

PROGRESSIVE FARMER

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

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THE NATIONAL FARMERS' ALLIANCE AND INDUSTRIAL UNION.

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NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

On December 29th, Mr. J. H. Maner shot and killed, near Long's Mills, Randolph county, a gray eagle which measured six feet eleven inches from tip to tip, weighing nine pounds.

Our readers will please take notice that Mr. J. R. Cline, who advertises in this paper, has removed his business from Catawba to Asheville, where he will be pleased to see his patrons.

The *Pea Dee Alliance* copied an item from this paper into its last number under the caption, "Will the Farmers Submit," and did not credit us with it. We presume the omission was inadvertent.

An esteemed contemporary heads an article, "Why Women Grow Old," and then gives a column to the discussion of the reasons for the starting fact. We had innocently supposed that women grew old because they could not help it.

It is stated by the papers that the Indians in the region of the present war are slowly starving to death. If their hostile attitude is due to insufficient food, it is a shame to our government. If their starving condition is due to their hostility the war will soon terminate. It is significant in this connection that General Miles recommends the removal of the civilian agents and asks that their places be filled with army officers.

We assure all the Alliances and brethren who have written to the *PROGRESSIVE FARMER* expressing their confidence in, and their esteem for Col. Polk that he appreciates their kindness, and will always be proud to have their esteem and friendship. But he thinks it would not be right to publish all the kindly things in the *FARMER*. We again, on behalf of Colonel Polk, thank all the Alliances and friends for their good words.

The *Memphis Appeal Avalanche* is of opinion that the South ought to reply to the *Closure* rule by an appeal to arms. We hope the *Appeal Avalanche* will get us excused. We made an appeal of that sort once, and our recollection is, that we wished before the

said appeal had proceeded very far, that we had not made it at all. We assure our contemporary there is nothing—nothing at all—funny about that sort of an appeal. We beg the people of Tennessee not to let the *Appeal Avalanche* go to war.

The Force bill has been laid aside by the Senate and the Silver bill has been taken up in its stead. This action was taken by a vote of 34 to 29. It is to be hoped that this is the end of this measure which was unanimously condemned by the National Alliance at Ocala. It is also to be hoped the Silver bill, which was taken up in place of the election bill, will be passed into a law. But there are indications, not a few, that the Silver bill will meet with most determined opposition both in and out of Congress. We regret this. We had hoped that the Alliance demand for free silver would be gracefully conceded. But it looks now as if we shall be compelled to extort this measure of relief from unwilling lawmakers. Well, it is a melancholy fact that "whom the gods wish to destroy, they first make mad."

We want our friends in all parts of the country to understand that THE *PROGRESSIVE FARMER* is not working in the interests of either the Democratic or Republican party. It is working solely in the interests of the Alliance movement. We understand that the Alliance movement is not a political movement in the partisan sense at all. We understand that the Alliance seeks the help, and will welcome to its ranks, men of all parties, and men of no parties. The senseless talk, therefore, of some people that THE *PROGRESSIVE FARMER* is too favorable to the Democratic party, and of other people that we are too favorable to the Republican party, is discreditable only to the numbskulls that indulge in it. We are honestly trying to serve our readers and the order to which we belong; and we shall not swerve to the right hand nor to the left in our efforts to do this. We want our friends to understand, once for all, that THE *PROGRESSIVE FARMER* is not an echo. It is an independent Alliance newspaper; and it will say, at all times, just what its editors think about all men and measures, without fear, affection or favor. The editors of this paper think they have consciences; and they think it is their duty to follow their consciences.

"POLITICS MAKE STRANGE BED-FELLOWS."

The New York *Sun*, Democratic, in its issue of the 4th inst. in its leading editorial, advocates the re-election of Senator Ingalls, and publishes a long and interesting interview with Mrs. Ingalls, in which the good lady also commits herself unconditionally to the same idea. It is said that in the event of his defeat in Kansas, Senator Ingalls has a place provided for him in the *Sun* office as one of its editors. Whether the advocacy of his election by the *Sun* is prompted by its malicious hatred of the Alliance, or the purpose to give him an advertisement as one of its prospective editors, that paper does not say. Again the *Sun* is booming Gov. Hill, a protectionist, for the Presidency in 1892. Again the New York *Herald*, a free-trade paper, is booming the editor of the *Sun*, a protectionist, and Mr. Cleveland, anti-protectionist, for the Presidency. Truly, "politics make strange bed-fellows."

