

The Progressive Farmer

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WINSTON, N. C.

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THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER,
Winston, N. C.

Winston, N. C., March 16, 1887

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ENDORSED BY THE CONVENTION.

The following resolution was passed by the Farmers' Mass Convention in Raleigh, January 26th, 1887:

Resolved, That "The Progressive Farmer," published by L. L. Polk, Winston, N. C., be declared the Official Organ of the North Carolina Farmers' Association and that its Editor, L. L. Polk, be admitted to the privileges of the floor as an honorary member of this Convention.

We ask every Grange and Farmer's Club in the State to send us at once, the number of members in the organization together with the name and Postoffice address of each officer.

THE CROSS MARK.

The cross mark on your paper indicates that the time for which you subscribed has or is about to expire. It is to give notice so your subscription may be renewed. If the subscription be not renewed the name will be dropped from the list, but we want every one to renew and bring a friend along too.

A bill has passed the Legislature of Tennessee to submit the question of liquor prohibition to the voters of that State.

The Wilmington Star calls attention to the fact that farmers down in that section buy cabbage imported from Sweden.

The street railways of Philadelphia carried last year 128,000,000 of passengers, the fares collected amounting to \$6,700,000.

Capt. James B. Eads, the celebrated engineer and leading spirit in the proposed ship railway across the isthmus, died last week of pneumonia.

We desire to express our thanks to that able agricultural journal, the Southern Cultivator, for its frequent kind mention of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, which is the more appreciated coming from such a distinguished source.

Next Friday will be the 50th anniversary of President Cleveland's birthday. Only three other presidents have celebrated their half century birthday in the White House—Polk, Pierce and Grant.

The Richmond Dispatch of 7th inst. publishes a telegram to the effect that James W. Reid, ex-Congressman from this district, has made arrangements to pay up his indebtedness and will shortly begin the practice of law, probably, in New York city.

The misdemeanor of carrying concealed weapons is now within the jurisdiction of Justices of the Peace. The punishment prescribed is not less than thirty days' imprisonment, or a fine of not less than ten dollars nor more than fifty dollars.

Mr. W. A. Coe, one of Guilford county's thrifty farmers, is the owner of a horse, which, though it has reached the age of 31 years, works regularly and is spry and nimble. The horse is a war veteran also, having served during the late "unpleasantness" between the States.

The farmers in the country surrounding Clay Center, Kansas, are organizing a co-operative association with a capital stock of \$50,000.

Rev. Thos H. Law, pastor of a Presbyterian church in Spartanburg, S. C., has been appointed agent of the American Bible Society, for North and South Carolina.

A decision has been rendered by the Supreme Court of the United States declaring the drummers' tax by States unconstitutional, on the ground that it interferes with inter-state commerce, which is within the jurisdiction of Congress and not of the States.

Henry Waré Beecher, the distinguished preacher of Brooklyn, N. Y., who had obtained a world-wide reputation, died of apoplexy at his home Tuesday morning, 8th inst. He was 74 years old but a man of remarkable physical and mental vigor up to the Friday before he died, when he was stricken with apoplexy.

The editor of the Durham Tobacco Plant is of the opinion that Walter Bingham, the slayer of Miss Turlington, put an end to his life by jumping from the suspension bridge into Niagara river last December. The description of the man who threw himself into the river corresponds with that of Bingham, though the body has never been recovered.

Messrs. Louis Bagger & Co., Solicitors of Patents, Washington, D. C., write us that for the week ending March 8th, 1887, there were granted to citizens of Southern States thirty-three patents, among them one to J. M. Flack, of Sharon, N. C., on mechanism for operating churn dasher.

MONUMENT TO MAJ. T. N. CRUMPLER.

The friends and old comrades of Maj. T. N. Crumpler, will unveil a monument to the memory of this brilliant man and gallant soldier, at Rockford, Surry county, the place of his birth and burial, on the 10th of May next.

He was Major of that splendid Regiment, the 1st N. C. Cavalry, and Hon. W. H. Cowles, Lieut. Col. of that Regiment, and the editor of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER have been invited to deliver addresses on that occasion.

It is expected that an immense crowd will be present.

THE FARMERS' INSTITUTE.

To-day the Farmers' Institute at Asheboro opens, and the indications are that it will be a grand success both in the work mapped out and in the numbers that attend. To Trinity Club we think the honor belongs of originating and carrying into effect this movement, which promises much, if carried out in the spirit in which it was conceived, for the farmers of Randolph county and of the State for it will doubtless result in the establishment of a number of similar institutes in other counties. We hope to give our readers a full account of the proceedings.

ONE OF THE BEST.

The Raleigh Chronicle pays the following just and merited tribute to Mr. H. E. Fries, for his work in the Legislature:

The good old Moravian town—Salem—furnished one of the best and most useful and laborious members of the House in the person of Mr. Henry E. Fries. Besides working on all lines, he especially gave his attention to the Agricultural Department and the Agricultural College. He was elected a trustee of the College and is worthy to fill that or any other position where brains and work are needed.

COUNTY ROAD FUND.

