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1886 March 22: Statement sworn by J.E. Richardson, regarding his custody over the following prisoners: William Pigeon, murder; Washington Swimmer and Nick Coming Deer, larceny; Andrew Christian, assault; John Vann, assault

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J. Smith, Arkansas

March 22, 1886.

I J. E. Richardson do solemnly swear that on and before the 28th day of February 1886 I had in my custody in the Indian Country five U.S. prisoners, to wit: William Pigeon charged with murder, Washington Swimmer and Nick Coming Leer charged with larceny, Andrew Christine charged with assault - and Geo. Vann charged with assault - that it was impossible for me to hold said prisoners without the assistance of two guards: that during the time I was necessarily detained in camp near Clarendon, D. C. the said prisoner William Pigeon broke his arrest and escaped, afterwards to wit about the 13th day of March 1886 I released the said Washington Swimmer, Christine and Coming Leer, as the information against them filed by me, were sent me, instead of warrants for their apprehension - from which I supposed the warrants had been refused - Upon arrival at Fort Smith I found that the warrants had

been issued, but by mistake in
the Marshal's office, they were
filed and the informations were
sent me instead. That without
the two guards Employed by me
I think it would have been
unsafe and impracticable to have
transported those under arrest,
through the County, through which
we had to travel,

J. E. Richardson

Sworn to and subscribed before me
this 22, day of March 1886.

Clerk.