

December the 8th 1861

To his Excellency Francis H. Pierpont, Governor of Virginia

Dear Sir, This is to inform you somewhat of the condition of Clay County at the present time. Sir, it is impossible in the opinion of the undersigned for any civil arrangements to be carried on, or any Civil Law to be executed with any probability of safety with out a strong guard and it is not considered safe by no means to hold an election in this county without a guard at each precinct and as there is no arrangements for such guards I desire your honors advice with regard to these arrangements and will comply with your honors orders to the utmost of my ability. The company commanded by Capt. Wm. King have been in the service for some time and as cold weather has now set in the said company requests to know if they are entitled to uniform and pay for their service under present circumstances the said company will have to remain in the service for some time and of course they ought to have some thing for their services and if it is necessary, I wish to have authority to make the necessary arrangements for the defence of the county. Agreeable to my last the call on the militia there was no more than 40 or 50 turned out as reports have not come in yet. I am not prepared to report at present but will report at an early day if it is consistent with the laws of the Commonwealth. I want 50 stand of arms for the better defence of Clay County from your obedient servant.

Clayburn Pierson, Adgt.

126 Regt. Va. Militia