

# THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

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

Vol. 6.

RALEIGH, N. C., JULY 28, 1891.

No. 23

## THE NATIONAL FARMERS' ALLIANCE AND INDUSTRIAL UNION.

President—L. L. Polk, North Carolina. Address, 314 D. St., N. W., Washington, D. C.  
Vice President—B. H. Clover, Cambridge, Kansas.  
Secretary—J. H. Turner, Georgia. Address, 239 North Capitol St., N. W., Washington, D. C.  
Lecturer—J. H. Willetts, Kansas.

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## BERTIE COUNTY ALLIANCE.

Watson, N. C., July 11, '91.

Before the regular hour of opening of the County Alliance, which met with Centre Alliance at Mass Hill last Friday, Prof. P. R. Boggs, principal of the Windsor Academy, delivered an able and eloquent address to the people of Bertie county there assembled. His speech was listened to with profound attention by the large crowd present. His speech was on the "Relation of the Alliance to Education." He handled his subject with masterly skill and his remarks brought conviction to all present of the great need of education for the future generations—the statesmen, politicians, farmers, laborers and all classes for superior education, not alone to be found in books. He made a lasting and favorable impression upon his hearers.

Promptly at 10 o'clock the Alliance was opened with President Wood in the chair. Roll of delegates called and only two out of nineteen Sub Alliances did not respond. Minutes of last meeting and reports were read, corrected and approved. Bro. J. H. Nowell, of Centre Alliance, (with whom the County Alliance met) delivered an address of welcome to the County Alliance. He made an excellent address and was listened to with profound attention. The regular routine business was then transacted, after which we adjourned for dinner.

Immediately upon reassembling the election of officers for the ensuing year was gone through with and resulted as follows: M. L. Wood, President; W. A. Capehart, Vice-President; W. J. Cobb, Secretary; J. W. Perry, Treasurer; Rev. T. T. Speight, Chaplain; Jas. Bond, Lecturer; E. B. Moore, Assistant Lecturer; Sol. Cherry, Steward; J. W. Watson, Door-keeper; W. T. Phelps, Assistant Door-keeper; J. B. Stokes, County Business Agent; J. M. Early, Dr. H. V. Dunston, William Rayner, Executive Committee; Dr. H. V. Dunston, delegate to State Alliance; J. C. Freeman, E. B. Moore, Rev. B. B. Williams, delegates to District Alliance; Rev. B. B. Williams, alternate to State Alliance; B. H. Swain, Corresponding Secretary.

The next meeting of the County Alliance will be held at Roxobel.

Excursion was opened with prayer by Rev. T. T. Speight, Chaplain, followed with singing by Centre Alliance. The singing was one of the most pleasant and agreeable features of the occasion.

The Alliance in Bertie is rapidly increasing in membership and the interest in the order is more pronounced at

each successive meeting. The people are becoming more fully aroused to the importance of the triumph of Alliance principles, and the advance in education along this line is something marvelous. The importance of low tariff and the free coinage of silver is gaining more headway than ever among Alliance and non-Alliance people in this county, and from present indications old Bertie will roll up a large majority for the principles of the Alliance at the next election. Our people are a little slow and cautious in taking hold of new and untried principles and doctrines, but when once fairly understood they hang on with the tenacity of a bulldog to what they have espoused.

The people of Bertie are a large-hearted and generous people, filled with the chivalry that produced such heroes as Lee, Jackson, Pender and others, and with a love of God and their native land unsurpassed by any other people on the face of the globe. She has produced eminent men—soldiers, statesmen, scholars and gentlemen. God bless her. May her people ever be proud of the achievements on battlefields, the rostrum, in the pulpit and the institutions of learning of her noble sons.

The thanks of the County Alliance are due Center Alliance for the elegant dinner which was served on the grounds and to which the large crowd present did ample justice.

B. H. SWAIN, Cor. Sec'y.

## LENOIR COUNTY STANDS FIRM.

Kinston, N. C., July 13, 1891.

Resolved, That we, the Farmers' Alliance of Lenoir county, hereby re-endorse all the National demands settled upon by our Supreme Council at Ocala, including the Sub-Treasury plan.

