

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER

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RALEIGH, N. C., DEC. 12, 1893

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The Progressive Farmer is the Official Organ of the N. C. Farmers' State Alliance

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N. R. P. A.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

When the North Carolina politicians were weighed they were all found wanting—an office under Elias or Simmons.

Seaside Alliance, Pender county, has recently re-organized and is now on the upgrade. Let the good work go on.

The politicians didn't mean it when they said prices would go up after the repeal of the Sherman law. They meant to say prices would go down.

The Richmond Times, Democratic, says its party carried the State by fraud in the recent election. We suppose it knows what it is talking about.

If the Republicans were in now our Democratic friends could charge the hard times up to them. As the case now stands, Grover must be responsible.

We advise our friends to buy as few New England made goods as possible. Resist the temptation to buy Christmas goods, or anything that you can do without.

The Concord street railway cost \$30,000 three years ago. Last week it sold for \$5,000, one sixth of its value. That is one of the many bad results of a gold bug policy.

We are requested to say that Edgecombe County Alliance will meet near Eagle's Store, in No. 9 township. Date will be announced later. All delegates will be hospitably entertained.

President Cleveland's last message has just one praiseworthy feature. He didn't rehearse that old lie about how prosperous and happy the people are. He didn't say one word about it.

The Trustees of the A. & M. College met here last week. They found the College in good shape. The Trustees discussed the football games and talked like they didn't approve of the game.

Kansas is a great State—the Empire State of the Northwest. Within her borders no less than 765 newspapers and periodicals are published, or about three times the total number published in North Carolina.

"The mountain labored and brought forth a mouse." The quotation may not be understood, but it means that the tariff reform some of us "fit, bled and died for" many years, is a mouse, and a very small one.

Hard times are causing many robberies and much petty thieving. A few nights ago some persons entered a lot on the premises of Mr. A. M. Tyler, Secretary of the Virginia Agricultural Society, at Richmond, butched a fine Jersey cow and carried the beef away. This was a bold stroke. The rogues left the hide behind, which, we presume, was done to prove that they were administration men.

We don't like to be forever giving advice to people who are so thick-headed, but it is a duty. The bankers who are falling ought to diversify. Instead of depending entirely upon lending money for a living, they ought to buy a few shotguns, umbrellas and buggies to lend out. If the manufacturers would raise their own raw material instead of buying it, they would be prosperous and happy.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We will not undertake to publish all of the President's latest message. To wade through 17,000 words of dry rubbish that would be unworthy of a member of the last legislature, if written by him, is a punishment that our patrons do not deserve.

After getting off a great mass of stuff about foreign affairs, something the people of America care no more about than they do about how the natives of Africa part their hair, the President gives a synopsis of the reports made by the heads of departments. This is interesting, but is not new to the reading public.

The financial question is the leading one. The President leaves unsaid all that he ought to have said, and what he does say is just what nobody wanted to hear. However, we will give that in full. He declares himself in favor of issuing more bonds, in the following language:

"I desire also to earnestly suggest the wisdom of amending the existing statutes in regard to the issuance of government bonds. The authority now vested in the Secretary of the Treasury to issue bonds is not as clear as it should be and the bonds authorized are disadvantageous to the government, both as to the time of their maturity and rate of interest."

He knocks any further financial legislation on the head in the following:

"In the nature of things, however, it is impossible to know at this time, precisely what conditions will be brought about by the change, or what, if any, supplementary legislation may, in the light of such conditions, appear to be essential or expedient. Of course, after the recent financial depression, time is necessary for the re-establishment of business confidence. When, however, through this restored confidence the money which has been frightened into hoarding places is returned to trade and enterprise, a survey of the situation will probably disclose a safe path leading to a permanently sound currency, abundantly sufficient to meet every requirement of our increasing population and business. In the pursuit of this object we should resolutely turn away from alluring and temporary expedients, determined to be content with nothing less than a lasting and comprehensive financial plan. In these circumstances, I am convinced that a reasonable delay in dealing with this subject, instead of being injudicious, will increase the probability of wise action."

Of course, to carry out the gold standard policy, such language was expected from the President of Wall and Lombard street. Those who "hoped" something would be done can now prepare for disappointment. For our part we expected nothing.

