

The Progressive Farmer.

L. L. POLE, Editor. D. H. BROWDER, Business Manager. Raleigh, N. C.

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To Correspondents:

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RALEIGH, N. C., AUG. 27, 1889.

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The Progressive Farmer is the Official Organ of the N. C. Farmers' Association and N. C. State Farmers' Alliance, and the Virginia State Farmers' Alliance.

Our friends in writing to any of our advertisers, will favor us by mentioning the fact that they saw the advertisement in THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

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THE CROP OUTLOOK.

LATEST returns estimate the American wheat crop of 1889 at 500,000,000 bushels in excess of last year. This will leave not less than 150,000,000 bushels of wheat for export. Last year the exports of wheat flour amounted to 121,000,000 bushels notwithstanding the obstacles to the export trade that were created by speculative operations in the Chicago wheat pit. In the present favorable conditions the corn crop of this year promises to be enormous. Last year's yield of Indian corn was estimated to be nearly 2,000,000,000 bushels, and it is probable that it will be exceeded considerably by the crop of this year. Last year's exports of Indian corn and corn meal amounted to but little more than 35,000,000 bushels. But in consequence of the short crops of wheat and other cereals in Russia and Austria the exports of Indian corn promise to be greatly stimulated in order to supply the poor of Europe with cheap bread.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

HE who would believe that the great movement of the farmers and wealth-producers of this country is only a rippled surface, caused by sentiment or sudden ebullition of passion, should have witnessed the action of the representatives of Southern agriculture in their meeting at Montgomery this week, and the great gathering of Georgia farmers in their State Alliance which has just adjourned.

He would have seen that the commotion is deep, and is moving with a force that will be irresistible. That principle and conviction are involved, and that the masses are being drawn together with common sympathy, common interest, common purpose and inflexible determination.

The meeting at Montgomery was harmonious and earnest, and will bring forth good fruit. The resolutions, the essays, the speeches and the action of the body, all showed that the great material interests of the country are being zealously looked after, wherever and in whatever capacity their representatives meet.

The Inter-State Farmers Association planted itself solidly, squarely and enthusiastically on the great platform of the Alliance: "Equal rights to all and special privileges to none." It declared in emphatic terms against jute bagging and the jute trust, and adopted unanimously the stalwart resolutions of the Hon. W. J. Green, which were adopted by our State Alliance against trusts, combines, pools and monopoly.

The Farmers' Alliance in the neighborhood of Laurinburg, in Richmond county, will hold a grand anti-trust basket picnic next Thursday, the 29th inst., to which a number of speakers have been invited, among them the editor of this paper, and he will be present.

Stanly county voted last Thursday on a proposition to subscribe \$100,000 to the capital stock of the Yadkin Railroad, to be built from Salisbury to Norwood. The subscription was carried by a majority of 701, and the prospect for the early building of the road seems to be good.

It is said that among the members of the present Georgia Legislature there is an old-time typical darky. His name is McIver, and he represents the county of Liberty, the stamping ground of the numerous false Messiahs, King Solomons and Queen Marys. He is more than 70 years old, and has the appearance of the family carriage driver of the wealthy ante-bellum Southern planter.

The Charleston News and Courier, of the 21st inst., says: "A well-known dealer and exporter of rice said yesterday that the outlook for the rice crop is now exceedingly gratifying. Reports from different sections say that the rice is in excellent condition, in fact better than for years. The crop on the Pee-Dee and

they cannot buy the cotton at the price at which they sold it; that the Trust and the Liverpool Cotton Exchange may resolve to their hearts' content against cotton bagging, but they will be forced to surrender to us; that the farmers must not listen to the speculators and conspirators, but stand firmly together, and a brighter day will soon dawn upon us. Georgia adopted a resolution urging every cotton farmer in the South not to sell a pound of cotton for less than twelve and a half cents per pound.

All the States, as far as heard from, adopt the constitution for the consolidation. Hurriedly, L. L. P. P. S.—An Alliance man, a regular "Georgia cracker," came dressed out and out in cotton bagging. Three hundred and sixty members in his county have uniform suits of it and they are literally the cotton bagging brigade.

A VALUABLE BULLETIN.

