

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

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WINSTON, N. C.

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THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER,
Winston, N. C.

Winston, N. C., April 28, 1886.

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FARMERS ORGANIZING.

Send to the PROGRESSIVE FARMER, Winston, N. C., and get a form of Constitution and By-Laws for organizing Farmers Clubs. Mailed to you free of charge. Every neighborhood should have a well organized Farmers' Club.

State exchanges please copy the above and we will most gladly reciprocate the favor.

A BEAUTIFUL PREMIUM.

To every one who will send us a subscriber for a year, within the next 90 days, accompanied by two dollars, we will mail post paid a copy of "Passion Flower and other Poems," by Theo. H. Hill, of Raleigh, N. C. It is a book that should be in the library of every family in the State.

As an inducement to clubs we will send a club of six for one year to any postoffice for ten dollars, or to any one sending us a club of five, with ten dollars, we will send one copy one year free.

—Out of 137 counties in Georgia prohibition prevails in 115.

—The standing armies of Europe are estimated at 9,000,000 of men.

—The Virginia Midland Road has been leased by the Richmond & Danville Company for ninety-nine years.

—The Raleigh cattle show will be held on the 6th of May. There will be about 250 cattle on exhibition.

—Secretary Manning's health is improving and it is thought he will soon be able to leave Washington.

—A delegation of Congressmen is now in the eastern portion of this State inspecting the inland water routes.

—There is an immense amount of work on the calendars of both houses of Congress which will not be reached this session.

—Miss Cleveland says she is tired of life at the White House and is therefore glad her brother, the President, is going to be married.

—Sixteen States now have "Arbor Days," and it is estimated that 5,000,000 of trees are thus annually planted. Every State should have its arbor day.

—The question is frequently asked, will prohibition prohibit? That depends altogether on the officers who are elected to enforce the laws. Prohibition nor no other laws enforce themselves.

—The President favors the Morrison tariff bill, which it is estimated will make a reduction of about \$25,000,000. He says the Democratic party committed itself to tariff reform in its platform at Chicago and should stand by its pledges.

—We are gratified to note the interest taken by breeders of blooded cattle, in the proposed "Cattle Show" which is to be held at an early day in the city of Raleigh. There are many fine cattle in that vicinity and doubtless the exhibition will be creditable. There should be a stock show in every county, at least once every year. We hope to be able to lay before our readers a pen sketch of the exhibition in our next issue.

—Father Ryan, the "Poet-Priest," one of the sweetest warblers in the South-land, died of heart disease in Louisville, Ky., last Thursday. He was the author of the Conquered Banner and other charming poems.

—The first Bessemer steel made in the South was made from ore taken from the Cranberry Mine in this State, at Chattanooga, Tenn., on the 19th inst. It is said to have been of excellent quality, standing all the tests applied.

—Attorney-General Garland says he told Gen. Atkins when asked to take stock in the Pan-Electric Telegraph Company, that he never undertook to make money except by law and poker, and that he always lost at poker, but generally won at law.

—Mexico is disposed to encourage Chinese immigration, and has agreed to give each Chinese immigrant twenty acres of land. Arrangements have been made with the six companies for the importation of 600,000 within a year.

—It is now said to be a settled fact that President Cleveland is to marry Miss Folsom, of Albany, next June. She is 23 years old, and daughter of Mr. Cleveland's former law partner. When her father died years ago Mr. Cleveland became her guardian.

—This from the Warrenton Gazette is eminently correct: "It is simply impossible to have a prosperous community so long as those who ought to make them, buy their bread and meat. It admits of no contradiction or argument."

—Successful experiments were made last week with the telephone between New York and Cleveland, Ohio, a distance of 630 miles. The next experiments will be made between New York and Chicago, a distance of 1,100 miles, and the gentlemen interested are sanguine of success.

—Mr. Turnbull, of Baltimore, an expert electrician, confidently claims that by his system, conversations can be carried on between London and New York, and that people may talk with each other by wire no matter how far apart. He proposes shortly to try the experiment between New York and London.

