

PROGRESSIVE FARMER

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

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No. 10

DIRECTORY OF FARMERS' ORGANIZATIONS.

NORTH CAROLINA FARMERS' STATE ALLIANCE.
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 Vice-President—T. Ivey, Ashpole, N. C.
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 Lecturer—Dr. D. Reid Parker, Trinity College, N. C.
 Assistant Lecturer—D. D. McIntyre, Laurinburg, N. C.
 Chaplain—Rev. Carr Moore, Townsville, N. C.
 Door Keeper—W. H. Tomlinson, Fayetteville, N. C.
 Assistant Door Keeper—R. T. Rush, Mt. Gilead, N. C.
 Sergeant-at-Arms—J. S. Holt, Chalk Level, N. C.
 State Business Agent—W. A. Darden.

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 Elias Carr, Old Sparta, N. C., Chairman; Thaddeus Ivey, Ashpole, N. C.; J. S. Johnston, Ruffin, N. C.

THE NORTH CAROLINA FARMERS' ASSOCIATION.
 President—Elias Carr, Old Sparta, Edgecombe county.
 B. F. Hester, Oxford, Secretary; S. Otho Wilson, Vineyard, and W. E. Benbow, Oak Ridge, Assistant Secretaries.

VIRGINIA STATE ALLIANCE.
 President—G. T. Barbee, Bridgewater, Virginia.
 Vice-President—T. B. Massey, Washington, Virginia.
 Secretary—J. J. Silvey, Bridgewater, Virginia.
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 Asst. Lecturer—J. S. Bradley, Luray, Virginia.
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 Door Keeper—B. Frank Beahm, Kimball, Virginia.
 Asst. Door Keeper—G. E. Brubaker, Luray, Virginia.
 Ser't-at-Arms—C. H. Lillard, Washington, Virginia.
 State Business Agent—S. P. A. Brubaker, of Luray, Virginia.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.
 E. T. Brumback, Jas. E. Compton and Geo. H. Chrisman.

LETTER FROM THE "BURNT ISLANDS."

ALLENTON, Robeson Co. N. C.,
 March 1, 1889.

MR. EDITOR:—Our Alliance, No. 350, is in good working trim and we think it high time that we step fearlessly upon the platform of Alliance existence by letting people abroad hear from us through the columns of **THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER**. We have raised a goodly sum towards the Business Agency Fund and expect to stand with our shoulders firmly to the wheel, though the mire be deep and the bog be heavy. We are situated away down here in a section known as the "Burnt Islands" of Robeson county, and as our talent is but a small one, we are weak, as farmers, and as a matter of course, weak financially. We do not raise an abundance of cotton, owing to the non-adaptability of most of our lands, and also to the non-adaptability of some of ourselves. We are pretty well adapted to the raising of "hog and hominy," potatoes, etc., simply because our "daddies" before us knew how to do that sort of thing. However, we are pulling to get apace with the times, and we fancy already that we can read the word "success" printed on the mile stones as we pass them slowly by, and by-and-by, when the grand army of Farmers' Alliance men shall have assembled to answer to the victor's roll-call, we hope to be able to say present.

We could have lots more to say, but as we see so many letters from different parts of the State, we fear we might infringe on more valuable space than that set apart for our communication. Success to **THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER** and Farmers' Alliance.

J. A. BARKER.

SUSSEX COUNTY ALLIANCE.

Upon a call issued from the State Alliance by the President, the Sub-Alliances of Sussex county, Va., met at the court house March 28th, 1889, to form a County Alliance.

The election of officers of County Alliance resulted as follows: President, J. D. Owen; Vice-President, J. A. Winfield; Secretary, G. W. Jackson; Treasurer, H. F. Scott; Chaplain, John Schafer; Lecturer, S. E. Briggs; Assistant Lecturer, L. R. Bailey; Doorkeeper, A. F. Eppes; Assistant Doorkeeper, J. J. Faison; Ser't-at-Arms, W. E. Raines; Business Agent, John B. Jarratt.

