

Murfreesboro. Tenn. Feb. 9/63

3829

~~L~~ ~~Feb 19~~ ~~1863~~

~~P.D.~~ ~~Am. at gmt - 1863.~~

~~Fifth John Provost Judge~~

Relative to the return of two ladies Mrs. S. B. Bruce and Mrs. E. J. Burnett wives of two notorious Rebels

1 Enclosure

E 3296 4 Enclosures

Recd by Deptm to take Compt
Murfreesboro Feb 19/63

The General Commanding directs Capt Wiles Provost Marshal General, to assess the value of the carriage & horses & forward a statement to Genl Boyle, who, upon the amount being paid by Mrs Bruce, is authorized to release her from arrest Rec'd Officer P.M. Dibb Feb 19/63.
By order of Maj Gen Rosecrans

Rec'd N.Y. gen C. Goddard
Dc. Feb. 19/63 Seal. recd of 1st

Copy of letter

John H. Gillet, Procurt Judge,
to
Geo Griggs dial
relative to
Mrs L. B. Bruce &
" E. G. Burnett,

26th 2nd District Western Ky.
Louisville Feby 12/63

My Settler will proceed
at once to where Mrs
Bruce & Mrs Burnett
may be found & will
abst them & report with
them in person to My 2d
Roscians at Mafreson
or elsewhere.

All Military commanders
are ordered or requested
to render Mr. Settler
such aid as may be necessary
in the execution of this
order.

By command Army Genl Anglo
A. B. Smith

Headquarters Dist of India
Feb 14th 1863

Mr Lettiss will proceed
to Gen Rosecrans & have
leaving here orders on the
cutter further orders from
Gen Rosecrans, and submit
to Gen Rosecrans the letter
of his Prince to me. If
Gen Rosecrans consents to
keep him standing on
the and orders the money
to be paid Gen Rosecrans
will please order the
volume of Convoy horses
to be ascertained so as to
appropriate them and when
or more private soldiers, and
his orders for payment will
be enforced -

J. Y. Boyle
Major Genl

'Copy'

Head Quarters 14th Army Corps.

Dept. of the Cumberland,

Office of Chief of Police,

Murfreesboro Tenn Feb 9th 1863

Col Wm Trousdale
Chief of Army Police
Nashville Tenn.

Sir

Your report respecting the return of two ladies, Mrs G. B. Bruce and Mrs E. S. Burnett, wives of two notable rebels, formerly of Kentucky, and now assuming to be members of Congress in the so called Congress of the rebels at Richmond Va. claiming to represent the loyal State of Kentucky therein, has been submitted to the General in command,

You state in said report that the ladies in question after having been refused entrance within our lines at Nashville and having been sent back to the rebel Army at Murfreesboro in December last, have since then passed into Kentucky, through the Cumberland without permission of the U. S. Govt. or military authorities, and are now in our midst, in the enjoyment of rights and privileges due only to loyal citizens. The husbands of these ladies meanwhile being still at their nefarious work of violence against the Nation and fraud upon the people of Kentucky.

As appears from documents in this office, copies of

which are hereto annexed, the ladies in question were furnished with a carriage and two horses, and a driver to convey them from our lines back to Murfreesboro, ^{they} guaranteeing safe and speedy return to our H^t & L^o of the same. You report that said property was never returned, but was taken south by the rebels when they evacuated Murfreesboro several days thereafter. Also, you report, that the special guarantee to the driver of the carriage, (a copy of which is also hereto annexed) was not in the least observed by the ladies in the promises, nor by the rebel authorities, and that said driver was held as a prisoner, and hid himself in a building when the rebels evacuated Murfreesboro to prevent their forcing him away as a prisoner or a conscript.

This is exceedingly bad faith on the part of the ladies above named, coupled with their act of stealing with in our lines against the express order in this case has received the serious consideration of the Gen^ls Comdg^d.

You are herewith ordered to send a competent officer to where they may chance to be, if within this Dept^t, and there demand & receive speedy and full payment for the value of the said horses & carriage and also proper compensation to the driver for his wrongful detention, the amounts being left to your judgement or others who know the property and its value &c. And in case of refusal of said persons so to do, you will have them arrested at once and sent to these Head Quarters.

If not in this Dept^t, you will confer with proper authorities where they are. You will further, prepare a

full statement of the case, together with a copy of this order & transmits the same to Brig Genl. Bayle, presenting the case to him as to whether he deems such persons, under such ^{peculiar} circumstances, entitled to residence within his lines. You will report especially to these Head Quarters your action in these premises.

By order of Maj Genl. W. G. Rosecrans
(Signed) John Fitch
Protest Judge

Official

At Genl.

Exhibit "A."

Copy to be sent to
Mrs. Bruce.

