

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER

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EDITORIAL NOTES

The Baptist State Convention meets next year in Asheville.

In his latest report the Secretary of the Interior estimates the number of Indians in the country at 262,000—about as many as there were 40 years ago.

We hope those of our subscribers who have recently renewed will pardon our failure to change date on label immediately. The matter will be attended to as early as possible.

New yearly subscribers are coming in daily, and the sender of each one has the date on his label moved up two months. And if he sends in 5 new subscriptions, one year. Can't you send us a club from your neighborhood?

We advise our readers to preserve the list of members of the next legislature, which we give on page 4 this week. We keep the pledges of these men standing, but it is well also to have the names of members at hand, especially during the session of the legislature.

We need about \$1,000.00, to meet obligations due and to be met by January 1st 1899. At least 3,000 people to whom this paper is addressed, and who are subscribers, owe us at least \$1.00 each upon an average. Shall we say more? The paper cannot be offered for less than \$1.00 per year and we hope none of our subscribers expect to do so.

William A. Graham Jr., of Lincoln county, son of Major W. A. Graham. Trustee of Alliance Business Agency fund, is a candidate for Reading Clerk to the Senate. We do not know Mr. Graham, but he is said to be a young man of irreproachable character and marked ability, and if like his father would doubtless fill the position in a very creditable manner.

The population of the territory of Oklahoma is now estimated at 333,000 larger than that of many States—six times, for instance, the population of Wyoming. New Mexico's population, too, is rapidly increasing, and as both these territories are Republican, it is more than probable that they will be admitted into the Union by the next Congress.

It is foolish to worry over what sort of Christmas present to get for your friend. Just send him or her THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER one year. As you must give a gentlemanly present, it is a dollar's worth. "Take this and change the paper you have been sending to Miss ——— to post office, to Mr. ——— at same post office." The young man referred to has sent the paper a year to the young lady. Needless to say she admired his taste, and in the meantime became his wife. Comment is unnecessary.

In his report which is just out Secretary Long makes recommendations for the building of new ships, provided we occupy the Philippines. These include three each of battleships, armored cruisers, and protected cruisers, to be respectively of 13,500, 12,000, and 6,000 tons each, and six unarmored and armored cruisers of 2,500 tons each. The total cost of these ships will be about \$37,000,000, exclusive of armor and armament, which will cost about \$13,000,000. If, on the other hand, we do not occupy the Philippines, only three unarmored cruisers will be needed. In addition to this, but the figures say we must have it.

James Waterbury Riley's stirring lyric on the origin of the name of "Old Glory" in the December Atlantic is a notable and thrilling poem. The poet apostrophizes the flag to several impassioned entreaties, and asks of it:—

Who gave you the name of Old Glory,
And who
Are we thrilled at the name of Old Glory?
Then the old banner leaped, like a sail
In the blast,
And fluttered an audible answer at last
And it spoke, with a shake of the voice,
And it said:—
By the driven snow white and the living
Blood red
Of my bars, and their heaven of stars
Overhead
By the symbol conjoined of them all,
Skyward cast,
As I float from the steeple, or flap at
The mast,
Or droop over the sod where the long
Grasses nod,—
My name is as old as the glory of
God.
... So I come by the name of Old
Glory.

MR. CARNEGIE TO THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE.

And now it seems that imperialism would not benefit us even in a commercial sense.

Short but to the point is the following, written December 2d, by Mr. Andrew Carnegie, to the Hon. James Wilson, Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.:

"The good work you are doing for the agricultural interests of the country induces me to call your attention to the following:

PROVISIONS FROM AUSTRALIA FOR DEWEY'S FLEET

"VANCOUVER, B. C., Dec. 2.—Admiral Dewey's fleet sailed from Sydney with a cargo of provisions for Rear Admiral Dewey's fleet at Manila. The cargo consisted of 5,000 carcasses of mutton, 250 lambs, 125 tons of potatoes, 81 tons of onions, and 22 tons of carrots."

"Secretary Gage finds 'commercial expansion' a sufficient reason for retaining his former opinions and becoming an imperialist. Is this a sample of the 'commercial expansion' which has captivated him, I wonder? Mr. Secretary, none know better than yourself that the 'open door' which the President has given to the foreigner in the Philippines means the 'closed door' to the products of the soil and of the mines of your own country. The foreigner gets the trade—the American pays the taxes!"

"The Philippines treaty is soon to come before the Senate. Surely every farmer of the United States can look to you as the head of the Agricultural department to secure a change in the clause which puts the producers of America, both of the soil and of the mine, at so serious a disadvantage, being thousands of miles further away."

