



THE



PROGRESSIVE



FARMER.

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

Vol. 2.

RALEIGH, N. C., SEPTEMBER 15, 1887.

No. 30.

OUR FARMERS' CLUBS.

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

BEAVER DAM, N. C., Aug. 30, '87.
Grove Springs Farmers' Club was organized today and elected J. C. Hamilton, President; M. L. Little, Vice-President; J. A. Marsh, Secretary and Treasurer. Executive Committee: J. C. Edwards, A. R. Edwards and J. F. Hamilton.
J. A. MARSH, Sec'y.

MADISON, N. C., Sept. 2, '87.
Our club was organized July 30th, 1887. We have 50 members; Col. Jno. M. Galloway, President; C. A. McGehee, Vice-President; G. W. Martin, Treasurer; D. W. Busick, Secretary. Postoffice for each one is Madison, Rockingham county, N. C.
Yours truly,
D. W. BUSICK.

EDGECOMBE FARMERS' CLUB.
The central Farmers' Club met in Tarboro on the 6th inst. Gen. W. R. Cox was made a member. The present officers, Col. Carr, D. H. Barlow, J. C. Powell and H. L. Leggett, President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, respectively were elected.

The matter of holding a farmers' institute is in the hands of a committee. Edgecombe can and ought to have as good institute as any county in the State.

THE WAY THE IREDELL FARMERS DO.
At a meeting of the Iredell County Club on the 6th inst., Col. Julian Allen, President, gave an interesting talk on his trip, as a delegate, to Atlanta, and other speeches were made. Among other things it was decided to hold a wheat fair in Statesville on the first Wednesday and Thursday in August, 1888, and to offer the following premiums: For the best quality and largest amount of wheat raised on two acres, \$10; second best, \$8; third best, \$4, fourth best, \$3. On one acre: First best, \$6; second best, \$4; third best, \$3; fourth best, \$2. On one-half acre: First best, \$4; second best, \$3; third best, \$2; fourth best, \$1.

UNION COUNTY FARMERS.
A most cheering letter to hand from Mr. Jos. M. Austin, Secretary of Euto Farmers' Club, in Union county. The club was organized on the 9th of April last and now has a membership of 48 wide-awake working members. W. H. Austin, President; Jno. M. Austin, Vice-President; Joseph M. Austin, Secretary; Ashley Baucom, Treasurer; J. B. Brantly, W. A. Baucom and W. A. Tarlton, Executive Committee.

This club is at work; it is growing and one of the sensible things it has done is to admit the ladies as honorary members. They want instruction and help from our department of agriculture as to the best methods of organizing the farmers.

The clubs of Union will hold a grand mass meeting on the 8th at Watson's church, when they expect to have a genuine good time.

AUBURN FARMERS' ALLIANCE.
This alliance, at its meeting on the 3d inst., transacted some important business, and among other things, decided to have a comfortable hall for its meetings and connected with it a good, commodious and comfortable school room. The site was selected and agreed upon and subscriptions in the meeting, were made, amounting to \$200. The membership at the two last meetings was increased by the reception of twelve new members, and the outlook is that it will not be long before every farmer in this community will belong to the order.

May the good work go on until all the farmers may see how much benefit to himself and to his fellows he may be by joining us.

We would be glad to see in THE

PROGRESSIVE FARMER reports from our brethren of other alliances.

Fraternally,
SELLIE M. SMITH, Secretary.

HARNETT COUNTY ALLIANCE.

The subordinate alliances of Harnett county met on the 23d ult. and organized a county alliance by electing N. J. Olive, President; Rev. P. J. Wray, Vice-President; D. H. Senter, Secretary; H. Y. Smith, Chaplain; J. S. Gardner, Lecturer; T. E. Smith, Assistant Lecturer; Jesse Tumor, Door-keeper, and A. B. Patterson, Assistant Door-keeper.

