

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER

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To Correspondents

Write all communications, designed for publication, on one side of the paper only. We want intelligent correspondents in every county in the State.

The editor is not responsible for the views of correspondents.

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

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Our friends in writing to any of our advertisers will favor us by mentioning the fact that they saw the advertisement in THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

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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 of the track, before me lies the dark valley and the river. When I mingle with its 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.

N. R. P. A.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Friends, you can do nothing without reform papers. Push their circulation. Work as though your house was afire.

Senator Mills, of Texas, has renounced silver and joins the goldbugs. Good! Let all the traitors take a stand at once.

County Treasurer M. G. Clay, of Ironton, Ohio, is short in his accounts \$18,000. We presume that it is "sound" dollars.

Some say that there is no rest for the wicked. Yet the editor of this paper and the editor of the Charlotte Observer are each "taking a rest." Queer, isn't it!

Recently we stated that the "Coming Nation" had suspended. We thought our information was correct. We are informed that it has not suspended, and that the rumor probably grew out of the fact that the former editor retired. We cheerfully make the correction.

Capt. S. A. Ashe, former editor of the News and Observer, has written and published a book of 160 pages, entitled, "Familiar Chats on Free Coinage." The book is a valuable addition to the silver literature, and very readable. The price is 25 cents.

Gold is still going to Europe. "Two million dollars in gold was shipped to Europe to-day," is almost a daily dispatch from New York or Washington. Let it go. Take every dollar you can find. Then strip the gold off the top of the new library building in Washington and take that too. The quicker it all goes the better for us.

JUDGE LATHAM ON SILVER.

Judge Latham, of Richmond, Va., recently sent his views on the demonetization of silver and its effects, to the New York Herald for publication. We make the following extract:

"Under the monometallic system the few have been enriched at the expense of the many. The farming and laboring elements have suffered most. Generally where there has been an increase of wealth it has been in the cities, where there has been a falling off in the rural districts.

"From 1873 to 1880, the decade in which silver was demonetized, there was a depreciation of the actual values of all property in the State of New York to the amount of \$192,841,264. In the following decade, from 1880 to 1890, New York had begun to gather the fruit of demonetization, and property values, instead of depreciating, were increased \$2,268,701,991. These figures are taken from the statistical abstract furnished by the department.

"Since this period of demonetization property values all over the South and West have been falling off, until in the years 1893-'94, as shown by the reports of official assessments, in thirty one out of forty-three States there was an actual loss, while in twelve States there was a gain of \$336,000,000. Of this gain \$225,000,000 occurred in the State of New York, the money-lending center of the country."

GOLD-CRACY AND ITS METHODS

The "sound currency" committee of the Reform Club of New York, have presented their report, which shows the efforts they are making to bolster up the goldocratic financial ideas.

The committee reports that they have arranged meetings and furnished speakers, printed over 1,500,000 pamphlets on "Sound Money" and furnished "broadsides supplements" for insertion in local papers of the South and also West with a circulation of 220,210, and "plate" matter, which has been inserted in 503 papers with an aggregate circulation of 724,469. The number of documents issued as either pamphlets or broadsides since the beginning of the year is 6,107,000. Sketches and cartoons have abounded in their publication, intended to popularize. More than two thirds of this enormous output has been intended not as answers to arguments not reasonable, but has been ridicule and abuse of those who have reason and justice on their side.

This report shows that this committee is editing the Cleveland Goldocratic organs of the country, and doing it free of cost to the organs.

TRUE OR FALSE?

One of the first declarations of the Alliance was for the restoration of silver to its proper place in our monetary system. We have faithfully striven to educate the people to see the importance of this demand of the Alliance, we have stood by it, fought for it and worked for it, and in every legitimate way have endeavored to show, to convince the masses that the restoration of silver to its proper position was bound to come or the masses of our people, the producers and laborers generally, would be reduced to slavery.

