

"Hon. Elias Carr, Ex. President of the N.C. State Farmers Alliance, Ex. Governor of N.C., a wealthy planter and successful business man writes:

Old Sparta N.C.
Feb. 23, 1899

Col. J. Bryan Grimes
Grimesland, N.C.

Dear Col.,

I understand it is your purpose, together with your brothers, to enter into a land and improvement company with Grimesland as a central point. You have my best wishes and I predict for you success. While immigrants and capitalists are at last turning their attention southward, it behoves me to set forth some of the advantages we are offering and I confidently assert that Grimesland and its surroundings offer more inducements to the home-seeker than any spot of my knowledge. Its accessibility to market and exemption from frock makes it especially desirable as a trucking country. The climate of Eastern N.C., is often said to resemble that of Southern France and Italy. The average annual rainfall for this section being 53-29. Notwithstanding this large amount of rainfall, the humidity tables show that the climate is as dry as that of France and other countries having a smaller rainfall. This dryness of our atmosphere, is found to

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be decidedly favorable to the prevention of, and recovery from consumption and similar diseases which develop in more rigorous climates. Notably is this being called to our ~~sense~~ ^{attention} by the doctors on the long-leaf-pine lands every where in our State.

There are ^{areas} in this section, densely inhabited, where consumption is said to be unknown. The reports of the presence of malaria are greatly exaggerated. Speaking from an absolute knowledge where it is met with, it is due more to impure surface drinking water than to any peculiarity of the atmosphere of the region. In a number of cases where it had long been common, I have known it to disappear as soon as cistern water was used for drinking purposes. It is a well known fact that in North Carolina alone are all the divisional columns

of the census reports completely filled, so varied are her agricultural products. This great variety of products is due to the existence of great diversity in soil and climate. The eastern part of the State (Cumberland) is pushed out into the ocean and derives much of its modifying breezes from the Gulf Stream.

In addition to the field crops usually grown of corn, cotton tobacco, peanuts, peas, wheat and rye, trucking for canning and shipment to the northern markets has assumed vast and almost fabulous proportions - the whole of this (Cumberland) section lies within the trucking section, being within less than twenty ²⁴ four hours

Elias Carr III

By fast freight of a 10,000,000 urban population. It is destined to be literally, as it is figuratively, the garden spot of these United States.

Grapes & small fruits of all kind thrive there. The Scuppernon Grape a native thrives here as nowhere else, perfectly hardy, and the most prolific of all grapes. With but I wish for your success, Dave,

Sincerely yours,

Elias Carr.