4275

Evidence in the case of Dr. J. R. Hudson — Charged with smuggling and other offenses

Rec^d. N°. 2rs. D.C. Apl. 13^d. 1863.

Nashville, Feby 14 1863.

Col. Truesdail.

I yesterday formed the acquaintance of Dr. Hudson by letter of introduction from Newcomer. The Dr. has every confidence in Newcomer and consequently I was greeted with a hearty welcome. The Madame wife of Dr. H. is somewhat sharper than the Dr. and more suspicious - But when once her confidence is enlisted, she is warm & friendly. I was recommended by Newcomer to him as one of Genl. Wheeler's spies. The Dr. talked plain to me, telling he was a strong Southern Rights man and that not a day passed over his head but what he done something to assist the cause of the South.

He told me how he was watched by the detectives, said he had been reported repeatedly, but said he, I have not yet been confined in Prison, because he played his cards right. He has in his house officers of the Federal army, and when he is reported by these people, he proves by these men that it is false. He told me he played an in-

portant part in the escape of some men who broke out of the Penitentiary a short time ago, but proved himself clear. These same prisoners he tells me eat at his table and slept in his beds and these Federal officers thought him innocent of the charges. The madame exhorted me to very careful how I acted telling me I was watched on all sides, sent word to me in town to day not to wear the fur cap I wore at her house yesterday saying it looked suspicious on me & would be detected with it. The Dr. said he would do anything I wished him to, for me, asked me when I came in and what I came after, arms, medicine or information. I told him the latter was the most important, but that I wanted some medicine also and wanted his assistance as much as possible to accomplish my object. I told him (the Dr.) that I was from Louisiana, I knowed some of his friends in La. which caused the whole family to become very much interested in me. It will now be very easy to get him into any engagement. he pointed out to me the prominent southern men of the Street. told me their names, he wishes me to come to his house as often as possible he told me of some of his country friends, who would assist me also, I am now trying to get acquainted with this whole chain of workers, The Dr. made an appointment to meet me in town to day which he fulfilled promptly our interview

was short to day on account of having no place to go. What talking we did was on the street. He spotted to me those of his friends whom it would do for me to talk to, and cordially invited me to call out to his house as often as I could, letting me that the madame had to day gone out to their Country to assist in getting a man out of the lines, I will see him again this Evening and consult him as to the propriety of my going out in the Country a short distance to one of his friends. I think it possible I will make important discoveries soon.

H.

Nashville Feby 18 1863

Col. Wm Truesdale

I went to see Dr. Hadern to day He was not at home, I saw the madame and her daughter who took me by the hand in the most friendly manner. There is at their house a gentleman bearing letters from Gov. Morton of Indiana to Genl. Mitchell, He is agent for the Troops from that state, This man's name I cannot call, but I have formed his acquaintance He has been an inmate of Dr. Hadon's house three (3) weeks during which time he has been an invalid, He went there an invalid - He

[illegible] an invalid, He went there an invalid - He

came here in charge of the Steamer Fryner
He has the utmost confidence in this family
They the Ladies and the Dr. himself tell me so
and I know it to be so. They have shown him
every kindness during his illness. Last night
some of the soldiers of the 4th Tenn. cavalry
so the madame tells me came there house
drunk - the Guard that is placed at their
house to protect them & their property drove
them off. They then went to the Penitentiary
and reported to the officer of the Guard that
the Dr. meaning Hudson had in his house
a confederate spy, and that he had harbored
him there for some time, described him,
this description was that of the gentleman
from Indiana - The officer with his squad
of men went to the house last night and
arrested this distinguished representative
of Indiana but after being shown the letters
and papers which this gentleman bears
the officer released him. This man to day
went to Genl. Mitchell to get protection
for himself and Dr. Hudson and family
in whom he has unlimited confidence.
The madame managed to get this guard
out of the house under some false pretences
of hers, and this done we had the Parlor
to ourselves, She then talked to me in a

confiding manner, she told me that some of our Friends had escaped from the Penitentiary and laughed heartily at it and as much as told me she and one of her neighbor Ladies assisted in the escape but did not tell me so in these words. She told me of some suspicious looking men that had been in her house some time ago that were sent there by some of the Officers as spies. She warned me time and again to be careful who I placed confidence in and who I talked to and what I said. I assured her that I was sharp enough to wade any of the detectives that might be sent to find anything about my business. She cordially invited me to call on her often and told me she would render me any assistance in her power, to accomplish my desires. The Dr. was not yet arrived and I came away.

K.

Nashville, Feby 20 1862

I have this day visited Dr. Hudson, he had just returned from taking dinner with Dr. Seardorff. he says Seadorf promised him some negroes on next sunday. He will call and see Dr. Seymour tomorrow to get

him to withdraw his request made a few days since in regard to reporting the whereabouts of any negroes he will let him have. He will also make application tomorrow for a pass for himself and three or four negroes to go through the lines, he is very anxious to have negro and see Mas. Brown Esq, and says he will join in running negroes through the lines, Mrs Hudson told me on last Friday she visited two deserters from the Anderson Troop, they are hid away at a ladies house by the name of Curley, lives not far from the Capitol – the boys are trying to get citizens clothes and as soon as they get them they are to be run through the lines south.

I have the pass now that will admit me to see them,

Henry Newcomer

~~Nashville, Jan 20th 63~~

Null ~~I had this day another interview with Dr.~~

Nashville Tenn.
Feb. 25th 1863

I visited Dr. Hudson, I told him I had been out of the lines and took with me six negroes which I told him I sent south, he had

company this day and could not talk much with me, but just as I was going, his wife Mrs Hudson came to me outside the yard and told me that a few days since she called to see two young men belonging to the Anderson troop, who wished to desert from the U. S. Army and begged me to call and see them and render them such assistance as was in my power in getting away she (Mrs Hudson) told me they were at a ladies house by the name of Curley living near the Spruce street church, that they were hid away there awaiting an opportunity to make the escape, I accordingly called to see the young men and had a long conversation with them, the facts of which are on file in this office, I afterwards sent a detective to the house of Mrs. Curley with a letter of recommendation from me, by the name of Kuney in the employ of Col. W. Truesdail, Chief of Army Police since which time I have not met the young men in question.

