

Letters and Telegrams Sent (Provost Marshal's Office, 6th District Missouri)

[page 1]

LETTERS &c.

[page 2]

Copies of Telegrams sent by P.M. 6th Dist.

Jefferson City

June 24th 1863

E.B. Alexander,

Col[.] U.S.A[.] & A.A. Pro. Mar. Gen'l for Mo.

Have accepted[.] Will write this evening.

A[.] Comingo

Pd 45 c[ents]

Copy of letter sent by P. Mar. 6th Dist[.] Mo[.]

Provost Marshals Office

6th District of Missouri

Lexington Mo[.]

July 6th 1863

E.B. Alexander[.]

Col[.] U.S.A. & A.A. Pro. Mar. Gen'l for Mo[.]

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that I arrived at my head Quarters yesterday evening, and that I have entered upon the discharge of the duties of my office. My district is composed of the counties of Clinton, Clay, Platte, Ray, Jackson, Caldwell, Lafayette, Carroll, Saline, & Chariton, ten in all. In each of these except Lafayette, in which my Head Quarters are located, I will at the earliest possible period appoint a Deputy Provost Marshal, and will lay off as many enrolling districts as may be necessary to a speedy completement of the Enrollment. I will Endeavor to push the work forward as rapidly as possible & to keep you fully informed as to its progress.

I am sir, very Respectfully

Your Obt[.] Servant

Abm[.] Comingo

Capt[.] & Pro. Mar[.] 6th Dist[.] of Mo[.]

Note,

The foregoing was also sent to Col. J.B. Fry P.M.G. by same mail[.]
A.C. P.M.

[page 3]

Copies of letters sent by P.M. 6th Dist[.] of Mo[.]

Provost Marshal's office
6th Dist[.] of Missouri
Lexington Mo[.]
July 6th 1863.

Col[.] James B. Fry
Provost Marshal General
Washington City D.C.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt by mail of the following books &c[.]
1 copy of Revised Army regulations
1 copy Regulations for the Quar. Mas[.] Dept'ment Army of the U.S.
3 copies regulations for Gov't of Bureau Pro. Mar. General
Circular orders from No[.] 1 to 33, inclusive 10 Blanks for [*text stricken through*]
surgeons Reports, Enlistment in Invalid Corps.
10 Blanks for Surgeon's certificate for commission in Invalid Corps.
These are the only Blanks &c I have received[.]

Very Respectfully
Your obt[.] Serv't
A[.] Comingo
Capt[.] & Pro. Mar. 6th dist[.] of Mo.

[page 4]

Copies of letters sent by Pro. Mar. 6th Dist. Mo.

Provost Marshal's office
6th District of Missouri
Lexington Mo[.]
July 6th 1863.

Col. E.B. Alexander, U.S.A.

A.A. Pro. Mar. Gen'l for Mo.
Saint Louis Mo[.]

Dear Sir,

Please inform me whether slaves are citizens, within the meaning of that word as used in the first section of the late act of Congress, for enrolling and calling out the National Forces.

My opinion has been that they are not but I have been told the question has been settled at Washington City, and that it is held they are.

Very Respectfully
Your obt[.] Servant
Abm[.] Comingo
Capt[.] & Pro. Mar. 6th Dist[.] of Mo[.]

[page 5]

Copy of letter sent by the Pro. Mar. 6th Dist[.] of Mo.

Provost Marshal's office
6th Dist[.] of Missouri
Lexington
July 7th 1863.

E.B. Alexander,
Col[.] U.S.A. & A.A. Pro. Mar. Gen'l for Mo.
Saint Louis Mo.

Dear Sir,

You will confer a favor a favor on your humble servant if you will inform him as to his duty, with reference to the numerous little incidental expenses necessarily incurred in the discharge of his duties as Provost Marshal. In fitting up my room and preparing to carry forward the work assigned me, I have had to pay, and will yet have to pay various small sums, for Envelopes, Stationary, ink[,] Postage Stamps, box rent, Telegrams &c &c. Am I required to take receipts for each sum thus expended? If not, in what manner must I keep my accounts for these expenditures. An early reply will oblige

Your obt Serv't,
Abm. Comingo
Capt[.] & Pro. Mar. 6th Dist[.] of Mo.

[page 6]

Copy of Letter.

Provost Marshal's Office
6th District of Missouri
Lexington Mo[.]
July [MS. blank] 1863

To [MS. blank]

Sir:

Section 14 of the regulations for the government of the Bureau of the Provost Marshal General of the United States requires that I place myself in communication with all the officers commanding organized Military forces in my District, and all requires me to acquaint myself with the approximate strength of their force, and the regular stations occupied by them.

I shall be happy to cooperate with you in your efforts in behalf of the Government, whenever you may suppose my services are required. I will esteem it a favor, if you will inform me as to the approximate strength of the force under your command, and the regular stations occupied by them in my district. The following counties constitute the 6th District viz, Jackson, Lafayette, Saline[,] Chariton, Carroll[,] Ray, Clay, Platte, Clinton & Caldwell.

Very Respectfully, your obt[.] Serv't
[MS. blank]
Capt[.] & Pro. Mar. 6th dist[.] of Mo[.]

The foregoing is a copy of Circular addressed to all the officers commanding organized military forces in the District[.]

[page 7]
Copy of Letter.

Provost Marshal's Office
6th Dist[.] of Missouri.
Lexington
July 9th 1863.

Wm. L. Birney Esq.

Sir,

Having appointed you Deputy Provost Marshal for Clinton County in this district, you are instructed to make your Head Quarters at Plattsburg in said county, and proceed to the enrollment of all citizens therein between the ages of 20 & 45 years as rapidly as possible. In

order to accomplish this work as speedily as is required by the demands of the service, the county will have to be divided into sub enrolling districts. This is a duty required of the Board, but to enable this body to discharge their duty in this respect, you will ascertain immediately, what sub-divisions are necessary in order to a complete enrollment of the county within the next 20 or 30 days, and will without delay suggest to the Board the number and boundaries of the district. It is desirable that the number of the districts should not be more than four, and if a small number is practicable you will suggest it to me. It is thought best to make or more municipal townships constitute an enrolling district. I desire that this method of dividing counties into sub-enrolling districts shall be adopted in all cases in which it is practicable[.]

You are required to take an oath before entering upon the discharge of your duties[.] You will herewith find a form[.] After you shall have filled it up, and

[page 8]

subscribed and sworn to it, before a notary public or some other officer having a seal of office send it to me.

You will ascertain the names of suitable persons, to perform the duties of enrolling officers in each of the sub-districts and suggest them to me. Let there be no unnecessary delay in attending to these duties.

Suitable blanks will be furnished for the enrolling officers, and such instructions given from time to time as you may desire in the prosecutions of your duties[.]

Very Respectfully

A[.] Comingo

Capt[.] & Pro. Mar. 6th Dist[.] of Mo[.]

P.S. The accompanying copies of circulars No[.]s 1, 3 & 16 indicate some of the duties required at your Hands.

A.C. P.M.

Note[.] A copy of the forgoing letter to Wm[.] L Birney, has been sent to each of the Deputy Provost Marshals in the 6th dist.

A[.] Comingo P.M.

Copy of Letters.

Provost Marshal's Office

6th District of Missouri

Lexington Mo[.]

July 9 1863.

Col. E.B. Alexander U.S.A.
A.A. Pro. Mar. Gen'l for Mo.
St. Louis Mo[.]

Sir-

I am binding all my energies to the work of enrolling my district, but I find it more difficult than I anticipated to get the machine in motion. The extreme peril that will attend the discharge of the duties of Enrolling officers in some regions renders it difficult to find those who are willing to accept the position[.] Furthermore my district is so great in extent that communication by mail with some of the counties is exceedingly slow.

I have concluded that it will be better for me to go into some of the remote counties, such as Chariton, Carroll, Clinton & Platte, if I do not get replies in a few days from gentlemen to whom I have written tendering the position of Deputy Provost Marshal, I do not desire to take the trip if I can avoid it. I will however cheerfully obey such orders as you may be pleased to make relative to this or any other duty required at my hands[.]

