

# THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

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

Vol. 6

RALEIGH, N. C., MARCH 12, 1891.

No. 3

## CIRCULATION.

The actual circulation of Volume V, which closed with the issue of February 17th, 1891, was as follows:

Month	1890	1891
February	12,840	16,680
March	12,240	16,800
April	10,560	16,800
May	10,560	17,280
June	10,560	17,280
July	10,560	17,280
August	10,560	17,280
September	10,560	17,280
October	10,560	17,280
November	10,560	17,280
December	10,560	17,280
January	10,560	17,280
February	10,560	17,280

First 6 months, 367,680 Second 6 months, 458,160

Making a total circulation for the year of 765,240; averaging for 52 successive issues, per issue, 14,716, and showing a net increase for the year of 5,400, or more than 113 per week.

The above statement is taken from the records kept in the office of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, and is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

J. W. DENMARK,  
Business Manager.

I am Book-keeper for Edwards & Broughton, Printers and Binders, Raleigh, N. C. The press-work on THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER has been done for the past three years by Edwards & Broughton, and I have kept account of the same. I have compared the above statement with the account I have kept, and find it tallies throughout, and is correct.

J. T. BASFORD,

Personally appeared before me, W. T. Womble, Notary Public, J. W. Denmark, Business Manager of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, also T. J. Bashford, Book-keeper for Edwards & Broughton, and make oath that the statements contained above are correct to the best of their knowledge and belief.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my notarial seal of office this day, February 26th, 1891.

W. T. WOMBLE,  
Notary Public.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

If "Alliance" will send us a copy of "Miss Columbia's Spelling School" we will gladly publish it. We have no copy at hand just now.

We have received a resolution, signed by J. L. Thompson, Secretary *pro tem*, denouncing a certain man as having been guilty of falsehood. We cannot take the responsibility of publishing such things. The party who sent this failed to put the seal of his Alliance upon it; and we cannot publish it without clear authority from his Alliance to do so.

The dowager Empress Frederick, of Germany, recently visited France, and the President of the French Republic declined to call upon her in person, but sent a flunkey to call upon her as his representative. We confess that we cannot see the difference in principle between the sending of a representative and going in person. But then, we are not President of the French Republic. Come to think of it, we are rather glad we are not President of any country, where a lot of fools can be found to hold daily meetings of protest against the offering of ordinary civilities to an illustrious woman who comes visiting in the most peaceful fashion imaginable. It is evident that all the fools in France are not yet dead.

The Congress that has just expired by constitutional limitation will go into history as remarkable for several things. It will be celebrated upon the page of the future historian as the first American Congress that made a successful conspiracy through a committee upon rules to strangle the freedom of debate. Posterity will read of the late Congress as distinguished from all its predecessors in the attempt it made to pass a force bill. It will be spoken of by future patriots as the first Congress that was rebuked by the organized farmers. It will be mentioned in ages to come as being so infatuated in its purposes and attempts to serve the few at the expense of the many, as not to be able to read its own doom in the

indignant protests of outraged people. But history speaks of it as distinguished above and beyond all other things by its supreme sense of humor. It will be mentioned for years to come, with explosions of most spontaneous laughter, as the Congress that brought forward and passed a tariff bill to discourage and destroy our foreign commerce; and then paid large sums out of the public purse to assist certain steamship lines in their efforts to create a foreign commerce. Its humorous speech-making against free trade, and its amusing position upon the question of reciprocity will be held up, in the future, as the only original and absolutely unique specimens of roaring farce to be found in the annals of American statesmanship. It seems a pity, that a Congress so uproariously funny as the late Congress has shown itself to be cannot be continued forever. We shall sadly miss our morning's fun, as we look over the newspapers, and try to find some amusing thing to help us over the depressing cares of our toilsome days.