Mr. Cleveland declares he is in favor of tariff reform, and virtually endorses the Wilson bill. We have told our readers that it makes no reduction except where the tariff is very high and prohibitory—high enough to make a slight reduction and still be prohibitory. The articles on the free list are simply the products of the fields, mines and forests—articles that we export, but do not import. For instance there was a tariff of eight cents per pound on hops. There was never a pound of hops brought here from foreign lands, but we export quantities of hops. Free wheat, free mules, free wool, means just the same thing. The tariff is for the sole benefit of manufacturers, and if anybody is benefited the placing of all farm, mine and forest products on the free list will benefit the manufacturers by enabling them to get your products cheaper, while they are protected after the goods are made up. In brief, the tariff reform(?) Mr. Cleveland says he favors is a fraud, and we are prepared to prove it by the figures of the Wilson bill itself.

We have had the Bill McKinley tariff bill, and now we have the Bill Wilson bill. One was Republican, the other is Democratic. The Bill McKinley bill didn't raise the price of things and the Bill Wilson bill won't lower the price. Are we any better off, Bill?

THE DEADLY GRIP.

The grip has appeared at a number of points in England and America. Twenty persons have died in one week in a Kansas town. It is likely that it will spread all over the country as it did four years ago. It was very fatal then, and many died from it after lingering for months and even a year or two.

As in everything else, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. The disease is easily managed if you stop work and begin at once. The symptoms vary slightly, but dull or acute pains in the body and limbs and an unusual, queer pain in the head generally serve as a danger signal. Doctors may not all agree with us, but experience is worth almost as much as scientific knowledge. The moment you realize that you are sick and feel the above symptoms, go home at once. Don't go to bed, but stay in a comfortable room until you are well. Begin treatment at once by drinking rye whiskey freely. In addition to this drink as much lemonade as you can all the time. Take moderate-sized doses of quinine several times a day. Take

as much quinine as you can with safety. Eat any ordinary food. People in the country do not always have rye whiskey in easy reach, but it should be procured if the disease becomes epidemic. Lemons and quinine can be kept ready also. The patient may get right sick and feel like his brains are "sloshing up against the roof of his head," as a celebrated writer once said in describing his experience with the disease, but a large per cent. will get off light if the above directions are followed and extra care taken in nursing.

Mr. Peelo says the reform press in other States do not publish what he writes. In this he is mistaken. His article on the "Wall Street Party Against the South and the West," was sent out to many hundreds of reform papers by one of the Western news paper associations.

SPECIAL STUDIES.

It is a good plan for farmers' clubs, Alliances and other similar organizations to take up the study of some special subject and discuss it for a part of the time at each meeting. By so doing a large amount of information will be acquired in a short time, and the discussions fasten it in the memory so firm that it stays there. We know of one club that took up agricultural chemistry last winter, and, although chemistry is thought to be a very dry study, there was such an interest aroused that most of the time at several meetings was devoted to this subject, and in the end the members knew more about how crops grow and the value of fertilizers than they ever thought possible with the small effort that was made. Most of the members of that club have no difficulty in determining the value of a fertilizer upon being given its analysis, and a good many of them have a pretty good idea of what their soil needs in the way of fertilizers, and the study given to the subject last winter has been dollars in their pockets ever since. They know from the price of various feeds which is the cheapest, and are able to feed intelligently and furnish their stock with a balanced ration. History, geography or any other matter of interest, may be taken up to advantage, for where there is competition and friendly rivalry, there is interest, and it is not hard to study on a given question or branch of knowledge.

There is a true story of a man in Boston who forty years ago failed in business and could not pay his debts. He began work again and paid his creditors one by one as fast as he could. It took him thirty years. Some of his creditors were dead but he hunted up their children and paid every cent. People said, "His religion is the kind we want."

MORTGAGES IN GEORGIA.

In 1880 mortgage debts to the amount of \$3,127,275 were incurred in Georgia. In 1889 the number had increased to \$11,315,896. The gain was 261.85 per cent. while the population had only increased 19.14 per cent. During the ten years a total indebtedness amounting to \$74,158,070 was incurred, represented by 103,016 mortgages. Of this 56.50 per cent was on farms and 43.50 per cent on town and city lots. The total existing debt on the first of January, 1890, was \$27,397,590, 61.96 per cent being on farms and 38.04 per cent on town lots.

