

The State of South Carolina
Albion District

To His Excellency, A. G. Magrath, Governor of said State.

Application is hereby made for the exemption from military service, on the detail of George Graves, a planter in said State and District.

The said George Graves is the owner of a valuable plantation in the South Western part of said District, and of about eighty slaves, and is now in the fifty ninth year of his age, his eldest son is thirteen years old, and is in the military service of the Confederate States, and his next eldest son is only twelve years old. He resides on his plantation, and is the sole manager of the same without the assistance of any white persons, he having no overseer, and not having had one the last year, and thus being on his plantation no white male excepting himself and his little son. His plantation is in the immediate vicinity of large plantations on which are about two thousand slaves, and very few white persons. The depredations on stocks, and other property of slaves not well enforced.

The health of the said George Graves has for several years been very bad, frequently disabling from the ordinary exercise which is necessary to the management of his plantation, and at all times rendering him unable to walk, or ride on horseback about his plantation without inconvenience, and frequently without suffering. He has long been afflicted with rheumatism, and is unable to believe that he labours under a serious disease of the brain, which allows no exposure to inclement weather.

But for the state of his health he refers to the annexed certificate of his family Physician Dr. Thomas J. Houston.

The white family of the said George Graves consist of his wife, daughter, and two alone named, and of a niece who is a refugee from the State of Georgia.

The said George Graves makes this application alone from his sense of his physical inability, and infirmities and from no desire, to avoid the duty of defending his Country, which he recognizes as incumbent on all able men.

Done & subscribed before me
this 13th day of January 1865

A. Hill & off. Magrath

A.C.

Geo. Graves

South Carolina & Abbeville District

The undersigned, persons of respectability and worth of credit, appeared before me, and depared that they have long known, Major George Graves, the foregoing applicant, and that the main facts set forth in his application, are by them known to be true, and they have no doubt of the entire truth of them all. Major Graves is a large planter, a highly intelligent and respectable citizen, and a man of patriotism and public spirit, as well as a man of courage.

He has for a number of years been afflicted with rheumatism, and is now quite infirm, and they have no hesitation in affirming that he is entirely unable to perform military service or to endure the least exposure, or fatigue of a soldier. Indeed they would regard any exposure to inclement weather as fatal, or seriously dangerous to his life.

They know Dr. Austin whose certificate is annexed to be a practicing Physician of good reputation, and a man of character, and that entire credit is due to his statements.

Done & subscribed before me }
the 13th day of January 1865 }
W. Hill, Goff Magrath
A.C.

Attest
J. Branch, M.D.

Exemption
Geo Graves