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This Plant tells us that there is plenty of mud and all sorts of it in Durham. But the Plant is not a mud-slinger.

The Farmers' Association of North Carolina will hold their next annual convention in Raleigh on the second Wednesday in January, 1898. The General Assembly will be in session then and can be fully advised as to the demands of the Association.

CHANDLER certainly thinks the days of 1868-'69 are to come again. His election bill for South Carolina sounds more like the ravings of a lunatic than the serious production of a U. S. Senator. He ought to get the republican nomination for the presidency upon the strength of this bill.

SENATOR Blair may be a crank, but he is certainly pushing his educational bill with vigor and determination, and he is aided by some of the ablest and most level-headed men in the Senate of both parties. In a recent speech he read a letter from the late superintendent John C. Scarborough and one from Major Finger, the present able and efficient superintendent, which completely expose the fallacy of the argument that money is not needed in the South for educational purposes.

In money for an overvalued national treasury for public schools will, as some of the opponents of popular education contend, destroy self-reliance, self-respect and independence, then is not a bad thing to accept the generous donation of the great philanthropist, George Peabody? And is it not a bad thing to endow our colleges so that worthy men can be educated free of charge? If we are to believe the arguments advanced by these enemies of public schools a young man who accepts aid in trying to complete his education, degrades himself, sits down and waits for somebody to support him the balance of his life.

The Greensboro Patriot calls our attention to the fact that Governor Seiler while a member of Congress secured the passage of the bill in the House for the erection of a public building in Greensboro. In reply to a statement in the North State that Senator Ransom had done so little for North Carolina we cited this as an illustration of his work without intending to deprive Gov. Seiler of his share of the honor. We have known several instances in which Senator Ransom would have appropriations for our rivers and harbors increased after they had passed the House. His promptness and success in such matters is a complete answer to the North State's charge that he has done nothing for North Carolina.

The Greensboro North State speaks of the farmers' convention at Greensboro as blowing rather too much for Cleveland and the democratic party. It characterizes the resolutions of the convention on the homestead law as a democratic measure. In this it is bodily mistaken. The democratic politicians, when they assemble together are, in some respects, like the republican politicians. Both try to show that they represent distinctly the poor man's party, and will declare for the homestead law. But the farmers, who know the practical workings of the law, see no real good in it for the poor man so long as a chattel mortgage can take even the tin cups and gourd out of his kitchen as well as the bread from his children's mouths, and they want it repealed. The proceedings of the convention appear to us to be above partisan influence, and if their views are more in accord with the principles of the democratic party, why the republican party must change their oratory themselves against the farmers. It would tickle the North State very much if the democratic politicians would get together and declare against the homestead law, but they are a little bit to shrewd for that; they do not propose to allow the republican politicians to monopolize all the demagoguery of the country and pose as the special champion of the poor man.

THE FARMERS ON THE INTERNAL REVENUE. We are indebted to the Progressive Farmer for the full proceedings of the N. C. Farmer's Association in convention assembled at Greensboro to which we will notice from time to time. Today we publish the declaration of principles adopted by the Association and will follow this with other selections from the proceedings. The eleventh declaration is in these words:

The internal revenue system is contrary to the wishes of the people and ought to be repealed. Yes, it is contrary to the wishes of the people for several reasons. Tax gatherers for local, county and State purposes are about as many as there are in that line, and the money gathered by these internal revenue collectors goes out of the State never to return. The revenue derived from these sources should be collected by the State and county officers, for State and county purposes. Federal tax gatherers are obnoxious to people that cherish the doctrine of State

rights and local self government, and they should not be inflicted with such only in times of absolute necessity—when the revenues of the general government are not sufficient without it.

The proceedings show that the Association is controlled by wise heads. When Hildner, acting as the President, addressed down to the motion to adjourn there is a vein of common sense, marked by intelligence, found in few conventions of this kind.

THE FARMERS ON THE HOME-STEAD LAW. The Farmers' Association in convention assembled in Greensboro on the 11th of January adopted the following resolutions offered by H. E. Norris of Wake:

Resolved, That the Legislature of 1888-'89 for the State of North Carolina be requested to pass a bill submitting to the people of North Carolina the question as to whether or not the Constitution of North Carolina shall be amended so as to repeal said homestead law. Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent by the Secretary of this Association to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and President of the Senate with request to present the same to the respective bodies as soon as said session of the Legislature is regularly opened.

Col. Polk offered a resolution declaring in favor of such modification of said homestead law as shall ultimately do away with the lien and mortgage system. Both were referred to the committee on homesteads, liens and mortgages, who reported back in favor of that offered by Col. Polk; but after a long discussion, participated in by our friends J. F. Nobles of Jones county, and W. H. Worth of Lenoir, both good, practical farmers, the original resolutions offered by Mr. Norris were adopted.

