

Raleigh, N. C., Aug. 20th. 1889.

My Dear Sir & Friend!-

I rejoice in your election to the Presidency of the Farmers Alliance in this State. It is, I take it, a great honor, & in this instance one worthily conferred. I trust, as I believe, that the Alliance will continue to grow in numbers and in usefulness in North Carolina under your superintendence. Last year it was a great factor in promoting Democratic success & it is certainly exercising a wholesome influence in bringing about a spirit of independence and self-reliance among the farmer, that is most gratifying to every man who earnestly desires to see

the good old State go forward. It is do-
ing another thing; It is making the
farmers think. That is what we need &
desire most of all, for when they think
about their business ^{as} earnestly as they
work hard, more will come greater profits
& success.

As President of the Alliance & as my friend,
you can command me. I want - as an out-
side Alliance man - to assure you of my
earnest & hearty co-operation in every
plan set on foot to secure better farm-
ing, better legislation, better public af-
fairs, & a better understanding by the
people of the great questions that di-
vide the people. Take the tariff ques-
tion. I know your position on it. The peo-
ple need instructing it can best be done
in the Alliance. No doubt of it. I hope as
President you will see to it that my

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Republican friend, F. B. Long, your lecturer, speaks in no uncertain way upon this great question. I do not ask that he be required to leave the Republican party, but I do ask that he be instructed & required to illustrate & enforce the 14th demand of the Alliance for a revenue tariff. If he does, that no reasonable man can object to his politics, provided he is quiet; but he is now in a position where he might do damage. I know that you will appreciate this as much as I do & I but call your attention to it because as I write it occurs to me.

Also that The Virginia Association, nominated

for Governor a straddler on the Tariff
question. The people there need light ^{freedom from} a Geo. S.
Barbour's leadership. A Democrat who
is a Protectionist is a ~~man~~ ^{mongrel}. It won't

do -

I hope your "crops" are good. Re-
member me to the doctor, I be-
lieve me,

Always Yrs (and)

Joseph M. Davis