

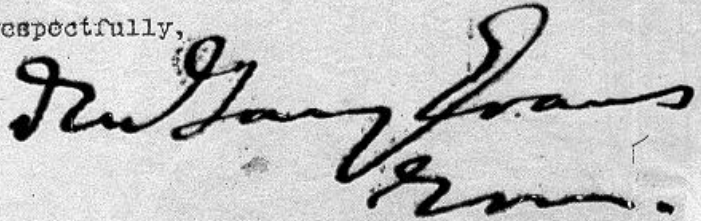
Dec. 6 th. '95.

Rev. E. H. Coit,

City,

Your letter by authority of Right Rev. M. B. Salter, Bishop of the A. M. E. Church in this State inviting me to address your Conference now in session this evening has been duly received. I thank you for it and regret that circumstances prevent me from accepting it. I feel that it is unnecessary for me to impress upon you the value of education to any race of people, No government founded on any other principle than the rule of intelligence can succeed. The colored ministers of South Carolina represent the intelligence of their race and the responsibility resting upon them is indeed great. Their influence is felt not only in a spiritual way, but in all matters pertaining to the welfare of this class of our people. There should be no differences of opinion between the intelligent white people and the intelligent colored people so far as the common interests of the State at large are concerned and I am satisfied that when foreign influences are banished and local interests alone allowed to govern there need be no fear of race conflict in this State. You have my best wishes and as Governor of the State my hearty cooperation in any effort you may make looking to the advancement of the educational and industrial interests of your race.

Very respectfully,



Citation:

Evans, John Gary, to E. H. Coit, 6 December 1895. South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, South Carolina.