

GOOD ROADS SPECIAL NEXT WEEK.

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

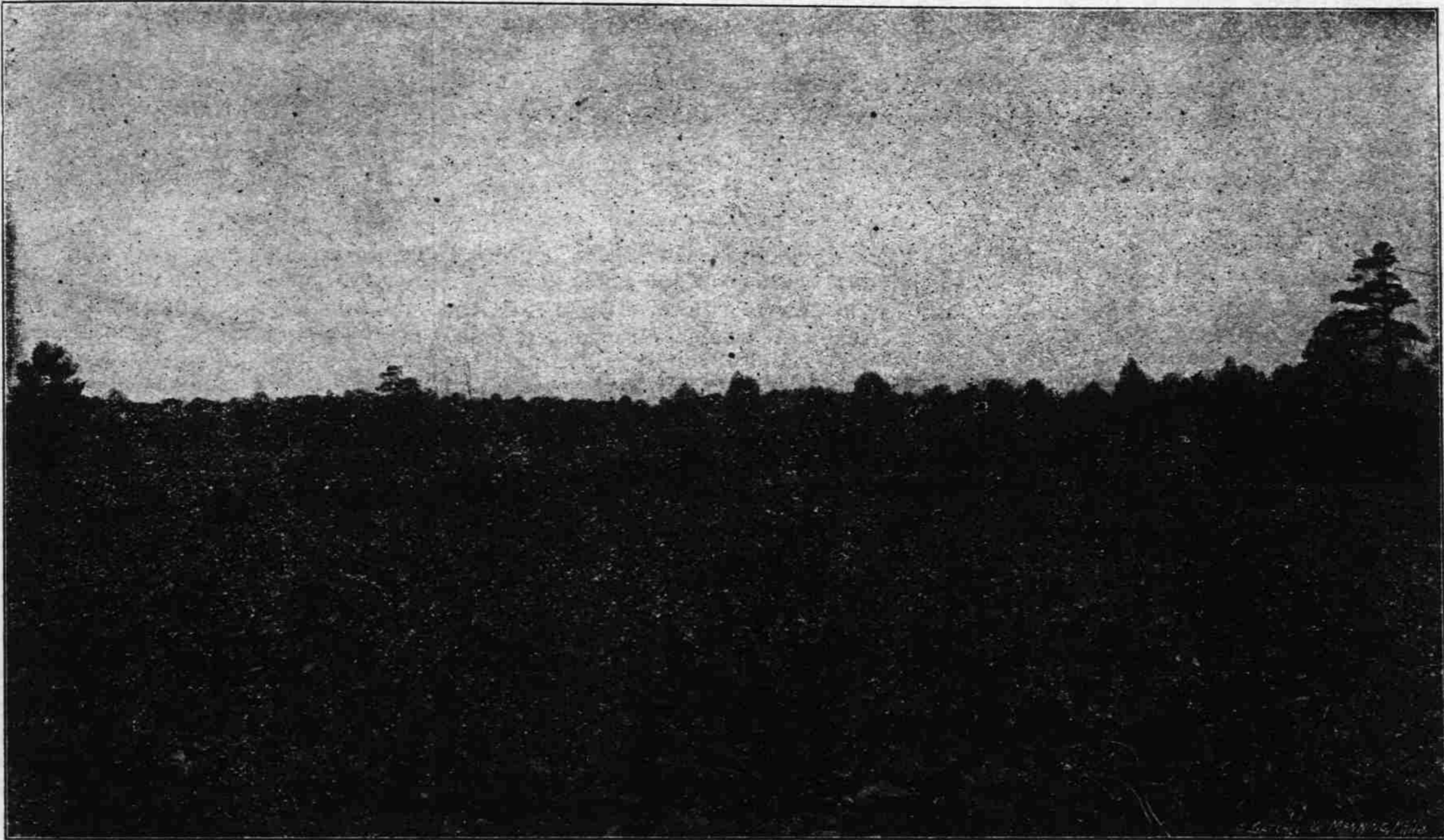
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FAIR FIELDS OVERFLOWING WITH FORAGE.

"Forage crops growing the whole year round"--that should be the motto of every farmer in *The Progressive Farmer's* territory. It has been said a thousand times that the growing of forage and the feeding of live stock on the farm lie at the foundation of soil improvement. Let it be said here once more. The growing of forage crops the whole year round is good for hogs (as is noted on page 10) it is good for horses, good for cattle, good for the soil, good for the farmer's pocket book. Possibly you may miss getting a growth of the many difficult forage crops, but you can grow corn-- what an unapproachable forage crop this grand plant makes!--and you can grow the ever ready cowpea, the poor man's unfailing friend and the rich man's constant helper, a forage plant that fattens your stock and your land alike. Have you broad fair fields of the cowpea like the picture? Then you have a good start in your soil for other forage crops to be used the coming winter and spring.

Future of Farming Full of Hope.

Passing westward through Guilford County I notice, more than elsewhere, that the seed we have been trying to sow in *The Progressive Farmer* has taken root. More wide fields of peas are here than anywhere we have been in the State. The corn fields I saw along the railroad from Greensboro to Winston-Salem have nearly all been laid by level, and I saw little of the hideously up-turned furrows in the fields made by the turning plow throwing up a bank of earth to the corn to dry out.

Peas and rotation of crops, with deeper plowing, are having their usual effect, and I have seen corn fields here that would do credit to what they call the "corn belt" of the West.

The fact is, that the South should be the great corn belt, and it would be, if good farming became the rule.

But these farmers are gradually advancing, for the evidence of their advancement is plain on every hand. Speaking with a Greensboro man on

the train last night in regard to the growth and improvement in that city, he said "Yes, Greensboro has improved, but not so much as the Guilford County farmers have improved."

This reminded me of a pleasant letter I had from a Guilford County farmer. He wrote: "When you first began to preach cowpeas nearly twenty years ago I could buy cowpeas in Guilford County for fifty cents a bushel and could buy land for \$10 an acre. Now cowpeas are \$2.50 per bushel and land any price you choose to ask for it, and it is all your fault."

Well, if that is true, I am perfectly willing to take the blame for such a state of affairs; and I always am glad to get among those Guilford and Forsyth people. They are so wide-awake and so eager to improve, having seen the results of what they have done since they waked up to the need of better farming.

Yes, with the great interest manifested in the Institutes, the future of farming in North Carolina is full of hope.

W. F. MASSEY.

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