Pleasant Grove, Wilson County Tennessee January 21st 1864

Maj. General Lovel H. Rousseau.

The undersigned, a portion of the citizens of this vicinity in their own names, and in the names of their fellow citizens desire most respectfully to call your attention to some facts in which the peace and safety of this community are deeply concerned. We are all peaceable and lawabiding citizens; and having no civil law to which we can apply for redress of our grievances, we are forced to apply to you. The facts are briefly these: A large number of the negro men of this County have been enlisted in the colored regiments now being raised for the Federal service. A much larger number have left their homes, and gone to the different Posts, Nashville Murfreesboro Gallatin and Evergreen without attaching themselves to any command. These negroes are coming back to their old homes almost every day. Many of them come back with arms, and nearly all of them conduct themselves towards their former owners and to the white citizens generally in a very insolent manner, insulting them, to that extent that cannot long be born, or endured. We earnestly hope that measures will be taken, which will put an end to this before it results in bloodshed. When negroes are taken from us for the service of the Government, or leave us for reasons of their own, we hope they will not be suffered to return with arms in their hands to threaten, rob, and insult unarmed and defenceless citizens. Feeling confident as we do, General, that these things are done without your knowledge, we are satisfied that it is only necessary that you should be informed of these abuses, and they will be corrected. We are, General, very respectfully your obedient servants.

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| L. B. Stroud | F. & Shamo Lewis | Lindsay |
| John Kelley | J. A. Shamon | A. T. Locke |
| W. G. Bishop | James Shamon | J. H. Denton |
| Jno. Haralson | John D. Clarkson | Gibson Jamison |
| Jas. Haralson | John Cathey | Asa Jackson |
| Joseph Haralson | W. P. Sullivan | Thos. B. Read |
| N. G. Rogers | S. C. Jackson | A. J. Winton |
| W. B. Rogers | P. C. Lewis | I. A. Davis |