After a few remarks from the State President, the County Alliance closed to meet at the court house on Monday, April 8th, at 1 o'clock p. m.

J. D. OWEN, President.
 G. W. JACKSON, Sec'y.



CAPT. W. A. DARDEN, BUSINESS AGENT OF THE STATE FARMERS' ALLIANCE.

Capt. William A. Darden, Business Agent of the State Alliance, was born May 15th, 1836. He entered the Freshman class at Randolph-Macon College and remained there until his junior year, when he was compelled to leave on account of impaired health. He then, at the age of 21, settled upon a farm and continued that occupation until the breaking out of the war. Among the first he volunteered on the 23d of April, 1864, and was elected Second Lieutenant in Capt. R. H. Drysdale's company, the Third North Carolina Regiment. He was elected—and was the youngest member of that body—a delegate to the State Convention which passed the ordinance of secession, May 20th, 1861. After the adjournment of the Convention, Capt. Darden again volunteered and was elected Second Lieutenant, Capt. A. J. Moore's company, 61st North Carolina Regiment, Clingman's Brigade. He was with the regiment during the siege of Charleston, including fifteen days at Battery Wagner, where some of the hardest fighting of the war was done; at Drewry's Bluff, Cold Harbor, Bermuda Hundreds, siege of Petersburg and the storming of Fort Harrison, where he was captured on the 30th of September, 1864. He was promoted to be Captain after the resignation of Capt. Moore, who was wounded at Battery Wagner. Capt. Darden was as brave a soldier as ever shouldered arms and was in every engagement in which his regiment participated, except one, from the 2d of November, 1862, until he was captured. After his capture he was taken to Fort Delaware and held there until the month of June, 1865.

With the close of the war he returned to his home and again settled upon his farm, where he was engaged in agriculture until he was placed in his present position by the State Alliance. In every campaign since the war, beginning with 1868, when he took strong grounds against the Canby Constitution, Capt. Darden has taken the stump in behalf of the Democratic party. In his county (Greene) he has been a tower of strength to his party. He was Chairman of the Inferior Court of Greene county four years. Whether Democrats or Republicans controlled the county, Capt. Darden's eminent and recognized fitness has caused his services to be commanded for public duty. At two different elections he received the unanimous vote of the Democratic and Republican party for Justice of the Peace. In 1884, although his county is Republican, Capt. Darden was elected to the House and made a faithful and efficient member. In 1884 he was a candidate in the Democratic Convention for nomination as State Auditor and received a large vote. His name was again presented to the Democratic Convention in 1888 for the same office.

Capt. Darden has been twice married and is now a widower. He has enjoyed the complete confidence of the people of his section and State, and they have always been ready to honor him. There is no truer man—no more faithful and conscientious public servant—and there was no braver soldier. The Alliance, in making Capt. Darden State Business Agent, selected one of its truest men and one who firmly believes in the principles of the Alliance.

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM NASH.

GOLD MINE ALLIANCE, Nash Co., N. C.,
 March 4, 1889.

MR. EDITOR:—Having been recently appointed Corresponding Secretary of Gold Mine Alliance, I have concluded to write a short communication for your excellent paper. We regard our Sub-Alliance in a healthy condition from the fact that we have as good material among our membership as can be found anywhere. Yes, men of firmness and stability who can be relied upon anywhere, and who did not join the Alliance to be half scholars, but to do their whole duty, and as far as lies in their power they intend to make the Farmers' Alliance a success. We transact our business in great harmony, and with very few exceptions our membership on almost every subject appear to be of one mind. Our membership is not now increasing rapidly, from the fact that nearly all proper persons living in our vicinity belong to our Alliance or some other.

