



THE



PROGRESSIVE



FARMER.

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

Vol. 1.

WINSTON, N. C., SEPTEMBER 22, 1886.

No. 33.

State Items.

—The crops through Nash and Franklin are the best that have been for several years.—*Battleboro Headlight*.

—Nearly all of the water courses between this city and the Sound are dry, and the drought is becoming a serious annoyance.—*Wilmington Review*.

—Some of the farmers report that horn worms have nearly ruined their tobacco. There has not been such a quantity in ten years.—*Kernersville News and Farm*.

—Track has been laid on the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railroad seventeen miles west of Greensboro, or within thirteen miles of Walnut Cove.—*Danbury Reporter*.

—The curing of the new crop of tobacco has begun in this section. We were shown several very fine specimens on Tuesday from the barns of Mr. Jordan Ham.—*Goldboro Messenger*.

—Mr. Herbert A. Rountree brought us two tremendous pears on Friday. One of them weighed one pound and nine ounces, the other one pound and seven ounces.—*Greenville Reflector*.

—L. E. Duffy, of Dover, has invented a churn which possesses much merit. He will apply for a patent. In simplicity of construction and effectual work it cannot be excelled.—*Newbern Journal*.

—A porpoise factory has been established at Hatteras for the purpose of making leather, oil and fertilizer. Improved machinery and skilled labor have been imported from Europe.—*Roanoke News*.

—Col. W. F. Green was in town to-day with some samples of unusually fine tobacco. He is an enterprising farmer and seems to be succeeding finely in the cultivation of the "golden weed."—*Franklinton Weekly*.

—Cotton pickers are getting fifty cents per hundred around Kinston for picking out cotton. Producers held out stoutly for sometime against the price, but the cotton had to come out and the laborers triumphed.

—Mr. D. A. Morrison has determined to build still another tobacco factory on one of his lots on Water street. This will make two for him this season, and doubtless he will find tenants for them without difficulty.—*Statesville Landmark*.

—It is reported that a considerable number of negroes have fled from Steele's township fearing that they would be prosecuted because of the rumored insurrectionary movement in their midst, and it is feared that the farmers will have trouble in getting their cotton picked.—*Rockingham Spirit of the South*.

—The cotton crop is opening quite rapidly. There will be plenty of the staple ready for the market by the first of October. The crop is at least two weeks late, but if the frosts do not set in early the crop will be a tolerable good one.—*Concord Register*.

—The Yadkin Railroad Company will begin work on Nov. 1st, and the Water works Co. will employ two hundred hands when they begin work.—Thus far the cotton outlook is good both for quantity and quality. Now if it brings ten cents per pound there will be less grumbling.—*Salisbury Watchman*.

—The supposed prophecy of an old colored woman, who, after having been pronounced defunct and placed in her coffin, suddenly sat up and predicted a terrible earthquake to occur on Friday night last, caused some of our people to pass a sleepless night. It is some consolation to know that the old lady died after all.—*Washington Progress*.

—The quality of stock of all grades especially of cattle and hogs, is being improved in this county. As evidence of the fact there are now owned by citizens of this county four fullblood Jersey bulls.—*Lenoir Topic*.

—The cotton manufacturers in this county have heretofore been running seventy hours per week, but a regulation is just going into effect reducing the time to sixty-six hours per week, with no reduction in wages.—*Alamance Gleaner*.

—A few days since a convict on the Pittsboro road made a desperate break for freedom from the guards just as the prisoners were being taken out of the stockade, and was later on found in a bunch of bushes with five buck shot in his body.—*Greensboro Patriot*.

—We were shown this afternoon a sample of bright yellow tobacco which was raised near Laurinburg. It was very nice in appearance and bright in color. This a new enterprise in that section of the State, but bids fair to claim a large share of attention in the future.—*Wilmington Review*.

—Farmers are becoming more hopeful of the outlook of crops generally. Upland corn is reported above the average, while the bottom lands, though greatly injured by the last excessive rains, are looking far better than was anticipated. Tobacco, in many places, is reported as looking fine.—*Town Fork News*.

—In the storm Sunday evening several trees were blown down. In the country, we learn, trees and fences were blown down, and much damage done.—Some of our farmers who did not expect to make 400 pounds of cotton seed a few weeks ago now expect to realize 400 pounds of lint, which is a good yield.—*Smithfield Herald*.

—Chicken cholera has been playing havoc with some of the poultry about town the past week or two.

—Three hundred pounds of tobacco was sold at the Farmers' warehouse in Winston, on Tuesday, that was raised by a young lady of Davidson county, she doing all the required labor herself. She realized for the pile \$54.34.—We saw an old gentleman from the country the other day who says he has lived in the county all his life, and has never yet been inside the court room in the court house, although he comes to town quite frequently. He has not the remotest idea how a court room looks.—*Salem Press*.

