

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER

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

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THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER is the Official Organ of the North Carolina Farmers' State Alliance.

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We invite correspondence, news items, suggestions and criticisms on the subjects of agriculture, poultry raising, stock breeding, dairying, horticulture and gardening...

THE CULTIVATION OF THE SUGAR BEET.

Our Western North Carolina readers will be interested in the article on page 1 by Chemist Withers, of the North Carolina Experiment Station...

Our Washington correspondent has just interviewed Secretary Wilson with regard to sugar beet culture, and what he has to say upon the subject is also given at some length on the first page of this number.

In other sections this industry has been made to pay handsomely, and we believe that it will within a few years become a profitable branch of farming in many counties of this and adjoining States.

WHY?

If the income of the State is insufficient to meet all the appropriations made by the Legislature, why is the \$200,000 for the public schools entitled to least consideration?

Are there no other appropriations the payment of which can be deferred in order that the children of the State may have their money? If possible, the people would like to have such a course pursued.

PENNY WISE, POUND FOOLISH.

We are fully convinced that our western farmers are losing enormous sums by the tan bark industry. It's another case of killing the goose that lays the golden egg.

We are printing an article on page 1 of this issue which, in our opinion, puts this matter in exactly the right light.

The article, "Maryland Farmers' Demands," indicates that the spirit of true progress is moving the agricultural interests of that State. Steadily does the cause of agricultural education go forward.

WORK FOR THE FARMERS' ALLIANCE.

Close students of human nature long ago set it down as a fundamental truth that to win success, in the true sense of the word, a man must love his work.

The successful lawyer is proud of the record of the great lawyers of the past and is always deeply interested in the work of leaders at the bar, the world over.

And so it should be with the farmer. There are farmers who scoff at the "dignity of farming," belittle scientific agriculture, read only political papers, and are constantly showing in countless ways that they do not love their work.

The foregoing paragraphs were written by us three or four weeks ago, but left unpublished. We print them now because we wish to say that the hope of agriculture lies in increasing the number of the last described class of farmers, and to do this, in our opinion, should be the prime object of the Farmers' Alliance.

To this we would answer unhesitatingly: Yes, provided the young man is determined to make the most of his advantages; in other words, if he is going there to study and master the principles, theory and practice of agriculture.

Put a live Sub-Alliance in any neighborhood and then convince the rest of the farmers that its members use a little better methods in farming, keep a little better posted with regard to the outside world, are a little better citizens, save a little money by co-operation, and make farming a little more profitable as a result of their keeping in the front ranks of agricultural progress; then convince these outside farmers that organization is responsible for this, and you will have no difficulty in building up your Alliance.

Alliance lies in taking up this work and keeping everlastingly at it. There must be an organization of this kind in North Carolina. Let all that are interested work together to bring it about.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION PAYS.

"Will it pay me to take a course at an agricultural college?" is a question many young men are asking just at this time. And we believe that a little faithful investigation will convince these young farmers that the statement which serves as a title for this article is a correct one—that "agricultural education pays."

At the recent East Tennessee Farmers' Convention, for instance, Gov. Hoard said that he had 200 applications from wealthy ranchmen and farmers wanting him to find them good, educated young men to take the management of their farms.

This is an illustration of the advantages of an ordinary agricultural course. To the young man who wishes to go even further and, as one would say, thoroughly master the higher science of agriculture, we commend the following statement of Secretary Wilson's.

"I was especially impressed with the fact that the West needs men skilled in forestry and irrigation and with a knowledge of the soils. The forests and ranges are being exhausted and they must be replaced and conserved.

The last issue of King's Weekly, of Greenville, contains this editorial paragraph: "It seems to us that it would be a good thing to go deep down into the penitentiary matter for the past few years. Turn on the light, show the books. If there is nothing wrong it will be all right.

The ugly rumors that have been circulated for months past, and, like Banquo's ghost, will not down, have prepared many people to say "amen" to this sentiment of Editor King's.

Says Col. Olds: "General Toon is anxious for each county to establish the six school libraries authorized under the library act.

This suggestion is an excellent one, and we heartily commend it to our readers throughout North Carolina. We have been both surprised and pained by reason of the failure of many counties to demand their share of the money appropriated by the State for the establishment of these public school libraries.

Judge Clark's address printed on page 4 is well worth the attention of our North Carolina readers. Hardly could any man do our State a better service than by giving to the world a carefully prepared story of her career, avoiding the bulkiness and dryness which unfit any history for public school use.

TO TEACH THE PRINCIPLES OF AGRICULTURE IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

In a recent number of his paper, the editor of the Clarkton Express said:

"We have often thought that as North Carolina is an agricultural State and most of the children in public schools are those of farmers, that there ought to be among the books required to be taught, one treating of agriculture, not one deeply scientific, but discussing the different kinds of soils, their value and which crops were best adapted to them, the different kinds of chemicals valuable as fertilizers, and what kind of fertilizer is needed for the soil and crops."

Many other progressive people, especially those in the country, have long held the opinion so well expressed by the Express. A long step forward was taken by the last legislature in providing for the adoption of such a text book in agriculture to be taught in our public schools.

When a man gets tired of work he suddenly finds that he needs a blow-point, or has some other urgent business to attend to, and off he goes to town and gets his diversion; but the poor woman cannot do this and does not turn her work loose so easily.

THE PENITENTIARY.

The last issue of King's Weekly, of Greenville, contains this editorial paragraph:

"It seems to us that it would be a good thing to go deep down into the penitentiary matter for the past few years. Turn on the light, show the books. If there is nothing wrong it will be all right. Don't put politicians or job seekers at the work either. Circumstances demand that penitentiary matters be given a good ventilation. What say you, Governor?"