We feel easier now that the Fifty-first Congress has expired. There will be no further organized raids upon the public treasury for some months to come. There will creep across the landscape of our free American life in the future no baleful shadow of a Force bill. The farmer, who has been and is being robbed by the minions of a thieving tariff, will submit to the processes which take the bread away from his children, and prosperity and hopefulness out of his home, with a feeling of some slight relief, that the miscreants who set those minions on are dispersed from the National Capitol, some of them not to return any more forever. It is some little comfort to know that the dastards who have stolen millions of the people's money to waste it in all sorts of jobbery have gone away for a time at least to divide and enjoy their stolen swag. There are some elements of relief to overstrained honest natures in the fact that some of those who have stood, for the greater part of two whole years, upon the elevation of the Congressional tribune, reeking with every species of venality and rottenness, are gone away for the time being from the public gaze into we know not what places of darkness, to plot for future spoliations and robbery. Yes, we are glad the Fifty-first Congress has expired. If it has done one thing during its ignoble existence to lighten the weight of the burdens that press upon the shoulders of the toiling people, we do not know what it is. If it has done one thing to widen the horizon of hope for the common people—if it has done one thing to quicken and encourage the aspirations of the lowly masses—it has not come under our notice. Yes, we are glad the Fifty-first Congress has expired.

## THEY HAD NOT.

Hon. C. W. McClammy, has been a true and consistent friend of the Sub-Treasury plan throughout. He has introduced a number of resolutions in Congress in regard to this measure, but of course he nor anyone else expected any favorable action. Last week he introduced the following:

"WHEREAS, The last session of the Fifty-first Congress is drawing rapidly to a close; and whereas, the Committee on Rules has ignored the resolution introduced in this House discharging the Committee on Ways and Means from the further consideration of the Sub-Treasury bill, which was referred to that committee early in the first session of this Congress; and whereas, this contemplated legislation, so paramount in its importance to the farmers throughout the United States, should be considered by the Representatives on the floor of the House: Be it

Resolved, That the Committee on Rules be discharged from the further consideration of the resolution and that the Committee on Ways and Means be directed to report the bill to the House for immediate consideration. Be it further

Resolved, That night sessions during the remaining days of this session be set apart for the consideration of this bill."

It may be that the day will come when the people, through their representatives, can be heard. Our National Legislative Committee has recently been after the Senate Committee, which has the Vance bill in charge, but with no perceptible effect. The people are watching these things, and they will be heard from in due time.

Hogg, Democrat, has 162,845 majority for Governor of Texas. He came near getting all the corn.

## THE TARIFF, AND RIGHTS OF PROPERTY.

TOWNSEND CENTRE, MASS.

Some historians have said that there was a time when theft was not considered dishonorable, and that the only "right" to our property as a private possession is a conventional right.

I, also, believe there is no absolute ownership of property. "Society" has always had more or less authority over the disposal of property, but even society—in the form of a Commonwealth or in any other form—never absolutely owns property. Society controls property but as a trustee, acting on behalf of an ever-changing copartnership.

The "legal right" of property owning is—as the words imply—conferred by the law, and it is possible for a person to own property legally, yet not morally. The inheritor of property stolen a few centuries ago has now a legal right to own it, but has he a moral right? The receivers of goods that were stolen yesterday, or last year, are not now regarded as either the legal or the moral owners of them, and it is regarded as an immoral act to purchase goods from such receivers, even though it may be "buying in the cheapest market."

When the trustees of a nation decide that on some imported goods a tax shall be levied, they emphatically affirm the truth of the theory that "private property is but a conventional right," agreed upon in behalf of the public welfare. They exercise the right of eminent domain over the goods and chattels of private persons; and the only possible justification for a tariff must be that it is beneficial to the society they are the servants of.

The peoples of the world are not yet all free. In some way—direct or indirect—there are many pauper and coolie laborers who are robbed. Their wage is not honestly proportioned to their labor, or to the products of their labor, and those who get the products "cheap" are receivers of (partly) stolen goods. The condition of such laborers is degraded, and it is said that a high tariff is needed to secure American workers against such degradation.

