

GENERAL NEWS ITEMS.

—Church organs are now made to be played by electricity.

—In 1887 the gold yield was \$97,189,795. The silver yield was only \$116,947.

—The town of Greensboro is making another effort to organize a military company.

—Anxiety is again felt in London for the safety of Stanley, the African explorer.

—Farmers, read D. I. Fort's stable advertisement, to be found in this issue of our paper.

—Henry Bergh, the friend of dumb animals, died in New York city, on Monday, the 12th inst.

—One hundred thousand persons were drowned by the recent overflow of the Yellow River in China.

—See Col. Norris, advertisement of fine Percheron blooded and graded colts. Col. Norris is thoroughly reliable.

—The *Torchlight* says two or three large tobacco manufactories are among the possibilities of the near future in Oxford.

—The newspapers have given Mr. Randall's new tariff bill the title, "A bill for the better protection of 'Trusts.'"

—The residence and kitchen of Mr. J. C. L. Harris were consumed by fire last week. Loss, \$1,500. He has our sincere sympathy.

—Sixty thousand Northerners have visited Florida during the winter just ended, whereat the Floridian hoteliers smileth complacently.

—Wilmington youth is wrestling with the measles, all classes and conditions, from the highest to the lowest, sharing alike in the luxury.

—In the 4th column, on our first page, third paragraph from bottom, for "endeavoring to rice it," it should read "endeavoring to kill it."

—Willie Chamberlain, a lad of fifteen summers, committed suicide at Jamestown, N. J., because he had been separated from his sweetheart.

—We saw a pair of shad at the stall of George N. Ives & Co., which weighed over ten pounds. Our market is now well supplied with fine fish.

—The funeral ceremonies of the late Emperor William, of Germany, will be observed throughout the "Fatherland" on Thursday next, the 23d inst.

—We are pained to learn that the venerable Dr. J. M. Worth, ex-Treasurer of the State, is critically ill at his residence at Worthville, Randolph county, N. C.

—The Auburn Dramatic Society will not give its proposed entertainment on Easter, as contemplated, but it proposes to have it soon thereafter. Notice will be given.

—The *Charlotte Observer*, under the management of Col. Chas. R. Jones, again makes regular visits to our sanctum. We welcome it to the field again and wish for it all manner of success.

—Congress has, after a sickly fashion, begun an investigation into the "trusts" which have been formed by many of the manufacturing interests of the country to keep up the price of commodities.

—Mr. Wm. A. Caldwell, of Jackson, Tenn., formerly of Greensboro, N. C., and a brother of Hon. D. F. Caldwell, of the latter city, died at his home in Tennessee on the 11th inst., of cancer.

—Col. E. B. C. Cash, of South Carolina, died at his residence near Cash's Depot, on Saturday, March 10th, of apoplexy. So says the *Charleston News and Courier* of Saturday, February 11th.

—Fred Douglass, who is making a tour through the South, has had prudence enough to leave his white wife at the North. On his arrival at Augusta, Ga., he was met by the negro military and greeted with the firing of cannons.

—Rev. J. C. Price, President of Livingston College (colored), of Salisbury, N. C., is said to favor the re-election of Mr. Cleveland to the Presidency, notwithstanding he declined the President's appointment to the Liberian Mission.

—At Cap's Hill, five miles from Charlotte, "Bill" McGin, in anger, threw a half pound stone at Leroy Elliott, which striking him in the breast, killed him instantly. Both white, and each recently married. McGin made his escape.

—As proof that they have had a comparatively mild winter in Boston, the *Journal* says that thus far this winter the city has expended only \$5,000 for re-

moving snow from the streets, against \$25,000 for the same period last year.

—The Clarendon Water Works Company, of Wilmington, are sinking an artesian well at Hilton, a suburb of Wilmington, the tube of which is ten inches in diameter. At a depth of sixty feet a strata of granite has been reached, but the boring goes on.