3d, That we hereby instruct our delegate to the State Alliance to vote for no man for any office whatever in the Alliance, or to represent the Alliance in any way, unless first satisfied that he favors all our demands including the Sub-Treasury plan.

3d, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the *National Economist* and *The Progressive Farmer* for publication.

The above resolutions by S. H. Bright were unanimously adopted.

J. W. DALY, Sec'y.

Bro. D. D. Gibson, Gibson Station, N. C., sending in a club of subscribers, expresses himself sensibly, as follows: "What is needed to seal the Alliance is literature of the right kind. Now is the crisis in its history and we must work, unite and stand firm on our demands and take reform literature and we can win if we hold to our demands and be unceasingly at work. I hope to get our people up to their full duty as time advances."

## ALLIANCE PIC-NIC.

The New York Brethren Have a Nice Time—They are Solid for Reform.

HONEOYE FALLS, N. Y., July 16, 1891.

MR. EDITOR:—The Alliance picnic at Machias on July 11th was a love-feast and a grand success, both as to numbers and enthusiasm.

President Polk captured everybody for the Alliance by his impassioned eloquence. All felt that his words were the echo of his heart's best wish. If the South can send such men into every county of the North, sectional lines and sectional animosities will fade away like an April snow before a summer sun.

After dinner brother Ralph Beaumont, encouraged by such an example and enthusiasm, made a most stirring speech which was heartily applauded. Every one went home feeling that if such speeches and such facts were presented to the people everywhere, it would be but a short time when the people North, South, East and West would be joined solidly together under the Alliance banner and would march on to certain victory.

D. F. Allen's smiling face was seen in the crowd, also C. M. Maxson of the *Alliance Leader*.

Ed Dibble, of Lima, N. Y., a comparatively new convert to Alliance doctrines, spoke a few moments on State matters, and his remarks were well received. Among the many Alliance workers I had the pleasure of meeting that sturdy old reformer, "Farmer Dean," whose smiling face seems to carry encouragement and confidence to every one he meets.

President Arnold, of the State Alliance, presided in a dignified manner. He is one of the most pleasant of men to meet.

AN ALLIANCEMAN.

## THE ALLIANCE AND ITS MISSION—EDUCATE THE MASSES.

PEACOCKS, N. C.

What is the mission of the Farmers' Alliance? To this suggestive and very momentous question your correspondent has been forced to give answer as the best he could time and again, and realizing the fact that much and even deep solicitude in this respect exists among all classes of men, I concluded to give a general answer through our paper. Now as to the true objects, aims and purposes, it is a fact clearly set forth in its Constitution and declaration of principles.

1st. To labor for the education of the agricultural classes in the science of economical government in a strictly non-partisan spirit.

Now I propose in this letter to show the mission of the Alliance so far as this first article reaches, and no further at present. First clause: "To labor for the education of the agricultural classes." Does or can any man or woman object to education? Who is it that doesn't keenly realize with a heart-sickening regret, the fact that he knows too little by far of matters essential to his common business, and even the little which he sometimes had hoped he knew, when brought to the test, proved to be very imperfect. I say most men realize this fact, unless he be a bigoted simpleton, who has not brain enough to see how big a fool he is. Some men are like drunkards, because they stagger themselves, they imagine they are standing or walking steadily while every other person is staggering, hence how important that the masses be educated. What a blessing it would be if all our people were so well informed that they could, knowingly and thoroughly take hold of any business; were so educated that when they go to the ballot-box they could cast their vote for, and in favor of, the candidates who advocated the best and wisest and most liberal form of legislation. Such voters as these are patriots; they vote from principle; they understand why they vote and for what they vote, hence they choose the man to be their leader whom they regard the best calculated to advocate their measures; they love their platform because they understand it, and love the men and women of their party because they know them to be brethren and sisters from principle, and as such they are those in whom they can confide. Education is what we need; education in everything but especially in the governmental affairs of our nation. But some will object to the political education of the agricultural and mechanical classes and say they had better study things connected with their business and let politics alone—leave them to lawyers and professional politicians. Oh yes, and the people of the United States have been so doing for many years, and what is the result? Why ignorance, extravagance and ruin is the consequence. Why? Simply because the masses of the people had unbounded confidence in their leaders, and why? Simply because this ignorance has grown upon the people in proportion as they have failed to watch their leaders and to hold them to account for their acts. How could one expect any set of people to become an enlightened and intelligent constituents when the greatest part of the speeches of men who come before the people for office consisted mostly of witty jokes and smutty yarns, and the candidate who had the best stock of jokes on hand and could amuse the audience best and then wind up by fastening his impressions indelibly with plenty of popskull whiskey. I say, such a man generally has counted the highest vote at the comparing of the polls. How many voters to-day among the agricultural and mechanical classes of the people can give an intelligent reason for being either Democrat or Republican? How many of the men who have held office in the ranks of, and have been entrusted with the interest of their people, can or would be willing if they could, to give a fair, honest, plain statement of what they have done while in office? Ah! sir, many of them would have about such a paroxysm as Belshazzar had when he saw the handwriting upon the wall. Yes, sir, they would certainly realize the fact that they would be weighed in the balance and found wanting.

