

The attention of Loyal Owners is called to the following C I R C U L A R.

The Provost Marshal General of the United States has instructed the Provost Marshal of Kentucky to give certificates to loyal owners of slaves, who have been mustered into the United States service. We are now engaged in getting up the certificates for all that have been filed with us, but many of the claims sent in by agents do not give a full description of the slave claimed or the P. O. Address of the Owner. Many claims are returned to us from the Provost Marshal's office endorsed "not found for want of description," others are endorsed "not known whether mustered or not," as the full name of the slave is not given; or that names are unintelligible. This defect in claims sent in, causes us much trouble and as the Post Office address is not given we know not where to write to them. Parties, Agents and all others reading this circular will please furnish us with the Post Office address and full description and the date of leaving home and all other facts known to the claimant concerning the slave claimed, in a plain legible hand. Those whose claims are made out in full on the blanks furnished since June last, need not send others unless either Post Office or surname is omitted. Parties receiving this circular may wish to know what progress is being made in the way of collecting them, and claimants may be assured that every thing is being done that can be to get their claims ready to go before the commissioners when appointed, but until recently there has been no order authorizing the giving of certificates to owners unless they appeared in person and established their loyalty. The fact of most slaves leaving their homes without the consent of their owners, but few know where to apply and if they did in many cases it required more expense than they were willing to incur.

Knowing also that the certificate after being obtained was not such a voucher as would entitle them to their pay, and that others or their final papers had afterwards to be prepared to go before the commission, from these causes but few claimants have been furnished certificates. The blanks prepared by us furnished to agents are not depended on as the final papers but only to furnish us with such facts as to enable us to find the record and identify the slave so as to enable us to make out the final papers before sending them out to claimants for their signature, etc. Before the final papers can be made out the place of muster, number of Regiment and Company must be known from official information, hence it will be seen that but very few claimants in Kentucky are able to give such facts as will enable their agent to prepare their claims. Every facility is offered us by the department that we ask, yet it can be seen that it will require much time and expense in getting the claims ready, but as we are devoting our entire time to this branch of claims we hope to have all claims ready in due time. We receive many letters from claimants making enquiry. 1st. Whether provision has been made by Congress to pay such claims. To this question we answer, yes, for all loyal claimants in Kentucky, Tennessee, Missouri, Maryland, Delaware and a part of Louisiana and Virginia, see Sec. 24th, act of Congress approved February 24th, 1864. 2d. Will such claims be paid. We answer, yes, we believe that all acts of Congress and especially those passed since 1861, will be carried out in good faith. But men's opinions on this differ in proportion to the degree of confidence they have in the stability of the Government. 3d. We are

I am agent for J. W. CARDWELL & CO., and will attend to all claims of loyal owners for slaves mustered into service from Kentucky.

asked when these claims will be paid. This depends on two contingencies. 1st. On the appointment of Commissioners. 2d. On the time taken to find the record, etc., of the slave claimed. The first contingency we are assured will be removed, the second will be overcome by much trouble and expense. 3d. We are asked if a loyal owner whose slave has voluntarily entered the service as a substitute, can recover. Answer. We think he can, we will take such claims. 5th. We are asked what tests of loyalty will be required of claimants. Answer. An affidavit that the claimant has never given voluntary aid or comfort to the rebellion, and that he will support the Government. This affidavit must be sustained by the affidavit of two respectable witnesses setting forth that they have been well acquainted with the applicant and that they believe the statements made in his affidavit is true. This with a clear title according to the laws of Kentucky, to the slave claimed, will entitle the claimant to compensation. Title to the slave claimed must date previous to his enlistment and must also show that the slave was not bought from a disloyal owner with a view to getting compensation allowed by law, transferring of claims after the mustering of the slave will not hold good. We believe that claims for slaves are as just and we presume will be paid as readily as other claims against the Government. Parties who have filed claims with us will please furnish from time to time any additional facts they may have learned [concerning the slave claimed,] after filing their claims, this may assist us in finding many whose record is not found, the fact of their giving different names than those they were known by at home. We take claims for all slaves of loyal owners subject to military duty, who have left their homes since the rebellion commenced, as we have agents in every department engaged in hunting up the record of slaves mustered in, particularly in Kentucky. We have in our office a record of the 16th U. S. C. I., organized at Clarksville, Tenn., and a list of all slaves enlisted there from the 1st of October 1863 to August 1864. All claims heretofore filed with JAS. P. FLINT, will be prosecuted by this company.

We have agents in nearly every county in the State to whom claimants are referred for further information or to our office, No. 129 Jefferson Street, between 4th and 5th, with S. M. BERNARD.

J. W. CARDWELL & CO.

I am agent for J. W. CARDWELL & Co., and will attend to all claims from loyal parties, entrusted to them for slaves mustered into the military service from Kentucky, and to all such as have not filed their claims with other agents, I will as agent, procure certificates of muster for them from Colonel Sidell and the Provost Marshal free of charge, in all such cases the applicant will enclose a descriptive list and order to the Provost Marshal and a postage stamp, and state that they only want the certificate of muster, and in all cases giving their Post Office address. All communications to J. W. CARDWELL & Co., will be addressed to me at this place.

The business of the Provost Marshal of the 1st, 2d and 3d Districts has been removed to the 5th [Louisville, Ky.] That of the 6th, 8th and 9th has been removed to the 7th District, [Lexington, Ky.]

JAS. P. FLINT.

State Agent.