



Smithsonian Institution

Freedmen's Bureau

South Carolina Assistant Commissioner, Orders and Circulars, General Orders and Circulars Issued (26), Jan. 1866–May 1869

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10

and Fast Days unless the work desired to be done is a work necessity or mercy. Only half a days work on Saturdays will be required of female employees who are heads of family.

XIII. The Employer or his agent will keep a book in which he shall enter all advances in money made by him to the laborers, and all forfeitures for lost time which book shall be received as evidence of in the same manner as merchants books are now received in courts of justice. Each employee shall be entitled to a pass book in which the employer or his agent shall make an entry of all advances of money or rations, and all absences or delinquencies.

Witness our hands &c

The foregoing is recommended for general adoption and will be approved by all officers and agents of this Bureau.

By order of
Brig Genl R. K. Scott
Assist Commissr.
(Sgd) H.W. Smith
Asst Adjt Genl

Official
H W Smith
AAG

11
Head Quarters Asst. Commissr
Bureau R F and A. L
Charleston SC Feb 6th 1866

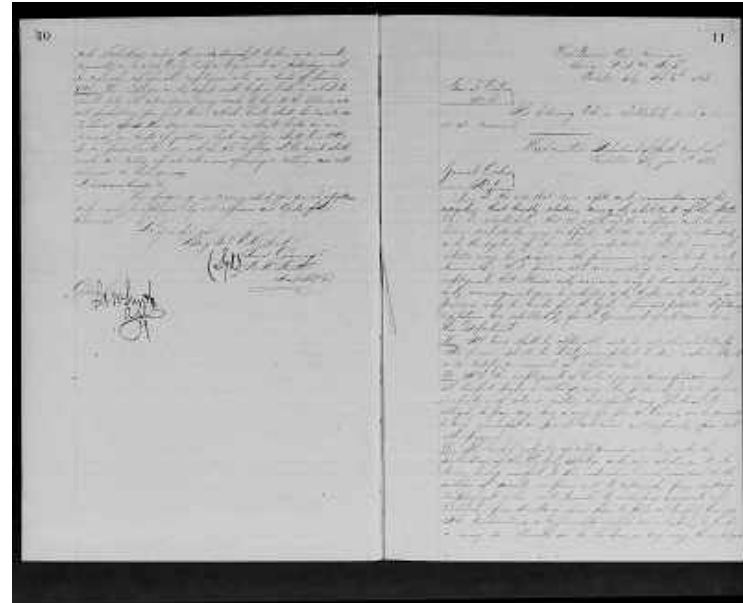
General Orders
No 5

The following Order is republished for the guidance of all concerned

Headquarters Department of South Carolina
Charleston S.C. Jan 1st, 1866

General Orders
No 1 }

I. To the end that Civil rights and immunities may be enjoyed; that kindly relations among the inhabitants of the States may be established; that the rights & duties of the employer and the free laborer respectively, may be defined; that the soil may be cultivated and the system of free labor undertaken; that the owners of estates may be secured in the possession of their lands and tenements; that persons able and willing to work may have employment, that idleness and vagrancy may be discountenanced, and encouragement given to industry and thrift; and that humane provision may be made for the aged, infirm and destitute,



the following regulations are established for the Government of all concerned in this Department

II. All laws shall be applicable alike to all the inhabitants. No person shall be held incompetent to sue make complaint or to testify, on account of color or caste.

III All the employment of husbandry or of the useful arts, and all lawful trades or callings; may be followed by all persons, irrespective of color or caste; nor shall any freedman be obliged to pay any tax or any fee for a license, nor be amenable to any municipal or parish ordinance not imposed upon all other Persons

IV. The lawful industry of all Persons who live under the protection of the United States and owe obedience to its laws, being useful to the individual, and essential to the welfare of society, no person will be restrained from seeking Employment when not bound by voluntary agreement nor hindered from travelling from place to place or lawful business All combinations or agreements which are intended to hinder or may so operate as to hinder, in any way the employment

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