

STATE NEWS.

The infant son of Prof. Dred Peacock died Monday, at Trinity College.

There is slight improvement in the condition of Grand Sire Busbee, but he is still considered critically ill.

A movement, backed by \$75,000, is on foot to establish a spinning mill at High Point, on the co-operative plan.

The recent hot weather reminds the editor of the *Recorder* that "Durham needs forty thousand more shade trees than she now has."

*Charity and Children* says: "Some people, and good people, too, think a boy's soul cannot be converted 'till his body is old enough to be hung."

The peach crop promises to be a very fine one in the central and western portions of the State. The "coast" crop of peaches is a dismal failure.

Walter Davis, a little inmate of the Thompson Orphanage, at Charlotte, had his arm broken on Tuesday last while wrestling with a companion.

The Oxford *Day*, a few days ago, was shown by Superintendent T. W. Winston, a pair of silk half hose manufactured in the Oxford Knitting Mills.

The Greensboro *North State* is responsible for the statement that "Tranby Croft" is the name of the new inn just opened by Capt. J. W. Flanagan.

Rev. Rob't Burwell, father of Capt. Armistead and W. R. Burwell, of this city, says the *Charlotte Chronicle*, who is here on a visit, celebrated his eighty-ninth birthday a few days ago.

Mr. Walter P. Stradley, a young man of Oxford, has passed a very successful examination at the Vanderbilt University, completing a two-year's course in one year, and winning the degree of LL. B.

A movement is on foot, and in a fair way to succeed, *vide the Chronicle*, to close the stores at half-past 6 p. m., and thus give the Charlotte clerks, lads and lassies a half hour's more time for recreation each day.

It is said the real estate assessors at Weldon have advanced the valuation of property 50 per cent., and in many instances 100 per cent. The landowners are disposed to question the justice of this heavy advance in values.

Prof. Geo. W. Greene, of Wake Forest College, has been appointed a missionary to China by the Baptist Foreign Mission Board. He was for some years in charge of a school at Moravian Falls. He leaves for Canton, Sept. 1st.

Miss Myra Alderman, the pretty and accomplished daughter of Prof. W. F. Alderman, of Greensboro, was united in marriage to Mr. E. G. Albright on Wednesday, the 17th inst. Good wishes, rice and old slippers followed them in abundance.

Mr. B. F. Aycock, one of the Trustees of the Girl's Industrial School, says it is proposed to have the buildings completed at Greensboro by June 1st and the School opened by that time. It is proposed to expend about \$33,000 upon the buildings.

Thursday last was the day set apart all over the South for contributions to be made to a fund for a monument to Jefferson Davis. Large contributions were not asked, but a mite from every one. At this writing the amount contributed cannot be given.

Mr. T. M. Shaw, of Mecklenburg, tells the *Chronicle* editor that he has yet forty acres of grass cotton. He estimates that it will take 120 hands one day to hoe it out. He says it is as much as a hand can do to hoe one-fourth of an acre a day. How ghastly!

Miss Blanche Bumgarten, of Charlotte, who has been in New York studying photography, has gone to Chicago, which claims to be the "hub of the universe" in the matter of the photographic art, to further perfect her studies. This plucky young lady will succeed, without a doubt.

The *Wilmington Messenger* congratulates its gifted townsman, Prof. Ed. A. Alderman, upon the Professor's election to the chair of History and English in the Normal Female School soon to be located at Greensboro. The Professor is, indeed, the right man for the position.

Mr. Bellinger and bride arrived in Charlotte on Tuesday from Lenoir. The bride has relatives in Charlotte. Both she and her husband are deaf and dumb. They became acquainted through a mutual friend by letter, and he came east and they were married about 10 days ago. Ring out the bells.

