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Mobile, Ala. August 26th. 1866.

Sir,

Do I read the President's proclamation of the 20th. inst., declaring that peace prevails throughout the land, and that all the States are in possession of their civil rights, correctly, when I suppose it to restore the writ of Habeas Corpus in this State; and have you any instructions to interfere with me farther, in case I should open the Probate Court of Mobile, of which I am Judge, and proceed to the performance of my functions? Should you think additional instructions needed, in the changed circumstances of the times, will you do me the favor to telegraph to the proper authorities on the subject.

I am, very respectfully,
Your Obt. Servt.
(Signed) Raphael Semmes.

Major Genl. Wager Swayne,
Comdg. &c. &c.

Headquarters, District of Alabama,

Montgomery, Ala., August 28, 1866.

Sir,

In reply to your note of the 26th inst., I have to say, that the order some time since communicated to you, directing me to interfere in the event of your attempting to exercise the functions of civil office, is still unrevoked. That order being ex-plicit, I see no occasion for applying as you suggest, for additional instruc-tions in the premises.

To relieve you, however, from the uncertainty you express as to the effect of the recent peace proclamation of the President, and of the "changed circumstances of the times," your attention is drawn to the fact that

the order above cited points to the arrest, not so much of the Probate Judge of Mobile County, as of an individual, who, for acts defined by the laws for the punishment of treason, and for other acts, is liable at any time to be taken into custody.

I am, Sir,

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

Wager Swayne

Major General.

Raphael Semmes, Esq.

Mobile, Alabama.