

PROGRESSIVE FARMER

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

Vol. 4.

RALEIGH, N. C., AUGUST 20, 1889.

No. 28

DIRECTORY OF FARMERS' ORGANIZATIONS.

NORTH CAROLINA FARMERS' STATE ALLIANCE.
President—S. B. Alexander, Charlotte, N. C.

Vice-President—T. Ivey, Ashpole, N. C.
Secretary—L. L. Polk, Raleigh, N. C.
Treasurer—J. D. Allen, Falls, N. C.
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. Gilad, N. C.

Sergeant-at-Arms—J. S. Holt, Chalk Level, N. C.

State Business Agent—W. A. Darden.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE NORTH CAROLINA FARMERS' STATE ALLIANCE.

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, Amissville, Virginia.

Treasurer—Isaiah Printz, Luray, Virginia.

Lecturer—G. H. Chrisman, Chrisman, Virginia.

Asst. Lecturer—J. S. Bradley, Luray, Virginia.

Chaplain—Wm. M. Rosser, Luray, Virginia.

Door Keeper—B. Frank Beahm, Kimball, Virginia.

Asst. Door Keeper—G. E. Brubaker, Luray, Virginia.

Serg'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.

FROM ONSLOW COUNTY.

ADAMS' SCHOOL HOUSE ALLIANCE,
No. 179, July 23, '89.

Mr. Editor:—As I seldom see anything in your most excellent paper from Onslow, I will undertake to write you for the first time lately.

The Alliance in this county probably don't stand so high nor increase in numbers with some other counties; but we mean business just the same. We had a live county meeting and considerable business done, notwithstanding the weather was very unfavorable. Our county meeting sends ten dollars to the State Business Agent. But I am happy to say our own lodge will double that amount. The membership in this county is not increasing, for the reason the weak are dropping out. But the strong are continually growing stronger. The Alliance is an order that will purge itself of worthless material.

We have watched the appointments of Bro. Tracy, hoping to see an appointment for this county. Hope you won't forget us, but will send him down here, for we consider that such lecturing is essential to the success of the order.

At our last meeting action was taken endorsing the Act of the Legislature in regard to the incorporation; the action of the Birmingham Conference and the consolidation of the Alliance and Wheel. We don't pass so many resolutions, but our motto is to fall in ranks and keep step, quietly marching on as one grand army to meet the enemy, resolved to conquer or die.

This is the grandest effort the farmer has ever made toward organization, and it is very plain for any reasonable person to see that with a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull all together, success is ours, especially so, if we could have good lecturing in every neighborhood and the Progressive Farmer placed in every family. We hope that every lodge in North Carolina will respond to the call for the business agency so that business can be done through that channel to the advantage of every Allianceman, for one of the great troubles in this country is making low-priced cotton to pay for provisions at time prices. He that is a year's provisions behind is likely to remain so, without a great change. Think of this, my dear friends, and decide for yourselves.

Now a few words in regard to the farms and I close: The weather has been quite rainy through this section for the past month or longer, but notwithstanding we have had some very heavy rains, I think the crops in the upper part of the county is a fair average. I would say in conclusion,

as many others have said to the farming class of people: plant less cotton and more corn, peas, potatoes, rice, cane and small grain, and this will enable you to raise more stock and more home manure, and the result will be you will have home pork and beef, home flour, home syrup and home milk and honey, and our wives will be encouraged and will probably hand you over a pair of home-made pants occasionally. This is what will put an end to mortgages and time prices. But be sure to arm yourself with THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER for instruction.

Yours fraternally,
F. D. SHAW.

TRACY IN UNION COUNTY.

WOLF POND, N. C., Aug. 3, '89.

Mr. Editor:—On the 30th ultimo your correspondent had the pleasure of being present and hearing Hon. Harry Tracy, the modern Boanerges, address the citizens of Union county with the power of a Hercules, the language of a Demosthenes, and the oratory of a Patrick Henry. He burst forth with astounding eloquence and like the peals of thunder that shook Mt. Sinai, he stirred the people up to a sense of their grand duty. You will please pardon my digression here, as I want to say a few words to the many readers of your inestimable paper. I would just say go on with your grand and noble work, and remember that Rome was not built in a single day—it was built after awhile—by slow degrees, by more and more until it was completed.