The resolution offered by Col. Polk was unquestionably more practical and would have stood a better chance of having a hearing before the General Assembly, and an amendment to the Constitution based upon the idea embraced in his resolution, would be more apt to be adopted by the people. The present homestead law is a farce and a curse to the people whom it is intended to protect. It has brought about the crop lien and mortgage system of credit, and the very poor helpless women and children it was intended to protect against improvident and extravagant husbands and fathers, are the sufferers. It pretends to give a homestead one thousand dollars worth of real estate and five hundred dollars worth of personal property, yet in the face of this beneficent (?) provision of the Constitution we have heard of poor men's cabins being cleaned of everything, even the bed clothing, stools, tin cups and gourd, under a process of execution. A proper modification of the law would prevent this and do away with the mortgage system. Let a small amount of household and kitchen furniture and provisions, a cow or two, say three hundred dollars worth in all, be exempt from sale under execution under any circumstances, and the mortgage system, which seems to be the acknowledged source of the farmers' troubles, will be at once wiped out and the poor women and children, who are so unfortunate as to be under the care of a trifling man, will at least be able to save their clothing and furniture from the Shylocks in the land.

This is a bold move on the part of the farmers. Many politicians and newspapers refrain from agitating the subject for fear of "hurling their party." But the Farmers' Association of North Carolina seems to be of the opinion that if the interest of party is to be placed in the scales against their interest the party will have to go.

NOT EXACTLY. Our Democratic contemporary, the Progressive Farmer, has the opinion that Dr. York would have made as good a Governor as his Democratic opponent, but we leave the Journal to settle this matter with its readers. The JOURNAL expressed no such opinion, and our readers, we trust, are intelligent enough to understand what we did say. For the benefit of the Messenger we reproduce the words: Many lifelong democrats boldly proclaim that this section would have been infinitely better off if York had been elected Governor. These words were used simply to show the feeling of some Democrats in this section who have been as true to the party as the Messenger ever dared to be. Sometimes misrepresentations are made willfully and for a purpose, but we have too much regard for the Messenger to think that it would stoop to such petty means.

THE CONFIRMATION OF LAMAR. The confirmation of Mr. Lamar as an associate justice of the Supreme Court, in the face of the strong opposition of Sherman, Edmunds, Frantz, and other republican leaders indicates that the rights of Southern men are slowly but surely being recognized by the great masses of the Northern people. Hated towards the South and mistrust of Southern men are still the capital upon which political demagogues and hypocrites do business. No true patriot will endeavor to keep alive the strife that cost the country so much blood and treasure. The South accepted the results of the war in good faith near a quarter of a century ago; it is an

important section of this great country and all the vituperations, lies and devilry of the South-east will not keep her down.

These manifestations of distrust of Southern people always break out on the eve of a presidential canvass, the aspirants for the public nomination, seeming to think that the man who can make the bitterest attacks and parade the most lies against the South is sure of the nomination. They forget that this is a restored Union, and seek to cover up the shortcomings of their party by appealing to the passions and prejudices of their constituents by misrepresenting the people of the South who are striving to build up their waste places and make stronger the bonds of union between the States.

It is a mean, selfish, devilish spirit that tries to destroy the peace between neighbors and friends—the different sections of this country are but neighborhoods on a larger scale—and we are glad to note a decline in the success of those who are engaged in such dirty work. Yesterday was a big day here. The railroad question was discussed by Messrs. A. C. Higgins, Capt. C. D. Fox, C. S. Hewitt, Esq., and Clement Manly from New Berne, and the people began to wonder if they thought that only a railroad was wanted to make Old Swinburn county lift her head up a little.

Four dry goods and grocery stores, a first class restaurant and a number of other buildings, a school house and Masonic lodge, is in agitation, then a good hotel, and Old Swinburn will, after the railroad comes, be a first class summer resort. It is one of the healthiest spots in North Carolina, and should be built up.

No marriages or deaths this week, but Mr. W., a worthy widow, went to Mrs. R., who was ill, and she said, "I have been ill, but I am better now; don't you think we had better get married?" "No," says Mrs. R., "if you come here for that purpose just get out of my house; do you hear?" she says. "I don't believe you are treating me very bad, but I guess I'll go," and she went.

The many friends of Mr. John C. Holland, youngest son of the late John C. Holland, of this county, will be pleased to hear of his whereabouts. He left us about 3 years ago after the death of his father, went West to seek his fortune, and has since been in the employ of the U. S. Army, where he has bought a small farm near that place and expects to make it his future home. John was a good boy, everybody liked him, and we wish to hear of him again, his far away home. We comment him to the good consideration of a who chance to meet him wherever he goes, for he is a very worthy young man.