There are a lot of people, by the way, who seem to think the State of New York holds a right in fee simple to the office of President, but the people propose to make application in the high court of public opinion for a test of this claim, and we opine that the verdict will be a stunner to Wall street. But won't the Alliance catch it lively when Ingalls and Dana get together on the *Sun*?

ALLIANCE CORRESPONDENCE.

WHEREAS, As we think that the taxpayers should do the voting; therefore be it

Resolved, That we recommend and ask the Legislature of North Carolina to amend the law so that no man shall be allowed to vote unless he can show his tax receipt that he paid his tax the year before, or has become of age between tax listing and the registration, or those exempt from poll tax and no property taxes; further we ask each Sub and County Alliance to bring this before the Alliance and to instruct their representatives to have the same put into law.

C. W. BRITTON,
Sec'y Lasker Alliance.

DANVILLE, IOWA, Dec. 12, '90

E. R. BAKER, Sidney, Iowa:—Have read with great care your new work, "The Money Monopoly;" used it all through the last campaign, and can truly say that for practical use it is THE BEST BOOK IN PRINT. The general treatment of the mighty struggle now going on is masterly. To the public speaker and writer, it is a cyclopedia almost priceless. Its accuracy is wonderful.

If it were read by the people of fair, honest minds, it would work a revolution of thought that would be astonishing.

It is a grand argument for a higher civilization; a purer Christianity.

J. HASPER,
Price only 35 cts. Best discounts to agents.

ENOCHVILLE, N. C., Dec. 29, 1890.

MR. EDITOR:—I see in THE *PROGRESSIVE FARMER* of December 23d the following: "Please send me the amount due me and stop my paper. When I want a Democratic paper I will subscribe. You can't make a Democrat out of me by reading your pretended Alliance paper. I am a Republican Alliance." He ought to have called himself a partisan Allianceman. He is as far from the principles of the Alliance as the brother who said the Alliance belonged to the Democratic party. I think such stuff injures the order. Surely if members would think three times before they spoke they would not talk that way. It makes no difference what my name was before I was married, I am now a non-partisan Allianceman, and I take THE *PROGRESSIVE FARMER* and don't you forget it.

Yours fraternally,
E. R. G. PLASTER.

WHITTAKERS, N. C., Dec. 18, '90.

MR. EDITOR:—True it is that both Macune and Rittenhouse have possibly been indiscreet—grant that they have erred, though surely not to that extent to win the odium of their Alliance brethren. Why is it that the secular press is so ready to brand them with epithets? Is it for their special love of Alliance principles or rather in evidence of their hatred? The allegations against Rittenhouse are only in the nature of surmise, they by no means criminate him. The Alliance being non-partisan, where is the great wrong in one whose pen has been wielded in its support as has been done by Mr. Rittenhouse—"Old Fogey"—calling on Mr. Blaine if he shall be pleased to do so? I had not judged Mr. Hinton who accompanied him to be necessarily a dangerous man, though he advocates larger government functions, or rather predicts that necessities will compel its assumption. What great wrong in Macunes borrowing money of one, the grandson of a man the South delights in honoring? As to his riding on a free pass, did that dishonor him? Calhoun, though a railroad attorney, is none the less a strong man and he had the boldness of his convictions to espouse the cause of an oppressed peo-

ple. I honor him for it. Macune may have erred; he may be a hypocrite, it is not for us to judge. Surely he is and has been a thorn in the side of those who are allied against the interest of the producing classes—Wall street monopolists. I honor him for the good he has done, if it be that he has fallen from his high pedestal I at least will not join the monopolists in their exultation.

* * * * *
Mr. Editor, you are a new hand at the bellows; you wield a trenchant pen. Direct all your shot at the enemy, their denunciation rather than praise should be credited. I trust you will "cry aloud—spare not" against all wrongdoing. An occasional article on home economies may be admissible, though our *so called* friend, the secular press, has well tried that demand. When we have indulged ourselves in a "new coat" and our children have cast off their rags; when plenty has taken the place of scanty rations, then and not till then will a homily on that line be in order from the reform press.

