

The Progressive Farmer.

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RALEIGH, N. C., JUNE 2, 1887.

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Office in Raleigh, N. C.]

ENDORSED BY THE CONVEN-
TION.

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

Resolved, That THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, pub-
lished 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 ad-
mitted to the privileges of the floor as an honorary
member of this Convention.

We ask every Grange and Farm-
ers' Club in the State to send us at once,
the number of members in the organiza-
tion, together with the name and post-
office address of each officer.

PLEASE NOTICE.

In writing to this office to change the
address of a paper, our subscribers will do
us a favor by stating the office at which
the paper is received, as well as the one
to which it is desired to be sent. Failure
to do this puts us to a great deal of trouble
and the necessity of going through a long
list of names, involving not only much
work, but much loss of time, when time
is valuable.

SUBSCRIBERS, READ THIS.

Is there a Cross Mark on the margin of
your paper? We adopt this as the sim-
plest and easiest method of informing our
patrons that their terms of subscription
have expired, and that the paper will be
stopped if we do not hear from you. We
know "times are hard" on every-
body, and especially is this true of
newspapers, and particularly agricul-
tural papers. But we must help
each other as best we can. If, therefore,
you are not prepared to renew for the
whole year, renew for a part of the time,
and this will enable you to have time to
make up a club, for which you will get
the paper one year free of charge. (So if
you see the Cross Mark, let us hear from
you.)

OUR AGRICULTURAL AND ME-
CHANICAL COLLEGE.

The Agricultural and Mechanical
College, established by the last Legis-
lature, is in rather a bad way. The
trustees, it seems, are not agreed as to
whether they shall attempt to build
now or await for additional funds.
The friends of the University are, in
the meantime, zealously on the out-
look, and between the factions it now
looks as though the Agricultural and
Mechanical College is to be slighted
"in the house of its friends."—Union
Republican.

Our worthy contemporary seems to
have fallen into error in regard to the
status of this institution. At a meet-
ing of the board of trustees in April
last, at which were present fourteen
of its sixteen members, it was decided,
if not unanimously, with certainly not
more than one dissenting voice, that
the work of establishing the college
should be begun at once. There is no
hesitation, no faltering, no apathy on
the part of the trustees, but they de-
cided with singular unanimity to pro-
ceed to the work at once and appointed
an executive committee to carry out
the wishes and views of the board, and
that committee has gone to work act-
ively and vigorously and hopefully.
True, Mr. H. E. Fries, a member of
the board, has expressed opposition to
beginning the work on the ground
that in his judgment, not a sufficient
amount of money is at present avail-
able to justify it, but as we under-
stand him he is not opposed to the en-
terprise. As to the attitude of "the
friends of the University" towards
the College, to which our contempo-

rary refers, we have it from the pen
of the President of the University
himself that they have not and do not
oppose the Agricultural College.

Remembering as we do most clearly,
the speeches that were made by Presi-
dent Battle and others on the propo-
sition to transfer the Land Scrip Fund
from the University to the Agricul-
tural College, and the active efforts
that were put forth to defeat the
proposition, it is gratifying to be as-
sured that we misrepresented this ac-
tion and that there now appears to be
no outspoken opposition to the insti-
tution.

No, the Agricultural College is not
"in a bad way," nor will it be
"slaughtered in the house of its
friends." It has come to stay. The
farmers of North Carolina and their
boys will see to that.

Justice, however, to the farmers and
friends of the Agricultural College
throughout the State, and especially
to those who composed the convention
of January 26th demands that we
should notice briefly some remarks
made in a recent discussion of this
subject in the News and Observer be-
tween Hon. E. G. Reade and Dr.
Battle. Judge Reade in a reply to
an article of Mr. H. E. Fries on this
subject made an allusion to the Uni-
versity to which Dr. Battle makes re-
ply, in which he complains that the
\$125,000 Land Scrip Fund was taken
from the University, and that when
asked to replace it—"it was refused."
In his second article he refers to this
fund as a part of the "endowment"
of the University. We respectfully
submit that this presentation of the
case does great injustice by implica-
tion at least, to the farmers and other
friends of the Agricultural College.