Now, dear friends and brethren, I am writing facts, and you can't deny them. I don't believe that you will have the hardihood to attempt it. No, sir. It's bad, of course, to do a mean act, and surely does not correct it to

deny it. Now, with this alarming state of ignorance among the masses, I appeal to you as American freemen and most affectionately ask you, what is your duty? Is it not to at once fall into line with your fellow-countrymen and aid in the noble cause of education? Who is it that opposes the education of the masses? Why, sir, it is that plutocratic, ring-making, intriguing, speculating class of politicians who, knowing that their cause is dead as soon as it comes to the light. They know that by and through this craft they have their wealth, and thus they seek to keep the poor duped, priest-ridden people believing that this old image is the God sent embodiment of national legislation, inasmuch as it came from Jupiter. That is from Wall street, N. Y. So they, instead of being willing to come to the light and reason fairly and justly, set up a harangue and cry, great is the gods, Wall street and the plutocrats! Now we are for the general education of the people and especially in matters of a free, equal and economical government; and so far, taking into consideration the many disadvantages under which we have had to labor, we have succeeded admirably. Our people in this section are reading the Alliance literature, listening to their learned and honest lecturers, and as a rule they retain and digest what they hear and read. As such they are fast waking up to a knowledge of their wrongs in the past, learning how to guard their present interests, and they are getting things in real good shape for a successful campaign in 1892.

With such men to lead them as Polk, Peffer, Ben Terrell and many others, and such rich, instructive reading matter as is afforded by *THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER* and *National Economist*, etc., our people will present the grandest array of true talent in the next campaign that has ever been displayed in this or any other country. But some will confront us with something like this: "I see your people don't all agree upon every proposition of the Alliance, how's that for high?" Oh yes, I know we have a few soreheads and defunct croakers and some urchins, too, among us who are learning very slowly, but they are only such as follow for the sake of the "loaves and fishes," or who, being defunct in the old parties, thought to get promoted amongst us. Poor fellows, they can't say shibboleth. Some such members remind me of men who will work hard in the early part of the season, will plant all right, plow well, hoe nicely and stir early and late, but when the sun begins to wax hot and the days get long, he begins to fail and finally gets so far in the grass that he concludes all will be a failure and so gives up his crop to General Green, and takes a little school, a small clerkship, railroad or some other hiring job and thus makes shipwreck of home. Brethren, don't do so; please stand firm, look forward to success and ultimate prosperity. We are sure to win. "Boys, let us beat them, or Mollie Stark is a widow."

I have written this article with the best wishes for the success of the noble Alliance cause and the consequent prosperity of our beloved country.

Yours fraternally,

D. N. GORE.

## LETTER FROM GRAHAM COUNTY.

ROBINSONVILLE, N. C., July 7, 1891.

