



THE



PROGRESSIVE



FARMER.

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

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No. 50.

OUR FARMERS' CLUBS.

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

NEW CLUB IN WAKE COUNTY.

A new club has been organized in Swift Creek township, Wake county, with twelve members. S. Otho Wilson was elected president, H. Howland, vice-president and W. C. Bells, secretary.

Mr. J. F. Gilliam, of Templing, Moore county, writes us that their farmers' club now numbers forty members, and is in a flourishing condition. It is proposed to have a big farmers' dinner sometime during the summer.

A NEW CLUB IN GRANVILLE COUNTY.

The farmers in the vicinity of Ridgeway School House, Dutchville township, Granville county, met on the 15th inst., and organized a club, of which the following officers were elected: A. M. Veazey, President; W. T. Adams, Vice-President; M. N. B. Veazey, Secretary; J. A. Waller, Assistant Secretary; L. A. Wilkins, Treasurer; W. D. Veazey, M. B. Waller, and W. H. Waller were chosen as the executive committee. The club will be known as the Dutchville Township Farmers' Club.

HICKORY FARMERS' CLUB—ANNUAL MEETING JAN. 15TH, 1887.

The President being absent the meeting was called to order by Vice-President F. L. Herman, and S. E. Killian appointed Secretary *pro tem*. The regular order of business was complied with.

Report of standing committee was that two delegates were elected at Farmers' Mass Meeting, held at Newton on the 8th inst., to the Farmers' Convention at Raleigh on the 26th inst. Said committee presented the names of Col. H. A. Forney and A. Reep for membership in this club.

C. W., J. F. and E. A. Herman be in present, on motion they were invited to seats as honorary members. Under unfinished business, in reference to correspondence with wholesale dealers, the Secretary of last meeting stated that it had been complied with and read several communications containing quotations.

On motion it was made the duty of the Chair to appoint a committee of three to devise a plan for extending our organization, whereupon Noah Hawn, Col. H. A. Forney and R. Yoder were appointed, to report at next meeting.

The above applicants for membership were unanimously elected, paid their fees and were duly enrolled.

On motion, resolved that a meeting of the Executive Committee be held at Killian's School House on Saturday, 5th day of Feb. next, at 10 o'clock a. m., and that the Executive Committees of the different Farmers' Clubs be notified to attend for the transaction of important business.

After recess the committee appointed to devise plans, &c., submitted the following report, which was received and adopted:

We, your committee appointed by the Hickory Farmers' Club, to devise a plan for the better mode of extending our Farmers' Club organization in Catawba county, respectfully submit the following:

Whereas, the farmers of said county need to be more thoroughly organized, looking to their material interests and needs, and for the better protection of their rights and privileges in a business point of view, and to bring about a better organization of farmers, we suggest that this Farmers' Club elect or appoint suitable members of said club to inform those desirous of any information, or appoint a day for a farmers' meeting, requesting those members, or any one or more of them to address them upon the benefit that accrues from Farmers' Clubs, or on any other subject that seems to be bringing the farmers to

ruin and distress, and further, to issue an address to the farmers of Catawba county upon the same.

R. Yoder, Chairman *Com.*
On motion the Chair appointed the following members as suggested in the above report; Col. H. A. Forney, R. Yoder, J. W. Robinson, Noah Hawn and S. E. Killian. On motion F. L. Herman was added.

On motion resolved that Col. H. A. Forney draw up an article for publication, and report to the next meeting.

Subject for discussion. "The best mode of making and preparing manure for spring use," was discussed at too great extent to give in detail.

The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows:

J. W. Robinson, President,
Noah Hawn, Vice President,
F. L. Herman, Secretary,
J. B. Lutes, Treasurer,
J. P. A. Herman, Marshal.
Executive Committee—Col. H. A. Forney, L. P. Seitz and J. B. Lutes.
Subject for discussion at next meeting. "The best mode of preparing our land, applying compost manure and fertilizer, and time of seed for spring crops."

Adjourned to meet at regular time and place of meeting.

F. L. Herman,
Pres. *pro tem*.

S. E. Killian,
Sec'y *pro tem*.

—Picknot Press.

BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

The Board of Agriculture met in the offices of the department yesterday and completed the routine business before it.

The following resolution was introduced at the instance of Mr. W. G. Upchurch, who attended the farmers' convention for the protection of cattle, in Maryland, a short time since.

Resolved, that this Board of Agriculture respectfully suggest to the general assembly that further legislation is needed for the protection of cattle against the introduction of disease into the State.

Letters were read from Senator Vance and from Chas. H. Carlyle, secretary and treasury of the Spartanburg Encampment Association. This association is composed of farmers from several Southern States, and is under the direct management of the Grangers of these States. It is an encampment held in the summer in tents and has a great many agricultural features.

An interesting letter was also read from Wm. Murdock, Esq., a practical farmer of Rowan county. His letter threw out suggestions on sheep raising and providing a means for the protection of sheep, and also increasing the school fund.—*Raleigh News-Observer*, 21st.