I have the honor to be
Very Respectfully
Your obt[.] Servt.
A. Comingo
Pro. Mar. 6th dist[.] of Mo.

[page 9]
Copy of letter to E.B. Alexander

Office of Provost Marshal 6th dist[.] of Mo[.]
Lexington Mo[.]
July 10th 1863

Col. E.B. Alexander,
A.A. Pro. Mar. Gen'l for Missouri

Col[.,]

I have the honor to inform you that on the 7th inst. I appointed[:]
Porter McClanahan Provost Marshal for Jackson County
James W. Black [Provost Marshal for] Ray [County] Mo[.]
Wm. A. Wilson [Provost Marshal for] Saline [County Mo.]
On the 9th inst[.] I appointed[:]
Wm. L. Birney, Pro. Mar. for Clinton County Mo[.]
A.F. Cox [Provost Marshal for] Platte [County Mo.]

On the 10th inst[.] I made the further appointments of
Wm. M. Eads Provost Marshal for Carroll County Mo[.]
Wm. A. Donaldson [Provost Marshal for] Caldwell [County] Mo[.]
James M. Boyer, [Provost Marshal for] Chariton [County Mo.]

On the 7th inst[.] I appointed John E. Ryland and George Zeiler clerks of the board of Enrollment and advised Col[.] James B. Fry P.M.G. U.S.A. of their appointments as required by regulations. On the 9th inst[.] I also appointed these gentlemen Dept[.] Provost Marshals for Lafayette County in pursuance of 10th sec[ti]on of regulations for government of Provost Marshal General's bureau. Mr. Ryland also acts as recorder of the Board of Enrollment.

I would also inform you that the Board of Enrollment have subdivided Lafayette County into four sub-enrolling Districts, to wit,
No[.] 1 Lexington & Clay Township
No. 2. Sni-abar & Washington Townships
No[.] 3 Freedom & Davis [Townships]
No[.] 4 Waverly & Dover [Townships]

[page 10]

Copy of letter to Col. E.B. Alexander.

Office of Provost Marshal 6th Dist[.] of Missouri
Lexington Mo[.]
July 10th, 1863

Col. E.B. Alexander,
A.A. Pro. Mar. Gen'l for Missouri

Col.

Your communication of the 8th inst. has been duly received, as I have the honor to say. The suggestions it contains shall be carefully noted and attended to. I answer to your enquiry about the propriety of establishing a recruiting depot for the enlistment of the Invalid Corps. I have to say -- that in consequence of the Guerilla warfare that has been carried on in Western Missouri during the present rebellion, I have no doubt but there are a [*text stricken through*] number of discharged and disabled soldiers, who would be fit subjects for the Invalid Corps. Hence I am of the opinion that the Enrollment of this corps would be promoted by Establishing a recruiting Depot at some point in the west! And I know of no place more suitable for this purpose than Lexington, my District Head Quarters.

Very Respectfully
Your obt[.] Servt[.]
Abm[.] Comingo

Capt. & Pro. Mar. 6th dist[.] of Mo.

[page 11]

Copy of letter to Col[.] Fry.

Provost Marshal's Office
6th District of Missouri
Lexington Mo[.]
July 17th 1863.

Col[.] James. B. Fry
Provost Marshal General
Washington City D.C.

Sir,

I beg leave to submit for your decision the following questions which I find of considerable practical importance in the discharge of my duties viz.

Are persons exempt from the draft who present certificates from [*text stricken through*] consuls of citizenship in foreign countries?

In the absence of evidence positive or presumptive that a foreigner has filed a declaration of his intention to become a citizen or has exercised the right of a citizen are we not to presume, that he has not?

Very Respectfully
Your obt[.] serv't
A[.] Comingo
Capt[.] & Pro. Mar. 6th Dist[.] of Mo[.]

[page 12]

Copy of letter to Col[.] Fry.

Provost Marshal's Office
6th Dist[.] of Missouri
Lexington Mo[.]
July 20th 1863

Col[.] James. B. Fry
Pro. Mar. Gen'l U.S.A[.]

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit to you the following tri-monthly of the business and general transactions of the Board of Enrollment for the 6th Dist[.] of Mo[.] to this date.

1st Dep[.] Pro. Mar[.]

On the 15th I appointed Wm. A. King. Deputy Provost Marshal for Clay County Missouri and on the 18th I appointed Samuel Wait Deputy Provost Marshal for Carroll County in the place of Wm. M. Eads who declined to accept Said Disappointment[.]

The Board have sub-divided the counties of Ray, Jackson, Caldwell & Clinton into sub-districts as follows.

Richmond Township Ray Co. Sub-Dist. No[.] 5
Camden & Fishing river [Township Ray Co. Sub-Dist. No.] 6
Polk & Knoxville [Township Ray Co. Sub-Dist. No.] 7
Grape, Grove & Crooked River [Township Ray Co. Sub-Dist. No.] 8
Kaw & Washington Township Jackson Co[.] [Sub-Dist. No.] 9
Blue & Prairie [Township Jackson Co. Sub-Dist. No.] 10
Van Buren & Sniabar [Township Jackson Co. Sub-Dist. No.] 11
Fort Osage, [Township Jackson Co. Sub-Dist. No.] 12
Rockford [Township] Caldwell Co[.] [Sub-Dist. No.] 13
Blythe [Township Caldwell Co. Sub-Dist. No.] 14
Davis [Township Caldwell Co. Sub-Dist. No.] 15
Grand River & Ellenis [Township Caldwell Co. Sub-Dist. No.] 16
Concord & Platte [Township] Clinton [Co. Sub-Dist. No.] 17
Jackson & Shoal [Township Clinton Co. Sub-Dist. No.] 18

[page 13]

No[.] 2 continued

3rd Enrolling Officers

Hardin & Lafayette Township Clinton Co[.] Sub-Dist[.] No[.] 19

The Board have appointed Enrolling Officers for the above sub-Districts as follows.

For Sub District No[.] 5 Joseph. E. Black.

[For Sub District No.] 6 Wm. A. Rothrock.

[For Sub District No.] 7 Oscar. H. White

[For Sub District No.] 8 Isaiah [Mansen?] declined & John. M. Cravens [MS. illiegle]

[For Sub District No.] 9 C.F. Smith

[For Sub District No.] 10 not yet appointed For want of reccommendation of Dep. Pro. Mar[.]'s of suitable persons who will accept.

[For Sub District No.] 11 [not yet appointed]

[For Sub District No.] 12 [not yet appointed]

[For Sub District No.] 13 William [Partric?].

[For Sub District No.] 14 John. C. Lillard

[For Sub District No.] 15 John Brown.

[For Sub District No.] 16 James. L. Tilson

[For Sub District No.] 17 Geo. P. Funkhouser

[For Sub District No.] 18 L.W. Rogers.

[For Sub District No.] 19 Benj. F[.] Poe.

I have to say that in several instances the persons appointed Enrolling Officers have declined to accept the appointment and the board have to appoint others thereby delaying the Enrolment. The board have also been delayed in the work of organizing the district and in making appointments of Enrolling Officers by reason of the want of adequate information from various portions of the District[.] In view of all these difficulties the board are pressing the work as rapidly as possible.

Very Respectfully

Your Ob't Serv't

A[.] Comingo

Capt[.] & Pro. Mar[.] 6th Dist[.] of Mo[.]

Copy of Letter sent to each Provost.

Provost Marshal's Office

6th District of Missouri

Lexington Mo[.]

July 20th 1863

To [MS. blank]

You will please instruct each of the Enrolling Officers for your county to make the Enrolment of each [name?] show which Township in his sub-district is the place of residence of the person enrolled and to make the capitulation on the back of each list show the number of men from each Township in his sub-district[.] The recapitulation for Example should be as follows.

