

GENERAL NEWS ITEMS.

—Seven hundred and seventy Alliances in the State to date.

—The Pearson meetings commenced in Asheville on Sunday night last.

—Cotton is coming up nicely in the neighborhood of Washington, N. C.

—It is proposed to raise \$15,000 to endow a chair at Trinity to be called the Braxton Craven Chair.

—The Rev. Lyman Abbott has received a call to the pastorate of Plymouth (Henry Ward Beecher's) church.

—The Episcopal Convention will meet in annual session in St. Luke's Church, Salisbury, on the 23d day of this month.

—Public declarations and private letters lead us to believe that Warren county will declare for Alexander for Governor.

—The pastors of Wilmington have organized an Evangelical Alliance, auxiliary to the Evangelical Alliance for the United States.

—The Hillsboro Recorder regrets to learn that ex-Judge Ruffin has been confined to his home with sickness for a week past.

—The editor of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER will address the farmers at Cedar Rock, Franklin county, on Saturday, the 2d day of June, next.

—Blaine recants and has given his friends to understand that his name may be used before the Republican Nominating Convention for President.

—It is announced that the Greensboro Patriot will be issued as a Daily, about the 20th of this month, with Mr. J. H. Myrover of Fayetteville as editor.

—Senator Vance passed up the Western Railway a few days ago and upon being interrogated said his business in the mountains was to look after his "tater crap."

—The Gleaner announces that Graham was visited last week, from Hillsboro, by a rare combination, to-wit: "A revenue officer, a negro, a dog-cart, and a billy goat."

—Miss Maria Mitchell, for twenty-two years professor of Astronomy at Vassar College, New York, and the first incumbent of that position has resigned the professorship.

—Fayetteville, N. C., with a population of upwards of 8,000 souls, can barely support in decency four medical practitioners. It is a fact, Fayetteville has only four doctors.

—Col. L. L. Polk, editor of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, will deliver the literary address at the commencement of Cedar Rock Academy, Franklin county, Friday, June 1st, 1888.

—As anticipated, the Guilford Battle Ground celebration was a huge affair. Certainly ten thousand people were present on the field. Judge Schenck's oration is spoken of as a masterly effort.

—The Fifth Annual Council of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of East Carolina, will meet (D. V.) in St. John's Parish, Fayetteville, on Wednesday the 23rd day of May, 1888.

—The latest thing in the conundrum line is this, from the Wilmington Messenger: "Can you tell why the choir don't sing well on Sunday?" Give it up. "Because notes executed on Sunday are not good."

—Nothing has yet been heard of the fellow McNeill who shot Miss Poe at Carthage last week, and it is thought he has made good his escape from the State. Hopes are entertained of the young lady's speedy recovery.

—The Pittsboro Home says: We find a growing sentiment in the county for Alexander for Governor and Broughton for Congress. Both are good and true and pure men and they would command an enthusiastic support.

—Most of the depositors in the largest saving institution in Philadelphia are women, and an authority in such matters asserts that by far the greatest share of all the invested capital in Philadelphia held in trust belongs to women.

—Just as we go to press we have received a ringing letter from a prominent gentleman in Chatham who believes that Alexander can poll 400 more votes in that good old county than any one who has been named. We regret that it came too late for publication in this issue.

—A dispatch from Baltimore on May 9th announced that Nathaniel Watts, the "old defender," who defended Baltimore from British invasion in 1814, was dying at the residence of his daughter, Miss S. J. Watts. He was 94 years of age.

—The printer-man may not always know a great deal about poetry, but in the practical affairs of every day life he is usually well up:

"He kissed her under the rose,"
"Is how the poet wrote it;"
"He kissed her under the nose,"
"Is how the printer put it."

—It is understood that ex-Lieut-Gov. Armfield, of Statesville, was the author of the article against Judge Fowle which appeared in the Statesville Landmark two weeks ago. He withdraws the charges and says he believes the Judge did nothing intentionally wrong in regard to the bond matter.

—The largest shipment of paper ever received in Wilmington reached that city last week. The lot consists of 260 reams (124,800 sheets), and is only a part of the paper to be used in the "trade issue" of the Messenger, which is soon to appear. These brethren seem to be boring with a monstrous big augur.

—Commencement at Graham College will begin May 16. The representatives of the two literary societies will speak Wednesday, May 16, at 8 o'clock, p. m. The literary address will be delivered by Prof. Geo. T. Winston, of Chapel Hill, May 17, 11 a. m., and sermon by Rev. M. L. Hurly, 2 p. m., same day.

