

# THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

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

Vol. 6.

RALEIGH, N. C., NOVEMBER 17, 1891.

No. 39

## THE NATIONAL FARMERS' ALLIANCE AND INDUSTRIAL UNION.

President—L. L. Polk, North Carolina. Address, 344 D. St., N. W., Washington, D. C.  
Vice President—B. H. Clover, Cambridge, Kansas.  
Secretary-Treasurer—J. H. Turner, Georgia. Address, 239 North Capitol St., N. W., Washington, D. C.  
Lecturer—J. H. Willetts, Kansas.

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

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North Carolina Reform Press Association.  
Officers—J. L. Ramsey, President; Marion Butler, Vice-President; W. S. Barnes, Secretary.

PAPERS.  
Progressive Farmer, State Organ, Raleigh, N. C.  
Canebrake, Clinton, N. C.  
Rural Home, Wilson, N. C.  
Watchman, Salisbury, N. C.  
Farmers' Advocate, Tarboro, N. C.  
Montana Home Journal, Asheville, N. C.  
Alliance Sentinel, Goldsboro, N. C.  
Country Life, Trinity College, N. C.  
Mercury, Hickory, N. C.  
Agricultural Bee, Whitakers, N. C.  
Columbia Weekly News, Fayetteville, N. C.  
Taylorsville Index, Taylorsville, N. C.

Each of the above-named papers are requested to keep the list standing on the first page and add others, provided they are duly elected. Any paper failing to advocate the Ocala platform will be dropped from the list promptly. Our people can now see what papers are published in their interest.

## PRESIDENT POLK.

### A California Welcome.

LOS ANGELES, CAL., Oct. 22, '91.  
The recent visit of Col. L. L. Polk, National President of the Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union, has aroused the greatest enthusiasm in California. Immense crowds have hung with rapt attention upon his eloquent utterances. He has done a splendid work for the Alliance and has put it in a position to win a magnificent victory. He has made thousands of warm personal friends on this coast who will watch his future career with the deepest interest. Perhaps the most notable thing that he has done here is to have captured the hearts of the Union soldiers by his brave words in favor of fraternity and unity. On Monday evening, the 19th inst., over three hundred Union veterans of the war paid him the compliment of calling upon him in a body at the Veehote hotel accompanied by all of the members of the State Alliance. Lead by a fife and drum and carrying the United States flag they marched into the corridor of the hotel and drew up in military order. They were accompanied by a delegation of ex-Confederate soldiers who marched elbow to elbow with the boys in blue. Many of the old soldiers were accompanied by their wives. The long corridors, crowded with ladies and gentlemen, the martial music, the high military bearing of the grizzled veterans and the glare of electric lights made a memorable scene. It was the first meeting of the kind ever held in the United States and California is proud of being able to do a little honor to a gallant son of the old North State.  
At the foot of the stair case stood President Polk. Upon either side of him rested the stars and stripes.  
Gen. H. H. Boyce greeted President Polk, and in a brief speech, on behalf of the veterans, welcomed him to the city. Col. J. S. Barbee, a member of the Stonewall brigade, next made a few appropriate remarks, after which President Polk was introduced. After thanking the audience for their kindness, he spoke substantially as follows:  
I am proud that I am with you to-