Nashville Feb. 26th/63

I called this day to see Dr. Hudson but found him away from home, I came away telling his daughter so, I would call again in the afternoon, at 1 o'clock of the same day I

there again, and found him at home, he told me he had just returned from taking dinner with Dr. Seadroff, that he had felt of Dr. S. in regard to getting him to go into partnership with him in smuggling negroes out of his quarters and running them through the lines and selling them south which Dr. S. agreed to do — thereupon Dr. Hudson went to Lieut. Osgood and obtained a pass through the lines for ten days for himself and servants

February 2nd 1863

Called to see him again (ie) Dr. Hudson, I told him when I was out side of the lines I found at a friends house a letter addressed to me from General Frank Cheatam of the rebel army, said letter having enclosed 5 oz of that the Genl. wanted me to purchase Quinine with, for the use of his hospitals, I told Hudson I thought he could purchase the medicine from Dr. Cliff & Dr. Erni of this city. Hudson then told me he was well acquainted with Erni and had no doubt he could get all he wanted. I then asked him how he thought we could get through the lines south he told me he thought he could get Dr. Ford to carry it through, we then made an agreement that he Dr. Ford and I would meet at the shop of Wm Rear.

on Deadrick street and arrange all, I went to the place appointed, but through misunderstanding some way they failed to meet me, I immediately wrote him a note and sent it by Mr. Kurey asking the reason why they did not meet me, he sent word back and told me he wanted to see me very much, that there had been a misunderstanding as to the place of meeting.

March 1st. 1863

I went to see Dr. Hudson, he told me he had seen Dr. Erni and had talked the matter over with him, and Erni told him he could have the Quinine at the reduced price of $4.75, seeing it was to be sent to suffering humanity, Hudson offering $4.50. for 100 jars (i.e. 100 ounces) Erni said he would not object but his partner Dr. Cliff would have $4.75. Hudson finally agreeing to pay him $4.75. the bargain was closed, before coming away from Hudsons house, his wife made her appearance and told me there was a Confederate officer in Penitentiary by the name of Russell who she was very anxious to get out and run through the lines. She said Russel was the son of one of her husbands old friends - the Dr. then spoke up and said yes, he would gladly crawl on his elbows from his house to

to the Prison the stormiest night ever blew if by doing so he could release him, I told him if they could get him out I would give them my word I would take good care of him. Mrs Hudson said she would go and see him tomorrow and tell him that General Wheeler's spy was in the city, and if he could get out of prison said spy would take him in charge and take him through the lines &c.

March 2d 1863.

Called on Dr. Hudson again for the purpose of furnishing him with money to purchase the Quinine above mentioned, found him at home, told him what I had come for, he immediately ordered his horse to be put to his buggy and was just ready to start after the medicine when his wife returned from the City bringing word from Dr. Ford not to have anything to do with the medicine that he had reason to believe there was something rotten in Denmark and Mrs Hudson also told us that Dr. Chambers of Hospital No 5 had told her that she and the Doctor (her husband) were watched at Headquarters by Genl. Mitchell and Lieut. Osgood, and that they were only giving them passes for the purpose of catching

both, that he Chambers would have told them of this some time ago but Genl. Mitchell had cautioned not to say anything about it & but for all that he would warn them of their danger. he was astonished they were not already arrested, that they must keep a good look out se. I then told Dr Hudson and his wife that I had one of Genl. Mitchells clerks in my employ who was under pay to me, and if anything of the kind was in the wind I would find out all about it before night, at which they seemed much pleased and said they felt safe as long as they had so shrewd a watchman over them as I

Henry Newcomer
March 2d 1862

This evening saw Dr. Hudson again told me he would get a friend a druggist to purchase the Quinine from Ermi and that he and his wife would try to take it out of the lines to the house of some friend in small parcels. and then I could get it – and take it south. the Dr. is very anxious to try his hand in getting out some negroes. His wife is pretty badly frightened

Henry Newcomer,

Nashville Tenn. March 5th 1863

Had another interview with Dr. Hudson, he told me Dr. Deadroff took dinner with him yesterday and that all arrangements had been made between them, satisfactorily in regard to smuggling negroes through the lines and selling them south I then told him I had seen the clerk at Genl. Mitchells office and that said clerk told me there was nothing there against him and what Dr. Chambers of Hospital No. 15. told his wife was all false, which made all right again, I then gave Hudson $500. and took his receipt for the same which is hereto attached

Copy

$500.

Rec'd Five hundred dollars to be appropriated as directed understood.

March 1st 1863 J. R. Hudson,

I met at Hudson's house a Mrs Read who is the wife of Genl. Read of the Confederate Army. on General Braggs Staff, the Doctor (i.e.) Hudson gave me three letters that he told me Mrs Dr. Ford gave him to send through the lines south, the letters are in the hands of Col. Truesdail Chief Police Hudson told me he would get a Mr. Vandershot of this City a druggist

to take the five hundred dollars I gave him and let Hendershot purchase the Quinine from Erni and then he Hudson would get his servant to bring it to his house, and from there he would get his wife and daughter a Mrs. Ward to carry the Quinine out of the lines to his daughters house some five miles out on the Charlotte Pike where I could get it, Hudson says he will get his wife and daughter to tie a twine around the neck of the bottles and adjust them around the waist under their clothes and so carry them out of the lines, Hudson started for Hendershot's at the same time I left his house, all the ladies at Dr. Hudson's house showed me marked respect, as being a reble spy, all invited me to call and see them, that I should be treated as a friend indeed &c

Henry Newcomer
of Col. Truesdails Secret
Police

Engineer Camp,
Nashville, Tenn. Feb. 27 1863.

Mr. N. N.