It is well known that the PROGRES-
SIVE FARMER from its very first issue,
claimed that this fund belonged to the
industrial classes of our State, by and
under the Act of Congress which donated
it—that we regarded it simply in the
character of a generous loan to the
University—that it was in no sense an
"endowment" and that we claimed
and urged its transfer to the Agricul-
tural College as a matter of simple
justice to our industrial classes, because
the time had arrived when they needed it
and because it belonged to them.

They had paid on this fund \$90,000
interest to the University and had
done it practically and uncomplain-
ingly. It was their fund—and they
needed it and they claimed it as their
own, and not with the view of damag-
ing the University in any sense. This
paper persistently disavowed any such
purpose or desire. This disavowal
was made repeatedly and in the most
emphatic manner in the Farmers' Con-
vention. It was made in some resolves
which were sent to the Legislature—it
was repeated time and again in the
speeches of members of the Conven-
tion. One of them in reply to the
charge that we were making war on
the University, and to the urgent ap-
peal of ex-Gov. Jarvis, "not to de-
stroy," said: "Sir, this is not a body
of revolutionists. They are law-abid-
ing, loyal citizens and there is not a
man in this convention who will not
join me in the wish and the prayer
that our University may rise higher
and higher until it shall reach that
eminence when it will be justly recog-
nized as the peer of any similar insti-
tution in this broad land," and the
sentiment was most heartily applauded.
And what are the facts of record as
to taking away this fund, which Dr.
Battle seems to regard as an "endow-
ment" fund and which was "refused"
to be replaced? The facts are that
the funds of the Agricultural College
voted in the Legislature for the Uni-
versity to retain its appropriation of
\$20,000 and to continue to use the
interest on the Land Scrip Fund,
\$7,500, until the first of June, 1888,
or until the Agricultural College
should call for it.

We assert that no line appeared in

the columns of this paper—no action
was taken by the Convention nor any
member of it, to warrant the intima-
tion that the friends of the Agricul-
tural College were prompted by feel-
ings of hostility to the University, or
even indifference to its success, and
any such intimation is as uncalled for
as it is unjust.

The action of that Convention was
in every way highly honorable, and
its bearing towards the University
was generous as well as just. It did
nothing to be ashamed of, or to regret.
It called the Agricultural College into
being, and the people of the State
will stand loyally by it. There should
be no conflict between the College and
the University, but there should be
the most cordial good feeling and
harmony between them, and we be-
lieve that the very best friends of
these institutions are those who will
do most to foster and perpetuate that
good feeling and harmony, and to
cement them together in the great and
grand work of educating the young
men of the State. They have each its
peculiar sphere of labor in this great
field; let each cultivate proper respect
for the dignity, rights and character
of the other, and all will be well.

UNIVERSITIES AND AGRICUL-
TURAL COLLEGES.

President Battle came forward in
two letters in the News and Observer
to show that the University's influence
has not been thrown against the Agricul-
tural College. The people will be
glad to hear it, not because they have
any fear for the College, but because
they think that the influence of a great
State University should be cast for
every improvement in State education.
In this connection we note the exam-
ple of President Robinson, of Brown
University, Rhode Island, which is a
purely literary institution like our
University and has enjoyed the in-
come from the land scrip fund. The
farmers are not numerous in Rhode
Island, and have little political influ-
ence, but when they came forward the
other day and asked to have a true
farmers' college separate from the
State University, President Robin-
son at once declared that he would
help them get it. He announces him-
self very friendly to the move in favor
of a State Agricultural school and ex-
periment station, and at the next meet-
ing of the trustees he proposes to
bring up the matter and have a com-
mittee appointed to co-operate with
the farmers' committee appointed by
the Legislature. Dr. Robinson says,
that while Brown University has done
everything the law asked of it, and
could retain the agricultural college
funds if it thought best, he knows that
the money is not being used for the
purpose it was intended for, and favors
turning the whole income over to an
agricultural school, if one can be estab-
lished in a proper manner.