Town of Grand River[.] White 75[.] Colored 15[.] Total 90

[Town of] Van Buren, [White] 100[.] [Colored] 20[.] [Total] 120

This is necessary to enable the Board of Enrolment to perform the work of making out the consolidated lists as required by the Provost Marshal General. Enrolling Officers will not fill the Blanks at the head of the Schedules. These Blanks will be filled here for the present. The Enrolling Officer must sign his name at the head of the list and at the foot where the words "Enrolling Officer" occur. He must also number at the top in regular order the Schedules 1,2,3 &c as he fills them up[.]

Very Respectfully

Abm. Comingo

Capt[.] & Pro. Mar. 6th Dist[.] of Mo[.]

A copy of this letter has been sent to each of the Deputy Pro[.] Marshal's in the 6th Dist[.] of Mo[.]

[page 14]

Provost Marshal's Office
6th Dist[.] of Missouri
Lexington Mo[.]
July 21st /63

E.B. Alexander,
Col[.] Asst[.] Prov[.] Marshal Gen'l
St[.] Louis Missouri.

Sir.

The question as to whether persons who have left their houses in this District and have gone South, and in many instances are known to be in the rebel army, are to be enrolled, has been propounded to me and I respectfully submit the same to you for your decision[.]

I have also been requested to ask whether members of the Board of Enrolment other than the Provost Marshal are required to wear the uniform, worn by Officers of the Army, of the same rank.

Very Respectfully
Your obt[.] Serv't
A[.] Comingo
Capt. Pro. Mar. 7th Dist[.] of Mo[.]

[page 15]

Letter to Col[.] James. B. Fry.

Provost Marshal's Office
6th District of Missouri
Lexington Mo[.]
July 31st 63.

Col[.] James. B. Fry
Provost Marshal General USA
Washington City D.C.

Sir,

I have the honor to submit to you the following report of the proceedings and transacting general business of the board of Enrolment for this district from the 20th July 1863 to the 31st day of July 1863, as follows.

1st. Enrolment

The Enrolment is progressing slowly on account of the difficulties in obtaining the services of competent Enrolling Officers; The presence of Guerillas & Bushwhackers, and the great extent of the District. Partial Enrolment lists are coming into this Office from the Counties of Clinton, Ray, & Lafayette. Have Enrolling Officers appointed for nearly the entire District[.] Cant state any time when the Enrolment for this District will be completed[.]

2nd. Resistance to Enrolment

None reported.

3rd. Persons Arrested

None.

4th. Invalid Corps.

No application made to the Board. The notice required to be published by order of Prov[.] Mar[.] Gen'l in reference to the Invalid Corps has been published and distributed throughout the District[.]

5th. Transactions of the Board since last report.

The Board have transacted no business except of

[written in left margin of page 15]

Copy sent to Col. E.B. Alexander

A[.]A[.]P.M.G. for Mo.

[page 16]

a general character. The Board is proceeding daily with work of making out the consolidated List of Enrolment as required by the Regulations[.]

Respectfully

your obt. Serv't

A[.] Comingo

Capt[.] & Pro[.] Mar[.] 6th Dist[.] of Mo.

Letter to Col. E.B. Alexander.

Provost Marshals Office 6th Dist[.] of Mo[.]

Lexington Mo[.] August 1st 63

Col. E.B. Alexander U.S.A.

A.A. Pro. Mar. Gen'l for Mo[.]
Saint Louis

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th ult[.] informing me that I am not required to appoint a Deputy Provost Marshal for every county in my District[.]

In reply I [*text stricken through*] have to state that I have in obedience to circular No[.] 19, appointed a Deputy in every county in this District, except Lafayette in which my Head Quarters are located.

These appointments were made Early in July and the appointees have all qualified and entered upon the duties prescribed them. Owing to the peculiar condition of this District I deem each of these Deputies an important auxiliary in the work of Enrolment, and will therefore retain their services until instructed to reduce the number.

It occurred to me sometime ago that after the Enrolment should be completed it would be advisable to dispense with the services of some of these deputies and it was my purpose to make some such suggestion at the appropriate time; But I presume this is now unnecessary.

Very Respectfully
your ob't Serv't
Abm[.] Comingo
Cap[.] & Pro. Mar. 6th Dist[.] of Mo[.]

[page 17]
Letter to E.B. Alexander.

Provost Marshal's Office
6th Dist[.] of Missouri
Lexington
Aug[.] 4th 1863

Col. E.B. Alexander U.S.A.
A.A. Provost Marshal General
St[.] Louis Mo[.]

Sir,

I have the honor to hand you herewith abstract of indebtedness (Form No[.] 3) for July, I hope it is in due form[.] I will be thankful however to hand my errors in this and all other of my work pointed out.

It is [*text stricken through*] perhaps proper that I should remark that there is some indebtedness incurred in July which I could not get into this abstract for reasons that will be

apparent from report on Form No[.] 4. I may also remark that voucher 13 for Postage shows the amount paid out by me for Postage stamps &c and that I had on hand \$4[.]30/100 worth of stamps on the 1st inst[.]

Very Respectfully
your obt[.] Serv't
Abm. Comingo
Capt[.] & Pro. Mar. 6th Dist[.] of Mo[.]

[page 18]
Letter to Col[.] Fry

Provost Marshal's Office
6th Dist[.] of Missouri
Lexington
Aug[.] 10th 1863

Col[.] James B. Fry
Provost Marshal Gen'l
Washington City.

Sir,

I have the honor to furnish you with the following report of the general business of the Board of Enrolment for this Dist[.] from the 1st to the 10th Aug[.] 1863.

1st. Enrolment

This work is progressing quite as rapidly as could be expected in view of the many obstacles we encounter. I think it will be completed in that part of the Dist[.] lying north of the Missouri River, during the present month, and if I can succeed in procuring sufficient guards for the Enrolling Officers in the Counties of Jackson, Lafayette & Saline. I hope to complete it throughout the District within the next twenty five Days.

2nd. Resistance to Enrolment.

None reported and none anticipated except from the Guerilla Bands.

3rd. Persons arrested.

None

4th. Invalid Corps.

Our application by mail for information. Information furnished. The applicant has not yet presented himself for examination.

(5th. Transactions of the Board since last report.)

These have been of a general nature most of the time having been employed in the work of consolidation as required by the regulations[.]

Very Respectfully your obt[.] servt[.]
Abm[.] Comingo
Capt[.] Pro[.] Mar[.] 6th Dist[.] of Mo[.]

(A copy of this letter, sent to Col[.] Jas[.] B[.] Fry)

[page 19]
Provost Marshal's Office
6th Dist. of Missouri
Lexington
Aug[.] 11th 1863

Col. E.B. Alexander U.S.A[.]
A.A[.] Pro. Mar. Genl. for Mo[.]
St[.] Louis

Sir,

I have the honor to submit the following questions to you, and to ask an answer at your earliest convenience.

1st[.] should persons who have attained the age of twenty since the 1st of July last be included in the present enrolment?

2d[.] should those who have attained the age of forty five since that time be left out of the enrolment?

From a hasty examination of the act of Congress, particularly the 1st[.] 9th[.] 10th & 11th sections, I have concluded both questions ought to be answered affirmations; but I deem it best to submit them to you for decision[.]

Very respectfully
your obdt[.] servt[.]
A. Comingo
Capt[.] Pro. M. 6th Dist.

[page 20]
Provost Marshal's Office
6th Dist[.] of Missouri
Lexington Mo[.]
Sept[.] 26th 1863

Col[.] E[.]B[.] Alexander U.S.A[.]

A[.]A[.]P.M[.] Gen'l for Mo[.]

Sir,

I have the honor to submit for your consideration the following extracts taken from a letter just received from Dep[.] Pro. Mar. J.W. Boyer of Chariton County and ask your opinion on the questions they raise. Speaking of two Deserters he had arrested Says,

"These two men have three horses with them, which the Capt[.] as well as myself are at a loss to know what to do with. I dont think I have anything to do with them and he seems at a loss himself. Perhaps you may be able to give us some light. They are not branded, hence are not Gov't Stock. They cannot be contraband. What must be done with them? Do they belong to our Department or Capt[.] Hollands?"