And as to the question of guano, we stand on the same ground occupied by other Sub-Alliances, viz: If we buy guano at all, it must be at as low figures as those of last year, and I hope no Alliance man will go beyond that, as no cause whatever exists for any advance in the prices of standard brands of guano. The object beyond doubt is to extort more and more upon our down-trodden farmers. I wish to say to the brethren everywhere, stand firm, and if you cannot get guano as cheap as you did last year, do not buy a bag; and if you harvest less next

fall, you will no doubt have just as much as you would have had after paying out of your crop a heavy guano bill; and at the same time you will prove to your would-be oppressors that you are a man; that you are fully determined to come out from under every galling yoke heretofore placed upon your neck by speculators and trust companies. It is said of some of the Israelites that they desired to return to the flesh pots of Egypt; but I tell you, brethren everywhere, that we have made a start to get out of a bondage equal to that suffered by Israel in Egypt, and let none of us think for a moment of turning back, for there is no flesh pots for us to return to among speculators and trust companies, for they will have the last particle of flesh out of the pot before you get to it, for the piece was remarkably small left in the pot for us before we made any attempt to get out of bondage, and of course, to go back now, we would fare much worse than we did before. So let the word forward go all along our line, until, in a sense, victory over speculators and trust companies shall be obtained for every true and worthy Alliance man. But some may ask, how can all this be accomplished? I answer: It may not be done easily, but it can be done by firm and united effort on the part of Alliance men everywhere. And, brethren, we must not only stand firm, but we must work, every man of us, with muscle, brain and money. We must look forward and consider, not only our present wants and condition,

and how our present necessities are to be met, but we must look ahead and begin now to work and plan to make things turn up, just as we will want them to do after awhile. We never can get fully out from under our oppressors until we, as an organization, reach that point when we can manufacture and carry on trade, and commerce among ourselves. Cotton raised by Alliance men should be sold to Alliance men and by an Alliance man. Tobacco raised by Alliance men should be sold to Alliance men. The Alliance man's plows and other farming tools should be manufactured by an Alliance man, and so on, until all would work like a "wheel within a wheel."

Where, I ask, are our men of means? Men are often perplexed to know where to lay out their money. It appears to me that every Alliance man of means could now see how and when to invest his money, so as to benefit his brethren in the Alliance, and yet realize that per cent. that ought to satisfy any honest man. We claim that we are extoroned on by nearly every manufacturing company or by trust companies, through and from whom we get our supplies. Then is it not plain, that if any Alliance man or men would lay out their money in preparing for and in the manufacture of such articles as Alliance men are bound to have that they could supply their brethren with cheaper articles, and yet make a fair profit on their money? And, as a matter of course, Alliance men would prefer trading with Alliance men, even if everything else was equal, and with the advantage that could be given as stated above, they would be certain of the Alliance man's trade or patronage. Then, before another year, let us have a guano factory among us. A tobacco factory and so on, and above all, let us commence now to mature our plans, and let us by all means have an Alliance man or men, if necessary, at the very best cotton markets next fall, so that Alliance men may ship their cotton directly to them and thereby get the very highest market price for their cotton, and soon a brighter day will dawn on us all.

Yours fraternally,
 GEO. E. HUNT.

(For THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.)
PRINCIPLES WHICH MUST GUIDE, AND MEANS WHICH MUST BE USED, TO INSURE SUCCESS TO ORGANIZED RURAL INDUSTRY.

No. 5.

[By Maj. R. L. Ragland, of Hyco, Va.]

In the early ages of the world, when there was a popular belief that every avocation or calling in life was presided over by a supernatural being called a god, people were taught that "The gods help those who help themselves."

And a firm adherence to this faith did work wonders, that went far to confirm the superstition as truth.

Our people, whose God is the Lord infinite in truth, justice and mercy, have the consolation of His approval in our laudable efforts to promote our welfare and happiness, when guided by His counsel.

In this utilitarian practical age, the aggregate popular opinion of the people is wiser and safer than that of any leaders or bosses, who attempt leadership, industrial or practical—and we might justly add political. The industrial people of this great country are awaking to the stern realities of their situation, rather than becoming the devotees of a theory, or followers of a party; and realize, that they must "construe the times to their necessities." They see that fortune's favorites have been holding them "In human action and capacity. Of no more soul, and fitness for the world, Than camels in their war; who have their provend Only for bearing burdens, and sore blows For sinking under them."