This earth was not built and finished all at once. At first it was a thin castle in the air. It was a thousand times larger than it is now, but so very gaseous that one could have read the Holy Scriptures through the thickest part of it. Science teaches that it took two billions of years before even the crust was formed, and ninety-eight millions of years more before vegetation could grow. Then it had to pass through a whole century of snow storms, with the thermometer at 73 degrees below zero, in order to cool off enough to support animal life. But it was completed and made fit for the abode of man at last. Let patience have its perfect work. The great order cannot reach perfection at one breath. Time, capital, enterprise and labor must have elbow room. Fate and destiny have decided, the Alliance shall be a great organization. Combinations nor trusts can defeat it. They can retard its growth, but cannot prevent it in the end. Death will finally kill off moss-backs and remove obstacles. If the present is unworthy, the future will be wiser and more thrifty.

P. S.—Your correspondent is a farmer boy, a lover and a well-wisher of the organization.

FROM THE OLD DOMINION.

BUFFALO LITHIA SPRINGS,
Mecklenburg Co., Va.

Mr. Editor:—You and your many readers of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER need not think that Sandy Fork Alliance is dead because we do not write, for we are far from it, and I do not think any Alliance will die if they would take more copies of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, which I think is one of, if not the best farmers paper I ever saw.

I think the suggestion of J. B. Smith is good. Now with two or three good lecturers and your valuable paper in every Congressional district, I don't see how the Alliance can fail.

At our June meeting, all of the old officers were re-elected except Lecturer and Chaplain. We are passing some resolutions, but don't think we will publish them yet, except one, which I will give you:

Resolved, That our delegate to the State Alliance do bring before that body the importance of taking the eight cents tax off of tobacco, and urge that body to do all in their power with our Congressman to have it taken off.

Mr. Editor, the Sandy Fork and Heborn and Beaver Pond Alliances are going to have a grand jollification in the way of a picnic on Thursday before the fourth Sunday in August, and you are requested to attend, for we all want to see the man who is doing so much for the farmers.

I will not write any more now, for I assure you that I had rather read the letters from your many able correspondents than to write. With many wishes to you and your valuable paper, I am,

Fraternally yours,
P. A. Cox, Sec'y.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY ALLIANCE.

Mt. Gilead, N. C., July 25, '89.

Mr. Editor:—At a meeting of Montgomery County Alliance, held the 5th day of July, 1889, it being the time for the election of officers, Bro. R. W. Joyner was elected President and your humble scribe was elected Secretary for the ensuing year. The brethren seemed to be imbued with the Alliance spirit and are resolved to get all the benefits possible to be derived from being Alliancemen.

Below I furnish you some resolutions which were unanimously adopted as follows: Realizing the importance of united efforts on our part to break down all monopolistic combinations, such as the bagging, twine, oil and sugar trusts; therefore

Resolved, That we, the members of Montgomery County Alliance, No. 119, do endorse the action of the National Conference of representative Alliancemen that assembled in the city of Birmingham, Ala., on the 15th of May and also of the Wake County Alliance.

Resolved, That we adopt cotton bagging as a covering for our cotton, and pledge ourselves to faithfully carry out the suggestion of said National conference.

Resolved, That any member of this Alliance who wilfully violate this pledge is not worthy of the name of an Allianceman, and subjects himself to expulsion from the order.

Resolved, That we adopt the articles of incorporation as passed by the last Legislature of North Carolina for the State Farmers' Alliance.

Resolved, That we approve of the consolidation of the Alliance and Wheel as one body corporate, and endorse the proposed constitution and by-laws of the Farmers' and Laborers' Union of America, and instruct our delegates to the State Alliance to urge the consummation of the same.

Resolved, That we recommend a general system of organizers and lecturers for the State to instruct and enlighten the minds of our people as before all things essential to their welfare.

Resolved, That we approve of the amendment recommended by our trustee Bro. W. A. Graham, except the \$1 fee, and ask that the matter be brought before the next meeting of the State Alliance and adopted.

THE MEETING AT DANVILLE.

PELHAM, N. C., Aug. 9, 1889.

Pursuant to call the Border Farmers' Alliance met in Danville, Va., on August 5th. 43 Sub-Alliances were represented. Much business of great importance to the tobacco raisers was transacted, and the body was transacted and the body was a unit in regard to that interest, but of course there was a good discussion as to the way it should be done, &c. It was gratifying to hear the tillers of the soil speak as to what they desired and how it could be accomplished. Dr. D. Reid Parker was present and made a stirring, edifying and cementing address as usual with that gifted son of the Old North State. We missed the editor of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, Col. Withers, of Danville, kindly furnished the body with good accommodations for holding their meetings and the body tendered him a unanimous vote of thanks which was well merited. When the work is fully completed I will let your readers have it for present. I will say a board of directors of which J. H. Wilson, President, is chairman was elected to charter, incorporate and run a warehouse and other interests of the Border Alliance.

