

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

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

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PAPERS.

Progressive Farmer, State Organ, Raleigh, N. C.
Furmanian, Clinton, N. C.
The Workingman's Helper, Pluniole, N. C.
Watchman, Salisbury, N. C.
Farmers' Advocate, Farmboro, N. C.
Mountain Home-Journal, Asheville, N. C.
Alliance Sentinel, Goldsboro, N. C.
Country Life, Trinity College, N. C.
Mercury, Hickory, N. C.
Rattler, Whitakers, N. C.
Agricultural Bev., Goldsboro, N. C.
Columbus Weekly News, Whiteville, 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 do so will be dropped from the list promptly. Our people can now see what papers are published in their interest.

LETTER FROM CUMBERLAND.

CUMBERLAND CO., N. C.

MR. EDITOR:—I have just read the "Answer to How a Gritty Farmer got Along without Borrowing," and I am so much pleased with the answer that I can only commend the writer for one thing, viz: he left a blank space at the bottom where his name should have been. A man who is able to be such a just critic should not withhold his name from his brother farmers. Had he given his name to the public, he might reasonably expect to get many a hearty and honest handshake which he cannot get while he remains unknown. I must say that I like gritty farmers, but when I find a gritty farmer and a gritty Christian both in the same hide, I love him more than doubly as well. When God governs grit and money, something good will come of it, sure, but when the devil governs the grit and keeps it at all times sharp to grind to powder the laboring man, that selfish ends may be reached, then evil, and only evil will come. A selfish dollar inflates the possessor's pride and vanity, hardens his heart and makes him a fit subject for Frimstone Lake State. Not so with the righteous dollar; it makes a man love and help his fellow man and live for the glory of God and His Son, our Redeemer. One of the great causes which we have had to battle with since the war has been grit, coupled with avariciousness. I would like to find one single independent rich—owning a few thousand mucky cash, with a fine farm under his feet, who belongs to, or even looks favorably on the Farmers' Alliance. There may be such a man. I do not say there is not, but if there is, I would like to shake his hand, for I feel sure that God is in his heart and mind. Men of means—a plenty of money—can see no reason for financial reform. A rich woman once ordered her carriage. She instructed her driver to take her to the dwelling of a poor woman, he did so. She alighted, went in, and found her not only poor, but in want of food and fuel, the weather being cold, so she resolved to return home and send her fuel to keep her from suffering. Unfortunately, the rich woman found her own richly furnished dwelling quite

THE GROWTH OF PARTISANISM IN THE UNITED STATES.

Mr. Editor:—I do not make attacks on "parties." I have quit it. Attacking men, whether individually or collectively, is a poor way to do them good. It generally drives them deeper into error, "sets the hair" on them. They become personal too, and "answer railing with railing." Elections become "campaigns." The opposite party becomes the "enemy." The emoluments "captured" become the "spoils." The offices bestowed become the "rewards to the faithful." The parties are called "armies." Successful preachers lose sight of persons—are "no respectors of persons." Statesmen never attack a class of men—as farmers, merchants, lawyers. They attack evil in any class. Arraying men of opposite political faiths against each other is as bad as arraying men of different occupations, or religions. If the men of opposite faiths so arrayed are in different sections, the estrangement becomes hopeless—the enmity everlasting. There is then nothing to soften the rancor of alienation.

This is why I know that mere partisan agitation can never accomplish the relief the people now demand. Abuse of parties, of persons, of classes and of sections can never really aid any righteous cause.

If you will track the party worshipper home to his den, you will find that at heart he is a hero worshipper. He is a "respector of persons." His justice is not blind, but keeps one eye on the main chance. He ever prates and prattles of men-of persons. Cleveland or Hill, Blaine or Harrison. Whole columns of newspapers are wasted every day in discussing the most trifling acts of these and a few similar men. Their slightest words are telegraphed all over the country to furnish texts for abuse or praise according to the editors political affiliations. There is nothing very remarkable about either of the four men. One of them, Cleveland, appears to be a good business man and honest, which combination is considered rare among politicians. But there are ten thousand men in North Carolina, who if not his equals, are at least fully competent, if as well advised as he was, to discharge satisfactorily the duties of his office.

