

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.
Caucasian, Hickory, N. C.
The People's Paper, Charlotte, N. C.
The Vestibule, Concord, N. C.
The Plow-Boy, Wadesboro, N. C.
Meadow Blase, Peanut, 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.

EDITORIAL SUGGESTIONS.

That cow which costs \$40 per annum to feed and produce \$30 in milk and butter, is a sad leak, equal, if not greater than a rat hole in the bin.

Do not allow the manure heap to lay exposed to all the drenching rains from fall till spring, and then buy commercial fertilizer to help the crop along.

Greater in number than any other class, yet the farmer is subject to law-makers who ignore his existence. He labors hard from one year to another, trusting to a power that controls the price of his "labor and the product of his toil."

Do not expect to sell eggs enough to buy the groceries, when the hens are compelled to roost in the trees with the thermometer most of the time crowding zero. The best hen in the universe forgets all about laying eggs under such circumstances.

Hay or grass, with roots, ensilage and a variety of wheat, corn, oats and barley ground together, furnishes the best elements of growth in the young horse, and maintains the matured animal in the best condition. Oats and corn only are not the best to build up bone, flesh and muscle.

The cheapest pork is made from hogs which are never wintered, but which get a good share of their sustenance during a long season upon pasture or a good range. In the North clover is becoming the universal pork producer, while mast in the South supplies the place even more cheaply.

As the young animals are not making a direct return for their keeping, it may not be strange that as compared with the productive ones they are somewhat slighted. Still, they are in one of the most important stages of their life, and it is a great and costly mistake to neglect them.

If you raise hay to sell from the farm, remember that timothy will take less from the farm than clover. Many people who buy are learning, however, that early cut, nicely cured clover is better than timothy for nearly all purposes. Clear timothy will bring the most money, an acre, as a rule.

AMERICAN AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY IN EUROPE.

(By Associated Trade Press.)

PARIS, 1895

The display of agricultural implements and machinery by the United States' firms at the annual agricultural show now being held at the *Palais de l'Industrie*, Paris, is in every respect befitting the splendid connection that they have of late years secured with the European market. The show yard covers an extensive area, lying between the Champs Elysees and the Cours la Reine, and even this is becoming too restricted for the machines that are crowded every year into the enclosure. Nevertheless, the position being a central one attracts a considerable influx of visitors, and the business done by exhibitors is larger than for many years past. In fact reports all around speak of the past season being an exceptionally good one, and makers and agents look forward to doing quite as much, is not more in the present year. The demand has been particularly good for grass cutting appliances, in which some of the agents ran entirely out of stock, and had to order fresh consignments. In the section that is chiefly devoted to foreign machines there is a very extensive and interesting show by American and English makers, between whom there is a keen rivalry for the European trade. Until a few years ago the business was entirely in the hands of the European firms, but these latter are now bound to confess that they are not making so much headway as their United States competitors. Some of the Transatlantic makes have pushed their enterprise so far as to secure a standing in England where they have taken up their position with the leading English firms. One of these is Walter A. Wood, who is always to the front with an excellent show of his well known machines, and his exhibit comprises four harvesters and three mowers which perform their work in a way that very favorably impresses the onlookers. The Johnston Harvester Company has a large number of machines on view than any other foreign maker. These harvesters are made especially for the Continental market, where the heavy crop needs a machine of exceptionally large capacity. This firm is showing a very light and compact harvester of new type, in which the elevator is placed low down so as to facilitate the cutting of the heavy grain. The reapers, provided with a very simple arrangement for changing the gear, are meeting with a great deal of success, and as a large number of interchangeable pieces are delivered with the machines the buyer is not put to the inconvenience of waiting for a considerable time for new parts, as is the case very often with foreign machinery. The firm's agent asserts that no fewer than 1 200 machines were sold last year, and this is a pretty convincing testimony as to the popularity. Another successful machine is the McCormick harvester, of which two or three are shown, together with several reapers and mowers. They are very compact and of light draught, while for districts in which the grain is particularly high, machines are made with open elevators. Adriance Platt & Co., of New York, have on view several reapers and binders and mowers in which they do a considerable trade throughout Europe. Being constructed without elevators they are simple in design and are very light and strong. The merits of these machines are proved by the number of awards that they have secured in Europe in competition with the leading productions on this side. The Columbia Harvesters of D. M. Osborne & Co., N. Y., possess many points of interest to buyers who are on the lookout for a light and efficient machine. The exhibit of this firm comprises several reapers and mowers, while the hay tedders are particularly strong and durable. A noteworthy stand is that containing the Machines of D. S. Morgan & Co., Brockport, N. Y., whose Triumph harvesters and mowers have long met with a great deal of success in this country. One or two new American firms have made their appearance for the first time at the Paris show, including the Deering Harvester Co., of Chicago, whose reapers and harvesters received great attention. As with all American harvesters they are very light and compact, and for this reason they are likely to have a good sale. The Buckeye reapers of the Plano Mfg. Co., of Chicago, are also on view, while an ingenious hay tedder manufactured by the Stoddard

Co., of Chicago, seems destined to secure a good position on the market.