DR. VEASEY, Botanist of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, says the Chicago Farm, Field and Stockman, has just completed a new bulletin on the agricultural grasses of the United States, comprising not only the information contained in the bulletin on the same important subject, issued in 1884, but a great many important additions. There is an important and interesting chapter upon the cultivation of grass as an agricultural industry, containing many historical facts, and numerous very practical suggestions. In addition also to the scientific description given of each variety or species of grass for the benefit of more investigating minds, the Doctor gives considerable information of a more practical nature in regard especially to those grasses which have been found by experience to be the best adapted to the wants of farmers in different sections of the country. Practical suggestions, for instance, in regard to the quantity of seed required per acre, as to date of sowing, best time for cutting, the soil and climate to which the various grasses are specially adapted, and in the case of pasture, suggestions as to the proper combination of different grasses to secure the best results; all these facts are plainly set forth, so as to be within the comprehension of any practical and ordinarily intelligent reader, however unfamiliar with scientific names. The report on the chemical composition of American grasses by Mr. Richardson has also been reproduced in an appendix to the present bulletin, as well as a glossary of the terms used in describing grasses. The work will be embellished with 100 plates.

The bulletin comprises a number of valuable comments both from botanists and scientific observers, and from practical farmers giving their opinions and experiences with the different grasses. Altogether it is probably the most complete publication on the grass question yet issued in a practical and convenient form, and should be, as it doubtless will be, found in the library of every intelligent, progressive farmer.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Eiffel Tower (Paris) was struck by a thunder bolt on the 20th inst. without any serious damage being done.

The Chicago Farm, Field and Stockman says: "Never before in the history of this country has there been such a desire and concentration of effort for the education and enlightenment of farmers as at the present time."

The Baptists, Methodists and Presbyterians of Norwood, Stanly county, united in a meeting last week. Up to Friday night there had been about thirty conversions and the meeting was still going on. The awakening is interesting and widespread.

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the South Santee rivers is, however, under water to a great extent and is badly damaged. 'If the crops elsewhere are not overflown,' said the dealer, 'and the weather is favorable, you can make the prediction that the crop will be very fine. It ought to commence coming in within the next three weeks.'

Latah county, Idaho, comes to the front with an ice mine. The discovery was made in Pine Creek Canyon, it is said, two thousand feet above the sea. A chilling current of air, coming from the direction of a bed of moss was the first thing that attracted the attention of a party of geologists to it. They removed the moss and discovered a vein of ice 500 feet long and from four to six inches thick. The several layers of bowlders, debris and ice alternated to a depth of forty feet. The geologists think this formation belongs to the glacial period.

We are glad to be able to announce that Col. Mann Page, of Brandon, Va., has consented to contribute an article or series of articles for THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER on railroads. His well-known ability, his great opportunities for knowing the "true inwardness" of the situation makes him pre-eminently fitted for the task. The Colonel is Vice-President of the Virginia State Alliance, and we appreciate and thank him for his compliment to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER for taking the position it has, and adds "That every brother should subscribe for their papers and so encourage such papers as are willing to lay before the people the naked facts in regard to the management of chartered lines of public transportation, how they are conducted and to whom partiality is shown, and that cannot be bought up to remain silent for railroad advertisements and free tickets."

The experiment stations of the United States are now said to employ more than three hundred and seventy experts in agricultural science and practice, and are supported by a national appropriation of \$600,000, to which the States add about \$125,000; \$725,000 a year may seem a large sum to expend annually for agricultural experiments, but it is less than ten cents for each of the 7,500,000 farm-workers of the country, less than two and one-half cents for each of the 30,000,000 of our population directly dependent upon agriculture for their support, and less than one and one-fourth cent for each of the 60,000,000 of our people who consume the products of our farms. The farming lands, farm implements, and live stock of the country are estimated to be worth \$12,000,000,000. The experiment stations cost us, therefore, about \$6.25 a year for every million dollars invested in agriculture. Or reckoning the annual value of the products of our farms at \$2,200,000,000, we are now spending about 33 1/3 cents for every thousand dollars' worth of products in an attempt to increase the value of those products in future years.

PORTRAITS.

Echoes from our State Alliance. Pitt county was very fortunate in its selection. Bro. E. A. Moye is brimful of energy and devotion to the cause and very effective as a speaker.

We gave you in No. 28 our impressions of our President-elect, Bro. Carr, and we are disposed to add, unless we are greatly mistaken, there will be some effective work done in the next two years.