A CORRECT VIEW OF IT.

A respected correspondent writes us from Roseman, N. C., as follows: Please send me terms of subscription to the PROGRESSIVE FARMER, as a number of the members of our club wish to subscribe for it. We realize the importance of reading agricultural journals to keep posted in the experiments and the success of farmers and what is going on in other portions of the country and regard the PROGRESSIVE FARMER as the most thoroughly devoted to the interests of the farmers of this state that we know of. I am going to try to get you up a large club and I think I can do it. With best wishes for your success I am yours.

N. S. S.

—About 125,000 of machinery has arrived here for the Appalachian mine, formerly the Coggins, in Montgomery county. The village is full of wagons loaded with machinery for transportation to the mine. A part of the equipment is a forty stamp mill.—*Lexington Dispatch*.

ABOUT THE LAND SCRIP ACT.

It is somewhat surprising that there should be any doubt as to the meaning of an act as plainly worded as the land scrip act passed by the Congress of 1862 to aid in the establishment of agricultural and mechanical colleges. At the recent "joint meeting" of the Board of Agriculture and the farmers in Raleigh when Mr. S. Otho Wilson introduced his resolution to apply the \$7,500 annual interest on the land scrip fund, now and for several years past used for the benefit of the University, to the establishment of an agricultural and mechanical college as required by the act, Dr. K. P. Battle opposed it and asserted that it would be contrary to the law and that no one who had ever read the act could find in it anything to justify such action. We presume that Dr. Battle had read the act, and would presume also that he understood it, if by his language he did not convey the impression that he does not. He either does not or he misconstrues language which is so plain that it does not seem possible that it could be misconstrued.

Let us see: The act appropriates 30,000 acres of public lands for each representative in Congress from the respective States that availed themselves of its benefits, within five years from the passage of the act. The number of acres to which North Carolina was entitled was 270,000. This land was valued by the Government at one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, and should, if honestly disposed of, have brought \$337,500. As it was disposed of it brought \$135,000. To make good this, except \$10,000 which was appropriated in some way, the State legislature of 1874-75 passed an act issuing State bonds to the amount of \$125,000 bearing 6 per cent. interest, which interest, amounting to \$7,500 annually, the State University has been receiving ever since. But to the act Section 4 provides:

SEC. 4. And be it further enacted, That all moneys derived from the sale of the lands aforesaid by the States to which the lands are apportioned and from the sales of the land scrip heretofore provided for, shall be invested in stocks of the United States, or of the States or of some other safe stocks yielding not less than five per centum upon the par value of said stocks; and that the moneys so invested shall constitute a perpetual fund, the capital of which shall remain forever undiminished (except so far as may be provided in fifth section of this Act) and the interest of which shall be inviolably appropriated by each State which may take and claim the benefit of this act, to the endowment, support and maintenance of at least one College, where the leading object shall be, without excluding other scientific and classical studies, and including military tactics, to teach such branches of learning as are related to agriculture and the mechanic arts, and in such manner as the legislatures of the States may prescribe, in order to promote the liberal and practical education of the industrial classes in the several pursuits and professions in life.

SEC. 5. And be it further enacted, That the grant of land and land scrip hereby authorized shall be made on the following conditions, to which as well as to the provisions hereinbefore contained, the previous assent of the several States shall be signified by legislative acts:

1. If any portion of the fund invested as provided by the foregoing section, or any portion of the interest thereon shall by any act or contingency be diminished or lost, it shall be replaced by the State to which it belongs, so that the capital of the fund shall remain forever undiminished; and the annual interest shall be regularly applied without diminution to the purposes mentioned in the fourth section of this Act, except that a sum not exceeding ten per centum upon the amount received by any State under the provisions of this act may be expended for the purchase of lands for sites of experimental farms whenever authorized by the respective legislatures of said States.

2. No portion of said fund, nor interest thereon, shall be applied directly or indirectly, under any pretense whatever to the purchase, erection, preservation or repair of any building or buildings.

3. Any State which may take and claim the benefit of the provisions of

this act, shall provide within five years at least not less than one College as described in the fourth section of this Act, or the grant to said State shall cease; and said State shall be bound to pay to the United States the amount received of any lands previously sold, and the title to purchasers under the State shall be valid.

4. An annual report shall be made regarding the progress of each College, recording any improvements and experiments made, with their costs and results, and such other matters, including State and industrial statistics, as may be supposed useful; one copy of which shall be transmitted by mail free by each to all the other Colleges which may be endowed under the provisions of this act, and also one to the Secretary of the Interior.

[The italics are ours.]

We submit that if, after reading this, any one can have a doubt as to what kind of colleges it was passed for, language to such a one must have but little meaning. It simply means a college where branches relating to agriculture and the mechanic arts are leading features, not merely an imaginary annex to a University. Mississippi, Virginia, Alabama, Michigan, Iowa, Kansas and other States have complied with the letter and the spirit of the act, and have Agricultural Colleges which do them honor. Why cannot North Carolina do likewise?

