

North Carolina Warren County
Honoured and Dear Brother

No unseen yet beloved tho I am the unworthiest
of all that is meet to be called a minister of the
Gospel of Jesus Christ yet I am desirous to contract
an acquaintance with all the labourers in my Lord's
Vineyard, and as I have a chance to write to my Elder
brother I hope you will receive it at the hands of
brother Braine. In which I inform you of the great
Declension of Religion in our parts which is agreeable
to the souls of the godly, but yet I look for a farre
better day than this. I mean the latter day glory
when all shall be taught of the Lord and great
Shall be the peace of his people, my brother
Pray for us in North Carolina that the Lord
Would rain down Righteousness from heaven upon
us, that his poor sion may once more travel and
bring forth sons and daughters for god, my brother
I feal determined through grace to go on tho afflicted
I bless the Lord not forsaken I yet feal in my soul
to love Jesus my brother stirr up the brethren to
Come and Visit us in our state, pray my brother
Write to me by brother Braine and you will oblige
your affectionate tho unworthy brother in gospel
Bonds — — — — — Thomas Gardner

February the 6th 1797

Elder Brother Bacus —