Our next regular meeting will be held on the 1st of October, and we want every alliance in the county to be well represented, as important matters are to be considered. We cordially invite our brethren of other counties to be with us. The farmers of Harnett are waking up, and they are organizing—a thing that should have been done twenty years ago. We would be glad if our brethren of the alliance would write and let us know through THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER something of their progress.

N. J. OLIVE, President.
D. H. SENTER, Secretary.

On the 3d inst the farmers of Catawba had a grand rally and among the many good speeches delivered was one by Rev. J. C. Clapp D. D. His subject "the Improvement of the farm—the all Important Object of the Farmer." His speech was full of interest. Among other good things he said: "We've got to reclaim land already cultivated and which has washed out in red gullies. It can be done and must be done. Look at Pennsylvania and Maryland. What was once the worn out land is now the garden spots of the world. Now their cribs are full of corn, granaries full of wheat and money in the pocket.

Our land is better by nature than that of Maryland or Pennsylvania or Massachusetts and can be improved at infinitely less expense."

Speaking of our duty he said: "We are moral. We call ourselves moral. We owe it to posterity as well as to ourselves to improve and take care of it. We have no moral right to plow up and down these hills to be washed into gullies for those who are to follow. We are to leave these farms to our own posterity, and christianity demands that we improve them and not rob what God lends us to be delivered to our descendents."

FORSYTH COUNTY FARMERS' CLUB.

Our county club has passed the first mile-post. It was organized on the 11th of August, 1886, and we look back with pleasure and satisfaction to our record. It was the first county club to organize in the State. It issued an address to the farmers of the State through THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, which did much to arouse them to a sense of the situation and to induce them to organize. It was the first to issue a call for the great mass convention of farmers, which assembled in Raleigh on the 26th of last January, and demonstrated to politicians the power of determined, organized men. The work of that convention inaugurated a new industrial era in our history, and we may hope also, that it inaugurated an era of a more self-reliant independence among our farmers.

The organization in our county is in a good healthy condition. Since the work season is over there is an awakened and quickened zeal and interest among the subordinate clubs. They discuss all matters affecting their interests and are bringing it down to practice, and we have yet to find a single man in all the county who expresses any regret at having joined us.

We had quite an interesting and harmonious meeting. The officers elected are: President, A. W. Bevil; 1st Vice-President, E. T. Lehman; 2d Vice-President, J. L. Pratt; Secretary, E. C. Dull; Corresponding Sec-

retary, W. Pratt; Treasurer, A. B. Mock.

A number of resolutions of a local character were adopted; among them the following offered by A. D. Hulin, President of the Pleasant Ridge Club. "Resolved, That we, the organized farmers of Forsyth county, have no agents to transact any business pertaining to the farmers' clubs, unless said agent be a member of the same."

The club then adjourned to meet in Winston on the 4th Saturday in Oct. next.
E. C. DULL, Sec'y.

Aug. 27, 1887.

GREEN MANURING.

NUMBER 3

A farmer is supposed to be practically acquainted with everything concerning agriculture, and to know what is best to do under all circumstances in order to obtain remunerative crops; but the fact is that no one farmer in an average life-time can try enough experiments to know everything, and he must embrace every opportunity to find out and to study the recorded experiments of others.

The information regarding when and how to break land, and when to turn under sod or stubble, or a crop grown for manure, has come down to us from our ancestors, and has not been verified by experiments. One farmer continues to break the stubble land in October, another always burns off the weeds and stubble in February, and then breaks the land for corn or cotton, and each thinks his plan right because his father did so. Very few have experimented to find whether there is not a better plan. Many of our ideas have been received from Northern farmers and writers, where the conditions of climate are quite the reverse of those existing in the South. If the plowing is not done in the Northern States before October it cannot be done until after the first of May, as the land is covered with snow or bound fast with ice.