Bro. R. J. Powell, of Wake, is a clear-headed, practical farmer, who was always on the alert and kept the good of the Alliance ever before him. Cool, clear and lucid, he invariably made a good impression in his talks.

Col. Wharton Green, the classical, made a very excellent speech. His wit was pungent, his illustrations to the point; and in short, he was master of his subject. We regret we could not accept his very kind invitation.

Bro. A. H. Hayes, our newly elected Vice-President, is very tall—a good type of the mountaineer. He is an able man, and will be found at his post, and the Alliance need have no fear that our cause will suffer at his hands.

The great constitutional defender was Bro. Geo. Williamson, of Caswell. His devotion to first principles, his watchfulness lest our organic law should be tampered with, was noticeable, and he earned his title of "Defender" fairly.

Our worthy brother Capt. W. A. Darden, the retiring business agent, is a very effective and forcible speaker. He was re-elected, but he could not serve on account of his health. He carries with him the good wishes of the entire brotherhood.

Some one has suggested that Old Foggy's picture ought to be in THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER. You know what Burns says about seeing ourselves as others see us; so, profiting by his thought, I submit our fighting editor's picture of myself: Sixty years of age, grey-headed, and with

full long, white beard, sunken eyes, complexion similar to a piece of old-meaty-corn bacon, a little dried up chin man, and a natural born crank.

Bro. J. F. Payne is a ready debater, active in the cause, and has taken a strong position in reference to railroads, and we doubt not his people will stand by him. Would that every county would pledge its members to support a Railroad Commission.

Our Trustee, Bro. Graham, is a live, energetic man. He has enough energy to run a camp meeting and have as much left as ordinary mortals have. Brim-full of life, his joyousness of spirit permeates all around him. His reports show him to be careful and painstaking.

Why is it that we do not send such men to the Legislature as was sent up to the State Alliance? I would like to place in nomination Bro. V. S. Wilson for the Senate. Our assistant lecturer well said that when he spoke, in every sentence there were 'chunks of wisdom.'

Our retiring Lecturer, Dr. D. Reid Parker, is tall and slenderly built, of good address and he has done good work. It is said that he still "dreams" We think if he could lecture all over the State, the "drying process" would not have to be continued.

Bro. J. M. Mewborne was elected to fill Bro. T. Ivey's place as a member of the Executive Committee. He is a hard worker and is ever ready to defend the faith. The convention was very fortunate in the selection of its officers, and Bro. Mewborne will not take second rank.

Bro. Long, our Lecturer, is, we should think, about 55 years of age. He is a very distinguished looking, high forehead, clear-eye, and said to be a very forceful talker. He was quite unwell and we were denied the pleasure of hearing him. We predict that he will do our cause great good.

Col. L. L. Polk. Everybody knows the Colonel, and it would be a useless task to picture the most polite and affable man in North Carolina, and at the same time the hardest worker in, and most eloquent defender of the Farmers' Alliance. The Colonel is a broad national man, and ere long will prove it.

Our Treasurer, Bro. J. D. Allen, illustrates a very important truth—that the farmers of North Carolina have men in their midst that can and do know how to do business correctly. He has no ambition to go to Canada, and when in our vernacular he "toted" in the shekels, he looked every inch a model treasurer.

Brother Thad. Ivey, our Past Vice-President, is a young man of much force of character, the original Alliance man of North Carolina, and just as devoted to the cause as any brother can be. He will take a college course and had it not been for his refusing on the grounds just mentioned he would have been re-elected.

There are many others that Old Foggy would like to write about, some of them we became acquainted with and enjoyed their company more than we can tell; others, we were not introduced to, but this article is already too lengthy, and to these brethren I would say read the 13th and 14th verses of the 3d Epistle of John.

Did you ever have the pleasure of meeting our Past President, Hon. S. B. Alexander? If not, that is your loss. He is above 6 feet in height, well formed, fine physique, forehead broad and high, his reflective faculties large, quite cautious, and the ladies say he is very handsome. We are sure he enjoys the confidence of the brotherhood, and deservedly so.

Who has not heard of the ubiquitous Julian Allen? He was there in person. His circumference equals his altitude, and he is ever ready and willing to give to the brotherhood his ideas for the good of the cause. Whether it is the great subject of immigration which he has at heart, or the relative values of food, or phosphatic formation, he is equally felicitous.