And with referance to another he says:

"A scout went out yesterday which I instructed to bring in a woman, who was frequestnly reported to me as a Deserter. They brought him in[.] He proves to have a parole as prisoner of War, was captured on the 17th Day of last March in Arkansas and by the rebels at that time paroled. So I have discharged him from custody until I have instructions as to whether he is liable to be forwarded to Head Quarters or not?"

I have written to Mr[.] Boyer and shall await your answer which I respectfully solicit[.]

Very Respectfully &c,

Abm[.] Comingo

Capt[.] P[.]M[.] 6th Dist[.] Mo[.]

[page 21]

Provost Marshal's Office

6th District of Missouri

Lexington, Dec. 12 1863.

Col. W.A. Wilson

Marshall, Mo[.]

Sir: --

The Provost Marshall General, at my instance, has appointed you recruiting Agent for your County. Should it not suit you to act in that capacity, you will please inform me at once. I hope however that you will act unless it is decidedly averse to your feelings to do so. I think you can make it a source of profit. For each Veteran Recruit you may furnish you will receive \$25. and for each recruit not [MS. illegible] for the Veteran service \$15. In addition to this you will receive \$30 for each deserter arrested and turned over to the nearest Military Post, or to me. There are many deserters in this part of Missouri, I am satisfied who should be arrested, if possible[.]

Very respectfully,
Your obedient Servant
A[.] Comingo
Capt[.] & Pro[.] Mar[.] 6th Dist[.] of Missouri

[page 22]
Provost Marshal's Offices
6th District of Missouri.
Lexington, Dec. 12, 1863

Colonel James B. Fry
Pro. Mar. Gen'l U.S.A[.]
Washington D.C.

Colonel:

I have the honor to inform you that the following gentlemen were appointed Deputy Provost Marshals by me for the Counties and at the dates opposite their respective names:

James W. Black, Ray County, July 11th, 1863.
Porter McClanahan, Jackson County, July 13th, 1863
Wm. A[.] Donaldson, Caldwell County, July 14th 1863.
Wm. L. Birney, Clinton County, July 15th 1863.
Aaron. F. Cox, Platte County, July 15, 1863.
James W. Boyer, Chariton County, July 16, 1863
Wm. A. Wilson, Saline County, July 20, 1863
Wm. A[.] King, Clay County July 21st, 1863
Samuel B[.] Wait, Carroll County July 29, 1863

These appointments were made in obedience to circular orders No. 19. They have all been relieved from duty as hereinafter stated, except J.W. Boyer of Chariton, Colonel Black of Ray, was relieved on the 10th of October, and was ordered to resume the duties of his office on the 24th ult., for reasons stated in a former letter. Owing to the unsettled condition of the district, these deputies were necessary, and had not their appointments been directed by Circular No[.] 19, I would have asked permission to appoint them. I found

[page 23]
them useful auxiliaries in the work of enrollment, and could not, without great inconvenience, have dispensed with their services.

They have been relieved from duty as follows:
A.F. Cox of Platte County Oct. 15, 1863.
W.L. Birney [of] [*text stricken through*] Clinton County Oct. 10, 1863.

Wm. A. King [of] Clay County Oct. 4, 1863[.]
Wm. A. Donaldson of Caldwell County Sept. 30, 1863
Samuel B[.] Wait [of] Carroll County, Oct[.] 10, 1863
J.W. Black [of] Ray County, Oct. 10, 1863
W.A. Wilson [of] Saline County Oct. 10, 1863.
Porter McClanahan [of] Jackson County Nov. 30, 1863

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
your obedient Servant
A. Comingo
Capt. & Pro[.] Mar[.] 6th Dist[.] of Mo[.]

[page 24]
Provost Marshal's Office,
6th Dist[.] of Missouri
Lexington, Decr. 15, 1863.

Colonel James B. Fry,
Pro. Mar. Gen'l U.S.A.
Washington, D.C.

Colonel:

I have the honor to hand you again the vouchers issued in favor of my deputies Wilson, McClanahan, Boyer and Birney, returned to me from your office on the 30th ult., with instructions that I add to my Certificate that said claimants were actually employed on the Sundays charged for provided such is the fact.

You will perceive I have certified that they were not so employed. As they are by the regulations allowed a monthly salary, I supposed the rule that governs in the employment of employees who are paid a per diem, would not prevail.

I beg leave to state the fact that each of my deputies was employed at a salary of \$80. per month, under the impression that the regular tax would be the only amount deducted from their pay. Otherwise I could not have secured their services at that price. If this fact will justify the payment of the \$80. per Month, less the war tax, I would respectfully beg that it may be done. If it cannot be done with perfect propriety, I certainly [*text stricken through*] do not, and I presume they will not ask it.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
your obedient Servant
A. Comingo
Capt[.] & Pro[.] Mar[.] 6th dist[.] of Mo.

[page 25]

Provost Marshal's Office

Sixth District of Mo.

Lexington, January 31st [18]64

Col. James B. Fry,

Pro. Mar. Gen'l U.S.A.

Washington City, D[.]C.

Colonel:

I have the honor to submit tri-monthly report of the general business of this District from the 20th to the 31st inst.

1st. Enrollment. This work is completed[.]

2nd. Resistance to Enrollment[.] None[.]

3rd. Persons arrested[.] None[.]

4th. Deserters arrested[.] one. turned over to the Commandant of the Post. Lexington, Mo[.]

5th. Invalid Corps. No application made or considered[.]

6th. Transactions of Board since last report[.] These have been confined to the discharge of the current duties of the office[.]

I am, Colonel, very respectfully

your obdt[.] Servant

A[.] Comingo

Capt. & Pro. Mar. 6th Dist[.] of Mo.

[page 26]

Provost Marshal's Office

6th Dist[.] Missouri

Lexington Mo[.]

Feb[.] 10th 1864

Col[.] James B[.] Fry

Pro[.] Mar[.] Genl. U.S.

Washington City D.C.

Col[.],

I have the honor to submit tri-monthly report of the general business of this District from the 1st to the 10th inst[.]

1st. Enrolment. This work is completed except as to the omitted names, the Enrolment of which will soon be completed.

2nd. Resistance to Enrolment[.] none[.]

3rd. Persons arrested[.] none[.]

4th. Deserters arrested[.] none[.]

5th. Invalid Corps. No application made or considered.

6th. Transactions of Board since last report. These have been confined to the Consolidation of omitted names, and other duties required of this office[.]

I am[,] Col[.,] Very Respectfully

Your obt[.] Servt[.]

A[.] Comingo

Capt[.] & Pro. Mar[.] 6th Dist[.] Mo.

A copy of the foregoing tri-monthly report since to Cols. Fry & Alexander on February 20th, 1864[.]

[page 27]

Provost Marshal's Office

6th District of Missouri

Lexington, March 2nd, 1864.

Colonel E.B. Alexander, U.S.A.

A[.]A. Pro. Mar. Gen'l. for Mo.

St. Louis Mo.

Colonel:

I have the honor to inform you that I have no date at hand from which I can determine the manner in which the 264 volunteers enlisted in this District during the month of January, and mentioned in your letter of the 27th ult. should be credited to the various sub-districts[.] You will please give me such information, if in your power, as will enable the Board properly to discharge the duty of apportioning the quota among the several sub-districts; and if such information cannot be furnished, I would respectfully ask you to make such suggestions as you may think will be serviceable to the Board in the premises.

If we had this information now, we would be prepared to determine the quotas of the various sub-district on the 31st of January, 1864.

I have written to prominent men, in each of the Counties, for information but have little hope of getting such as will enable me to determine the question.

I am, Colonel, very respectfully,

your obedient servant,
A[.] Comingo
Capt. & Pro. Mar. 6th Dist. of Mo.

[page 28]
Provost Marshal's office
6th District of Missouri
Lexington
March 3d 1864

Colonel E.B. Alexander U.S.A.
A.A. Pro. Mar[.] Gen'l. for Mo[.]
St. Louis.