What, then, is the condition of the American workers, in whose behalf all consumers are taxed? Let us, for instance, consider, the condition of the workers in the mills of Lowell. Do they receive the increased pay "provided for" in the high tariff, at the cost of the people at large; or do the corporations steal the bounty, and divide it amongst the shareholders? Again, is the condition of the workers less degrading than that of the workers in English mills? If not, the tariff on calicos is a public spoliation that cannot be justified.

A few months since I talked with a "second hand" of a Lowell mill. I will give his own words:

"I used to be overseer in a Lanchashire factory, and when I started work here I was fairly disgusted, I was told that the girls were not allowed to talk or to sing. Think I, this is a queer 'free country.'" You see I'd been used to hearing the girls talk, laugh and sing over their work in the English mills without any boss daring to complain about it."

I witnessed, in the Lowell mills, conditions of ignoble servility that cannot be surpassed in Europe, and were seldom exacted from slaves. Men afraid to whistle over their work, and scarcely daring to turn their heads for a moment. Some of the corporations have imported bosses—free of duty—who have introduced systems more tyrannical and humiliating than would be submitted to in the monarchial countries they came from.

Better far it would be for this Republic to have noble men and women, and the old spinning-wheel and headloom, than to have great mills and an ignoble people.

If the bounty granted by the citizens at large is being diverted into the pockets of mill-owners who use their power to degrade the workers below the standard of Europe, the conventional rights of property are being violated both by the tariff and the mill lords who profit by it. If the tariff does not prevent the degradation of American workers, its advocates have "no case."

The social conditions under which Americans work are, generally, better than in Europe, but the worse than European despotism now being practiced in some of the Lowell mills is

infectious, and is gradually extending to other places and to other industries.

The protected mills should not be permitted to be used as hotbeds for the propagation of monarchial institutions. The citizens of this Republic will not long consent to be taxed to support such a wrong.

If the bounty provided "to increase the welfare of American workers" is not used for that purpose, then, assuredly, it has been obtained on false pretense, its beneficiaries are receivers of stolen goods, and the only conditions on which the government has any right to interfere with the property of the citizens at large have been grossly violated.

WM. HARRISON RILEY.

## AN OPEN LETTER TO ROGER Q. MILLS.

MR. MILLS:—The Associate Press dispatches of Nov. 24th quote you as saying in reply to a query of a reporter: "It is idle to talk of the Sub-Treasury bill. The Democratic party, as long as it exists, which will be as long as it is true to strict constructionist ideas, will not endorse such an unconstitutional scheme."

Upon the supposition that the above quotation is correct, we would respectfully ask, why would it be idle to talk of the Sub-Treasury? Is not a bill which is the unanimous request of the farmers, Knights of Labor and all other productive elements of this country, of any importance to the Democratic party? Or is the Democratic party owned by the money power and to be used to further the robber schemes of Wall street, as it was during the Cleveland administration? With Grover Cleveland and Daniel Manning doing their best to assassinate the people's money? Never was there a more humiliating spectacle than that of President-elect Cleveland while still Governor of New York State writing a letter to A. J. Warner and other members of the 48th Congress, in which he advocated the "present suspension of the purchase and coinage of silver." All this looked to the poor farmer and other working slaves of the nation as if the money power owned Grover Cleveland and his Democratic party. You know yourself that your party and the Republican party are both owned, body and soul, by the money power, and it does not make a particle of difference which one is elected. The money power wins and continues to get all the cream, while the masses get water and skimmed milk. For proof, see Cleveland and Dan Manning's financial course, and then watch Harrison, Windom & Co., aided by John Sherman, the *Financial Weather Cock* of the 19th century.