The above figures are bad enough and show that it is time to call the goldbugs to order. However, Georgia is well off when compared with New York with a per capita indebtedness of \$268, Minnesota, \$152 and Pennsylvania with \$117. Georgia has a per capita debt of only fifteen dollars. It is the lowest of any Southern State except Arkansas, which has a per capita debt of only \$13, or South Carolina with a per capita debt of about \$4.70.

THE FOOTBALL FEVER.

The football epidemic ended with Thanksgiving Day, for this season, and we hope no colleges will allow it next year. Those killed in the game have been buried and the wounded may all recover. The game is dangerous and demoralizing.

On Thanksgiving Day Yale and Princeton played at New York. Thousands of people witnessed the game, and thousands of dollars changed hands. Princeton was victorious and hundreds of students got hillarious, some because of victory, others to drown their grief. For hours the students marched up and down Broadway shouting and blowing horns. When some poor fellow would get too drunk to march, his companions would leave him to the tender care of the police. Four students were arrested for trying to take a negro in a fashionable restaurant to dine with them. The next morning an even fifty of them were taken out of the city prisons and marched to the police court and fined \$5 each for their fun.

LET THE WORK BEGIN.

The quarterly meeting of the Executive Committee of the State Alliance will be held in this city on next Thursday, Dec. 14th. We suppose it is quite likely that some plan for pushing Alliance work will be discussed and adopted. This is the proper course to pursue. Judging from letters received and other information, the time has now arrived for some very effective work to be done. Many active Alliances are building up unaided. There is much of the old time good feeling among the brethren. New Alliances can be organized in some sections, and inactive ones can be revived. The people are thinking and planning. Many of the most conservative men in the State are ready to array themselves on the side of the only organization that can be used effectively in this great struggle for industrial freedom and prosperity.

In the past two weeks two well-to-do men have committed suicide in this State because they could not pay their debts. Tragedies of this kind occur daily all over the United States. Many of the suicides are people thrown out of employment. Yet Grover Cleveland tells us to just wait patiently for better times. Was he and his associates elected for this purpose?

AS USUAL.

Congress has been in session a week. Former records for doing nothing stand unbroken. The Bankruptcy bill, what ever that is, was mentioned during the week. The Hawaiian "incident" was talked about in a grave manner as if it was a matter claiming prompt attention. The American people care nothing about this little cluster of islands, and Congressmen who think they can deceive their constituents by making a mountain out of the Hawaiian molehill will be disappointed. An effort was made to get Utah admitted to Statehood. All these unimportant things should be left alone until other matters of vital importance are settled. They are not mentioned in the Chicago platform, and are foreign to the real issues involved.

THE GOOD TIMES(?) ARE COMING.

R. G. Dun & Co. report 386 failures for the week ending December 9th, against 271 for the corresponding week last year. This is a gain of 62 over the week before. For the week ending December 2d there were 278 failures, but most of them were large concerns and for large amounts. The liabilities were four times as large as for the week before. Most of the concerns failing last week were large ones and the liabilities will be immense. North Carolina contributed a share, two banks, one at Fayetteville and one at Lumberton, being among the number.

TIME TO BECOME MEN.

There are 50,000 idle men, women and children in Philadelphia. Indianapolis is struggling with the problem of how to care for its needy and suffering unemployed; the sheet iron manufacturers of Pittsburg are arranging for a ten per cent. reduction of wages; 20,000 miners and their families are reported starving on the Gogebic iron range in Wisconsin; and Governor Peck is shipping carloads of food to starving men who were eating baked dog and refuse on the peninsula, after a careful visit; the New Castle coal mines have a fresh cut of 20 per cent. in wages, and the smelter hands of this city are dropped 25 cents each to begin December 1st, and so the story runs on indefinitely. Want and suffering are everywhere prevalent. Never in the history of the country has there been so many unemployed men as at present, and these conditions will continue until the masses arouse from this apathy, study economic questions for themselves, and see that the remedy for this trouble is entirely in their own hands and that a different state of affairs will never come to pass so long as they vote for old party men and measures. Wake up! Study the doctrine of cause and effect!—Exchange.