Some of the old party papers are saying that the issue next year will be the tariff. That will be strictly in accordance with partisan management. The old tariff skeleton that had all the flesh tacked off it a long time ago, is thought to be good enough to fool the people with again. It would be rollicking fun, however, to see the two old parties lock horns on the tariff, says the Farmers' Voice. They have both shown themselves to be as alike on the question as two peas in a pod. The present tariff law is a Democratic law, and it stands for protection, indeed for about as much protection as the republicans would dare advocate. The time has gone by when anybody thinks that we need the re-enactment of the McKinley law, and no party will assert that we are in any such need. If the tariff battle is fought over again it will be a hypocritical sham battle on both sides. To go to the graveyard for a presidential campaign issue, when the money question and the income tax are pressing for solution, to say nothing about other burning live questions, would seem to require more impudence than even a practical politician possesses. But mind you, gentlemen, you cannot fool the people all the time. You will take up live issues or stand an extraordinary chance of going to the cemetery with your long since deceased issues. The people are weary of your antics, your hypocrisy and your duplicity. They abominate your methods and distrust you. You will go into the campaign handicapped at best, and common wisdom ought to suggest to you that you get on one side on the other of living questions. If you are convinced that the majority of our voting population are idiots enough to sustain you in your efforts to impoverish them by going on the side of monopoly and Shylocks, go there and fling your banners on the outer walls. Go somewhere; advocate something; show some signs of life and keep away from all four-year old corpses.

HAS ONLY 97 CHILDREN.

The following is a copy of a letter received a few days ago by Meigs E. Rry, manager of the Roanoke Rapid Power Company, from a man at Whiteville, N. C., and is as follows: Manager Roanoke Rapids Co.,

Sir:—I am a man of a family of 97 children and would like to move to your place if I can get work for me and my children. I am a mechanic, and can do some of anything, carpenter, brick work or blacksmith. In fact I am an all-round man. For references I refer you to Dan McKakin, book keeper for the North Carolina Lumber Company. Can give you all the references you want. Can prove myself. Please let me hear from you. Yours to serve,

Surely this "all round man" with his interesting little family of 97 children should be able to find employment in the fast growing town of Roanoke Rapids. It only requires a few families this size to populate a town. He should be encouraged by all means. We withhold the name of the writer.—Weldon News.

Now is the time to push the circulation of reform papers.

WHERE TO EDUCATE.

In noting an article in last week's Caucasian entitled "Farmers and Mechanics' College," it inspired a few thoughts in our mind of which we wish to give our readers the benefit.

Why was the U. S. Government so careful to appropriate money for the education of the farmer and mechanic? Because they are the foundation of our industrial system. And because the farmer is less likely to educate than men of other professions.

There is a common idea among our farmers that if their sons expect to be farmers they need only the rudiments of an education, and that hard work will fight the rest of the battle. Now hard work is very essential to good, economical farming, but not all there is of it by any means.

A little burning of phosphorus in the brain saves considerable wear and tear of muscle. There will always be "hewers of wood and drawers of water," and we need not be uneasy for fear we will run short of laborers. Besides, labor done intelligently ceases to be burdensome and is always more remunerative.

The farmers must be educated to take their proper stand in our political, social and religious affairs.

The farmers of our State constitute nine-tenths of her population, and yet they invariably have to take the back seat, and all because they lack education. In any public gathering they conspicuous for their silence. Why? Because they are not interested in our public affairs? No! But because they think they are not capable of speaking in public, and aiding in moulding public sentiment, and their neighbors engaged in other professions agree with them and take possession of their rightful heritage. This comes about simply from the lack of education.

North Carolina is essentially a farming State and always will be. The more factories we have, and the larger our towns grow, the more profitable will be our farms; hence the great importance of education along this line.

In fact, education on the line of farming has become positively necessary to enable the farmer to successfully compete with men in other professions, who are educating along their special lines of work.

Any class that is not educated is at the mercy of all educated classes. Self-preservation is the first law of nature, and the rule holds good with classes, or branches of industry, as well as with corporations and individuals. It is perfectly natural for lawyers, doctors, merchants and manufacturers to combine among themselves for mutual protection.

They give each other the benefit of their discoveries and improvements, and each one tries to keep abreast with the times.

Now the farmer should follow suit and educate and improve all he possibly can.

The question is often asked, why do farmers' sons generally go uneducated?

In the first place they are so isolated that it is usually harder for their children to attend school. Then they do not get their money along through the year as other people do, and they can not very well send before the crop is gathered, and after it is harvested they, think it is then too late to start. Then again, it must be said to the shame of many farmers, that they feel that if their sons are going to be farmers they need no education above reading writing and arithmetic.