—Congressman Nichols has introduced a bill to appropriate \$100,000 for the erection of a Government building in Durham. While they are engaged in distributing the "surplus" it is nothing but right that the South should try to get its share, even if they have to take it in the shape of bricks and mortar.

—The Aurora says Miss Adair, a young lady at Stice's Shoals, five miles south of Shelby, while engaged in cooking Wednesday, met with a sad and perhaps fatal accident. Her dress caught fire from the fire-place and her clothing was consumed. Being alone in the house she was badly burned, and it is feared will die.

—The great tunnel through the Cascade Mountains on the Northern Pacific Railroad, was finished on the 2d day of May. It is 9,900 feet in length and is one of the greatest achievements of this wonder-working century. The work has been done in a little more than two years, notwithstanding the fact that most of the time the workman had to tunnel through solid rock.

—The young ladies of Oak Ridge Institute, Guilford county, have recently organized a debating society and their first contest was over the question: "Resolved, that women folks have more sense than men." Resulted in the affirmative, one young lady establishing the fact that Solomon's reputation for wisdom was altogether due to the advice given him by a thousand wives.

—The North and South Carolina plaid factories have glutted the market with plaids and the price has declined in consequence. The mill owners will meet in Charlotte to-morrow to agree upon shutting down the factories until the supply is worked off and the price increased. But what is to become of the thousands of poor mill hands who are to be thrown out of employment.

—Hon. Walter L. Steele of Richmond county, has published a card in the Rockingham Rocket in which he returns thanks to his friends, but declines to allow his name to be used in connection with the Democratic nomination for Governor. This re-establishes the trio as it stood before Mr. Steele was brought out, to wit: Alexander, Fowle and Stedman—a triangle, so to speak, with A well at the apex.

—Hon. Carl Schurze, of Chicago, dined with Prince Bismarck in Berlin on Friday last. How wonderful; Carl, an obscure German lad, a half century ago, worked his way to this country "before the mast." In free America he became a gentleman—a statesman,—now, in his mature manhood, he returns to his fatherland to be "wined and dined" by that grand old chancellor of the German Empire, Prince Bismarck.

—A paragraph is going the round of the press to the effect that a certain minister had preached 121 funeral sermons with only "net returns" of two barrels of apples and a silver dollar. By the way, just what is considered the correct thing to be done in such cases? Would a minister of the Gospel of fine sensibilities be expected to receive money for his words of comfort and condolence, offered on such an occasion?—and, if so, what sum or amount would be considered just compensation?

—Judge Fuller, the new Chief Justice, who is described as a magnificent specimen of the genus homo, has always worn a heavy, dark brown moustache, which becomes him very much. The press of

the country is now engaged in discussing the question as to whether he will cut off this ornamental appendage in obedience to the absurd custom which forbids any Justice to appear on the bench of the Supreme Court of the United States wearing a moustache. If he is fit for the exalted position to which he has been chosen, he will retain his moustache.

—Our memorial day passed off most pleasantly, notwithstanding the programme, for the most part was rendered impracticable by the rain which fell without interruption from the morning until night-fall. Col. Bennett delivered an admirable address on the life and services of Brig-Gen. Junius Daniel,—a splendid theme, presented in splendid style by one of North Carolina's finest speakers. We trust it will be published for the benefit of our whole people. The Ladies' Memorial Association, especially, deserves great credit for their devotion to the sacred and noble work of perpetuating the memory of our fallen brave.

—The French League of Patriots has issued a manifesto in which Gen. Boulanger is styled the leader of the National party. Two million copies of the first installment of Gen. Boulanger's work on the German invasion, which were brought out last Tuesday, are to be distributed gratis throughout France. In the preface to his work Gen. Boulanger again sets forth the Boulangerist policy and states that the object of this book is simply to draw profitable lessons from the events of 1870. That is to say, he would stir up the true French heart by means of remembrance. Boulanger is a standing menace to the peace of Europe.

—The Charlotte Democrat, in its issue of two weeks ago, having called upon Capt. Alexander to say definitely whether or not he desired the nomination for Governor, the Democrat of last week contains the following: "Capt. Syd B. Alexander, in a personal interview, replied to our questions of last week about his candidacy for the Governorship, by saying that he had not sought the nomination, had not written to any one about it only in reply to the letters of friends, and that he had had nothing to do with putting forward his name, but, if the nomination for Governor was tendered him, he would not feel privileged to decline it. We make the statement by Capt. Alexander's authority."

