

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

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The editor is not responsible for the views of correspondents.

RALEIGH, N. C., JUNE 18, 1895.

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The Progressive Farmer is the Official Organ of the N. C. Farmers' State Alliance

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"I am standing now just behind the curtain, and in full glow of the coming sunset. Behind me are the shadows on the track, before me lies the dark valley and the river. When I mingle with the dark waters I want to cast one lingering look upon a country whose government is of the people, for the people, and by the people." - L. L. Polk, July 4th, 1890.

N. R. P. A.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

It is gratifying to be able to state that the fruit crop will hardly be killed for some weeks yet.

Necessity knows no law; neither does the United States Supreme court when there is boodle around.

Sending a bill to a man who has been dead and buried several months is rather running the thing in the ground.

"You can't have too much of a good thing," is as old as the hills. But just try having two or three wives and see what a mistake it is.

The effort now being made to run this country on the European plan doesn't suit people who want three square meals per day.

The goldbug may be likened unto the thief that cometh in the night, or in the day time, or any other thief, that comes at time, for that matter.

The next step in order now is for the people of the United States to abolish the Supreme Court. A new deal is needed. The present crowd have sold out to Wall street.

As there is a difference of opinion among the people as to what Senator Pritchard believes on the silver question, we offer him the use of our columns to set the public mind at rest.

By an oversight the article "Whither are we Drifting," printed in our last issue, was credited to Mr. G. E. Kestler. Mr. Barnhardt, of Cabarrus county, was the author. Mr. Kestler sent the article in, however.

A Montgomery daily which is evidently the paid organ of the goldbugs, refers to a Birmingham daily as "the unpaid organ of the silver barons." The Birmingham paper ought to be proud of the distinction.

Hurray! now we have it. The Richmond Star heads a Cuban news item "Trousered Brutes." Just what we wanted. For a few weeks now we will vary the programme a little and refer to Cleveland and his Cabinet as "trousered brutes."

Beware! The gold bugs have issued one of their lying books in exact imitation of "Coins Financial School," under the same name. Don't buy books from any bookstore or paper offering them for sale unless you know who you are dealing with.

Cleveland, Sherman & Co., evidently want the people to believe that they can work miracles. The story of the loaves and fishes was all right, but the business of this country can't be done with less than one-tenth of the actual amount of money required.

While all the taxes collected in the State of Maine in 1893 from all insurance companies amounted to only \$31,281.15, the license tax collected on dogs in that State the same year was \$40,162.85. There was paid out of the State treasury "for damage by dogs to domestic animals" \$4,286.65, leaving the net tax from dogs \$35,876.20, or, \$4,895.05 more than the total tax received from insurance companies. Would you call this "class legislation"?

ENORMITY OF THE BOND STEAL.

A hundred million dollars indebtedness added to our already large debt! But that isn't much for a large nation like ours, you say. You'll see. Sixteen million dollars profit in the steal, shared in by a baker's dozen! That isn't much. We have hundreds of men in the United States each reputed to be worth more than \$16,000,000.

But at last, the whole thing is enormous. A bridge already bearing a thousand tons may be broken by adding a few hundred pounds weight.

Briefly, Cleveland, Carlisle & Co., sold \$100,000,000 worth of United States bonds. There was no excuse for it. Ex-Secretary Whitney and the Drexel, Morgan syndicate negotiated the sale. This was no task. Any ten-year-old boy could have secured purchasers, so eager were the bidders. The bonds would have brought market value, but the scheme was fixed so as to shut out the public. The bonds sold for 1.04 are now worth 1.20 - were worth that at the time of the sale. The syndicate made 16 cents clear on each dollar's worth of bonds. In round numbers the profit was \$16,000,000, divided up among the select few. No outsider can tell how much of this Cleveland received - a good sum no doubt.

Suppose this profit of \$16,000,000 was to be paid in wheat. At 50 cents per bushel (the average price for a year) it would require 32,000,000 bushels of wheat. This would furnish bread for 4,000,000 people, or one sixteenth of the population of the United States, for an entire year. If a wagon train should be formed to haul this wheat and 32 bushels were placed on each wagon, it would require 1,000,000 wagons, 2,000,000 horses, and 1,000,000 men to drive the teams. Let the wagons follow each other fifty feet apart and the train would be more than 9,000 miles long and would more than reach across the diameter of the globe. Now you get a faint idea of the profit that gang of thieves made, to say nothing of the great interest-bearing debt they placed upon us.

