

Morren N. C.

March 26<sup>th</sup> 1891

M<sup>r</sup>. Elias Curr

Old Sparta N. C.

Dear Sirs brother

I desire your ruling, upon the  
felling.

We have F. A. at this place,  
and from the information I have  
been able to get of their workings  
they have rejected one or two persons  
under a mistaken construction  
of the Constitution.

A D. M. residing in the  
Corporate limits of Morren, whose  
farming interest is treble that of  
his Medical ~~for~~ practice applied  
for membership, and was rejected  
on the grounds that he was Dr

residing in the corporate limits of  
the town and that he belonged to  
the Medical Association.

The other is a farmer but it  
was said that had an interest in  
one of Mercantile Establishments.  
The Com. of investigation exam-  
ined him, his statement was  
that he had no interest further  
than, that the proprietors, had  
horrified a sum of money  
from him. Yet he was rejected  
on the grounds that he was a  
partner in the business.

Now both of these gentlemen  
are worthy, honest upright citizens  
and would make good efficient  
Alliance men. They still desire to  
become members, but do wish to  
take the chances of another rejection.  
I think if we had your ruling  
on these two points that they

could go through on another appli-  
cation clear, or in other words all  
the ballots would be white.

I am satisfied that they are eligi-  
ble, and so are a number of the  
members, but there are others, that  
cannot or will not so construe  
the constitution.

Will you be kind enough to  
give ruling thro' the State Organ  
so that these brothers can read it  
for themselves, as coming from you  
the highest authority in the State.

I do not wish my name to  
appear in the matter at all.

Another point, here and else-  
where, too many applicants are  
rejected on on personal grounds  
alone. Would it not be well to  
admonish the brotherhood thro' our  
Organ to lay aside personal feeling  
when a candidate applies for

admission to our ranks.

I am aware that the constitution is very explicit on this head, yet there are so many persons that cannot or do not lay aside their personal feeling long enough to cast an honest ballot, that I think it would be well for you to contribute a short article on the importance of this kind of feeling, every few months.

Please do not construe this as dictatorial, but look upon it as a well meant effort for the good of the Order, and future welfare.

Fraternally,  
W. W. McIlwain