night. I stand here and look into the faces of men whom perhaps I have seen before. It may be that in the days ago you and I looked each other in the face over gleaming gun barrels through the red blaze of war. We attended as unwilling guests at the feast where the war gods held their high carnival of blood and of death. \* \* \* We had fought you like men, as you will attest, and I am here to say to you to-night on behalf of the great mass of the Southern people, not our politicians, I have naught to say for them, but on behalf of the brave men who met you, I am here to say to you to-night, that when they surrendered, they surrendered like men. \* \* \* God Almighty decreed on the 9th day of April, 1865, that henceforth we should be brethren and that this be one country with one flag. Evil and designing men came between us, and you and I have been taught to look at each other through distorted mediums held up by these men. If there be a Union soldier here to-night who cannot clasp my hand; if there be a Union soldier here to-night who is not big enough and brave enough to take the prostrate "Johnny" by the hand when he has cried enough, help him up, brush the dirt from his coat and say to him: "Johnny, I am proud of you, my boy; I am proud of you as an American brother, but you are in the wrong cause; but I want to shake hands with you now, my brother, and I want to say to you that henceforth we are going to stand together in this country." If there be a man in this audience who had the honor of wearing the uniform of his country who cannot do that for us, I beg you, in the name of the coming generations, in the name of your boy and my boy, thank God whose young eyes first greeted the light of heaven unobscured by the smoke of battle, your daughter and my daughter, whose ears first caught the hallowed sounds of peace unmingled with hoarse thundering of hostile cannon. I beg you, for their sake, that we shall not entail upon them a legacy of hate. One of the results of that war was the abolition of slavery, chattel slavery. There is not a genuine brave old Confederate in this audience to-night who will not join me in saying that we thank God for it.

There is not a brave man who wore the blue nor a brave man who wore the gray in the struggle, that does not say in his manly heart to night, let the bitterness, let the prejudice, let the animosities that were born of the existence of slavery, in God's name, and in the name of the country, perish with it and forever. I stand here and claim tonight that I represent the only organization of men in this country that has come forward since the war with the avowed purpose of accomplishing the grand and God like work of restoring unity and fraternity between the sections.

It is not the men who fought or who stood in the bloody angles in the field of battle who have kept up this unnatural estrangement between the sections. Ordinarily it is the man, North and South, who never smelled gunpowder. Ordinarily it is the man who never heard the whistle of a minie ball. Ordinarily it is the man who was invisible in war and became gloriously visible in peace. They are the men who loaded up their long months in 1865 and have been firing at each other at the safe distance of from 2,000 to 5,000 miles ever since. I note among you the badge which is the badge of honor everywhere, the passport to respect all over the civilized land. I refer to that Grand Army button. If you won that button and deserve to wear it, if you took that flag in one hand and your life in the other, and offered that life as a sacrifice in the defense of the flag, I am not afraid of you. I am afraid of your loud-mouthed politician. One of the results of that war, as I have said, was the abolition of chattel slavery. I have a message for you boys in blue from the boys in gray. They faced you through four long years of terrible war to defend that institution. One of the results of that war was the sweeping of it away. They charged me to say to you, and I trust I may do so with propriety, that they are ready, willing and anxious to clasp your hands in fraternal brotherhood, and to beg your co-operation to join the forces of the heroic blue and the heroic gray in another grander and mightier struggle, not for the freedom of the colored man of the South, but in the struggle for the upraising of honest labor from a slavery more degrading than the negro ever knew. We believe that you will do it, and in this struggle for God and for humanity, with Him as your guide, with you as our allies, and with the approving smiles simply of the noble women of this blessed land, we will do it.

My brethren, I have been betrayed into making a speech which I did not intend. But there is one thing else which I wish to say to you, and I would be false to myself, false to my section and to the cause I represent to-night, and absolutely false to those ladies who honor us with their presence if I did not say something in regard to them.  
The ladies in all good works are ever present. Proud as you may be of your soldier record, and as you should be, yet if you were to ask me to point you to a model of moral heroism, I would not go to the immortal lists of the names of the followers of Grant or Lee; I would not point you to the waving plumes in the front of victorious battle, but I would point you to that lonely country home, over which in anguish, in health, in sickness presided that queenly spirit of her whose moments of anguish through four long years

were more trying to her than was the ordeal of battle to you. I would summon all the living heroes; I would summon the spirits of the immortal dead, and I would align them in her front and ask them to aid me in saluting her as queen of the heroes of the world. Brethren, Grant and Lee, McPherson and Johnston, Sherman, Custer and Stuart have crossed over the river, with the thousands of their devoted followers, and you and I will soon follow. \* \* \* Brethren of the blue, permit me again to say to you with a heart overflowing with gratitude to you and thanks to God, that I have been permitted to enjoy what has rarely fallen to the lot of any man. I believe I may truthfully say that this is the first meeting of this kind that has occurred in this broad country. I shall take your silent but your eloquent and manly appeal to the brave men of the South, and there is no message that could be delivered, even with the tongue of angels, that would be so acceptable. Thank God that at last a rift appears in the cloud, and through it beams the bright promise of a hopeful future, and in this great struggle of ours, if we can enlist the sympathies of those men who wore the blue and those who wore gray, and shall secure their hearty and patriotic co-operation, we know that a glorious triumph of a glorious victory awaits us.

