

HARRIS & LITTLE,

Attorneys at Law,

NO. 36 WEST TRADE STREET,

Charlotte, N. C., March 17th, 1893.

No.

Hon. Elias Carr, Governor
 Raleigh, N. C.

Dear Sir:—

My attention has been called to several paragraphs in Raleigh papers and in Raleigh correspondence of other papers, since adjournment of the Legislature, which either state or imply that the Ex-President of the Penitentiary Board prepared the act providing new regulations for the Penitentiary. The purpose of these publications seems to be, to make the impression on the public mind that, after Col. Faison had taken the pains to devise and to have established by law, a more business-like system, you saw fit to disregard any claims he may have had on that account and to confer the office he sought under the act upon another. Such an impression would be erroneous.

The truth is, that the plan established by the bill was my own, derived mainly, of course, from a study of other systems; that a rough draft of it was read by me to the second joint

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meeting of the Committee on Penal Institutions in January, and a desire was then expressed by me that a sub-committee should be appointed to prepare such a bill, to the end that it might have all possible strength in going before the Legislature, as the bill of both Committees. Col. Faison did not know anything of it till then and did not afterwards show his approval of such a measure till Senator Fields and I, as the sub-committee appointed in joint meeting, had begun the finishing work on the bill, less than ten days before adjournment. At our request, Col. Faison then met with us, and gave his practical views on each section. Our desire was to so shape the new regulations that the system might be practical, and that no confusion might result when the law should go into effect. Some of his ideas aided us in that respect. But he did not approve of several important provisions in the bill and was not even an agitator of the importance of the measure - much less its author. The only penitentiary bill prepared at his suggestion was the appropriation bill.

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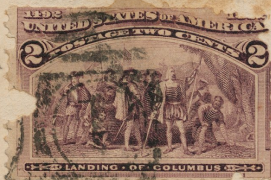
I have desired to make known these facts, in order that you might feel that no injustice has befallen Col. Faison by reason of the circumstances mentioned, and that you might know that he is not even a victim of "the irony of fate", as suggested by some newspaper correspondents.

Having seen the draftman of the bill, I did not at any time feel at liberty to ask your Excellency to appoint any particular person Superintendent. But you will pardon me now for saying that your appointments meet my hearty approval, and that my hopes of success for the business of the institution, under the new law, have never been more sanguine, than now.

With great respect I am,
 Your Obedient Servant,
 Hugh W. Harris.

Return to HARRIS & LITTLE,
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36 W. Trade St., CHARLOTTE, N. C.,
If not delivered within 10 days.

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His Excellency, Elias Carr,
Governor of North Carolina,
Raleigh,
N.C.

Personal.

Write now!

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