M. J. BATTLE.

WINFALL, N. C. Dec. 29, '90.

WHEREAS, We, the members of Winfall Alliance, No. 1,108, in meeting assembled, do unanimously endorse the demands of the Ocala Convention and the course of Col. L. L. Polk, our able President; and whereas, we are desirous of seeing the Sub-Treasury plan or something similar becoming a law; therefore,

Resolved, That we request our Senators, Messrs. Parker and Morgan, and our Representative, Theo. White, of Perquimans, elected for the years 1891-'92, and all Alliance representatives in the State to stand by the Sub-Treasury plan and the Ocala Convention; and instruct our U. S. Senator, elected this month, to support these resolutions.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to our Senators, Messrs. Parker and Morgan, and our Representative, Theo. White, and a copy be sent to THE *PROGRESSIVE FARMER* for publication.

JOS. B. BAKER, Pres't.
JOSEPH WHITE, Sec'y.

OKISKO ALLIANCE, No. 1,044.

MR. EDITOR:—Permit one who lives within hearing of old ocean's roar and in the county where they say "the frogs jump from bank to bank" (but an Allianceman inside and out, up one side and down the other) to congratulate you as editor of THE *PROGRESSIVE FARMER*. I feel satisfied you will do your duty, and may I not indulge the hope that the brethren will sustain you in every way, especially by subscribing to our paper—the friend of the farmer. Yes, my good brother "cry aloud and spare not." "Hew to the line, letting the chips fall where they may." It is sad indeed to hear the poor down trodden farmer complain about his coarse and scanty food and rags, his actual needs of the comforts of life and enormous taxes, while the products of his labor is being bought and sold many times before it is even planted, by speculators and gamblers, they figuring out a mere slave's existence for himself, while they appropriate the balance to make millionaires. Phantoms in mortgage shrouds must certainly haunt the farmers when the iron tons of the midnight bell is proclaiming the hour of twelve.

Since the war we have had storms, cyclones, floods of water and floods of political partisans, the last of which I think if his "Satanic majesty" was made umpire would pronounce the most efficient arm in his service. And, Mr. Editor what do you think must be the state of the average Congressman's conscience in the matter? Don't you think his conscience condemns him for betrayal of confidence, provided he has any? Down with

national banks, trust companies and all other combines against the *general welfare* clause.

Political bosses may take warning from the 4th of November last. Alliancemen, keep your powder dry for 1892. Watch the intrigues of the enemy. We want and must have the Sub-Treasury bill whether we get Vance or not. We hope our representatives and State Senators will bear this specially in mind, or they will be left next time. "Country first, party last" is our motto. Long life to you, Mr. Editor, Col. Polk and much love to all.

FRaternally,
M. G. GREGORY.

DARDENS, N. C., Dec. 16, '90.

MR. EDITOR:—Please find enclosed the renewal money for subscription to THE *PROGRESSIVE FARMER* by J. C. Smith, A. B. Waters, W. W. Gurkin and T. E. McCaskey, all of whom you know to be subscribers for the past two years. It is indeed a reform paper of merit, and we endorse its every utterance. We only hope to find its present associate editor as much a patriot as brother Ramsey has shown himself to be. Our love follows him wherever he may go, and we confidently predict that, though he may be reheaded; and as some few say presumptuous, because he dared to oppose Vance, that such aggressiveness in defense of the people will win him fame and honor; when in truth that editor of a western paper that said he made the mistake of his life in attacking Vance, will be dead figuratively speaking never to rise again.

Our Alliance, Beaula, No. 1,056, is a unit in regard to all pertaining to the Alliance and especially the Sub-Treasury; and we all say, sixty in all that the man or men that can't support the plan or a better one can't have our votes and influence.

Yours fraternally,
T. E. McCASKEY,
Sec'y Martin Co. Alliance.

KERNERSVILLE, N. C., Dec. 27, 1890.

