

The Progressive Farmer.

L. L. POLK, Editor.
P. F. DUFFY, Associate Editor.
JOHN E. RAY, Business Manager.
Raleigh, N. C.

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RALEIGH, N. C., JUNE 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 Farmers' Club in the State to send us at once, the number of members in the organization, 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 simplest 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 everybody, and especially is this true of newspapers, and particularly agricultural 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 us 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.

WHAT SHALL THE HARVEST BE?

The prospect for a good crop year is most encouraging. Our farmers are in the midst of their wheat harvest and if favorable weather continues they will be fortunate. From the best information we have been able to obtain, a good crop of wheat will be realized. And what a blessing! But we want to utter a word of warning just here. We know that many farmers in all portions of the State are without money and almost without bread. Many of them cannot wait for the thresher, so they are threshing by hand, in order that they may have bread. The great pressure in money matters which has weighed so long and so heavily upon them, will cause others we fear, to rush their surplus wheat on the market and depend on their corn crop; but that corn crop is not yet made, they must remember. And there are so many contingencies attending it that we would urge our farmer friends to take care of their wheat—be stingy with it and hold to it until they are assured as to their corn crop. What we greatly desire is, to see our farmers have once more, a plentiful supply of corn, wheat, meat, oats and other forage in their own barns, and to keep this supply on hand from year to year. It cannot be done unless they begin now to husband these crops with prudence. Be sure to save enough to supply your family with bread for another year.

A FLUTTER AMONG THE FLAGS

President Cleveland has raised a tempest. At the suggestion of some one, he proposed to return to the different States, the flags that were captured from their troops during the war. It was putting the match to the magazine. Immediately, the Governors of some of the Northern States instituted legal proceedings to restrain him, and the Grand Army of the Republic sent in its earnest and indignant protest. Then the President concluded he would not send the flags.

And now blatant politicians who never smelt gun powder, but who have been "valiant soldiers in peace," will again wave the bloody shirt.

Those old flags have been packed away in boxes in the attic and basement of the Capitol over twenty years. Let them stay there. The Southern soldiers did not ask the President for them. The men who imperilled their lives to defend these flags, and the ones who defied death to capture them know full well how they came there and they will be the last men to disturb them. The "boys in gray" put a dear price on those flags, but the "boys in blue" paid it.

NORTH CAROLINA SHOULD BE THERE IN FULL FORCE.

Questions of magnitude and of vital importance to the progress and development of agriculture in the South, will engage the attention of the Atlanta Convention. Every farmer in the South is directly and vitally interested in the consideration of these questions and in the conclusions reached. And they should interest themselves to see that they are properly represented in that body. Especially should North Carolina be there in full force, and we hope to see very many of our progressive and thinking farmers from all parts of the State, in that convention, in addition to those appointed by the Governor, as delegates. No convention has ever been held in the South, having in charge, issues of higher magnitude and involving results of so great and direct importance. Let every county, at least, be represented, and by its best men. If it is found that for any reason a county is not to be represented, the clubs in such county should take hold of the matter and select and send a delegate.

GAMBLING IN THE NECESSARIES OF LIFE.

Mischievous and corrupt combinations in every department of commerce and trade, have almost supreme control not only of the value, but of the very bone and muscle of productive industry. Not many months ago our people could buy coffee at twelve cents per pound. But false statements from commercial centers showed a tremendous falling off in the Brazilian crop and at once the price of coffee ran up one hundred per cent. Speculation gloated in this feast of inflation. Gamblers in the exchanges grew fat. But a few days ago some of them undertook to unload and busted. So of a huge "corner" made in wheat and so of those who made the corner. We rejoice not in the misfortunes of our fellows who are overtaken and overwhelmed by adverse fortune in their honest effort to accumulate property honestly and legitimately, but we do look on with complacent satisfaction when these corrupt and wicked men are caught and are hopelessly entangled in the meshes which their avarice and greed and craft have woven for the honest and unsuspecting.

The honest toiling millions of this County, whether in the workshop, the factory, the counting room, the farm or wherever they be, should elect such men to our State legislators and to our National Congress as would protect them against this wholesale and ruinous robbery. Gambling in the necessities of life, should be recog-

nized as a grave crime, and should be punished by law. The South produced a little over 6,000,000 bales of cotton in 1885, and yet the value of 80,000,000 bales exchanged hands in the cotton exchanges of this country.