—Bro. Mills' little paper, *Charity and Children*, says a note from a rural post-office reads as follows: "Dear—: The reason I didn't laff when you laff at me in the Post Office yesterday was because I had a bile on my face and kan't laff. If I laff she'll bust. But I love you, bile or no bile, laff or no laff."

—Hands employed on the Greensboro water works at 75 cents a day have "struck" for a dollar a day. The contractors refused to advance the wages, and the work is suspended. There is talk of supplying the places of the strikers with Italian and Irish laborers.

—A Georgia farmer, who lives near Kenesaw mountain, with a small branch running through his farm, which you could dam up with a couple of spades of dirt, has the following sign stuck up: "Hunting positively forbidden on this place, but you can fish as much as you please."

—The editor of the *Dunn Signboard* is evidently encouraged and is looking upon the bright side. Hear him: "The South should rejoice. Her resources have been noticed, and her development is assured. In twenty-five years the South will be the grandest as well as the richest country in the world."

—Col. James D. Glenn has appointed our young friend, Mr. David Schenck, Jr., of Greensboro, to the position of Sergeant-Major of the Third Regiment of the State Guard. This is a deserved compliment to a talented young Carolinian upon whose square shoulders the handsome uniform of the State Guard will sit gracefully.

—The most harrowing accounts are given of a recent rain and snow storm which spent its fury upon the devoted cities of Washington, Philadelphia and New York. Telegraph wires were down, railroads stopped, and business of all kinds was at a dead stand-still for forty-eight hours. Nothing like it ever known before.

—Dr. H. B. Battle, of the North Carolina Experiment Station, who went to Washington City to secure payment of the appropriation to North Carolina under the Hatch bill, has returned with \$7,500, the amount due the State for the first and second quarters. The appropriation for North Carolina amounts to \$15,000 annually.

—The Elizabeth City *Falcon* gives a practical evidence of the way in which North Carolina towns are discriminated against by the different railroad companies. The *Falcon* received two small packages the same day; one was from Raleigh, on which the freight was 70 cents. The other was from New York and the freight on that was only 25 cents.

—Col. John R. Winston, of Caswell county, who distinguished himself during the late war as commander of a Confederate Regiment, and who, having been taken prisoner, escaped from Johnson's Island in the dead of winter, and after great privation and suffering, reached the Confederate lines; died at his home, of consumption, on Wednesday, the 7th inst.

—A lady's hand in request! The *Dunn Sign Board* says: "Two young men met last Thursday the 8th inst., at the residence of Mr. D. T. Jones for the purpose of marrying his daughter, Miss Sarah E. Jones. Both had license, but it is said that Mr. Jesse Reaves carried off the prize. Our sympathies are with the fellow who had a license on hand that he had no use for."

—A dispatch says, two American girls who arrived at Queenstown England from New York, by the steamship *Celtic*, were found on being searched by the custom house authorities to have considerable quantities of American tobacco concealed in their bustles. The tobacco was confiscated by the authorities, and the girls were compelled to pay a fine before being permitted to go free.

—The first of a series of concerts given by the ladies of the West-End Club of Greensboro, to raise a fund for the establishment of a public hospital, came off last week, and \$62.00, clear of expenses, were realized. "West-End" was probably suggested as a name by reason of the fact that some of the finest amateur musical talent in the South is domiciled on West-Market street, Greensboro, among

whom may be mentioned the names of the Misses Alderman and brothers, Miss Clara Albright, the Misses Jones, Miss Staples, Mrs. Branch Merrimon, and Miss Katie Scales, when she is at home in Greensboro. These, with the aid they receive from the excellent Greensboro Female College, also of the "West-End," enables the City of Flowers at short notice to present rare musical entertainments.

