

Sparta, N. C., Sept 2 1895-

My Dear Gov:

While not unexpected the death of Sir Lake greatly shocked me. He was a chivalrous, big hearted man whom we will greatly miss in the councils of our party. I do not know who will be applicants for the appointment as his successor.

But for many reasons I would be glad to see A. B. Brantton of Raleigh appointed.

But whomsoever you may appoint of one thing I feel sure he will be a good man.

This is a time in the history of Democracy in this State when we need men who are wise, prudent and in thorough sympathy with the patriotic masses of our people.

I want to visit Raleigh soon and have a long talk with you. Have been quite hard at work all summer.

What do you think of the outlook in general, and particularly of N. C. Democracy?
With assurances of my highest personal regards I am, sincerely, your friend,
R. A. Doughton,