

The Progressive FarmerL. L. POLK, EDITOR.
P. F. DUFFY, ASSOCIATE
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Winston, N. C.

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Write all communications, designed for publication, on one side of the paper.

Rejected communications will be numbered and filed, and the author will be notified. It not applied for in 30 days they will be destroyed. To secure their return postage must be sent with the application. Answers to enquiries will be made through our "Correspondents Column" when it can be done with propriety. We want intelligent correspondents in every county in the State. We want facts of value, results accomplished of value, experience of value, plainly and briefly told. One solid, demonstrated fact is worth a thousand theories.

Address all communications to
THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER,
Winston, N. C.

Winston, N. C., March 23, 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.

The coopers' union, of New York, has formally withdrawn from the Knights of Labor.

The State of Maine has abolished capital punishment, and now imprisons murderers for life.

Thirteen hundred and ninety-five patents have been granted in this country to women inventors.

The prisoners in the Asheville jail overpowered the jailer last Friday night and four of them escaped.

Thirty ladies received diplomas from the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania last week.

The citizens of Concord are agitating the subject of a building and loan association for that town.

The next United Senate will stand 37 Democrats, 38 Republicans and one Independent.

Lawton Brothers, of New York, large dealers in phosphates, failed last week with liabilities amounting to \$700,000.

The mortgage flourishes in the West also. It is said that Indiana is mortgaged up to \$17 an acre, and Kansas \$16 an acre.

Four thousand men are kept busy in Austria manufacturing rifles for the army. This looks as if Austria were preparing for contingencies.

Stonewall Jackson's war horse, "Old Sorrel," which died a year or so ago, has been stuffed and will be presented to the Soldiers' Home, in Richmond.

Six hundred men are employed in the Cranberry (Mitchel county) iron mines, of this State. This is one of the finest iron deposits in the world.

Mr. C. C. Taylor, traveling agent of the *New Berne Journal*, reports that on a recent trip to Trenton, going up Trent road and returning by Pollockville, he saw more compost heaps than he ever saw before on that route. This is a good sign.

—Mr. Hunter, of Warren county, believes in diversified farming. Besides sowing 130 bushels of oats he has put thirty acres in clover, this spring.

—Rumors of an intended assassination of the Czar of Russia were rife last week in St. Petersburg. Many suspected persons were arrested.

—The Richmond Hotel, in Buffalo, N. Y., was burned last Friday night. It was filled with guests, and the fire swept so rapidly that about thirty of them lost their lives.

—A meeting of the business men of Louisburg, Franklin county, was held last Monday night to take steps for the establishment of a cotton factory, and a tobacco warehouse, in that town.

—Oxford, Lumberton and Wilson suffered heavily from fire within the past week. The greater part of the business portion of Oxford and Lumberton was burned down. Oxford's loss is reported at \$100,000, Lumberton's at \$75,000, and Wilson's at \$8,000.

—Messrs. Louis Bagger & Co., Solicitors of Patents, Washington, D. C., write us that for the week ending March 15th, twenty-five patents were granted to citizens of Southern States, among them one to T. E. Anderson, of Weldon, on seal-lock, and one to R. E. King, of Warrenton, on fruit jar.

—Mr. R. A. Binkley calls our attention to the fact that the members of Harmon Grove Club get their mail, not their "meat," (as the types makes us say last week), at Lewisville. As good members of a farmers' club, we hope they don't get meat anywhere, but raise it at home.

—The Commissioner of Internal Revenue answers an inquiry from the Commissioner of Agriculture, stating that there was manufactured in this country in the month of November, 4,742,569 pounds of artificial butter; in December, 2,786,278 pounds; in January, 2,501,114, a total of 10,029,961 pounds.

