

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

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THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER,
Winston, N. C.

Winston, N. C., Nov. 3, 1886

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THE CROSS MARK.

The cross mark on your paper indicates that the time for which you subscribed has or is about to expire. It is to give notice so your subscription may be renewed. If the subscription be not renewed the name will be dropped from the list, but we want every one to renew and bring a friend along too.

See our offer to give THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER one year and the Patch Corn Shelter for four dollars. This is the best shelter for the money in America. It is guaranteed and will give entire satisfaction. Send in your orders at once.

Read our advertisements. And you will do us a great favor when you speak or write of them, to mention THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

Secretary Manning resumed duties in the Treasury last Thursday.

Mrs. A. T. Stewart had \$750,000 worth of diamonds when she died.

The King of Uganda, Africa, is amusing himself torturing and killing Christians.

Thieves and pickpockets found a good field for operations in Raleigh during the fair.

A heavy snow storm fell in Montana last Saturday blocking the roads so as to stop stage travel.

We have attended a score of public gatherings within the past few months and we have not seen a score of drunken men.

Russia's course towards Bulgaria is arousing the fears of Austria, Prussia and Turkey and the indications are somewhat warlike.

The stock exhibit at the Raleigh Fair shows that North Carolina is making gratifying progress on this line. Let the good work go on.

Fire last Friday destroyed seventeen buildings in the town of Franklinton, on the Raleigh & Gaston railroad, 28 miles north of Raleigh.

Mrs. Stewart, wife of the dry goods millionaire, died suddenly last week in New York. Her fortune was estimated between \$30,000,000 and \$40,000,000.

The wife of Bob Taylor, the Democratic runner for Governor of Tennessee, against his brother Alf, the Republican runner, is a cousin of Senator Vance, of this State.

The friends of Cluverius, convicted of the murder of his cousin Lillian Madison, in Richmond, and sentenced to be hanged on the 10th of December, are circulating a petition for his pardon.

We saw a farmer in Northampton county, who raises his own bread and meat at home, and who now has ten pigs ten months old that will average 170 to 180 pounds each. He expects to make make 2,000 pounds of net pork, at a cost of one dollar and twenty five cents per hundred pounds. He does it with the refuse from his kitchen, the gleanings from his wheat, oats, rye, and pea fields and with peanut, turnips and potatoes.

Russia has one doctor to every 6,226 people, Great Britain and France one to every 1,400, Switzerland one to 1,500 Austria, Germany and Norway one to 300, and the United States one to 600.

—Rev. Sam Jones and Sam Small, the Georgia evangelists, who have been preaching at Toronto, Canada, closed their work there on the 28th ult. Before leaving they were presented with a check for \$2,500 by their admirers.

—The President has suspended two district attorneys, one in Missouri, a Democrat, the other in Pennsylvania, a Republican, for violating his late order against Government officers meddling in politics. They were both taking an active part on the stump.

—The capital invested in Southern manufacturing industries in the past nine months foots up \$83,834,200 against \$52,386,300 for the corresponding period of last year, an increase of \$31,449,900, which is not a bad showing.

—A branch from the Cape Fear & Yadkin Valley railroad is being located in Madison, Rockingham county, a distance of sixteen miles and work will begin, President Gray writes, as soon as the required amount of local aid has been subscribed.

—The Bartholdi statue of "Liberty Enlightening the World," the largest piece of statuary in the world, was unveiled at New York last Thursday. The President and several members of his Cabinet were present and participated in the ceremonies. A number of distinguished Frenchmen represented the Government of France.

—We learn that Mrs. M. A. Corpening, of Marion, N. C., who attended the State Fair in person, had the honor of bearing off the first prize for the best thoroughbred Jersey Bull. Mrs. Corpening is a lady of refinement and culture and is thoroughly informed as to the best bloods and methods in cattle breeding.

—The U. S. Supreme Court, Justice Miller delivering the opinion, has decided, in a case coming from the State of Illinois, that a State legislature has no right to fix rates on railroads on freight coming from beyond the borders of the State as that is interfering with interstate commerce, that this right is vested only in Congress. Chief Justice Waite and Associate Justices Bradley and Gray dissented, holding that as Congress has the power to enact such legislation but had not used it, the State does not therefore lose the power to legislate on traffic within its own borders, even though the goods or persons transported come from beyond the border.

THE WOODLAND FAIR.

That beautiful country lying between the Roanoke and Chowan rivers seems to be the only piece east of the Mississippi in the South where the orange can live and flourish. The Roanoke District Grange is made up of seventeen subordinate granges and these are made up of live, intelligent, loyal, progressive farmers. Almost every grange has a neat and comfortable hall and with the hall a good school room which is occupied by their children under the charge of competent teachers. Among the good works accomplished by them is the establishment of the Roanoke District Grange Fair, held annually at Woodland and which we had the pleasure of visiting last week.