MR. EDITOR:—At a regular meeting of Bluff Alliance, No. 1,602, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, The use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage has become a great evil in our land; and whereas, the Constitution of the Farmers' Alliance requires a person to be of good moral habits in order that he may be eligible to the order; and whereas, we firmly believe the following resolutions do not conflict with the Constitution of the order:

Resolved, That we, the members of Bluff Alliance, No. 1,602, will not grant any one an application card for membership in our Alliance who is given to drinking ardent spirits to drunkenness.

Resolved, That we, as brethren, use all of our influence among ourselves in brotherly love to prevent our brethren from using the same to excess; and, as far as in us lies to build up a better state of morals among our brethren, so that we may look back with pride on the Alliance in after years, and our children's children may rise up and call us blessed.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be spread on our minute book, and a copy be sent to THE *PROGRESSIVE FARMER* for publication.

Yours fraternally,
CHAS. S. HASTEN, Sec'y.

TRINITY COLLEGE, N. C., Dec. 15, 1890.

MR. EDITOR:—I read many valuable communications in your noble paper, and I am glad to see such a speedy growth towards independent manhood among Alliancemen. But I see statements by some Alliancemen, and even resolutions by Sub-Alliances that would lead one to think that the order, in the Southern States, had

thrown its arms around the neck of the Democratic party in congratulations over its great victory in the late elections. Now I protest against insulting our Kansas brethren by calling what they did "a Democratic party" victory. Our brethren of the Northwest proved their loyalty to Alliance principles by downing their great party leaders, regardless of party names, because they opposed those principles. And they did it as Alliancemen, not as Democrats; and our inconsistency will be read and known of all men, if we persist in calling it a "Democratic victory," and then supplement that inconsistency by electing our great party leaders, who oppose those principles for which our Northern brethren fought so nobly. All honor to that section which can first down all sectional prejudices. They saw that Ingalls would give them nothing; and we, if not blinded by party name, can see that Vance will give us nothing. If we are so heedless as to send to Congress and the U. S. Senate such Democratic leaders as Vance, Gordon and others, then we will contribute largely to the tidal wave of reproach that will ere long, greatly retard, if not disrupt our great organization.

Why should we, so foolishly, persist in contributing ammunition to our enemies with which to slaughter us? If we were freed from the galling party yoke, and would read the official records of both parties for the last twenty years with reference to the evils under which we groan—against which we are beginning to fight, we would turn with righteous indignation from both of them, and we will never accomplish our righteous purposes until we do.

J. R. MEANS.

My subject is a practical one—one that every farmer in the good old North State should take to his heart and reflect upon—one that is of the greatest interest to every person who desires the prosperity of his country, State and people. And I feel, in speaking of this class, I speak of the noblest men on earth. When I say the educated farmer I do not mean one who is educated in the technicalities of agriculture or the art of farming. I refer to one who is polished and finished by as thorough a literary course as the professional men of our day receive. And why not, for North Carolina is emphatically an agricultural State from the storm clouds with its fringes of fire girding the mountain's waist to where the mighty billows of the Atlantic lash her fertile shores, she is populated by tillers of the soil. Some one has said, "if men constitute a State, farmers constitute North Carolina." Then educate the farmer and you educate the State. Educate the farmer and send men to our State Legislatures who are able to cope with the learned professions. Educate the farmer and let men represent us who will give us pure and just laws. Who has a better right to legislate for the great class than those of the same calling who breathe the same pure air, whose feelings, interests and wrongs are the same; one whose heart is not blackened by party intrigues. Then the farmers constitute our school committees. They are entrusted with the school fund, the selection of instructors; in fact the management of our common schools qualify these men to keep the financial affairs correctly; qualify them to select efficient instructors, thus elevating the standard of learning. Educate the farmer, and let him be an example for influencing the youths to drink deep at the fountain of knowledge. There are many positions too tedious to mention that the educated farmer would adorn and grace. The efficiency and ability of these men the peace, the happiness, and I might say the prosperity, of the communities coming under their jurisdiction depend. The morals and refinement of society, the promotion of industry, the growth of wealth of a community is effected in a great measure by this class. Then educate the farmer to fill these positions and properly administer the laws, producing peaceful communities; these uniting making prosperous counties and the counties joining forming a great law-abiding and wealthy State. EMMA C. SHARPE.