Dr. Hudson has called on me

various times in the last three months, claiming at first, that he wanted to get his negroes to build some stone fence for himself & would be very much obliged to me if I could let him have them long enough to repair and build up his fence. I put him off by telling him that I would let him have three when they could be spared from the works. Calculating that they could not be spared at any times until after the works were finished & did not intend to let him have them at any time, unless it was by the orders of my superior officer having the right to issue the same.

I have been approached by various persons & could have made a fortune in this way. Some days ago I was called upon by Colonel Truesdail, Chief of Police, and requested to participate in trapping the above Dr. Hudson, who was believed to be engaged in kidnapping negroes, and received a note from Captain Charles P. Thompson, of Major General Rosecrans Staff, requesting me to operate with Colonel Truesdail, in the above named operations & he informed me that Dr. Hudson would call on me soon, he did call the next day & considered some little ~~while~~ with him, his plan was that day, to get some small

boys to work for him. I told him, that I could let him have what boys he wanted and to call again at any time and I would try to furnish the boys for him.

He called some four or five days after & we had a considerable chead and then I treated him with some courtesy, that he proposed the trapping of boys from 14 to 15 years & smaller and told me if I would engage with him & turn them over to him he could get at least one thousand dollars each, & he would give me $500. for each boy big enough to plow and men could be sold from 1500 to 2000 lbs. for each, he would give me one half of the value of each.

He further told me, that he could get a pass of any kind that he wanted stating that he had a farm outside of the pickets and could get all the references that would be required & would have no trouble in getting them through the lines & if I would turn them over to him he could get them out and dispose of them as fast as I could furnish him with them and would pay me one half of the above named prices.

Yours Respectfully
D. Smith

Head Qrs of the Engineer Dep't.
March 1st 1863
Report No. 7.

My friend Dr. Hudson called on me to day and we had a very pleasant interview on the nigger trade which he is very greatly interested in and he went on to state that he had all the necessary arrangements made and was ready for operation at any time and then asked me if I could see where there was any possible chance of being caught, and I told him I new that I could manage my part of the sale with out any trouble and had no fears so far as I was concerned and felt satisfied that there was no danger if the thing was properly managed and I then said to him did you not tell me that you could get a pass at any time and could get all the recommendations that you wanted to get a pass of any kind that you wanted, and he then pulled out his pass and showed it to me for himself and servants now you see this says for myself and servants, says he I told them if I had a farm outside of the Pickets and wanted to commence work on the farm and some days might want to take more hands than others, and he then spoke and said I will say servants

and that will pass any number and all
I would have to do would be to tell them
they are my servants and that will be all
~~that~~ is necessary and the pickets are
changed every day and there can no sus-
picion grow out of it and felt as if it
was perfectly safe and would risk it
saying that if there was nothing risked
there would be nothing made, and we can
make a very nice sum out of it and
no body be injured by the transaction,
because they had runaway and that their
masters would never be able to get them
and would not lose anything by our
engagement and then after some three
hours conversation asked me to order
my horse and assist him in selecting the
best route to get them away and would
have me to go to the house and converse
with his wife on the subject and I found
her to be much sharper than the doctor
and had to watch myself very close and
succeeded in gaining her entire confidence
and could not get of without promising
to go back Monday the 2d and helping
to eat a roasted turkey and treat according
to contract and had a very good dinner
& plenty of black berry toddy, and was

very well entertained by the Doctor and family and the doctor wanted to know if I could let him have four, five, six eight or twelve that evening or that night next morning at any time or place that I would mention, I then asked him if he knew what he could do with them, and he said he would take them out on the farm and then see what could be done with them, and how many could be disposed of. I told him if I was playing his part of the trade I would go out and see his friends Pryer Smith who he told me was to be engaged in the trade with him and two or three other names that I could not recall till I had an opportunity to note them down, my object in getting him to go and see these friends of his was to implicate them if possible and all so to more strongly convince him that I was most earnestly engaged in the damnable plot - my remarks seemed to have the intended effect, he then remarked that he thought my plan a very good one and would act upon it and report to me immediately after his return and would start on his missiva the next morning, which would be the morning of

of the 3d of March and then he ordered my horse and his lady told me she had two turkeys more and she wanted me to help eat them, I told her I would take a great deal of pleasure in doing so, I told her she must come down to my office and pay me a visit and she promised the same & we parted with as much good feeling as if we had been relations.

D. J. Deadurff.
A. Addjt. of Engineer Camp.

Nashville Tenn.
March, 4th. 1863.

Had an interview with Dr. Hudson told me he had purchased the Quinine from Dr. Erni this day and had taken fifty ounces of it to his house and that it was now hid away in his house and that tomorrow Erni had agreed to take the other fifty ounces to his private residence, where Dr. Hudson could come and get it. I told Hudson there was a commissary burnt to day in the city and I believed it to have been done by some friend of the south.

He said he had no doubt it was, I then told him if I knew who did it I would make the man a present of

1,000 $ for having done it, Hudson then told me if that was all I wanted he could find me as many men as I wanted who would do that kind of work, and would go and see about it tomorrow and let me know all, I told him all right, that I would pay well for it if it was well done, he then told me he thought there was no more harm in burning a commissary store, than to capture a train of wagons loaded with the same, and that, he considered perfectly right and just, he said he himself would make the match to set fire to the building's and told me all that was necessary was to take a peice of punk and rap cotton around it, saturated with turpeatine and put fire to the punk and that it would not take fire for houre after it was deposited in the building so the man that left it would have time to get away before the fire broke out &c.

Henry Newcomer,

List of Articles found in the possession of Doctor Hudson, March 7th 1863.

