

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

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

Do you want your paper changed to another office? State the one at which you have been getting it.

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"I am standing now just behind the curtain, and in full glow of the coming sunset. Behind me are the shadows of the track, before me lies the dark valley and the river. When I mingle with its dark waters I want to cast one lingering look upon a country whose government is of the people, for the people, and by the people." - L. L. Polk, July 16th, 1890.

N. R. P. A.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The prosperity shriekers are not honest, but they are thoroughly reliable. Col. Frederick Annanias Olds says he saw the airship again Friday night. He says it is run by horse power.

A Yorkshire farmer named Gibson has just died at the age of 101 years. He shaved himself, drank his glass of beer and his nightcap of whiskey, and smoked his pipe till a few days before his death. His father lived to be ninety-six.

President McKinley set 'em up to cigars that cost \$2 each at a Cabinet dinner the other day. We guess the wave of prosperity has struck Mc at last. But if he keeps this thing up Mark Hanna will never see the \$118,000 Mc owes him.

Congressman Bailey, of Texas, recently astonished the denizens of Washington by refusing to wear a full dress suit at a Presidential reception. It is generally conceded that a Congressman can do a great many things worse than donning a dress suit.

The State Alliance Executive Committee met at Hillsboro Friday and Saturday. We understand that it will be only a short time until the shoe factory will be started. Nearly enough funds are in sight. Send in your funds, if you have not already done so. There will be but little delay now.

The commercial agencies are trying to launch another boom. They report better business, more of it, and a decrease in the number of failures. It is barely possible that they got instructions, for it seems rather strange that business should make such remarkable strides in one week, and nobody be aware of it, either.

A couple of millionaires from New York, Havemeyer and Chapman, the former President of the Sugar Trust, and the latter a broker, have been sentenced to jail for contempt of court in refusing to tell the Senate Investigating Committee how much the Sugar Trust gave to the political campaign fund last year. The Senate had better go slow. First thing you know Havemeyer will buy the United States and abolish the Senate.

The Nebraska legislature has just passed an act which requires that any ordinance, contract, or agreement by the authorities of any town or city, shall be submitted to a vote of the people whenever petitioned for by 15 per cent. of the qualified voters. On the same percent. of petitioners, any proposition affecting the city or town shall be submitted to the voters, whether the town authorities have adopted it not. This will be a check upon ring rule, and doubtless the day is not far off when the same procedure will be adopted for State matters elsewhere. If a proposition for 2 cents per mile railroad fares and lower freight charges could in this manner be now submitted to the people of North Carolina it would go through like a prairie fire.

PROBABLY ANOTHER AWFUL WARNING.

The recent fire at Paris, fully described on another page, may be another sad and awful warning to those who oppress the poor.

The fire occurred in a bazaar where some fifteen hundred gay society ladies, the wives and daughters of noblemen, officials and other aristocracy, were selling various articles for the benefit of the poor. Nearly two hundred were burned to death and several hundred injured more or less in the effort to escape from the firetrap.

Such a calamity, though it happened so far away, always touches the hardest hearts. But why were they there? Simply because their husbands, fathers and brothers had succeeded, by means of class legislation and otherwise in getting rich at the expense of the paupers of Paris, having bled them of property, hope and ambition. And these "society" ladies were amusing themselves by opening a place to sell goods and apply the profits to charitable objects! They were engaged in commendable work, you say. Bazaars and "charity balls" are not commendable. If certain people would live more charitable lives there would not be any need of such affairs. It is like robbing a man at the point of a pistol and then returning one per cent. of the total amount taken from him. That is charity as practiced by a vast number of society people.

"The poor ye have with you always," has ever been true, and will be unto the end of time. There will be inequalities, some very poor, some very rich, but in the making of a millionaire ten or twenty thousand people must be pauperized.

Poor people are not always objects of charity. Under proper conditions and restrictions there would be but few real objects of charity. In Switzerland there are no tramps, no "objects" of charity. Every man, woman or child who can work can get work. There are poor people there, but no extremely rich ones, hence no paupers. Under the laws of that country only those who expend energy, thrift and practice economy can become wealthy. In this country and many others the reverse is often true. Result is fabulous fortunes on the one hand and pauperism on the other. Consequently the wealthy some close times indulge in "charity balls" and "bazaars" for appearance sake. We trust that the Paris horror will serve well as a solemn warning, and believe it was so intended by Providence.