DETROIT'S COURAGEOUS MAYOR.

The enterprising political papers are careful not to be enterprising enough to publish the fact that the city of Detroit, Mich., elected a Populist Mayor by a majority of 6,000 the other day. This contradicts the statement that reform has no foothold north of the Potomac. The Populist nominated Mr. Pingree, and, though the two old machines fought him with all sorts of weapons his known integrity carried him through. Men of all parties put aside party and voted for a man who could be trusted.

Having given this much as a matter of news, we wish to quote what the Mayor said in a speech just before the election. Speaking of corporations and trusts he said:

"I am not against corporations simply as corporations. It is when they

become public monopolies that I fight them, and I will to the death. Think of there being permitted to exist in this free country a coal trust, an oil trust, and a sugar trust. Think of thousands freezing because the coal trust has shut out free competition and raised prices until coal is a luxury. It is a crime, I say, and I shall protest against it and work against it as long as I live."

It required courage to talk that way in a large city where the speaker was a candidate for Mayor. How many would have the grit to go on record in that emphatic way? We are almost inclined to believe that the world is growing better.

CARLISLE, THE TRAITOR.

We present below the difference between Carlisle in 1873 and Carlisle in 1893 on the silver question. The first is from a speech made by him in Congress against the demonetization of silver, the last is an extract from a recent speech in New York defending the demonetization of silver:

CARLISLE, NO. 1 (1873). CARLISLE, NO. 2 (1893).

I know that the world's stock of precious metals is not too large, and I see no reason to apprehend that it ever will be so. Man-kind will be forth with silver as it is the annual production of gold and silver coin shall keep pace with the annual increase of population, commerce and industry according to my views of the subject, the conspiracy which seems to have been formed here and in Europe to destroy by legislation and otherwise from three-fourths to one-half the metallic money of the world is the most gigantic and audacious of this or any other age. The consumption of such a scheme would ultimately entail more misery upon the human race than all the wars, pestilences and famines that ever occurred in the history of the world.

The absolute and instantaneous destruction of half the entire movable property of the world, including houses, ships, railroads and other appliances for carrying on commerce, while it would be felt more sensibly at the moment, would not produce anything like the prolonged distress and disorganizing effect of the permanent annihilation of one-half the metallic money of the world.

It is enough to say at present that we have already on hand a stock of silver, coined and uncoined, sufficient to meet all the probable requirements of the country for many years to come.

Gold is the only international money, and all trade balances are settled in gold, or which is the same thing, on a gold basis, all other forms of currency being adjusted to that standard. It is useless for the advocates of a different system to insist that this ought not to be so; it is so, and we cannot change the fact. But the gold eagle and double eagle are not accepted at a particular valuation in these settlements simply because the United States of America have declared by law that they shall be legal tender at their nominal value but solely because the bullion contained in them if coined, would be worth the same amount.

FULL OF GOOD DOCTRINE.

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER of Raleigh, N. C., comes to our table filled with the best kind of reform doctrine.—Peninsula Farmer.

WELL! WELL! WELL!!!

The Charlotte Observer of the 6th said:

"The most disorganized part of the machinery of this government is the financial system. The legislation of recent years upon it has all been in the nature of temporary expedients, and the whole country feels that the foundations of the system are unsettled. It is probable that to this more than to any other cause was due the panic through which the country has just passed and the depression which has succeeded it."

The light is breaking. We have insisted all the time that the financial system was the seat of trouble. But Dr. Caldwell and other graduates of the tariff reform school have continued to poltice the patient on every spot except the right one. Now if these physicians will admit that there isn't enough money and that a better system of distribution is needed, they will get their diplomas.

HOW TIMES ARE IMPROVING.

A few days ago the following appeared in the advertising columns of the Boston Herald:

"BOSTON EJECTMENT COMPANY—Tenants removed for any cause at reasonable rates; call at this office for references, which are the best."

The above is one of the "new industries started since the Sherman law was repealed," mentioned by the gold bug papers. The great manufacturing and literary city of America, the richest city of its size the world, has so many people out of employment that "ejectment companies" can flourish. Yes, new industries are starting rapidly, but they are like the above—evidences of poverty rather than of prosperity.