Our new Business Agent, Bro. W. H. Worth is a worker. He has plenty of it before him. He shakes your hand from the shoulder, and we believe will acceptably fill the place. Right here I would offer some advice. The Business Agency Fund is not yet raised. He can do nothing but secure the cotton bagging, etc., and make arrangements for the fall supply of guano for the wheat districts. Do not expect more than this. His hands are tied. Raise the fund, and you will find that he will secure you bottom rates on everything. Do not imagine that he can furnish thousands of yards of bagging without funds. Make your arrangements to pay for the cotton bagging, and he will furnish it.

You have all heard of "the singed cat." We had one at the State Alliance.

ance. He was a typical hayseeder. As we first saw him on the street, his walk—anything but graceful—hair disheveled, a short-stemmed clay pipe in his mouth, he looked anything but an orator. But when Bro. J. B. Freeman, of Henderson county, got aroused he had the undivided attention of his audience. I have listened to Hale, Everette, Daniels, Vorhees, Valandigham, to our own Vance and scores of others, but I never heard such a voice before. Not only great volume but a rhythmic sweetness that was wonderful. We hope the "twin babies" are boys and that they will take up their father's mantle.

OLD FOGGY.

ALLIANCE NOTES.

[Always give the name and number of your Alliance, your postoffice and your county plainly, when you write to the President, Secretary, Trustee, Business Agent or Chairman of Executive Committee of the State Alliance.]

There are nineteen hundred and forty-three Alliances in the State of North Carolina up to date.

On August 9th Bro. W. L. Fortune organized Macon County Alliance. There were represented thirteen Sub-Alliances.

Southern Alliance Farmer says the Georgia State Alliance is a pretty big child for a year and a half old and requests us to "just wait until she is grown."

D. P. Meacham, Lecturer for Wake County Alliance, will lecture at Dutchman Alliance Saturday, Sept. 7th, at 10 a. m. Also at Farm Hill Alliance on Saturday, Sept. 21st, at 10 a. m.

In Georgia there are 2,030 Alliances pledged against jute bagging, and 1,555 in Alabama and 1,943 in North Carolina, which will give a healthy boom to the new cotton bagging enterprise.

The Mitchell county (Ga.) Alliance has arranged for an imposing jute bagging funeral some time this month. The pall bearers have been selected and all the details arranged. Rev. Mr. Hoggar will preach the funeral.

Rock Ridge Alliance, in Nash county, will have a basket picnic and speaking on the 12th of September. The editor of this paper has accepted an invitation to be present. A brother writes that they expect the largest crowd ever seen in Nash county.

An exchange says: "Every cotton planter in America should place his order for cotton bagging at once, and refuse to use jute if presented as a free gift. Never mind the tare in England, leave that to 'Uncle Jerry,' he and Uncle Sam will attend to the tare."

A brother writes: "Bladenboro Alliance, No. 528, will not patronize any ginmer who uses jute bagging. We are in good working order now, and to pledge ourselves to do a thing simply means it will be done! Corn and potato crops are very good. Cotton rather short. Long live THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER."

There will be a call meeting of Nash County Alliance to convene in Nashville on Saturday, September 7th, at 10 o'clock, sharp. All Sub-Alliances that do not meet in time to select delegates are requested to hold call meetings at once to select delegates. Jas. H. Exum, President; Sam. R. Hilliard, Secretary.

With the present prospect for a big cotton crop we predict that two-thirds will be covered with cotton bagging. The Alabama State Alliance, at its recent meeting, said cotton only for covering cotton. Have no fears for Georgia, gentlemen, she is in fine shape and lots of cotton bagging on hand and paid for.—Atlanta Farmer.

The wish of the Liverpool exchange to continue the use of jute is probably brought about by the English factors and brokers in compliance with the wish of their clients, the English spinners, who, no doubt, are alarmed at the prospect of the large consumption of cotton that will be necessitated by the manufacture of cotton bagging.

R. G. Russell, of South Lowell, writes us: If you will look on the roll of honor you will see New Hope, No. 516, Durham county, is credited with \$105.00. Now I know that all who paid into this fund were one-horse farmers or renters—literally; yet they could pay at the rate of six dollars each. Comment is unnecessary. But you must let this be known.