State Items.

—We hear that 20 or more hands will be put to work cutting cross ties for our R. R. near town.—*Germanton Times*.

—A numerous signed petition has been sent from Leaksville, asking Congress to take the tax off tobacco.—*Leaksville Echo*.

—The farmers generally of our section have "hog and hominy" enough to last them through the year, and a few of them have some to spare.—*Potticasi Patron*.

—The Cape Fear & Yadkin Valley Railroad will build, at an early date, a depot at this place. It is to be 140 feet long by 56 wide, two stories high.—*Greensboro Patriot*.

—Measles have become an epidemic in and around Hamptonville, Yadkin county, and several grown persons, we learn, have died with them during the last week or two.—*Mocksville Times*.

—In Durham county there are fifty-three school districts—29 white and 24 colored. There are 5,751 school children in the county between the ages of 6 and 21 years. The least amount given to any district is \$130 and the total amount given to the fifty three districts is \$1,913.—*Durham Plant*.

—Almon Holeman killed four hogs a short time ago that made a total of 1678 pounds of pork. Two were 20 months old weighing 525 and 474. Two 16 months old weighed 350 and 329. Mr. H. is young, enterprising and progressive and is considered one of the most promising young men in New Hope Township.—*Chatham Home*.

—Report says that we are to have another sash and blind factory in High Point.—Machinery is daily being hauled out from here to some mine or mill in Randolph and Montgomery counties.—The new cotton mill is almost ready to be put into operation. The dye house has been running about a week, and a quantity of thread is now ready for the looms.—*High Point Enterprise*.

—Nobody about Monroe has attempted to save any ice this season. To freeze in winter and swelter in summer has been our rule from away back, and anybody who attempts to get out of the old rut will be laughed at.—A valuable tract of land in Anson county recently sold for \$2.00 per acre. This is one of the results which follows the all-cotton system of farming, which is practiced so extensively by the farmers of this section. Not one farmer in a thousand gives a mortgage for dry

goods; before he will do it he will do without. The mortgages are invariably given for supplies, corn, flour, bacon,—the very things the farmer ought to raise at home, to enable him to raise cotton, nothing but cotton. One of the beauties of the system is that it breaks all parties, merchants as well as farmers.—*Monroe Enquirer*.

—Taking the crops in the country generally they were considerably short of an average one, yet there were not a few exceptionally good ones made. Mr. Wm. F. Thorn, who superintended for Capt. W. S. Long made with six plows, on one hundred and twenty acres no less than one hundred and three bales of cotton. With these same plows he made also three hundred and sixty barrels of corn and six hundred bushels of sweet potatoes.—*Tarboro Southerner*.

ORGANIZATION.

William, Duke of Normandy, with 60,000 well organized and disciplined troops, was able to conquer millions of unorganized Britons. So capital in various forms, railroad kings, with a well-organized and disciplined force of 1,000 or 2,000, are able to rule and rob all the millions of unorganized farmers and other toilers. We must meet organization with organization, overthrow evil organizations with good ones. The organized farmers in the Grange have done more in the last few years for agriculture and our country than all the unorganized farmers for fifty years past.—*Mortimer Whitehead*.

—In the discussion of a bill to extend the time of the C. F. & Y. V. Railroad Company to complete the work to Patterson in the N. C. House of Representatives, Mr. Fries, representative from Forsyth, opposed the bill, offering an amendment. He was opposed to the State furnishing convicts to corporations and said the people of Forsyth were tired of being taxed to support enterprises in other portions of the State, in which they were not interested. The bill finally passed extending the time four years and allowing the use of 250 convicts.

—We are in receipt of a communication from "A Member of the Aulander Grange," commending the objects, work, &c., of the grange, from which he anticipates much good for the farmers of this State. We agree with him in the high esteem in which he holds the grange, and we want to see it prosper, because with him we believe it capable of much good, the farmers' clubs, now so extensive and being organized throughout the State, are working for the same objects the granges are, only in a different way. There is no conflict between them.

—We are indebted to the kindness of Mr. Elias Carr, of Edgecombe, for a copy the report of the sixth annual session of the Farmers' National Congress, held at St. Paul, Minnesota, in August last to which Mr. Carr was appointed a delegate. We regret that a copy of this most interesting report cannot be placed in the hands of every farmer in the United States. We shall refer to it hereafter.

—The editor of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER acknowledges an invitation to be present at the anniversary exercises on the evening of February the 11th, of the Euzelian and Philomathesian Literary Societies of Wake Forest College. The card of invitation is an exceedingly fine specimen of typographical art.

—In our article headed the Two Conventions, in the issue of last week, speaking of Gov. Scales, the printer made us style him chairman ex officio of the Board of Education. Of course we meant Board of Agriculture.

—A fatal disease resembling "pinkey" has broken out among the horses of a street car company in Pittsburg. A number of the horses have died and fears are entertained that the disease may become epidemic.