B Dec 3, 1862

3195

Doct. H. Adenis

Petition Cits

To Genl Rosecrans

future action

Major Genl Rosecrans

or

Col. Frowsdale

By Doct Aden

Respy referred to
Brig Gen Mitchell, Post
Commandant, Nashville
If the negroes referred to
are employed by Govern-
ment they will be taken
up on Quartermasters
rolls. If within the lines
& not needed they will
be sent beyond the lines.

By command of
Maj Gen Rosecrans
Wm ~~[illegible]~~ Riley
Capt & A.D.C.

1862

Nashville Tenn

To Majr. Genl. Rosencrans,
commander &c of the Army of the Depart.,
of the Cumberland at Nashville.

The petition of Doct. H. Oden.
a loyal union citizen of Williamson Co.
in the State of Tennessee.

Respectfully begs leave to submit
the following facts, and prays your con-
-sideration and aid.

1st. Your petitioner, together with his
Brother Thos. H. Oden, are the Executors &c
of the will of their Farther, Sal. Oden Decd.
By verture of his will, they have a life estate
in and to quite a number of Slaves, at each
of their death, said Slaves are by said will
to go to each of their children. That two of
their Sisters own a lot of Slaves in the
Same way, except, your petitioner and
his ~~said Bro.~~ as the Trustees of ~~their~~ his sisters
and are to look after said Slaves and take
cear of them during their lives and then
togo to their children, one of his sisters
is now a widow.

Your petitioner, with one Thos Holt
are the administrators, Debonos Non of Robt
Reams Decd. with the will annexed, By said
will they are directed to keep some 15 or 16
Slaves untill a certain period, (which
has about expired) for division, among

certain Children, and Legatees. Your petitioner shows, That about 9 of his Slaves, thus held by him for life, & some 10 of his own, about 3 of his Bro. thus held for life & about [illegible] of his own. are a missing There are some 20 or 30 of their Sisters, thus held some 2 or 3 however are only Missing. and all of the Slaves belonging to the estate of said Reams Dec'd. are all Missing, and as petitioner supposes are some where in Dawson county. Within the Federal lines, whether any of them are at work or in the employment of the Government he cannot State. a large perpotion of said Slaves are women and Children, an expense to any one, the men are Capable of doing good work.

It is made the duty of your petitioner by said wills to look after & take Care of said Slaves, which he had been doing and is still willing to do. They had no cause to leave as they were well treated, he does not believe they would have left, but for the fact, they were made to believe, by some designing persons, that they were by your petitioner to be Run off South, which were not the fact. your petitioner, desires to keep them in his own Williamson Co. & no where else, and if emancipated by the authorities of the United States, he is willing & anxious for them to go, and is

ready & willing, if required to give any sort of a bond to that effect.

Your petitioner is and always has been willing and anxious to be loyal and govern by the Government of the United States, therefore he considers himself a loyal citizen and entitled to be protected, equally by the Military authorities.

Your petitioner needs the services of the slaves now to gather his crop, pick out his cotton &c, and if required that can go to the support of the government. If the services of the men, a part or all are needed for the government, he cheerfully submits, until such time as their services can be dispensed with. as he is willing to do all he can to aid the government in the suppression of this most infamous rebellion.

The premises considered, he prays for such orders and relief, that he may be entitled to under the Government and laws of the United States, and if found worthy, he be permitted to go into and among the Federal lines and camps and hunt up & carry away such (or all of said slaves as you may think right under the circumstances, & for general relief.

M M Brier
Atto. for Petitioner.

Decr 3/62

A B. I am requested, to refer the Genl to Doct Clift: of petitioners over County, Now here in the ~~Lines of the Government~~, and to Capt Jno Chumly, our City Marshal, for the Loyalty and integrity of Doct Oden.

Dec 3/62. M M Brien

The undersigned are personally acquainted with Dr H Oden and know him as a gentleman of unquestionable integrity and honor whose statements are entitled to the highest credit —

Dec 5 1862. Danl B Clift

William H Polk

Resp'y referred to Eng Gen Mitchell, Post Commandant, Nashville. If the negroes referred to are employed by Government they will be taken up on Quartermasters rolls. If within the lines & not needed they will be sent beyond the lines.

By command of Maj Gen Rosecrans
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