"One would have thought that the food of our soldiers might have been purchased by the government upon the Pacific coast, but even San Francisco is thousands of miles further from the Philippines than the competitive agricultural country of Australia. Even India is nearer still. As the New York Tribune justly says: 'The Philippines are 7,000 miles away, far nearer to other great powers of their possessions than to us, and belong to the geographical and commercial system of another continent.'"

"Kuo-ling your strict guardianship of the interests of agriculture in this country, I beg to lay the subject before you, knowing that you will give it due attention. With sincere congratulations upon your successful work in various directions,

"Very respectfully yours, ANDREW CARNEGIE"

It is unnecessary to us to say that we endorse what Mr. Carnegie has well said. Those who read THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER last week know that our opinion of imperialism is not very excited. A tremendous responsibility rests upon our Congressmen, in fact, as has been said, "so absolute a change in a nation's policy was never so hastily entered upon." The people have had no chance to vote upon this matter, and we think that our Congressmen should not be slow to ask the advice of their constituents nor should those constituents decide the matter hastily. In our hour of triumph, it is well for us to listen to the venerable Senator Hoar, of Massachusetts, whose words are, we think, as timely as were those of the servant whose duty it was to remind the old Roman conqueror that he was out of mortal. Senator Hoar says:

"This year has been crowded with history and crowded with glory. It is, also, to my mind, crowded with danger. The flag of Spain, formerly the proudest on earth since the day of the Roman empire, has gone down in darkness and in blood before the victorious navy and army of the United States. The flag of the United States has risen in the Eastern sky like a new constellation. Let us not accept the duties and responsibilities of this victory in any temper of vulgar vainglory, still less of a vulgar greed of power or gain. The United States comes to stand oppress a people, East and West as a great deliverer. To deal with this great occasion by talking about coalitions and trade advantages degrades and debilitates it. We have not overthrown Spain, we have not imported the lives of our sons that we may make money out of our new relations."

"But yet the first duty of the American people is to themselves, and when I say it is in no spirit of selfishness or of indifference to the welfare of mankind. On the contrary, I believe that the highest service the American people can render to mankind and to liberty is to preserve unsullied and unchanged the Republic as it came to us from the fathers. It is by example, and not by guns or by bayonets, that the great work of America for humanity is to be accomplished. And in my opinion we are to day in a great danger—a greater danger than we have encountered since the pilgrims landed in Plymouth. The danger is that we are to be transformed from a republic, founded on the declaration of independence,

guided by the counsels of Washington, into a vulgar, commonplace empire founded upon physical force."

"I for one am not dazzled by the example of England. The institutions of England which have enabled her to govern successfully distant colonies and subject states are founded, as Mr. Gage has pointed out, on the doctrine of equality. Our institutions are founded on the doctrine of inequality. If we are to outstrip England in national power, it must be by pushing our own path, and not by following in hers."

The best solution, we believe, of the whole vexing problem, is that hinted at by Senator Chandler, of New Hampshire in a recent letter:

"If we are unwilling to make ourselves responsible for the government of remote savage peoples, England will take the islands and give us Canada, if the latter wants to come, as she soon will."

A BAD MOVE.

We understand that the bill for the new government of Hawaii, now before Congress repeals the Hawaiian laws establishing postal savings banks and directs the Secretary of the Treasury to pay the amounts on deposit in Hawaii to the persons entitled thereto, terminating the interest on all deposits on the first of July, 1899 and forbidding further deposits after that date.

This, we think, is a step in the wrong direction. The postal savings bank law was about the only thing on the whole issue of Hawaii that was worth saving, and we hoped that the system would be not only retained there but introduced into our own country.

AN OLD STORY RETOLD

Will the farmers never learn that they too must organize? Almost every week sees the formation of some new trust and gives some new proof of the power of organization, yet all the while the farmers who, if organized, could exert more influence than any other dozen trusts sit down quietly and let other trusts grind them to the north. Only last week in our news columns we told of the foundation of the tin plate trust, and before our eyes the edition was printed the newspaper dispatches brought news of a stove trust. We quote:

"At Chattanooga, Tenn., December 5th, a secret meeting of the Southern stove manufacturers was held and a combination formed to maintain prices. The scale of prices adopted is slightly higher than formerly."

No comment is needed.

GOT WHAT I HAY PAID FOR.

"We are now promised a war between two tobacco trusts. If Attorney Griggs and Assistant James E. Boyd would vote this week to firm up the trusts, as they are in law compelled to do, instead of shooting birds and trusts could be crushed. But neither Harrison, Cleveland and McKinley the trusts are not troubled, but are helped and strengthened. They paid for it and are getting it!"