The *Wilmington Messenger* says that a letter received in that city from Red Springs, N. C., in answer to inquiries regarding the appearance and prospects of the crops in that section, says that cotton had a severe set back by the frosts in April, and, later, the lice have killed about as much as the frost did. The grass has been very hard to kill, and the hoeing has cost nearly double what it did last year. The crop is now looking fairly well, and with

continued favorable seasons a good harvest is generally expected. Corn is good, with a fair promise of an abundant crop. Oats are in excellent condition and will harvest finely.

According to the *Wilmington Messenger*, when Senator Vance was asked if he expected his sea voyage would make him very sick the reply was: "Yes, I expect to throw up everything but my seat in the Senate." It has been well understood for a long time that the old gent is much attached to his seat in the Senate.

The *Rattler*, of Whitaker's, became enthused last week, and, under the heading "North Carolina," warbled after this fashion: "No skies are bluer, No climate purer, No hearts beat truer, Than in our good old State. Then stand by her, Never deary her, Never deny her, But share her every fate." 'Nuff said; we'll do it.

The *Pittsboro Record* says: "The employees of the Raleigh & Gaston Railroad Company have decided to have their annual picnic at this place, on a day not yet named, and we doubt not it will be a most enjoyable occasion. A hearty welcome will be given them by our citizens, and everything will be done to render their visit pleasant."

The village of Whitaker's, according to the *Rattler*, is rapidly becoming a rattling place. On Saturday night, near the Baptist church in that place, a fistcuff took place between Henry Edmonds and Jim Bell—both highly colored and corned—in which Edmonds received a cut from a razor on the back and left side of the neck three inches long and one and a-half inches deep. Bell is still at large.

The Steel and Iron Company, of Greensboro, has given the contract for the brick, and also the stone, to be used in the construction of its furnace, and the *Patriot* of the 18th inst., says the C. F. & Y. V. only awaits the right of way to begin laying its track through the cemetery grounds to the Steel Works. This will be given probably Thursday when the absent commissioners return to sign the papers.

Mr. J. Van Lindley, of Guilford, President of the American Association of Nurserymen, has returned from Minneapolis, Minn. The next work before this industrious and enterprising Carolinian is the North Carolina Fruit Fair, to be held in Greensboro, in the month of August. Mr. Lindley says Mr. Addison Coffin, formerly a citizen of Guilford, will run an excursion to Greensboro, from Indiana, so as to take in the Fruit Fair.

A correspondent, writing from Hillsboro, informs the *Greensboro Patriot* that a mad dog visited the premises of E. C. Thompson, about two weeks ago at night—bit fowls, cattle &c. Since then the following have gone mad and had to be killed: three sheep, four geese, two calves and several hens and a dog. The dog number 2, went mad and bit two little negroes. The wounds of the negroes have healed, but no doubt they'll go mad yet.

Mr. C. J. Jenkins showed the *Carthage Blade*, last week, the oldest pocket knife the editor of that paper ever saw. On the blade the date "1760" is distinctly stamped. It was found about three weeks ago by Mr. Jenkins' little daughter, on his lot, which he says was used as a campground a hundred years or more ago. The knife is of the Barlow pattern and is badly worn. It was doubtless used by some of the pioneer settlers of Moore county.

Mrs. Catharine Whitener, widow of Daniel B. Whitener, died at the residence of her son Frank, on Jacob's Fork, in Catawba county, on Wednesday, 3d inst., at the ripe old age of 101 years, nine months and two days. This remarkable old lady, says the *Hickory Press*, was born September 1st, 1789, was married June 9th, 1815, and was buried June 4th, 1891. Her son says she was never bed sick, never had a physician and never took a dose of drugstore medicine in all her life. She left nearly one hundred descendants.

Recently the *Concord Standard* gave an interesting account of a marriage in jail in 1784 in Ireland, the couple being John Harris and Eleanor Renalds. Rev. Dr. Thos. Clark was a prisoner because he would not take the oath of abjuration, and the young people came into jail that he might marry them.