Any of the ten thousand would represent the views of our people better than he could ever hope to do, would veto more pension bills, surrender more battle flags, ask for a lower reduction of the tariff, and write tariff messages in shorter and more intelligible sentences. Hill and Blaine appear to be both smart and corrupt, but there are ten thousand other machine politicians in the country who, if these two should die, could take their places, and if not exactly as smart and corrupt as these, would at least be praised and blamed by the same newspapers as being so.

Harrison appears to be a conservative little lawyer from Indiana, who still remains true to the interests of his clients, the rich men who bought his office for him. His equal is so common that I cannot afford to waste any breath upon him. Now these are the four whom party booting makes heroes of. These are the four whom the idiosyncrasy of hero worship makes occupy more space in the newspapers than the religion of the Lord Jesus. Meanwhile the people are spiritually starving for a fair, candid, truthful, non-partisan discussion of a hundred questions of public interest. If the "color line" breaks this year, or as soon as it does break, the people by thousands will be swayed hither and thither by every wind of doctrine. Some will be "for Paul" and others "for Apollon," but multitudes will be for every superstition of hero worship that can raise money enough to pay its priests—the newspapers who advocate it.

If you want to see personal politics "at home," go to the average political convention. If you are a student of men and things, you will there learn what is sapping the foundations of our institutions. The average delegate is there to get some advantage for himself. Farmer, lawyer and merchant elbow each other in the mad effort for personal gain. "Dark horses" are sought mainly because there is not time to have an "understanding" with them. A nominates B from "his town"—or "his county." When B gets in he gets A a place. This is good business, conducted on ordinary business principles, for the individuals engaged, but the business of the people suffers always in such hands. The real issues must be neglected because the main issue is personal gain. Out of a convention, in which the average delegate is seeking something for himself, is necessarily evolved a candidate who is seeking something for himself. He is the legitimate offspring of such a primary, and he will continue to look out for himself throughout his official career. A Lilliput begotten of Lilliputians—a self-seeker begotten of self-seekers. And yet we complain that the public business is neglected in the primaries, and our candidates have continued it in Congress. They have been true to the principles upon which they were elected. In the primaries and conventions you heard little but the interests and claims of persons, of towns, of counties, of sections and of parties. So in Congress you hear little but of "appointments," of "appropriations," of "chairmanships," of "clerkships," and the distribution of the spoils generally. "Like priest-like people." Our people have been raised on flattery, and it is disagreeable

LETTER FROM McDOWELL COUNTY.

How the Alliance is Getting Along in the Mountains.
MR. EDITOR:—As we of the county that lies in the shadow of the Blue Ridge have never seen anything in our State organ from the field in our county, I will proceed to give some news as to the condition of our Order in these parts. On Thursday, the 21st inst., I met our beloved District Lecturer at Allen Schoolhouse, near the Rutherford line. Allen Alliance was out and gave good attention to a masterly address by Bro. J. S. Davis, of Haywood, who talked for one hour and a half of the principles and demands of the Alliance, telling the people of their condition and suggesting the remedies, such as the repeal of the national banking law, the free coinage of silver, the land loan and Sub-Treasury plan.

An amusing incident transpired during Bro. Davis's speech. Just as he finished an eloquent appeal for the free coinage of silver there was a great jingling of coins on the floor from the pocket of one of our country merchants who was with us to hear the speech. This, you know, brought down the house. By the way, the gentleman is in full sympathy with the Order.

