

Garner W. C.

Sept - 14<sup>th</sup> 190

My Dear Sir & Brother,

Yours of recent date to hand, contents as usual, carefully noted & appreciated, with regard to the Vance & Polk fight of which you ask my conclusions I can not make the assertion exact as to what the result will be, it has certainly had some effect upon each party but I think operates with more certainty on Vance for the simple reason that he makes to some extent think Vance is disposed to ridicule the Farmers Movement & are therefore not so ready to attack the importance to his interest as formerly. I have always been a Democrat & never scratched, or cut, however repulsive a candidate may have been, & I can't say either, that I have any regrets to express for so doing, as I believe I knew

the nature of the perils which confronted our country,  
though I must admit that I am afraid that  
Trances course is inimical to the principles  
of the Farmers Alliance & as an Alliance man  
thoroughly imbued with its principles I want to  
fight its battles inside of the lines of Democratic  
organization & at the same time hold the party  
in check. Whether this can be done or not remains  
to be seen. There is one thing very certain that  
the Alliance has already demonstrated that  
political opinions can be transformed &  
Demagogues supplanted. This brightens  
my hopes. It may be possible that all this  
political squabbling between <sup>the</sup> Popes & the Mages  
argues well for the country or foretells  
the advent of a better day & when I  
say this I am satisfied I reflect the  
sentiments of a majority of our order  
in my county. I read carefully your  
speech address to the order at Ashville  
& endorse every word except that portion

which related to school funds. I am  
opposed to the present system of free schools  
unless each case, bears <sup>equally</sup> the burden of  
taxation, as it now stands one bears the  
burden & the other receives the benefits  
arising therefrom. I have paid school  
tax a long time but never patronized the  
school. The Negroes have always been the  
recipients of my funds in that respect.

With regard to the Harrow I am considering  
the ~~matter~~ <sup>some</sup> of improvement, would it be  
better to bolt blades on to the bars, so  
that they could be removed when  
dull. I would like to hear from you.  
said improvement would cost  
40 dollars to Patent

Always appreciating a letter from you  
I am yrs fraternally  
W. H. Rand