

Greenville N.C.

January 29<sup>th</sup> 1890

My Dear Sir.

Your letter of the 23<sup>rd</sup> did not reach me till last night about nine o'clock and consequently too late for a timely response to your invitation. I cannot ~~conjecture~~ <sup>conjecture</sup> where the letter has been or the cause of the delay. It was only received here last night, and I hasten to explain my silence and my absence. I regret that I did not receive the letter in time to go to Tarboro. Had I received it in time I certainly would have gone and would have made a speech, and one, I think, productive of good. I have decided opinions as to our duties to the laborer and I do not hesitate to express them in public.



and in private. The fact that the trusts  
of labor are, in this section, composed of  
colored people would not, in the least,  
deter me from speaking to them. In  
fact I would gladly avail myself of  
the opportunity of addressing the colored <sup>people</sup>,  
on their duties under circumstances  
which would indicate that I might  
some improve upon them. As I have  
said to you before I repeat now that  
I do not think we have done  
our full duty to the negro in  
instructing him in the duties of  
Citizenship. We must pull him  
up or he will pull us down.  
I always stand ready to take part  
in any good word or work intended  
for the good of the people and in this  
I include the colored people as  
well as the white, and I repeat  
that I regret that I did not  
receive your letter in time to  
enable me to demonstrate this  
at the meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup> —



I shall hope at our dis-  
tant day to make you the long  
defand visit, in which Col Skin-  
ner will be my host to join  
me.

So you expect to attend  
The New Bern Fair the last  
week in February. I hope so.  
I expect to be there and I shall  
hope to meet you there.

With kind regards  
I am very truly Yours  
Thos. J. Jarvis