Fraternally S.

A GEORGIA GRASS FARM.

Col. W. H. Warren, who has a farm near Augusta, has demonstrated that grass culture can be made profitable in Georgia. His farm contains 100 acres, 92 of which are permanent meadows. No corn or cotton is grown. The vetch grasses yield about a ton and a half to the acre annually, and the Johnson grass from three to four tons. The Bermuda also yields a very large late crop without cultivation. From May until frost a force of ten men is employed, and the hay is marketed in Augusta. Four hundred tons of hay have been cut from this farm in one year, the price at which the crop was sold being \$9,000, or at the rate of more than \$90 an acre. This, as the Atlanta Constitution remarks, "is a larger amount of money than any cotton farm in that region could depend on making."

MEETING OF GATES COUNTY ALLIANCE.

At the regular meeting of Gates County Farmers' Alliance, Bro. H. Clay Williams was elected delegate and Bro. Lycurgus Hoffer was elected alternate to the State Alliance to be held at Fayetteville, N. C., on Thursday, August 13th.

The following resolutions were adopted and ordered to be sent to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

Resolved, That we adopt and endorse the action of the National Alliance in session in Birmingham, Ala., on the consolidation of the Alliance and Wheel.

Resolved, That this Alliance accepts and adopts the Act of the General Assembly of North Carolina at its last session entitled An Act to incorporate the Farmers' State Alliance of North Carolina and Sub-Alliances as its charter of incorporation and the Constitution, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations which may be prescribed by the properly constituted authorities thereunder.

Resolved, That the County and Sub-Alliances of the county request the ginners to use cotton bagging in the place of jute for the wrapping of cotton as much as they possibly can, (which was amended by adding) pine straw bagging or any other substitute rather than use jute bagging.

Resolved, That we, the County Alliance of Gates county, State of North Carolina, do earnestly petition our State and National Alliances to take proper steps to crush the enormous tobacco trust by getting the Congress of the United States to repeal the entire tax on tobacco and to enact such other legislation as may be necessary to break up this tobacco trust; also to urge upon this and similar orders the importance of refusing to purchase or use any of the tobacco manufactured by said trust, but to bestow their patronage upon Alliance and other home tobacco factories, and thus develop a home industry and save their brethren of the tobacco belt from impending ruin by reason of aforesaid trust.

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secret work of the order was exemplified by Col. Gray of the *National Economist*. To have the secret work uniform in the State a special committee was appointed whose duty it is to instruct organizers.

Congress was memorialized to repeal the tax on tobacco.

It was decided to have State, County and Sub-Alliances incorporated and to raise funds for a business agency and to establish a State Exchange.

The next annual meeting will be held in the city of Lynchburg, Va., to convene on the 3d Tuesday of August, 1890. The Alliance was in session 3 days. The President in his annual address referred in the kindest manner possible to Col. L. L. Polk, thanking him for the encouragement and advice received, and the convention passed a resolution unanimously thanking the Colonel for the aid given to the Virginia Alliance.

Most excellent speeches were made on the situation of the farmer, the cause of depression, &c., and especially by Maj. Marn Page, the new Vice-President. That he is the right man in the right place cannot be doubted.

Good feeling obtained throughout and a more harmonious convention I have never had the pleasure of attending. It was decided to send a large number of organizers into the different counties and organize the State as rapidly as possible.

The impression made on me was that there was a determination on the part of all the delegates and officers to concede to others in the interest of harmony and the uncompromising persistence of all the delegates to fight combines and trusts made me feel that the Old Mother of States would not be found wanting when the final roll call is made. Foggy.

THE TRUE SPIRIT.

FAIRFIELD ALLIANCE, No. 545,
Lenoir Co., N. C., July 30, '89.

Mr. Editor:—It is refreshing to see with what unanimity the brotherhood all over the cotton belt accept and endorse the action of the Birmingham convention in relation to cotton bagging. But in your paper of to-day I was quite surprised to see the "Proviso" in the Beaufort County Alliance. It reads: "Provided, The exchanges of New York and Norfolk allow eight pounds per bale for commercial value in favor of cotton bagging." I think we should and will use cotton bagging whether any allowance is made or not. (I feel sure there will be.) Permit me to speak for Fairfield Alliance, that many, if not all, her members would refuse to accept jute bagging to cover their crop if it was offered as a present, although our crop prospect is not over a two-third crop.

