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1868 December 27: John J. Gibbons, Lewisburg, Arkansas, to Governor Powell Clayton, Report of disturbances in Conway County

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Head Quarter Cummy County -
Lewisburg Arkansas
December 21st 1868

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His Excellency Powell Clayton Governor of the State
of Arkansas -

Sir: I have the honor to
report that all is not as quiet here as represented
and report by the great friends and emissaries
of the Klu Klux Klan. Yesterday the gin and
gen house ^{of James & Markham} and about 20 Bales Cotton were
totally destroyed ^{from the work of} by incendiaries.

Thos. Burns, two Lieut. in State Gen-
and John Turner, a loyal and good man suffered
almost the entire loss. Dr. Markham sustained
a very light loss. I find from special inform-
-ation that there are several of the Lewisburg
Banditti - who left Lewisburg at the approach
of the militia skulking around through the
woods, and others stopping with their friends about
the country awaiting the disbanding of the militia
to begin their horrid work of lawlessness -
again. while their Chief aims are at Little
Rock Crying "peace, peace!" and wanting their
every ability to effect the withdrawal of the
militia, and some these despondencies from be-
-ing brought to justice.

I will call out fifty more men and make as
many arrests of these men as possible, investigate
the killing of the gin house &c - and exert my
entire energy to the suppression of the law-
-lessness of this country.

These men who have fled from justice
I understand find great consolation in the action
of some members of the Legislature who listen
to their Cry of Peace and thereby hold out inducements
for the Murder and assassination of Men Loyal to
the Government of the State of Arkansas

I will ^{report} again as early as possible -

Respectfully Your obedient servant

John J. Gibbons Capt Cavalry
Cannon County Ark.

Ms. P. 487
Head Quarters
Cannonway Co

Dec 21st 1861.

Says that all is
not as quiet as
is represented -
Gives an account
of affairs in that
County &

Gibbons Jno. J.