No.		
9	Revolving Pistols	3 Pots. Morphine
3	Shot Guns	4 boxes. Pistol caps
25	U. S. Muskets	1 package Cartridges
1	Citizens rifle	1 box Star Candles
25	Halters	2 bolts bleached domestic
1	pr. U. S. Pivotees	1 " unbleached do
1	" U. S. Art. Boot	1 " Marseilles
3	U. S. Cart. Boxes	3 yds. tweed
4	Powder flasks	1 bundle Yellow Stripe
1	bag Buck Shot 10 lbs	1 pr pants-confederate
1	" Balls 10 lbs.	6 yds. Negro draw
1	" Shot 10 lbs	8 " White Linsey
1	package Buckles	24 " plaid silk & worsted goods
1	U. S. Bayonet	1 Knapsack
1	Mule Halter	1 gt. gr. Spool thread
1	Tent	4 " " pants Buttons
1	Can Powder & fuse	An assortment of blanks
3	Pick axes	for the Confederate
3	Bags	2. M. D.
1	Rope	Blank discharges.
1	Cav. Bitt	
1	U. S. Capbox	
1	pr. Pistol Moulds	
99	Pots. Quinine	

List of Articles seized at the shop Wm. Rear in Nashville, most of which were intended for Dr. Hudson.

one musket
seven pistols
one hundred and fifty lbs of lead
a lot of bullet moulds
one keg of powder
one Berg. Rifle barrel
one Rifle Stock
a lot of old cans
one box of Colts Cartridges
one box of metal
one rifle barrel

(1)

Nashville Tenn Feb 9 1863

J. P. Smith, Esq

Dear Sir,

The bearer of this is a gentleman who I have tried often, and know he is all right and anything you say to him will be safe, I have six as fine boys as ever lived, ready to come to you at any place outside of the Yankee lines, you may name, say one two or three miles from the pickets. Your friend Dr. Hudson has the promise of four more as soon as we can raise the money to pay for them. Dr. Hudson is one of the best workers I ever met with. as I have not heard from you since I left your house I conclude to write you, ~~since I left your house~~ first to find out if all was right with you yet and if all right answer by the bearer and it will come to me safe or direct to Dr. Hudson if you had rather.

Yours truly &c

(Signed) Henry Vaccomer

I am proud to know the friend to whom I was introduced by you is O.K. and I am sure will succeed in the enterprise. It is worthy yours his, mine. If I can be of service therefore command me — I am at your service

truly yours

(Signed) J. R. Hudson

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an original letter which was in my possession at the time the same was taken. and also the annexed note of J. R. Hudson thereto attached is also a true copy from the original taken by me this day

Given under my hand this 9th. day of February A.D. 1863.

Wm Tunnell

Subscribed sworn to before me
this 9th day of February A.D. 1863
Geo T. Hampton, Assistant Provost Judge

Nashville Feby 16/63

Statement of Henry Newcomer
relative to the purchase of medicine by Dr Hudson to send South.

Over about the third of this month I got a Mrs. Harris wife of a surgeon in Wheelers Command to go to Nat. Dortch's Drugstore in Nashville to purchase some medicines for me to carry through the lines south. Dortch told her he would not let me have it unless he could have a personal interview & know more about me, she told me if I could get some man in the city here who knew Dortch to recommend me I could get all the medicine for that purpose

I wanted. I then went to Dr. Hudson and gave him the money and asked him to go to Dorch's & buy me a certain quantity of medicine to take south. He went and brought the medicines and got a bill of the articles which is hereto attached. The medicines are now in Dr. Hudsons charge hid away, waiting an opportunity to send them south together with a lot of revolvers and ammunition

Henry Newcomer

Copy of Bill—

1/2 ℔ Powdered Opium	$15.00
2 Z. Quinine	16.00
3 " Pulv. Opium	5.00
For Dr. Hudson Morphia 3 Z. at $3.	9.00

Recd Payment

Nat. F. Dortch

By J. C. Wharton

H. H. Haynes

Negro dealer Nashville, called upon me some time in July last and after much general conversation touching the question of Slavery & negroes, he said to me, If I was disposed to engage in the business he would take any number I would furnish, that he would ~~take~~ come at any appointed time of the night & hour—and receive them

out side of my lines, that he would pay me 50¢ per head and after he had sold or disposed of them that he would divide the profits with me - I said to him at once that I could not be induced to engage in any such traffic or business, that it would be a violation of my oath, and a sacrafice of my position to any thing of the kind. And an open violation of Military orders, he endeavored to persuade me that the matter could be managed without detection, to all of which I gave him a rebuke, he left me and I have never seen him since, Dr Hudson, called upon me on three or four occasions, to obtain some negroes claiming that he wanted them to work on his farm, and on his gardens, and to do some stone mason work

2d Lieut. D. J. Deadruff,
Act. Adjt. of Fortifications

~~Nashville Feby 9 1862~~

~~Col Truesdail~~

~~Sir~~

~~Agreable to your order I proceeded with two mounted men from Genl Mitchell's body guard, in federal uniform out to the residence of one Dr.~~

Evidence in Case of

Dr Hudson

Aiding & Abetting

the Rebellion

Army of the Cumberland
14th Army Corps
Nashville Tenn Feby 5. 1863

Affidavit of Chas. H. Ball policeman in Secret-Service department

I reside in Dixon county Tenn. and have been in the Secret Service under Col. Truesdail for Several weeks past. On or about the 5th day of January prox I and Mr. Geo Walker was instructed by the Chief of Police to make the acquaintance of one Doctor Hudson living near the penitentiary at Nashville and investigate respecting Suspicious Signs and circumstances attaching to Said Hudson, I and he did so through a Miss Roberta Samuels. I had previously become well acquainted with a Mr. Samuels of Nashville. I assuming the character of one of Ashbys Cavalry Men and now a Confederate Spy. upon my expressing the desire Mrs. Samuels instructed her daughter Miss Roberta to go with me to the Dr. house and introduce me. She did so. he was highly delighted at such a guest being in the house and pledged his aid to us in any possible way. That call was one of mere ~~introduction~~ introduction. he invited me to call again and often, was in his house perhaps

One and a half hours in the afternoon. Only learned this visit - that his views and were apparently very strong for the rebel cause.

