

Sam. P. Walker,  
Mobile, Ala.,  
Jan. 21, 1866.

Petition for release of  
certain cotton.

Mr. [unclear]

N. 467, Jan. 25, 1866

Deliver to petitioners the said 1555.555 —  
pounds of Cotton or an equal quantity of the  
same quality

Respectfully Yours  
Wm. Denmark  
Sam. P. Walker

Mobile Ala. Dec. 21st 1865

To Hon. Hugh McCulloch  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington D. C.

Sir

Your petitioner, Samuel P Walker, of Memphis Tennessee, a loyal citizen of the United States, would respectfully represent that on the 6<sup>th</sup> of March 1865 an authority was granted to him by the late President of the United States, Abraham Lincoln, authorizing him to get cotton beyond the then existing lines of the Union Army and instructing the officers of the Army and Navy to protect him while so doing. Under this general Authority, the original of which, is here with filed marked Exhibit "A" and made a part of this petition, and with the view of delivering the same to the Purchasing Agents of the United States, in accordance with the law of July 2<sup>d</sup> 1864, he purchased, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May 1865 from William P Herring, a loyal citizen of Lagrange Georgia, through said Herring's Agent Thomas Peters, five hundred and fifty five thousand five hundred and fifty five lbs. (555,555 lbs) pounds of Cotton. Said Cotton was then stored at Gainesville Sumpter County Ala., and at the same time the warehouse receipts

for the Cotton, of date April 15<sup>th</sup> 1865, were transferred to your petitioner, having been originally in the name of Wm Richardson Hunt; and also an order from said Hunt, dated April 17<sup>th</sup> 1865, upon which day said Herring bought and paid for said Cotton prior to selling it to petitioner; which order was also transferred to petitioner by said Thomas Peters as agent for William P Herring; which several permits orders, and receipts are herewith filed as a part of this application.

Petitioner further states that subsequently, to wit, on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of June 1865 he contracted with Hon. J. W. Kellogg Purchasing Agent of the United States at Mobile Ala, to deliver to him said Cotton, as will appear by reference to the two Certificates of said Kellogg obtained by petitioner on the day of their date, and herewith filed marked Exhibits B and C.

Your petitioner, proceeded in good faith to execute his part of this Contract with the Government, and to deliver the said Cotton to said Purchasing Agent, but was prevented by the interposition of Mr. Duff C Green Local Special Agent at Gainsville Ala, acting under Mr. T. G. A. Dexter Sup. Spl. Agt at Mobile. Your petitioner was prevented by said Green from moving said Cotton but was informed

that it was seized, and was claimed to be the property of the United States.

Petitioner further represents that when said Authority was issued to him by the late President, he applied to him to know whether there would be any restrictions in the purchase of Cotton under said Authority in the insurrectionary States; that President Lincoln said to him; "None - you <sup>can</sup> purchase it from Jefferson Davis himself if you think proper;" and that petitioner learned the same from W<sup>m</sup> P. Mellen then Sup. Spl. Agent, and from other Agents, including the Purchasing Agents, of the Treasury Department.

Petitioner further states, as soon as it was possible to do so in the then unsettled State of Country, he made every effort to bring forward the Cotton above mentioned and deliver it, upon his Contract aforesaid, to Purchasing Agent Kellogg at Mobile, but was prevented by the said Green in the manner stated. This Cotton was subsequently transported to this City under direction of Agents of your Department where it now is. Petitioner therefore prays that the Authority aforesaid from the late President, and the said Contract between himself and the Government be recognized and respected; that he may be protected in his rights there under, and that an order be issued to the Treasury Agent at Mobile directing him to