We were in Carteret county a few days ago and the people there are quite busy preparing for the coming year's farming. We saw friends Billy Bell, S. H. Holland, Geo. A. Wood, Ben Taylor, Dr. Sanderson, Bob Humphrey, George Dennis and others. The latter has a pen of 10 fine hogs to kill and Ben Taylor has just slaughtered one. Both put the heads down in the water, and the other boys are all expected to do the same. A fine animal whose grand sire was captured by Gen. Sherman in his raid on Savannah, Ga., was seen at the fair. G. W. Egan had some fine stock among them some half breed ponies that took the premium at the Beaufort fair last December. Friend Billy Bell has a fine cow ever and can tell a joke to please any one.

Cast His First Vote for J. Jefferson. Josiah Graston, an old gentleman residing in Belton county, Texas, is certainly deserving of mention. He was born at Lovelady, Crockett county, Texas, on the river, Burke county, North Carolina, in the year 1778. When he had been with his parents to Tennessee, and resided in that State until the year 1865, when he went to Texas, and settled there. Mr. Graston is a fine old man, and his life is a fine illustration of the fact that his first vote was cast for Thomas J. Jefferson, President, and he has been voting the straight Democratic ticket ever since. He is now 119 years of age, and lives almost entirely in the past, recalling scenes and incidents of seventy and eighty years ago, although they belonged to last year.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Whittier a Eighty. The recent celebration of the poet Whittier's eightieth birthday was one of the most extraordinary manifestations of the kind ever witnessed in the world.

That New England should honor her heroic that expectation was abundantly fulfilled, but friends and acquaintances came from every part of the country, and the largest number from the Southern States. This was but just, for it was to those states that he rendered the greatest service that a man can render to his race.

The poets of America seem to be especially fortunate in the closing years of their lives. Many of them were born in humble homes, and were reared in poverty. Electricity used for punishing criminals in Paris, and the investigations made by these gentlemen have been so satisfactory that they intend to make a report to the government and recommend its adoption in this country. Such a method of capital punishment, if the death penalty is to be enforced at all, would be preferable to the one now in use, for many reasons. It would be less expensive, for one thing, there would be very little suffering, and the old barbarous method of hanging would be abolished.—Demorest's Monthly.

How Fatigue Operates. After a study of some years, Professor Mosso, of Turin, finds that when fatigue is carried beyond the moderate stage, at which it is decidedly beneficial, it subjects the blood to a decomposing process that leads to the introduction of substances which act as poisons, and which, when injected into the circulation of healthy animals, induce uneasiness and all the signs of excessive exhaustion. When with in the range of power of the subject, fatigue has its pleasures and even joys, these being the expression of the organic consciousness of the body's loss of tissue, and the balanced reconstruction. Mosso's experiments were performed on Italian soldiers, and they proved, among the other results, that the stature and power of the modern warrior are fully equal to those of the ancient Roman.—Arkansas Traveler.

Onslow County Items. Oysters and fish are plentiful. Our town, Swinburn, is still on the boom; immigration makes it so.

Mr. C. Stephens, from Richlands, is in town looking after the repairs of his vessel, the Good Luck. The schooner Edith, of the Easter, arrived yesterday from New Bern with merchandise from our merchants here.

The schooner Packet, Joe Bloodgood, cleared yesterday for New Bern loaded with naval stores and cotton.

The farmers are beginning to be busy, and the merchants are, or seem to be, in good heart for the coming year of trade.

Clement Manly, Esq., from New Berne was with us yesterday. He gave us a good, practical speech on the subject of subscription to building a railroad through our county. We don't see from his talk how cutting for the measure can injure any one at all.

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A Channel Bridge. The following is a brief of a proposition to build a bridge across the Edisto Channel taken from a French contemporary: The Executive of October 25 states that a scheme for the erection of such a bridge is in active consideration on the other side of the water. At the head of the project is Admiral Cloze, and acting in connection with him are three well known engineers, Messrs. Le Comte, Foy, and Baker, the two last representing the French side of the matter. The plans have already been prepared, and are at present being examined by skill engineers on the English side. As the cost is not unfavorable to the scheme, as the plans are approved, active measures, it is expected, will be shortly begun. It is estimated that the bridge will be 20 feet wide, and will be 240,000,000, and will be completed before it can be completed seven years or more. The bridge is proposed to be taken for the bridge from Cranau (this is a little place on the French coast) to Cape Gris Vert to Fokestone, on the English side, a distance of about 22 miles. Not the shortest, but the shallowest will be the chosen route. The bridge is commonly supposed to be much greater than it is in reality. There are two shallow shoals between Cranau (this is a little place on the French coast) to Fokestone, on the English side, a distance of about 22 miles. Not the shortest, but the shallowest will be the chosen route. The bridge is commonly supposed to be much greater than it is in reality. There are two shallow shoals between Cranau (this is a little place on the French coast) to Fokestone, on the English side, a distance of about 22 miles. Not the shortest, but the shallowest will be the chosen route. The bridge is commonly supposed to be much greater than it is in reality. 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