Our next visit was three or four days afterward, called in the morning and staid over until after dinner. I proposed business, respecting the purchase of pistols, to run through the lines, to my command, after he had opened the way by asking me what we (of the rebel army) stood most in need of, and after he had related to me his action in aiding the escape of prisoners from the Nashville Penitentiary, and in sending out by one of such escaped prisoners Sam G. Brown a fine revolver pistol and revolver gun.

He at once ~~falling~~ in with my proposition clapped his hand on my knee and said he was just the man to do it; He said he would get them, as many as I wanted, I told him I could take out fifty, he said he would look around and at my next visit - he would report his success -

At this visit - he related the particulars of the escape of some fourteen prisoners from the Penitentiary above referred to, he stated that on one very dark evening they escaped from the Penitentiary and went to his house which is

a quarter of a mile beyond, he received and secreted them knowing well their character, and that same night - assisted their running through the lines by taking them out into the fields and pointing to the Federal picket-fires, and advising them where they could slip past the pickets through the darkness, unseen, and they thus escaped

A short time thereafter say two days I made another visit - to Dr. Henderson also taking with me Mr. Geo Walker who had been introduced to the Dr. as a Confederate prisoner on his parole, The Dr. received him gladly - introduced him and myself to the family (his wife two grown up daughters and other children) At this visit - the Dr. repeated over the history of the escape of the squad of fourteen for our benefit; he stated to me he had been so busy since our last call that he had not had time to ascertain about getting me the pistols but hoped to do so soon or "to get to work at it." as he expressed himself, I should have stated that very soon after the first introduction the Doctor began at Walker to know if he wished to get away from Nashville by running

through the lines &c and assured Mr. Walker that he would get him through at any time he desired, that he would pass him out as one of his hands employed in his iron works down on the Cumberland River, Also said he could pass out Walker as his carriage driver or as one of his wood choppers, he stated he had passed out several men in such ways, said he had given a man an axe and sent him out and the man would quite forget to come back, at which good joke we all laughed heartily, at each of these three calls the Dr. talked in about the same style proposing to get the pistols - to help out Walker &c,

Our next call was perhaps a week or ten days later say about the 19th prox. this was after dark, we footed it out in the rain, we found a Capt. Redman, (Federal Quartermaster) there as his guest, the Dr. talked to us as union men - introduced us to the Capt. as men of his from his Iron works - questioned us as to affairs at the works &c and that was about all, He asked us in presence of the Capt. if we had got passes

to go back to the Iron works &c, During this call the Dr's wife related how she had been caught in an unpleasant dilemma, a few days previous, being out on the Charlotte pike to see her nephew who was a Soldier in Forrests command as she had heard Forrest was coming in that way, but she found herself in their rear too far to catch up to them, and the federals under Genl. Stanley was pursuing, and she found her carriage between the two forces &c, When leaving the Dr's room to the door with us and I then told him I had just come in from the confederates, and from the Steam boat burning expedition near Harpeth Shoals, and greatly needed fifty pistols immediately, he shook his left hand energetically (was holding a candle in his right hand) and exclaimed "you shall have them" He had U. S. Govt. vouchers to amt. several hundred dollars which would be paid by the Quartermaster, he expected every day, and with that means he would buy me the pistols, he proposed while standing there to meet Mr. Walker at Mc. Nairys Store in Nashville at 11 o'clock next morning to go with him & see about getting the pistols as I told him I must not

be seen on the streets of Nashville, with this understanding we parted that night. I should state here, that while in the presence of the Capt. during that evening the Dr. professed to be strong union, and mocked and slandered the rebel cause but would wink at us=,

My last visit to Dr. Hudsons house was on Monday evening this day week, at this time there was a Federal Soldier in his sitting room who had been sent there as a guard to watch the Drs. property, My visit was thereon made in the parlor, he stated his wife had a short time previously taken out to the rebels a fine pair of pistols & revolving rifle, which he had secured through a Dr. Ford, that she took them as far as Mr. Charles Nichols on the Charlotte pike fifteen miles from Nashville, and there left them for a friend, where the friend no doubt got them. In the course of this and the previous interview the Dr. aimed to impress upon me the fact that his whole time and thoughts were employed in assisting the Southern cause, and that the principal object in his taking contract to furnish U.S. Hospitals with Milk was to have opportun-

ities to pass out of the federal lines of Nashville at will with men and materials to aid the South, He boasted of and dwelt upon the idea at each of our visits that he was kind to the Federal sick and wounded, and on best of terms with Federal officers in order to rank as a good union man and thus accomplish more for his cause, On this visit he asked me if I could pass out of the lines his friend Dr. Ford. I told him I could do it but in a risky way, The Dr. would run his chances, and might get shot, he then said never mind he could easily do it, when parting with the Dr. on this, my last visit, he stood on his porch in the cold Day many parting words, and when I cautioned him about his standing out thus in his stocking feet he said he would be glad to walk to the Statehouse in his bare feet ten times if by so doing he could advance the Southern Rights cause,

In all my visits and conversation with the Dr. he seemed indifferent to money matters, his aim being to help Southern friends and cause, his aim seems to be to keep weapons passing into the Confederate

hands, in the guerilla region on the Cumberland river, to harrass the steam boats and the rear of the army of Genl. Rosecrans, and thus keep alive the spirits of the rebels,

I got no pistols from the said Dr. Hudson, he was instrumental however in furnishing such contraband articles to Mr. Walker and others of our police as will appear from their evidence

Signed Chas. H. Ball

Subscribed and sworne to before me on this 2nd day of February 1863

Signed John Leech
Provost Judge

Affidavit of Geo. W. Walker Secret Policeman

I have been in the employ of the U S Govt Secret Service under Col. Truesdale for some four weeks past, I visited the house of Dr. Hudson as pr orders of Chief of Police several times in the company of Mr. Ball, and two or three times by myself, I have read the affidavit of Mr.