Colonel:

I beg leave to hand you the accompanying letter from Dep. Pro. Mar. J.W. Boyer of Chariton County in this District; also a copy of a letter to the Post Master at Brunswick, Mo. from C.H. Branscomb, special agent of the Post Office Department; and also a note from Col. Marsh, Assistant Pro. Mar. Gen'l. for the Department of the Missouri.

It appears that Boyer has taken some steps to prevent the circulation of certain seditious papers, or those that he regards as such, and that he has become involved in a broil, as a consequence, with the Post Master at Brunswick[.] I will say for Mr. Boyer that he has been most faithful in the discharge of his general duties, and further that I have no idea that he would interfere with the mails if he supposed such interference unwarrantable[.]

I have hitherto supposed and I still suppose that business of the kind referred to in the accompanying correspondence belongs exclusively to the Department Provost Marshal's Office, but if I am mistaken in this, I hope to be corrected, and to have my duty and that of those acting under me, clearly defined by specific instructions[.]

Very respectfully,
Your obdt. svt.
A. Comingo
Capt. & Pro. Mar. 6th Dist. of Mo.

[page 29]
Provost Marshal's Office
6th District of Missouri
Lexington, March 7th 1864.

Colonel E.B. Alexander U.S.A.

A[.]A[.] Pro. Mar. Gen'l. for Mo[.]
St. Louis

Colonel:

I have the honor to inform you that I this morning received your telegram of the 5th inst. and your letter of the 4th instructing me to complete the work required by circular 8 current series, and report to you before the 20th inst. I have commenced, and I intend to push the work [*text stricken through*] forward with all possible speed, but I apprehend that it will require almost super-human efforts to complete it within the time prescribed[.]

The extent of my District, the uncertainty of our mail communications and the possibility that some of the enrolling officers may refuse, or may not be able to perform the duties required of them, are the chief reasons that induce me to fear it may be out of my power to meet the demands of the service in this particular[.]

I do not allude to them in a spirit of complaint, by any means, but for the purpose of apprising you, beforehand, of the obstacles in my way, and to avail myself of such apology as they may afford in my behalf, should I fail to surmount them.

I am[,] Colonel, very respectfully,
your obd't sevt.

A. Comingo

Capt[.] & Pro. Mar. 6th Dist[.] of Mo.

[page 30]
Provost Marshal's Office
6th District of Missouri
Lexington
March 7th 1864.

Sir,

I have just received a telegram from Col[.] Alexander of which the following is a copy:

"The enrollment of persons held to service required by circular No. 8, March 1st, must be completed and reported to this office as early as possible--certainly by the 20th inst[.]"

The enrollment referred to is that of slaves between the ages of 20 & 45. They are all to be enrolled in one class. Fill up the several columns in the enrollment lists as in former enrollment, excepting the column headed "Former military service," which is to be attend to show the name of the owner of the slave as indicated in one of the sheets sent you.

You will please proceed to perform the work with all possible speed in the following sub-districts:

Let your report for each sub-district be made on separate sheets, as before, and be sure to specify in what Township each Slave resides, and do not put more than 20 names on a sheet.

Please take special pains to write the names plainly, as the lists you make out are to be forwarded to Washington City.

Fill all the blank headings and footings of each enrollment list.

I send you a few enrollment sheets -- will send you others as soon as received. Do not wait for them, however, collect the facts as rapidly as possible and transfer them to the sheets when you get

[page 31]
them.

Very respectfully,
A. Comingo
Capt. & Pro. Mar. 6th Dist[.] of Mo.

P.S. Report to me the date on which you enter upon the service, and if you cannot undertake the work report to me immediately.
A.C.

A Copy of the above letter properly filled up was this day sent to each of the enrolling officers in the District[.]

[page 32]
Provost Marshal's Office
6th Dist. of Missouri
Lexington, March 8th 1864

Major A[.]W. Mullins,
Commanding Post.
Lexington, Mo.

Major:

The bearer, Mr. Callison, has been appointed to enroll the slaves in the 2nd & 3d Sub Districts, lying in the southern part of this County.

I am satisfied that he cannot perform the work of enrollment without the aid of an escort.

If in your power, please furnish him an escort of 10 men; and if from your knowledge of the country you think a larger escort requisite, you will please furnish the necessary number[.]

If unable to furnish the escort at present, please inform me at what time it will be in your power to do so.

I am required to enroll the names of all slaves in this *[text stricken through]* District by the 18th inst.

Very respectfully

A. Comingo

Capt. & Pro. Mar[.] 6th Dist[.] of Mo.

[page 33]

Provost Marshal's Office

6th Dist. of Missouri,

Lexington, March 9th, 1864.

Colonel E.B. Alexander, USA.

A[.]A[.] Pro. Mar[.] Genl. for Mo[.]

St[.] Louis

Sir:

I have the honor to submit for your approval, to be forwarded to the Pro[.] Mar. Genl. for his action, as follows, Viz:

Names[,] For what Purpose[,] Date of Commencement of Service[,] Amt[.] of Compensation to be allowed. Doll[.]s Cts.

James B. Callison[,] Enrolling Officer[,] March 8th [18]/64[,] 300 Day

Wm. A. Rothrock[, Enrolling Officer, March 8th 1864,] 300 [Day]

Jno. [John] N. Craven[, Enrolling Officer, March 8th 1864,] 300 [Day]

C.F. Smith[, Enrolling Officer, March 8th 1864,] 300 [Day]

Porter McClanahan[, Enrolling Officer, March 8th 1864,] 300 [Day]

John C. Lillard[, Enrolling Officer, March 8th 1864,] 300 [Day]

George P. Funkhouser[, Enrolling Officer, March 8th 1864,] 300 [Day]

Saml. H[.] Holmes[, Enrolling Officer, March 8th 1864,] 300 [Day]

Archibald C. Courtney[, Enrolling Officer, March 8th 1864,] 300 [Day]

Charles W. Zeeck[, Enrolling Officer, March 8th 1864,] 300 [Day]

James Sportsman[, Enrolling Officer, March 8th 1864,] 300 [Day]

John D. McKown[, Enrolling Officer, March 8th 1864,] 300 [Day]

Jas. H. McAllister[, Enrolling Officer, March 8th 1864,] 300 [Day]

Wm. S. Sportsman[, Enrolling Officer, March 8th 1864,] 300 [Day]

Manoah Miles[, Enrolling Officer, March 8th 1864,] 300 [Day]

Thomas Adamson[, Enrolling Officer,] March 8th 1864[,] 300 [Day]

The appointment of the foregoing persons is necessary for the purpose of effecting the enrollment of colored persons in this Dist. as contemplated in circular 8, current series. They have all, heretofore, qualified and acted as Enrolling officers, except Thomas Adamson, whose oath is herewith enclosed. The oaths

[written sideways in middle of page 33]

All these appointments were made on the 7th inst. and each appointee has been instructed to report the day on which he begins the work assigned him[.] None of them have reported except Callison & Adamson. The others have not yet time to do so[.]

[page 34]

of all the others are on file in the office of the Provost Marshal General[.]

Jas. W. Boyer, Deputy Provost Marshal of Chariton County[,], has been ordered to enroll sub-districts 27 & 28 of said County.

I am, very respectfully

your obt. Servant

A[.] Comingo

Capt. & Pro. Mar. 6th Dist[.] of Mo.

[page 35]

Pro. Mar. Office

6th Dist. of Missouri

Lexington

March 20th 1864.

Colonel James B. Fry

Pro. Mar[.] Genl. US

Washington City, D.C.

Colonel:

I have the honor to transmit tri-monthly report of the general business of this District from the 10th to the 20 inst.

1st. Enrollment. The enrollment of colored persons, [*text stricken through*] in pursuance of Circular No. 8, current series[,], is completed in the Counties of Lafayette, Jackson and Caldwell, unless the fugitive Slaves from said Counties are to be enrolled, which has not, and will not be done unless instructions to do so are received[.]

The enrollment in the remaining Counties of the District is being pushed forward as rapidly as possible[.]

2d. Resistance to Enrollment[.] None[.]

3d. Persons arrested[.] None[.]

