

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

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

RALEIGH, N. C., DECEMBER 13, 1892.

No. 44

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PAPERS.
Progressive Farmer, State Organ, Raleigh, N. C.
Columbia, N. C.
Workingman's Helper, Pinacle, N. C.
Mountain, Salisbury, N. C.
Farmers' Advocate, Tarboro, N. C.
Country Life, Trinity College, N. C.
Farmers' Journal, Hickory, N. C.
The Farmer, Whitakers, N. C.
Agricultural Bee, Goldsboro, N. C.
Blanco Echo, Noncore, N. C.
Social Informer, Raleigh, N. C.
Molina Dispatch, Hertford, 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.

MONEY.

MR. EDITOR:—I have perused with pleasure many thoughtful essays in your columns on the nature and functions of money. Many of them, though varied, miss the points aimed at by the reform movement. Here it would be well to state those points as a guide for our thoughts:

1. To lessen the interest on money.
2. To place money out of the control of corporations and persons.
3. To stop tribute to foreign powers.
4. To make money yield to the demands of trade.

We will discuss these points in order. Statistics show the general increment of property annually in the United States is 2 1/2 per cent. The increment in money should not be any more than this. If so, it will finally absorb all property and has in the last thirty years absorbed three-fourths of it. Any proposition then to distribute greenbacks among the people or money among the States or State banks does not tend to remedy this evil.

2. To place money out of the control of corporations cannot be remedied by putting it into a multitude of corporations as State banks; nor will the mere increase of money to \$50 per capita do it; for money will accumulate to the money centers and money monopoly will exist all the same. What is the remedy? The only one suggested of any plausibility is the direct issue by the government of money to the people as taught by the Ocala and St. Louis platforms, or something of the sort.

3. To stop paying tribute to foreign powers will be effectually checked by carrying out the principles of Nos. 1 and 2, the lowering of interest and taking to our own nation the control of its own money. We pay an annual tribute in interest or dividends of 100,000,000 to 300,000,000 of gold annually

to foreign nations. This was brought about by our high interest on money and our liberal laws to corporations to rob productive labor. Pass the anti-alien land law, issue money direct to the people at 2 per cent., establish the postal banks, repeal all laws allowing corporations special privileges. Stop monopolies and trusts, increase the amount of circulation to \$50 per head and Americans will be freemen.

4. To make money yield to the demands of trade will be fully carried out in the above and the Sub-Treasury idea. It is said that Great Britain prices our wheat and cotton. We cannot prevent this without the help of the government. This help by any monarchy in Europe would be at once given. But American legislation being as much powered and controlled by foreign powers as by American, is slow to move. The farmers cannot concert and control this market. They could have done it twenty years ago, but now they are too poor.

Your learned correspondent, James Murdock, seems inclined to the idea that we can do without metallic money, gold or silver. This I confess is a little further than I can see. No doubt we can float two or more billions of legal tender and it would be good and at par with the metallic dollar, but what is our standard of valuation if we have not the metallic dollar? Will it be a bushel of wheat or ten pounds of cotton? If we make any other thing a standard, we have gained only this, we have discarded gold and silver, the god of the Mammonites, and set up an independent god of our own. Can we do this? The Mammonites will worship at any shrine we set up. Then we must look to some other means of stopping money worship besides putting up new idols in the place of the old. For it must be understood we have a unit of value and measure of account as nearly all nations have and must continue to have to which all paper money is referred to determine its value. This value depends on the marketable value of these metals and this value is determined by supply and demand. My opinion is that we will find it easier and more practicable to knock off the limbs of this dragon until nothing but the stump is left by the propositions above set forth being well aware we will have achieved all things desired. W. R. LINDSAY.

If our monopolies would only consult their own interests they would be eager to meet the people at least half way. Their stubbornness in holding out against the popular will and demand argues an incomprehensible ignorance of the American character. If anything is well established it is the fact that the people of this country can always be quieted, however great their excitement, by comparatively small concessions, unless they have arrived at a point where forbearance absolutely ceases to be a virtue.