In plows the French have made such enormous strides during the past few years that there would seem to be no further opening for plows of foreign manufacture. Firms like Bajac, Liancourt, turn light, strong plows suitable to all kinds of purposes in such numbers that they are now paying attention to export markets, and it is certain that in a year or two French plows will have a considerable sale abroad. Every part of the plow is made of steel, and it claimed that they are practically unbreakable. The wrought steel shares will wear, it is said, ten years or more. Nevertheless, the American plow makers have succeeded in securing a very firm position upon the market, and a large number of Oliver-chilled plows are sold in this country. In view of the success of these plows English firms have gone to great expense in trying to produce chilled shares, but they have been obliged to give up the attempt. Whether it is owing to difference in the metal or in the process of chilling, it is certain that the English makers are unable to get the same results. The Oliver plows are still unique among their kind, and the opinion of the English makers who viewed the large display of chilled plows was that there was nothing equal to them. Another good implement is the plow manufactured by the Galo Co., of Albion, Mich., whose plows make a neat and interesting stand. A splendid line is made by one of the English agents of the Improvements of the South Bend Chill Co., South Bend, Ind., which are likely to sell well on account of their price. Indeed, visitors marvel that the United States can send over plows, and, after paying for the heavy charges for transport and import duty, sell them at a price much below that at which they could be produced in this country. Of course, when one considers the perfection to which mechanical production has been brought, in the United States, there is no cause for astonishment. The Planet hoers and plows are going very well in France, where the lightness of these implements is much appreciated. Such firms as the New York Manufacturing Company, and the Whitman and Barker Manufacturing Company, are competing very keenly with the Sheffield firms in rakes, hoes, scythes, knives, etc., and in point of price they leave their English rivals far behind. Altogether, the Paris show affords evidence that the American firms are in stronger force in this country than ever before, and there is no doubt that they mean to do a considerable trade in most classes of implements and machinery in the coming year.

It has been stated by good authority that thousands of dollars are thrown away in this State every year for commercial fertilizers, to say nothing of the time and labor lost, by not knowing the needs of the soil. Fertilizers will bring fair results, but the elements needed must be well understood.

HIS NAME.

A pair of twins was born in the Back Bay district. A bright boy set about to try to name them. He said, "Will they be called Peter and Repe-ter?" But no; his mother would not listen to the name Peter. Then he said, "Let them be called Max and Climax."

"No," she said; "they are both little girls, so we cannot name one of them Max."

Then he said, after much thought, "Let them be called Kate and Dupli-cate." After that his head was band-aged, and he was sent out to play.—*Union Signal*.

A CONTRACTED CURRENCY.

When the Superior Court of Pender county was in session at Burgaw a few days ago the case of Ida McAllister against W. T. Bannerman was on trial and one of the witnesses was Milton Hayre, a typical country darkey. He was put on the witness stand by Lawyer H. L. Stevens, of Warsaw, to prove the actual value of a certain piece of property in dispute, and in reply to a question as to what rent the place was worth per month he said:

"Wall, in de present state er de currency it is wuff about er dollar and er half, but wid morn dey is in succulation I should jedge it ougfiter fetch two dollars and er half er mont."

His answer created a laugh and Judge Hoke remarked that he was more fit for Congress than he was for the witness stand.—*Wil. Messenger*.

Read our Clubbing List.

THE USE OF FERTILIZERS.

Correspondence of the Progressive Farmer.

Some time ago I noticed an editorial in your paper advising the farmers not to discontinue the use of Commercial Fertilizers on account of the low price of cotton. Now I am sure you were perfectly sincere in your advice and perhaps you were right. But from my standpoint, as a practical farmer your argument seems entirely wrong.

In the first place I believe that almost if not quite as good a crop of cotton can be produced without guano. Of course it will require more effort on the part of the farmer in composting etc., but the saving would more than pay for the extra labor.

But even if the yield per acre should be decreased considerably by not using guano, then it seems to me there would be no loss to the farmer.

You know it is generally contended that there is an overproduction of cotton in the South almost every year. And I believe no one doubts but that there is more cotton made than there is a brisk demand for. It is also a fact that for every ton of guano used in the South this year at least one bale of cotton must be raised with which to pay for it. Taking the whole South over it is easy to see that the amount of extra cotton required to pay for the guano is the grand cause, under present conditions, of the glut in the market every fall.