—The Chicago *News* informs us that Miss Birdie Brown, who made her debut into fashionable circles last week, is the daughter of Watkins H. Brown, Esq., who, though a citizen of Chicago for nearly twenty years, was not recognized by the elite of that city till he made a successful "pork deal" last November, so that Miss Birdie is really indebted to the hog for her admission into Chicago's fashionable society.—Mr. J. T. Eaton, Deputy of the State Grange, is making gratifying progress in reviving and organizing granges in this State. He reports through the *New Berne Journal* of last Saturday the organization of three new granges in Craven county. He proposes to give this week to organizing in Carteret county, and then will go anywhere in the State where the farmers may want him to organize. His postoffice address is Wildwood, N. C.**THE GREAT GROUND SWELL.**

Never in the history of our State and country, has there been such strong conviction and earnest unanimity among the farmers on any one subject, as prevail to-day in regard to the absolute necessity for co-operation and organization. All over our State they are moving. We hear constantly of the formation of new clubs in all sections and of the organization of Granges. Last week an enthusiastic meeting of the Horticultural Society of Guilford was held in Greensboro, and the first Farmers Institute ever held in the State was successfully established at Asheboro. The State Agricultural Society, and the authorities of the different Fairs throughout the State are making extensive arrangements for their annual exhibitions. There is earnest, zealous activity and life along the lines.

The Farmers' Alliance and the Agricultural Wheel and various forms of farmers organizations are moving forward all over the South. The Granges throughout the North and North West are stronger and more powerful to-day than ever before. They have purged the order and are more healthful and vigorous and progressive and aggressive than they have ever been. They number 1,300,000 men who follow the plow.

The day is not distant when the farmers of this great country, of whatever name, if true to their interest, will stand together in one mighty army to advance the common objects and purposes of all these various organizations. Let the farmers of North Carolina be thoroughly prepared for that day by being thoroughly organized.

RANDOLPH COUNTY FARMERS' INSTITUTE.

In all the essentials which go to make up a first-class farmers' club, Trinity stands among the very foremost in the whole South. Its members are intelligent and persevering, and they "never weary of well doing." Its President, Dr. D. Reid Parker, has all the qualities of a leader. To him, perhaps, more than any other man, are the farmers of Randolph, and of the whole State, indebted for the first farmers' institute ever held in the State.

The Institute met in the Court House at Asheboro on the morning of the 16th and organized by electing Dr. D. Reid Parker, President; Mr. Tyson Trogden, vice-President; D. M. Payne and M. Bradshaw, Secretaries.

The meeting was led in prayer by Rev. F. H. Wood. The President made just such a happy and appropriate speech as his enthusiastic nature and the inspiring surroundings prompted. The hall was handsomely decorated, and the walls were adorned with numerous pictures of rural and farm scenery—animals, poultry, implements and machines, cereals and flowers. A well trained choir of fifteen persons enlivened the occasion with excellent music.

We are able at present to give only a brief of the exercises. We learn that an official report of the proceedings will be ready at an early day, and we promise our readers some interesting and profitable reading.

The President at once brought the body to work, as mapped out on the programme.

Root Culture—Was discussed by Prof. Joseph Moore, of New Garden.**Wheat Raising**—By Mr. John Dorsett.**Clover and Grass**—Essay by Dr. J. Byrd, and discussed by W. G. Barbee, J. J. White and others.**Ensilage**—Essay by — Wakefield.**Silos**—Essay by D. W. C. Benbow.**Sheep Husbandry**—Essay by W. G. Barbee.**The Orchard**—Essay by J. Van Lindley.**Clean Seeding**—Essay by D. M. Payne.**Hogs and Our Meat Supply**—J. D. Fuller.**Stock Raising**—D. Reid Parker.**Gardening**—W. P. Wood.**Our Homes**—Essay by Prof. W. T. Gannaway.**Agricultural Machinery**—J. S. Parker.**Agricultural Chemistry**—Prof. W. H. Pogram.**Farm Management**—Prof. Joseph Moore.**Agricultural Literature**—L. L. Polk.