Ball, above and pronounce it correct so far as it relates to visits and conversations in which I participated. In addition thereto I have to state as follows. I called two or three times at Dr. Hudsons house, but unluckily found him absent, at each time, he being with his cattle or in town. I met him as per our agreement one day near Mr. Hairys Store to get pistols &c for Mr. Ball, we went to a gunsmiths shop, on Deadrick Street, kept by a Mr. Rehea, we marched through the shop to the rear room, Rehea following, there being no introduction, he told Rehea he wished him (Rehea) to furnish him (Hudson) fifty pistols, for a friend of his, who was going to run the lines, Rehea said he had two, produced them, Hudson asked their price. Rehea said $25. for each, Hudson said he would take them and ordered Rehea to get more, Hudson then told me he would go out and see if he could get some of a certain U.S. Quartermaster clerk (Capt. Redmans) he agreed to leave a line for me at Rehea's shop, next morning, stating what he had done, and we parted, the pistols being left until more could be added,

did not see Dr. Hudson again for two days. he failed to come into town, fearing something had happened I wrote and sent a note to him. next morning he met me at Rhea's Shop. and said he had not got the arms as teamsters and soldiers were gone from whom he expected to purchase them. he then produced some bullet moulds to run twelve at a time, and I suggested to him to have some ball run. he agreed to have run a peck of them, and if I could not get them out of the lines he would, by putting them under meal husks (Bran) or would leave them at his house, to load each prisoners pockets when escaping. he boasted that his house is rendezvous for escaping Confederate prisoners, and Confederate Spies &c. and his whole soul seemed to be in doing something for his Southern cause.

I have had no farther intercourse with said Dr. Hudson, up to this time, I remember distinctly of his stating at one of my visits at his house, that at one time he had eight Confederate soldiers in the act of escaping from the penitentiary

near by, out on his back porch while four Federal officers were being entertained in his house. he often boasted of having aided many prisoners & friends through the lines, getting some of them out on his own pass & in many other ways.

Signed Geo W. Walker

Subscribed and Sworne to before me this 2 day of February 1865

Signed John Fitch
Provost Judge

Statement of Chas. H. Williams

I was a confederate Soldier until two or three months ago. Since when I have resided in Nashville. Two or three weeks ago I was at the house of Dr. Hudson (living beyond the penitentiary from here) in a large white house on the right hand side of a branch that runs near the prison. he and his family all expressed Southern Sympathies and spoke of having taken goods and pistols through the lines to and for the use of the confederates, and also that they had got ~~papers~~ passes for others to take things through, and that they had a

good chance to do so, for the reason that they had a Federal officer boarding with them, I suppose from their talk they got the passes through the assistance of the said officer, I do not know the officers name, I saw him there, he is a quartermaster and ranks as Capt., The said Dr. Name was Hudson, a man by the name of Walker who represented himself as one of Morgans men went with me to Dr. Hudsons and Mrs. Hudson offered in my presence to get him out of the line by getting a pass for herself and servant and letting him go out as her carriage driver, The said Dr. Hudson and family informed me that they had assisted some eight or ten rebel prisoners to make their escape from the prison in Nashville some three or four weeks ago,

Signed Charles H. Williams

Subscribed and sworn to before me at Nashville Tenn this first day of July 1863

Signed John Fitch

Provost Judge

Nashville Jany 23 1863

Statement of C. S. Stephens

In reference to smuggling arms, Samuels told me Dr. Hudson furnished him about two months ago with a check on

the planters Bank of Tennessee for one Thousand Dollars for the purpose of buying pistols from Soldiers, to carry to the rebels. he said he bought the pistols and put them under the seat of his Buggy and went from here to Goodletsville and then to then to Murfreesboro with them and there sold them to the Rebels. he did not tell me the exact date of this transaction but it was some two or three months ago

signed C. S. ~~Stevens~~

Subscribed and sworn to before me this Fourth day of Feby 1863 at Nasville Tenn

signed John Fitch
Provost Judge

A letter of which the following is a copy was sent from E. V. Reuthorn a Military officer in command of Nashville city police to Genl. Negley =

Head quarters Co-Inspector
Nashville Nov 2d 1862

Gen Negley

Sir

I have to report that Dr. Hudson (one of those soft union men) who lives on the Charlotte Pike one mile from town is positively known to have been

engaged in carrying information from this place to the Brunidas near Ashland eighteen Miles out, has been making two trips a week regularly through Aug - Sept. and Oct. - a Small boy belonging to Roberson, who lives near Ashland also makes two trips a week from that region to Dr. Hendrons,

From the roads we have the usual reports, the rebel pickets (Infantry) on the Lebanon Pike One hundred strong on the right bank of Mill Creek on the Murfreesboro road, Their pickets numbered eighteen stationed at Dog Town, a cavalry force of 800 or 1000 is still reported two Miles back of the Asylum, at 12 o'clock they are still playing the game of Bluff by magnifying their numbers

Yours truly

signed E V Rushton

Statement of Henry Newcomer policeman in U.S. Service under Col Truesdale

On the 29th of Jany I was returning from Franklin and stoped to see J. P. Smith, living on the Hillsboro Pike twelve Miles from Nashville, I had made an arrangement with him to purchase Negroes for him, he was to

pay me $10 per pound for likely children. He then gave me a letter of introduction to his friend Dr. Hudson who would assist me when I should arrive at this place. I called on the Doctor on the morning of the 30th Jany and presented the letter. He received me graciously and entered into the arrangement at once, he informed me that he had bought large quantities of guns and ammunition and had sent them through the lines to the rebel army, and that he employed his whole time in that way, that he sets up at night and moulds bullets to send out. I then made an engagement to meet the Doctor at the shop of a Gunsmith by the name of Rekia, to assist me in purchasing pistols for me to carry South when I found five pistols that Rekia and the Dr. had purchased for one of Forrest's Scouts but they agreed to let me have them and they could get more for him. The Dr. then wanted me to leave money with Rear to purchase more, and he would be security for the same which I agreed to do, he purchased of Rear in my presence Seven pounds of Minnie Balls for the purpose of sending

to the Rebels. He Also Stated that his wife had now gone out of the lines for the purpose of taking out a fine horse he had purchased from A Soldier for a trifle. He has entered into an arrangement with me to furnish J P Smith with the Negroes above refered to. He is to get a pass from Dr. Swift to send outside of the lines for Milk for the hospitals and in that way we are to get the Negroes out. He will get the pass and I am to be the driver so that I can carry out any thing we can get that will be beneficial to the Southern cause. He farther assured me that I could rely on him in every emergency that he would not hesitate to do any thing to assist the cause of the South. I had another interview with the Dr. on the 31st in regard to the Negro arrangement and pistols. He has agreed to send his wife out with the negroes to Mr. Smiths on the 5 of Feby - I paid him two hundred dollars and took his receipt for the same. The following is the identical receipt -