—Having investigated the complaint of "Many Farmers," that the authorities of the city of Raleigh discriminate against transient dealers in horses in favor of local dealers, we find that there is no just ground for the complaint. The city tax on dealers in horses is fixed at \$25 a year. This tax is paid by the resident and transient dealers alike, and secures a license to carry on such business one year.

—We saw some interesting relics of the olden times at Newbern, among them the old family clock of Governor Tryon. We saw, too, a pair of pants made of homespun for a man who was born and raised in "that country of malaria, frogs and fever," as some people erroneously call it, which measured 54 inches in length, 56 inches in the waist, and 64 inches in the hip, and being too small for the man, they had never been worn.

—An experienced pomologist having made an examination, informs us that very few of the peaches have thus far been killed. He further informed us that not more than one-fourth of the apricots have been damaged by the cold, and he says it is a fact known to all fruit growers that as long as any apricots escape there is sure to be an ample peach crop. We are glad to hear this report, as some days ago, it was reported that the peaches had been killed in the bud.

—The *Wilson Mirror*, that pathetic, æsthetic, journalistic marvel of the nineteenth century, which causes you to laugh and weep by alternation, and which is the pet-ideal of the feminine gender universal, closed its sixth volume with last week's issue. By reason of its unique and extraordinary style, it is probably better known abroad than any other North Carolina journal. There is just one *Wilson Mirror*, and it has no imitators.

—Public Printer Benedict at Washington, has refused to give the Committee investigating his bureau the names of the persons who informed him of the character of the work performed by certain discharged employees on the ground that the information was given in confidence. The Republican members of the committee have threatened to bring the matter before the House with the view of having the contumacious witness incarcerated for contempt until he divulges.

—Friday, March the 23d, having been set apart as North Carolina State Day at the Sub-Tropical Exposition, now being held at Jacksonville, Fla., the Richmond & Danville Railroad will sell round trip tickets to Jacksonville and return, for this occasion, on March 21st to 23d, good to return until April 12th (20 days), at the following rates: From Asheville, \$18.80; Charlotte, \$17.65; Greensboro, \$21.30; Hendersonville, \$17.80; Raleigh, \$22.00; Salisbury, \$19.40; Statesville, \$19.40. Those who contemplate a visit to the "Land of Flowers" will doubtless take advantage of these rates.

—Wm. A. Parker, a white man, but of very disreputable character, was taken from the guard house in the town of Washington on Saturday night, March 10th, and hanged by the neck from a draw-bridge. This man was believed to have been the murderer of Gen. Bryan Grimes, and, indeed, he was arrested and tried for the crime in the year 1880, but was acquitted. Upon a placard pinned upon his breast were these words, "Justice at last." He was probably hanged upon the ground of "general cussedness," as the vigilantes seem to have made no specific charge against him.

—The commissioner of Agriculture at Washington has published an elaborate report of the alarming ravages caused by English sparrows in all parts of the country where they have been introduced, and urges that systematic efforts be made for their extermination. The report says: "In the latitude of New York, and southward it hatches, as a rule, five or six broods in a season, with from four to six young in a brood. Assuming the average annual product of a pair to be twenty-four young, of which half are females and half males, and assuming further, for the sake of computation, that all live, to-

gether with their offspring, it will be seen that in ten years the progeny of a single pair would be 275,716,983,698."

—Can anything be neater than the following, which is the closing paragraph of the *Wilson Mirror's* reference to the completion of its sixth volume: "The fifty-two pages of the *Mirror* contain all of those variegated scenes which are painted upon the landscape of existence. One glance reveals a bright, beautiful, glorious scene—a scene of bliss and perfect happiness, for love fulfilled in happiest wedlock had brought a Heaven there, and drained that sweet abode of its entrancing raptures; the next glance shows a somber scene, dark with shadows that hath no fringe of light, for the crape on the door tells of crape in the heart, and how death had torn the loved ones apart. And so the record of life goes on, some are happy and some forlorn; some in the flood of love's glad light, and some in the darkness of sorrow's night. Yes, light and shade together blend, as weary mortals grave-ward bend; the *Mirror's* volume reflects all this—the frowns of woe and the smiles of bliss."