After the speaking, we went with the President, Bro. Goforth, to his house, where he kept us for the night in true Alliance style. The next morning we started early for Marion, the county seat, where we arrived cold and muddy, and found no stove in the court house. This, though a little discouraging, we overcame, by the help of our efficient President, Bro. Grayson, Pendergrass and some of the brethren putting up the stove and hunting in the Register's office for a lot of wood and setting it on fire—I mean after we got it in the stove. After the room got warm Bro. Davis took his stand near the stove, and though the crowd was small—only a few delegates—when he began, it increased to a respectable size before he was half through. About this time some of the town people came in. Then the speaker, seeming to understand that they were opposed to the Order, appeared to rise in dignity and power, losing all his diffidence and uncertainty, and towering in the strength of his argument far above anything we had heard before, and causing inexpressible flashes of intellectual sympathy to run all through the crowd, bringing tears to the eyes though they were brilliant with the light of sparks from the Alliance forge which were being so vigorously fanned into flame by the immortal ideas set forth by the speaker.

After the address we had a short session of the County Alliance and perfected a lecture system.

Then we started on our way to Nebo, spending the night with Bro. George Conley, Secretary of Nebo Alliance, where we were feasted and entertained in the true Carolina style. At Nebo, on account of the grippes having a plute cratic grasp on almost all the people, we had a small turnout. This is a strong Alliance for this section, numerically; and they take advantage of the agencies and place most of their cash with Bro. Worth. Here, as before, Bro. Davis made a rattling speech, as we used to say of Bro. Bell. We think the Alliance flock will follow the belted weather.

In the evening, after refreshing ourselves at the McDowell Parsonage with Bro. Edwards, we rode 13 miles where, at the house of your humble scribe, we gave our brother as good as ourself and frow could get up for him. On Sunday morning, in opposition to our desire and command, Bro. Davis started for Haywood, but on his explaining that when he left home his dulcinea had the grippes, we wished the paring guest G.O.S.!

The Alliance in this county is in fair condition, I think. True there is that laxity in attendance which is the outgrowth of carelessness and indifference as is found in all organizations after the first excitement wears off; but in the hearts of our people replanted the principles of the Order, and they are growing, and there are no farmers but endorse all of our declaration of purposes, and almost all of them are on the Ocala platform with us.

There is one thing in this county which we think is against us as an organization, and that is the manufacture and sale of whiskey. We have this devil to fight but when the fight is on at its hottest, look for the boys of McDowell.

JOHN C. BROWN,
County Lecturer.

THE ALLIANCE SCHOOL.

ELM CITY, N. C.
MR. EDITOR:—Three years ago the Piney Grove Alliance, situated in the southern part of Durham county, N. C., decided that in order to carry forward the great work they had undertaken as Alliancemen, it would be necessary to educate the people. They at once saw that to do that work it would be absolutely indispensable to build up a good school in the midst. They immediately set themselves to work to secure such a school. This writer was called upon to take charge of the work. For two years and a half he endeavored as best he could to instruct the pupils placed under his care, at the same time using all available means of promoting the educational enlightenment of the community. At the close of this period, it was found that the interest in the school had greatly increased, and the school had considerably outgrown its quarters. Hence the necessity of building a new and more commodious house at once became apparent. The good people of the neighborhood became more aroused than ever and went vigorously to work to build for themselves the needed house. The whole community entered into the work with a zeal and liberality highly commendable; but Mr. Patrick Henry Massey left his farm to the care of others, and gave his whole time to the work for several months. As a result, the new house is finished, and a nice one it is—said to be the finest and best arranged school house, outside of the towns, anywhere in Central North Carolina. When the house was completed the stockholders called a meeting and after transacting other important business, it was decided to name the new institution of learning. Several names were suggested, none of which seemed to meet with popular favor. Finally, one of the leading stockholders and patrons of the school arose and stated briefly the interest that had been taken in the work by different individuals, and by the community as a whole; and concluded by suggesting as a name for the new school, "The Patrick Henry Institute." It was received with a burst of applause by the audience. There was not a dissenting vote. All were agreed upon honoring the man who had done so much for the cause of education among them. God grant that our people, and especially our legislators, may wake up to a full sense of their duty in this matter, and may the time soon come when every child in all this land will have a chance to develop and train the faculties with which his God has endowed him.