From the couple thus married descended eighteen ministers of the Gospel. They came to Lancaster county, Pa., and settled, thence they moved to York county, S. C. Of the ministers four were Harrises, six Griers, two Youngs, and the other six Robinsons, Peoples, Chalmers, Spratt, McKee and Cannon. Some of the grandchildren of this couple who were married by their imprisoned pastor in that Irish jail, 1784, are well known in this part of the State and South Carolina, as Mr. Leonard Harris, of Chester, S. C.; Mr. Hugh Harris, of Mecklenburg; Mrs. Isabella Harris Caldwell, of Harrisburg, and Mrs. Ellen Harris Query, of Davidson College.

FROM WASHINGTON.

THE BLACK RECORD.

The Mortgage Millstone Around the Necks of the People—The Awful Facts Which the Old Parties are Silent About—Enough to Justify a Revolution—Hypocrisy Exposed—An Article by H. W. Ayer. [Copyright, 1891, by the Reform Press News Association.]

If there is any one thing on earth which the old party liners and partisans are regretting and pining over it is the provision they made for securing a report of the mortgage indebtedness of the country. This provision was exacted from them mainly by the Alliance. It has been said, and perhaps truthfully, that if there had been the slightest anticipation of the astounding revelations brought out by this work the appropriation for carrying it on would have never been made, for concealment of vital facts and statistics seems to have been the preferred policy of the majority of the sharpers of national legislation for years past.

Senators and Congressmen and Governors and the like have for a long time past been accustomed to deal in "spread eagle" generalities in which they proclaimed the greatness of this country and the prosperity of the people. The people have been accustomed to listen to such generalities, and have tried to force themselves to believe that these orators were announcing a general truth. Hundreds, thousands, yea millions of the toilers of the land, who were struggling and battling with adverse circumstances and conditions brought about largely by national legislation which discriminated against them, have listened to the glittering orations. Each individual knew that he shared none of the prosperity so eloquently talked about, but he thought he was one of a few who were in some way subjected to circumstances which no honest energy, even though aided by rigid economy, could control; and in his loyal patriotism he would cheer the rich sounding sentiments.

But "truth will out." In time, neighbors began to find out that each one was subject to the same oppressions and inequalities, and began to realize that they were all fighting serious and almost insurmountable obstacles to a comfortable livelihood—something they knew their exertions fully entitled them to. When they said that something was wrong they were told by their congressmen that they were either extravagant or did not work hard enough. This was announced from the platform, from the stump, by the press and even from the pulpit. The people of one State were told that the people in other States were more prosperous and progressive than they, because more industrious and frugal.

Hearing these things the people quieted themselves yet a little longer. They worked harder. They sowed and toiled in hope only to reap in disappointment and almost in despair, for they saw that much production added to their labor and expense, while it seemed to decrease the price of their products below the cost of production. Then they demanded to know why these things were so, and each man wished to know whether or not his brother toilers throughout the land were subjected to the same conditions and influences.

Congressmen and statesmen, while hooting at and pooh poohing the complaints of the people, finally provided a way for finding out something about their general condition. They have discovered the appalling record of 9,000,000 of mortgages on the homes of 63,000,000 of people—a mortgage on four out of every five of the homes in this great American Union of States. Now will any one of these orators have the effrontery to say that this record is the result of indolence and extravagance? Will he dare say that four out of every five of the families of this nation are lazy and shiftless?

This mortgage record does not include lien mortgages or mortgages on chattels and personal property. It does not include the mortgages made by railroads or general corporations and companies. It only includes mortgages on home lands, not even taking in mortgages on farms occupied by tenants.