A NEW CALAMITY HOWLER.

The New York World says that through honest and dishonest dealings the following American investments are held by foreign capitalists: Bonds, \$1,250,000,000; mines, \$150,000,000; gas light companies, \$50,000,000; electric light companies, \$50,000,000; breweries, \$35,000,000; stockyards, \$20,000,000; cotton mills, \$20,000,000; flour mills, \$10,000,000; dressed beef companies, \$10,000,000; rolling mills, \$10,000,000; distilleries, \$5,000,000; grain elevators, \$5,000,000; cash and door factories, \$5,000,000; leather goods factories, \$5,000,000; food produce companies, \$4,000,000; paper mills, \$3,500,000; shipyards, \$3,500,000; potteries, \$3,000,000; varnish works, \$2,400,000; rubber mills, \$2,000,000; Miscellaneous, \$50,000,000; real estate, \$1,500,000,000; an aggregate of \$3,194,300,000.

No estimate is made of foreign investments in railroads. If these investments net a profit of five per cent. the producing masses of the nation send abroad annually \$159,715,000 in either products or money. All of the wheat produced in the United States in 1895 only amounted to \$237,938,998. All of the cotton produced in the United States in 1895 did not exceed in value \$250,000,000. So long as it requires nearly one half of all wheat and all the cotton produced by the greatest wheat and cotton producing nation on earth to pay the interest on its foreign debts (including railway stock and bonds) that nation will be a peon, a surf under the lash of foreign wealth. No nation on earth can have prosperity and pay a tribute of \$159,715,000 per year to a foreign power. Foreign capital when invested in domestic industries is as new blood injected into the arteries of commerce, but when that foreign capital exacts its pound of flesh, takes from the nation its four, five and six per cent interest it takes more blood than it gives.

Did you ever consider the fact that if you owned one-half of the nation's wealth and exacted from your fellow-citizens five per cent. interest, that, without compounding, you would own the entire wealth of the nation in twenty years, that is if the nation's wealth had not increased? By the same course of reasoning foreign wealth can be invested in a nation and take from that nation, in interest, every twenty years as much as was originally invested. In olden times a

debtor was the creditor's slave in fact, and to-day the United States is the slave of foreign wealth in principle, and the various party 'prophets' and 'priests' may cry: 'Prosperity! prosperity!' where there is no prosperity."

Now what does all this calamity howling from the World amount to? Nothing. It is simply boasting of what it has helped to bring about. After Cleveland began his outrageous sale of bonds in 1893-'94 the World jumped on him with both feet. No Populist or Alliance organ ever did more calamity howling or uttered more denunciatory matter in the same length of time. But it was all a blind. When the bond scandal reached its height the World promptly demanded a "popular loan;" that the bonds be issued in small denominations and the bids thrown open to the public so the "poor workingman could have a chance to invest his savings." The World well knew that the average workingman was not in a condition to buy bonds, and that if he were, no opportunity would be offered, for the Secretary of the Treasury had the right, or assumed the right "to reject any and all bids." So most of them were gobbled up by the same old bankers' syndicate. Doubtless the World fooled a good many people, but we shall denounce it and its kind and their transparent frauds every time they show their ugly heads, in spite of their periodical calamity howling.

DOING JUST RIGHT.

The editor of the Warrenton Record takes off his old straw hat, which he has worn during all the winter, and makes his best bow to a young lady in that community for a beautiful loaf of bread, which was baked by the fair one herself and presented to the worthy editor.

That is business. There is yet hope for the profession. We trust that we are about to enter upon a new era, one that will be fraught with untold and unnumbered blessings, a large portion of them coming in the shape of loaves of bread.

There is something substantial about such gifts. They make better men of us, and, for a time, at least, the whole world seems brighter. The Record man already exhibits more snap and ability. Every line in his paper last week was stronger and there was a much better makeup noticeable.