—A number of the largest cotton and woolen manufacturers in New England have effected an organization to protect each other from strikes. They say they are willing to arbitrate any differences that may occur between them and their employees, but will not be dictated to by the Knights of Labor.

—Will not some of the breeders of fine cattle give us notes of their fine cattle, their products, &c. We would be very glad also to receive cuts of blooded stock for the front page of our paper, and would be happy to correspond with parties owning fine blooded, horses, sheep and hogs. The PROGRESSIVE FARMER will lend its best effort to cultivating this important interest among our people.

—We are under obligations to the State Agricultural Department for a copy of the Hand Book of North Carolina, recently published, which contains much valuable information condensed into small space. It gives a description of the State, divided into three divisions, geological formations, schools, churches, &c., and a sketch of all the counties with statistics of products, industries, population, live stock, taxable real estate, personal property and much other valuable information.

—We are proud to learn that in many of the cotton counties our farmers will not plant so largely of cotton. They begin to see that they are growing poorer each year, under this one crop idea, and it would be well for our friends in the tobacco belt to heed the lessons taught their cotton brethren. No people are safe who will plant cotton or tobacco or any other one crop to the exclusion of other crops, with the vain hope of making money.

—The first Jersey ever brought to Raleigh, was offered as a premium and was awarded to Mr. G. T. Stronach by the State Agricultural Society. It was then quite a calf. Lucky is now 13 years old, the property of Dr. James McKee, of Raleigh, and is the mother of 13 calves—the two youngest of which have been dropped within the past 12 months. Her calves have all been sold in North Carolina and have brought the neat sum of \$1,150. This cow is still vigorous and beautiful, and is now yielding 4 gallons of milk per day. Do not blooded cattle pay? The public-spirited owner has kindly promised to furnish us with a cut of this noted and valuable cow, that our readers may see it.

A FORMIDABLE BODY.

We publish elsewhere, from the Philadelphia Record, an interesting and suggestive article on the Knights of Labor, who are now attracting such attention throughout the country, and of which numbers of organizations have been effected within the past six months in the South. There never was before in this country such an organization, so potent for good or for evil, as its course may be directed. It is the first time in the history of the country when great bodies of working men, numbering many thousands in the Northern States and increasing rapidly in the South, implicitly obey the orders sent out by their recognized officers, and are governed and controlled by one mind, so to speak. We have had trades unions, acting independently, but here besides these trades unions, we have a solid body of working men of numerous trades banded as one body, governed by one central body of their own choosing, who issue their orders and are obeyed without question. If they have a cause of grievance they strike as ordered to—all strike in the department where the grievance exists, and return to work when ordered to. The cause of one is the cause of all, the grievance of one is grievance of all, and the cause of one is espoused by all. The late great strike on the Gould South-West system of railroads was caused by the discharge of one man whose case was taken up by the Knights, resulting in a strike which effectually stopped freight traffic for several days, and resulted in the loss of a number of lives and the destruction of much property from riots caused by efforts to keep the rioters in check and prevent them from intimidating men who did not belong to the Knights but came to take their places in the shops and on the road. While all this was going on the locomotives stood idle in the yards and thousands of tons of freight stood in the stores, ware houses, or depots, awaiting shipment. The shipping business of a great portion of the West was at a standstill for want of hands to handle the freight and manage the trains. Jay Gould, with his hundreds of millions of dollars, and his body of well paid officials, was powerless, and had to look to the States to protect his property from destruction. The frequency of these strikes is becoming a serious matter, for not only the railroad companies and other enterprises where they occur suffer by it, but the public suffers, the business of the country suffers. The effects are felt, more or less, from one end of the country to the other. It is somewhat a singular statement to make, yet it is true, that if the railroad strike in the West had continued a week or two longer there would have been a meat famine in those portions of the South which depend upon the West for their bacon. Right here in Winston, for a time, there was a scarcity of meat, and for days at a time it was hard to get it on account of the difficulty in shipping.