A legislative clerk failed to ratify the act creating additional members of the Board of Agriculture until a day after the members were elected. The consequence is that the new members step aside. The old board elected Mr. S. P. Patterson, of Caldwell county, Commissioner of Agriculture, and T. K. Bruner, Secretary.

CROP OUTLOOK GLOOMY.

There is no use in trying to disguise the fact that the general crop outlook is anything but flattering. Wheat is ripening about on time, but all cultivated crops are away behind. Cotton and corn are both small, but have improved very much during the past few days. The vegetables are not up to the standard in quality and prices are away down. Irish potatoes are the only possible exception. This crop is said to be fair.

While corn and cotton are small, there is a chance for both yet if the season does not continue too unfavorable. Warm sunshine and good rains supplemented with rapid cultivation will work wonders with each crop. In fact rapid cultivation, if properly done is more than half the battle. Your land may be rich and fertilizer abundant, but neither will take the place of cultivation given any crop quickly and at the right time. Delays in cultivation are exceedingly dangerous.

The State Alliance Business Agent has made arrangements to handle fruit, vegetables and other produce in Boston, New York, Pittsburg, Baltimore, Richmond and Newark. Members of the Alliance can ship to "T. Ivey, S. B. A.," at either of the above cities. You should inform Bro. Ivey when a shipment is made, addressing him at Raleigh. This is a new departure and should prove a success. Write to the Business Agent for full particulars.

BANQUO'S GHOST.

The silver question will not down. It is like Banquo's ghost. President Cleveland sat on it and that is enough to extinguish almost anything, but the ghost was up as soon as he was off, says the Farmers' Voice. John Sherman dealt it one of his deft blows, but the ghost is around as usual. Congress exterminated it, but it did not remain exterminated. Wall Street and Great Britain downed it and danced on it, but it is still frisky, and as it stalks about in the day time it is frightening the political parties and the politicians almost to death. Tom Reed has been throwing kisses at it, but the ghost is satisfied with nothing but a bear like hug. McKinley does not know exactly what to do with it. He has been reported as saying that he wanted nothing to do with it, whereupon one of his friends rushed into print to say that the governor had never made faces at the ghost. Even

some of the prominent English statesmen have expressed a willingness to follow the ghost whithersoever it would lead. The people who murdered the silver dollar are uneasy. They hear strange noises in the silence of the night. It is the footsteps of the ghost. They acted on the principle that the dead tell no tales. But the ghost talks incessantly. It is saying unpleasant things. It is all the time talking about the price of wheat, the paralysis of industries, the shrinkage of values and a 200-cent dollar. It does not talk of a theory but of a condition. It is always pointing to its own grave on which there is not a flower blooming but about which is piled the wrecked hopes of the people and a gloom that no light can penetrate. John Sherman, the old hero of many a battle with his conscience, wishes that the ghost would go home and stay there. But the ghost walks and talks and talks and talks and while the assassins of the dollar of the daddies cry peace, peace, there is no peace and never will be until the grave gives up its dead and the murdered dollar of the people comes forth clothed with life and invested with a value of 100 cents.

Auditor R. M. Furman has returned to the city after spending several weeks at Greensboro, now quite a noted health resort. He brought in his wake Lord Chief Justice Campbell, of the Arrington legislative committee. These two gentlemen are quite good friends and have had some high old times together in the past. We hear that Auditor Furman allowed Mr. Campbell to collect pay for eight days while the committee only allowed him pay for two days. Perhaps this will explain why the last legislature cost so much money.

DEMOCRATIC COMMENCEMENT.

The leaders of the Democratic party having failed to attract any attention or inspire any confidence by their instantaneous somersault into the Populist camp, determined to hold a commencement, this being the season for school commencements. The place selected was Cleveland Institute. The exercises were held in Sound Money Hall, the date, June 20th and 21st.

Chairman Pou acted the part of president of the institution to perfection. Mr. O. J. Carroll was chief marshal, assisted by T. J. Allison, Dr. O. W. Blackhall, J. A. Thomas and F. A. Williams. Their duties were small, so was the audience.