4. Deserters arrested[.] One, turned over to Com'd'r of Post.

5th. Invalid Corps. No application made or considered[.]

6th. Transactions of Board since last report[.] These have been confined to the current duties of the office, & the transfer of omitted named, and named in Class 2, from the Enrollment lists to the draft cards[.]

I am Colonel, very respectfully your obt[.] srvt[.]

A. Comingo

Capt[.] & Pro. Mar[.] 6th Dist. of Mo.

A copy of the foregoing sent to Colonel Alexander St[.] Louis Mo.

[page 36]

Provost Marshal's Office

6th District of Missouri

Lexington

March 21, '64

Colonel E[.]B. Alexander U.S.A.

A[.]A[.] Pro[.] Mar[.] Genl[.] for Mo.

St[.] Louis

Colonel:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram of yesterday; and in reply I have to state that I mustered in no recruits during the month of February[.] I have information that I consider reliable, showing the names of about 100 white and about two hundred colored recruits raised in this District between the 1st & 29th of February. I am anxious to have these recruits properly credited to the Counties and sub-districts in which they were raised, and to the accomplishment of that end I will cheerfully do all in my power.

It has occurred to me that it might be of some service to send the letters and lists I have received, and others I yet expect to receive, to you; or that it might be *[text stricken through]* necessary for me or some other member of the Board to visit your office & that of Adj't Gen'l Grey, in order to ascertain such facts as will enable the Board to discharge in a proper manner the duty of crediting these recruits to the sub-districts, either of which will be done should you deem it necessary.

If the desired information cannot be obtained in one or the other of these methods, I am unable to see how it can be, and I fear we will have great difficulty in the distribution of the recruits raised in this District[.]

Very Respectfully,

your obt[.] servant

A[.] Comingo

Capt. & Pro. Mar. 6th Dist[.] of Mo.

over

[page 37]

P.S. I have been informed that quite a large number of citizens from the Counties of Clinton, Platte, Clay and Jackson, have gone into Kansas, and enlisted in the 16th Kansas Reg. If such is a fact, is there not some method by which we can obtain a credit [*text stricken through*] for them?

A.C[.]

Capt[.] & Pro[.] Mar. 6th Dist[.]

Provost Marshals Office
6th Dist[.] of Missouri
Lexington, March 21st 1864.

Colonel E.B[.] Alexander U.S.A[.]
A.A. Pro. Mar. Gen'l. for Mo.
St[.] Louis

Colonel:

Several recruits have been brought in to Col[.] Morton, by citizens who claim and wish to obtain the \$10 premium[.] Will it be necessary for me to furnish them with the certificate given in such cases? If so may I do it on the strength of a certificate from Col. Morton, as recruiting officer, stating that the parties have presented the recruits and are entitled to the premium?

I am, very respectfully
your obt[.] svt.

A. Comingo

Capt. & Pro. Mar. 6th Dist. of Mo.

Pro. Marshal's Office
6th District of Missouri,
Lexington, March 25 1864.

Colonel James B. Fry,
Pro. Mar. Gen'l U[.]S.
Washington City, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to hand you the following vouchers issued by me and bearing date
February 29, 1864, viz:

No[.] 2 in favor of Charles W. Zeeck for 33[.]00
[No.] 3 [in favor of] Manoah Miles [for] 46[.]50
[No.] 4 [in favor of] Wm. S. Forman [for] 36[.]00
[No.] 5 [in favor of] Geo. P. Funkhouser [for] 36[.]00
[No.] 6 [in favor of] Saml. H. Holmes [for] 36[.]00
[No.] 7 [in favor of] John N. Craven [for] 63[.]00
[No.] 8 [in favor of] John C. Lillard [for] 57[.]00
[No.] 9 [in favor of] John D. McKown [for] 21[.]00
[No.] 10 [in favor of] Frederick Zeiler [for] 15[.]00

Very respectfully
your obdt[.] Servant
A[.] Comingo
Capt. & Pro. Mar. 6th Dist. of Mo.

[page 38]

Copies of telegrams sent Col. E.B. Alexander, U.S.A[.] & A.A. Pro[.] Mar[.] Gen'l. for Missouri,
from March 2nd to March 25, inclusive.

Lexington, Mo. March 2nd 1864.

To Colonel E.B. Alexander, U.S.A.
A.A. Pro. Mar. Gen'l. for Mo[.]
St[.] Louis, Mo[.]

Will negroes enlisted since the 1st of February, and such as may enlist before the 10th
inst. be credited the same as white recruits?

A[.] Comingo.
Capt. & Pro. Mar[.] 6th Dist. of Mo.

Lexington Mo. March 5th 1864

Col. E[.]B. Alexander U.S.A. &c

My head quarters and Richmond, Ray County, are designated. Have written explaining
fully.

A. Comingo.
Capt[.] & Pro[.] Mar[.] 6th Dist[.] of Mo.

Lexington Mo. March 7[th] 1864

Col[.] E[.] B. Alexander, U.S.A. &c

Send two hundred (200) Enrollment blanks[,] form thirty five (35)[.] all I had left were returned to Washington[.]

A[.] Comingo,

Capt[.] & Pro. Mar. 6th Dist. of Mo.

Lexington, Mo. March 11[th] 1864

Col[.] E[.] B. Alexander, U.S.A. &c

Impossible to announce quotas before to day. Will forward statement this evening.

A[.] Comingo

Capt[.] & Pro. Mar. 6th Dist. of Mo.

Lexington Mo. March 14[th] 1864.

Col. E.B. Alexander U.S.A. &c

Enrollment of Slaves progressing quite well. Are those that have fled to Kansas to be enrolled?

A. Comingo

Capt. & Pro. Mar. 6th Dist. of Mo.

Lexington, Mo. March 20 1864

Col. E.B. Alexander U.S.A. &c

St[.] Louis.

Enrollment of slaves completed in Lafayette, Jackson & Caldwell Counties, unless fugitives are to be enrolled I think it will be completed in my District this week.

A. Comingo

Capt. & Pro. Mar. 6th Dist. of Mo.

Lexington, Mo. March 25, 1864

Colonel E[.]B. Alexander U.S.A. &c

Enrollment of slaves completed, except in Ray, Clay, Saline, Chariton & Clinton Counties. Think it will be in these by next week.

A[.] Comingo
Capt[.] & Pro. Mar. 6th Dist. of Mo.

[page 39]
Provost Marshal's Office,
6th District of Missouri
Lexington, March 31st, 1864.

Col. James B. Fry
Pro. Mar. Gen'l. U.S.
Washington City, D.C.

Colonel:

I have the honor to transmit tri monthly report of the general business of this District from the 20th to the 31st inst.:

1st. Enrollment. The enrollment of colored persons, in pursuance of Circular No. 8, current series, is completed in all the Counties in this District except Ray[,] Clay & Clinton, in which the work is probably finished, but the returns have not yet been received at this office.

2nd. Resistance to Enrollment[.] None[.]

3d. Persons arrested. One arrested in Chariton County, by Pro[.] Mar[.] Boyer, as a spy, and forwarded to these head-quarters, and turned over to the Asst. Pro. Mar. for the Central Dist[.] of Mo. with the evidence reported.

4th. Deserters arrested. One, turned over to Commander of Post.

5th. Invalid Corps. No application made or considered.

6th. Transactions of Board since last report.

These have been confined to the current duties of the office; the transfer of omitted names and names in Class 2, from the enrollment lists to the draft [MS. illegible]: and copying the names of slaves enrolled in pursuance of Circular 8, current series[.]

Very respectfully
your obt[.] Sv't
A[.] Comingo
Capt[.] & Pro[.] Mar. 6th Dist[.] of Mo[.]

Copy of above sent to Col. E.B. Alexander A[.]A[.] Pro[.] Mar[.] Genl [.]for Mo

[page 40]

Provost Marshal's Office
6th District of Missouri
Lexington
April 10[th] 1864

Colonel James B. Fry,
Pro. Mar. Genl. U.S.
Washington City D.C.

Colonel:

I have the honor to transmit tri-monthly report of the general business of this District from the 1st to the 11[th] inst.

