

REFERENCES BY PERMISSION:

SETH BRIDGMAN,
President Bank of Washington.
JAS. L. FOWLE,
President First National Bank.

Grimes Real Estate Co.,

REAL ESTATE. INSURANCE.

J. BRYAN GRIMES,
Wm. DEMSIE GRIMES,
JUNIUS DANIEL GRIMES.

Phone No. 13.

Washington, N. C., *Jan'y. 11,* 1899

Hon. Elias Carr,
Old Sparta, No. Ca.

My dear Sir,

For the past few years it has been almost impossible to get tenants and laborers in this section. The majority of our tenants are so thrifless as to be undesirable & produce is so low that it is almost certain loss to cultivate large areas of our staple crops even were labor abundant & cheap. This year I will have several hundred acres in Beaufort & Pitt Cos. lying idle for want of tenants and laborers. I could rent much of it but to people from whom I would get practically nothing but an impoverished soil. In this and adjoining counties I know of thousands of uncultivated acres reverting to pine forests.

I shall make an effort to get some Northern & Western farmers in here to buy small farms & to get tenants for myself at same time.

My brother Demsie is commencing the practice of law in Washington. My brother Junius will get his A.B. degree at the Univ. in June & as he is ahead of his course is taking special

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Gov. E.C.

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studied in surveying, engineering &c this spring.

We wish to do a Real Estate business in Washington as there is a good field for local work & if we can get Western farmers down here it will be a boon to our people. We will handle property on commission & while the business will be largely conducted by my brothers I will personally view and investigate all the property we offer & decline excessive valuations.

Being something of a surveyor I could partition large properties to advantage & I think I have a fair judgment of land values. We hope to get in good working shape by summer & will advertise as the business will justify it. Can we refer to you? Your standing as a practical farmer & your position as Ex. Pres of the N. C. S. F. A. & Ex. Gov. of N. C. would command attention.

Will you write us a condensed reference of 300 or more words to print on the back of our letter paper & to use also in our pamphlet if our success justifies us in publishing one. A brief mention of us personally that those western people may know we are not "fakes" & a description of this section Pitt & Beaufort Cos. —

We expect to advertise in The Practical Farmer

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of Phila. Prof. Massey of the Exp. Station is one of the leading contributors to that paper & his opinion has great weight with the P.F. readers. - Prof. M. knows this section having been in Greenville & Washington several times. Will you give me a letter of introduction to him that I may forward it with a request for a short statement of the agricultural advantages & possibilities of this section.

Inclosure you a leaflet gotten up some years ago in an unsuccessful attempt to get Scotch tenants. Trusting you will pardon the length of this letter and thanking you for such courtesy as you may show us, I am with very kind regards to Mrs. Carr, the young ladies, Elias & yourself.

Sincerely,

J. Bryan Grimes

If you think this section well adapted to clover please mention it.