Pl. of Emb. Comd. - Feb

Head-Quarters Fourteenth Army Corps,

DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

OFFICE CHIEF OF POLICE.

Murfreesboro, Feb 21st 1863.

Capt Wm M Miles

Prov Mar Gen'l -

Sir - In accordance
with instructions from you, I have assess-
ed the horses & carriage, lost to the Govt thro'
Madam's Bruce & Burnett, after full inves-
tigation, at \$500. 00.

The horses were well matched,
large size, about 7 & 8 years old, a span of brown-
ish bays - are worth, with harness \$300. 00.

The carriage was purchased by
Mrs James K Polk, originally, 3 years ago - was a
fine one, costing over \$1,000. I assess it at
\$600. 00, it being in good order.

The property belonged to Rich-
ard Harris, a colored boy (Hackman) from whom
our Police had temporarily detained it, we supposing
he had been smuggling with it, thro' our lines. The
property was decided, the case resulting in his favor. We
sent this team with the lashes, having no other.

Very Respectfully d^r

John Ditch
Provost Judge.

Head-Quarters District of Western Kentucky,

Louisville, 16th March 1863.

May Ex. Ronanors

Comdg Capt of the Cumberland
Manufactors. Firm

General

Enclosed

Find Certificate of Deposit for \$900 or my
Nine Hundred dollars, from Bank of May
payable to Mr J. L. Akin, and dorice payable
to your order, being amt handed me
in Certificate of Deposit to pay for house & Convey-
tance by Mrs Bruce, daughter of Mr Helen
and Mrs Burnett. I fear the assessment
is extravagant and unjust. I trust you will
cause it to be scrutinized, and that no in-
justice may be done even to evil doers.

I am my respy to obtain
G. J. Boyle

Gen. Boyle:

I have been waited on by a messenger from Gen. Rosecrans to you directing my arrest on conditions, and report myself to Gen. Rosecrans at his headquarters. This arrest I understand to be based mainly on the ground of an assurance of the safe return of the back dinner with his horses and pack.

I beg to submit to you, and through you to Gen. Rosecrans the following statement of the facts—
My first visit to the Southern lines was under a permit from Gen. Sherman.

My condition of health expecting to be confined in a short time determined me to make an effort to return to my father's house to be nursed by a kind mother. I was warned by the fact on one occasion in confinement I was in bed for several months.

I approached the lines of the Union army and was brought to Nashville, was examined and questioned by the proper officer who was made acquainted with my family, and known who my husband was and his whereabouts. I received the pass of Gen. Rosecrans to return home. I was ready to start when the order was countermanded and I was required to return within the Southern lines. The officer who bore the

message, & at least those charged with my return, said Gen. Rosecrans expressed his confidence in the integrity of my purpose and that he was not opposed to my return to Ky. but said as my husband was a prominent man who, had aided in breaking up this Government, he thought it was a fit occasion to set an example to Gen. Bragg that he did not intend to let all the ladies pass through his lines, permitted to approach by Gen. Bragg. It was also stated that the Union army was threatened on three sides. I repeat this conversation from my best recollection. This return the reluctant was imperative. The baggage train & horses were selected & placed for me by the officers I was required by the order of Gen. Rosecrans to give a guarantee of the safe return of the driver, horses & baggage which was drawn and I signed it with Mrs. Burnett who were furnished with papers and returned to Memphis. We arrived there at half past 9 O'clock at night. I went immediately to Gen. Bragg's head-quarters with the driver. I did not see Gen. Bragg but saw his chief of staff. I think his name was Col. Brent, and made known to him the facts of my return and laid before him my guarantee for the return of the driver. The chief of Gen. Bragg's staff assured me positively that the driver should have a pass and permission to return. The car was to start early next morning and I then had

an opportunity of having company and left Murfreesboro
believing I had done all I could do to comply with
my undertaking. I respectfully ask what more could I
do. I was compelled against my will to return. I was
commanded to give the guarantee. I did all in my
power to discharge the duty enjoined on me. A little
was imminent I was compelled to leave by order my personal
security demanded it. I ought not to have remained within
Gen. Bragg's lines after having been in the midst of the
union forces. The hackman made it his business
convey persons between Nashville & Murfreesboro, had
been on other trips, and had brought me up from
Murfreesboro to Nashville. I heard he reported that he
had been arrested at the latter place and kept two
nights in prison. I know he was hired by my husband
to stay three or four days in that place for me. In the
meantime he was using his hack and making money.
I charged him with the falsehood & he said he had
told that lie to keep from being arrested in Nashville.
While using the hack I shut the door a little quickly
and broke the glass accidentally, and on expressing my
regret, the driver said he did not care what became of
the old hack as it was not his. I venture this con-
versation to invite the attention of Gen. Rosecrans to the
probability that the fault is with the driver

Under the circumstances if Gen. Rosecrans thinks I ought to pay anything, I will without hesitation comply with his order. There were two of us who gave the guarantees and as the driver of the buck was stimulated by gain, I hope Gen. Rosecrans will act considerately and finally satisfying himself whether it was our fault and the true value of the damages.