Though this ended the third session of Cleveland's Financial school, there was no graduates, and all the pupils took part. The Baccalaureate Sermon was by Rev. Dr. T. H. Pritchard, D. D., LL. D., of Charlotte. They had no band, but the exercises were interspersed with vocal music. First came an oration, "The British are Our Best Friends," by Col. Paul B. Means; Song, "I Went Play in Your Backyard," by Mr. E. C. Smith; Oration, "We Have Played the Fool," by District Attorney Aycock; Song, "Bicyclopedias That I Have Sold," by Joseph P. Caldwell; Oration, "Tammany the Birthplace of Freedom," by J. B. Sherrill; Song, "Sign the Pledge To-day," Capt. Octavious Coke; Oration, "Democracy as She Was, Is and Ought to Be," by R. Lacey; Song, "You Ought to be a Goldbug," C. B. Watson; Oration, "Beauties of the Gold Standard," Theo. F. Klutz; Song, "Down Upon the Farm," Col. John Robinson; Oration, "Our National Dry Rot," Dr. T. B. Kingsbury; Song, "Hear Them Telephone Bells Ringing," Gov. Elias Carr; Oration, "Can't We Fool the People Again?" by W. C. Dowd; Song, "Let's Join the Populists," Col. John R. Webster; Oration, "The American Book Company Essential to Education," John C. Scarborough; Song, "Once I Was as Pure as the Beautiful Snow," James P. Cook; Oration, "Stroud As a Statesman," Chas. A. Cook; Song, "Thoughts That I Sometimes Think," Maj. W. M. Robbins; Oration, "What is Life Without an Office?" by Joseph Daniels; Song, "Ransom as a Preparator," W. R. Henry; Oration, "Foot Ball the Vanguard of Civilization," by President Geo. T. Winston; Song, "The Old North State," by Prof. Chas. D. McIver; Oration, "Buck Kitchen as a Dream Disturber," A. Leazar; Song, "I Want to be an Angel," Kope Elias; Oration, "Democracy is Immortal," John P. Kerr; Song, "See That My Grave is Kept Green," John S. Henderson; Oration, "When I'm Governor Every Day Will be Sunday," Col. Julian S. Carr; Song, "If I Had Only Known," H. C. Connor. The exercises were brought to a close by the rendition of that famous two-act farce, "Riding Two Horses Going in Opposite Directions," participated in by the entire school. In the language of the up-to-date newspaper reporter, "Cleveland Institute closed her 1895 session in a gorgeous blaze of glory. Her classic halls no longer resound with the hum of merry voices nor echo with the clatter of busy feet and ringing girlish laughter, but she sits there all the same."

BANKER ST. JOHN.

Mr. William P. St. John, president of the Mercantile National bank, N. Y., may not be the only silver banker in that city, but he is the only one who has the courage to say so, and he says so on every occasion, and often. Recently he said:

"Reopen our mints to silver without stint, as I verily believe the great majority of the people of the United States demand, and the enhancement thereby of our relations as creditors of Europe, because of our improved relations with silver-using nations, will leave ourselves content and Europe assured of our ability to pay our debts of every nature and according to the terms. The laboring element, along with every other producing class in all communities, is vitally interested in the achievement of such a monetary system for the United States as will tend to disseminate the wealth which they create; dissemination of wealth, not aggregation of wealth, being their safer reliance to yield them their fair share."

GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP.

The following from the Beaufort Herald speaks for itself. If the management of a road is right the road will always be a success:

"The 'old mullet' pulled out of Morehead City Monday morning at 8:08 a. m., and pulled into Goldsboro at its usual arriving time. This makes the run one hour shorter, and instead of spending five or six hours on the route you now gover behind one of the new engines at the rate of forty two miles per hour including stops. The train returning on Monday left Goldsboro 28 minutes late and lost 5 minutes in New Berne, but it came into Morehead City on time. The new schedule and these improvements are due to the excellent management of Mr. W. S. Chadwick. Before he took the road we are told that the bed, stock, cars, etc., were in a fearful condition, and that the train rarely made connection on the other end of the line. But to day two large and handsome engines that can attain a speed of sixty miles per hour are to be seen, and the cars are as good as any in the State and as far as the roadbed is concerned it is only necessary to say that the train now makes forty-two miles per hour over it. Mr. Chadwick deserves praise for bringing out the road as he has, and a better president could not be gotten. The Atlantic and North Carolina is one of the few roads that have not gone into receiver's hands and is the only one we know of that has come out during the hard times. We hope the present management will continue and the road prosper as it is now. The cars are all being fitted with the air brake whistle which is a great improvement over the old bell. Besides this the road has paid two dividends of 2 per cent. each. And now what is the matter with the Atlantic and North Carolina and why is it not as good as any local road in the State?"