If the boy expects to be a farmer he is kept at home in the fall to assist in gathering, and called home in the Spring to assist in planting the crop.

Further, he may not even be allowed to go to college if he expects to farm, whereas, his more fortunate brother, who aspires to some of the learned professions, will be kept at college matters not what the sacrifice may cost. Now this is not altogether due to favoritism between sons, but more to thoughtlessness. The father means to do right, and says, of course, my would-be-lawyer son cannot possibly compete with other lawyers without an education, hence he must go to college and take a course, and I will keep my would-be-farmer son at home to help pay expenses and then send him next year. But that next year never comes, or else, it comes when the boy is so old and ignorant that he is ashamed to go to college, and really prefers to remain in obscurity.

We appeal to the farmers to give their sons an equal showing. Let those who wish to be mechanics and farmers have all the advantages possible.

And where shall they be educated? It seems perfectly reasonable to suppose that they can be better fitted for their life work at an Agricultural and Mechanical College than elsewhere. This is a government college; hence not only cheap, but necessarily efficient. What are its special advantages?

First, it gives as good a general education as any other college in the State; second, it gives a first-class education;

third, it gives as good a course in English, mathematics, etc., as others; fourth, it gives a student the benefit of military discipline; fifth, it gives practical training, as well as theoretical knowledge.

Too many have an erroneous idea of the college. They imagine that it is simply a manual labor training school. This is not the case. It not only gives the manual labor training, but in addition gives a broad and thorough general education.

It educates a boy for his life, makes and fits him for positions of usefulness and responsibility, as evidenced by the large number of its graduates who have procured good positions soon after they graduated.

As mentioned in The Caucasian, two of the graduates are on the Vanderbilt estate and now they want a third one.

How does the expense compare with colleges generally? By consulting the reports it will be found that a student holding a county appointment can go through on \$68, board included. If he is not a county student he pays a small additional fee.

Considerable work is given to the needy students and many are thus enabled to pay one fourth, or one half of their expenses. This of itself is a good educator as it teaches them habits of industry and frugality. Too much can not be said in praise of this practical education given, along with the thorough collegiate cause.

Let the farmers of the State rally to the support of their college and give it all the encouragement it so richly deserves, and thus carry to a still higher point the brilliant success it has already won.

The best endowment they can bestow upon it is their bright, intelligent sons who wish to be farmers. Send them to college and allow them to take advantage of what the government and State has so bountifully provided.

This college has not, does not, and should not antagonize any other in the State. Its mission is different and will always be different. In fact, instead of damaging others, it will indirectly stimulate their growth.

If the farmers wish to be on an equality with others, let them educate along their special line. Education should be their watch word. It is the open sesame to progress and advancement in every department of life.

MIDSUMMER WHOPPERS.

A gentleman was reading yesterday in the New York Recorder about the boss grasshoppers that live up in Sullivan county, N. Y. They are not only insatiable, but omnivorous. The other day, it is said, Farmer Jay McEwen, while working in his rye field, hung his vest, a new one, on the fence, and in a few minutes the hoppers had eaten it full of holes. On a neighboring farm a man left a pair of new shoes out of doors over night and next day found that the grasshoppers had partly eaten them, utterly ruining them.

"That's pretty good," said the gentleman, "but they beat that in Texas. Last year some railroad ran a line of cars through Texas all painted green, and when the train stopped at the first station in the grasshopper country, the hoppers lit on the cars and ate them clean down to the wheels."

This story is good, but the cock roaches, or whatever you call these guilty conscience insects that tear off in such confusion of face whenever you discover them, are almost as bad as the grasshoppers. They have eaten all the lunch baskets of the Observer's composing room force, along with their contents.—Charlotte Observer.

In speaking of bugs and appetites, the above is a very good production of facts, but at a certain home in this city the chinch or bedbugs have such ravenous appetites that they have, during the past two weeks, eaten three pairs of socks off the feet of one man and in past two nights they have sucked the blood out of Lowe's dummy, which was put in the sockless man's place.—Concord Standard.

ALLIANCE REORGANIZED.

Correspondence of the Progressive Farmer. SPARKMAN, N. C. Tar Landing Alliance has reorganized and commenced work. We had, to commence with, twenty-two members. We organized on the 27th day of July with the following officers: L. A. Jones, President; J. W. Jones, Vice-President; G. T. Walton, Secretary; A. T. Brown, Lecturer; E. M. Bradley, Door-keeper. We have since elected other officers, Chaplain, Seward, Treasurer, etc.