The essays and addresses were listened to with deep interest, many of them being well digested by study, and were able and highly creditable. The "five-minute-after-talks" were instructive and profitable. The discussions were free and easy, and all present were thoroughly absorbed in the proceedings from beginning to end. We hope at an early day to begin to spread before our readers the "feast of fat things" that will never be forgotten by those who enjoyed them.

The body held four sessions, and adjourned on the 17th, after passing resolutions of thanks to the chair and to the good citizens of Asheboro, who had kindly taken "bodily possession" of the Institute and fed and feasted and entertained it as the people of that large-hearted and hospitable old borough know so well how to do.

We trust that Randolph may be followed by at least fifty counties in our State during the present year.

COMMENDABLE ACTION.

The Edgecombe farmers are in earnest. They have acted wisely. In anticipation of a State Convention, they first organized a county club, to secure proper representation in that body. Now they have set to work in an earnest and practical way to organize the whole county by townships. At the last meeting of the county club, the proceedings of which we published last week, one member from each of the fourteen townships, was appointed to form clubs in their respective townships.

The President and Secretary were instructed to notify the several Township Committees, that they would visit their Townships for the purpose of assisting in the formation of Township Clubs, on or before a certain date and requesting the

committee to designate time and place.

We heartily commend this action to the officers of clubs throughout the State. The sentiment of the farmers all over the State is ripe for organization. They are ready and anxious to act. It is only necessary for some enterprising public spirit farmers to take the lead and the complete and thorough organization of the whole State will be easily consummated before the end of the year. The President of the Edgecombe club, Mr. Elias Carr, who is the worthy President of the North Carolina Farmers' Association, and who is also one of the Trustees of our Agricultural College, has thus set an example to the farmers of the State and has given renewed assurance of his eminent fitness for these responsible positions. Let the farmers of the State join him heartily and earnestly in the good work. Every township in North Carolina should be properly represented in the next meeting of our Association and it can be done, if the friends of progress will but follow the example of Edgecombe.

HOW IT HELPS.

A prominent citizen of Alamance county said to us: "I can go among the farmers of my county and in twelve hours borrow \$50,000 at six per cent. 'How do you account for this financial strength,' we inquired. 'It is largely owing,' said he 'to the fact that we have several large cotton factories, giving employment to thousands who must be fed and furnish markets for everything almost that our farmers have to sell. You would be surprised to visit any one of these factories and see the great variety of things brought there by the farmers to sell. They sell everything, and hence they produce everything and get the cash for it.'"

Here is a lesson for the poor, for the farmer, for the manufacturer, for the capitalist, for the merchant, for the political economist and the statesman. *Diversified industries is the true and substantial basis of healthful and permanent prosperity.* When will our people, our politicians, our capitalists and legislators realize this all important truth?**THE BEGINNING OF A NEW ERA.**The Washington (N. C.) *Gazette*, in commenting upon the action of the late Legislature, has this to say about the act establishing an agricultural and mechanical college:

"The establishment of an agricultural and mechanical college is the beginning of an era of industrial education in the State. We now begin to breathe the atmosphere which has given tone and character to the great institutions of Kentucky and many of the Western States. Kentucky is the banner State, for a higher, better and more thorough system of industrial schools. The dark cloud of ignorance, superstition and vice which has hung over the Old North State for these many years will now be lifted if the managers of the agricultural and mechanical college at Raleigh exercise wisdom, good sound judgement and a thoroughly progressive spirit. If those in authority are superannuated old fossils and live in the past and fail to seize the opportunity and give life and energy to the new departure in education, that attention and patient effort which has been the secret of all similar institutions, then this work of the Legislature is a failure. But if the Legislature has acted with the same practical business ideas it did when the bill passed, then the efforts of the General Assembly will be crowned with the greatest success."

The *Tar River Talker* has this to say: "The land scrip fund has been transferred to the Industrial School, as soon as it will need it, together with half the former revenue of the Agricultural Department, amounting to \$20,000.

