6049 5204 6/757 1863

Memphis Tenn
5th June 1863

Preston S. M.
Coleman B. B. C.

Petition to be exempted from the effects of Gen Order No 65 on the Grounds that they are perfectly inoffensive and have never aided the southern cause since they Federal occupation of Memphis

Citizens

Recd H.Q. 16th Army Corps 11th June 1863

Major Genl. Hurlbut.

Memphis.—

Memphis June 5th 1863.

Maj.-Genl. Hurlbut:

We the undersigned Ladies request exemption from order No ---- for the following reasons:-

1st, we are perfectly inoffensive, & have never aided, or attempted to aid, the Southern cause, since the occupation of Memphis by the Federal Army.

Secondly - Our home is here, & if banished from it, the Orphan, & widow, have no other refuge.—

Thirdly, we promise to continue to act as we have done, & that the Federal authorities shall not have cause of offence while we are under their jurisdiction.

The above is respectfully submitted to the clemency of Genl. Hurlbut -

S. M. Preston

Bettie Blair Coleman