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Apr 19/63

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Office Pronost Marshal
Ft Donelson Apr. 19th 1863

To Col. W. W. Commanding,

I have to some extent examined a case that has been presented at this office. It appears that John Parchman living above Cumberland City, had a nag which was taken from him last Autumn by Capt. Croft, & given, by Col. Harding to Underwood, as claimed by his wife now, in pay for a boat taken from him. Jack Campbell got it from Mrs. Underwood, and not long since put it into the hands of Mr. Barr, temporarily; the Murfreesboro troops took it from Barr, & left it at Easly's; from Easly's the former owner, Parchman took it, & keeps it. Two of the 5th Iowa Cavalry, acting, as represented, by orders, named Tob. Green & — Donnel, have claimed the animal & told Mr. Barr that they would hold him responsible. I told the bearer of Mr Barr's letter that they had better divide the animal among the claimants, as Solomon would probably do. But so far as I can see; it might as well be left where it is. Mr. Barr however should be secured until the claimants show evidence of title, if an investigation is thought necessary.

Very Respectfully
A. A. Rodgers P. &
A. Pronost Marshal

From all the statements I learn the following to be the history of the matter; whether correct or not, further examination will have to show. John Parchman had a nag; Joe Underwood got her from his possession last Autumn; Jack Campbell somehow got possession of it, saying he swapped for it with A. Woods; Campbell left it with Barr; Barr that day left it temporarily with a friend; some Federal soldiers took her & left her at Crosby's; then Parchman came claimed & took her away. Some candidates here came to claim her of Barr, & Barr demanded her of Parchman; but Parchman will not give her up. It is probable the nag was & is properly Parchman's; and if the matter is worth an investigation, the shortest way would be to cause Parchman to bring testimony to show the same; & to let any one who has a claim bring witnesses to show it.