Suppose then the farmers should resolve to use no more guano. Then the cotton crop could be easily reduced to the amount required to supply the demand. But on the other hand if a large supply of guano is bought and another large crop of cotton raised, as there must be if guano is used, then the farmers may expect to pay for it with four, if not three, cent cotton next fall.

I think it would be well for farmers to think over this matter carefully. talk it over with their neighbors and in the Alliances and resolve to use no more commercial fertilizers.

J. F. SPENCE.

To unproductive ground the leguminous crops bring nitrogen absorbed from the air, and manures supply simple elements which make a balance in the consistency thereof. Land which is unproductive is not necessarily exhausted; the elements of fertility may lie there in an unavailable form.

THE SHOE FACTORY.

Correspondence of the Progressive Farmer.

Will you please keep that little ball rolling that I started for the shoe factory? Like the snow ball it may gather slowly at first, but the further you roll it the faster it accumulates. Mr. Editor, if you think it would do better to change my proposition from giving one dollar—to subscribing one dollar you are at liberty to do so, any thing that is right for the shoe factory. We are glad that so many thousands of good people take and read THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER. We hope its numbers may increase from day to day, until no man shall say "Know ye the Alliance and its principles," but all shall know them from the least to the greatest. But brethren, "He that knoweth his master's will, and doeth it not, shall be beaten with many stripes." We had better never perused its pages; never had learned its truths of justice and right towards our brother man, than after we have learned them not to put them in practice. There is not a man in North Carolina that ought to be outside of the penitentiary or lunatic asylum but will acknowledge that we ought to organize for our protection and for the good of our fellow man. We want our "factory" that the shoeless may be shod, the naked clothed, the idle employed, and the hungry fed. When the pale boatman comes and carries us over the 'dark river' we want the first salutation that greets our ears on the "Shining Shore" to be, "In yonder words you are hungry and you fed me, naked and you clothed me, enter then into the joys of thy Lord." Many good people say to me, I can't pay my dues to the Alliance. Brethren you can't afford not to do it. Many say I am too poor to subscribe a dollar to the factory. Brethren that is the way to get out of your poverty. I hope I know the poorest man in the State, yet he is rich; an heir of God and a joint heir with Jesus Christ—rich enough. He has a large family of his own to feed, clothe and educate by the sweat of his own brow, besides two invalid sisters about seventeen years old to feed and care for. Is not that enough? No. He has a good old mother, born before

this century commenced, who has been blind and helpless for ten long years, to feed, clothe, doctor and nurse. Are you poorer than that? Brethren, by the grace of God, he keeps his Alliance dues paid up for himself and three others; has sent one dollar to the factory, is ready to subscribe another when you say so, and yet another to have our fertilizers compounded there, and yet another to have all our clothing manufactured there. Now I want to ask every one of the officers of our State Alliance, together with the Business Agent and State Treasurer, to let us know for our encouragement, and as a stimulant for us to do better how much each one has subscribed for our factory. Don't be too modest, gentlemen, to tell what you have done, we will not look upon it as self praise, but as a stimulant for us to do better. Now we meant to ask THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, that paper that we have blessed, and still expect to bless with more subscribers than any paper in the State, will you subscribe to the factory all the paid up subscriptions you may receive the first week in May, 1895? Now, brethren, look out for the answer to this question, and if it is "I will," let each old subscriber renew for one year and get all the new subscribers he can and send them in during that week and the work will be done and nobody hurt.

And now may God bless our people and nation, and curse with death the tyrant that would enslave us with "bonds."

W. H. DAVIS,
Williamsboro, N. C.

Our plans for next season should all be made now, while we have time to think them out. Without them, in the hurry of spring work, we will be obliged to start out in the old, old ruts. There are many men who are not even farming the best they know how. Every year should be a year of progress.

FROM SILOUS BUSH TO MAJOR BILKINS.

Dear Mr. Bilkins:—
I wuz kinder in hopes that you would kum eround ter see me while you wuz up in ther mountains, fer I wanted ter see you cfile bad and have a talk with you. I wanted ter ax you sum confidensul questions erbout whut fer me ter do. I haint seed agude demacrat like you in so long I dont kno how one looks. Well I did git a sorter ov a glimps at our demacrat representative the other day when he kum home. I wuz at ther depo when he kum and one ov the kounty kum-missioners met him thar with a buggy and he just jumped off ov ther cars and run and got inter ther buggy and drove fer home as hard as they could tair.

I wanted ter git a hold ov his hand and hcudy with him, but he seemed ter be in too big ov a hurry ter tell ther folks houdy like he did durin' the campaign last fall. But I guess he wuz reffraid somebody would rob him. Fer they say that there iz mity big pay in the pereishun that he has bin a holdin and he must ov bin a savin ov it purty well fer when his pay stopped he wouldn't stay and pay fer his board till the legislature adjourned.