But our monopolies act as if they were masters of the people and owners of the country. They make no concessions whatever. Every move they do make is in the direction of strengthening their position and of further usurpation. Wrongs that are so bold and burdensome that no living being can harbor a doubt of their character, are openly upheld and practiced by these combinations, against remonstrance against the dictates of honor and humanity and against the laws of the State. There must be an end to this. It is utterly idle to think that this state of affairs, if continued, will not result in an unfortunate conflict. Injustice cannot perpetuate itself in a country like this. The spirit of equal rights may be sleeping, but is not dead. It will awake to life, as the volcano awakes to action. In monarchies tyranny and wrong may sway the scepter for years and for generations, for there is not among the people the untrammelled freedom of thought and action that there is in a republic. Men who have been born and bred under tyranny, do not know their power. They are like the horse which has never been free enough to learn that he is really the master of the driver's life. But in a republic every being from the cradle to the grave is a king or thinks himself one. He is taught from the beginning that no other human being in the world is any better than he or has any greater privileges. And this cultivated spirit of freedom is absolutely dangerous to the peace of society if opposed beyond a certain limit.—Chicago Express.

Don't stop, brother, until the Progressive Farmer goes regularly to every home in your neighborhood.

ROAD MAKING.

Editors Western Union.—Road making is our next great physical improvement for the whole Northwest. Ever since I came to the West some sixty years ago, I have noticed wherever I have been or traveled that, on ground thoroughly underdrained, our prairie mud or soil will make a first-class road, if duly mixed with sand, and vice versa. Our sand banks and flats can be made into good roads only by being mixed with the mud or soil. The reason of this is that the soil will pack under the wheels and horses' feet only when it is comparatively dry, but the sand will pack only when it is wet. Hence, the two together properly mixed, will pack under the wheels, whether it is wet or dry, and you have a good surface road in rains and in drouths. Usually, it takes about half and half for the first surface foot of the road bed, sometimes more and sometimes less, according to the purity of the sand and mud used. Sand is better than either gravel or pounded stone, because it will stay up on the surface and pack with the soil, and not sink into the depths below; for instance, the city of Minneapolis. The older parts of it stand on a prairie plateau that looks much like our own, but on closer examination will be found to have sand enough in it to pack when wet under wheels and hoofs, while it was thoroughly underdrained by a natural gravel bed. Hence for years they did all their continuous heavy hauling of lumber, grain, and other vehicles without any sort of a pavement or even ruts in their streets, while in the underdrained muddy sloughs round about, a team would go in all over, if not constantly and carefully worked and prepared. In the rainiest weather the natural streets were only a little disagreeably muddy and sloppy, while here in Illinois we have seen a two and even a four horse team helplessly mired with an empty wagon on a soil that would not pack, and we had to deliver our goods in hand-carts on the sidewalks. All over Nebraska and Kansas wherever the prairie soil is underdrained by gravel-beds, and has sand enough in it to pack under the wheels, they have no trouble in making good roads, even though their soil may be black and fertile as ours is. Indeed, in the entire range of what they call their "dobe" lands, under the range of the Rocky Mountains, from North Dakota down to Texas, and up from Texas, through the whole length of the Pacific Coast, they have no difficulty as far as I have ever seen or heard in making good roads, wherever the soil is naturally underdrained and has sand enough in its surface to pack when wet under the wheels, as what they popularly call their "dobe" soils usually have.

I have noticed these facts for many years, whether in this State or in other States, and as a result I have come to this conclusion: 1st. You can nowhere make a good road without proper drainage. 2d. You can nowhere make one with pure mud or pure sand. But they must everwhere be so combined as to pack under the wheels, whether wet or dry. If have your sand, you must cart on your mud, and, if you have your mud you must cart on your sand until you get something like a foot of solid packed surface, that will stay where it is put, and let the rain water that falls on it, or is detained, right down through it into the drainage below. Then you will have solid, even though sloppy roads, whether wet or dry. But with sand alone or mud alone this cannot be done, and not half as easily with gravel or pounded stone, for your gravel and pounded stone will not stay and pack with your soil, but will be forever sinking below it. If I were to make permanent roads on all sorts of mud soils in Illinois, therefore, I should first begin in the center of the road and lay a first class drainage pipe right under its center, just below the frost line of the contemplated road, with free outlets for water at each side at all the lowest places into the fields and drainage ditches round about. If your pipes and outlets in these low places come above the natural surface, all the better. After the pipes are laid, scrape and cart on and round up your road-bed out of the dirt at hand, whatever it may be, making it as high, narrow and well rounded as convenient. Then cart on sand, the purer the better, but any sort of sand will do, though it would take more of it, till you find your soil will pack beneath the hoofs and wheels, whether wet or dry. Of course, in some soils it will take more and in some less, probably, on an average