—Before the Legislature of New York, at Albany on the night of May 9th., Col. Bob Ingersol delivered a memorial address on the late Roscoe Conkling. The following were his closing words: Conkling believed in the royalty of man in the sovereignty of the citizen, and in the matchless greatness of this republic. He was of the classic mould—a figure from the antique world. He had the pose of great statues—the pride and bearing of the intellectual Greek, of the conquering Roman, and he stood in the wide free air as though within his veins flowed the blood of an hundred Kings. And as he lived he died. Proudly he entered the darkness or the dawn, that we call death. Unshrinkingly he passed beyond our horizon, beyond the twilight's purple hills, beyond the utmost reach of human harm or help, to that vast realm of silence, of joy, where the innumerable dwell and he has left with us his wealth of thought and deed—the memory of a brave, imperious, honest man who bowed alone to death."

—We acknowledge the receipt of a catalogue of the University for '87-'8, and congratulate the institution on the many evidences of its growth and usefulness. Especially noticeable is the increased activity in Literary work. There is a series of public lectures before the University, besides special lectures before the Scientific Society, the Historical Society and the Seminary of Literature. The Regular Courses of Study offer systematic, well-rounded culture, the Special Courses offer special technical training, the Optional Courses are arranged for those who cannot stay to graduate, while the various societies stimulate and direct work in all departments. There is something here for every youth in North Carolina. Total expenses \$70 per annum; poor boys may give notes; candidates for teaching or preaching and preacher's sons free. The catalogue shows 203 students. Write for one to President Battle at Chapel Hill.

IMPORTANT TO ALLIANCES.

RALEIGH, N. C., May 8, 1888.
COL. L. L. POLK:—Dear Sir:—The Presidents or Secretaries of the various sub-Alliances of Wake county will please call at our store as early as convenient. We have something of importance to communicate to them.
Respectfully,
NORRIS & CARTER.

A CARD.

Contrary to our rule, but in response to the solicitations of many of our farmer friends, we publish in this issue of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, the card of Geo. W. Sanderlin, of Wayne, in which he modestly announces himself a candidate for the office of State Auditor. His name has been prominently and repeatedly mentioned in this connection recently, and it was desired and expected that he would give some public intimation of his personal wishes in the matter. Besides being a gentleman of great culture and refinement, and eminently fitted for the duties of the office, he desires, he is one of the most extensive practical farmers of the State. He also finds time, from his other duties, to edit with marked ability, the agricultural department of the *Kinston Free Press*. The *News-Observer*, of this city in which the card was first published, characterizes it as "manly and unmistakable." So say we.

LETTER FROM RICHMOND CO.

LAURINBURG, N. C., May 7, '88.
EDITOR PROGRESSIVE FARMER:—Through the kind intervention of some unknown friend, I have had my attention directed to an editorial in the Columbus Record of May 2d, attacking an article appearing in your paper May 24th, in which the editor furiously attacks the writer of the aforesaid article, and denounces him as a "political hack," &c., &c.

To be candid, I feel it unworthy of my notice, but in order to show him up in his true light, I will for once descend to his plane and give him a few nuts to crack.

The Record sounds its first note of warning to what may follow by professing its good opinion of the farmers' organization, believing, as it says, that it is a body of men banded together for mutual and meritorious interest, and closes this paragraph by saying and not incited by suicidal madness or a desire to plunder.

Brother farmer, compare these sentiments with the others contained in the same breath, and render your own verdict.

The Record was evidently laboring under an overloaded stomach, or in his zeal to misrepresent somebody imagined he had me before some tribunal and was pleading before a jury of his own picking.

Alas! your wails are lost in the recesses of your own insignificance, brother, for it is not a jury of picked men or partial judge that you have to decide this matter. It is that same class you profess to speak for that sit in judgment upon you. But listen! You say you "have always held a favorable opinion of the farmers' organizations." Why? Because they are as "a rule men of principle and intelligence, not knaves nor idiots."

Why not trust your welfare in such hands then, brother? What do you want? A lawyer to construct your laws; a lawyer to execute and a lawyer to reap? From such a crisis deliver us, O Lord.