The Northern farmer often breaks his sod land in September, and either sows wheat or expects the freezing and thawing weather of October to pulverize and to prepare the land to receive the annual covering of snow, and with it a supply of ammonia, which the Southern farmer must buy in commercial fertilizers or obtain by growing a green crop for manure. In the South the conditions are quite different. September is a hot month; October is frequently almost as warm. Drying winds sweep the bare fields; winter rains wash the cotton and corn lands into gullies, and all the elements seem to conspire to rob the soil of nitrogen.

How can this great loss be prevented? Cannot the farmer, to some extent at least, cover his land with manuring crops which will shade and protect the land from sun, wind and washing rain until he is ready to plant the spring crop?

This covering, after serving the purpose of shading the land for several months, and in that way improving the condition of the soil, will be equal in value, when turned under, to many wagon loads of manure per acre, and will go far towards improving larger and more profitable crops. A.

DEPRESSION IN AGRICULTURE.

From a Grange Standpoint.

"The prosperity of the South is without doubt confined almost exclusively to the cities. The farmer's condition does not improve."

This item from a Southern paper really gives the condition of affairs over the whole country. As proven by the U. S. Census and all later statistics, the depression of agriculture is growing greater with every passing year. The value of the farm and its crops is constantly shrinking. And yet the country was never increasing in wealth so rapidly as now. Why should agriculture be the only interest that is going backward? What are the causes? What the remedy? These are questions that should be

discussed by every Grange in the land. Would it not help if farmers were as well organized as the manufacturers and other city interests? Would not "protection" for our products in proportion to the protection given other industries and made them prosperous, would it not be well to build up agriculture in the same way and put good tariffs on fruits, hides, eggs, vegetables and other products now admitted "free" and larger tariffs on hay, lumber, potatoes, wool, tobacco, sugar, etc.? True we have a large surplus revenue now. If more than is needed for expenses of the National Government, why not divide it up among the States to run the State governments (as was done when Andrew Jackson was President) and so save State taxes, or, if necessary, divide again among the counties and so save county taxes. Some recommend Free Trade, but would it help farmers to pull manufacturers down to the farmers' depressed almost Free Trade basis?

To protect her farmers, France has a tariff so high on beef, pork and grain that it is prohibitory, and last winter the French Congress increased the tariff on raw sugar at the very time our Congress was discussing "free" raw sugar (and all "free" raw materials.) Spain increased her tariff on cereals last winter 25 per cent. Statistics tell us that over sixteen million dozen of foreign eggs (largely from France) landed in this country last year and free of all duties. If France and Spain, by tariff, close their markets for our beef, pork and grain, let us close ours in the same way against their pauper hens. Let us try a tariff of 78 per cent. on eggs (the average on manufactured goods) and see if you cannot build up this "American Industry."
MORTIMER WHITEHEAD.

A TRULY SELF MADE LADY.

"You seem to be much attached to your wife," said the Governor of Arkansas, addressing an old negro who had just paid a tribute to the ruler of his household.

"I is, sah, powerful. Dat lady is one ermong er thousand, an' does you know dat she's self-made lady?"

"A self-made lady?"

"Yes, she, she's a self-made lady. When we fust maird, she was a sort o' helpless critter. Been raised 'round de house 'mong de white folks, an' didn't gin much o' promise det she would eb 'mount ter much an' I wuz sorter slow 'bout mairn her, I wuz, 'case I se putty much o'er bizness man mersef. An' fust it was erbout ez much ez she could do ter draw er bucket o' water, but 'stead o' flingin' stumblin' blocks in her way, I 'courage her, I did."

"How? By drawing the water yourself?" the Governor asked.

"Oh, no, sah; by gittin, er smaller bucket dat she could han'le. Ef I had er drawn de water mersef she neber would er been er self-made lady. She'd er tied er red han'kerchu 'round her head an' sung er lonesome song in de back yard, an' I does think, sah, dat de song o' er 'oman dat has gin up hope is de lonesomest thing in de wor'. Yes, sah, I got de lady er smaller bucket, an' ter show her how fur I wuz frum throwin' stumblin' blocks in de lady's way, I greased de win'lass. I let it run erlong dis way erwhile, an' den I put on de big bucket."