1st. Enrollment. The enrollment of colored persons in pursuance of Circular No[.] 8, Current series, is now completed in all the Counties of this District, except Clay, in which the work is probably finished.

2nd. Resistance to Enrollment -- none[.]

3[.] Persons arrested -- none[.]

4[.] Deserters arrested -- none[.]

5[.] [*text stricken through*] Veteran Reserves Corps -- No application made or considered[.]

6[.] Transactions of Board since last report[.] These have been confined to the current duties of the office.

I am, Colonel, very respectfully
your obedient servant

A[.] Comingo

Capt[.] & Pro[.] Mar[.] 6[th] Dist. of Mo.

[page 41]

Provost Marshal's Office
6th Dist. of Mo.
Lexington, April 18th 1864.

Colonel E[.]B. Alexander U.S.A.
A.A. Pro. Mar[.] Gen[.] for Mo.
St[.] Louis.

Colonel:

I have the honor to hand you a statement showing the quotas and credits of the various Sub districts of this Congressional District, as ordered in your telegram of the 15[th] inst. and to inform you that I am prepared to make the draft for the balances if there is no other alternative.

But I sincerely hope such is not the case.

You will observe that the aggregate of the credits is only 278, which leaves a balance, to be raised by the draft, of 1010[.]

The eight credited for this month are those mustered in by me and forwarded to the general rendezvous in charge of Lieut[.] Col. Morton. All the other credits are founded on official information received from your office, except the one credited in February to the 17th sub district, which was given on the information of Capt. C.C. Manwaring of the 2nd District of this State[.]

I most respectfully beg leave to call your attention to Sec. 24 of the amendment to the Enrollment act. Although it appears from this section that colored recruits are to be credited, and although I am satisfied that there have been over 1000 of these raised in this District, I have no official information that authorizes one to credit any of them. Furthermore I have received notice from several recruiting officers and others, that recruits have been raised in some of the Counties of this District for the 12th Regiment. These with the colored recruits, would, if I am not greatly mistaken, about fill the quota of the District.
over

[page 42]

I would regard it as extremely unfortunate should we be denied credit for these recruits, and I trust steps may be taken by which this injustice may be averted.

I am, Colonel, very respectfully

your obdt[.] servant

A[.] Comingo

Capt. & Pro. Mar. 6th Dist. of Mo[.]

[page 43]

Provost Marshal's Office.

6th District of Missouri

Lexington, April 15th, 1864.

James W. Boyer Esq.

Dep. Pro. Mar.

Brunswick, Mo[.]

Dr. Sir:

Yours of the 12th inst. came to hand this morning.

The duty of expelling and exterminating bushwhackers and of affording the people protection from these miscreants, belongs exclusively to the military authorities of the State. If citizens feel insecure, and desire to have a military post established at any given point, they must apply to General Rosencrans, or to their District commander. Neither the Pro. *[text stricken through]* Marshals of Districts nor their superior officers have anything to do with these matters. Their duties are limited and defined by the laws of Congress under which they were appointed, and the regulations established and the various orders issued in pursuance thereof. Officially they have nothing to do with establishing military posts, or keeping order, or regulating the military affairs of their particular localities.

If it is important that you have a guard to enable you to discharge any of your official duties application must be mad[e] through this office to the Assistant Pro. Mar. Gen'l. for Mo., who will make a sufficient detail from the Invalid Corps, or other available forces to enable you to discharge said duties. But I would impress it upon you that for any other purpose it would be improper for me to demand or you to use guards if you had them.

So far you have managed to get along quite well without having a special detachment at your command; and I cannot see that there is just now any particular nec-

[page 44]

-essity for one. If, however, you can make such a statement as to the necessity, as will induce Col. Alexander to order one to be sent up, I will forward it to him. So far as Gen'l. Guitars conduct is concerned, I have no official right, nor the least desire to interfere. If he has been guilty of misconduct in the discharge of his official duties, you have the right, like any other citizen, to file charges against him, and you can in that way "obtain an opportunity of exposing the whole thing", before a Court martial, if you desire[.]

Very respectfully,

A[.] Comingo

Pro. Mar. 6th Dist[.] Mo.

Provost Marshal's Office

6th Dist. of Missouri

Lexington

April 20, 1864

Colonel E[.]B. Alexander U.S.A.

A[.]A. Pro. Mar. Gen'l. for Mo.

St[.] Louis

Colonel:

I respectfully beg leave to submit the following questions for your consideration hoping you will favor one with an answer at your earliest convenience.

1st. Will the Board of Enrollment have to reascertain and announce the quotas of the several Sub-districts, in consequence of the enrollment of colored persons held to service?

2nd. If the aggregate of credits in the District equal to the aggregate of its quotas, will a draft, nevertheless, be made in each Sub-district that has not filled its quota by enlistment? I have supposed it would not, as the District would, and every District in the State might thereby be made to furnish double, or even more than double its quota[.]

Your telegram of the 15th inst., and your letter of the 18th, have, however, led me to doubt the [*text stricken through*] correctness of the conclusion I had previously reached on this point, & I therefore trouble you with the latter of the foregoing inquiries[.]

I am, Colonel, very respectfully

Your obedient servant

A[.] Comingo

Capt. & Pro. Mar. 6th Dist. of Mo.

[page 45]

Provost Marshal's Office

6th Dist. of Missouri

Lexington, April 20th 1864.

Col. James B. Fry

Pro. Mar. Genl. U.S.

Washington City, D.C.

Col[.]:

I have the honor to transmit tri-monthly report of the general business of this District from the 10th to the 20th inst.

1st. Enrollment. This work was Completed on the 15th inst.

2nd. Resistance to Enrollment[.] None[.]

3d. Persons Arrested[.] None[.]

4th. Deserters arrested[.] Two, turned over to Commander of Post.

5[.] Veteran Reserve Corps. No application made or considered[.]

6[.] Transactions of Board since last report[.] These have been confined to the current duties of the office.

I am, Colonel, very respectfully

Your obedien[t] Servant

A[.] Comingo

Capt. & Pro. Mar. 6th Dist. of Mo.

a copy of above sent to Col[.] E[.]B. Alexander USA
A[.]A[.] Pro[.] Mar[.] St[.] Louis Mo.

[page 46]

Provost Marshal's Office
6th Dist[.] of Missouri.
Lexington
April 21st 1864

Samuel H. Holmes, Esq.
Liberty, Mo.

Sir:

I yesterday evening received your enrollment lists of colored persons held to service in Clay County, accompanied by \$10 in payment of the amount I loaned you when you were last here[.]

I herewith hand you a voucher for your services in March, which you will sign and return to me. I also hand you two checks on the Assistant Treasurer of the U.S. at St[.] Louis No. 914 dated March 28th for \$23[.]76/100 & No. 1050 for \$35[.]64/100; in payment of your services in Jany[.] & Feby.

Your voucher for services rendered in this month, cannot be issued until the 1st of May. In the meantime I wish you to write to me, explaining why the work could not be completed in a shorter period of time than 33 days. The whole number enrolled by you is only 186; an average of 5 1/2, or a little more per day. The Enrolling Officer for Ray County was only employed 22 days in enrolling 302 names. The difference is so great that I am satisfied the Pro. Mar. Gen'l. will not pay for the length of time you were employed in doing the work, unless you can show that it was *[text stricken through]* impossible to perform it in a shorter period. I wish to send your explanation to him with your voucher. I cannot see why the whole 186 names might not have been enrolled, with ease, in 20 days. I shall await your explanation.

Very respectfully,
your obd't svt.
A[.] Comingo
Capt. & Pro. Mar. 6[th] Dist. of Mo[.]

over

[page 47]

P.S. I presume there will be a draft in the District; but I cannot tell how soon. I am instructed to be ready to make it at any moment when ordered[.]

A.C.

Provost Marshal's Office
6th Dist. of Mo.
Lexington, April 27 1864

Colonel E[.]B. Alexander U.S.A.[.]
A.A. Pro. Mar. Genl[.] for Mo.
St. Louis

Colonel:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 23d inst., relating to the publication of the advertisements of the war department.

