

Nashville, Tennessee

Feb. 1864

Wm. Tompkins, A.

Sicut & Act Pro Mur

Commiss.

Submits Statement of  
Willis Larochelle witness - re-  
 garding wood contract

<sup>When enclosed</sup>  
 Respectfully referred to  
 Sicut, Wm. Tompkins, A. P. M.  
 It clearly appears that  
 both Larochelle and Ferris,  
 representing rival wood chop-  
 ping Companies made false  
 representations to Willis in  
 order to obtain his Wood:  
 This, by Law is a penitentiary  
 offence in perhaps every  
 State in the Union. The facts  
 in this case as they appear  
 in writing exhibit the most

shameless fraud and oppres-  
sion by Larochelle & Farris.  
Farris induced Willis to con-  
tract with him by falsely  
representing that the Gov<sup>mt</sup>  
had condemned all the  
wood for (40) forty miles on  
the Cumberland River, and  
under that Condemnation his  
wood would be taken at any  
rate. Larochelle to in-  
duce Willis to sell to his  
party, promised protection  
for the remainder of Willis'  
Wood: Thus offering to sell  
the protection of the U. S.  
Authorities, and pocket the  
price, in the shape of wood,  
thus fraudulently obtained.  
The whole thing is a dis-  
grace to the parties concerned  
in this fraud. Farris and

Larochelle will be arrested  
and tried by Military Com-  
mission. The Post-Quartermaster  
will appropriate for the use of  
the Gov<sup>mt</sup>, the wood chopped  
and undelivered, on Willis'  
plantations, by the direction  
of either or both these parties,  
taking an account, and with-  
holding vouchers for the same,  
until further orders.

Sicut H. Tompkins.

Ast. Pro. Mar, will see that  
these orders are carried  
out.

By Command of  
Maj Gen Rousoun  
(E. B. 91) B. H. Palk  
Capt T. H. G.  
W. H. Dist. Nashville.  
Nashville, Tenn. Feb 25/64