about half and half for the first foot. Your road bed will, at first, be a hard one to travel and will rut and become rough, like all new road-beds; but harrow it or scrape it smooth again, till the sand becomes thoroughly mixed with the soil. Then it will begin to pack beneath wheels, and will constantly let the surplus water that lodges on it down into the drainage below.

Put on more sand whenever needed till you have a sufficient strength of solid packed surface to hold up any load that passes over it; and as your ground is at all times drained and hard and dry beneath it, it will not take a very great thickness on such a foundation to make a permanent, hard and solid road. There is sand enough not far away that would do to make all our roads, usually much nearer than either gravel or stone could be found. Our railroads also would undoubtedly deal most generously with any neighborhood or county that desired to make a permanent improvement in their roads in all matters of hauling to their depts the necessary commodities. In all such matters they are proverbially public-spirited. For road making is right in the line of their whole business. These are my ideas Mr. Editor, about western road making.

If the roots of trees should stop up the drainage pipes, it would soon become apparent through the soil; and a trench should be dug near the trees and the offending roots cut off, or the tree itself cut down. For we must have roads, whether we have shade trees or not. This is the way that nature has made all the best roads over deep soils there have ever been in the country, viz: by thorough underdrainage of the road bed itself, and such an admixture of soil and sand on the surface as will let the water freely through and pack under wheels and hoofs, whether wet or dry. It is as good for stock yards and gateways as it is for roads. Any common prairie soil that will underdrain is just as good as soil rock for the whole road-bed, except the surface foot, which must be so intermixed with sand with the plow and harrow that it will pack under wheels and hoofs, and still let the water freely through it, and not tread up into mortar and retain it. On hill sides dug down into clay that will not underdrain, surface soil that will underdrain must be carted in for the road bed, or the clay itself mixed with sand until it will underdrain, as the quick riddance of the water is everywhere and always, the main element of success. This every farmer knows who ever drove a team along over his drain tiles in the lowest and muddiest parts of his farm. Open side ditches and piling up dirt between are utterly worthless toward this end; and, if the stuff piled up reaches down to the clay, they are worse than worthless, as they only increase the power and depth of the mud, and mortar made by the treading. And if there is no sand in the clay they can never be made half as good as was the old naked prairie. All who have studied the subject or closely observed things passing right under their eyes all over the country, know these facts to be true. Why not then put them into use? Our newspaper press cannot be opened to the discussion of a more important subject to the farmers, and to the whole people, than this is to day, and it will continue to be so, until it is fully decided. J. B. TURNER. Morgan county, Illinois.

A FATHER'S WOE.

Too Poor to Bury His Child, He Seeks to Save it From Potter's Field
About 6:30 o'clock last evening, a man not over 25 years old staggered into the City Dispensary and dropped a large sized cigar box upon the desk of Dr. Fowler, who was in charge. Among sob's he stated that the box was a coffin, and that it contained the body of his only child. He wanted the city to bury it, claiming that he was too poor. The child had died of a minor complaint, and the certificate produced by the man revealed that his name was William Simpson, and that his wife was Ella Simpson. They live at 701 North Eleventh street. Simpson was to take the body to the Morgue, as nothing could be done for him last evening. He sorrowfully departed, carrying the body of his child with him.

This is a city where wealth abounds on every hand! Where hundreds of churches point their spires to heaven! In a Christian land! Where we boast of our advanced civilization! Is it possible?—St. Louis Monitor.

ON WITH THE ALLIANCE.