My subsequent return to my father's house was prompted by a belief that my life was possibly involved in a confinement from home. I will be confined in a few weeks.

I did not understand from anything that was said on that occasion that I was ~~possibly~~ subsequently from returning to Ky. for I was permitted to retain Gen. Rosecrans pass which I now have. I appeal to the manhood and generosity of Gen. Rosecrans to justify a lady in my situation when in a land of strangers amidst the conflict of contending armies, for trying to reach the peaceful home of her parents. I have returned home for no unworthy purpose. I have not imparted any facts to the prejudice of the union army for I knew none. nor neither do I intend to impart any information whilst in Ky. & pledge myself to be in readiness to obey the final order of Gen. Rosecrans.

With respect

Mrs. Sajie B. Bruce,

HEAD-QUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Murfreesboro' March 26th 1863.

Colonel

The enclosed Draft for Nine hundred dollars is the assessment
of Judge Fitch of the amount due
from Mrs Bruce & Mrs Bennett on account
of a pair of horses and carriage forwarded
them by Col Grinstead at Nashville
to take them to Murfreesboro

The carriage & horses are supposed
to belong to a negro in Nashville,
the ladies became responsible for their
safe return and are unable to produce
the property

The General Commanding directs
you to collect the money, pay over
to the owner the horses and carriage
not more than Seven hundred dollars
and retain the balance to compensate
the Government for the expense of
sending an agent twice to Louisville

on this business
Should it appear in investigation
that - Seven hundred dollars or more
than the property is worth or that -
two hundred will more than com-
pensate the Government you will
return the balance to Genl Boyle
for the use of Mrs Bruce
You will file receipts in the
Office of the C & A S at 1st des

Respectfully
Yours truly
A. J. Shaw
A.D.C.

Br Col Lytle
Chf & M Dpt

Supt Br Col Lytle

Letter of Col W^m
Zinserdahl, Chief of
Police, to Gen Boyd.

F i - of. Pmt Asst Combd - 1863

Copie

Head Quarter 14th Army Corps
Dept of the Cumberland
Office of Surg of Policy
Nashville Tenn Feb 10th 1863

Brig Genl L. Boyle

In command of Post of
Louisville Ky

Dear Sir

With this please find
an order from Maj Genl Rosecrans directed to myself respecting two ladies named mentioned,
the facts in the case are briefly as follows:
On the eve of Dec 25th last two ladies each with
small children came to our pickets, on the Mur-
freesbor. Pkts & a few miles out from Nashville
and were escorted into this office and examined
as to their whereabouts &c They stated they were
Mrs Bruce and Burnett of Kentucky, their hus-
bands now in the south and members of the
so-called rebel "Congress". The ladies said their
object in coming was to see their friends and
to stay with them an indefinite period. That
the troubles and distinctions at the south was
serious &c &c, also that their husbands neither
urged nor objected to their course in so doing
The ladies statements were handed to the Genl
in Command and he at once ordered their

return to Newfaneboro. This was two or three
days before the Leaves battle near Murfrees-
boro but our advance was still skirmishing
heavily and to make the trip was unsafe but
the ladies gave a guarantee for the safe re-
turn of drivers and horses and I thus
left them back in a good ^{paper} last each
drawn by two excellent horses, by ~~pass~~
engaged herewith you will perceive that
the property was lost, and the ladies are
now said to be within your lines. The Gen^l
you obsev^d desires the payment for the lost
property upon their guarantee, as to their
remaining within your lines you will of
course decide as to that matter, I can only
venture my opinion in the premises, they
ought to be sent back again to the "Benny
South". You will please confer with my
messenger Mr L R Settim who has as
you tell, and I will cooperate with you
in any proper manner to carry out the
instructions and wishes of the Gen^l in
command.

