

LAW OFFICES OF
OSBORNE, MAXWELL & KEERANS,
ROOMS 1 AND 3 LAW BUILDING,
CHARLOTTE, N. C.

Charlotte, N. C. July 12th, 1895.

Dear Governor:--

I understand that a Committee has been appointed by the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Rail Road to take steps concerning the renewal of its lease to the Southern Railway Company. I wish to make a suggestion in connection with the matter which if carried out I believe may be of some benefit to the State & credit to your administration. Would it not be wise to induce the Southern Railway Co to lease at the same time the Atlantic Road? Of course I do not know that the scheme is feasible, but a great Northern & Southern line running through North Carolina is compelled to lease the North Carolina Rail Road, & you could compel it to take with it also the Atlantic Road. The advantages of such a lease to the State are apparent:-- The Road now pays two per cent on the Stock, or has for a few years under the management of Mr. Chadwick declared such dividends, but I fear it will not pay so much this year. Surely the Southern would take it if compelled to do so at a rental of three per cent. This would secure the State an investment paying us over thirty thousand dollars, which would be a permanent advantage in itself. By a contract of lease the road would be taken out of politics and the State's investment would not undergo the risk necessarily incident to Populistic-Republican rule. We would be saved from the dangers which threatened us during the last legislature. There would be a possibility of building up a North Carolina seaport if a great and wealthy corporation had control of the only road leading to

LAW OFFICES OF
OSBORNE, MAXWELL & KEERANS,
ROOMS 1 AND 3 LAW BUILDING,
CHARLOTTE, N. C.

it, and was therefore interested in Beaufort as an outlet to freight. Of course I do not know that my idea can be carried out or even would be beneficial if executed,- I only mention it as a suggestion thinking that it had not, perhaps, occurred to you.

I hope you will keep this letter private, and act upon it if its contents meet your approval.

Gov. Jarvis during his administration of course had control of the Atlantic. Perhaps he had some ideas on this subject. Would it not be well to write to him concerning it, and ask his opinion?

Yours sincerely,

F. I. Osborne

LAW OFFICES OF
OSBORN, MAXWELL & FERRIS
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
CHICAGO, ILL.

J. J. Osborne
Deceased of A. N. C. P. K.