The sum total of these mortgages will run up into an amount beyond easy comprehension. But black and awful as the record now appears it does not tell the full truth. The "interest mortgage" is something which, hanging with the same force and effect over millions of homes, is not reckoned in the number reported, nor is the amount for which they are given included in the general indebtedness. The official census bulletin says:

"The interest mortgage is common between the Mississippi river and the Rocky Mountains north of Arkansas and the Indian Territory. It generally represents an addition to the annual

rate of from 2 to 4 per cent. For instance: When a loan of \$1,000 for five years is made, a first mortgage is given for \$1,000 at 7 per cent., and a second mortgage for \$150 without interest, representing 3 per cent. of the principal yearly, and going to the negotiator of the loan, if not to the lender. Special agents were instructed not to return these second mortgages as principal, but to convert them into additions to the apparent rates of interest borne by the first mortgages.

Now, though this first mortgage of \$150 hangs over the home, it is not included in the number of mortgages, nor is the amount it represents included in the sum total of the indebtedness. But it is a mortgage nevertheless, and if a man should succeed in paying off the \$1,000 mortgage, his home may yet be seized and sold for payment of the \$150.

One thing which is significant is the painful silence of the statesmen and great journals of the country on this matter. Nothing is being said about it. The facts are not being laid broadly and plainly before the people. Why this silence? Even the census seems to care little about making the information known among the people. Only 5,000 copies of the bulletin showing the mortgage indebtedness of Alabama and Iowa were printed for distribution. This may appear significant when it is stated that 26,000 copies of a bulletin giving statistics of Maryland coal were printed, and there are only thirty coal mines in Maryland. Twenty thousand copies of the bulletin on quicksilver were printed, while 50,000 copies of the bulletin on slate mining were published.

The hint thrown out recently by the bureau that a fund was being gotten up with a view of trying to buy up and silence Alliance papers appears not to have been ill-timed. The *Economist*, of Arkansas, announces that overtures for its purchase have been made. The *Record*, of Avon, Washington, which has been a strong Alliance paper, has been purchased, and orders have been sent in to discontinue the Alliance letters. The time to watch and be on guard has come. H. W. AYER, Man'g'r Reform Press Bureau.

MR. EDITOR:—I am just home from a lecturing tour in the counties of Surry and Forsythe, and thought this evening as I had an opportunity I would tell your many readers how the order is progressing in that section of the old North State. The first place I spoke at in Surry was Little Richmond. There I found some staunch Alliance men and a flourishing organization. I spoke to a tolerably good-sized crowd in the morning and exemplified the unwritten word in the evening. At Low Gap I found one of the largest Sub-Alliances in the county. We had quite a good crowd and an enthusiastic meeting. The Alliance at that place—Liberty Hill—is taking hold of a joint stock company, and the indications are favorable to their success. At Poplar Springs I found a large Alliance and spoke to a good audience. At Stony Ridge I found a model Alliance composed of men who have an abiding faith in the principles of our organization—"men who know their rights; and knowing, dare maintain them." I spent Saturday night, Sunday and Sunday night with that hospitable gentleman Mr. McBoyd, who represented his county at the State Alliance last year. Bro. Boyd has a beautiful country residence right under the shadow of that magnificent piece of nature's handiwork, the Pilot Mountain, which rears its granite-crowned summit in magnificent grandeur far above the surrounding plain till from its top can be seen points in seven States. The memory of the pleasant hours spent with those generous people will long be cherished by the writer. Bro. Boyd and his estimable wife are model members of the Alliance. Would that we had many more such, but I am digressing. At Pfafftown, in Forsythe county, I met the "noblest Roman of them all," Bro. Virgil A. Wilson, and found a splendid Alliance spreading itself like a green bay three. At New Philadelphia I found one of the most flourishing Alliances in Forsythe, the men at the helm are enthusiastic and are workers and several of them are anxious to ally themselves with the "People's Party."