—The brickwork on the main building of the cotton factory is nearly complete. Twelve dwelling houses have been finished, and ten are being built.—Mr. G. F. Hedrick has presented the *Dispatch* with a double barreled corn stalk. It is a real curiosity. Several farmers have examined it, and all agree that they never saw one like it before.

—W. H. Hargrave's case was concluded last Thursday night, the jury returning a verdict of guilty. The defendant was sentenced to ten years imprisonment in the penitentiary. He appealed and gave bond in the sum of two thousand dollars. Hargrave was indicted for the larceny of a mare belonging to W. P. Brown. The mare was stolen from her stable in this place on the night of the 26th of April. The case excited a great deal of comment.—*Davidson Dispatch*.

NOT FAIR.

Our agricultural exchanges, the *North Carolina Farmer* and *THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER*, complain that the Agricultural Department is not treating them properly in issuing the *Bulletin* at a mere nominal price and thus using the taxes to compete with individual enterprises. This does not look fair, and the Department ought to issue its *Bulletin* in a way not to injure, or compete with the agricultural papers. At least so it seems to us.—*Christian Advocate*.

THE MONTHLY BULLETIN.

The State of North Carolina has an Agricultural Department, and the Agricultural Department publishes, at the expense of the taxpayers of the State, what is called a *Monthly Bulletin*. Six months or more ago, in these columns, we took occasion to express the opinion that the *Bulletin* of the Agricultural Department should be a bulletin simply, as its name implies, and should not aspire to be an agricultural journal as well; that if it was a bulletin, published at the expense of the taxpayers of the State, the Agricultural Department had no right to put a subscription price upon it and charge for it, and that if it was not a bulletin simply—but an agricultural journal as well—then the State had no right to use the money of tax-payers in that way, nor to enter into competition with private enterprises which it was doing by engaging in the business of publisher. The State has no more right to publish an agricultural journal than it has to publish any other kind of a journal, or to set up a grocery store and sell coffee, sugar, salt, &c. We were sustained in our position by nearly every paper in the State that expressed any opinion on it.

We have recently been favored with some official information from the Department, on the supposition that we were not posted as to the true inwardness of the management of the *Bulletin*, the facts in which we are allowed to use, and which we here give substantially with the comments which they elicit. It was asserted that the *Bulletin* was free to the farmers and citizens of the State. We asked if so why the words "subscription price 25 cents per year" stands upon the title page, and we are informed that this is put on "to conform to a regulation of the Post Office Department. They (the Post Office Department) further require the Department to charge and collect this subscription from all persons receiving the *Bulletin* except exchanges and the residents of this State, who, as tax-payers to the State, are supposed [an India rubber word this is] to have already paid their subscription and to be in the nature of partners in the enterprise therefore." There is richness in this, and as a genuine specimen of legerdemain, hocus-pocus—whip-the-devil-around-the-stump—now-you-see-it-and-now-don't articles it is unique. The rules of the Post Office Department require that the paper must have a subscription price to get the benefit of newspaper rates on postage, not only this, but it requires that postage be not only charged but collected and it is collected by "supposing" that every tax-payer in the State is a "partner in the enterprise" and has paid his subscription in advance, in the way of taxes. The richness of this is in the remarkable astuteness of it, which is only equalled by the exceeding thinness. If they were going to take the tax-payers of the State as partners in that "enterprise" why didn't they take 'em all? Why issue only 20,000 copies and send them out to some of the partners, ignoring the great majority who paid their "subscription" as well as these twenty thousand? Why discriminate in favor of these as against the others and greater number if all tax-payers are "looked upon in the light of partners in the enterprise?" If one tax-payer is entitled to it on this condition of partnership then all are and to favor some at the expense of the others is not fair nor just. And again, why take the money of such farmers of the State and tax-payers who send along the 25 cents after having been "supposed" to have paid their subscription in the way of taxes? Is it fair to make them pay twice while others only pay once? These little inquiries we leave for the Department to answer, if it sees fit, for our further information as well as for the information of the great number of "partners" who have

been "supposed" to have been paying for the *Bulletin* for several years continuously without ever having been favored with the sight of one number of it.

We are further informed that "by conforming to this rule of the Post Office Department we save the State hundreds of dollars, for we would have to pay one cent on every copy sent out if we did not do so." Let us see. The rule requires a subscription price to be charged and collected, therefore the price, 25 cents per year, is stereotyped on the title page of the paper, and the money is "supposed" to have been collected in taxes paid. Don't this look like the thinnest kind of a dodge to circumvent the U. S. Government, and beat it out of a little postage? Isn't it, too, rather a discreditable position to place the great State of North Carolina in as a party to such a dodge? It may be economy, but it is economy carried to an extreme bordering on dishonesty, which only an ingenious stretch of the English language can distinguish from swindling. No individual "enterprise" could play such a dodge, nor would it be permitted if it attempted it.