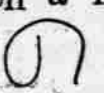
Some years before his death Edward Everett, the high-toned and pure-minded Statesman, delivered an address before the New York State Agricultural Society, in which he referred to gambling in breadstuffs as follows:

In acknowledging, as I do most cheerfully, the important relations of city life and commercial pursuits to the entire social systems of the country, I leave of course out of the account—I have no words but of abhorrence for—the organized conspiracies, swindling and plunder which exist side by side with the legitimate transactions of the stock exchange. It is not one of the least perplexing anomalies of modern life and manners, that while avowed and thus far honest gambling—if I may connect these words—is driven by public opinions and the law to seclude itself from observation within carefully tiled doors, there to fool away hundreds, perhaps thousands in secret—discredited, infamous, blasted by the anathemas of deserted, heart-broken wives and beggared children, subject at all times to the fell swoop of the police—the licensed gambling of the broker's board is carried on in the face of day, its pretended sales of what it does not own, its pretended purchases of what it does not expect to pay for, are chronicled in the public prints to the extent of millions in the course of the season, for the cruel and dishonest purposes of frightening innocent third parties into the ruinous sacrifice of bona fide property, and thus making a guilty profit out of the public distress and the ruin of thousands.

PULLING STUMPS.

After the crops are laid by, the farmer will use his time in clearing up. At our request, a friend has supplied a description of a successful plan for pulling stumps. He writes:

"I will be only too glad to give you all the knowledge at my command, though I have none about stump pullers, strictly speaking. From my experience, and I have had a good deal, I think God put stumps in the ground to stay there, not to come out, and if there is any easy way to take them out, I have not found it.

We take them out by cutting off all lateral roots with axe and grub-hoe, a spade is a great help. To do it properly you cut a trench around the stump, cutting each root off twice, and all but one as close to the stump as convenient, that one is left a little longer to catch the chain against, to prevent slipping around the stump. When the stump is weakened by this, we twist it off with lever and chain. Experience alone will teach when it is weak enough to twist. Our lever is of some tough wood; black-gum is good, eighteen or twenty feet long, some six or seven inches at the butt, used round just as it grows. The chain is made of 5-8 round iron, and I think it is about eight feet long, perhaps more, (larger the stump the longer the chain required) with large ring at one end to go over the butt end of the lever. Trim the lever to fit the ring, and put in a spike to keep it from slipping off, with a hook at the other end, this shape  to unhook easily. Hitch mules or oxen at the little end of the lever, fasten on to the stump, and pull around in circle, to the left is best. Practice will soon teach how to fasten the chain around the stump.

PLEURO-PNEUMONIA.

The agents of the National Bureau of Animal Industry are engaged in a vigorous stamping-out of this terrible disease in the northern towns of Westchester County, N. Y., just above New-York City. The disease (conveyed by a drove of western milch cows) was first reported in March, and investigation showed the urgent need quarantine which has been declared, forbidding the transportation of cattle from one farm to another, or into or out of the county, without the consent of the agent of the government. There are 30,000 neat cattle in Westchester County, valued at \$1,200,000, and the virtual paralyzing of this industry is a serious matter. Several hundred head have been slaughtered, the government paying \$40 for each

healthy animal, and \$20 for each one infected with the disease. Commissioner of Agriculture has issued a notice as follows:

"The attention of all persons is called to sections 6 and 7 of the act of Congress, approved May 29, 1884, establishing the Bureau of Animal Industry, which sections make it a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$5,000, or by imprisonment for not more than one year or by both such fine and imprisonment, for any transportation company or person to receive for transportation, or to transport, or to drive, from one State or Territory to another, any live stock affected with any contagious, infectious or communicable disease, and especially pleuro-pneumonia; or for any person or persons to deliver such affected live stock to any transportation company.

"A reward of \$100 will be paid to any person giving information to the chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry that results in the conviction of any person for a violation of section 6 and 7 of the act of Congress of May 29, 1884." Country Gentleman.

We clip the above to show our readers, that this fearfully fatal disease, may make its appearance in our State any day and to admonish them to be very careful in purchasing cattle of all kinds, that are brought to our State. We cannot be too cautious when we see that it has found its way into the herds of a County in New York, where the cattle are valued at \$1,200,000, despite all the vigilance that was used to prevent it. This disease among our cattle would be indeed, a great calamity.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

A TRIP THROUGH ROBESON COUNTY.

Thursday of last week, at 4:15 a. m. I found myself in the beautiful town of Lumberton. The ravages of the recent fires were apparent on several sides. And yet the enterprising people have gone busily to work, and ere long the present ruins will be the scenes of handsome brick buildings, and Lumberton will take her stand with other recently unfortunate sisters whose vim has been exemplified in what seemed to be a fell stroke of adversity. A fire is not always an unmitigated evil.

Through the kindness of Mr. J. P. Pittman, I was transported over a good road eleven miles to the village of Ashpole, arriving in time for an early breakfast. The crops all along the road were as fine as have ever been seen on the same land at this season of the year. Indeed I had seen no better this year, up to that time.

Thursday was a big day for

ASHPOLE INSTITUTE,

which is so ably presided over by Prof. S. Ivey, a ripe scholar and a Christian gentleman. It was commencement day, and the usually large attendance was greatly increased by the previous announcement that Rev. Dr. Taylor, President of Wake Forest College, was to deliver the address. At an early hour the grove was full of vehicles and people, and when the hour for services arrived, not half the people could get into the chapel. The address was the finest and most appropriate I ever listened to on such an occasion.