On my return I spent the night at the beautiful little village of Boonville, in Yadkin county, although that county does not belong to our district, the 8th. I spoke to rather a small audience for about an hour on the origin and growth of our organization, some of the causes that have brought this organization into existence and on the demands of the order. Everywhere that I went the Alliance is looking up, their watchword—"onward and upward." The emancipation of the toiling masses from the grasp of organized monopoly, their aim. God grant that they may be successful. They are forging their organizations, setting their house in order and getting ready for the great conflict of 1892 that will try the souls of men as the days of '76. The people all through the section I have just visited are becoming more of a reading and thinking people, and the result is that there is a mighty spirit of unrest pervading the entire section perceptible even to a casual observer. Fraternally yours,

C. C. WRIGHT, Ass't Lecturer 8th district.

REVOLTS BY FARMERS.

Two Revolutions in Which They Were Successful.

*They Had Not the Bailot and Were Obligated to Use Force—Grievances Similar to Those Which Now Oppress the People Remorselessly Avenged.*

It is hard to believe that the quiet, long suffering and conservative farmers are ever revolutionary in their ideas and methods. They submit to a great deal of oppression and plundering, but it is dangerous to crowd them to the wall. In at least two great modern revolutionary movements the farmers took the lead and came out on top. In England, in 1381, the farmers and the masses generally had scarcely any rights that were respected by the governing classes. The story is too long to tell in detail, but something like a farmers' Alliance was organized with Wat Tyler at the head.

The movement spread to the towns and cities, and the people were soon banded together to resist unjust taxation and oppressive laws. The countrymen with their town allies got together in a compact body and swept over the land like a prairie fire. From county to county and from town to town they pushed their rapid march until they reached London, where, after losing their leader in a skirmish, they dispersed when the King had made them certain promises. The government succeeded in punishing many of the prominent ring leaders, but the solid fruits of victory rested with the revolutionists.

From that time for about a century English farmers and workmen had the use of as much land as they could cultivate, and were free to combine together for self-protection. That period was the golden age of England. Then there was no poverty. All were well fed, well clothed and well paid. After that, in the sixteenth century, the monopolists, the privileged classes, forcibly gained control, and the concentration of wealth in the hands of the few plunged the many into poverty.

Another farmers' revolution was the one in France in the latter part of the eighteenth century. The French countrymen were as much oppressed as their English brethren were in the fourteenth century. They organized local societies with a central society, and in the course of a bloody carnival of several years' duration brought their king and queen and thousands of their oppressors to the guillotine. Generations of suffering made them unreasonably violent, and they gave France what is known in history as the "Reign of Terror." Yet this revolution was a great triumph for democracy. It greatly modified monarchical rule in Europe, and paved the way for the present French republic, under which the farmers are the most prosperous people on the face of the earth.

These two revolutions were essentially farmers' movements. There is much in them that will shock the readers of to-day, but it should be remembered that in those days the people did not have the ballot to right their wrongs, and they had to resort to force. In both England and France these popular upheavals resulted in substantial victories for the farmers.

The uprising in this country at the present time of the agricultural population recalls the historic events which we have briefly outlined. Like the tillers of the soil in England and France, our farmers are kept down by unjust taxes, oppressive laws and monopolists, who, in their way, are dangerous as the feudal barons of old. But our people, armed with the ballot, understand the power of organized action, and they know the full significance of the supremacy of numbers. Yet, while this great struggle for reform is thoroughly peaceful and in the interests of peace, it bids fair to be as sweeping a revolution as the others that we have mentioned.

The cause of the united farmers is the cause of democracy. It is an effort to restore a government of the people, for the people and by the people, with equal rights for all, and special privileges for none. It is a cause that will win, and its triumph will be all the more glorious because it will be a victory of peace, a victory of honest labor, won through ballots instead of through bayonets, won at the polls and not on battlefields. This hurried glance at the past is suggestive. It shows what organized farmers have done, and foreshadows what they will do.—*Atlanta Constitution*.

OAK GROVE LODGE, Granville Co., May 21, 1891.