MR. EDITOR:—As you, probably, have had nothing from this (Graham) county concerning the workings of the Alliance, I will try, in a brief way, to tell you how we are progressing in the work. Most of our Sub-Alliances have been, for sometime, asleep or indifferent, and our friends, "the enemy," hope that they are dead, but we believe that our members are beginning to arouse themselves. J. S. Bell, the District Lecturer, has visited our county, and we believe has done much good. He spoke at this place on the 29th day of June to an intelligent audience, and gave general satisfaction. He showed that it was not the farmers or masses of the people who ruled this government; but that the plutocrats and monopolists dictated as to what laws should be enacted. He also showed that the Alliance could stand only by sticking together; that "in union there is strength." We believe that the purposes of the Alliance are good and that it will not launch out on any reckless or uncommon sense scheme. Of course we need to expect opposition but we should not let the sarcasms or burlesques of our enemies deter us from what we conscientiously believe to be our duty. Hoping the Alliance success in what is right, I am

Yours fraternally,  
O. P. WILLIAMS, Cor. Sec'y.

## OUR PROGRESS.

Weekly Record of Manufacturing and Other Enterprises Started—Rip Van Winkle no Longer in the Old North State.

[Manufacturers' Record.]

New Berne.—Parties have been seeking a site for a barrel and box factory.

King's Mountain.—P. R. Elam, recently reported, is developing manganese mine.

Durham.—B. N. Duke has purchased the Lyon property and will lay it off into building lots.

Carlisle.—G. E. Tucker and others are reported as erecting a flour and grist mill and two cotton gins.

Panacea Springs.—Norfleet Harris has put new machinery in his cotton gin, as reported in our last issue.

Aurelian.—W. C. Daniel will rebuild his cotton gin recently reported as burned; also will put in saw mill.

Williamston.—The Williamston Furniture & Manufacturing Co. has recently started a furniture factory.

High Point.—The Piedmont Broom Works has doubled its capital stock and the capacity of its broom factory.

High Point.—The High Point Canning Co. has doubled its capital stock; also the capacity of its canning factory.

Greensboro.—The Gold King Mining Co. has been organized for the purpose of developing mineral lands in Guilford county.

South River.—J. L. Lindsay & Co. are remodeling their flour mill to the roller process system, as reported last week.

Asheville.—L. C. Shuey has purchased the rock quarry of W. P. Troy, near Pearson's Bridge, and will develop same.

New Berne.—The Carolina Tram & Lumber Co., reported recently as incorporated, etc., will erect lumber mills, machinery has been purchased.

Raleigh.—The Raleigh Water Co. will hold a meeting on July 21 to consider the issuance of bonds for the purpose of improving and extending its water works.

Mooreville.—The Mooreville Canning Co., lately reported as organized to erect a canning factory, has been incorporated with a capital stock of \$10,000.

New Berne.—A. M. Baker will, it is stated, change the location of his furniture factory and start the manufacture of mattresses in connection with same.

Charlotte.—W. M. Wilson, Robert Stokes and A. L. Herstein, of New York, have incorporated the Wilson Physicians' Supply Co., with a capital stock of \$30,000.

Shelby.—The Shelby Improvement Co. has reorganized under its new charter with W. P. Love, president; T. D. Lattimore, vice-president, and J. L. Webb, secretary.

Greensboro.—The Guilford Battle Ground Co. has recently been incorporated to reclaim and improve the site of the battle of Guilford College, near Greensboro; President, David Schenck; Secretary, T. B. Keogh.

High Point.—Rhode Island parties and others have organized the Southern Bobbin, Spool & Shuttle Co. with a capital stock of \$30,000 for the purpose of erecting a factory in High Point for the manufacture of bobbins, spools, etc.

Statesville.—Negotiations are invited for furnishing brick and lumber for the erection of three and probably six tobacco factories on the property of the Statesville Development Co. Address H. L. Hoover, manager. The company may also erect a cotton factory.

New Berne.—Thomas Daniels, C. T. Watson, A. R. Dennison and others have incorporated the New Berne Improved Cotton Ginning Co. for the purpose of ginning and other manufacture of cotton and cottonseed, etc. The capital stock is \$5,000, with privilege of increasing to \$100,000.