I thank you with all my heart, my dear brethren who wore the blue, for thank God I can call you brethren now. I thank you, and I will never forget so long as memory shall perform its functions, never forget this kindly greeting of yours, and if perchance you should visit any of the Southern States, I guarantee to you, without reserve, that you will find the door, the hand, the arm and the hearts of the remaining boys in gray open wide to receive you and yours.

On Tuesday morning, Col. Polk was received by the State Farmers' Alliance and he made a most impressive address. Tuesday evening, over five thousand people assembled at Hazard's pavilion, to attend the reception tendered to President Polk and the State Alliance.

Addresses of welcome were delivered by representatives of the County Farmers' Alliance, the Knights of Labor, the Citizens' Alliance, and the federated trades, to which President Polk responded in most fitting terms. He was cheered to the echo at the close of almost every sentence.

Wednesday, he addressed a joint audience of the State Farmers' Alliance and the State Citizens' Alliance, and carried the enthusiasm to a white heat.  
But the great meeting was on Wednesday evening, the 21st, at Hazard's pavilion, where over seven thousand people assembled to hear Col. Polk on the "Demands of the Order." He held the vast crowd two mortal hours, almost breathless, except when they were cheering some of his sledge hammer sentences. If Col. L. L. Polk is a fair specimen of North Carolina timber, we would like to have the whole State move out to California. His speech was a powerful presentation of the claims of the Farmers' Alliance, and made thousands of friends for the cause. It is safe to say that as a specimen of impassioned oratory, it has never been surpassed on this coast.

He discussed the basic principles upon which our government is founded—the reciprocal ties between it and the citizens. Showed how its functions and prerogatives and benefits had been diverted from their original design, and how, as a consequence, the industries of the country had been oppressed. That the most important functions of the government, affecting the industries of the people and their political rights, had been usurped by monopolistic power, and transformed into curses, instead of blessings to the people. He charged that the great, overwhelming and paramount issue before the American people is financial reform and traced the iniquitous conspiracy from its beginning, through which Congress and the money power had fastened a huge robber system upon the country. The national banking system, he characterized as legalized robbery and declared that the agitation which had given life to the reform movement would never cease until this great national iniquity has been removed. He gave figures and facts to substantiate his declarations, and showed that inevitable national ruin would result from the present system. He read and discussed each and all of the Ocala demands and through out the whole speech he held that vast crowd with perfect ease. Hundreds of ladies present seemed intensely interested throughout, and from beginning to end the frequent and prolonged applause told that his sentiments were in thorough accord with those of his hearers. He closed with an eloquent and touching appeal for unity and fraternity, and was greeted by the vast crowd rising to its feet and giving him three rousing cheers.

Col. Polk bears with him on his homeward journey the thanks and blessings of the California Alliance for his splendid work for the good cause.  
On Thursday, the 23d, the People's Party of the State of California was organized with over 1,000 delegates attending from the Kansas and Citizens' Alliance, and all of the industrial orders of the State. It was harmonious, enthusiastic and happy in its deliberations. Col. Polk took no part in the People's Party Convention except as an interested spectator.  
Take it all in all, California is in splendid condition for the coming fight and she will give a good account of herself in the future. H. H. B.

## OUR PROGRESS.

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

(Manufacturers' Record.)  
Tarboro—The Pioneer Warehouse Co. is erecting a tobacco prizery.  
Burdett—Crowell & Co. are reported as erecting a sassafras oil distillery near Burdett.

Kinston—The Kinston Lumber Co. is re building its dry kiln and planing mill reported last week as burned.

