

Bedar Grove, N.C.
April 1st 1891

Elias Lear Esqr.
Old Sparta N.C.

Dear Sir & Bro.

Please give me
your opinion on the following
matter:— Our Alliance has
a by-law to this effect;— Any
member failing to attend
the Alliance for three suc-
cessive meetings, and fail-
ing to give a reasonable ex-
cuse therefor, shall be fined
25[¢], and upon refusal to
pay such fine shall be dis-
missed from the Alliance.
This by-law was passed
at a full meeting of the

Alliance by a unanimous
vote. Some members on our
oppose this law, arguing that
it is in conflict with Art V
Sec 1 of Constitution, that it
will do to force members,
it will break down the Alliance
&c. It seems clear to my mind
that an Art. in Cons. enforcing
the payment of dues has no
bearing whatever on a by-law
enforcing attendance, and
I can't see why a by-law so
easily complied with as the
one in question should work
any hardship on any body.
As to using force, it does
not seem to me that you
can carry on any organiza-
tion without some compul-
sion about it. The very Art.
of Cons. quoted against this

by-law forces members to pay
their dues or lose their mem-
bership. Then it seems hard-
ly fair to the members who do
attend regularly, for some
members to drop off after
they have bought their qua-
rs, and leave the Alliance
to scurry along the best it
can through summer's
heat and winter's cold,
and then bob up serenely
again in the Spring at
quarantine time, pay up their
dues, attend long enough to
get their quarant and then
disappear again and "the
places that knew them know
them no more" - till quarant
time comes round again.
Please give us your opin-
ion as to the constitutionality

of this by-law and also your
opinion as to whether it is ad-
visable to have such a by-law,
provided it is constitutional.

Yours very respectfully
and fraternally,

R. H. Hughes Sec.
Cedar Grove Alliance, 727
Cedar Grove,
N.C.