



Smithsonian Institution

Freedmen's Bureau

Tennessee Assistant Commissioner, Registered Letters Received, Entered in Register 4, R–W, 1868

Extracted on Apr-19-2024 02:34:23

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), 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

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.

Bureau R.F. and A. Lands
Sub District of Bolivar,
Bolivar Tenn Oct 3rd 1868,

Lieut W.H. Bower
A.A.A. Genl. Bu R.F. and A.L.
Nashville Tennessee

Lieutenant,

I have the honor to submit the following report as the result of the investigations made by me into the hanging of one and disappearance of another Freedman at Pocahontas Tenn. on the 21st day of Sept 1868.

I went first to "Grand Junction" and from there to Pocahontas on the 1st inst. and from the reliable information received at both places find the facts to be; That one Pat Smith is a Superintendent over some "Stone Masonary" work on the Memphis and Charleston Rail Road about two miles from Pocahontas. About the 18th ult, he employed a strange negro (name unknown) to cook for him and his employees; not liking him, Smith on the next day paid him up and discharged him, Smiths cabbin was on the opposite side of Hatchie River, from his work, and some time after they had gone to work this negro returned to the cabbin broke open the door and took a satchell containing two watches, some gold, notes and private papers, and made his escape; Smith shortly after discovering the matter went to Pocahontas and telegraphed in every directions for his arrest, which was finally accomplished on the 21st at "Grand Junction" by B.P. Robinson Conductor on the M and C.R.R. and the hands of his train;

James H. Paul & Son
Sub District of Bolivar
Bolivar Tenn Oct 5 1868

Lieut W. H. Bower
A.A.A. Genl. Bu R.F.
Nashville Tenn

Continued:

When I left
Grand Junction on the 1st inst. and from there
to Pocahontas on the 1st inst. and from the
reliable information received at both places
find the facts to be; That one Pat Smith is
a Superintendent over some "Stone Masonary"
work on the Memphis and Charleston Rail Road
about two miles from Pocahontas. About the 18th ult
he employed a strange negro (name unknown) to
cook for him and his employees; not liking
him, Smith on the next day paid him up and
discharged him, Smiths cabbin was on the
opposite side of Hatchie River, from his work,
and some time after they had gone to work
this negro returned to the cabbin broke open
the door and took a satchell containing two
watches, some gold, notes and private papers,
and made his escape; Smith shortly after
discovering the matter went to Pocahontas
and telegraphed in every directions for his
arrest, which was finally accomplished on the
21st at "Grand Junction" by B.P. Robinson
Conductor on the M and C.R.R. and the hands
of his train;

Tennessee Assistant Commissioner, Registered Letters Received, Entered
in Register 4, R-W, 1868
Transcribed and Reviewed by Digital Volunteers
Extracted Apr-19-2024 02:34:23



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

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

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