This will establish an institution that we doubt not, will prove of far reaching importance to the State. We will no longer have to import skilled artisans from a distance or send the young men of the State to technical schools in Northern States, or at least they will not be under the necessity of patronizing foreign institutions exclusively. It will probably be some time before the institution is thoroughly equipped, but it will soon afford instruction that will be adequate, when supplemented by a short course at the more finished schools."

Let the cotton planter act prudently, and whether he plant much or little cotton, let him be sure to raise enough of bread and meat for home use and feed for his stock, keep out of debt, and then he can stand the racket, whether cotton be up or down.

FORSYTH COUNTY FARMERS CLUB.

This body will meet in Winston on the 26 inst., (next Saturday). Let every club in the county be well represented. Important matters will be considered and a full meeting is desired.

GOOD SENSE FROM A GRASS MAN.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., March 17, 1887.

EDITOR PROGRESSIVE FARMER.—Your paper comes to me once a week. I think you have tobacco on the brain. Why don't you advise the farmers more than you do to raise grasses, corn, wheat, oats and meat, and not run crazy on tobacco and cotton? If they don't stop it they will all be in the poor house. If you will come to see me in June I will show you two hundred acres in grasses and corn.

Tell the farmers to quit so much cotton and tobacco, and keep their smoke houses and corn cribs at home, and not in town.

Yours truly,
J. W. WADSWORTH.

We fear our esteemed friend has not read our articles on tobacco carefully. No two crops have been mentioned more frequently in these columns than tobacco and cotton, but it has been for the purpose of warning our farmers against the policy of depending on these crops to support them. We thank Mr. Wadsworth for his timely and sensible letter. He knows the value of the grasses, and no man in all the South is more competent to speak on the subject. He is high authority on this subject, and we want to hear from him again. We want him to tell our readers the best grasses and the combination to use on the average red clay soils of our State. We would be glad to learn the average yield per acre of his farm. Two weeks ago we had the pleasure of riding over this model grass farm. Two hundred acres, covering hillside and slope and valley, as smoothly and unbroken as a green carpet—no unsightly gullies, no galled spots, no neglected ditches, but all in the highest state of culture, with well kept orchards, neat and commodious barns and farmhouses—it is really a picture of charming beauty. The farm lies about one mile from the city of Charlotte, and we would urge every farmer who can possibly do so to go and inspect the farm and learn the true secret of successful farming.

Mr. Wadsworth is a busy man. He has large interests which demand his individual attention, but he is never too busy to tell you many things about grass and clover which all ought to know. But he has little time to write. This notice of his farm may induce some of our friends to write to him. Do not write to him, but make your inquiries through our paper, to save him time and trouble. With one article he can answer a dozen different inquiries.

To improve your farm you must have manure, to have manure you must have stock, to have stock you must have the grasses.

ADVANCE IN COTTON.

Cotton took a jump one day last week and went up to nine and a half cents, a raise of about one cent a pound on previous prices. This is good for those who have cotton to sell, but unfortunately most of the planters have already marketed their crop, and did it at a price that left them very little, if anything, for their labor. These upward spurts in prices are not unusual at this season, about planting time, and the probabilities are that it is done with a view of encouraging planters to keep up, if not to increase, the acreage, with the hope of better and paying prices for the next crop. But planters should not be influenced by these capricious movements of the cotton market, which is controlled, to a great extent, by a mere handful of men who fix the prices in the cotton exchanges months ahead, which prices the planter is compelled to take if he depends solely upon cotton, and especially if he is unfortunate enough to be in debt and has bills to meet for fertilizers, provisions, &c.

Let the cotton planter act prudently, and whether he plant much or little cotton, let him be sure to raise enough of bread and meat for home use and feed for his stock, keep out of debt, and then he can stand the racket, whether cotton be up or down.