Now I disagree with you as to the length of time the Democratic party will exist. Its existence will be very short-lived, if it leans upon such guides as yourself, Senator Carlisle and other constitutional exponents. There is only one course left for the Democrats and Republicans, and that is for the mis-named statesmen in parties to form a little party of money robbers and bloodlers, monopolies and trusts all by yourselves and then whoop her up and see which are the biggest thieves. You are both working for the same boss now, and you might as well come out and do it openly, for the people have found you out. They have left your old scuttled party-ship and boarded the new party-ship—the constitutional rights of the people to legislate for themselves. This new ship will be called the "Alliance of all Producers." Did you ever hear of it? I suppose you and Grover Cleveland thought it was *tariff reform* that so efficiently thrashed you out in November last. Was it the tariff in South Carolina, was it the tariff in Georgia, was it the tariff in Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa and other points? Not much. It was the universal demand for *more money*. Money enough to enable producers to live and pay their debts; money to replace that which your Democratic and the Republican parties had stealthily stolen from the masses for the past twenty-six years, changing their condition from one of prosperity and out of debt, to one of poverty and total loss of property, changing the condition of the workman from good wages and comfort, to idlers, tramps and paupers; changing the small business men from prosperous conditions to bankrupts, until the bankruptcies of business men over \$10,000 amounted to the enormous sum of (\$4,151,794,423) four billion, one hundred and fifty-one

million, seven hundred and ninety-four thousand, four hundred and twenty-three dollars, between the years 1866 and the first months of 1879, inclusive. If we added to these failures those under ten thousand, it would have still increased this fabulous sum. But this was only a small part. The farmers' losses through the depreciation of their lands and farm products, contributed \$3,042,435,798; and labor, through loss of work and years of idleness, contributed \$4,800,000,000, making a grand total of losses amounting to \$11,994,230,221, almost twelve billions of dollars. And now, when these robbed people propose to stop this robbery and to relieve their wants and necessities by establishing Sub-Treasury warehouses, where they will deposit their products, and have issued to them legal tender currency for 80 per cent. of the value of the product, we find you and other financial idiots crying out, "We will not endorse such an unconstitutional scheme."

I now ask you, first. Will you kindly point out just what part of the Constitution this Sub-Treasury bill is antagonistic to? Second. Tell me who made the Constitution? Third. Who can wipe out the Constitution, change it, amend it, or do what they please with it?

Did it ever occur to your unconstitutional mind that the people made the Constitution? Or has it ever dawned upon you that whatsoever the people demand is constitutional, by the very fact that the people demand it?

You and brother Carlisle should get together and study the Constitution from the people's standpoint, after which you will possibly know a little more about it than you do now.

And right here perhaps it would be out of place to give you some of the views of Democratic statesmen on the financial question who lived before your time.

Jefferson said: "The States should be applied to transfer the right of issuing circulating paper to Congress exclusively, *in perpetuum* \* \* Bank paper must be suppressed and the issue of the circulating medium restored to the nation to whom it belongs. Treasury bills bottomed on taxes thrown into circulation, will take the place of so much gold and silver."—Jefferson's Works, page 400, Vol. 6.

In a letter to John Taylor, among other things, he said: "And I sincerely believe with you that banking establishments are more dangerous than standing armies."—Vol. 6, pages 605 and 609.

Jackson's Message in 1832 says: "In this point of the case the question is distinctly presented whether the people of the United States are to govern through representatives chosen by their unbiased suffrages or whether the power and money of great corporations are to be secretly exerted to influence their judgement and control their decisions. It must now be determined whether the bank is to have its candidate for all offices in the country, from the highest to the lowest."