Greensboro—C. T. Holt and B. S. Robertson contemplate, it is stated, the erection of a cotton mill at Haw River.

Greenville—A paint factory is reported as being erected. The Greenville Land Improvement Co can give information.

Mountain Island—The Mountain Island Manufacturing Co. has put in its cotton mill, new carding machinery and 500 twister spindles.

Rowan—A. P. Lighthill and W. F. Aldridge have, it is reported, purchased the Southern Bell Gold Mine in South Rowan, and will develop same.

Tarboro—Williamson & Mehegan will erect a tobacco prizery, as stated in our last issue; it is now building, and will be three stories high, 49x96 feet.

Durham—The box factory reported last week will be operated as the Durham Paper-box Factory, with J. C. Rogers, maker. Machinery has been purchased.

Germantown—Winston and other parties have, it is stated, organized a stock company for the purpose of developing a marble quarry on the property of W. E. Willis, near Germantown.

Greensboro—H. L. Grant states that he is not prepared to say whether he will rebuild his cotton gin, grist mill and brick works, reported in this issue as burned, in Greensboro or at some other point.

Greensboro—The organization of a stock company for the purpose of establishing a plug tobacco factory on the co-operative plan is talked of. The Secretary Chamber of Commerce can give information.

Carthage—The rumor as to the erection of cotton mill mentioned last week is true. It will be a 2,000 spindle mill and be erected early next year by company already organized. For particulars, address L. Grimm.

Dobson—Joseph Bradford proposes to organize the Surry Land & Power Co for the purpose of developing the water-powers on Fisher's river and Cadey's creek and the lands between these bodies of water in Surry county.

## THE QUESTION AT ISSUE.

WARSAW, N. C.  
MR. EDITOR—The questions before us to-day are of very grave importance. They are questions that we cannot disregard, but should be weighed by us in the most accurate balances of reason and sound judgment. The Alliance, from the little spark that was kindled at Parker county, Texas, more than a dozen years ago, has grown into immense proportions. The little mustard seed that was planted in the Lone Star State, has sent its roots downward and spread its branches outward till it has grown into a national tree, under which the toiling masses of this republic are rushing for shelter from the malignant storm of monopoly. The grand basal principles upon which the Alliance was founded and sent out to the people of this nation, are right. The managers and leaders have made very few mistakes so far. They have educated the members of this grand body in the economic and important governmental questions of the times, and have to a great extent allayed sectional hatred, engendered by the war, and kept up by little partisans. They have, in a great measure, united the people, of common interest, for a change in the financial system of this government. The people are aroused to their interest through this great organization. The non-partisan spirit in which the Alliance has acted has been the most potent lever in the results attained. The brotherly love among themselves and their charity toward all mankind, have drawn all good men toward it, either in sympathy or admiration. Thousands, disgusted with the unholy war between political leaders of both the Democratic and the Republican parties, have united themselves with the Alliance, believing it the only means of furnishing the politics of the country and bringing about a better state of things, than now exist.

Should the Alliance continue its non-partisan tactics, and with vigor push to the front its reform demands, there is no power under the sun that can stop its universal march, or can hinder it from obtaining the government reform it seeks. The great upheaval of the laboring classes is due to education. They have, heretofore labored on blindly, hoping that every year times would be better, and their onerous burdens would be lightened. They have been loyal to party and partisan leaders. They have heard from the partisan press, and the enthusiastic politician, that glory and prosperity lie in the path of the Democratic or Republican party. They tell you to stand by your colors and put in your votes to the party that gives you a McKinley tariff bill, which puts money into the great manufacturers' pockets, the favored few, and draws it from the toiling masses, by indirect taxes on the

## FROM PENDER COUNTY.

MR. EDITOR—At a meeting of Pender County Alliance, held on the 9th inst., the following resolutions were adopted:  
WHEREAS, We, the Farmers' Alliance of Pender county, in regular session assembled, view with profound regret the attitude of the partisan press of the State of North Carolina towards the officers and leaders of our Order;  
Resolved, That we condemn such charges and misrepresentations against them as unjust, unfair and without cause, aiming only to cripple the principles and influence of our order.  
2. That we re endorse the fundamental principles of our Order as promulgated by the Ocala Convention  
3. That a copy of this be sent to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER for publication.  
T. J. ARMSTRONG, Pres't.  
J. N. HENRY, Sec'y.

necessaries of life. They tell you to vote for the party that creates many needed offices and raises the salaries of many more, and that spends a billion dollars in one Congress.