At a joint meeting recently of the Board of Road Supervisors and the County Commissioners the road fund was apportioned as follows among the various districts:

Abbotts Creek.....	\$ 225 00
Belews Creek.....	225 00
Bethania.....	262 00
Broadway.....	300 00
Kernersville.....	300 00
Lewisville.....	262 00
Middle Fork.....	450 00
Old Richmond.....	300 00
Old Town.....	450 00
Salem Chapel.....	225 00
South Fork.....	375 00
Vienna.....	300 00
Winston.....	150 00
Total.....	\$ 3,824.00

A WRONG IMPRESSION.

Our esteemed brother of the Greenville Reflector has an editorial, called forth by some remarks in this paper on the convict labor question, which it may be worth while to notice, because it was evidently written under a misapprehension, and may convey a wrong impression to those who are not readers of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER. We made the statement, that in the Southern States since the war the convicts were worked for the benefit of private enterprises and corporations, and not for the benefit of the people. Is this not true? In connection with this statement we called attention to the act of the Legislature granting 325 convicts for an indefinite time to drain swamps and cut roads through property of private individuals in eastern counties, which our esteemed brother finds fault with and construes as an evidence of opposition to the people of the east, and of sympathy with Richmond M. Pearson, because Mr. Pearson led in the opposition to that measure. Our friend was never more mistaken in his life than in both of these impressions, if he really entertains them, as between the people of the east and of the west, or centre, we know no difference. They are all our people, and they will have our hearty co-operation in the efforts to better their condition. But are the men for whom these swamps are to be drained, and roads cut the "people" of the east? As for being in sympathy with Richmond M. Pearson—an interrogative insinuation which must have sprung from want of thought—we deem it necessary only to say that neither he nor any other man who stood in the halls of the last Legislature was large enough in body to cast a shadow over this paper, nor potent enough in influence to swerve us from the course we believed to be right the one-tenth part of the diameter of a hair. Our comments on this and other questions affecting the interests of the people are made utterly regardless of the existence of any real or would-be leaders of parties or factions inside or out of the legislative halls.

Among the active opponents of that measure was Dr. Worth, of Randolph, (whom the editor of the Reflector would not, therefore, indirectly charge with being a "Pearsonite,") and who as State Treasurer for a number of years had ample opportunities to learn something about the practical workings of this swamp draining, and how much benefit the State or people derived from it. He stated in debate that the State had expended some \$250,000 or \$300,000 and got back less than \$50,000. It was not near \$50,000, but we put it at this because we have not the exact figures to refer to. Our recollection is \$28,000. Many miles of swamp lands are drained at heavy expense to the State, and when drained and put in condition to be serviceable at little cost they are put up at public sale in 25,000, 30,000 or 50,000 acre tracts or more and sold to the highest bidder, generally at figures little more than enough to pay the costs of sale. The buyers reap the benefit while the State pays the bill. We don't object to draining swamps when the swamps are worth draining, but we want to see it done in a way that the State who does it and the people for whom it is supposed to be done derive some benefit from it, and not a handful of individuals or a few speculators who stand about to watch opportunities and take advantage of them.

GRASS CULTURE.

It is a gratifying sign to see that our farmers are giving more attention to the subject of grass culture this year than heretofore. Our merchants and seeds dealers have ordered heavily and have found no difficulty in quickly disposing of all on hand. The acreage in the grasses this year will be undoubtedly much larger than ever before, and the indications are that grass has come to stay. This is a move in the right direction, and we hope to see it continue until every farm, not only in the Piedmont section, but in North Carolina, can show flourishing meadows. Our farmers spend annually large sums of money for hay raised in other States, a poorer quality than they could raise on their own farms at an insignificant cost, forgetful of the fact that they are not only foolishly spending their hard-earned and much needed money, but are injuring themselves in other ways. The farmer who gives no attention to the grasses is necessitated to pur-

chase fertilizers to grow his crops, and this must be done year after year, thus entailing a heavy expense upon him, while his lands derive no permanent benefit. With grass and intelligent rotation of crops the lands may be put into and kept in good condition, growing better and richer year after year, with correspondingly little labor, little expense, and without going into debt.

But another consideration, and a very important one, is the fact that the farmer who grows no grass cannot raise stock, nor properly provide for those he has when he has to buy the feed they eat. Working stock, and all other stock should be well fed to develop the best results, and to feed them well there must be an abundance of food, costing little money. When this is not the case, when feed must be bought at prices which the farmer cannot afford to pay, the stock will be stunted and thus suffer. A half fed horse or mule cannot render the service that it should render, and it accordingly takes two to do the work that one should do, and they will not do it as well. The farmer loses in this, and loses heavily, though he may not see it. The half fed cow yields but little milk or butter, and provides poorly for her offspring, when a well-fed cow would yield an abundance and give a profit to her owner. Aside from the work done by farm animals, or the milk and butter furnished, they more than compensate for liberal feeding by the manure they furnish—manure which is worth as much to the farmer as anything he uses on his farm, and which should be looked after by him with as much care. With grass culture, and stock judiciously managed, there is no telling what the agricultural possibilities of North Carolina may be.