This is a state of affairs which cannot be ignored, and the consequence is that the subject is now undergoing investigation by a committee appointed by Congress, which has summoned Mr. Powderly, the Master Workman of the Knights of Labor, and other Knights, and Mr. Gould and other railroad men, before it to tell what they know about the causes, and give their opinions as to the remedy. There is a bill pending before Congress to provide a commission to hear and settle questions arising between railroad companies and their employees, and thus prevent, as far as may be, these strikes. The object of the investigation is to get facts and opinions as to the best method of doing this. The result may be the passage of some legislation satisfactory to both parties, constituting a tribunal to which disputes may be submitted and trouble avoided. This would never have been done, however, if the Knights of Labor had not shown their determination and their strength, and demonstrated to the law-makers the necessity of paying them respectful attention, lest they become not only a factor in the shop but also in the political arena, smash the politicians' slates, and put up candidates of their own. It was a wholesome fear that inspired action in their behalf. Laborers, doubtless, have grievances, but there is no class of people in this Republic who have greater grievances than farmers, there is no class which suffers more from discriminating legislation. When they learn

to act together and as a body demand that their rights shall be respected, perhaps the law-makers will give them a portion of the respectful attention which they are now giving to the Knights of Labor.

A PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

Mr. Richard Reed is a young Georgia farmer, who lives in Fulton county, some distance from Atlanta. About eight years ago his father died, leaving a farm with a \$4,000 mortgage upon it. Young Reed rolled up his sleeves, went to work, in a short while paid off that mortgage, and has since cleared \$40,000. He raised cotton, but did not, like many of his Southern planter friends, go crazy on cotton. He didn't raise and sell cotton to buy meat for himself and feed for his stock. He raised all his own supplies, and his cotton for a clear money crop. He says he never saw a man who did not raise his own supplies who made any money out of cotton, and never saw one who did that was not prosperous. "You can figure out," he says, "that you can buy corn cheaper than you can raise it, but that is only on paper. Corn-raisers always prosper, the others fail. My cotton crop is always a cash surplus. I make my other crops carry the farm." Mr. Reed is not a theorist merely. He is a farmer, who lives on the farm, and by the farm, and is speaking from actual experience. That he is a man of brain, good habits and business methods, is evidenced by his success; and while every farmer cannot expect to be as successful as he, every farmer can raise his own supplies and be independent and be better off at the end of the year than at the beginning if they will follow his example. He lives in the cotton belt where cotton is the crop that the farmer raises and depends upon for his income. Thousands of them who have blindly followed cotton are poorer today than they were ten years ago, have worked like galley slaves in the meantime and have nothing to show for it. Mr. Reed has shown them where their deliverance is if they will profit by his example and by his success.

What is true of the cotton planter is true also and applies with equal force to the tobacco planter. It is only a question of time when the man who raises all tobacco will go under. The few who raise fine grades, who understand the business thoroughly, who know precisely how to handle and to cure it, who have the lands adapted to it, may continue to make money, but the majority will not. Even now the market is overstocked with common tobacco, and from the rate at which the area of cultivation is extending, it will be more so, and the average farmer who gives tobacco exclusively his attention will find himself but poorly compensated for his time and labor. If he would escape disaster he must make his farm support him—supply him with the necessaries of life, his stock with feed, and then however the tobacco market may range, he can stand alone, and feel independent. If tobacco run up he will have money to his credit, if down he will not be worse off than he was before. But he cannot expect to raise tobacco, run an account with a provision or provender dealer and be prosperous. That is simply one of the impossibilities that no really sane man would hope to accomplish.

—The Department of Agriculture, in its Forestry Division, has prepared a schedule for observations of tree-life; and accompanying it, of weather conditions, for the purpose of aiding an interest in forestry work; and to arrive at certain results explained on the schedules.