We say, all honor to President Robin-
son! He can see and do the just
thing even when it is against his own
interests. Doing cordially the fair
thing is all that was expected of him;
that he should cry, *Id. Triumph!* was
not expected.

The agricultural college question
will be one of the main issues before
the New Hampshire Legislature which
convenes June 1, so far as the farmers
are concerned. Dartmouth College
wants to retain the agricultural col-
lege fund and the agricultural college
in connection with its institution at
Hanover and wants to combine with
the same the government experiment
station under the Hatch act. The
farmers of the State, however, so far
as can be judged by an intelligent can-
vass, favor establishing the college on
an independent basis, with the experi-
ment station in connection.—N. E.
Homestead.

The question of the separation of
land scrip fund from the old-fashioned
literary colleges and universities is oc-
cupying the attention of the people
wherever the mistake was made. Sep-
arate agricultural colleges, true farm-

ers' colleges are the demand of the
hour.

The fight is going ahead all along
the line. The farmers of Ohio are de-
manding that their colleges be separate
from the State University at Colum-
bus, which has smothered it for twen-
ty-five years. They are agitating the
same question in Rhode Island, Con-
necticut, South Carolina, Florida and
other States. The farmers of Florida
are demanding an appropriation of
\$25,000 for their agricultural college
from their legislature now in session.
They also demand that an experiment
station be established.

THE INTER-STATE COMMERCE
LAW.

No rational man could reasonably
have expected that the Inter State
Commerce Law would have met and ad-
justed all the intricate and complicated
conditions attending the vast system
of transportation of this great country,
and without a jar. It was to be ex-
pected that both the people and the
transportation companies would find
something of which to complain, or at
least to discover defects in the law.
And it was also to be expected that,
if deemed detrimental to their inter-
ests, the transportation companies
would continue that opposition to it,
which kept it on the calendar in Con-
gress for eight long years. But we
deprecate that spirit which seems de-
termined to render the law odious to
the people before it has had a trial.
We deprecate it because the enactment
and enforcement of some law for reg-
ulating commerce between the States
is absolutely necessary and is inevita-
ble. It should be based on principles
of equity and justice, and if the pres-
ent law is wanting in these great prin-
ciples, it can be so shaped as to em-
brace them. But how is the public
mind to be satisfied that it is not al-
ready in this shape? Simply and only
by an honest effort to meet its de-
mands and requirements. If it shall
show by an honest, fair and faithful
enforcement that it works unjustly,
then let it be amended.

When we consider the magnitude
and complicated character of the
mighty interests involved under this
law, it would have been a miraculous
achievement in legislative labor, if the
law had been perfect. And we repeat,
that a law to meet the conditions for
which this was intended, is inevitable,
and if this one be defective, we believe
that all the great interests involved,
would be more equitably and justly
subservient in an honest and harmoni-
ous effort to remedy its defects than
to establish and enforce one, which
may be the product of embittered feel-
ing. Suppose the commissioners should
suspend the fourth section of the law
and thus render the act null and void.
Does any sane man suppose for a mo-
ment that the people of this country
would abandon the idea, the rapidly
growing idea, that the best interests
of the country demand the enactment
of an Inter-State Commerce Law? As
a friend to railroads and to all our other
great interests, we say, let this law be
subjected to the only fair test—an
honest and faithful enforcement.

FOR THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.
A CHEERFUL LETTER FROM A
SUCCESSFUL FARMER.

DEEP SPRINGS FARM,
May 24, 1887.

We had a beautiful rain last even-
ing, and this morning, as I sit by the
door and look out upon the broad
fields of living green, first the lawn
and then the wheat, the rye, the grass
and clover with one piece half mown,
the shocks of hay standing thick in
the field, the orchard and the dark,
green forest as a back-ground, presents
a beautiful picture indeed.