## COL. LONG AT HENRIETTA.

MR. EDITOR:—While I have for years been a reader of *THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER*, I have rarely written for its columns. I would not do so now but for the fact that not enough has been said about the work of our State Lecturer, Col. Long. A few days ago I had the honor of addressing an immense body of people at Henrietta, in Rutherford county. Mr. Justice, of the Rutherfordton bar, also spoke. Col. Long followed with an Alliance address. It was July

4th. I can't report the speech. Its effect was educational, but I chiefly remember its thrilling, inspiring force among the thousands who heard it. It was fair. There was no Republicanism, no Third partyism. It was an economic discussion, so plain that everybody comprehended, and withal so eloquent and telling that not an enemy of the order would have averred his relation to it. I have heard the Alliance leaders of the Union and the orators of our country, but I give it as my honest conviction that for its capturing eulogy, biting sarcasm and moving pathos in his descriptions of the destitution of labor, I have not heard that speech excelled in long years. Politically the Colonel and myself are crosswise, and it costs me some effort to say what I have; but it is the truth. Especially in handling the *constitutional lawyer* (?) was he withering, and in the manly defence of Col. Polk. The men who are attacking Polk's motives, he said, are not worthy to buckle his shoe-latches. It was a great speech, and its effect will last.

W. E. ABERNETHY.

L. D. ALLEN,

## The Wit of the Old North State.

MR. EDITOR:—In writing you an article about the following named gentleman, I do so solely because it is my duty to write, and if this article reaches the eyes of Mr. Allen, I hope he will not be offended.

There resides in one of the small villages of Rutherford county, the man who is, without question, the wittiest man in North Carolina to-day. That man is London D. Allen, of Cuba, N. C. When I say the wittiest man, I mean just what I say. His wit is not that quick repartee that makes Zebulon Vance so famous, but is of that sort of original humor that found itself so plentiful in the first Bill Arp, whose philosophic sayings and witty expressions, together with his small knowledge of orthography and syntax, made him imitable and caused another man to take his name at his death. Mr. Allen is not an educated man. He knows nothing of Latin or Greek. I would compare Mr. Allen to Davie Crockett. Like Crockett, Mr. Allen is a natural philosopher; and like Crockett, Mr. Allen is not afraid to express his opinion. Having had the pleasure of a long and intimate friendship with Mr. Allen, I can the more easily speak of his abilities in his line. Mr. Allen does not heed the expression of Mr. Holmes, "it is a very dangerous thing to be a funny man," but rather takes a pleasure in debate or argument, in which he is always at home. Like other great funny men, in the midst of the roars of laughter and shouts of applause, Mr. Allen stops suddenly and points to a moral which too frequently drives away the laughter with tears. I am glad I know London Allen. When I see him and hear him speak, I know how perfectly successful Christianity and wit and fun can blend on a human, and I am led to abolish the idea that "religion was designed to make our pleasures less."

Personally Mr. Allen is tall and heavily built, weighing some two hundred pounds. He is social and will meet you with a smile upon his face. He is about twenty-two years of age and lives on a farm. He has no thought or care for public life and has often said as much in my presence. Indeed when once requested to address an audience at a college commencement where there were five thousand people, he boldly refused, saying "he always preached to small congregations." When he speaks his eyes have a strange brilliancy about them, so much so that it is almost impossible to look into them when he is enthused with his subject. This is so much so, that when Mr. Allen was in the Society going to school at Rutherford College a young gentleman left the judge's bench because, as he expressed it afterwards, "that man looks through me." Mr. Allen is a wit of nature. He cares not—knows not of the rules of elocution or oratory, yet in the outburst of his wit, you will notice a peculiar eloquence, and he sometimes grows as eloquent as he is witty. No one ever hears him without admiring him. If he may not equal Nye or Arp in ability to write, he can excel them on a stump, and in his prime London Allen is far superior to many of our famous wits. I commend to the press of North Carolina the man who wears the well-earned title of "the country wit."

Very respectfully,  
A. T. ABERNETHY.

Rutherford College, N. C.