

[TO: Elias Carr, Raleigh
N.C.]

Chen, Ala. 5. 13. 1906

P.S. I am in good
health & right
for a number of
my age.
Excellency
J. E. Carr
Raleigh
N.C.

J. E. Carr,
Raleigh,
N.C.

Respected Sir:

I know this will be a surprise to you, without
explanation. After my arrival at the Atlanta
Exposition, I saw in the papers that the Gov.
of N. Carolina was at the Aragon House, &
would stay several days, so I did not go
the first of your stay, but feeling I was
in good time, called, to read my card.
But was told at the office that you had
just left; of course I was disappointed,
for several reasons. among others, that I might
renew our ancient acquaintance & congratulate
you on the high position assigned you
by the people of your state. in whom I take just pride,
because it is my native state, & your
people are in one sense mine also. It
has been a long time since I saw you
at uncle John's, when ^{you} were with Mark &
George going to school to brother William,
my lamented & gifted brother.

& the very mention of your name brought
up a splendid recollection of the Past
with a bright array of fond & pleasing asso-
ciations, which are gone, never to return,
with the noble spirits who gave them birth.
I remember your wife as a girl, & the daughter
of my mother's great friend Cousin Mauch,
Kearney, who on one occasion when she was very
sick, sent her carriage for my mother to come to
see her, & she immediately left the Camp meeting
in Hallifax, & came to see her friend, who re-
covered, whose life was trembling in the scales be-
tween life & death, to visit to bed side of a Christ-
ian friend & relative, was my mother's highest
mission on Earth. All or most of our old rela-
tives, have crossed the dark river, I am left
alone & my name still standing solitary
in this great fight of life, upon which
depends not only the issues of life, but
of vast eternity; & altho I remained alas! too
long out of the Ark of Safety. I have reason-
able hope, that at last I shall be gathered
with my happy ancestors, with that mighty
throng, who have washed their robes, & made
them white in the blood of the Lamb,
where there will be no more sorrow, & no

more pain for ever. I have ceased to work for that Mas-
ter who pays his laborers in counterfeit money &
false promises, & am serving as best I can, a far
nobler Master who pays the laborer of the 11th
hour the same as the 1st. who bears the heat & burden
of the day. he gives me not what I sow, but
only what I desire, & earnestly ask in faith, & where
old Time with iron pen shall write over my
remains the Epitaph, He is no more. I hope
to be in the land of Eternal Rest. Excuse
this digression, for I quote it in gratitude for
the Matchless Mercy, which has spared a
Sinner, who trampled so long the offers of
salvation under his feet & was at last
spared to see the fatal error of his way
which leads to ignoble, Death, & turn just
in time to save the prayers of a true, & pious
mother, who died as she had lived, a true
& faithful soedier of the Cross, upon which
died the Lamb for Sinners slain. I am
now living with my 3^d wife, but no children,
am happy in my marriage life, as I have a wife
who is childless, & studies deeply my every

want. & Comfort. Marriage is said to be a lottery
& if so. I have drawn a capital prize &
have nothing more to desire, beyond her
happiness to which I owe my greatest efforts.
How is Cousin Mary & children? I have not
heard from her in some time, write me all
you can. of our Kin. How I would like to see
once more the old Church Shady Grove, where our
people worshipped in love & unity together, & where my
Grand father was once the ruling & loving spirit. & I
hope his posterity will never dishonor his unsullied
name. Sister Mary has only 2 children who survive,
Matty old at with 7 children. & J. C. Boy Kin 35 single
Sister Lucy 2 daughters surviving & one son. Lempe
married a Mr Houston, child Lizzie married, A. J.
You know ^{& Dr. Sol Adams} I have his son G. S. Clanton, living
near me, & the only Clanton except myself of
our family except Gaul Clanton's Kin. I live in the
black belt, near Fairfield in Pickens Co Ala,
I think of going to Corinth this Summer to visit some of my
wife's relatives. I should like to visit Faneuil Hall Boston,
which once shook under voice of Daniel Webster the Glad-
stone of America, & the greatest man of his day. I should
like to see you for "aul an' aye", I am a good & silver Democrat,
a Constitutional Democrat & cannot consent to any other arrangement

until a Convention of the 44 States, in the Constitutional manner change it.
We have made a better gift for Europe, & why not a better currency, let them follow
us & not we them, With kindest regards for you. I am yours truly
J. Clanton.