

Hobah Grove Nola 10<sup>th</sup> April 1890

Elias Farr Esqr.

First State Alliance

Old Sparta

Nola. Dear Sir & Pro.

In the Pro.

Farmer of the 8<sup>th</sup> inst, I see your answer to, First S. A. McSwain's questions.

It becomes my duty now, to give you all the facts as touching our County business Agents Clerkship in a "Mercantile house".

In March 1889 the Executive Committee of Cumberland County Farmers Alliance, proposed to G. O. Evans (Country Merchants and Farmers) to establish a business house in the Town of Hayterville Nola, to be run in the interest of the Alliance and sell we goods in unbroken packages, to all Alliance Members at 5% above actual cost. Proposition if accepted to hold

good for twelve months, it being understood that our business Agent should remain in the store and do them, at no expense to our County Alliance, leaving the compensation for services rendered, to be settled by Messrs J & O Brown & our County Agent. Our proposition was accepted. A part of the contract was, that the Executive Committee should have full & free access to Books & Bills at any and all times, that they might see & know that the business was done for the interest of the Alliance. The first Friday in April 1889 the Contract was unanimously ratified in our County Meeting. The first Friday in January 1890 the Contract was renewed & extended to 1<sup>st</sup> of July 1891 - Unanimously. These two actions of the County Alliance show you plainly how our members feel as to this business arrangement. One fact, about any matter, when there

are two or more of equal importance and bearing, is not the thing, to make a Judge to make up a just & righteous verdict. I deem the above facts sufficient, to lay before you, that a right decision may be made for the satisfaction of all concerned. Will you, at your earliest convenience, give me your views as to this matter. Fraternally,  
W. D. Gregory Smith  
Ch. of Ex. Com. of Coun. Co.  
Farmers Alliance  
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