Yours Respectfully
Your obedt Servt
W^m Prentiss
Lieut of Army Police

Copy,

Head Qrs 14th Army Corps
Dept. of the Cumberland,
Nashville Tenn
Dec 21st 1863

The ladies herein referred to
Mrs. Bruce and Mrs. Burnett
are respectfully informed
that in accordance with the
foregoing order of the Gen^ts
Command a conveyance will
be in attendance upon you
at 8 o'clock A.M. to-morrow
Saturday morning to convey
you as directed

Respectfully
Yours etc

(Signed) W^m C^r. Wiley

Capt Pro Mar Gen^d

A copy of the foregoing order
was delivered by myself
to the ladies in question,
they assuring the guarantee
of returning the desired property

(Signed) John Filch
Post Judge

J. J. - Adj't Comdt (R.M.F.) - 1863

~~N^o. 1000000 of Commandant
Instructions for 17/63~~

~~The General Commanding directs that
Capt. Wiles Provost Marshal Genl
accept the value of the back and
forres and upon payment of same
by Mrs. Bruce she be released
from custody~~

P. P. Brown
A.A.C.



"Copy"

Head Quarterg 14th Army Corps
Deptⁿ of the Cumberland,

Office of Chief of Police

Nashville Dec 26th, 1862,

Capt Wm M. Wilez.
Pro. war Gents
Sir

In your report of last evening you state that two ladies, their children and baggage, with vehicle and driver came to our lines without permit to enter, that they were apprehended and reported to your office their statement made in writing, are to the effect that they are the wives of men prominent in aiding and abetting the rebellion, who now seek protection from a great and good Government whom their husbands are aiming to destroy.

You will provide conveyance for these ladies & their children beyond these lines in the direction of Murfreesboro from whence they say they came or they may be carried quiet to Murfreesboro, upon the pledge of the ladies for themselves and for their husbands & friends, guaranteeing the safe and speedy return of the driver and carriage.

By command of Maj Genl H. S. Rosecrans,
(Signed) John Filch

Wm. T. Scoville
Chief Army Police

Provost Judge

Nashville Tenn Dec 27th 1863,

Mr George F. Moore,
Sir.

This is to assure you, that you in
undertaking to drive us to Murfreesboro, will not
be molested by the forces or pickets of the Confederate
Army and we guarantee you safe and speedy
return to Nashville upon the day following our
arrival at Murfreesboro, or at a safe quartering
for us within the Confederate lines.

(Signed) { Mrs L. R. Bruce,
 } Mrs C. S. Burnett.

Letter of
John & Helen
to Brig Gen Boyle

F1 - Off Camb (of. F.M.S.) - 1863

Good Evening Colkatty
Lancaster 16 March 1863

The £900^s) account was
delivered to me by Gen Helen
and is annulled this day
5 May Gen Thosicars an
acknowledgment of deposit for
£900^s on Bank of N.Y.
Lancaster endorsed jointly
to General Boncarras -

J. J. Boyle
May June

Elizabeth Tom. Fish.

Genl Boyle

The gentleman who will hand you this letter gave me the pannfull intelligence that he was a messenger despatched by Genl Rosecrans to take my daughter Mr Prince to the head quarters of the Genl. She is now in Louisville and will give you an honest and forthfull account of coming. Her main purpose was to be with her mother when brought to child bed, which is not distand more than a month or six weeks. She has a little son some eighteen months old.

To capture her and return her full confident will be the cause of her death. I appeal to you as a Kentuckian to intercede for her with Genl Rosecrans. For God sake General do I beseech you by all our past relations intercede for her, Spare & Spare the life of my dear daughter. If you can, respite her till you hear from the general. Since he is not advised of her condition. I plidy you the honor of a gentleman he has not revealed to her mother or myself one single fact to which either you or Genl Rosecrans would take exceptions. I will stand for her good behavior in a bond to any amount you may fix. I pray you save my daughter.

Yours truly,

John A. Helm

P. 1 — P.M.L. Dept Comd.

Office P.M.L. Dept
Cumberland Feb'y 20, 1863

Respy' refer to Mr.
Pitch, Proost Judge, who
will assess the value of
the carriage & horses used
to.
By command of
Maj Gen Rosecrans

Yours Wm. Wiles
Capt & R.M.L.

Office Provost Judge, Dept.,
Cumberland, Feb 21. 1863

Having examined the
matter as fully as possible,
I assess the value of the car-
riage & horses at \$ 900.00.

Very Respectfully &
John Pitch

Capt Wm. Wiles Provost Judge

Provost Mar Gen'l -
(see statement of assess-
ment in full, herewith
unveised, marked "A.")

G 88 (vc) 183

C. J. W. ~~Copy + enclosures~~

DEPARTMENT OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES

E.B. 14

Hdg's Dept Combln
officer P.M.L. Murfow, Feb 23rd

Respy ref'd to Brig.
Gen. Boyle, Comdg Dist of
West Ky, Louisville.

Gen. Boyle will return
Ms Bror upon pay'm
of the sum a/cured by
John Fitch & will forward
the money & all the papers
to those Hdgs.

By command of
Maj: Gen Rosecrans

John Jr. Miles
Capt & P.M.L.

Murfreesboro Tenn
February 9 183.

Fitch John Post Master