

MANNING & FOUSHEE,  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW.

JAS. S. MANNING.  
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Durham, N. C., July, 14<sup>th</sup> 1896.

Gov. Elias Carr,  
Raleigh, N. C.

My dear Sir: Your favor of 13<sup>th</sup> inst. in regard to application for pardon of John Williams received. I have this morning examined the records on file in this County of the trial, evidence and conviction to refresh a vague recollection of the case. I found the evidence upon the committing magistrates; and it is very satisfactory as to his guilt. I remember the fellow, and that this is not his first experience

in the penitentiary. It is doubtful if he ought to have been convicted of any crime more than larceny, if of that; and the sentence of 15 yrs. is very severe. I remember the term of the Court well, Judge Baykin was not himself; it was among the last courts held by him before he began to reform his habits. I have no hesitation in stating that for the alleged crime the defendant has been punished with sufficient severity. Have you read Mr. Thomas' letter on the case in the Progressive Farmer of the 11<sup>th</sup>?

Yours most truly,

J. S. Manning.