It is sufficient to say of its management that through the recent years of disaster to crops and the consequent depression among farmers in that section, that the Fair has been uniformly a financial success. No racing, no gambling, no drinking, no side traps to catch the dimes of the unwary are permitted on the grounds and yet the crowds of visitors who annually throng the grounds show that the Fair is attractive and popular. And just here we venture to suggest parenthetically to our Farmers' clubs, that this is the legitimate outcome of organized effort.

We know of no more open-hearted and hospitable people in the State than those of the Roanoke and Chowan section and we trust that this enterprise, now so auspiciously established in their midst may grow and strengthen and prosper until its influence on the farming community may be felt and acknowledged by all within its reach.

We hereby tender to each and all of its officers the assurance of our grateful appreciation of the many acts of courtesy and kindness shown us.

THE POLITICAL HOSPITAL.

This morning the smoke of battle is lifted and reveals the carnage and slaughter of the recent struggle. Many a Goliath has fallen who assayed to "slay his thousands with the jaw bone of an ass." Many a "plumed knight" has been ingloriously unhorsed. Many a "silver tongue" has been silenced in the hush of political death. The hospital is crowded with the wounded, the maimed—the fallen brave.

Scores and hundreds are being hurried to their last resting place in the old political cemetery, and cruel-hearted Fate writes over its entrance gate—"ALL FOR THE SAKE OF THE DEAR PEOPLE."

The register of the hospital presents a pitiable record. Of one it says: "Prostrated from an aggravated attack of chronic office-hunting"—another "almost torn asunder by sitting astride the fence"—another "Spinal column paralyzed by a terrible stroke of independentism"—another "Mene, mene, tekel upharsin"—another "Governor on the brain"—another "Lunacy induced by overpowering desire to save the country"—another "Vaulting ambition o'erleaped itself." And here is a whole ward filled with hundreds whose bunks are marked: "Victims of packed conventions," and here are many from the region of the up country whose emaciated forms show that they have been infested with the plague of the "blue-bottles" and "red-legged grass-hoppers"—here are those who were paralyzed at "wire pulling," and here is a whole division set apart and over the entrance door is written: "Deadly contagion—chronic malignant demagoguery," and within, an appalling wreck of intellect and moral manhood greets the eye. Thus it has been, is, and shall be.

THE STATE FAIR.

An engagement in a distant part of the State prevented the writer from being at the State Fair until Thursday. We have been present at every one held for the past fifteen years, except one, and we give it as our judgment that the Fair of 1886, taken as a whole, was the best we have ever attended. Especially was the Stock Department attractive and excellent. The meagre display of agricultural implements and machinery was disappointing. But all the other departments were highly creditable. The display made by the State Agricultural Department was superb, and we hazard nothing in saying it can not be equalled by any other State in the Union.

We learned that the Northern Settlers' Convention was well attended and deep interest was manifested by citizens and visitors. The citizens of Raleigh honored themselves by the handsome manner in which they entertained the visitors. Thousands visited the grounds of the Experiment Farm, which, under the skillful management of Dr. Dabney and his superintendent, begins to show the touch of scientific, systematized experiment.

We heartily congratulate President Upchurch and Secretary Nichols on their gratifying success, and we doubt not that, under favorable surroundings, the Fair of 1887 will eclipse anything in the history of the North Carolina Agricultural Society. We regret that at the time of going to press we are unable to name the parties who were awarded the premiums.

JERSEY CATTLE.

We present to our readers this week the interesting address on Jersey cattle delivered by Capt. S. B. Alexander, of Mecklenburg, before the Jersey Cattle Club at the Catawba County Fair at Hickory, on the 20th of October. It is not lengthy but gives in brief a comprehensive sketch of the Island from which these celebrated cattle come and of the origin, as far as known, and the characteristics of the cattle which have given this little Island its celebrity. Capt. Alexander is one of the best informed stock raisers in the South, for he has given this matter his special attention and delights not only in raising fine stock but in encouraging others to raise them; but he is neither a theorist nor a visionary. He believes in tangible, substantial results, and views this as he does other subjects connected with the farm, from a practical, business standpoint. He has done much by word and example to encourage the raising of fine stock

in North Carolina, and still continues with unabated zeal in that good work.

While the address as a whole will commend itself to every intelligent reader, the concluding portion should strike with particular force the tillers of the soil who stake their all on cotton or tobacco, both of which rob the soil and give it little or nothing in return for what they take from it. Cotton and tobacco, when made the sole reliance, are delusions, and will not only keep poor the men who depend upon them, but the section which depends upon them. They are both good enough in a limited way but they should not be allowed to overshadow everything else. Talk of "King Cotton." If it ever was king it is no longer so, even in the commercial sense in which it is applied. The hens of the country with their product would buy the cotton crop and have something to spare every year, while the beef that grass feeds and the milk and butter and cheese that grass produces treble in value the cotton crop. If there be any product of the soil entitled to rank as king above the others it is Grass, which we spell in this connection with a big G because we have a royal respect for it. While cotton clothes, it feeds millions, and while it does this it not only rewards the husbandman who cultivates and cares for it, by putting money in his purse, which cotton and tobacco too often do not, but also enriches the acres upon which it grows and gives greater value to them, which cotton and tobacco never do.

