



North Carolina Board of Health.

Secretary's Office

Wilmington, _____ 18__

Thomas F. Wood, Secretary.

will vote the Republican ticket if the Democrats do not accede to their demands and put negro rule on us again? Now I don't begin to believe that the Alliance is going to do either - I have too much confidence in the men who make up its membership - but I don't like the way things look - I feel that if they should I would become instead of a warm friend of the organization, as I am now, an ardent enemy believing that I would be engaged in a righteous work in trying to break down so dangerous a power. Of course my friendship or enmity would amount to nothing itself but it occurred to me that it might interest you to know how an outsider - a most friendly outsider - feels about the recent indications -

I am delighted to hear such glowing accounts from all directions of the crops and I trust you will be good enough to ~~very~~ much more than make up for last year -

Mother who is now in Perquimans will soon go
to bags' Head. My children are ~~at~~ Chapel Hill
Keep and his wife go there to-morrow evening after
my return and only Mary and myself will be left at
home — When are you coming up again? You
know that you are always expected at my house.

I suppose you are keeping bachelors' hall. If not
give my love to Mrs Carr and the little girls. Kindest to
the Boys —

Sincerely your friend
Richd. H. Lewis

P.S. I've just heard a new one — this I have a faint idea of
having heard it too. A noted character about Wayne Co
many years ago named Hood was a kind of exhorter — would read
the Bible and comment on it. Once to a large congregation he
was reading when he struck "And Solomon had 300 wives and 700 con-
cubines" a word to that effect as old man Batt Moore said (when
he broke down trying to quote the Lord's prayer in Court on an occasion —
He turned his bible on the face downward and looking over the congre-
gation in every direction several times & looking very serious he said;
"Sister men was men in them days." I've also heard
another one a good deal better I think but I have it time
to write it. Come up and let me tell you —
Dick



North Carolina Board of Health.

Secretary's Office

Wilmington, July 11th 1890

Thomas F. Wood, Secretary.

My dear Colonel:

Having cleaned up my cases here and having a little time on my hands before I leave for home I gladly avail myself of the opportunity to do what I wanted to do before I left home - and that is write you a word or two on the subject of the attack of the Progressive Farmer on Vance which really pained me -

As you have known me from my cradle and as I have had the pleasure of seeing you quite frequently (though not as often as I would like) in recent years you are no doubt well acquainted with my character and my views - You know then that I am specially interested in the welfare of the agricultural element (white) in our State. I have looked upon the Farmer's Alliance with favor hoping that it might really advance the farmer's cause. When Capt. Alexander and after him you were made president of it I was greatly encouraged as to its probable usefulness, for I believed in him and still more in yourself whose

without meaning to flatter you I put at the very
head of the farmers in this State for character and intelli-
gence. I may perhaps be somewhat partial to my
friends but that's the way I really feel about it. I
remain confident that so far as you can you will man-
age the Alliance wisely - But can you control the organ
of the Alliance? If not it may more than undo what-
ever you might accomplish - Since reading the article
on Senator Vance's letter to you which struck me as
an uncommonly able manly and patriotic production and
promising every thing that reasonable men could de-
mand - I am satisfied that the organ needs someone
with wisdom (as distinguished from simple smartness) at
its helm. Can it be possible that the Alliance
intends to attack and if possible defeat such a high-
principled courageous & truly patriotic man as Vance
has proven himself to be - such a faithful friend of the
people - which means the farmers - as he in a manner
unrivalled by any other public man in N. C. has de-
monstrated. And to put in his place - such a
man as Polk? Can it be that the Alliance
(as indicated by the officers of the Alliance of this County)