Never! No, never, give up the party that favors national banks, owned by a few millionaires, who control the currency at will and from ocean to ocean, and from lakes to gulf. We see the despoilers of honest fortunes, the country teeming with tramp and beggary and want possessing millions. Stand by the grand old party that demonetizes silver and paid into the hands of Wall street and others 30 cts. on a dollar, and together with the Funding Act of 1866 have enabled those money kings to add to their wealth over \$5,000,000,000 out of the hard-earned money of the toiling millions. They tell you to vote on for the party that has such expert financiers to manage the monetary system of this Republic, who, in twenty-seven years, have paid nearly twice the amount of the war debt in principal, interest and premiums, and to-day it will take more to pay this war debt, in products, (and certainly we can pay it in nothing else) than it would at the close of the war.

My brethren, the question is, will it do it? Shall we, like "dumb driven cattle" go to the polls and vote ourselves destruction, by following these old corrupt partisan leaders? Shall we tighten the cords and lock the chains that are already around our stiffened limbs? Shall we allow those self constituted leaders of the old parties to put hooks in our noses and lead us where they please? Or shall we arise in the strength of our manhood and American citizenship and throw off the shackles that bind us to corrupt partisan leaders, and come back to principle and to pure Jeffersonian Democracy? Shall we look to God, the pole star of our hope, the universal deliverer of those who put their trust in him?

Let's stand above partisan strife, as brothers battling for the right. Let's enlist under that banner that has "Truth" for its motto and the "Ocala Demands" for its watch word. St. Louis, Ocala! We are all together here. No more national banks to feed tape worms, and starve the people. Money direct to the people at 2 per cent, to stop speculation and enhance the price of farm products. Sub Treasury plan, to meet the demands for money when our products are for sale and to enable debt-ridden farmers to hold their produce for better prices; that the circulating medium be increased to \$50 per capita; that the 2,000,000 of mortgaged farms may be saved to their rightful owners; a law to effectually prevent dealing or gambling in futures of all agricultural and mechanical productions. This is to stop taxation without representation, which is effectually done by trusts and combines, and to give every article for sale a legitimate chance in the markets of the world. The free and unlimited coinage of silver to raise silver as a circulating medium to its proper place and give it the value our patriotic forefathers designed it to have. To let our country be owned by the lords of England and to become the tenants and slaves to their will. Believing in equal rights to all and special privileges to none, we demand that our National legislature be so framed in the future as not to build up one industry at the expense of another, and that a removal of the present heavy tariff tax from the necessities of life that the poor of the land must have. A just, equitable system of graduated tax on incomes; that every person and corporation bear their just share of the expenses of this government; that all State and National revenues be limited to the necessary expenses of the government, economically administered. Remember the 51st Congress. We demand the most rigid and just governmental control and supervision of the means of public communication and transportation. To stop unjust freights and to see that these important corporations do not transcend the bounds of their chartered privileges. To amend the Constitution so as to elect U. S. Senators by a direct vote of the people. That those elected to fill such high positions may be more directly responsible to the people, whom they serve, and give less opportunity for rich men to buy seats in the Senate of this great nation.

Let us stand squarely upon these demands, and if we are true to our homes, our loved ones, to our Alliance and to our God, we shall see these demands upon the statute books of this once glorious, but now declining Republic.  
Fraternally,  
S. J. VEACH.