—The following description of the burning of a smoke-house, in spite of the efforts of the bucket brigade, written by the editor of the *Meriden (Miss.) Democrat*, inspires the editor of the *Milwaukee Sentinel* to remark: "It pays to give a boy a college education when you want to make an editor of him." The description: "The water seemed to spur the fire to wilder deeds. The flames and the smoke rolled higher and higher, and the scene became luridly, awfully magnificent beyond tottering words' power to paint! It was a canto of Dante's 'Inferno,' acted in all its fiery pomp and splendor. Banners of flame would now be waived out by dark smoke-hands, then ten million curling little penons of fire would hiss and flutter, then vanish, and a great reeling tower of smoke, whose darkness was stabbed and spangled with flame and sparks, would fill the scene, while all around the surrounding buildings grimly shot back from reflecting surfaces a crimson greeting, and up in the far-off sky the out-glistened stars turned pale for shame, and the moon, through the drifted smoke, glowed like a bowl of blood." Oh! so tired!—so tired!!

—On Wednesday the 28th of this month Messrs. Norris & Carter will have their Semi-Annual Grand Opening which will last three days, including the 29th and 30th. Mr. Norris, who has been in New York during the past three weeks, has made many purchases especially for this occasion, and many of the choice articles will only be seen at that time. It is their purpose to make this surpass, in every way, any opening they have ever had, and they invite the people of the State to visit the city at that time and witness the grand display.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.,  
March 1, '88.

Col. L. L. Polk, Secretary F. S. A.:

DEAR SIR AND BRO.:—I herewith hand you my report for the month of February, as follows:

Providence Alliance was organized February 10th, with 14 members. President, W. E. Ardrey; Secretary, O. E. Cunningham. Secretary's postoffice, Harrison, Mecklenburg county.

On February 18th, Hebron Alliance was organized with 13 members. President, C. P. Elliott; Secretary, J. H. Burnett. Secretary's postoffice, Pineville, Mecklenburg county.

The work of organizing is moving forward fairly well, and I see nothing discouraging. Mecklenburg county now has eighteen Alliances, all in good working order.

Fraternally yours,  
E. W. LYLES.

NOTICE TO WAKE COUNTY ALLIANCES.

Col. G. B. Pickett will be in Raleigh on Wednesday the 21st inst. to address the officers and members of our order. He is very anxious that every member of the order should be present, as he desires to present matters of great importance for their consideration.

We are requested to remind the Secretaries of the sub-Alliances of Wake county, that it is important for each one to be present at the regular quarterly meeting of their Association, which takes place in this city on Friday, March 30th.

VERY IMPORTANT RULING OF PRESIDENT ALEXANDER.

We call special attention to an important, and we think most salutary ruling of President Alexander in regard to the dues or quarterage of members of the Alliance.

Read it carefully and be governed accordingly. The State Secretary under instructions will send to all Secretaries in the State this week, new blank forms for quarterly reports which will take the place of all that have been hitherto used. He will send also a circular explaining in full how and when to make the reports. He hopes now to relieve his brother Secretaries of some of the troubles and annoyances which have attended this part of their work.

ERROR IN OUR WORKING BULLETIN.

I call attention of all Subordinate and County Secretaries to an error in our Working Bulletin. The latter part of paragraph 13, on page 7, reads: "County Alliances report semi-annually, &c., and it should read 'quarterly, by the first Friday of January, April, July and October.'" See Sec. 8, Art. 2, of our State Constitution.

L. L. POLK,  
Sec'y State Alliance.

TO SECRETARIES OF SUBORDINATE ALLIANCES.