When the Southern planter ceases to worship cotton as king, and recognizes the royalty of grass as he should and must eventually do, then the South will step to the forefront of substantial and enduring prosperity and become the most prosperous as she is naturally the most favored section on the North American continent.

NORTH CAROLINA AT WASHINGTON.

At a meeting of the State Agricultural Society held in the Capitol on Thursday evening, Mr. R. W. Best of the Department of Agriculture at Washington, urged the importance of placing on permanent exhibition in the Agricultural Museum specimens of the Agricultural products of our State. He stated that the commissioner had sought faithfully to do this but had met with little encouragement from our State. A number of gentlemen participated in the discussion and a resolution was unanimously adopted appointing a committee of twelve—one from each judicial district to co-operate with the State Agricultural Department in collecting specimens from various portions of the State and also suggesting to our State Board the expediency of making an appropriation to defray the expense of the same. A judicious expenditure of a little money in this direction would be a paying investment. We could thus present a bird's eye view of the capabilities of our State to the thousands of visitors to the National Museum, from our own and other countries, and we hope the Board and the gentlemen appointed will be able to make such a display as will do justice to our State.

INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION.

We note with pleasure that the State Board of Agriculture has completed the purchase of lands near Raleigh for the location of the Industrial School. This is moving in the right direction and it must go on until we have a well-equipped Agricultural and Mechanical College in our midst for the practical, industrial training of the sons and daughters of the masses of our people. And to do this, the legislature must transfer the fund given for that express purpose, and which has been appropriated by our State University. That one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars on which the University has drawn \$82,500 interest would be a great help in starting such a college, and the legislature must see that the people have their rights in this matter.

MAKE YOUR MANURE.

Now is the time to begin to prepare for large manure heaps to give to your lands in the Spring. Do not fail to make every pound of manure you can.

GIVE THE BOYS AND GIRLS A CHANCE.

It is a fact, and a fact to be deplored, that farm life is not attractive enough to the young people and as a consequence many of them long for the day when they can leave the country and find some occupation in the town. They come to the towns and take employment at anything they can get to do, deeming themselves lucky if they can secure places at salaries barely sufficient to pay for their board and clothes. But small as the compensation is, and hard as the labor that most of them perform they are willing to do it because it gives them a change of life they longed for. They get away from the monotony of country life as it seems to them to the bustle of city life with its imaginary attractions. Ninety nine out of a hundred of them would be better off in the long run if they had stuck to the farm, for if they worked as hard and as steadily on the farm as they must do in the town to hold their own they would succeed better and accumulate more. We will not here enter into the causes which make farm life unattractive to the young but one of the principal causes, we think, lies in the fact that too few parents try to interest their boys and girls in the work of the farm. There is a lack of system, too much drudgery and too little play, a sort of treadmill which soon tires the young, soon discourages and ere long disgusts.

"All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy" is as true as anything that ever was written. We may change the phraseology a little and say with equal truth that all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy and an unwilling boy besides. That they get pay in one sense of the word in the care they receive, the clothes and food they receive is true, but they look upon these as a matter of course and would have them whether they worked or not; but as a stimulus to work they should have more than this. The boy that goes out early in the morning and fights grass or hoes corn till the dusk of evening should be made to feel that he is doing it not merely as a task imposed upon him, but doing it for himself, and that his toil will bring him reward. Let a certain proportion of the crops that he helps to work be his, to be disposed of for his benefit and the proceeds invested for his benefit. This with the sensible boy would be stimulus to work which would make work light and the hours between dawn and eve short.

The girl who milks the cows, churns the butter, looks after the hens, gathers the eggs and feeds the chicks should be made to feel like her brother in the field, that she has a personal interest in this work and the better it is done the more she will profit by it.

Give the boys a piece of ground to cultivate for themselves, show them how to do it, and let them do it. Let them plant what they can handle best and make the most out of. Let them do their own work, make their own plans, and thus they will begin to do their own thinking. Let this piece be theirs and the product little or much be theirs. Give them a calf, a sheep or two, a pig or two and let them raise them and thus train them to the management and care of stock. Give the girls a proportionate part of the butter made, the chickens and eggs sold and see how thrifty they will become. Thus make work pleasant to boy and girl because profitable, and thus teach them, too, to calculate and become their own financiers. The money they would earn in this way would make labor light, give them encouragement and make them feel that work being also reward, which is the stimulus to exertion, not only in the boy and girl but in the man and woman as well.

SIBERIA DRYING UP.

Russian geographers report that numerous lakes in Siberia, chiefly in the Tobolsk and Tomak provinces, are rapidly drying up, and that villages now stand on spots covered by extensive sheets of water a hundred years ago. Lake Tchekako has shown the most remarkable change, its area being 350 square miles a century ago, while it now consists of three small ponds, the largest covering not more than five or six square miles.

The first snow of the season fell at Paris, Ill., on the 29th ult.