MR. EDITOR:—Saturday, April 25th, was a day which will doubtless be long and pleasantly remembered by the good people of Granville, who gathered in the grove at Bethel church to listen to the Alliance lecturer of the Fifth Congressional District, Bro. J. B. Smith. The weather was most propitious, and dame nature seemed to have

donned her finest robes to grace the occasion, the bursting tree buds, tender blossoming wild flowers and the warm glow of the sunshine lending their aid in leading our thoughts away from the prophetic picture of the impending conflict with the monied powers, which Bro. Smith drew so strongly far us, up to that power above who holds the scales of justice in His omnipotent hand, and whose ear is ever open to the cry of the oppressed. At 11 o'clock Bro. Smith opened his address with a most stirring appeal to the ladies, urging them to throw the weight of their influence with their brethren of the Alliance, in the effort to stem the tide of oppression and consequent distress so rapidly and surely approaching our beloved land. He showed the good women of this country their duties, in strong language, telling them a truism long felt and known by the sex, "That whatever trouble or oppression comes upon any land, it is most severely felt by the women of that country." It is to be hoped his seed was sown in fertile soil, and as the iron heel of the oppressor marches remorselessly down upon us, we will devoutly trust many of our good women will be found on the watch for opportunities for throwing themselves heartily into the great work of resistance. There is much we can do, in a womanly way, to aid our brethren, who will always be in the thickest of the fight; encourage them by our presence, strengthen them by our prayers, and where self-denial or brave endurance is needed the true woman will always be found. Ye daughters of this sunny land who have held aloof from the Alliance, come forward now, you are needed and when duty calls ye should not be laggards. Bro. Smith next took up some of the most important questions now before our order:—"The rapid growth of monopolies; the danger most imminent from this quarter; the oppression of the farmers by this class of men; the trouble that must ensue if the Alliance does not stem the torrent; the importance of concert in action between the Alliances; the opposition we must make to these monied powers by a bold, unbroken front; the slavery, worse than Russian serfdom, which will fall upon this land unless the Alliance can successfully beat down the powers that threaten us; the feasibility of the free coinage of silver; the importance of having some plan established by which the farmer—so long down-trodden—can rightfully claim the same aid from our government, that is granted to banks, Wall street speculators, Bonded Warehouses, Distilleries, &c., &c. Each of these points he handled most ably, winning many encomiums from the body of good farmers gathered around him, who listened with interest to his words of warning and wisdom. His illustrations were apt and to the point, his language strong and forcible. Being entirely in sympathy with the farming class—a farmer himself—Bro. Smith has the happy faculty of approaching very close to the warmest feelings of his hearers, making thereby most effectual appeals to the order for which he is now bravely and earnestly devoting his time and service. The morning exercises were enlivened by the sweet strains of the Bethel chorus class, led by their efficient teacher, Mr. W. Patterson, and after listening to their stirring songs, a most bountiful dinner was spread of which the crowd partook, with evident enjoyment. After a short period of social pleasure, there was more music by the chorus class, followed by an excellent speech from our County Lecturer, Bro. A. T. Peace, another good Allianceman. Bro. Peace is a capital speaker, gaining the attention of his audience at the outset and holding it throughout, by his stirring appeals and happy hits, keeping ever in the minds of his hearers the grave importance of the question in hand. Time being limited Bro. Peace necessarily abridged his remarks, not being able to cover so much ground as Bro. Smith did in the morning, but what was said was ably spoken, and greatly enjoyed by those who listened. Afterwards a meeting of the Fairport Lodge was held, at which the writer was a visiting member, with a number of others. Bro. Smith gave us a most excellent lecture, which will not soon be forgotten by this writer. Thus ended a most pleasant day for the Alliance in this section. Those represented were, Fairport, Oak Grove, Kittrell and Tabbs Creek.

Fraternally,  
OAK GROVE.

NOTICE FROM STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The State Alliance does not pay the expenses of anyone visiting or speaking to Alliances except the State President or Lecturers, and any Alliances inviting speakers to address them should expect at least to pay their expenses. S. B. Alexander, J. M. Mewborne, J. S. Johnston—Committee.