I will tell you how I make hay.
Start the mower as soon as the dew is
off, when it looks as if it will be fair
weather, mow until the dinner bell
rings, feed and rest an hour and a half,
then start the mower again. At 4
o'clock I start the rake, commencing
where the mower started in the morn-
ing. Rake up and wind row all that

is mowed before 4 o'clock, (but let the
mower keep on until night). I then
go with rake and pile wind rows as
well as I can and round them up, and
top them with hay-fork for the night.
Next day at 10 a. m., open shocks and
haul them up in the evening. Rake
up and shock what was mowed the
evening before. Only mow in even-
ing so that you need not rake it up
until next day. My clover and or-
chard grass are old enough now—I do
not like for it to get too old.

The wheat is fine in this section of
Rockingham. There will not be over
half a crop of tobacco planted nor half
as much guano used.

With high regards, your friend,
T. B. LINDSAY.

FOR THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.
GYPSUM OR LAND-PLASTER.

I have seen but little in your paper
of the use and effects of ground gym-
sum or land-plaster. It is, in the opin-
ion of this writer, one of the cheapest
fertilizers in use, though it may not ef-
fect all soils alike. I would be glad
to hear of its results in different sec-
tions of North Carolina. It is exten-
sively used in Virginia and Tennessee.
Its application is felt directly but by
one crop—clover—but its benefits are
almost as great upon the succeeding
wheat crop.

Let me give an instance occurring
under my own observation: My
neighbor, Mr. S., rented to one of his
tenants, to be sowed in wheat, four
acres of land, from which the corn had
just been gathered, yield of wheat
crop eleven bushels. Mr. S. the suc-
ceeding fall sowed the same ground
again in wheat, having prepared the
land well—yield of crop sixteen bush-
els. Clover was sown in the spring
before the wheat was cut, and a fair
stand obtained. The second year after
the clover was started, Mr. S. gave it
a liberal dressing of plaster and reaped
an immense crop. When the second
crop of clover began its growth, an-
other dressing of plaster was applied,
the crop turned under early in the fall,
and the ground seeded to wheat—
yield of crop, 125 bushels. The first
two wheat crops show the natural
sterility of the land, the last, the effect
of the clover and plaster.

A "liberal" dressing of plaster is
200 pounds per acre. Cost from \$1.50
to \$1.75. It should be fresh from the
mills. Is any method of fertilizing
cheaper or more profitable?

I have heard of instances where its
application was said to have little ef-
fect, but certainly in this Yadkin Val-
ley section, its result is sure.

Y. V.

WHEN TO CUT CLOVER.

A piece of especially uniform clover
at the Pennsylvania agricultural col-
lage was cut June 21, when the clo-
ver heads were in bloom. A simi-
lar area on the same piece was cut
July 3' when some of the heads were
dead, and the balance was cut July 19,
when all the clover heads were dead.
The hay was reweighed after being in
the bars five or six months, when it
was found that the two earlier cuttings
had shrunk about 43 per cent in weight,
while the last cutting had shrunk only
25 per cent. The weight of the dry
per acre was 4210 lbs on the early cut,
4141 on the next lot and 3015 lbs. on
that cut when the heads were all dead.
The contents of the crop are given
in the following figures, which show
that the youngest grass furnished the
largest quantities of the most valuable
ingredients of cattle food:

Table with 4 columns: Date (June 22, July 2, July 19), and 3 rows of substance measurements (dry substance, Ash, Nitrogenous matter).

The composition of the clover hay
from each period of growth indicates
a constant decrease in its actual nutri-
tive value, after the grass has passed
the period of full bloom. The decrease
in the nitrogenous part of the fodder,
which is the most valuable portion, is
very marked. The much less valuable
woody fibre increased in the late cut,
at the expense of the starch and sugar.
Begin to cut clover just as the heads
are blooming, so that you will get
through with the harvest before the
heads are dead. The bulk of the crop
will thus be secured in the best pos-
sible state.

It is said that a good cure for cramps
is to take a piece of unbleached cotton
cloth that has never been wet, heat it
well at the fire and wrap it close
around the limb or part affected, and
in a very short time the cramp will
cease and will not return as long as
the cloth remains.