

No 9, 1860

The State of things the strength of Washington
 County will be divided. If I can obtain
 a very united support from this County
 the arguments would be this, Answorth
 has never had the office, they prefer a
 man on whom they are united. Washington
 has had that office always, and all the sub-
 districts at Leesport and will let Mr. Answorth
 be Collector, the number being 10,000, in addi-
 tion to this they have and he has the
 number of Congress. If the doctrine of equal
 distribution of offices is to be carried out what
 course is more just than to give the Col-
 lectorship to Answorth? Other candidates
 were satisfied by the friends of the other
 candidates being in mind that they would
 much divide. I am perfectly con-
 vinct that the Answorth Candidate should not
 be objectionable to Mr. Pitzer. This being the
 true state of things it was clear to me
 that my Republican friends here it is in their hands
 to give to me. I have the vision to believe that
 I can be a reliable Republican, can be
 as faithful to the government and undertake
 the interests of the party as well as either
 of the pretenses I have named.
 Now then I should like your aid

Mr. Wright, Knight & Hamp Page
 if you will give it together with that I
 have named, I will be confident in fact
 I should write to Mr. G. W. Smith if I
 know he was at your place.

I am very sorry that I ought to have stated
 before, but to me it looked too premature, I
 deemed it best to wait till a more impor-
 tant matter was disposed of and do not
 believe my interests will suffer by trying to
 show some little decency. If I fail I shall
 submit with becoming grace and comfort
 myself that we have a Republican President.

I have nothing more to write very
 that we all feel somewhat well.

Very yours
 A. S. Richards Esq -
 New Bern
 Washington Long

Nov 9, 1860

Hon. Mr. Love
Nov 9 - 1860

[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

For Fairfax Nov. 9. 1860

A. S. Richards, Esq.

Dear Sir

Allow me to congratulate you with all the rest of our Republican friends on the election of "Old Abe" to the Presidency. I am this a glorious season asking "Why not since that as a Nation may our age is only 40 years? The night for once has passed and I breathe more freely. Now comes the struggle for the office, and I presume you have been appointed by the Democracy for Washington County to assist in giving them the opportunity of collecting at Eastport. They commenced operations before our Sept. election. They have a right then to do but relying to me it looks premature. Now I am a Candidate for that Collection District and would like the assistance of my Republican friends in this County. Mr. Garrison & Lawrence of Eastport. Mr. J. J. Rogers, H. C. H. H. & others of Collier are all Candidates for that place and believe what they say they are all certain of the place. I wish being