We are further informed that the *Bulletin* is simply a bulletin, "an official document that contains no news except official news from the Department," and this in the face of the following announcement which we clip from the January number of the *Bulletin*:

"The *Bulletin* of the Department will henceforth have a much wider scope than heretofore. It has been in a great measure directed to our staple crops; subjects deemed important to the general progress of the State, but which did not lie in the direct line of our agricultural journals, have also occupied a large space. Henceforth it will embrace the whole field of agriculture, giving chief prominence, as heretofore, to our staples, while as much attention as circumstances will admit of will be given to the orchard, the garden, to stock, to poultry—indeed to everything within the domain of rural economy.

It will be much enlarged, and distributed more widely throughout the State."

We are curious to know how the Department will reconcile these two statements.

To sum up our position in brief on this question, it is this:

We hold that the *Bulletin* should be a bulletin, as its name implies, and that it should confine itself to publishing the proceedings proper of the State Board of Agriculture, and that it should give us correct and regular reports of what the Department of Agriculture is doing, and how it is spending the \$45,000 a year which it takes to run it. The people don't want the opinions of this man nor that in it, but facts in which they as tax-payers are interested. The law requires that the Department "shall publish a quarterly report of the operations of the Department" so that the people may know what it is doing. This is part of the business of the *Bulletin*, and this is what it should do but does not do.

We are opposed to the State's using the public money to enter as a competitor in the business of a journalist, or in any other business in competition with individual enterprise or honest labor, which demand and are entitled to the protection of the State.

We are not hostile to the Agricultural Department, which may be made of great value to the farming interests of the State when properly conducted, and when carrying out the objects for which it was established, and we have no objection to the *Bulletin* as the chronicler of the operations of that body for which it was established, and we want it to be a faithful chronicler of the information for which the people pay and which they have a right to demand. They are both good institutions, provided they do what they were established to do, and do it honestly and faithfully.

We say this not from any hostility but because we believe in fair and

honest dealing that will stand the test without any forced construction of language.

CLOVER AND HOW TO MANAGE IT.

GIBSON STATION, N. C.

EDITOR PROGRESSIVE FARMER:—

Will you kindly oblige me by getting some good, practical farmer, one who is experienced, to furnish me through your paper, information as to the following:

How to get a good catch of clover. Whether it is best to sow it alone or with the grain or grass. How much per acre and where the best place to buy the seed; the price &c. I want to try it and I desire to do it intelligently. Your kind attention will greatly oblige, yours truly,

ELI GIBSON.

We referred the above inquiries to Mr. P. H. Hanes, of this place, who is not only a successful tobaccoist but one of the most thoroughly practical and successful farmers and he kindly furnishes us with the following reply.

WINSTON, N. C., Sep. 14, 1886.

EDITOR PROGRESSIVE FARMER:—

I am not accustomed to writing for the public to read but at your request I reply briefly to the inquiries of your friend, Mr. Gibson, as follows: I think it safer to sow in this section on our heavy clay soils, in the latter part of February, putting the seed on broadcast and harrowing them in. We avoid the ordeal of the freezes of winter and besides the harrowing is of great benefit to the wheat. If, however, it be sown on his sandy, warm soils by the middle of October, I should say he could secure a good and safe stand. If sown with wheat, prepare the land thoroughly by good plowing. Sow the wheat and then sow down one peck of clover seed and one peck of Orchard grass thoroughly mixed, per acre and harrow it in. To secure a good crop of wheat or clover or grass it is as necessary to prepare the land thoroughly, as it is to secure a good crop of turnips. This should not be forgotten. I want a good catch the first season and to get this I use the quantities named—whether with or without wheat. I regard Orchard as the best grass to mix with clover. He should be cautious in buying his clover seed, to get them free from wild carrot and other noxious plants. This is the risk he takes in buying Northern seeds. The wild carrot is to be dreaded and it has been introduced all through the South from these sources. Mr. R. R. Crawford, of this place, has a clover holler, and from him good native seed may be obtained at about six dollars per bushel. The orchard grass sells at about two dollars and twenty five cents per bushel and may be had from any seed dealer in the State.

Thorough preparation, and good seed put in by the middle of October, for fall sowing, or from the first of February to the first of March for this section, will give him satisfactory results.

Most respectfully,
P. H. HANES.

THIS SHOULD NOT BE.

No one pretends to deny that the *Bulletin*, published by the Agricultural Department, is a valuable and useful publication, but by going outside and publishing other matter than that pertaining to the work of the Department, it comes in competition with the agricultural journals of the State. This should not be the case. The *Bulletin* is published with the State's money, and should not come in competition with individual industries.—*Greenville Reflector*.

—The first temperance society in this country was organized in Saratoga county, N. Y., in March, 1808.

—The first copper cent was coined in New Haven in 1687.