"STRONG REASONS MAKE STRONG ACTIONS."

The man engaged in husbandry who does not see the necessity for action, to protect his rights and interests, must be ignorant or stolid indeed. And yet there are some such—shame be it said—who have not the will or capacity to see their true situation, or the nerve and courage to force deliverance. Of such society expects but little and their influence is nil. But the yeomanry of the country are uniting and resolving; and as good resolutions lay the foundation for success, we may expect something salutary ere long, for success rarely fails to crown persistent efforts with consummation.

The industrial people are meeting regularly in council, discussing the best means to promote the revival of prosperity, the betterment of their avocations, and measures most likely

to promote the greatest good to the greatest numbers—the welfare of all the people and the good of the nation. And we trust that their deliberations will result in action, which shall command the approval and support of the masses of the best people of this country. It is an augury of better times coming, when we behold good citizens combining, organizing and acting for the general good.

Their coming together and taking counsel, each of the other, cannot fail to educate the people to their true situation, and in devising remedies to correct evils and in inspiring incentives and means for accomplishment.

PRUDENCE.

If prudence and moderation characterize their deliberations and efforts in attending to their own business in their own way, they will surely accomplish very great good, without officiously antagonizing other business interests.

When roads get too rough or impassable for travel, it is prudent to open up new and smoother ways, where locomotion or driving is far easier and more pleasant. To go around obstacles is easier and more expeditious sometimes than to persist in efforts to remove them. It is wise to cease encouraging oppression by withholding patronage, and in transacting your own business. When you can do it more effectually and cheaper than any one else.

PERSEVERANCE.

When men are forced to act for self-preservation they realize that: "Self-love is not so vile a thing as self-neglecting." Perseverance keeps honor bright, and "They will not for one repulse, forego the purpose they have resolved to effect."

They know, too, that the relief they seek is possible and their motives laudable; that "thrift is a blessing, if men steal it not," that individual effort can accomplish only partial good; but that united, concentrated, persistent efforts will set them free.

"To fail is to mock the expectation of the world."

But we confidently look for the development of "grit" enough in the men who are organizing the great Industrial Revolution to carry it to substantial accomplishment.

Sociological views of Farming and Farmers as a class will be treated next, and some wholesome trade secrets told for their benefit.

R. L. RAGLAND,
 Hyco, Va.

ITEMS FROM "TEN-MILE" ALLIANCE.

HOWELLSVILLE, March, 23, '89.
 COL. L. L. POLK.—Dear Sir:—I herewith hand you a few items from our corner. At our meeting, held last Saturday, we changed our place of meeting from Bro. S. E. Britt's dwelling to Oak Grove and Barber's School House. We had previously rented Bro. Britt's house, and still retain it, so that if the moving fails to give satisfaction, we can return to the old building. We meet semi-monthly and are getting along very well. The more the antisytry to kill us out the stronger we become; we don't mean numerically, altogether, for, a few weeks ago two of our members asked for withdrawal cards, and to be sure, they got them. If every other member in America withdraws, here is one who expects to hold fast and maintain his integrity, till the last day in the morning.

Fraternally yours,
 G. A. R.

A SISTER WRITES A LINE.

ESSEX FARMERS ALLIANCE, No. 885.
 MR. EDITOR:—Will you allow a farmer's daughter a small space in your valuable paper just to say a few words in regard to the Farmers' Alliance? I have been thinking for some time I would write but not feeling competent have delayed until now.

We have a very flourishing Alliance with about forty members at present. Of this number thirteen are ladies. Owing to the late spring and excessive bad weather the farmers of this section are somewhat behind in their farming proceedings but hope it may not be long before they may be able to go ahead with much skill and earnestness. May the coming of another spring find us all in better condition both financially and otherwise. We have long heard it for a saying that "every dog must have his day." We earnestly hope the time is soon coming for the farmers to have their day and also their rights.