When the editor of the News and Observer left Washington to come back and edit that paper, he was a pronounced goldbug. After dwelling in this genial silver climate several months he leans toward silver just a little. The lesson to be learned here is that politicians ought to dwell amongst their own people. We believe that if he dwells among us long enough he will be an out and out free silver man; that is, if the stockholders of the paper don't issue orders to the contrary. Some thought while he was booming Hoke Smith so much for President that maybe Mr. Smith owned some stock in the paper. Men have to pay for many of the good things of this life, even compliments.

FRANCHISES IN THE GREAT CITIES.

"The franchises of great American cities are squandered. Instead of farming them out at reasonable, remunerative rates, or having the cities to run their own railroads, light their houses and streets and so on, they are bargained off to companies at ridiculously small charges. Dr. Albert Shaw, who edits the American edition of Review of Reviews, has written a book on British municipal government. He states that "it is almost the universal testimony in Great Britain that municipal gas enterprises are a brilliant success. They have steadily reduced the selling price and largely increased the consumption." He says the price in the towns varies from 50 to 75 cents per thousand feet. All of the great European cities - Berlin, Paris and others - pay towards the municipal expenditures from 18 to 20 per cent. derived from their grant or by running railroads, etc., themselves. From an article in the Century we gather a few instructive points bearing directly on our subject. New York pays \$800,000 for public lighting alone and yet gets 'substantially nothing for the franchises it has granted.' The only Ameri-

A NEW DODGE.

Gold Buggery at the College. Correspondence of the Progressive Farmer. The most specious sounding compromise between the silver and the gold men that has yet been invented is the proposition to coin up all the silver mined in the United States. This is not only apparently friendly to silver but is a sugar coating of apparent protection to the silver industry which may even deceive or buy up the mine owners themselves. To stop at such a half way station will be ultimately as fatal to silver as the Bland and Sherman acts which made silver a commodity by having only so much of it coined and coined a month. The coining of American silver will still leave a difference between the actual value of the gold and silver dollar of about 15 or 20 cents, and confusion of the standards of value will be continued until one or the other is driven out of circulation. What we want is to circulate both metals. It will take all we can get of both and much more probably to do the business of the country. "The dumping of foreign silver" into our country will be the greatest blessing that can possibly befall it. We want as much of it as we can get and will thank the Lord for it. We want silver coined free and unlimited just as gold is. Then the value of the two metals at a ratio of sixteen to one will be so nearly equal as to be more readily adjusted so that neither one will drive the other out of circulation. If the free coinage of both silver and gold and the issue of certificates upon such money for the convenience of the people does not give us enough money we will have some greenbacks issued also. Our standard of value is now like a seventy-two inch yard stick. It measures off twice as much of any given commodity as it ought; it must be reduced back to thirty-six inches. The only way to do this is to increase the amount of money in circulation until the speculators cannot make money of any kind a commodity. As soon as you have a small fixed circulation whether of gold or silver or both, the speculators can corner the money market and vary the standard of values one half in twenty-four hours.

They make money tight in the fall when the farmer has to sell his produce and they turn it loose at other times when they are unloading their speculations, and they call this a revival of business. The men who favor a gold standard, because as they say it is invariable, are fatally ignorant or perversely blind. The most variable standard on earth is the gold. The true scientific way to make a variable standard is to limit the circulation to one metal. The speculators can then hoard that metal and double its purchasing power any time they desire it. No heathen in his blindness who bows down to wood and stone is any worse deceived than the man who falls down and worships the invariableness of gold as money. Mr. Carlisle knows better and Mr. Cleveland knows better. They cannot pass by each other without smiling at the ignorance or cupidity of those they deceive. They are like the priests who used to get into the belly of the idols and give out the oracles. They understand the joke. The man who regards Mr. Cleveland or Mr. Carlisle as honest is simply amusing if he believes what he says. Honest men do not speak in doubtful phrases and keep people deceived as to what they really want until it is actually accomplished. These men are the arch traitors of the Union, and after the game is finished, they will be regarded by the majority of people in forty four states as worse traitors than Benedict Arnold.