The afternoon was taken up in declamations, original speeches and music by the pupils, all of which did much credit to the institute and the instructors. In the evening, the young people (and some of us who were older) enjoyed what is known around Ashpole as a "so-forth." All the youth and beauty for miles around were present in all the attractiveness possible, and it has been some time since this deponent has seen more handsome young ladies gathered together from any locality. I would like to say many things about the institute and this joyous occasion, but time and space forbid. My stay in the community was three days more, and I have never spent a more pleasant time anywhere, (except for heat and lack of good water.) I am under special obligations for favors shown by my friends, J. P. Pittman, S. Ivey, G. P. Floyd, T. Ivey, O. A. Grantham, Rev. J. A. Smith and others, and peculiarly so to Mr. A. A. Inman and his handsome daughters. Ashpole will long occupy a green spot in my memory.

FARMERS' ALLIANCE.

The farmers of Robeson are better organized than those of any county in my knowledge. Mr. M. T. Sealy, representing the Farmers' Alliance, has organized some twelve or fifteen

bodies, I was told, and they have since been organized into a county Alliance, with Mr. T. Ivey as President. Mr. Ivey promised to give our readers the benefit of his experience, and so I shall leave that to him. It was truly encouraging to see how enthusiastic and hopeful all the farmers I met seemed. And they have much cause for being so. I have not seen such excellent prospects for a glorious harvest anywhere this year. The wheat, oats and corn are very fine, especially the corn; and the cotton, in some sections, I learned, was beginning to bloom. From Ashpole to Plainview the crops were exceptionally fine. Unless some unfavorable season shall visit them, the farmers of Robeson will have a most gratifying yield this year.

A NEW DEPARTURE.

Around Ashpole I noticed several fields of very fine tobacco. This crop had never been tried in Robeson until last year. Some few tried it, and the success was so gratifying as to induce several more to plant. I hope they will not be disappointed, nor have reason to regret the experiment.

With the aid of Mr. T. Ivey, I secured a good list of new subscribers for THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER. And one or two other Alliance members promised me clubs in their respective neighborhoods.

It was my pleasure to dine with Messrs. Cottingham and Bond, the gentlemanly clerks of A. & W. McQueen, at Plainview, who showed many courtesies. Nor would I forget to mention the consideration shown by the authorities of the Alma & Little Rock R. R., which penetrates one of the most thriving sections of Robeson county. But time would fail me to tell of all the good things I learned, and the many favors shown me.

J. E. R.

WAKE COUNTY FARMERS' ALLIANCE.

RALEIGH, N. C., June 20, 1887.

Pursuant to notice previously given, delegates from the farmers' subordinate alliances of Wake county met in the court house today.

J. B. Barry, of Bosque county, Texas, Deputy Organizer of Farmers' National Alliance, called the meeting to order and stated that the object of the meeting was to form a County Alliance. A committee on credentials having been appointed, found twelve subordinate Alliances represented.

An organization was effected by the election of the following officers: President—J. D. Allen. Vice-President—C. E. McCullers. Secretary—W. G. Crowder. Treasurer—P. A. Sorrell. Lecturer—J. M. Turner. Asst. Lecturer—Dr. A. J. Thompson.

Chaplain—J. F. McDuffie. Door Keeper—J. S. Johnson. Asst. Door Keeper—J. N. Hubbard. Executive Committee—G. J. Banks, R. D. Weathers, J. T. Bolling. In response to calls, short but entertaining speeches were made by J. M. Turner, J. D. Allen and C. E. McCullers.

A motion prevailing to that effect, a committee was appointed to wait on Col. L. L. Polk, Editor of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, and invite him to address the alliance. Greatly to the regret of the alliance, Col. Polk was absent from the city.

The Wake County Farmers' Alliance adjourned to meet in Raleigh on the last Saturday in July, 1887.

J. D. ALLEN, President.

W. G. CROWDER, Secretary.
City papers please copy.

GOOD CARE PRODUCES GOOD STOCK.

This self-evident truth is brought to mind by the experience of a couple of farmers of our acquaintance. They had planned to go to an auction at a distance to buy some thorough-bred calves. Henry went but John did not go. Henry returned with two nice looking calves which he had bought, not at the auction, but of a neighbor, the poorest of which he sold to John. (who thought it was a thoroughbred) for \$100. This spring having taken most excellent care of the calf, which was developing into a very promising animal, Farmer John declined to take \$200 for it, whereupon Farmer Henry returned him the \$100—paid and explained how he had bought the calf from their neighbor's herd. The moral of this story is that if Farmer John had given as good care to his other stock as he did to what he supposed was a thoroughbred, the other stock would have done just as well.—Farm and Home.