Editors have been the recipients of various things for hundreds of years, but not the kinds that conquer hunger. They write handsome notices about weddings, but never get any of the cake. They write obituaries that frequently cause other prominent citizens to hasten their departure in order to get a flattering death notice. But when the estate is divided no property goes to the poor editor. We publish miles of matter about six hundred pound hogs, but nary ham do we get. We publish the biography of cows said to give five gallons of milk per day, but drink coffee without cream Sunday morning and Adam's ale the balance of the week. After writing tons of matter about twin calves we find it necessary to wear horsehide shoes and eat steak which may or may not be beef. We get permission to write up all the fifteen pound turnips and potatoes in the community and have to eat poke salad every spring. In short, we must run a free show and pay the band and keep the tent repaired. Let us rise up as one man and call the Warrenton girl blessed, for she is truly a benefactor, a second Florence Nighingale.

MORE GOLDBUG STUPIDITY.

The cartoonist plays an important part in the affairs of this country. When the work is well done it probably does quite as much to shape public opinion as the best editorials. But the goldbugs often make fearful blunders in getting out their "killing" illustrated matter. Recently we noticed a picture in which men to represent nations were riding bicycles. The double standard countries were represented as riding wheels of silver and gold, and the sign-board read: "To Adversity." The gold standard countries were represented by men riding bicycles and the sign-board read: "To Prosperity." But you never saw a bicycle with only one wheel. The machines in the picture each had two wheels. So the absurdity of the illustration is apparent at once. Bicycles must have two wheels; a prosperous country must have the double standard so long as business is done so largely with a metallic currency. The lack of prosperity in this country and England at present is due to the fact we are trying to do a dollar's worth of business with about 30 cents, or less, a single wheel, and a small one, too.

Grover Cleveland's speech at the banquet of twelve dollar-a-plate democrats, at the Waldorf, in New York, Saturday night, was characteristic. His small collection of little ideas he again exhibited in all the pomp of polysyllabic rhetoric, and his own fat selfishness he once more paraded as patriotism. -Cleveland Recorder.

A NOTABLE RELIGIOUS GATHERING.

The Southern Baptist Convention met in Wilmington Friday at 10 a. m., and is probably the largest delegated body that has or will meet in the State this year. Nearly eight hundred delegates were present. The session will last several days.

Hon. Johnathan Haralson, of the Alabama Supreme Court, the President, called the convention to order. Mr. Haralson was re-elected President, and the present Secretaries, Dr. Lansing Burrows, of Augusta, Ga., and Dr. O. F. Gregory, of Baltimore, were re-elected, also.

Dr. William H. Whitsett, President of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, has been a little out of plumb with some of the doctrines of the Baptist church. He was present and made a statement of his views and why he held them. His explanations were satisfactory and after he made them there were tears, handshaking and other demonstrations of great joy.

The following Vice Presidents were elected: Dr. R. H. Marsh, North Carolina; Ex. Gov. W. J. Northern, Georgia; Joshua Levering, Maryland; Gov. J. P. Eagle, of Arkansas.

The convention sermon was preached by Rev. Dr. R. A. Venable, of Meridian, Miss. Mr. J. W. Bailey, editor of the Biblical Recorder, delivered the address of welcome to the Young People's Union, which is holding its sessions in connection with the convention. Rev. John T. Pullen, of Raleigh, preached on "consecration."

There are a large number of prominent ministers and laymen present.

PRESERVATIVE FOR MILK AND CREAM--LET THEM ALONE.

An article known as "M Preservative" has been sent into the State for several years to some extent, and is now being pushed upon the dairies to test and use to prevent milk and cream from souring and butter from becoming rancid. The manufacturers of this article state that unscrupulous persons often recommend salicylic acid, boracic acid, etc., as proper preservatives for food, but that they should be condemned as positively injurious and unfit to go in food. Now their "Preservative" is nothing more than boracic acid, and is condemned by their own words. Boracic acid is a preservative, and is sold at a moderate price by those dealers, but it should never be used to preserve foods intended for human consumption at least.

Any material that will prevent the growth and development of organisms in foods when they are outside of the body, will at least interfere with the activity of those or similar ones so necessary in the process of digestion. -B. B. Kilgore, N. C. Experiment Station.

OFFICIAL CHANGES.