I understand that Dr. Kilgo, president of Trinity college at Durham, says the free silver idea is nonsense. Told his guests and pupils so at his commencement. I wish Mr. Editor you would open your columns to him to show why it is nonsense. Who has so impressed on his credulity? And I notice too that his sentiments were applauded by somebody else besides Paul Means at the Chapel Hill banquet. Somebody may have been sowing gold buggery up there too. And I shall raise no objection to the preaching of any lie at any educational institution if the truth has an equal showing. "Let them grow together," is the language of the Scripture since they are both here. But it behooves the friends of civil liberty to keep a sharp watch on all the institutions of learning to see that the serpent gets no unfair advantage there. If five or six hundred young men are turned loose upon the people of our State each year with their minds tainted by the lies of the gold ministry they will do infinite mischief because many of them have learned to talk well whether they preach lies or the truth. I found a young gentleman the other day with a tape worm theory in his mind ready to devour any fact you could put in his memory. Here is his tape worm: "Gold makes an invariable standard"

can towns of importance that own their own gas works are five, three of which are in Virginia. They are Philadelphia, Richmond, Wheeling, Danville and Fredericksburg. "In 1893, the gas companies in New York made dividends amounting to nearly \$4,000,000 on some \$46,000,000 of supposed capital stock. The Century says that in ten years gas consumers in New York have not only contributed such dividend (10 per cent.) but a further amount sufficient, in fact, to nearly duplicate the present system of gas supply."

"The net earnings of the street railroads in New York for 1893 were more than \$5,000,000. They paid in taxes and franchises less than \$400,000. The gas, electricity and railroad companies in the city made in 1893 in net earnings over \$14,000,000. They paid only a small sum for the franchises. The dock department shows similar results - high profits to those with franchises and small pay to the city. The Brooklyn Bridge in 1894 received in gross earnings \$1,326,598.55. These figures are at least suggestive." - Wilmington Messenger.

(The Messenger never loses an opportunity to jump on the Alliance for wanting the cities and the national government to run the means of transportation, etc., but here it is endorsing every principle of the very thing it decries at other times, Editor.)

A FEW "SOUND MONEY" MEN.

The Bank of Commerce at Broken Bow, Neb., has gone under. About \$11,200 of county funds went under with the bank. Depositors loose a good deal.

The United States Cordage Company, with headquarters at Trenton, N. J., went into the hands of a receiver last week.

The First National Bank of Pella, Ill., closed its doors last Monday. About 50,000 "sound dollars" are "out of sight."

M. J. O'Brien, who embezzled \$76,000 in funds belonging to the Catholic Knights in America, and set himself up as a "sound money" man on Wall street, New York, was tried at Chattanooga, Tenn., last week.

The Freshholding Building and Loan Association, Pittsburg, Pa., claiming a capital of 30,000,000, is in the sup. Investors will sweat for the loss of their "sound dollars."

It is charged that F. T. Wall of the Cordage Trust, "sound money," has squandered \$400,000 belonging to the Company.

The Fifth National Bank at San Antonio, Tex., has gone to the wall owing a great many "sound" dollars.

Edward A. Griffin, cashier of that "sound money" institution, the Park Bank, at Albany, N. Y., is short just about \$18,000 sound dollars. The bank will be the sufferer.

E. W. Agnew, President of the First National Bank, Orlando, Fla., is under arrest for rascality. The liabilities of his bank are over \$300,000, while the assets are only \$200,000 "sound" dollars.

James R. Holland, ex Cashier of the Merchants and Farmers' National Bank at Charlotte, N. C., was tried in the Federal Court in that city last week. He gets seven years in Albany penitentiary. The amount of funds stolen foots up \$95,000 "sound" dollars.

Ashby Sloum, Chief Clerk, and son of the railroad agent of the A. C. L., at Goldsboro, N. C., is a defaulter to the tune of \$2,200 "sound" dollars. He has departed.

Albert S. Moore, book-keeper and confidential clerk to the great "sound money" firm of Inman, Swann & Co., New York, forged checks to the amount of \$150,000 and worked them off on various New York banks last week.

G. E. Metcalfe, railroad agent at Palatka, Fla., forged checks for various amounts, all "sound money." He was arrested at Lexington, Ky., last Wednesday.

Brown & Bruners' bank at Metropolis, Ill., the oldest bank in the town, suspended Wednesday. The liabilities are about \$80,000 "sound" dollars.

Banker Smith, of Atlanta, Ga., played a "heavy" game of poker the other day and disappeared. He probably carried off some "sound" dollars that will be good in "Yurruip."

A bank president and a cashier were tried at Jeffersonville, Ind., last week for appropriating money probably good in "Yurruip."

THROW OUT THE LIFE LINE.

Some of the Democratic newspapers are bewailing the fact that their party leaders are making overtures to the Populists with a view to getting in on the ground floor of that party. Well, forbid them not. While the lamp holds out to burn the vilest sinner may return - that is, if he repents. Of course the Democrats will expect to take back seats for a while until they prove that they are not taking this step for the purpose of getting office.