$200. Received two hundred Dollars of Mr. Newcomer to be Appropriated as distinctly understood or accounted for on Sight or Sooner. Jany 31st 65

signed J R Hudson

The understanding reported to me the receipt was that he should purchase pistols and ammunition for me to carry south. I went in company with him to within a short distance of Bears private dwelling where we parted, he going in for the purpose of getting pistols. Feby 4th I called on him again this evening when he showed me the pistols - a lot of ammunition and a double barreled shot gun and also a place that he had prepared for the purpose of secreting arms which he calls his arsenal, and which he informed me was made for the express purpose, for in case he considers it necessary he could secrete a thousand stand of arms.

Upon yesterday Feby 3d 1863 I called upon Dr Hudson and he told me that if I would come there this evening he would have three or four more revolvers pistols there for me to take through the lines to the south.

signed Henry Newcomer

Subscribed & Sworn to before me on this 4th day of Feby 1863.

signed John Fitch
Provost Judge

Office of the Chief of Police
Army of the Cumberland

In the case of Dr. J. K. Hudson, who is charged with smuggling arms, ammunition, medicines and other articles through the lines to the Confederates; with sending negroes through the lines, South; with aiding persons whose destination was South in passing the lines; with aiding in the escape of prisoners from the penitentiary; and with many other offenses, — the following evidence was taken before Wm. Truesdail, Chief of Army Police

Office Chief of Police
Army of the Cumberland
Nashville Mch 8th 1863.

Statement of
G J Thomas

I reside on the Charlotte Pike. I have never in my life aided a person to escape from jail, or the Penitentiary I know nothing of any persons recently escaping from the penitentiary, except by public talk. One of the Prisoners is at our house by Consent of Fire Mitchell. I did not send the man Russell a suit of Clothes. Dr Hudson called this morning to see if I had any Clothes, but I had no clothes to give. I do not know the Man Russell and did not expect to aid him through the lines. I do not know where Russell is. I have done nothing and intended to do nothing to aid Russell or any person in escaping from Prison, or in aiding them after their escape. The prisoner at my House is sick. Fire Mitchell gave my wife permission to take him from the Penitentiary. Dr Hudson handed me a Coat this morning, requesting me to take it to a house

in the neighborhood of the penitentiary
I did so: I know nothing in regard
to the coat.

(Sigd) F J Thomas

Office Chief Police
Nashville Mch 8th 1863

Statement of
Mrs Jacob A Apperson

I saw Capt Pabo Russell at the penitentiary this morning for the 1st time in my life. I knew nothing of his making his escape. I never heard of any one assisting him to make his escape. I went to the Prison to see an others Russel - a friend of mine - who had been sent to Louisville and sent back. As to the other Russel, I know nothing about him I know nothing of Dr Hudson bringing Clothes to his House, or any one else giving him Clothes

Fanny Apperson

Subscribed and sworn to before me this March 8th 1863

Office Chief Army Police
Army of the Cumberland
Nashville March 19th 63

Mr Rear, Key fitter & Gunsmith
He states that
Doctor Hudson came to his shop in
Deadrich street and told me that he wanted
me to buy some pistols. I suspicioned
something wrong - I asked him if he
was a Union man? Hesitated for
some time, He told me that he was
all right - I told him that he would
have to furnish the money to buy them
with. I bought nine pistols, from
different parties one from Mr.
McLain, two from Mr Eastland one
from Oliver Williams, all citizens,
the others were strangers to me.
I stated to Dr. Hudson that I had
some powder - also some lead and
some old bullets - that I had bought
from the little boys that had picked
them on the commons. He did not
buy them - He had got part of these
pistols. I became alarmed and thinking
it was something wrong with Dr. Hudson
I set down and wrote Col. Truesdail a
note, telling him that I thought I would
be able to catch a spy and dropped

it in the Post office. I know nothing about the medicine only what I heard the Doctor say. He told me that he had some Quinine. The things found in the shop were four guns. one of them belonged to a soldier in the 19th Ill. one belonged to Patrick Bryant he lives on McLemore street and works in the ordnance department. one revolver that belongs to Mr. Hunt, a soldier, to be restocked All the guns were left to have work done on them. Mr. Eastland left one Pistol for me to sell for him and a lot of cartridges to be sold. There were also one large pistol to have a main spring put in it. I dont know who it belongs to.

Some man came with Doctor Hudson I do not remember his name, was introduced to me by the Doctor. he heard the conversation about the pistols and heard me say that I would buy the pistols.

I told the Doctor that I could furnish him one hundred and fifty pounds of lead at the time. I have never sold any guns or pistols to any one else. I have never let him have any powder, but agreed to do it.

I had six lbs. powder on hand, and have had it over twelve months. Doctor Hudson

said that he wanted a man to carry them through the lines. He told me he wanted me to mould him some bullets. I told him I had no molds to do it with. He then brought me a pair of old molds that would run from 10 to 15 bullets at a time. He wanted these molds fixed. I repaired them. He said that his Father had them in the revolutionary war. These molds were marked U. S. He said he believed there was a spy of Gen. Wheeler that would take out the things. Doctor Hudson told me that he knew a man who wanted some likely young negroes to take south. I told him that I knew of no negroes for sale. Mrs Newlon in town here, has been carrying out things through the lines and got passes to carry them through. She went with Mrs. Pirtheart. Mrs Wm P. Newlon carried goods and sold them down south. Doctor Hudson sent two men to me to be furnished with clothes to get out of the lines.

