

Littleton N.C.  
Jan 1. 1891

Elias Barr Esq.

Dear Sir



I am a Baptist Minister.

Have charge of one church in Halifax Co (Antioch) & another in Franklin (Sandy Creek). When I go to the State ballot-box, I vote as a Republican - black Republican or Read - any thing except Democratic. You see I tell you the <sup>whole</sup> truth after I have said that I have never failed to vote for an Allianceman - regardless of his political proclivities - & that too, wholly & solely on the ground of his connection with the Alliance. Now for business. At the July session of Warren Co Alliance, our troubles commenced. The business of the Alliance was disposed of & without adjourning; the members present proceeded to nominate & elect different officers in the Democratic party. Before my Master, I do solemnly swear to the truth of this statement. When asked why I did not vote with them, I replied that they knew that I did not vote that way at the ballot-box - that this was not Alliance work, but a Democratic Caucus - that I had no business here (not being a democrat) & I asked & obtained final leave of absence for that day, on this very ground. John Graham (our Co President - a Christian Gentleman) will corroborate the truth of the above statement - even if he is a democrat himself. Two of this democratic caucus subsequently visited Judkins Alliance in my absence - preferred infamous charges against myself & induced my brethren to expel me on that very day. This misconduct nearly destroyed our Alliance. I appealed to the common decency of my brethren. They gave me a hearing. I proved to their perfect satisfaction the utter falsity of every charge against me. We very seriously debated the situation - Result announced in our letter to Co Alliance. We then reorganized by electing every officer in our Alliance. The President



(who aided & abetted in my unconstitutional expulsion) lost his place -  
superceded by a better man. I was unanimously elected to my  
former position (Secretary). No electioneering by any one, but  
unanimous election of all except Gholain - one brother did not  
vote for him. Ascertaining that we were behind on our National  
dues (<sup>to</sup>) each, we immediately collected the money, as also our  
dues for the first quarter 1890. Then myself & Bro Whit Stansberry  
were elected delegates to the Alliance for called meeting <sup>at</sup> S. S.  
regular meeting Jan. 9<sup>th</sup> - with the proviso, that any brother present  
could fill our places in our absence. This work was done on  
the 30<sup>th</sup> day of December 1890. On the next day, I presented our  
letter (enclosed) to the Pres. during the session of the Alliance  
in Warrenton & was publicly denied admittance  
into the Hall. The door-keeper handed the letter to the President  
& returned it to myself with the Presidents reply. Every  
Allianceman in the County was urgently requested to come  
& all were welcomed into the Hall except myself. As an  
accredited representative of Judkins' sub-Alliance, I was  
publicly denied admittance. This insult to Judkins' Alliance  
(through its delegate) will certainly prove its death-blow;  
unless extraordinary means be used to prevent it. Can you,  
will you, suggest - aid & assist me in the use of those  
means? How must this insult be atoned for? Please return  
our letter either to John Graham, President - H. C. Whittier, Sec -  
or to myself before the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday in this month. A copy of  
this letter, I shall keep (for future use if necessary). You  
may (without breach of confidence) use this in any way  
you may see fit. The Sec. was willing to receive my letter  
& money, but would not agree to return it to me in case of  
second rejection in January 1891. Neither he - the President  
nor any one else would agree to receive me at the



regular meeting in January. I shall neither go there, nor send our dues unless I hear beforehand that I will not be refused admittance when I apply. In this case, I would agree to warrant the extinction of Judkins' Alliance. I am satisfied that my presence in our Alliance is necessary to its existence (I shall not blame you for not believing me - but it is true) If I am not notified that I will be received, I shall take a train from Judkins & join one in Franklin &c. If you please do not regard any thing I have said as a threat - I honestly do not mean it as such. But do what you think is right - because it is right & I will be satisfied. Very respectfully your friend  
James A. Fitchford  
Secy. Judkins' Alliance No 608

P.S.

Since this letter was finished, I have been asked by our Legislator Elect (Mr. W. W. Long) why did The Alliance choose to insult me as it did yesterday; & why was I so persistently persecuted by them. My answer was "political prejudice" - which, as we both agreed, had no place in The Farmers' Alliance.

J.A.F.

P.S. No 2

Warren Co. Alliance was never notified under seal; of my so-called expulsion - but they were notified under seal of Judkins' Alliance, that the whole transaction was unconstitutional.

J.A.F.

Miss. A. Dick Ford  
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