I beg leave to inquire what papers have been selected, in this District, for the purpose mentioned[.] I have no information on the subject.

I am, Colonel, very respectfully[.]
your obedient servant,
A. Comingo
Capt. & Pro. Mar[.] 6th Dist. of Mo.

Provost Marshal's Office
6th Dist. of Mo.
Lexington, April 30[th] 1864.

Colonel James B. Fry,
Pro. Mar. Gen'l. U.S.
Washington City, D.C.

Colonel:

I have the honor to transmit tri monthly report of the general business of this District from the 20th to the 30th inst.

1st. Enrollment. This work was completed on the 15th inst.

2nd. Resistance to Enrollment[.] None[.]

3d. Persons arrested[.] None[.]

4th. Deserters arrested[.] None[.]

5th. Veteran Reserve Corps. No application made or considered.

6th. Transactions of Board since last report. These have been confined to the current duties of the office[.]

I am, Colonel, very respectfully
your obedient Servant
A. Comingo
Capt. & Pro. Mar. 6th Dist. of Mo.

[page 48]
Provost Marshal's Office,
6th District of Missouri
Lexington, May 6th 1864.

Mr. [MS. blank]

Sir:

You will with the least possible delay, proceed to enroll all persons liable to enrollment in the Sub-districts, under the following extract from the 6th section of the amended Enrollment Act:

"And be it further enacted, that Boards of Enrollment shall enroll all persons liable to draft under the provisions of the Act, and the act to which this is an amendment, whose name may have been omitted by the proper enrolling officers; all persons who shall arrive at the age of twenty years before the draft, all aliens who shall declare their intention to become citizens, & all persons discharged from the military, or naval service of the United States, who have not been in such service two years during the present war."

Make your report for each Sub-district separately, and do not put more than twenty (20) names on a sheet. Take special pains to write the names plainly, and to fill the blank headings and footings of each enrollment list.

Acknowledge the receipt of this letter, and report to me the day on which you enter upon the service, and if you cannot undertake the work, inform me immediately.

Very respectfully,
A[.]C[.]
Captain & Pro. Mar. 6th Dist[.] of Mo[.]

A copy of the above was sent to each of the enrolling Officers in the District[.]

[page 49]
Provost Marshal's Office
6th Dist[.] of Missouri

Lexington, May 6th 1864

Colonel E[.]B. Alexander, U.S.A[.]
St[.] Louis

Sir:

I have the honor to submit for your approval to be forwarded to the Pro. Mar. Genl. for his action, as follows, viz:

Names

George W. Summer[, Enrolling officer,] 300 Day
James B. Callison[, Enrolling officer,] 300 [Day]
John N. Craven[, Enrolling officer,] 300 [Day]
C.F. Smith[, Enrolling officer,] 300 [Day]
Porter McClanahan[, Enrolling officer,] 300 [Day]
John C. Lillard[, Enrolling officer,] 300 [Day]
Wm. Leonard Birney[, Enrolling officer,] 300 [Day]
Samuel H. Holmes[, Enrolling officer,] 300 [Day]
Charles W. Zeeck[, Enrolling officer,] 300 [Day]
James W. Boyer[, Enrolling officer,] 300 [Day]
John D. McKown[, Enrolling officer,] 300 [Day]
Manoah Miles[, Enrolling officer,] 300 [Day]

The appointment of the foregoing persons is necessary for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of the 6th section of the amended Enrollment Act, as directed by you on the 5th inst. James W. Boyer, Deputy Pro. Mar[.] for Chariton County, has been required to enroll the 27, 28, 29, & 30th but districts of said County.

I am Sir, very respectfully
your obedient servant

A[.] Comingo

Capt. & Pro[.] Mar[.] 6th Dist. of Mo.

[written sideways in middle of page 49]

The foregoing persons were this day appointed to carry out the provisions of the 6th section of the amendment to the Enrollment Act, but have not yet commenced service.

[page 50]

Provost Marshals Office
6th District of Missouri

Lexington, May 10th 1864.

General James B. Fry,
Pro. Mar. Genl. U.S.
Washington City, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit tri-monthly report of the general business of the District from the 1st to the 10th inst.

1st. Enrollment. Enrolling officers have been appointed and instructed to carry out the provisions of the 6th Section of the amended Enrollment act.

2nd. Resistance to Enrollment[.] None[.]

3rd. Persons arrested[.] None[.]

4th. Deserters arrested[.] None[.]

5th. Vetern Reserve Corps. No application made or Considered[.]

6th. Transactions of Board since last report[.] These have been confined to the current duties of the office, and the distribution of the credits for colored enlistments[.]

I am, Sir, very respectfully

your obedient servant

A[.] Comingo

Capt. & Pro. Mar[.] 6th Dist[.] of Mo.

[page 51]

Provost Marshal's Office.

6th District of Missouri

Lexington

May 14, 1864.

Colonel E.B. Alexander U.S.A[.]

A[.]A[.] Pro[.] Mar[.] Genl. for Mo.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th inst., requiring me to take up one broom on my Property return for May, and report it as remaining on hand. The broom reported on my April return, as expended, is worn out and unfit for service; must I notwithstanding, return it as remaining on hand?

I am, Sir, very respectfully

your obedient servan[t]

A[.] Comingo
Capt[.] & Pro[.] Mar[.] 6th Dist. of Mo.

[page 52]
Provost Marshal's Office
6th District of Missouri,
Lexington, May 16th, 1864.

Colonel E[.]B. Alexander, U.S.A[.]
A[.]A[.] Pro[.] Mar[.] Genl[.] for Mo.
St[.] Louis.

Sir:

For the purpose of correcting an error in my communication of the 6th inst. announcing the appointment of enrolling officers for this District I have the honor to submit for your approval to be forwarded to the Pro. Mar. Gen'l. for his action, as follows, viz:
Names[,] For what Purpose[,] Date of Commencement of Service[,] Amount of Compensation to be allowed Per day or month

George W. Sumner[, Enrolling Officer,] 3.00 Day
James B. Callison[, Enrolling Officer,] 3.00 [Day]
John N. Craven[, Enrolling Officer,] 3.00 [Day]
C.F[.] Smith[, Enrolling Officer,] 3.00 [Day]
Porter McClannahan[, Enrolling Officer,] 3.00 [Day]
John C. Lillard[, Enrolling Officer,] 3.00 [Day]
Wm. Leonard Birney[, Enrolling Officer,] 3.00 [Day]
Samuel H. Holmes[, Enrolling Officer,] 3.00 [Day]
Charles W. Zeeck[, Enrolling Officer,] 3.00 [Day]
William S. Forman[, Enrolling Officer,] 3.00 [Day]
John D[.] McKown[, Enrolling Officer,] 3.00 [Day]
Manoah Miles[, Enrolling Officer,] 3.00 [Day]

The appointment of the foregoing persons is necessary for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of the 6th section of the amended Enrollment act, as directed by you on the 5th inst. James W. Boyer, Deputy Pro. Mar. for Chariton County, has been required to enroll the 27", 28", 29", 30" Sub districts of said County. The error mentioned consists in substituting in the list of appointments the name of James W. Boyer in lieu of that of Wm. S. Forman, who is to enroll part of Platte County[.]

I am[,] sir[,] very respectfully &c.,
A[.] Comingo

Capt[.] & Pro[.] Mar[.] 6 Dist[.] of Mo[.]

[*written sideways in middle of page 52*]

The foregoing persons were on the 6th inst[.] appointed to carry out the provisions of the 6th section of the amended Enrollment act[.]

[page 53]

Telegram

Lexington, Mo. May 19th 1864.

To Col. E.B. Alexander U.S.A[.]

A[.]A[.] Pro. Mar. Gen'l [*text stricken through*]

St[.] Louis

Shall I give the people the information indicated in your last telegram by hand-bills, or by advertisement in the papers? I think the former the better method.

A[.] Comingo

Capt. & Pro. Mar. 6th Dist. of Mo.