C. 88 12" Corps - 1863.
C 63-175

7228

Tullahoma Tenn
Decem 31: 1863

Colgrove S.
Col. Comdg. Post

Reports operations
of party sent to the
vicinity of Mulberry
to capture Guerrillas etc

2 or more, 12th A.C.

Citizens - Guerrillas

Head Quarters post, at
Tullahoma Tenn Dec 31, 63

Lt Col Morse

Ast, Adjt, Genl - 12th Corps,

Col I have the honour to report that, in obedience to orders from Corps H. Qrs. a detachment of men (mounted) was on the 29th inst sent into the neighbourhood, of Mulberry for the purpose of arresting Guerrillas &c. the detachment returned last night, & reported the result of their operations no one who can be identified with the recent murder of the men of the 9th Ohio Batter, was arrested, Polly supposed to be the leader of the gang, made his escape. from the neighborhood, the day our party arrived there. Serch was made in the neighborhood, for other leading guerrillas but without success, (John Tully the father of Burton Tully) was arrested and brought in according to instructions. Also, Thomas Baley, Doctor Philander Whitier & Newton Whitier these men have been reported (by authority considered worthy of credit) to be guerrillas,

and especially that they harbour feed & secrete them, they are now in the guard house awaiting further orders.

On yesterday morning after the train had started home, (the Lieut reports) a negro man, set fire to the barn of John Gulley which was burned down. The negro is a man that has been working on the said road, & not connected with the post or with the hunts that was sent out, the negro was arrested & is now detained in the provost guard house.

The Lieut in command of the detachment was instructed that in case he could get positive proof of Young Gulleys guilt or the old mans participation in the crime of murdering our men, to burn the house & out buildings of John Gulley he reports upon this subject that he failed in getting proof sufficient to justify this course & therefore did not execute that part of the order & gave no commands or authority for the same. The burning of the barn, was our authorized.

Lieut S Lowery learned from the people down there that the negro had threatened to burn it before he ran away from there Alledging that Tulley had run his wife & Children south. The negro was the property of the Widow Browne niece of John Tullies

I respectfully sugest that the only means to brake up & destroy the guerillas in that neighborhood is to sent a sufficient force of Cavalry in there Entirely disconnected with a foraging party, and take sufficient time for that purpose & scour the whole County as far south as Fayetteville. I think two hundred mounted men would be sufficient If that force could be placed at my disposal I am willing to take Command of it and go in person, I have Every Confidence ~~to be~~ that I could Effectually brake it up.

Respectfully

Your Obt Servt
Silas Colgrove Col
Comd, Post