## RESOLUTIONS.

MR. EDITOR—Whereas, our enemies have sought not only by argument but by malicious and cowardly misrepresentation to dissolve our grand and noble Order; and whereas, our Associate Editor, J. L. Ramsey, of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, has repeatedly and in every instance repudiated and proven them as such malicious and cowardly misrepresentation; therefore be it  
Resolved, By Liberty Alliance, No. 922, that we hereby endorse and commend every word and sentiment expressed by our said editor as the true and manly course of an honest and loyal leader of so just a cause, and that a copy of these resolutions be sent THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER for publication, there showing our implicit confidence in such course.  
D. M. HOLLADAY,  
W. L. KINNETT,  
W. B. KINNETT,  
Committee.

## ZEKE'S BROTHER JOSH WRITES TO HIM ABOUT CERTAIN MATTERS.

LICKSKILLETT, N. C.  
DEAR BRUTHER ZEKEE—I have bin wanting to write to yer fer a long time but I cudnt borrow empy paper until this mornin. I am gittin terribly mixt up and disturbed about 3 things viz. namely, The democratic party, the Alliance and the Peoples party. I was a powerful Alliance man when I first jined, and when them demands were red ter our Sub Alliance I thought tha was the very things ter be did fer our relief and I voted fer them with a vim with the understandin that the democratic party was right in fur emny thing that would help the farmer. But since I have found out the good ole Democratic party opposes them demands I must oppose them too. You see our sun John Henry is a courtin Annie Mariar, who is a town gal and the dauter of a big merchant and was gittin along mighty well until Annie Mariar saw Zeek Bilkins' pieter in THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER with that ole rake on his shoulder. The last time he went to see her she axed him if he was enny akin to Zeek Bilkins, and John Henry wouldnt tell a lie you know and had ter tell her that he thought he was a distant relative of some of his folks, and when he cum home he just rared an pitched an covorted terribly, and sed he was gwine to pull out uve the Alliance at next meetin.

The other day I went to town an went into Annie Mariar's daddy's store an he cum from behind the counter ter where I was an just foamed at the mouth abusin Polk, an Macone, an the Alliance demands, an the new party. He said the demands were foolishness an the Alliance was followin a set of mean, low down broken down politicians, and he said we could never do anything only brake down the democratic party an let the niggers get the State an ruin it. He said all the rich folks in town were mightily opposin to this movement because it would flood the country with money an put interest down to 2 cents. I remembered that John Henry had said 75 dollars to go to house-keepin with and as he was not ready to keep house he lent it ter an Alliance brother at 8 cents an I told him I was opposed to that myself an I was a democrat an I an Henry an me were goin to cum out over the Alliance at the very next meetin. Then he quit foamin at the mouth and snatled a few, an presently he took me into the molasses room and said, now Josh Bilkins I always thought you were a very clever fellow (an that tickled me mighty nigh to death). Now if you will do as I tell you, you shant loose nothing by it. Now, wile I thot of that wimmin smile of his and John Henrys prospect with Annie Mariar I just promised right away, and we talked a long time together until I felt nearly as rich an smart as he was. After awhile he said "Josh, I want you and John Henry to stay in the Alliance and work against these demands and help abuse Polk and MaCune and the new party, and claim all the time that you are a simon pure Allianceman." Well says I, I can abuse MaCune for I dont know nothin about him, but I know Col. Polk to be a christian gentlem an. "O well I dont either so far as that is concerned said he only he is the strongest hoss in that subtrasy scheme and if we can cripple the lead horse the wagon wont go, and you know the object in view is so worthy it sanctifies any kind of means to accomplish the object in view, and now the first thing for you to do is to write to your bro. Zeek and get him to quit asking so many foolish questions for you know a fool can ask some questions which a smart man can hardly answer."

Now my dear bro if you will turn against Polk and the Alliance it may be very possible that my John Henry can marry Annie Mariar and be rich, and raise the whole Bilkins family into the society of the rich, and you know that would be worth more to us than 23 subtrasyries. For the want of space I will soon close for this time, and write again soon for I must convince you an Betsy of the error of your ways.

John Henry says tell uncle Zeek to leave that rake at home and put on your sunday close next time you cum to Raleigh to have yer picture taken. As your picture did not state what your post office is, I will send this to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER that it may publish it for your benefit.  
Your own brother  
JOSH BILKINS.

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Committee.