



ELIAS CARR, President,  
OLD SPARTA, N. C.

E. C. BEDDINGFIELD, Secretary,  
RALEIGH, N. C.

Copy -

SECRETARY'S OFFICE,

# North Carolina Farmers' State Alliance,

Raleigh, N. C., Sept 27 - 1890

S. J. Westall Esq

Paink Gap N.C.

My Dear Sir & Bro.

Replying to your very important letter of the 8th. with the first opportunity - I have had of doing so, owing to a protracted absence from my office. The Alliance has time and again declared they were non political, in a partisan sense of the word, that is, they were not organized for the purpose of obtaining places and offices for its members. It is however political in the true and higher acceptation of the term, the sense of government - economic politics - and should antagonize monopoly and all other combinations, whether the creation of legislation or not, which tend to oppress the farmer and the laborer, and to correct existing or prevent other evils it becomes a necessity with the organization to turn its attention to the legislation of the Country where the character of the laws becomes the character of the law makers - we must keep within the higher plain

of politics if we desire success. We are for principles,  
not men. To make the principle of aspirant for office  
the test, is to keep us upon the higher plain. To make  
the question of membership the test, is to put the  
order on the lower level of partisanship, where  
sooner or later it must go down.

Our object should be to secure the nomination of men  
who hold views in harmony with us, who are capable  
and will legislate to put these views into practical  
operation and we will not be justified in limiting  
this choice to members of our order. For the legislature  
select the ablest men to be found who can be trusted  
to stand by the demands of the farmer under any  
and all circumstances, be he in or out of the  
order. It is in the legislative hall our interests are  
most to be looked after.

Should you succeed in electing your entire ticket,  
both legislative and County, as purely an Alliance  
ticket, it would in the end redound to the injury  
of the order and jeopardize the white man's party  
in the state. All the ills we have come from corrupt  
legislation of the republican party - National banks,  
protective tariff, smothering monopolist to form trusts  
and combines and giving away the public lands  
to the railroad syndicates. And in our own

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North Carolina Farmers' State Alliance,

Raleigh, N. C., 189

State we must not lose sight of the prodigious  
special tax bonds and squandering of the public  
School fund by the iniquitous legislature of '88.

Now your 3rd resolution I am sure, will  
not meet the approval of our National  
President and worthy Brother Folk. He is in  
the right place now and has said to me  
within the last week, "he is not an aspirant  
for any other office and has no desire to get  
into Senator Vance's shoes". My advice is do not  
endorse for anyone. Do nothing rashly - Act con-  
servatively and the interest of the order will be advanced  
thereby and its usefulness increased with the coming  
years.

Respectfully Yours

Elias Carr  
E. C. B. F. A.

Copy letter to A. J. Butler  
relative to  
work -