

Office of

L. L. Polk,

Pres't N.F.A. and I.U.

Washington, Feb. 28th, 1891.

My Dear Sir and Bro:

The cotton crop is now being marketed at 60 to 80 per pound, futures indicate no early advance in prices, and we are confronted with the fact that, notwithstanding the large and increasing demand throughout the civilized and commercial world for the staple, the cotton farmer is practically nothing more than a tenant for the speculators of New York and Liverpool.

Something should and must be done, but it can only be accomplished through the united action of all the cotton states.

Suppose a meeting of representatives of the Alliance and all other Agricultural organizations in the cotton belt be held at an early day: ~~xxxxxx~~ could we not hope that something would be evolved that would redound to the benefit of the cotton planter? Any suggestion emanating from such a meeting would be regarded with respectful consideration at least, and if practical, might be adopted with effective unanimity.

My own opinion is that a plan could be devised by which the cotton planters of the South could gain such control over marketing the crop as would be greatly advantageous to our farmers. At all events I have little doubt that such a meeting of representative men, called to consider this grave question would lead the public mind into such channels as would reach practical results in the end.

If called, it should be done at an early day.

If you think such meeting advisable, please indicate the time at which it should be called, in your judgment, and the point which would be most convenient and accessible. Please let me hear from you at your earliest convenience.

Yours truly and fraternally,

By H. W. Aver,

Private Sec'y.

L. L. Polk