I wrote to you about it once before. I did not know whether you heard from me or not.

I wrote to Bro. T. Ivey for a blank bond and got it, and will forward it to him soon. I have not got my sureties yet. We want to get straight and get to trading through our State Business Agent as soon as we can.

Yours, etc, G. T. WALTON, Sec.

DR. THOMPSON'S FAMOUS REMARK

As to the "Church" Being on the Side of Human Slavery, And Not of Human Freedom—He Does Not Recede.

On the 16th day of August, in a brief speech at Cary, I made some remarks which though well received at the time and without unfavorable or unkind comment by those who heard me, have since been the subject of considerable criticism. So far as I have seen in the public prints, my critics consist, if I may use a term that constantly dangles from the pen of the reverend editor of the Wilmington Messenger—the man who felt called to preach in time of war and called to quit in time of peace—the same "gangs" that expressed so great solicitude for the welfare of the Alliance when, in the face of their crocodile tears, it "went into politics and ruined itself"—refused, in other words, to be the tool of the machine of Democracy in North Carolina.

Prodigious vile epithets upon me, they again seem solicitous for the welfare of the Order under my presidency. Having tolerated without protest, if they have not actively upheld, most outrageous frauds upon the ballot, without the least compunction, and forth as the champions of the church. Lacking honesty of purpose, they neither appreciated nor desired to appreciate the spirit and temper in which I uttered the subject-matter of their harsh animadversions. It was sufficient for them if I had said something that they might wrest from its appropriate setting and use against me to the injury of the Alliance.

The first of my accusers was the News and Observer. The Gilestones, who had deceived Joshua that they might remain in the promised land, were content afterward to be made hewers of wood and drawers of water if only they were permitted to live. Certain journalists who have deceived the people of North Carolina would not be content to occupy so clear a position as that; they naturally seek a lower plane, preferring always to drop below the common level where they can find mud.

I have no apology to offer on account of the speech I made at Cary. I said nothing unadvisedly. The same speech I would make again to-morrow before any audience. My judgment of the attitude of the church is either correct or incorrect. I believed then, as I believe now, that my estimate is true. It was, therefore, what I ought to have spoken. If it is true, indeed, it is what any man should have said, and I do, in that case, absolutely right in declaring. Am I to be censured for right doing? One good pastor says: "But, my brother, will it not hurt the church for you to say it?" Evidently he knew the import of the French saying, "Toute vente n'est pas bonne a dire." It can hurt the church only if it is true. And if the truth hurts the church, the church ought to be hurt. If it is untrue, on the contrary, nothing would so much help the church as the demonstration of its untruthfulness. For this at least is true, that in the church and out of the church, among Alliancees and non-Alliancees, Populists, Prohibitionists, Democrats deep in the heart of the toiling mass of mankind who struggle consciously or unconsciously toward the divine kingdom and cry with bitter longing, "Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth as it is in Heaven!" you will find that the thought for utterance of which I am censured and abused has found wide lodgment and grows surprisingly into conviction.

That the public may know the spirit and temper of my utterances whereof I am said to have "attacked," "chastised" and "blasphemed" the church of Christ, I desire to summarize here what I said on that occasion without special preparation. I spoke my everyday thoughts. I am an Alliancee because I desire to be, and trust I am a Christian. I believe with Milton, that there are no songs to be composed with the songs of Zion, no orations equal to those of the prophets, and no politics equal to those of the Scriptures can teach us." I spoke of the work of the Alliance as a political educator. There would be no excuse for its existence especially in a republic, where the citizen is theoretically a sovereign, if it attempted to educate and did not extend its teaching along political lines. It attempts to educate "in a strictly non-partisan spirit"—the only spirit in which a man can ever arrive at the truth. "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free"—truth applicable alike in politics and in religion. The partisan whether in politics or in religion, believing that he has found the truth already, doubts no text, learns no more of truth, but proceeds only to enforce his belief upon others. If we have been a free people, we recognize the constant tendency to loss of liberty.

Eternal vigilance is its price. Liberty, like the manna that fell from heaven, because it is perishable must be contended for every day. Peaceable