As I have never written before, I will not say more this time, and will close with many kind wishes for **THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER** and all who read it.

Your sincerely,
 LIGHTNING.

COMMERCIAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE NORTH AND THE SOUTH.

Our correspondent, "Diamond," of Laurinburg, writes as follows: "I am in receipt of a cordial and sympathetic letter from a lady in our State (an entire stranger to me) endorsing all I had to say in regard to our commercial relations with the North, which elicited quite a lengthy poem, running along in the same groove with my article, which she requested me to send to you for publication; but owing to its length I knew it would go into the waste basket. I will quote a verse or two as a sample:

Because we lost in fateful war
 A hope of independence,
 Most we forever "hew and draw,"
 Be poor and cheap attendants?
 O! war-times we can live again,
 Our lads and lassies true,
 Our nations and our goodly men
 Can don the homespun blue."

Our ladies—God bless them—are always ready to make sacrifices for the good of our Southland. Thanks, "Sub-Alliance," for your kind words. The "sand" business, well, that is all right. To put a quantity of sand in the middle of a bale of cotton, in a sly way, would be fraud; but when it is put in evenly throughout the bale, with a double duplex sand injector—in a scientific way—that would be business. No fraud about it, for the buyer could see what he was getting. Snow-white, atomized byrates put into flour, sugar, candy, soda, soap, &c., is fraud, for the reason that we can't detect it. If our Northern neighbors are not disposed to let us have money and take the sanded cotton at a higher price, they can let it alone, and we will narrow the thing down to buying postage stamps at their face value and pay cash. Let our people go to work and organize our Order No. 12, representing the Twelve Cotton States; let the password be "two-ten," and, with our two eyes, watch the ten fingers of our Northern neighbors practicing fraud on our people.

ONE OF THE FIRST.

MR. EDITOR:—Zion Sub-Alliance, No. 35, was organized in the summer of 1887. It is not yet two years old, with a membership of about seventy. The zeal and enthusiasm of the members, and their devotion to the principles of the Alliance, are not less apparent than at the very beginning. New members are added to the roll at almost every meeting. Two lady members were received at our last meeting. These ladies are among the best farmers of the community; and, to the surprise of all present, without solicitation, they came forward at once and took shares in the Business Fund.

But where is Zion Alliance? some one might ask. To say that it is located at Zion church would be an exceedingly indefinite reply, as the name is a favorite one with all Christian denominations, and they all have their Zions distributed from the mountain-crested Cherokee to the wave-washed shores of Currituck. But our Alliance takes its name from a Methodist church of the same name, situated in a community of well-to-do farmers in Richmond county, four miles east of Rockingham. Here, long years ago, was a famous encampment, and annually multitudes of our ancestors assembled together, in camp-meeting to worship God in a style characteristic of those primitive times. The people of this community come down as the worthy successors of a generation of the purest blood that ever settled in our State. There are those still living among us that have heard their great-grand parents tell of the pioneer days of the Pee Dee section; when, what is now known as Richmond county, was settled by six families, and there was only one needle to the six, to be borrowed "from house to house," and when droves of wild horses roamed at large where we now grow cotton, corn, peas and potatoes.

Near this place, along the Pee Dee river, is some beautiful scenery and some points of traditional interest; among them may be named DeBerry's Island. This island is surrounded by the waters of this majestic river, and tradition has it that here the Pee Dee Indians had their fisheries, and that the Indians from further east, in the section now covered by Cumberland and Robeson, were desirous of fishing there also; but being prohibited by the Pee Dee Indians, a great battle ensued. This battle was fought on this island, and the bones and mounds are there to this day to mark the battle field.

But enough; we have a community of as happy, prosperous farmers as one often sees, and farmers, too, who love the principles of the Alliance and are willing to exemplify the same.

ZION CORRESPONDENT.