

ELIAS CARR, President,  
Old Sparta, N. C.

E. C. BEDDINGFIELD, Secretary,  
Raleigh, N. C.

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE,



# North Carolina Farmers' State Alliance,



Old Sparta, N. C., May 22, 1891.

E. J. Brooks Esq.

Grifton N.C.

My Dear Sir & Bro:

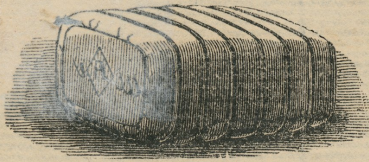
The delay in replying to your favor of the 13th. inst. has been caused by a manned hand in post and a press of business both private and public.

I note the resolution passed by your County Alliance and fully concur in your view of the matter in regard to assurance given the Brothers upon invitation "that the obligation will not conflict with the freedom of your political or religious views". The Alliance was not formed as a political body as fully evidenced by the above assurance and any attempt to force it into a political body is a violation of the sacred obligation. We are political in the higher acceptation of the term viz: the

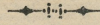


Science of Government - and only upon this  
higher plain can we hope to accomplish  
the great reforms set out in our  
declaration of purposes. With the Alliance  
center at the north fighting our arch-  
enemy the republican party and our  
order here keeping the democratic party  
in line with our demands we can  
so shape the course of national legis-  
lation, eventually, to secure these much  
needed reforms, an utter impossibility,  
I think, with an independent <sup>third party</sup> movement.  
Unquestionably a third party platform  
and candidates, meeting the most radical  
views of the Order would be selected.  
But with what chance of success? In-  
stead of forcing the two old parties to  
hold out inducements for the Agricultural  
vote, this third party movement would  
mean that all such would be useless  
and would unite the rest of mankind  
against us. If our Councils are heeded  
and we intend they shall be by our  
declaration to support no man for  
office who is not for our demands -  
then, the farmer may claim his own.  
The object of the Alliance is to educate the

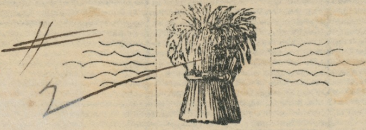




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farmer to know the effect of laws and  
proposed laws, to learn him political  
economy, and showing done so he can  
vote intelligently and just as his judgment  
tells him. I am unalterably opposed  
to this third party movement, yet if  
it should be formed and their platform  
coincides more nearly with those of  
the Alliance demands than either of  
the present parties, then it becomes our  
duty, and it should be our pleasure  
to support it.

In regard to the eligibility of a shopman  
living in town - none but farmers  
living within incorporated towns  
are eligible to membership in  
the Alliance

Travelling you

Elias Carr

Om N. C. F. S. A.



E. J. Braxton  
Braxton