

OFFICE OF  
JAMES H. SHERBILL,

Catawba, N. C., June 6<sup>th</sup> 1892

Hon Elias Carr  
Old Sparta N.C.

As President of  
Catawba County Farmers Alliance allow  
me to congratulate you on your success in  
obtaining the nomination for Gov. N.C. at  
the late State Convention and wish you  
abundant success.

I especially wish you in regard to an  
article that appears in the Charlotte Observer  
of June 3<sup>rd</sup> from Rev. J. T. W. Vernon of Ga.  
exposing a secret society within the  
Farmers Alliance known as Gideons Band.  
in which article he states that "I have  
heard some things that gave rise to  
Gideons Band at Ocala Fla". If such  
a secret society was contemplated  
or perfected at Ocala. I presume you  
would have some knowledge of it.

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and write you to know if such an  
order has any existence to your  
knowledge in the Farmers Alliance, or  
have you any information that would  
lead you to believe that such an  
order has ever been formed within the  
Alliance. I cannot believe the story,  
but some of our friends not  
members of the Alliance give it  
credit. Any information in regard  
to "Gardens Band" except what is contained  
in the Bible will be duly appreciated.  
Let me again wish you success in  
your coming contest. With my highest  
regards I remain

Truly + Fraternally Yours  
James H. Sherrill