setting out in spring. It is true that they may be set out in autumn immediately after digging but in this case they will be liable to be injured by winter, being fully exposed to the winds; and they will be liable to additional injury, after starting to grow, from the hard crust of earth formed by long settling, if allowed to remain unbroken around them. These objections, however, are at least partly removed if the trees are set in a sheltered place, and the soil kept well pulverized during the following spring.

Many planters find that spring-set trees do better than those transplanted in autumn, simply because the operation mellow the soil about them just as growth is commencing and this is better than the hard unbroken crust which has been forming since the previous autumn.

The different operations in transplanting may be carelessly and superficially performed, and the trees may die, or make little growth. For instance—they may be carelessly dug up, with short stumps of the mutilated roots; they may be heeled in a mass, the lumpy earth being carelessly thrown on their roots, interstices left all through them which the mice easily penetrate, and the admitted air being allowed to dry the roots and kill the trees.

The same general principles will apply to the bushes of the raspberry, blackberry and currant, but the management may be varied by setting out at once, if sufficient protection is given them, as the young plants, being cut back to a few inches are less exposed to winter winds, and such plants as young raspberries may be well protected with a forkful or two of manure placed over each one.

We have not given strawberries a series of trials under suitable management, to lay down rules, but we observe a statement of Samuel Miller, of Mississippi, that his strawberry plants taken up in the fall, carefully heeled in, protected during winter, and set out in spring, were farther advanced and set more fruit than those taken up in the spring. The heeled in plants had "a nice set of new roots started which went right ahead." But it should not be forgotten that without full protection, with access of the covered plants at the same time to air, the experiment will be a failure.—Country Gentleman.

FINE TOBACCO.

We were shown this morning some very fine tobacco, which was raised by Mr. A. McFayden, on his plantation on the Cape Fear river in Bladen county. It was what is known as the Oronoco White Stem Golden Leaf, and the leaves of the samples we saw were about two feet long and one foot wide in their widest part. We are informed that the tobacco in Mr. McFayden's field will average from five to six feet high. It is his first attempt at the cultivation of the plant, but the samples shown us—which were taken permiscuously from the field—give him so much encouragement that he proposes to greatly enlarge his acreage in tobacco culture next year.—Wilmington Review.