A GOOD IDEA.

On Saturday we had the pleasure of attending a meeting of the Lemon Springs Farmers' Club. The club now numbers about 20 members, and this was its second meeting. The meeting was called to order by G. W. Smith, President, and after adopting the regulations and by-laws, as prescribed by the editor of the Progressive Farmer, they proceeded to the discussion of farm topics, among other things, "What should be the aim of the Club?" On this subject Rev. James McQueen and Maj. Jno. W. Scott made pertinent remarks, and impressed upon the members the advantages of paying cash for all supplies and not to use these so-called commercial fertilizers. From the opinion generally expressed on these subjects, we are sure that the club will adopt the cash system as its mode of purchase. We say that it is a good idea, and if, by joining a farmers' club our farmers may be brought to that system, we say give us farmers' clubs throughout the entire country. And we have no doubt but that it can be accomplished. For instance: suppose 30 farmers belong to a club, and 20 of them are necessitated to buy meat, by putting their cash together and buying a quantity they can buy at a much smaller price and get the usual per cent. off for cash, and of course the purchase of all other supplies might be made in the same way.

Nothing has ever proven a greater curse to the farming class of North Carolina than the credit system, and yet our farmers continue to attempt to live under it. We think the farmers of this club are determined to adopt the cash system out and out, or allow themselves to be taxed and establish a club store. We hope this will be a general move with the farmers throughout the country, and that they will determine never to buy or sell on a credit. It will be better for them and better for the merchant.

—Carthage Blade.

HOW IT PAYS

A man up here sold his crop of tobacco for enough to buy two sacks of fertilizer and had twelve cents left. Another up the south side of the mountain had forty-five cents left after paying for his fertilizer and hauling. Two others after paying all expenses except what work they did had five cents each left. Two more bought 400 lbs. of fertilizer each, one made 397 lbs. of tobacco, the other about 400 lbs.—about a pound of tobacco to every pound of fertilizer used. Who says it will not pay to grow tobacco with which to get money to pay for everything we require?—Danbury Reporter.

A VOICE FROM ANSON.

LILESVILLE, N. C.,
MARCH 12, 1887.

EDITOR PROGRESSIVE FARMER:—
Allow me to congratulate you upon the successful issue of your earnest efforts to secure a bona fide Agricultural College in North Carolina.

Your demands that the land scrip be used in the interest of the farmers of the State have at last met with the endorsement of the people and provoked definite and commendable action on the part of the Legislature.

Now let the people demand that the affairs of the college be kept from under the control of politicians, that there be nothing hidden and tricky about its management, and that it be conducted on such principles as will enhance the interests of the class of citizens whom it is intended to benefit and the school can be one of the biggest and best things controlled by the State.

Your paper which came to-day contains the first copy of the bill as it passed both houses of the Legislature, that I have seen and, although I take several other secular papers, the PROGRESSIVE FARMER is the first to give me the exact information that I wanted on the subject.

Farm wagons are coming to the depot daily, loaded with cotton and carrying back loads of bacon, corn and guano. The financial condition of the farmers of this section is distressing. If they would put into cattle and clover what they spend in one year for commercial fertilizers to make cotton they would soon be in a condition to save their meat and guano bills both. It is sad to see the merchants receiving corn and bacon by the car load to sell to farmers who buy commercial fertilizers on time, and this, too, in one of the most fertile counties of the State.

ANSON.

THE WORK OF THE FORTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

The New York Herald enumerates the following as the most important bills passed by the late congress:

1. Settling the succession to the Presidency.
2. Regulating the counting of the electoral vote.
3. Repealing the tenure of office act.
4. Forfeiting and restoring to the public domain about fifty millions of acres of land.
5. Prohibiting the ownership of land by aliens.
6. Effectively dealing with the crime of polygamy.
7. Referring all private claims to the Court of claims.
8. Ordering a thorough inquiry into the affairs and management of the Pacific railroads.
9. Authorizing the President to deal with the fishery troubles.
10. Regulating inter-State commerce.
11. Reducing the fees on postal money orders.
12. Extending the free delivery system to cities of 10,000 inhabitants.
13. Relieving the merchant marine of a number of vexatious and needless burdens.
14. Redeeming trade dollars.
15. Prohibiting the use of convict labor on public buildings.
16. Ordering the adjustment of railroad land grants.
17. Allotting lands in severalty to Indians.
18. Authorizing the issue of small silver certificates.
19. Giving money for congressional library.

FREE PASSES.

The inter-State commerce bill prohibits railroads from issuing free passes to any outside their own officials and employees. As far back as 1873 a director of the Pennsylvania railroad asserted that the free passes distributed by that corporation in one year represented \$500,000.—Charles Francis Adams, president of the Union Pacific railroad, within a year told a committee of the United States Senate that the losses incurred by the company which he represented, through the free pass abuse, amounted to \$2,000 a day, and that a reduction of 10 per cent. in the passenger rates could be made if free passes were abolished. No one doubts but the distribution of free passes among legislators has been a fruitful source of "favorable" legislation for corporations.