Stranger he dun this ever bit ov it. But we musn't kick at a little thing like this fer we are nearly kicked to pieces now. My motto iz ter vote fer 'em and try 'em ergin.

Mr. Bilkins, I want ter ax you a confidensul question or two fer information.

When the people axes you why are you a demacrat what do you tell 'em? The other day I got ter talkin poler-ticks with Peete Jones, and he lound he wuz a populist, and I told him that I wuz a demacrat teeth and toenails. And says he.

Silous, why are you a demacrat?

Because my Daddy wuz one and it wuz handed down ter me, says I. And then Peete says ter me. Silous, if our daddy's done rong and dies and goes ter Hell iz that any signe that we should follow him?

I want you ter tell me how ter anser such foolish questions as this. I don't kno whut makes 'em ax me such questions as that fer nohow.

Let me hear from you rebout the matter. I am yours very truly,
Silous Bush.

This is getting it down pretty fine, but recent experiments show that the potash, phosphorous and nitrogen in the solid dung from the cow fed upon a mixed ration are worth four cents a day, and the liquids six. This is a strong argument for feeding as much as possible the products of the farm upon the farm.

POINTED AND PERTINENT QUESTIONS.

700 LA FAYETTE AVE.,
BROOKLYN, N. Y.

EDITOR PROGRESSIVE FARMER:

See Senate and House reports, pages 4 and 5, of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER of March 10, 1895—i. e., *Alexander county* asks the Senate for permission to sell its old county jail and build a new one by special tax. (Query: Why should the people of Alexander county be obliged to obtain permission of Senators from other counties, all over the State, to collect in its own way its own local taxes for local expenditure in erection of a jail for its own criminals?)

And the question of equity arises in my mind as to *why* Sampson county should require *State legislators'* permission to provide for its own poor; *Leakville*, in Rockingham county, to issue town bonds; *Wake county*, to appoint its cotton weighers; *Graham county*, to build its county court house, and so on and so on through the entire proceedings of both Senate and House, a hundred or more requests for *permission*, in towns and counties, to do *their own business*, from that of building their own court house, down to granting or refusing permission, to sell beer in a town, or to catch their *own fish* in their own streams.

Please tell me (a benighted foreigner to your good State) why the people of Wake county must first obtain the permission of representatives from Alexander, Craven, Cleveland, Randolph, Rutherford, Hertford and all other counties in your State, before they can determine about the way and means of "catching fish in Swiftcreek." Pray tell me, if you can, what equitable right have Jim and Dick and Bob, from here and there all over your State, to order the conduct of fishing in *Swift creek*, which they have probably never seen, in which they have no proper nor property rights, which has nothing to do with the State revenue and is a business into which it is an *impertinence*, as well as a harmful *folly*, for strangers to the location and the needs of the people, for the State government to enter and interfere.

Why do not the people of the towns and the counties in your State, in their several localities and their distinctly local interests, demand their right of local option in local affairs?

The people of the State of New York are learning that their local rights are being regularly (?) used by the State legislators as partisan political foot balls, to be kicked back and forth by the party politicians, in corrupt exchanges in reciprocal trade for corrupt jobbery and pernicious legislation. We are demanding and vigorously promoting home rule in all distinctly local affairs. Does not that question appeal to you, as an intelligent one, and as in the direction of a wise and needful reform?

Pardon my impertinent questioning of your own affairs, but I carefully read your paper, and as these peculiar facts in your legislative reports, were so significant of an almost universal tolerance of injustice, I was tempted to express to you the thoughts suggested by them.

With much interest and kindly regard I am,
Yours truly,
E. STILLMAN DOUBLEDAY.

[We fully agree with our friend. THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER has protested against much of this time and again, and will continue to do so. Everybody with a grievance sends it to the legislature. Some of these local laws are good ones, but frequently bills are gotten through when they only benefit one or a few individuals and are detrimental to hundreds. The recent legislature passed more than 800 bills and defeated many others. The fishing industry in Eastern Carolina is a large one. Frequently syndicates obstruct the streams with traps and nets, cutting off the passage of fish. This makes legislation necessary. But it is not always wise. The same can be said of other local matters. We will do all we can help remedy the trouble.—EDITOR.]

The best shaped sweet potato tubers and the largest yield will result on shallow ploughed land, in small ridges, about 32 inches apart, with the plants set 18 inches apart in a row. The secret of easy cultivation is in stirring the soil as soon as it will work after each rain, killing the weeds before they are visible and preventing a crust from forming.

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER and Bible-Reader one year \$1.10.