



**Smithsonian Institution**

*Freedmen's Bureau*

## **Alabama Assistant Commissioner, Letters Received, R–Y, 1866, Part 1**

Extracted on Apr-24-2024 07:00:23

**The Smithsonian Institution thanks all digital volunteers that transcribed and reviewed this material. Your work enriches Smithsonian collections, making them available to anyone with an interest in using them.**

The Smithsonian Institution (the "Smithsonian") provides the content on this website ([transcription.si.edu](https://transcription.si.edu)), other Smithsonian websites, and third-party sites on which it maintains a presence ("SI Websites") in support of its mission for the "increase and diffusion of knowledge." The Smithsonian invites visitors to use its online content for personal, educational and other non-commercial purposes. By using this website, you accept and agree to abide by the [following terms](#).

- If sharing the material in personal and educational contexts, please cite the Freedmen's Bureau as source of the content and the project title as provided at the top of the document. Include the accession number or collection name; when possible, link to the Freedmen's Bureau website.
- If you wish to use this material in a for-profit publication, exhibition, or online project, please contact Freedmen's Bureau or [transcribe@si.edu](mailto:transcribe@si.edu)

For more information on this project and related material, contact the Freedmen's Bureau. [See this project](#) and other collections in the Smithsonian Transcription Center.

double trials & at the same time avoid having every freedman in the county annoying me by explanations, applications, etc. I have concluded not to bind any without having the parents summoned to be present & show cause why they should not be bound out and if they are unable to do that, then to consult their wishes as to whom they desire them bound to

Several cases have been sent to me to support & provide for. One is a family of three orphan children (freedmen), 1 boy 7 years of age, 1 boy 2 years of age and one girl 5 years of age. I related this case to you when I was in Montgomery - The mother left her former master and went to live with a poor white woman and after getting all the negro had, drove her off - altho' she was very sick at the time, the mother has since died. Her children are now with their former master who says he cannot support them - He is willing to keep them if they can be furnished with food & clothes - Mr. Dawson who was with me to see you when I was last in Montg. will hand you this note & if you can send the necessary clothing & some provisions to these children I will see that they get it, they live in a mile of this place. Another case - a very old man & perfectly blind has been turned off by his former master & he was led into my office a few days ago for support & I requested the man who had kindly given him shelter & food to continue to do so till I had a chance to send up to you which he consented to do so - If you can send him anything by Mr. Dawson I will see that he gets it - I have called the Commissioners Court to meet on next Friday to adopt the suggestions you made in relation to providing for this class of persons.

double trials & at the same time avoid having every freedman in the County annoying me by explanations, applications, etc. I have concluded not to bind any without having the parents summoned to be present & show cause why they should not be bound out & if they are unable to do that, then to consult their wishes as to whom they desire them bound to

Several cases have been sent to me to support & provide for. One is a family of 3 orphan children (freedmen) 1 boy 7 years of age, 1 boy 2 years of age & one girl 5 years of age. I related this case to you when I was in Montgomery - The mother left her former master & went to live with a poor white woman & after getting all the negro had, drove her off - altho' she was very sick at the time, the mother has since died. These children are now with their former master who says he cannot support them - He is willing to keep them if they can be furnished with food & clothes - Mr. Dawson who was with me to see you when I was last in Montg. will hand you this note & if you can send the necessary clothing & some provisions to these children I will see that they get it, they live in a mile of this place. Another case - a very old man & perfectly blind has been turned off by his former master. He was led into my office a few days ago for support & I requested the man who had kindly given him shelter & food to continue to do so till I had a chance to send up to you which he consented to do so - If you can send him anything by Mr. Dawson I will see that he gets it - I have called the Commissioners Court to meet on next Friday to adopt the suggestions you made in relation to providing for this class of persons.

Alabama Assistant Commissioner, Letters Received, R-Y, 1866, Part 1  
Transcribed and Reviewed by Digital Volunteers  
Extracted Apr-24-2024 07:00:23



## Smithsonian Institution

*Freedmen's Bureau*

The mission of the Smithsonian is the increase and diffusion of knowledge - shaping the future by preserving our heritage, discovering new knowledge, and sharing our resources with the world. Founded in 1846, the Smithsonian is the world's largest museum and research complex, consisting of 19 museums and galleries, the National Zoological Park, and nine research facilities. Become an active part of our mission through the Transcription Center. Together, we are discovering secrets hidden deep inside our collections that illuminate our history and our world.

Join us!

The Transcription Center: <https://transcription.si.edu>

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SmithsonianTranscriptionCenter>

On Twitter: [@TranscribeSI](https://twitter.com/TranscribeSI)

Connect with the Smithsonian

Smithsonian Institution: [www.si.edu](http://www.si.edu)

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Smithsonian>

On Twitter: [@smithsonian](https://twitter.com/smithsonian)