I was glad to see our grand sister county of Sampson speak with no "uncertain sound." Hope she had a fine crop of "Big blues," (whortleberries.) Also Belvidere's "whereas" is just the thing for all Alliances to do with the trust, but I wish to say to Bro. Whitehead, get the good women to come out and join you, for you cannot get along first-class without them. I feel I cannot close without saying I endorse heartily your protest of children being permitted to smoke cigars.

P. S.—August 24th we have an all day meeting, basket dinner and the subject for our lecturer is, "Our Obligation." We would be glad to have a grand State meeting at Fayetteville.

Fraternally,

HENRY.

RESOLUTIONS OF MT. GILIAD ALLIANCE.

WHEREAS, Twelve cotton States have unanimously resolved not to use Trust bagging on their cotton this season, therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the Mt. Giliad Alliance, No. 98, most respectfully ask our brother farmers who are not members of our order, to assist us in breaking down the Bagging Trust by not using jute bagging.

Resolved, That we earnestly request our merchants not to buy any Trust bagging.

Resolved, That THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER and our county papers be requested to publish these resolutions.

R. W. JOYNER President.

C. W. WOOLLEY, Jr., Secretary.

The fact that the mercury seems disposed to frisk and dally around the two cipher limit is taken by many to indicate the probability of our having a thaw and an early spring.

LOWER CREEK ALLIANCE.

LENOIR, N. C., July 11, '89.

Mr. Editor:—The Lower Creek Farmers' Alliance met at this place to-day, and was called to order by President M. D. Smith, and opened in form; and with your permission we would like to occupy a small space in THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER informing the brethren that we are not dead, although we have been silent, are wide awake and are taking hold of our noble cause in earnest, feeling that it is our only hope. We think we have some true Alliance men who are in full sympathy with the cause. We have not passed many resolutions but are trying to adhere to those we have passed. Although we are yet in our infancy, we are ready and willing to put our shoulders to the wheel to assist our brethren in any cause that will benefit the farming class of people. The farmer should be the first of all free men, but in the past year we have been little more than slaves. But we are alive to our interests now, and hope in the future to raise our own supplies and purchase less fertilizers. We see that there is no money in having our corn cribs in St. Louis and our smokehouses in Chicago and we are going to move them home.

Now for a few words in regard to the wheat and oat crops. They certainly were fine. The outlook for a good corn crop is discouraging; there is a very poor stand of corn, scarcely one-half of a stand. We have all kinds of fruit in abundance, but most of us are eating it without sugar as it has advanced in price. Now, brethren, let us attend our meetings every time; don't miss a single time, and take our word for it, we will move on faster. We are not at all afraid but what we will conquer the enemy, but the more we have the easier the fight will be and the sooner we will gain the victory. Push forward the glorious work. We long to see the day, and hope it is not far distant, when the farmer will stand equal with the merchant, manufacturer and speculator of the country.

Fraternally,
X AND Y.

FROM DAVIE COUNTY.

JERUSALEM ALLIANCE, No. 1,597,
August 3d, 1889.

Mr. Editor:—You will please allow me space in your valuable paper for a few lines, as no one of our Alliance has yet written a line to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER. We organized last February, with sixteen members; we now have in all twenty-nine. Most all the males in this community who are eligible have joined, yet there are some who say they don't wish to join another secret society after belonging to some that have been disbanded without any satisfactory results. This is not the case with the Farmers' Alliance, and if they will give us time we will show them so, better than we can tell them. We have not yet contributed anything to the business agency fund, but hope to be able to get up a liberal subscription in the near future. We have adopted the cotton bagging, resolved to use no other. At our election of officers we elected the present incumbents without any exception. We are now having an abundance of rain, which has caused the water-courses to rise higher than they have in a long time before. A large number of acres of bottom corn have been covered by the waters; in many other places the corn is turning yellow on account of the wet weather. It is thought by many that the cotton crop also will be cut short. I like your paper exceedingly well. Wishing you and THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER the success you so richly deserve, I am

Yours fraternally,
R. L. FARRIS, Sec'y.

SOUTHERN ENTERPRISE.

The South Carolina State Board of Agriculture has directed the Commissioner to prepare a special collection of the mineral and other resources of South Carolina for the use of the Southern Inter-State Immigration Bureau. This collection will be exhibited at the Northern fairs during the coming fall. The Central Railroad Company is organizing a "Georgia on Wheels" expedition to start West about the first of September. A special car will be arranged for a delegation of twenty Georgia farmers who will take in the fall fairs and stock shows in the West and investigate the farming methods of that section. It is expected that the reports of this delegation on their return will be of great value to the home people.