Be sure to have your quarterly report ready by the last day of the prest quarter. Do not wait for the meeting of the County Alliance on the first Friday in April, but have it made out and have your dues all paid at the last meeting in this quarter of your Alliance, and by the last day of the quarter mail it with all money due the County Alliance, to the County Secretary on that day. This will enable him to have the report for the whole county ready on the day of the meeting of the County Alliance. It is very important that this matter be attended to.

L. L. POLK,  
Sec'y State Alliance.

NOTICE TO APPLICANTS FOR COMMISSIONS AS ORGANIZERS.

Hereafter no Commissions will be issued to an applicant as Deputy Organizer of the Farmers' Alliance unless the applicant be accompanied by the endorsement of the officers of the County Alliance, as to the fitness and qualifications of the applicant, and it must state that he is a man of good standing and character in his community.

L. L. POLK,  
Sec'y State Alliance.

FARMERS' MEETINGS.

Col. G. B. Pickett, State Organizer and National Lecturer of the Farmers' Alliance, will address the farmers and public generally at the following times and places:

Raleigh, Wake County, Wednesday, March 21st.	21st.
Louisburg, Franklin County, Friday, March 23d.	23d.
Henderson, Vance County, Saturday, March 24th.	24th.
Oxford, Granville County, Monday, March 26th.	26th.
Mt. Energy, Granville County Tuesday, March 27th.	27th.
Warrenton, Warren County, Wednesday, March 28th.	28th.
Littleton, Halifax County, Thursday, March 29th.	29th.
Whitaker's, Edgecombe Co., Monday, April 2d.	2d.
Tarboro, Edgecombe Co., Tuesday, April 3d.	3d.
"Rocky Mount, Wednesday "	4th.
Nashville, Nash Co., Thursday, "	5th.
Wilson, Wilson " Friday, "	6th.
Goldboro, Wayne, " Saturday, "	7th.
Clinton, Sampson " Monday, "	9th.
Kenansville, Duplin " Tuesday, "	10th.
Jacksonville, Onslow Co., Thursday, "	12th.
Trenton, Jones Co., Saturday, "	14th.
Newbern, Craven Co., Monday, "	16th.
Kinston, Lenoir Co., Tuesday, "	17th.
LaGrange, Lenoir Co., Wednesday, "	18th.
Snow Hill, Greene Co., Thursday, "	19th.
Falkland, Pitt Co., Friday, "	20th.
Greenville, " Saturday, "	21st.

It is very important that every member of the Alliance, and especially the officers, should be present and hear Bro. Pickett. He will discuss the principles and purposes of our order. He is thoroughly posted and is in all respects a fine representative of the Alliance. Everybody invited to hear him.

L. L. POLK,  
Sec'y N. C. F. S. Alliance.

IN MEMORIAM.

WHEREAS, It has pleased Almighty God to remove by death, after an illness of meningitis of five weeks duration, our sister, Mrs. M. C. McDonald, on March the 4th, 1888, at 7:30 o'clock in the morning; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Erie Alliance has lost an honored and esteemed member, one in whom every member of the society had the highest confidence, and had learned to love.

Resolved, That this Alliance, though feeling this loss heavily, bows to the will of an Allwise God submissively, feeling that "all things work together for good to them that love God."

Resolved, That we extend our deepest sympathy to the grief-stricken husband and teh devoted mother, and many relatives.

Resolved, That these resolutions be spread on the minutes of Erie Mills Alliance, and a copy sent to the family of the deceased, and to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER for publication.

J. M. BENNETT,  
S. D. BALLARD,  
C. W. SCARBORO,  
Committee.

Erie Mills Alliance, Montgomery county, N. C., March 10th, 1888.  
(Biblical Recorder please copy.)

HAVING TAKEN charge of the Stables known as Wynne's Stables, on East Morgan St., this is to notify the public that I will have the

Best Accommodation for Man and Beast.

SPECIAL RATES TO FARMERS' ALLIANCES.  
Call and see me and get rates.  
D. L. FORT.