It is desirable that these observations should be noted by a very large number of persons; and everybody interested will be welcome to apply for the blanks to the Department.

As the season is rather advanced, not all the points required may be taken this year, but even a partial report will be acceptable.

The Department is doing a good service to the country in gathering and disseminating information as to our forest growth, the promotion of which is becoming a matter of vital importance. Mr. Rob't. W. Best, of this State, whose valued communications appear from time to time in THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, is connected with the forestry division and is a zealous worker in the cause.

—The taxable property real and personal in North Carolina amounts to \$209,569,096.

SOBER WORDS OF A PROSPEROUS FARMER.

We had the pleasure of spending a night last week with Mr. John O. Alexander, an intelligent and successful farmer in Providence township, Mecklenburg county. Everything within and without his residence indicated progressiveness and thrift. We are always gratified to see prosperous farmers. We lost no time in interviewing Mr. Alexander about his farming methods. We asked him if he made his supplies for his family and stock on his farm, or did he rely upon making cotton to buy his supplies. He replied, he made all his bread and meat and provender at home. He told us his rule was to make his farm provide for itself and leave his cotton to be a surplus. We asked him if he knew a farmer in his section who had pursued this policy who had been unsuccessful. He said he did not. We asked him if he knew a farmer who had pursued the policy of relying upon cotton to purchase bread and meat and stock food, as well as net income, who might be said to be thrifty? He said he did not.—*Monroe Enquirer.*

FARM AND ORCHARD NOTES.

Corn planting is well advanced. Cotton planting has been commenced and a great deal has been seeded this week. Tobacco plants are looking well and wheat promises an abundant crop. A gentleman from Catawba, who crosses the river at the Island ford, and who was in Statesville Wednesday, says the wheat along the road in Iredell between this place and the river is looking beautifully—better, indeed, than on the Catawba side—and that the improvement in farming on this side of the river within the past two years has been marvelous. The fruit crop this year will not be the failure that was supposed in the early spring. While many of the peaches have been killed many of the trees will bear abundantly, and a gentleman from Wilkes told the *Landmark*, Wednesday, that unless there is some disaster yet in store for it, there will be a heavy fruit crop this year on the Brushy mountains.—*Statesville Landmark.*

HOW DID IT GET THERE?

Mr. P. S. Carter, of Ivy township, informs us that he has a three-acre field of land near his house, which he has had in regular cultivation for some years. Last year he cultivated it in wheat. He never applied any fertilizers thereon, nor did he ever sow any clover or other grass seeds on it. Last fall, after removing his wheat, he noticed a thick setting of red clover coming up, and now says the field is covered with a splendid and vigorous growth of clover. Mr. Carter is much puzzled to know how this clover got there. There is none near by, and he is certain there were no clover seed in the wheat. Can some one tell us how this comes about?—*Asheville Citizen.*

A NEW RAILROAD PROJECT.

A meeting of the corporators of the Lynchburg, Halifax & North Carolina railroad was held at Lynchburg on the 12th inst., and Maj. Peter J. Otey, a prominent bank cashier, was elected president of the company, and Wood Bouldin, Jr., of Halifax, vice-president, together with a board of directors. This road is to run from Lynchburg to Durham, N. C. Col. Winstead, of Person county, N. C., and a delegation of capitalists and business men from this State were present. There seems to be no doubt about the early building of the road.—*Raleigh News-Observer.*

THE ROANOKE RAILROAD.

The following are the officers elect of the Southern & Roanoke Railroad Company organized at Roanoke, Va., on the 20th inst.: Col. David F. Houston, president; H. C. Leister, vice-president, and the following directors: J. M. Gambell, H. S. Trout, J. F. Christian, J. D. Kirk, J. C. Moomaw, W. K. Andrews, P. L. Terry, Andrew Lewis, T. M. Starking, Robt. Sanders and D. W. Spencer. This road, when built, will be a main line between Southern and Eastern cities and points in the South toward Charleston, Augusta and Atlanta.