The above paragraph, which we find from a recent issue of the News & Observer has our hearty endorsement, but we should like to ask our esteemed contemporary if it cannot suggest some method to enable our next legislature to put in a week or two firing into the trusts. Charity, it is said, should be given at home, and we think that reform should begin at the same place. As the News and Observer knows there is no trust more oppressive than the Southern Railway. And we suppose it is the railway referred to in the following paragraph from Webster's Weekly (Dem.):

"The united support given the Democratic party by the business interests—the manufacturers, railroad men, etc.—who took an active part in the campaign and contributed liberally of their means to pay the expenses of war, contributed much to the victory."

All of which causes us to wonder if the following paragraph is by inserted in the obituary of the next legislature:

"But under the legislature of 1899 the trusts and the Southern Railway were not troubled. They paid for it and got it."

We hope not.

SOME CORRECTIONS.

In Bro G. E. Bugg's article last week in the first paragraph discussing the money question, the sentence, "Our people are divided into classes on the money question," etc., should be, "are divided into two classes," etc. And in the paragraph beginning, "The old封建 idea," the sentence, "Some claim that they (the precious metals) should be used to measure the balance of all other commodities," balance should be value.

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VOTE BY COUNTIES.

A fair idea of how the counties voted in the recent election may be gained from the following table of votes cast for Hayes, Fusionist and for Judge Hoke, Democrat:

Table with 3 columns: County Name, Hayes, Hoke. Lists counties from Alamance to Yancey with corresponding vote counts.

Total, 159,511 177,419
Democratic majority, 17,933

THE NEXT LEGISLATURE.

Opinions of the Press Regarding Some Great Questions to be Decided Herein—As a Whole the Advice is Good, Very Good.

Charity and Children (Relig.): It is already proposed that a tax be laid upon North Carolina dogs, and the receipts be put in the common school fund. Did you ever hear the like of that before?

But little is being said about a reformatory for child criminals in North Carolina. This would be worth more to the State than the impeachment of every Governor in the South.

Mt. Olive Advertiser (Dem.): After the legislature redeems the pledges made in the Democratic platform, the consensus of public opinion seems to favor the adoption of some measure to restrain and restrict the voting privileges of the colored citizen. No country can advance as long as there is even a remote possibility of the igno-

rant and corrupt element gaining the ascendancy in the commonwealth.

The News and Observer (Dem.): A bill has been introduced in the Georgia legislature to elect the railroad commissioners by the people. The North Carolina legislature is pledged to that reform. It will therefore elect railroad commissioners only till 1900, when the people elect them.

Statesville Record (Dem.): In all the talk about the impeachment of Governor Russell we see no plans and specifications of the laws which he has violated. That his administration has been very obnoxious to Democrats is entirely true, but it must be shown that he has violated the laws before the Democratic legislature will be justified in impeaching him.

Chatham Record (Dem.): It is suggested that a bill will be introduced in our next legislature proposing a constitutional amendment providing for a division of the school funds, by applying the school taxes of the blacks to their schools and of the whites to theirs. Such a proposition would not doubt be favorably received by a large majority of the white people of the State, who are tired of paying taxes to educate negro children.

Roanoke Beacon (Dem.): North Carolina pays a very small school tax. In fact there are only one or two States that pay less, and many pay even three times what we pay. But the legislation we need is to give those who pay the taxes the benefit of same. Under the present system of public schools we get, perhaps, all that we pay for, that is, the children of the State get it.

But we need a better system; we need to pay a higher tax, and we need a compulsory law to make the children take advantage of what the State gives them.

We are sure the next legislature will do all in its power to aid the rising generation in obtaining an education.

The Tarboro Southerner (Dem.), in an editorial headed: "What will be done?" says: "Will the next legislature pass an election law so that intelligence may rule, or will it keep the negro for political capital? The present election was carried so easily by drawing the color line. Let it stay drawn by giving the intelligent voters only the right of franchise. The press all over the State is harping on who is entitled to spoils. First do something to show the people that every promise has been carried out. Don't let them be disappointed. The Democrats are the State's guardians for the next two years, so let them do their full duty."

Chatham Record (Dem.): Another useless expense, that our next legislature should cut off, is the payment of sixty cents for the sheriff of every county to notify every magistrate and constable of his election. This one item must have cost the taxpayers of North Carolina at least \$3,000 at the late election, which was just that much money thrown away, because of course every magistrate and constable who was elected knew of his election in a few hours thereafter.