The "Western Watchman," of Eureka, Gives Timely Advice.
Now that the excitement of the election is over, every Allianceman, every reformer should return with redoubled interest and earnestness to his Alliance meetings. The Alliance is the true foundation of reform thought that has spread so far and wide. The lodgeroom should hold a new charm for every member, an added interest for every toiler who has not yet aligned himself with this great educational Order.

Form new committees, introduce new and instructive features, and enter resolutely upon a new campaign of education.

We had it personally from our new State President, J. L. Gilbert, while in Sacramento, that it is his intention to formulate some plan by which to push lecturing and organization into every county, and to thus bring every county into thorough organization in the F. A. and I U.

This is well, but where there is already a good working county organization, such counties should themselves take the initiative and commence the work through the county organizer.

Friends, brothers and sisters, the battle for a fairer adjustment of conditions has only begun. You have seen some evidence of the effect of education and organization, yet those effects mark only the beginning of the revolution that is to save the Republic—save the homes of the yeomanry of America.

Turn now with anxious care to the building to broader, higher, grander proportions of the Alliance. It is the plowman's school, the young men's lyceum, the woman's symposium, where fraternity should be welded in closer bonds of affection, where honor, manhood and womanhood are something more than a gilded mane, where blighting, wasteful enmities should fade and disappear before the glow of a common interest—the warmth of a common brotherhood.

Before the next quarterly Alliance meets we should number twenty instead of ten Sub-Alliances. The next quarterly meeting will be an important one, for there will be much of interest to report from the State Alliance; new systems have been adopted, and it will be required of Humboldt Alliances to do some earnest work in their own behalf.

WINTERING HOGS.

In feeding and the care of swine the proper food elements are of the first importance and the next in order are the sanitary condition and the manner and form in which the foods are supplied, as to regularity, etc. A writer in the Ohio Farmer says: The meat supply of the country is one of the most important subjects that can be presented for consideration. Physicians are almost unanimous in the opinion that beef and mutton are much more wholesome articles of food than pork or bacon; yet for the present, and we fear for a long time to come we must rely for our supply of meat mainly upon the hog. This must be the case until we have entirely changed or at least modified our system of farming, by paying more attention to the cultivation of root crops and feeding of mutton, as the English farmers do. In England, mutton is considered the best meat they have; here a strong prejudice exists against it, which is entirely owing to our manner of fattening sheep.

There is no domestic animal that suffers so much from exposure to cold and wet as the hog. He is a native of a mild climate and should be treated as his nature demands, if we would turn his peculiarities to our advantage. And during winter he should be provided with warm, dry quarters, plenty of warm, clean bedding, and an abundant supply of nutritious fat and heat-producing food. After the ground has become frozen and the pig can no longer root for a living, cooked roots and meal we consider the best and most economical food. Some put their shoats on raw potatoes, turnips or beets. Hogs can be kept in this way and will even do pretty well, but we consider it more economical to cook the food, believing that a better growth can be obtained with a smaller amount of feed; and where such fixtures are employed as may be easily furnished, the cooking will be cheaply accomplished.

We have a steamer that cost about \$100 set in a rough building, twelve feet square, attached to the end of my hog house. It is stuffed in all around and overhead, eight inches thick, with sawdust, to keep it from freezing, so I can feed cattle or hogs all winter. Then I have an alley about fifty feet in length and six feet wide with a row of troughs on each side and a swing door over them, to keep the hogs out of the troughs while feeding, or in case the feed is hot, until it cools. The entry has a wooden track the whole length, and into the main building, with a cart that holds six or eight bushels. We have a well, and the water is pumped directly into the steamer and into the cooking boxes, which hold eighteen bushels each. A cord of wood will last twenty days, to cook for a hundred hogs, if meal; but if corn about ten days; may be in careful hands it would last longer.