But we pass on to the next inconsistency you manifest. After giving the farmer a taste of a sweet eulogy, you efface its beauty by apologizing for their inability to hold a responsible position. Let's see: You said the farmer was possessed of intelligence and principle. Are those things necessary to good government? Yes; well, what else would you have? Would you have dishonesty, ignorance, rascality? Certainly not. What would you have? Why, simply a lawyer. We see you, brother.

You say the farmers are intelligent; yet you say, and while they deserve and should have recognition in those departments of government which from the nature of the duties incident thereto; they could creditably fill, &c. Creditably fill! Did you ever?

Do you ever read history, brother? Do you know that name which all people of all classes do most honor, was one who could and did fill the office to which a proud and yet grateful people elected him with credit?

Have you any idea to whom I refer? I cannot sufficient prize was? We presume too much, we fear, on your historical knowledge, hence we refrain further comment on that line. However, we hope you will indulge us, for we would name one farmer whose name adorns all American history and is a household word in every American home. I refer with pride to George Washington, the embodiment of all that is great, all that is honorable, all that constitutes a true man and an American citizen. But to the

subject: The Record would place the responsibility of Alexander's prominence as a "Gubernatorial candidate" upon the Farmers' Alliance or culbs, which he knows is not true in any sense. The Alliance has nothing to do as a body with the movement; as men, as equal citizens, as lovers of good government, they have the right to espouse the cause of whomsoever they choose, and they are men enough to back those rights which a free government grants them. I do not advocate, as I stated in the former article (and of which the Record makes so much capital) such radical measures as would jeopardize the success of the Democratic party, but I repeat that the farmer would be justifiable in such steps, if after all these years of loyalty to the Democratic party they are no better served than before; they would then wear the yoke of bondage by further submitting, but justifiable or not, I stick to my prediction.

As to my political complexion, which the Record seems ignorant of, I would say that my democracy has yet to be questioned as far back as traceable in the past generations. As to the stuff of which I am made, that will develop in the future, if opportunity presents itself, but we will add that whether of the "class that predominates or not among the farmers," we are as yet considered such and closely identified with that interest.

As to which is the more closely identified with the farmer, will be seen when I state that the writer is a farmer both by birth and profession, while the editors of the Record are lawyers by profession, and I presume, sinners too. My fortune has never favored me with a copy of the Record until to-day, a copy containing the article referred to (with the article marked) came before me. In looking over the paper I accidentally saw the article here referred to, and in reading it over at once discovered that the writer was a lawyer. I would have vouched for that, but to be sure, I began to look over the paper closely, and ("eureka") there it was in an outside column:

SKULKEN & HINES,
Attorneys at Law,
Whiteville, N. C.

So far so good, but I must further investigate, and what do I find? A bottle of neat design bearing this inscription:

SKULKEN & POWELL,
DEALERS IN
Fine Cigars, Liquors, Native Wines, Brandies, Groceries, &c., &c., Whiteville, N. C.

Now as to who the Skulken referred to on the bottle is, I cannot say, but judging from the evident miscarriage of the editor's article, I should unhesitatingly pronounce editor, lawyer, bottle, and all identical. Let that be as it may, we are not to blame, for certainly our critic has a right to be all of them at once if he wants to.

We can't help thinking the Record is wrong when it records us as a "political hack," for "may it please your Honor," (as he would have said it) we are not at all a politician or an aspirant for office, but are simply an "old farmer." We, however, do the Record the justice to say he may have "been off the jug" when writing that article; consequently did not know the difference between a "political hack" and his own inordinate greed for office.

The Record grows eloquent in the farmer's interest and "blows off his dogs" by this flourish of the trumpet: "The farmers of Columbus county, and of North Carolina, are too strongly wedded to the principles of good government to subject her to a rehearsal of such accursed scenes, simply because their political choice was not the nominee of the convention, and such a charge is an insult to their sense of self-protection, their honesty and their patriotism."

Oh, Moses! I didn't know the farmers were insulted. Why didn't you tell me, brother farmer? I don't believe it now. Nor does the Record. Brethren Skulken & Hines, read THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER; it will improve your memory, and it is to be hoped your morals. Had you scanned that paper as closely as you should, before speaking for the farmers, you probably would have recorded a different view as regards the class you misrepresent in your Record. No Skulken; now read that paper.

In concluding, brethren Skulken-Hines, I would have you watch the developments of the convention, next the election. I may be a "hack," but not a policy writer who has not tact enough to at least hide his selfish purpose, as was evidently the case in your would-be defense of the farmer's political views.

NIBUAL, C. M.