ALLIANCE NEWS.

When Meetings Were or Will be Held—Other Notes.

New Alliances are being organized every week in Pennsylvania.

The Minnesota State Alliance will be held at Minneapolis on the 9th of January.

A big Alliance rally was held at Conway, S. C., last week. Congressman McLaurin delivered the address.

The Peninsula Farmer reports a great increase in Alliance enthusiasm in Maryland. New life has been infused and politicians must take a back seat hereafter.

Those who make a poor article of butter do not generally get a profit out of it.

CLEVELAND'S ADOPTION OF BRITISH CURRENCY.

MR. EDITOR:—In getting us to abandon our currency and adopt the currency of Great Britain, Cleveland has conferred a lasting benefit upon British capitalists. Great Britain controls now most of the gold on earth and most of the gold mines, so of course she can control the volume and output of gold currency. Our adoption of her money to be our exclusive standard of value will enable her to still further contract the price of our products. English capitalists have about two thousand million dollars invested in the United States, most of it from Maine to the Ohio river. The financial policy of Cleveland has been of stupendous benefit to them. Henceforward, as for sometime past, he will move in the society of the multi millionaires—in fact he may be one of them, and certainly will be if he takes reasonable reward for the benefits he has conferred.

The negro question is here to keep the South divided, the West is the hotbed of women's rights and one hundred other theories which the country is not yet (if ever) ready to put into practice; but the Wall street party is united and controls both parties on all essential national issues. If the West and South could unite, they, so Gov. Tilman says, have but a bare majority of two in the electoral college.

One talented theorist like Ignatius Donnelly or one smart scoundrel like they say Macune is, could wreck the whole monetary reform by slipping into the national platform of reform a demand for some good thing the necessity of which the people do not yet see and cannot be made to see in one campaign.

The strongest platform that can be written for reform would simply be a demand for the free coinage of silver at a ratio of 16 to 1, leaving the State platforms to demand such other national reforms as were capable of being carried through in each particular State. But even if such wise course were pursued, the Wall street crowd would still have a fine prospect of success, for they would concentrate their money in one or two backwoods States and get into the platform a demand for some impracticable good for which the people are not yet prepared and in that way defeat the reform. In the midst of so much braggadocio and something in all the political parties it is almost impossible for the people to understand in what a fearful sea of difficulties they are beset and how doubtful is the success of their cause even if managed by the pure and the wise. If the so-called "reform press" would oftener republish in other States what I write in this, the people would get face to face with some truths not now sufficiently considered.

W. J. PEELE.

P. S.—Since writing the above, Cleveland has issued his message. He says he does not know the effect of the recent financial legislation in Congress and does not propose to do anything further till he sees what to do. Very properly he has intimated that at the proper time the whole problem will be referred to the Rothschilds for solution. The Rothschild convention is more generally known as the "International Monetary Conference." In a few more years our government will be as completely under the control of the great banking houses of Europe as England, Germany, Austria and some others now are. Cleveland and Harrison are the first Presidents who have openly and shamelessly confessed that we must seek the aid of the Rothschild monetary conference to regulate our financial legislation. The States in which British capital is so largely invested will support the financial policy of Great Britain in the United States. The Wall street party, which is the agent of British and other foreign capitalists, will probably put forward its Republican name next time. Cleveland will now be allowed to make some reduction of the tariff. A feigned issue will be thereby raised between the Republican and Democratic wings of the Wall street party. All the fools and some wise men will be deceived by the trick. Well-meaning persons will be deceived as usual by party name. The newspapers will advertise the sham battle between the two wings of the Wall street party. The people will believe it is a real fight and take sides, and the old party see saw will go on as usual. The Republican or the Democratic wing will succeed in every State which has a city as large as Richmond, Va. There is no way to avoid this unless the people of each plundered State without regard to past party affiliation will meet and declare a secession from the Wall street party and make a declaration of principles which the people of that State are now ready to put into practice. W. J. PEELE.

We desire to wind up 1893 as nearly as possible out of debt. Our subscribers owe us enough to meet our pressing obligations. Set us at ease, brethren, and we will have lighter hearts and can give better reading for you then.