

Raleigh, 11th July 1890

Elias Carr, Esq
Old Sparta, N. C.

Dear Sir:

For many years
the railroad corporations have dictated
the nominees of both parties and con-
trolled the legislation of this State, and
in consequence the corporations have
prospered while all other classes have
suffered, no man could receive a
nomination at the hands of a State Con-
vention without the assistance, or at any
rate against the wish, of these corporations,
and by some means, a majority of the
legislature has been ready to carry
out their will.

A large number of people having
borne this state of things up to and
beyond that point where patience ceases

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to be a virtue, influenced by the purest patriotism, have formed an organized resistance, and are endeavoring to secure such laws as are beneficial to all classes and such officers as will faithfully execute these laws. This is what I understand to be the cause and the object of the organization of which you are the head, and with which I have the deepest sympathy. But I fear there are some persons in your organization who are guided only by hopes of personal aggrandizement and honor and who are so bent on this that they may lose sight of the noble cause of this order - equal justice to all - and convert it into merely a political body with which to secure personal preferment.

There seems to be a disposition with some to do exactly that of which they have so justly complained: to set one class up above

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all other classes, to ignore and even treat
as enemies the merchant, the banker, the
mechanic, the lawyer, the physician, per-
sons engaged in incorporated enterprises,
etc., and this feeling seems to be so strong
that old party ties are greatly weakened &
the Democratic party - our only salvation -
endangered.

As I understand the grand principles and
purposes of the Farmers Alliance they
are the same for which the Democratic Party
has always been, and is now, contending; but
there are some misinformed, and some
disigning, members of the Alliance who do not
appear to see this and who are jealous &
distrustful of all persons who are not members
of this organization. What will this feeling
lead to if not checked before it is too late?
I fear to contemplate it. - I love the Dem-
ocratic party, I am in sympathy with
the Farmers Alliance, and rejoice in the

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prosperity and strength of both. There should be
no jar between the two. They should march,
elbows touching, against the common enemy
and that this may be secured it is
in my opinion necessary to put at
the head of the party a prominent
Alliance man. I have therefore
written this letter to persuade you to
accept the chairmanship of the Dem. ^{State} Ex
Committee and conduct the coming cam-
paign. This would reconcile all Alliance
men and give them renewed confidence
in the Democratic party, and at once silence
any designing men who for purposes of their
own would make of the Farmers' Alliance
a distinct and independent political party.
It would also give to yourself additional
prominence in the State and in 1892
make you the Democratic nominee for
governor. - The Democratic State
Convention which is to meet here on 24th

Aug. will I am sure, with great anxiety
tender you the Chairmanship if you will take
it. Give this matter serious con-
sideration and then let me hear from
you

Sincerely your friend
Spier Whitaker