

Washington W. C. Oct 20th 1874.

Dear Elias.

Your letter of the 14th came while I was in Tarboro, and I regret very much not seeing you, for it was to see you & Miss Higgin that I went to Edgewcombe - I appreciate, my dear friend, the active interest you took in my behalf, and I know when the rumor reached my ears, (in advance of Capt. Higgin's letter,) that you had done all in your power to secure me the position which was promised. Of course it was a keen disappointment to me, also to the members of my family, and I felt as if I had been wronged, that it would have been only courtesy, at least ^{on the part of the ruling majority} to have asked me if I would have taken 2000. Stock. - I saw Coffield, and asked him if he did not have the description of the Steamer "North East," which I sent to him about a month ago, (you being in Warren) but he had misplaced it. I

Told him that in July Capt Paddison came to see us, and wished to know if he could sell to us his two Boats, that he would take \$600 for the two, that if he sold his Boats, he wished to command one of them. My reply was, that we wanted only one Boat, and I was promised the Captaincy (for I had Capt. Higgin's letter in my pocket, saying 'do not give yourself any unnecessary uneasiness about being Capt as you have been selected by the Pres. & Directors to fill that position') Capt P. remarked that he did not wish to be in any one's way. I remarked, from his description did not think his Boats would answer, but give me a written description, and I would lay it before the Board with some others I had. He concluded, under the circumstances to charge \$600. - the cost him two years ago \$500. - That is the age of the Boats. Boilers & Machinery are old. - As we were disappointed in getting the Wave, or Vesta, I thought it would be a good plan to charter the North East for the Season, and then raise 5 or 6000 more

(Shipping season is the best time to raise stock.)

Stock, and have a good Stron^d built. An Iron Boat 80 ft Long, 20 ft Beam would carry 300 Bales, draw 18 in lights, and cost about 12000 -

I have ^{not} had chance to make 'fun of the bird', as she has not made her appearance yet. I trust she will answer the purpose, and think properly managed, will do well.

Has she got a whistle or mill on her to get a cough shell to blow? and if she is so d - rough, wouldn't it be better to have her whitewashed every Spring, and save pains. You must not make so much fun of her. The Nymphs who are such great Carnoisseurs in that line, will no doubt have a hearty laugh, and this time next year, laugh on the other side perhaps.

Mr B joins me in kindest regards to yourself & family.

Truly Yours friend
Macon Turner