The April number of the Bulletin says:

In the March Bulletin mention was made of the fact that the Board of Agriculture as organized under the act of 1877 had been abolished and disbanded to be succeeded by a Board of Commissioners under authority of an act of the last General Assembly. Consequently the Department of Agriculture was just twenty years old when it changed hands from one board to the other, and from one political party to another. It is not improper at this time to glance back upon the work of the former Board and bring to view a few of its leading achievements. Twenty years ago the Board of Agriculture began its work from the ground and has been building continually since that time. With no data to start with it bravely started the work it was charged with accomplishing. The first experimental years were laborious and vigilant, but always progressive. Then the real work of permanence and value began to command attention and the results to come to the State. It established one among the first fish hatcheries in the United States, and the results of that work are still manifest in the waters of the State; it surveyed the deposits of pyrites in search of suitable material for conversion into sulphuric acid; it explored the phosphate beds of the coastal formations; it promoted the search for merchantable coal in the deposits of this State; it made exhaustive exhibitions of the State's natural resources in great exhibitions at Vienna, Atlanta, Boston, New Orleans and Chicago; it surveyed the oyster beds; and has aided the development of the sand-hill region; it has built and equipped the finest museum in the South; it has persistently advertised North Carolina, especially through handbooks, until it is to-day the best known, and is regarded as the most progressive, up to date State in the South. Besides these things, it has carefully and consistently taught better methods in the cultivation of all crops and promoted an introduction of new varieties of plants and fruits, and improved breeds of horses, cattle,

sheep, swine and poultry; it has shown the way to the renovation of worn-out soils and adopted every means in its power for the upbuilding of the best interests of the farmer, trucker, miner, lumberman and fisherman. Its record is before the people; the results of its faithful discharge of the manifold duties enforced by law will be felt for years to come. Some tribute is due the retiring Board for the great work accomplished under its auspices, but space is too limited here to go more fully into the subject, except to say that credit should be given where credit is due. The retiring Board presents to its successors in office the best equipped and most effective department of the kind in the South. It bequeaths the incoming administration to keep up the pace, to see to it that it holds the supremacy over similar institutions in the South and that the onward march of progress is quickened.

A CORRECTION.

Bro. T. Ivey, S. B. A., of Hillsboro, is very much hurt about some little typographical errors appearing in his article published in our last issue. By some means the seaboard value of North Carolina Alliance Official Guano was printed \$14 40 when it should have been 15 40. There were two or three words misprinted in other parts of the column and a half article.

Such things are very annoying, but they have always occurred and always will pop up just exactly where you don't want to see them. Only news paper men can fully appreciate these difficulties. We have often had our best editorials butchered and failed to notice some of the errors until after the paper is printed, when they are very conspicuous. No paper, no book is free of errors. The most expert proof readers often fail to see apparently inexcusable blunders. It is said that an English Publishing firm employed twenty expert proof readers to correct an edition of the Bible. Each took a turn at it and found errors overlooked by others. At last the Bible was printed and three errors were discovered by a purchaser who had never read proof an hour in all his life.

WHERE THE FAULT IS.

Rev. R. A. White of the Stewart Avenue Universalist church, preached last Sunday on Chicago's starving poor. He said:

"From Chicago to the southern tip of the State, our railroads are lined with cribs of corn, for which farmers cannot get enough to pay for the raising.

"The cellars of Illinois are bursting with potatoes.

"Millions upon millions of bushels of wheat have been sent across the sea.

"Apples are rotting in heaps in an hour's ride of Chicago.

"Food is wasting at our doors, and yet thousands of men, women and children are starving and freezing in Chicago.

"Why, with all these existing conditions, are human beings compelled to ask for alms to keep themselves alive? "Let no man file an indictment against God, because this has come to pass--the fault is with the social system that man has created." -Nevada (Mo.) Director.

THE ARBITRATION TREATY.

RALEIGH, N. C., May 7, 1897.

MR. EDITOR:--Enclosed I send you an editorial taken from the New York Journal on the late proposed arbitration which has been killed since the editorial was written.

The treaty was conceived in sin by Cleveland and others, backed up by a morbid and misinformed yankee religious sentiment, which was excited by designing speculators, and, if passed, would have been a permanent foreign entanglement.

W. J. PEELE.

Kill the Arbitration Treaty.

The Senate is to come to a vote to-day on the Olney-Salisbury arbitration treaty. There is not a great deal of it left now, to be sure, the life having been amended out of it, but the Journal hopes the Senate will bury the un-American thing.

