Saint Louis, August 28, 1863.

Hon. Edw. Bab.
City: Govt. MS.

My dear Sir.

I regret extremely the necessity which compels me to write you at this late hour. The sad condition of the Western Country of our State prompts me to do so, and I certainly know of no one to whom the Honorable can appeal with a greater certainty of being favorably listened to. At the earnest request of many of our citizens who feared that the recent outrages in Kansas would be visited upon our own citizens by the people of Kansas, I came down to see Genl. Schofield, and to ascertain if perhaps what policy he proposed to adopt, I find on conversing with him, that he is greatly excited, and seems entirely disposed to offer no obstruction to The Contemplated invasion of our State by the people of Kansas, indeed he is perfectly a wish that such might be the case. Now is the same time that no one would strive harder or with more to bring those laws to justice than I would, I cannot see the propriety of adopting a policy which is to involve the innocent in the guilt of Common.
and God, who fulfills duty under the circumstances, is rather to thrust himself into the breach to withstand the wild popular excitement of the moment, than yielding to its influence to add a thousand fold to the misery under which the country is already suffering. I can well imagine how God, situated as he is, would be reluctant to pursue any course which would bring down upon him the increased displeasure of the Radical party in the, but it is not the less his duty, and as the military commander of the State, he ought to discharge his duty regardless of consequence. It is a fact well known to me that many of the people of Jackson County are true friends, they have already born many of their loss, most of them in many instances murdered by these troops, from Kansas. The feeling prevails to cause hundreds of good men to leave their homes and fly to the bushy for protection, while they have actually joined the Guerrillas as a measure of safety, believing that they would be left unable to change. Thus they sit at their homes, there are generally men of little intelligence who do not take Conscription into consideration and are not tempted by a very high order of patriotism. They sit upon orders of present
and with propriety appeal to Genl. Schufield to act differently from what he proposed to do. Mr. Green is, whose assistance and advice I have at all times relied with confidence is also absent this in the Northern part of the State. I have conversed with Col. Broadhead — I find him fully coinciding with me in the policy which in my opinion should be adopted, and which I hereby beg to suggest. The great mistake was carrying a part of our State to the Mid West of Kansas, and the next great error was in placing a Kansas politician in command of it. We want there, not a politician but a soldier, a man who has no purpose to subserv. it no popularity to gain by slandering our State who voted to enrich the people of another, and who would rigidly, fearlessly discharge his duties. A firm just feeling of what will give peace to the County. Nothing else will. I have no motive other than the good of our State and people. I desire to see the County at peace once more, and have cause and will follow a pro-peace administration upon the border. In close is a Memorial addressed to the President which I have been requested to forward to you, begging that you will present it. Saws in most faithfully I yours,

Mr. Henderson is in Washington I would have no doubt to operate with you in any way you might wish.

A. B. Cunningham

R.C. Vaughan

W. C. Vaughan