Military Prison
Nashville May 31. 1864.

9488

Statement of S. Picket
& Thos. B. Collier now
Confined in Military
Prison Nashville,

Hd Qrs Dist of Tenn,
Office Pro Mar
Nashville, Tenn June 9/64

Respectfully referred to
Brig Genl. Jno F. Miller
Comdg Post of Nashville
Tenn, who will have the
Prisoners named within
released, upon each giving Bonds
in the sum of Five thousand
($5000.) dollars with good
and sufficient security,
to appear when called for
to answer to any Charges
preferred against them

by the Military authorities, and in the meantime to keep the peace.

By Command of
Maj Genl Rousseau
J. O. Bigney Major
13th Mis Dufty & Pro Mar

Hd. Qrs Post of Nashville
Nashville Tenn June 9/64
Respectfully referred to Lt Col. Homer 18th V. I. & Pro. Mar who will execute the orders of Maj Gen Rousseau.
By Command of
Brig Gen Miller.
[illegible]
Capt & A. A. G.

E. B. 573.

Col. Horner Pro vert. or.

Maj. Gen. Reaupeare

Your Petitioners — A. Pickett & F. B. Collins would respectfully represent that they are citizens of the county of Limestone State of Alabama that their farms lay ~~[illegible]~~ lay some two miles of each other and that they were arrested by the Federal troops last monday was a week since and carried to Decatur and from there transported to the Nashville prison at Nashville, your Petitioners here state that they do not know with what they are charged. They each of them states in regard to their selves that they are innocent of any charge that can be made against them — and will be ready on reasonable notice to meet any charge that can be made against them — The Petitioner Collins states that he is advanced in years aged some 62 — and Petitioner Pickett near fifty years and their health is delicate — and to remain long in prison their health would be even empowered. They in view of their innocence and being brought from their own state they ask a city parol for which ample security will be given that it will be faithfully complied with, or if deemed by you best to permit each of them to Bail in ample security to appear and answer any charge

which may be exhibited against them
Although they are strangers in the city yet
If any religious from North Alabama
may be found in the city they will
rest in confidence that they will
give Petitioners good characters which
will aid them in their present application.
They therefore pray that you
will issue an order to the Provost
Marshall of the city to put
Petitioners in your parol of the city
or Bail with security to answer
any charge that may be exhibited
against them —

Mittelong Prison
May 31st 1864

S. Pickett
Thomas B Collins

Nashville June 3d 1864

The undersigned J. F. Demoville States that he resided and done business in Huntsville Alabama in 1845 and remained in business in that city till 1852 that during this time he became intimate with Stephen Pickett & T B Collier now in the Millitary prison at Nashville

I have had various business transactions with each of these gentlemen They are reputable respectable farmers of Limestone County Alabama

Their general reputation is what may be called first rate in all respects.

I have always found them men of truth and of the strictest honor and would implicitly rely upon any statement that they might make touching themselves

The fact is that each of them stands in the community in which they live above suspicion, They are peaceable orderly reputable citizens and I have no hesitation in stating that they have and would observe any pledges which either of them had or would make

Since my return to business in the city of Nashville we have kept up our acquaintance and more or less business transactions and my good opinion of these gentlemen still continues

J. F. Demoville

Having been born & raised in Huntsville Alabama and for many years done business in that City I became intimately acquainted with Messrs Collier & Pickett have had business transactions with them, and I am acqu[illegible] with their general reputation, and [illegible] State that I cheerfully concur & [illegible] endorse the statements of Mr. J. F. De Moville touching each of these gentlemen

Nashville June 3 1864 F B Sample

Office Provost-Marshal
Decatur, Ala. May
L-133 1864.

Feeney,
Capt. Wm
Pro. Mar.

Forwards, under guard, two prisoners, Mr. Collens and Mr. Picket, charged with harboring, feeding, and holding correspondence with, the enemy.