"Then she went right along, suppose?"

"Ez sweet ez er pie, sah. An' ergin, at fust she made er mighty bad out at choppin' wood. She didn't take kin ly ter de ax, but I wa'n't de man ter fling stumblin' blocks in de way o' my own wife."

"You relieved her of that laborious duty, then I suppose?"

"Yes, sah, I liebed her might'ly. I got her er ax dat wa'n't nigh so heaby. Den she dun powerful well; 'prubed so fas' dat it wa'n't long till she could han'le de heaby ax monstrous fine. But yer otter see dat lady now, gub'ner. She ken fetch in er log o' wood ez well ez any pusson, an' out in the

fiel' she ken make er mule powerful tired 'fore de sun goes down. Oh, yas, she's er se' made lady, but I knowedges dat she would'n be such er fine pusson ef I had acted mean an' flung stumblin' blocks in her way."—*Arkansas Traveler.*

What paper should a farmer take?

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER AND ITS FRIENDS.

It is known that we started this paper under most disadvantageous surroundings. It is not known how we have toiled and labored "in season and out of season" day and night, to place it beyond the breakers. We confess with pride and with gratitude to our friends, that it has succeeded beyond our expectations. It has made strong and true friends. It has enjoyed the courteous kindness, if not co-operation, of the press of the State, for which it expresses its profound appreciation. Kind words of endorsement and encouragement are borne to us by almost every mail. For all this we feel gratified.

But we desire to speak a few plain, earnest words to our subscribers. Ours is an agricultural State. Our people are supporting over one hundred and fifty newspapers and journals. Over one hundred of these are political papers. THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER is the only agricultural paper (weekly) among them all. It is devoted exclusively to the interests of industrial classes. Is it unreasonable to claim that of the one hundred and ten thousand subscribers to all our papers, a majority of whom must be farmers, that THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER ought to have ten thousand subscribers? This would be an average of but a fraction over one hundred to each county in the State. Are there not twenty counties in the State that with little effort on the part of our friends would give us five hundred each by January next? Are there not fifty other counties that would give us two hundred each? Are there not twenty others that would give us from fifty to one hundred each? If our friends in these counties will kindly give us their help and will give half the number named by the first day of January next, we believe we can safely guarantee to run the list up to ten thousand by the first of June next. It would enable us first, to reduce the price of the paper to the uniform price of one dollar. Second. It would enable us to increase the size and give our readers the model agricultural weekly of the South. Third. It would enable us to employ constantly the best editorial talent in all its departments, and lastly, it would give us a paper that could and would wield a tremendous power in our State. Is not this true? If it be true, is it not worth an effort on the part of our friends to accomplish it? Who will give us their aid in securing five thousand subscribers by the first of January?

Look at these rates

TO CLUBS:
1 subscriber and under five, 1 year, \$2.00
5 subscribers and under ten, 1 year, 1.65
10 subscribers and under fifteen, 1 year, 1.50
15 subscribers and under twenty, 1 year, 1.25
20 subscribers, or more, 1 year, 1.00
Strictly cash in advance.

Who will be the first to send us a club? Remember that for any one of the above clubs, you get the paper free for one year. Will you not make up a club in your neighborhood in your Grange, in your Club, in your Alliance? How many of our friends will join us in the effort to get the five thousand? Write to us for blank subscription list and sample copy of the paper. Who will help? If you can't do it, can you not get some one to do so? Show the paper to your neighbor—take it with you to your Club, Grange or Alliance and show it to your brethren and get them to take it. Who will write first for the blank? Join us in the work, and let us have, by the beginning of next year, the very best paper in the whole South for our farmers.