

State of North Carolina,  
Executive Department,  
Raleigh.

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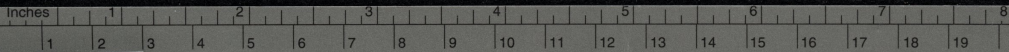
I have from early manhood, labored as few have ever done to secure the charter, in 1848. voting for its charter alone of my delegation - ~~then to get~~ - then to get the stock subscribed to secure the charter. Then mortgaged all the property I was worth, with a few other young men, to raise some to make out the contract we took out. I am sure no one has done more for our Railroads in the way of time, labor and money in the State in and out of Legislature in proportion to his means & ability than

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I have, I have always  
been ~~in favor of~~  
opposed to the State, controlling  
them in the way of cooperation.  
And favored the least  
loss, if it could be made  
at 7 percent. At the time  
the matter was pending  
I was met by a prominent  
manager of the R. O. D. R. P.  
residing in Va. I was  
told he had business  
at C. Shope - and as he  
was alone he requested me  
to accompany him I did  
so on the way he told me



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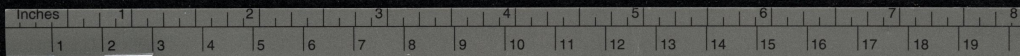
that the lease would soon  
be drawn up and he wanted  
me to examine it closely  
and he would give ~~me~~  
a fee for my services  
of \$500. I replied that  
I would render him  
the services for nothing  
that I did not think  
my ability as a lawyer  
was worth so much for so  
little service. But he re-  
plied, you have great in-  
fluences and in that way  
I could greatly benefit  
the road by securing

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This horse. I replied I did not think money received in that way & from such sources was not to be looked on as a fee for legal services but rather as a bribe. Then came the reply you were more courteous than four or five other leading lawyers in the State residing from or in Raleigh or up as high as Charlotte all of whom he avowed had received a similar fee for similar services, and as I remember



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ed all of them were Democrats.  
But this I wish you to keep per-  
sonal as it would do no good  
to make the matter public  
especially as all are now  
dead by myself. But my  
object in writing was to say  
to you that I am decidedly  
in favor for leaving the  
road for the most that can be  
had for it and for 9 years  
& longer if thought best.  
Experience shows every where that  
this is the proper course to pursue,  
I could, I think, prove it  
by many examples and un-

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deniable fact. I have no  
interest in the road only as a  
citizen of the State & had not  
Vance & the Democracy opposed  
Bill Smith, when he tried to get  
the N.C. R. R. to take N. W. R.R.  
from this place to Salem & push  
it, the State would have made  
a ten pin strike at that time.  
Coaly Politics in R.R. don't do

Yours  
Sincerely

D. F. Caldwell

B. J. Caldwell  
N.C.R.R. Letter

Inches 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19

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