Says, one Jas. Plott, Refugee, at Nashville, can testify as to their conduct, &c

Office Provost-Marshal
E.B. 523. Nashville May 27/64
Respectfully refered to Major T. O. Bigney Pro Mar District as a sample of the vague and insufficient charges upon which prisoners are being sent to this office almost daily from every part of the District. No charges are prefered and no data furnished on which to prefer them - I desire in

...uchons as to whether
... Mil Prison Shall be
...lled up with this class
... prisoners or whether
they Shall be sent back
or turned loose

Prisoners ought to be sent
here only to be punished
or to be tried - If to be tried
charges - or the facts on
which to base them ought
to be sent with them

It is from precisely this
class of prisoners that
so many complaints come
of being confined without
charges

By Command of
Brig Gen R S Granger
John W Horner
Lieut Col & Prov Marshal

Head Quarters Dist of Nash.
Office Provost Marshal
Nashville Tenn May 27/64

E. 24

Respectfully returned to Lt. Col.
Horner Pro Mar Post Nashville,
who will retain the prisoners

Vide L. S. 187

=ediately instruct the Officer sending the Prisoners to furnish proper Charges, If these do not come to hand within Eight (8) days the case will be reported to these Head Quarters,

By Command of
Maj Gen Rousseau,
F. O. Bigner Major
13th Wis Dufty & Pro Mar.

(one Enclosure)

Office Provost Marshal
Decatur Ala May 25th 1864

Col

By direction of Brig Gen Matthies

I send you two Citizen Prisoners who were arrested on their Plantation about 8 miles above here and near the river, they are charged with aiding the enemy. (Feeding Rebel Soldiers and sending Provisions across the river into the Rebel lines) and were arrested at home May 23 1864 by order of Gen Matthies, when the Rebs crossed the River and made the Raid on Madison Station a number (about 13) of Col Patterson men died at Mr Collins. Mr Pickens is a Brother of Col Pickens of Gen Roddys Command. Pickens Regt is now close to our lines here, both of these Gentlemen within and are constantly in communication with Roddys Command, James Blott Refugee, now in Nashville can testify as to the acts, and character of these men

Yours with Respect
William Dewey Capt
Actg Provost Marshal

Copy

Office of Provost Marshal,
NASHVILLE, TENN.,

May 27. 1864.

Capt. Wm Feeney,
Provost Marshal,
Decatur, Ala.

Captain:-

Will you please [illegible] to me as soon as practicable, formal charges against Thos. B. Collen and Stephen Picket, prisoners forwarded by you yesterday, with the names and residence of witnesses annexed, to substantiate the same.

Formal charges should in all cases accompany prisoners, or full written statements on which to base them.

We have neither the time nor facilities here to investigate such cases. I am,

Very Respectfully,
Your most obdt. servt.,
John W Heaven
Lieut. Col. 18th Mich. V.S.
Provost Marshal

Copy

Office of Provost Marshal
Nashville, Tenn., June 8. 1864.

Maj. T. C. Bigney,
Prov. Mar. Dist. of Tenn.—

Major:—

In accordance with endorsement instructions—(E. 24. of record), I have the honor to enclose a copy of a letter sent by me to the Provost Marshal at Decatur, Ala., of date of enclosed copy.

No reply has been received to said letter.

Respectfully,
(Signed) John W. Horner
Lieut. Col. & Prov. Marshal

referred to within, and return
papers to the Provost Marshal
at Decatur, with instructions to
forward to your Office immediately
regular Charges and Specifications
with names and location of witnesses
to substantiate the same—

Prisoners forwarded without
proper Charges should be
released, but in doing so in
many cases dangerous men
may be turned loose, and escape
merited punishment on
account of the ignorance or
neglect of the Officers who may
have charge of them.—

Hereafter when no
regular Charges or orders
for retention from competent
authority accompany the
prisoners. You will immed-

Office Provost Marshal
Decatur Ala. May 25th 1864

List of Citizen prisoners forwarded by William Feeney Provost Marshal Decatur Ala. to Provost Marshal at Nashville Tenn.

No	Names	Description					occupation	Residence	Arrested		Charges	Remarks
		age	height	Eyes	hair	complex			when	where		By whose order arrested
1	Thomas B. Collier	61	5-10	hazle	gray	fair	Farmer	Limestone Co. Ala.	May 23. 1864	at home	aiding the enemy	Gen. Mathias.
2.	Stephen Picket	46	6	hazle	dark	dark.	Farmer	Limestone Co. Ala	May 23. 1864	at home	aiding the enemy	Gen. Mathias

Lt. Col. John W. Horner
Provost Marshal
Nashville Tenn.

William Feeney Capt
& Provost Marshal