Brother Jas. B. Stanly, writing from Jones county, says, "We have very sorry crops in this county of both cotton and corn, caused by excessive rains. I want to go around and visit the Alliances in this county this fall, and make an effort to get every member of the order to subscribe for THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER. I find that the most active and efficient members in the order are those who are readers of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER. Indications are that we now are on the eve of a new boom in our county in the Alliance cause. The very best of good feeling

prevails among all classes and professions in our county towards the Alliance. The worst drawback that we have had to encounter was the way of a real, live county business agent. We believe we have now the right man in the right place.

Bro. Wm. H. Williams sends us two subscribers and says he is doing all he can to get the members of the Alliance to subscribe for THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER. He says: "I see the necessity of it. Those who read the organ of the Alliance are always ready to do all they can to promote the cause. Those who do not read are careless even about attending the meetings."

The women are getting to be fine workers in our Alliances. No one knows so well as a woman how to practice home economy. Men are more extravagant by nature and often by practice. Where a woman is trusted, and feels that her husband gives her due consideration, there is no danger of her squandering either time or money.—Southern Alliance.

Winstead Alliance, No. 799, Person county, has installed the following officers for the ensuing term: C. A. Rogers, President; D. D. Long, Vice-President; T. S. Clay, Secretary; N. L. Wagstaff, Treasurer; R. P. Brewer, Doorkeeper; Jas. Chatham, Chaplain; Capt. T. J. Stephens, Lecturer, and A. J. Hester, Business Agent. We number sixty-three and are in good working order.

Bro. J. A. Ellis, of Louisa county, writing under date of Aug. 14th, says: "We organized Jan. 31st, 1888, with only enough members to fill various offices; but we have steadily moved onward and upward and to day we number seventy, all hearty, hale and strong, and a more determined set never entered the contest. We have adopted resolutions indorsing the action of the Birmingham Convention in regard to cotton bagging and the consolidation of the Alliances and Wheel. We have ordered enough cotton bagging to cover our cotton. Much success to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER."

W. C. S., of South Durham Alliance, No. 750, says that while his Alliance as a whole is a noble band of determined brethren, he is sorry to say that it has been necessary to expel some for being dilatory about the payment of their quarterly dues. We have adopted the act incorporating the Subordinate and State Alliances and endorsed the consolidation of the Alliance, Wheel and Union, and will abide by the decision of the Birmingham conference in regard to cotton bagging. I think the best plan to raise the business agency fund would be to tax every male member of the Alliance the sum of one dollar to be paid on or before the first day of October next."

Correspondent J. R. Roberson, of Cross Roads Alliance, No. 1,058, Pitt county, writes: "Jos. L. Wynn, a young man of fair promise, not yet out of his teens, but one of the charter members and Treasurer of our lodge, had been to the depot at Everettsville and loaded upon his cart a barrel of molasses and started home, when he met a team hauling logs, at which his mule took fright and ran away. One of the wheels falling in a ditch threw the young man from the cart and the barrel on top of him, the rim of the wheel also striking his head. He was taken home, but died in about three hours. His funeral took place on the 23d ult., from the Church of Christ, Elder Ayers preaching the funeral sermon. His aged father has the deep sympathy of the entire community. Crops are spotted and very poor. The great quantity of rain with severe freshets this year makes the country look like starvation. The damage to date, to cotton and corn, cannot fall short of 50 per cent. Wheat yield was good but a great deal was damaged by sprouting. The potato crop is promising and so is rice and peanuts. We number about 80, with about 16 of the fair sex."

FIELD PEAS FOR FODDER.

It is stated in the American Agriculturist that the field or cow pea is one of the most valuable plants for the South. The writer has seen a crop of cow peas which yielded four tons to the acre of most excellent fodder and it left the ground in the best condition for sowing wheat. He knows of another farmer who sowed peas among his corn at the last plowing, covering them with the plow, and the yield of the two crops was a ton and a half of corn fodder and at least thirty bushels of peas to the acre, with a large quantity of pea straw, which was also a good cattle food. From this he very sensibly concludes that the common opinion prevailing that the South is not a stock country is entirely unfounded. With the long growing season, the really rich, but badly managed soil, and the great variety of fodder crops and feeding stuff, it is not at all exaggerating the matter to say that the beef cattle can be raised to 1,000 pounds in three years, at a cost of one cent per pound live weight, and in addition there is a large quantity of manure which is really invaluable to the Southern farmer.