I gave them no encouragement at all.

Wm Rear

Office Chief Police
Nashville March 8th 1863

Statement of }
Mrs E H Ward }

States that on yesterday I learned for the first time that my father Dr Hudson had some guns and a few pistols to carry South. He asked me to carry them from his house to my house in the country. This I supposed my Mother told him that she was opposed to these things being brought to his house. He said that his circumstances made him do it — that he would be well paid for it. I have been told that soldiers were in the habit of coming there and asking to be shown through the lines. I know that my Mother always disapproved of any thing of the kind. I do not know whether my father ever did show any of them through. I do not believe my father ever sent any thing ~~through~~ the lines. I know nothing of my father trying to get Negroes South. This is all that I know about it.

E. H. Ward

Office of the Chief of Police
Army of the Cumberland
Nashville, March 11. 1863

Statement of Henry Erni.

I am a resident of Nashville. I was employed by Dr. Swift in the Medical Purveyors department on the first of March 1862. I was engaged as a Chemist. I made among other things Morphine, when the blockade existed here, just after the trains commenced running, Dr. Cliff told me that he had some quinine, morphine and opium - I was buying such articles at the time for the government when ever I could find them, and was also buying materials out of which I could manufacture some of those articles. I bought of Dr. Cliffe about two hundred and twenty six dollars worth of quinine, morphine and opium. Government was at the time buying those articles at the Drug Stores at a much higher rate than I paid Dr. Cliffe - at least double - I bought those articles from Dr. Cliffe for myself, intending to sell them to the government at a profit, and yet for much less than the price at the Drug Stores. Just after I made the purchase of Dr. Cliffe I found that a quantity of such medicines had been smuggled in here, and communication

being established, I could not sell to the government as I expected, and lost on the lot some $75. I sold the most of them to Haslock. I desired Cliffe, when I found out the market price of the articles, to take part of them back, but he said he had spent the money. Some weeks after that Dr. Cliffe came to me and proposed to go in with me and buy medicines. I agreed to go in with him. I went to Dr. Murray and he recommended us to Capt. Wills, Provost Marshal General. We obtained a permit.

Cliffe went to Louisville and bought some medicines, a small amount. I sold the most of that lot to the government. We purchased the next two lots at Cincinnati.

The principal portion we have sold has been to the government. Did not sell any quinine to the government. I sold the first lot of quinine to Haslock. Haslock had a permit and I supposed that he was a Union man. The next lot of quinine I sold to Dr. Hudson, I sold Dr. Hudson one hundred oz.s I was not much acquainted with Dr. Hudson, I believe that he was a Union man. I sold nearly all the medicines myself. Cliffe did the buying. I sold Dr. Hudson the quinine in two

occasions fifty oz's each time - all within a week. before I sold to the Dr. he came to me and said that he had always been a Conservative Union man, that he had a large portion of the time sick and nursed federal soldiers & officers at his house, whom he nursed free of charge - he cursed Gov. Harris for taking the State out of the Union - I did not sell to him until after I had consulted with several physicians in whom I put confidence and who informed me that he was a reliable man. He said he had hard work to support his large family and he wanted to sell the medicine to friends, physicians in order to make a little something. others told me also that he had fed and used his own medicines for soldiers free of charge. Dr. Cliffe all this time was in various places. I consulted Dr. Cliffe in relation to selling the quinine to Dr. Hudson, Cliffe told me that he thought Dr. Hudson had always been a Union man and that he would not hesitate to sell him.

I do not know that Dr. Cliffe had any understanding with Dr. Hudson in relation to the purchase and sale of the quinine - I dont know anything about Dr. Cliffe having any Conversation with Dr. Hudson ~~or~~ any one

else in Franklin in relation to the sale of medicines. I thought Dr. Cliffe did not always act right because I thought he took advantage of me in the first transaction - he also obtained a permit in his own name for the sale of medicines during the existence of the firm. He sold to Demoville & Co. a quantity of medicines under his permit - I dont know of him selling any one else any medicines under his permit I dont know of him selling any one any quinine, excepting what may have been in the lot sold to Demoville & Co. I dont know of him agreeing to sell any one any quinine or other medicines excepting as I have above stated. Cliffe went to Cincinnatti, I think three times within the last three months. He lives in Franklin when at home, I dont know of any one else purchasing large quantities of quinine or other medicines. I sold the most of my medicines to Haslock, Haslock sold to the Drugstores. He sold to wherever he could. I am told he sold to Father Blemley a priest and a violent secessionist. Haslock has often mentioned to me that there are smugglers all over Iowa.

Henry Ernst

Office Chief Police
Dept: of the Cumberland
Nashville March 3rd 1863

Statement of Negro Jo:
Belongs to Wm E Watkins

Some time in October last Bill Baker got out a man belonging to Mrs Doctor Langley: The negro was in the employ of the Government under Mr Barker. He took the negro out to hunt some hogs; after he got him out he chained him and put him in the buggy He was carried off to Franklin to the rebel army as I understand.
William Barker was left at the Hos. pitol on the Charlotte Pike
Jo also states that just before Christmas, Redmond and Dr Hudson drove off some Government Horses and mares with Colts - He assisted in driving them four miles on the Charlotte Pike. The Horses were taken to Ben Robinsons in Dixon County.
Doctor Hudson, his wife, and Mrs Langley met and sent for Bill Barker They then promised to give him 50$ dollars to take the negro off for them Barker let them have a Horse Barker loaded his pistols and gave

it to the son of Mrs Langley
He further states that Redmont
has been furnishing Dr Hudson Hay
by the Bale.