We have kept hogs well on boiled rutabagas alone. Beets, carrots, parsnips or potatoes will do as well. But the present system of feeding will include some grain; and if the roots be mashed while hot and the meal mixed in, a partial cooking of the meal will

result, which will be very beneficial. We can keep hogs well on English turnips cooked and mashed up with meal, though a little more meal is required than with more nutritive roots. Clover hay is sometimes used as an auxiliary in wintering hogs. If fine and well cured and especially if cut and boiled or steamed, and mixed with meal, it will do very well. But roots are so cheaply grown, when one has learned how, that a chaper method of feeding can hardly be desired. I would advise those who intend to get steamers to get one capable of standing ten pounds pressure per inch, for they will surely need it in cooking stiff pudding and large quantities of corn, also get one larger than the amount of work to be done; then in case there is more stock to feed, they will not be perplexed and troubled with a small steamer. Everything fed to our hogs is cooked, but nothing is ground. We feed altogether on corn and potatoes. To one bushel and a half of potatoes, mashed up, we add three pecks of dry corn in the kernel, and then with a liberal supply of water in a kettle almost steam-tight, we cook for at least three hours. The kernels are then three or four times their original size and the potatoes are mashed, and when thoroughly mixed the dish is as acceptable as can be presented to a lot of hogs. And as every particle of the food is, or can be reduced to a paste by the slightest mastication, much more by the action of the stomach, there can be but little if any loss. An addition of a few quarters of rye and an occasional peck of oats, making a little variety, is always a judicious plan, either of which is as easily cooked as heavier and larger kernels of corn. Hogs should also have a good supply of water, as it is impossible for them to digest their food without water to dissolve it and convey it into the blood. They should be kept constantly supplied with salt, coal and ashes. Salt is a valuable stimulator of the appetite and digestive organs. The advantages are that you save the time of taking your grain to the mill and the toll, and have your grain always at hand in a proper condition to use; there is a steadiness about the food that is one of the main elements of success in feeding animals.

CLOVER GROWING.

The farmer who grows clover never wants manure. If he feeds it his cattle return to him not less than 80 per cent. of its money value in the form of manure, and this is equivalent to the constant and abundant fertilizing of the soil and the ensuring of perennial fertility. If he turns it under it decays with so much rapidity that the next crop is able to consume it and make a satisfactory growth. If he makes the first growth into hay, the aftermath will supply an abundant manure for the wheat or corn following. It is thus an invaluable plant for the farmer in whatever way he may use it.

But it is not always used as its great value deserves. When it is to be sown, few give much or due consideration to the requirements of the invaluable plant the profit of which depends considerably on the manner in which the land is prepared for the seeding and the sowing of the seed.

While no other crop deserves so much attention, none is so frequently neglected as this. The seed is mostly cast upon the ground to grow or die, as the accidents of the weather may happen to be favorable or adverse.

How many farmers who have sold fall grain have given a thought in the preparation of soil to the seed they intend to sow some time in the spring? The condition of the ground will be favorable or otherwise for the sowing as it has been well prepared now. Imperfect plowing or harrowing will then show in such a condition of the surface as will make the successful sowing of the clover seed a very questionable matter, and to sow the seed on a hard, unfertile soil is to risk its total or at least partial loss.

And this loss does not stop with the clover. The use to which this plant is put in so many ways, renders all other crops following it dependent on it for their success. If the clover is a partial failure they are equally so, and this is not so well considered as it deserves to be.

PHENOMENAL SHRINKAGE.

Thomas Bell, of San Pedro, has returned from a trip to his old home in Ohio. He reports that a great change has come over that country. "Land that was selling at \$70 to \$80 per acre eight years ago, when I was there, is now selling at \$30 to \$40 per acre." Yet many unthoughtful men tell us the country is prosperous!

The monetary commission of 1876 composed of Senators and Representatives chosen to enquire into the cause of the shrinkage of values declare: "There can be no general fall of prices that was not preceded by a shrinkage of money."

R. M. Widney says: "Ninety-five per cent. of the business of the country in 1890 was done on credit. Five per cent. of cash was not enough to go around on pay day. Hence there was over ten billions of dollars loss in one year, in shrinkage of value, and it called the full financial power of the United States to prevent general ruin." Will exceed those recited! The idle few, the beneficiaries, prospered. The business man and toiling millions see the value of property shrinking year by year. M.

Watch the label on your paper and renew when your subscription expires.