One important problem the next legislature will have to solve is what to do with the State's convicts. There is complaint that the present system of working the convicts on the farms competes with the free farm labor of the State and there are other objections to working the convicts on farms. If the convicts are put to manufacturing any article there is serious objection on the part of labor in whatever department of manufacture the convicts work. Why not put the convicts all to work on public roads and digging canals in the swamps of the eastern portion of the State, and thereby save the State thousands of dollars annually in the way of good roads and make what is otherwise a boggy waste the most productive land on the continent?—Morris Equivocal, (Dem.)

Biblics Recorder (Baptist): We hope North Carolina will give an election law modeled upon the Australian ballot idea. It is absolutely fair, and the only objection that can be made to it is that it requires decent intelligence of the voter, and that is its greatest virtue. All the candidates are put on one ticket, separated according to offices. The voter is given a place to vote in which no one may molest him. He selects his own candidates unaided. If he is not better informed than the average citizen he will find difficulty in voting "straight," as it is called. But this is also a virtue. No man ought to feel impelled to vote straight. Parties have no consciences, at least no more than the corporations which they denounce as soulless, but men have, and the conscience, not party spirit or sentiment, is the proper test of a ballot.

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Z KE BUKKINS, M. A.



The Major at His Old Tricks—A Few Incidents in His Courting Days—Pays to be Independent and Blatant You Can.

B—"Hello Mr. Editor"

R—"Hello Major. Suppose you are living and doing well?"

B—"Yes, I'm in purty good shape. Since I've found that a feller who hasn't killed a nigger or somethin' of that sort, ain't got no chance at the dymakrat pie counter, I'm gettin' sorter resigned. In fact, I'm playin' the independent ack. It pays to be independent on awl occasions, don't you recon I'd ever bin tied to Betsy if I hadn't a bin purty to the independent in my courtin' days?"

R—"Well that, I wuz, too, fer I hain't much ice a brain' independent since my nerves are not so strong ez they were before I got married. I'll tell you how it wuz: Me an' Betsy hed to holdin' hands an' goin' ter meetin' together (ff an' on for a gudd while. The whole neighborhood wud be hitched before long. I thought so sum times when agin I didn't. Betsy wuz purty fitry. She'd go on long at a purty gudd pace till I'd git to squeezin' her hand purty hard an' hitebin' ov' my chest close to hers. Whenever she'd think wuz goin' ter pop the question she'd change the subject so blamed abrupt that I'd purty nigh fall off the chair. Things kept goin' that way till I got sorter fractious. I wurked myself up ter the bit'n' pint more times than I had figurs an' toes, an' Betsy wud find sum way ter side track me every time. Then I concluded ter try a little streak ov' diplomacy. Sally Wilkins wuz a mighty likely girl a hvin' purty close by. So I sorter tapered off Betsy ter see Betsy an' paid a gudd deal ov' attention ter Sally. Then it cum Betsy's time ter git nervous an' exasperated that fall'n' sensation that is unaccountable an' so pleasant at the same time. So when I'd drop in ter see her, wuz purty apt ter bring up the subject ov' matrimony. I'd shy off then, but wud mention a couple or two that wuz goin' ter git hitched, an' then she'd sorter draw a long breath an' say she reckoned married life wuz no happiness. She wuz sorter nuttin' that way ter nigat an' I didn't appear much interested. Finally she sed: 'Zee, it's a wonder you don't git hitched.' I hain't hain't thought much about it, but whenever I see a nigger, I think 'nigger' more or less about matrimony. That touched off the fuse. I sed: 'Betsy wuz sorter ter deatin'. She wudn't pale an' trembled. Then she wuz ter head an' began ter cry. I asked her what wuz the matter? She cried more. After a while she sed: 'Zee, if you won't never name that freckled Wilkins girl again, I may be your little wife sum time.' Well, the whole atmosphere looked ter melt, it wuz full ov' striped candy, Confess ma'ster an' shooting stars. It was the happiest man in North Carolina. Betsy hain't often referred ter the time that I proposed. I never proposed. She did it herself, an' I wurked up to it. That is the way I'm goin' to do the dymakrat party. Gudbye."

At 11:30 a. m. last Friday, the distinguished event of the Baptist Convention, in session at Greensboro, occurred, being the formal reorganization of the ten associations formerly comprising the Western North Carolina Baptist Convention. Rev. Thomas B. H. of Cherokee, Rev. A. B. Smith of Transylvania, Rev. D. Vines of Rowan, Rev. A. E. Brown, of Cabarrus, and others made addresses. Occurring after forty three years' division at the birth-place of the convention, this union is effected and peculiarly appropriate circumstances.

Col. Albert B. Gorell, Mayor of Winston, died of heart disease at 11:30 p. m. Friday night, Dec. 9th. He was one of Winston's leading citizens and a business man.

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