John C. Calhoun, one of the brightest financial minds that has ever been developed, said in the Senate in 1837-8: "I shall oppose strenuously all attempts to originate a new debt, to create National banks, to reunite the political and money power—more dangerous than that of Church or State—in any form or shape. \* \* It is my impression that in the present condition of the world, a paper currency, in some form, is almost indispensable in financial and economical operations of civilized and extensive communities. I now undertake to affirm positively that a paper issued by government with the simple promise to receive in all dues, leaving its creditors to take it or gold and silver, at their option, would to the extent to which it would circulate, form a perfect paper circulation that could not be abused by the government. That would be as steady and uniform a value as the metals themselves. I shall be able to make good every word I have uttered. I will be able to prove that it is within the constitutional power of Congress to use such paper in the management of its finances. According to the most rigid rule of construing the Constitution, and that those at least who think that Congress can authorize the notes of private corporations to be received in the public dues are stopping from denying its right to receive its own paper."

The views of Jefferson and Calhoun and Jackson may be considered as pretty good Democratic doctrine for

Democrats of to-day to follow. I commend their wisdom to your careful consideration.

You will observe that they do not think it an unconstitutional scheme "to supply the people with money."

Respectfully yours,  
R. H. FERGUSON,  
Buffalo, New York.

## ISSUED TO THE WRONG PARTIES.

MR. EDITOR:—I see that the Secretary of the U. S. Treasury claims to have paid out one hundred millions in purchasing the unmatured obligations of the government in the last four months and it has had no perceptible effect on the tight money market. Well it was paid to the wrong men, that's all. Persons who do not need money so bad that they will not part with government bonds except at 25 per cent. premium, are not likely to spend it and will hoard it for choice bargains at the right time. It is to their interest to have but little money available for business purposes.

Had Mr. Windom gone into the market and bought cotton with his one hundred million dollars it would have advanced the price of it, helped the producer and placed the money in the hands of men who would have had it in circulation very quick in paying debts and buying clothing, horses, buggies, baby carriages, etc. But Senator Vance thinks such a procedure as that would not do at all, and all Tar Heels and the balance of mankind should remember that Vance knows what's good for them and dismiss all such utopian ideas at once. No man can question Vance and be considered a good Democrat or a sane man. I am beginning to believe that one cannot be a Democrat and an Allianceman at the same time, and when I observe that you declared yourself a Democrat in your salutatory last week I wondered if Polk had not made a mistake in his selection of an editor for an Alliance paper. Can we expect the Republican Alliancemen of the West to give up their political idols while we retain ours, and the colored voter to join a can't-pull-the-wool-over-your-eye society, whilst we continue to "whoop it up" for the old leaders? If we are to achieve success we must stick to the St. Louis and Ocala platforms, and those in the order who are unwilling to "toe the work" will do the order much good when they take a withdrawal card.

## COLD WAVES.

Cold waves are those sudden changes from high to very low temperature which constitute the most noteworthy feature of winter weather in the United States. They are produced by the flow of masses of cold, dry air from the regions East of the Rocky Mountains in British America, towards the south or southeast. During the long winter nights of the Arctic regions dry, clear air accumulates in deep layers which is cooled by radiation to a temperature many degrees below zero; and then commences to flow towards any place where warm air is ascending, as it does in the low pressure areas of storms which constantly pass from west to east across the United States.

A "low area" is produced by the air somewhere becoming heated from unknown causes, above the surrounding atmosphere. This excessively heated air ascends and air is drawn in below from all sides to replace it. That drawn in on the south to east side is warm and moist; that drawn from the north to west side is dry and cold. The cold wave follows after the low area as it moves eastward.

The severer and prolonged cold waves are associated with extensive areas of high pressure. Their rate of progress averages eight hundred miles in twenty-four hours.

It is of great advantage to many business and agricultural interests to know in advance when the temperature will fall quickly and decidedly, besides affecting the comfort and health of thousands of people.—C. F. von Herrmann, *Meteorologist, N. C. Experiment Station.*

The young German Kaiser wishes to keep Greek and Latin out of the educational course. Nonsense. The Baltimore Herald much more wisely suggests that as "to the Universities, it would be better to eliminate beer and the ridiculous duel."