Confederate States of America,

WAR DEPARTMENT,

Montgomery ~~Richmond, Va.~~ Feby 13 1863

To

Jefferson Davis

Sir

I am informed that the name of Captain H. C. Semple now commanding a Battery in Genl Bragg's army - has been presented for the appointment of Judge for the Military Court in that branch of the army. I have known Capt Semple for many years and he is not only a gentleman of high personal character and accomplished education, but he is one of the most skillful lawyers in the State of Alabama, His appointment would be a just tribute to patriotic worth and valor - and one which would result in good to the Country -

I cordially endorse the nomination of his name to your Excellency -

Respectfully

Yr Obt Servt

Jno Gill Shorter -

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Signed