Yours truly,
C. W. MASSEY.

RUTHERFORD COUNTY ENDORSES THE OCALA PLATFORM.

WHEREAS, We, the Farmers' Alliance of Rutherford county, in regular session assembled, believing and feeling that the laboring masses of the country have not been represented, and their interests have not been duly considered, and feeling necessarily compelled in the name of justice to make certain demands, the enacting of reformatory laws on account of grievous and unjust burdens upon the producers of this republic by unjust legislation, do therefore

Resolved, That we, the Rutherford County Alliance, do most earnestly and heartily endorse and adopt the Ocala demands set forth by the National Alliance and Industrial Union; and that a copy of the above be sent to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

A. A. YORK,
W. O. BAKER,
H. P. LYNCH,
Committee.

Resolved, We, the members of the Rutherford County Alliance, recommend that no member of the Alliance in this county plant this year more than five acres of cotton to the horse; and that a copy be sent to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

H. P. LYNCH,
L. FOWLER,
D. S. WILKINS,
Committee.

IREDELL COUNTY MEETING.

MR. EDITOR:—At a meeting of Iredele County Alliance, held January the 14th, 1892, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, Four of our Alliance brethren have signed a Democratic address with five non-Alliance Democrats, which as citizens they had a right to do if they so desired; and whereas, the enemies of our Order are making capital out of it, to the detriment of our organization; and whereas, the action of these brethren in signing this address was of their own responsibility, without any authority of the State Alliance, and we believe free from any desire or intention of injuring the Order; therefore be it

Resolved, By the Iredele County Alliance in regular session, this, the 14th day of January 1892, that we don't consider the address any more binding on the Alliance or any member of the Order, than if it had been signed only by the five non-Alliance Democrats.

2. That we, the Iredele County Alliance, do not endorse the address.

3. That we condemn the method adopted by the Democratic Executive Committee to make this address appear as being endorsed by the Alliance.

4. That we renew our pledges to stand by our Alliance demands; and that it is a duty for each member to vote for men who endorse these principles, and in any political party he may choose, and think best for carrying out these demands.

5. That a copy of these proceedings be sent to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, our State organ, for publication, with a request for all our reform papers in the State to copy.

M. E. RAMSEY, Sec'y,
Iredele County Alliance.

"PLANS FOR RELIEF."

WAYNESVILLE, N. C.
MR. EDITOR:—In your last issue, under the above heading, you say: "We think the problem has been solved, and some plan will soon be adopted." Will you allow one who was certainly one of the very first to advocate this matter in our Order to say a few words regarding it? By whatever name it may be called, what is proposed is in fact purely mutual insurance, which is far more extensively practiced than many are aware.

Allow me in the outset to say that I was at one time for many years engaged in the business and in each department of it—in the office and in the field. Having studied the principles and theories of the business very thoroughly and also had the further advantage of observation of their practical working, I may be able to render some assistance in helping to solve this very important problem.

I have always been an advocate of the principle of mutuality in insurance

RESOLUTIONS BY RUTHERFORD COUNTY.

WHEREAS, We the farmers of Rutherford County, in regular session assembled, believing and feeling that the laboring masses of this county have not been represented, their interests have not been duly considered, and feeling necessarily compelled in the name of justice, to make certain demands. The enacting of some reformatory laws on account of grievous and unjust burdens upon the producers of this Republic, by unjust legislation, do therefore

Resolved, That we, the Rutherford County Alliance, do most earnestly and heartily endorse and adopt the Ocala demands set forth by the National Alliance and Industrial Union, and that a copy of the above be sent to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

2. That the members of Rutherford County Alliance recommend that no member of the Alliance in this county plant this year more than five acres of cotton to the horse, and that a copy be sent to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, the Shelby Auditor and Forest City Ledger for publication.