The ugly rumors that have been circulated for months past, and, like Banquo's ghost, will not down, have prepared many people to say "amen" to this sentiment of Editor King's.

PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARIES.

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DAIRYING ON THE OTHER SIDE OF BARTH.

Editorial Correspondence Progressive Farmer.

Perhaps your readers would like to hear something from this side of the globe for a variation. For some three or four weeks after my letter from California, there was little time to write, or much time and little to say. We were sailing. Six days from San Francisco brought Honolulu up on the horizon, and twelve days after leaving that tropical town found us in Yokohama, Japan.

In California several dairies were visited. One at Milbrae, owned by Mr. D. O. Mills, is engaged in supplying milk to San Francisco. It is a dozen miles out, but the milk is sent by wagon twice a day. Here were several hundred cows. They are stabled in a barn radiating out from a central room on a semi-circle.

Several small herds were visited and we saw one \$200 yearling descendant of De Cole 2nd and Pauline Paul at Fresno. He is in the hands of the live manager of the San Joaquin Ice Co. This company did not make an entire success of ice at first, but three years ago started in the creamery business and now both lines are paying.

At the time of our visit the product amounted to 2,700 pounds of butter per day. There are fifteen or twenty skimming stations in a section of the State where until recently cattle were not kept, and to have talked of a creamery business would have marked one out for ridicule. Irrigation and alfalfa are doing the work of transformation.

In Japan one dairy of forty cows was visited near Yokohama. This is owned and operated by an English gentleman. The stock is descended from a herd once imported from Lakside, N. Y., the famous Smiths Powell and Lamb herd for the Japanese Government.

It has not been easy to find cows or dairies in Japan. "O, yes, there are dairies just out a little from the city;" or, "We take milk from a dairyman who lives just outside a little in the country."

Time has been too precious to spend much in making a directory of the suburbs of these Japanese seaports. We have, however, hunted up one or more small herds in each part and spent a little time in fruitless search at Osaka and Kyoto. At the latter place we found a guide who could show temples galore and porcelain works, where he no doubt reaps a commission on sales, but he came no nearer a dairy than: "Yes, there are dairies in Japan, but they are out near Yokohama and Yokyo. Cannot feed cows near Kyoto. Not enough grass. Keep cows up in the North where grass grows."

But if they do not keep cows or goats they are learning to draw freely on the civilized world for condensed milk. It is on sale by foreign and native merchants in quite large quantities and is known by all classes of citizens.

At Nagasaki, the last place visited in Japan, we were in two dairies. The milk is used in the city and is pitifully small in quantity and cannot be over rich in quality from the kind of stock and feed used. A photograph of a new stable just undergoing completion and another of the

proprietor holding a white cow was taken there. The herd consists of 15 or 16 cows, 8 or 10 calves, a bull and a few heifers. The man who went with us to find the first was very anxious to know if "You buy cow." Rich commissions no doubt were rising on his vision.

FRANK E. EMERY.

LO, THE POOR INDIAN!

As an American citizen, the writer is not proud of America's treatment of the Indian. Ever since the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock, "first falling on their knees, then on the aborigines," we have been running affairs largely upon the principle that the red man has no rights that the white man is bound to respect.

"Judge W. M. Springer, representing Lone Wolf and other Indians of the Kiowa, Apache and Comanche tribes, called at the White House today and presented to the President a memorial in behalf of his clients praying the executive to withhold the issuance of his proclamation opening up their lands for settlement. The memorial points out that the lands are worth \$5,000,000 and the government proposes to pay the Indians but \$2,000,000, and that they have never consented to the agreement for the opening to white settlers."

A RARE VOLUME.

Any reader of The Progressive Farmer having a copy of the Bragg fraud commission report on the North Carolina "special tax bonds" of reconstruction days, can secure a good price for the volume. The State Librarian tells us that not a copy is to be found in the State Library, and that it is regarded as next to impossible to secure a copy at all. This Bragg report contained "lots of mighty interestin' readin'," as Horace Greeley would say. Some of the State's most prominent families, however, found it no less unpleasant than interesting, and commenced a systematic effort to destroy the entire edition, in which effort they have about succeeded. Without this volume the history of the dark days just after the war cannot be fully or properly written, and we hope that some copies will be obtained and properly guarded for the benefit of our historians.

NORTH CAROLINA CROP REPORT FOR JUNE.

Commissioner of Agriculture Patterson has just made public the official report upon North Carolina crop conditions in June. Reports received from all sections of the State, carefully compared and averaged, show the following conditions, figures following each question, showing the per centage for the State compared with an average condition of 100:

- What is the present acreage of cotton compared with last year? 105
What is the present condition of cotton? 77
What is the acreage of tobacco compared with last year? 86
What is the present condition of tobacco? 98
What is the present condition of corn? 81
What is the present condition of wheat? 88
What is the present condition of oats? 91
What is the prospect of apples compared with last year? 81
What is the prospect of peaches compared with last year? 91
What is the prospect of pears compared with last year? 87
What is the prospect of blackberries compared with last year? 101

More favorable conditions exist in the eastern part of the State than in other sections. A number of correspondents complain of scarcity of labor, while from all sections come reports of serious damage by the great May freshet. From Mitchell county, where it was most severe, a correspondent writes that in his township, the "creek lowlands are now rock bars, the hills are gullied, and much land permanently ruined."

Mr. Theo. H. Hill, the well-known Raleigh poet, died Saturday, 29th ult.