There is no necessity whatever for an arbitration treaty with England, and very strong reasons indeed why we should not tie our hands in advance against the always possible day when disputes between the two nations may arise. Whenever there is something to arbitrate with England or any other power the United States will gladly appeal to reason rather than to force, but we should remain perfectly free from unnecessary and weakening promises of peaceable intention. As for Great Britain, it is only prudent that our attitude toward her should be one of intelligent distrust. She has an appetite for territory, and anything else that is valuable, which she is never backward about gratifying when she considers it safe to indulge herself. We may be quite sure that Great

Britain will ever be ready to arbitrate with rather than fight us. We are neither Venezuelans nor Boers. Moreover, it is not apparent why we should go out of our way to strengthen England as against the other powers as we should do were we to sign an agreement to be Quakers and emigrate her from all concern from this quarter while she is pursuing her schemes elsewhere. How very pacific her intentions are respecting the United States in case of dire necessity is shown by her great fortress at Esquimault, which commands Puget Sound and menaces our whole Pacific coast, her formidable warlike precautions on the Canadian border, and her armored vessels that cruise in American waters and have their supply harbors at American islands which should be ours.

England will always bear watching, and it is fortunate for the Republic that the Senate has had the sense to keep this in mind and the firmness to resist sentimental clamor from gentlemen and ladies who represent few besides themselves--certainly not the masses of the American people, who possess memories and have no love for what was once the mother country, and has never been friendly when we stood in want of friends.

The Olney-Salisbury arbitration treaty is worse than needless; it is perilous in spirit. Therefore the Journal hopes to have the patriotic pleasure of announcing to-morrow morning that the American Senate has killed it.

CREAM OF THE PRESS.

Hard Hits, Bold Sayings and Patriotic Paragraphs From Reform Papers.

Yes, we expect to be "calamity howlers" as long as there are calamity producers. -Farmville (La) Herald.

"Experience is a dear school, but fools will learn in no other." But old party fools don't seem to learn even that. -Alliance Plowboy.

A letter addressed "To any respectable attorney" of a Missouri town was returned to the postmaster inscribed "not known here." -Upson Pilot.

From all over the country come reports of cuts in wages. As the dollar gets dearer (sounded) men and women are becoming cheaper. -Advance Guard.

If any nation wants to kill Christians with impunity it has only to put \$400,000,000 of its bonds in the hands of the European money power. -Atlanta Constitution.

A little less dictation from the "Washington contingent" would be palatable just now. We want no more "Senatorial combines," or disgraceful surrenders. -Morgan's Buzz Saw.

Hard times? Who voted for them? The people voted for them and are now enjoying the results of their votes. Who said anything about throwing votes away? -American Enterprise.

Judging from the large number of people in idleness, either from choice, or enforced, the poor houses of the future will be sky-scrapers and cover a very large area of territory. -American Enterprise.

The spectacle of the senate feeling bad because the house is filibustering is the most pathetic event in modern history that has happened since Mark Twain wept over the grave of his ancestor, Adam. -Mobile Register.

The man who does more injury to his country than any other is he who teaches reform and stays in the old monopoly parties. Such men hold the people in the old organizations when others could not. -Missouri World.

Coin all the silver and gold at the ratio of 16 to 1 and supplement that coinage with an issue of legal tender paper money direct to the people without the intervention of banks and hard times will disappear. -Cleburn Herald.

Grover Cleveland made a speech before the "New York Reform Club" the other day and said many things, but did not say how he became so rich while serving the dear people only eight years as president. -Council Grove Courier.

It may yet become necessary to adopt the Populist idea in our dealing with armor plate manufacturers, and build a factory of our own. We have already paid out enough in over prices to build two establishments as good as Carnegie's. -Topka Advocate.

Jerry Simpson made one of those home thrusts for which he is famous in the house the other day. "If the foreigner pays the tax," he said, "why not make the taxes so high they will support us and make every day Sunday over here?" -People's Advocate.

Corn in Nebraska now brings the producer ten cents per bushel, and the same corn costs the consumer in Louisiana forty five cents per bushel; this would indicate that the middle man and the transportation companies were the fellows that were getting the cream while the farmer who produces the corn gets the whey. -People's Advocate.