

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
NORTH CAROLINA RAILROAD CO.,
W. F. KORNEGAY, PRESIDENT.

Goldsboro, N. C., June 27th 1891

To His Excellency Elias Carr

Raleigh N. C.

My Dear Governor

The time of our interview yesterday was too limited for me to properly present the objections that might be urged to the proposition to pass an extra dividend to enable "at once to put the property of the N. C. R. R. Company upon the tax books.

The proposition to tax the property of this Company pari passu with all other property in the State, having been a subject of legislation at the last session of the Gen Assembly, and having since then been a topic of discussion for the State press and frequently before the courts, has come to be a matter of great public concern, especially with the reading and thinking portions of the people. Every one feels it is a matter in which he has some personal interest and about which he is entitled to speak. Could it have been adjusted at first before there was so much discussion, the manner of doing it would have occasioned no comment. Now that the eyes of the people are turned to the Courts for adjudication, they are not likely to be satisfied with what many would regard as an arbitrary

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act of the Board of Directors. And if in the future the Directors should not be able to continue to pay the semi annual dividend of their present, and thus demonstrate the wisdom of their action, their conduct would appear all the more unwise and despotic.

I believe, as all your Directors do, that it is the rightest thing to do to take up the exemption, but it is a question about which intelligent and disinterested men differ; on this account and at this stage of the proceedings, any action on the part of the Directors appearing to forestall the action of the Courts would likely be regarded as a little Radical.

I am not unmindful, however, that there may be some delay and in the mean time the Company will not ^{be} paying the tax it ought to pay and that some with more zeal than discretion, may be saying that the N. C. R. R. Corp under its present management is paying five to six thousand dollars less tax than formerly. But who will have the temerity to charge this upon or upon administration. If ~~the~~ ^{the} Company does ^{not} pay its full proportion of taxes there will be abundant evidence that the management was prevented from doing so by the Courts. This is the arm of the Government charged with the settlement of such cases and it

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is a good thing to bow to its authority. A good old Prophet,
You will remember, once said, "to obey is better than sacrifice"
I hope my dear Governor you will not think I have written
anything in the spirit of dictation; it is a cherished ambi-
tion with me to promote the best interests of your admini-
stration. I said Mr Allen immediately on my return
and he says he thinks fine if not some of the Directors
agree with me in this view of the matter

Mr Allen has further strengthened his answer to the com-
plaint and feels perfectly confident that he will win
at least this case.

I will call on you next Monday evening on my
way to Greensboro and shall be glad to hear any sug-
gestion you may have to make

I have the honor to be very respectfully
your
obed servant W. F. Kornegay

If not called for in FIVE days, return to
NORTH CAROLINA RAIL-ROAD CO.,
W. F. KORNEGAY, PRESIDENT,
GOLDSBORO, N. C.



To His Excellency Elias Carr
Raleigh
N.C.

RALEIGH, N.C.
JUN 28
1894