

P.S. Don't you like to me  
at Washington. Please co. me  
I know you when I was  
I lived in London 1865  
Sent 1st 1865

Littleton, N.C.

Dear Friend Bro -

I hope you will  
pardon me for the privilege I  
take of addressing a communication  
direct to you. Why I do so is that  
I want your views upon the great  
vital question of the day with  
so many of the brethren in the  
Alliance.

Last year was indeed  
a sad one with so many - and  
if the failure to raise a crop is  
as complete over much extent  
of country as here, why a great  
many people are in a deplorable  
condition indeed - and a great  
many are Alliance men, good &  
true, men who have held up  
its principles, paid in their



duce, in the hope and expectations that when the war came, the Alliance would stand by them and help them out of their troubles.

Now we are in a condition to expect something to be done for us. I tell you if we are to sell ourselves again to the merchant - for bread for our suffering families this year upon their terms why we had just about as well welcome voluntary starvation, for that will be the result and in the near future. Let me illustrate my position, & you will see why I say so. I know a farmer who traded upon a crop of him last year to the amt of \$130. He did not make anything. He voluntarily offered, and did secure the merchant - upon his

little home for the future payment of the debt. The merchant agreed to supply him this year. When the poor farmer offered to purchase a few supplies a few days ago what were the prices - just listed, Sugar 12 1/2 Flour 7 1/2 - Coffee 28¢. Now can we pay it; certainly not.

The alliance offered to help us, will it do so? and how? What I want to know is just this, and please answer me right to the point. How can a poor, honest, industrious farmer trade through the Alliance without the cash - If there is no way yet by which they can, please devise some way by which it can be done. If you do the the Alliance will soon be the grandest and most noble organization in the land - Otherwise it is a failure



I do not advise a promiscuous  
taking up of all needy Alliances  
The Hard working, industrious  
honest ones. They are the ones. En-  
emy Alliances the Post & Secy  
and the bus Agt know who to  
depend upon - & why can it not  
be done, we can not get money -  
Let the Alliance be secured in key  
instances beyond a doubt, & then  
sell to the poor man at such  
a price as he can give at & also  
at some profit to the order if deemed  
advisable

Let us hear from you at  
once in regard to this matter &  
tell us plainly what to expect -

Yours Truly  
J W House

Formerly of  
Lebanon