

Enrolling Office
Wm. B. Distr.
April 4th 1865

To his Excellency
The Governor of South Carolina
Dear Sir

We have amongst us here men who are not in the opinion of many, loyal. There is a considerable quantity of cotton in the hands of such persons and we have some suspicions that they will send it to Georgetown by stealth and sell to the Yankees. Some Order in such case is desirable and will be carried out. There are, as it is said, several men in the lower part of this District who have gone down, voluntarily, to Georgetown and taken the oath of Allegiance to the Lincoln Government and are now residing on their plantations in this District. What is to be done with such persons? If we had a force here to ensure the obedience of orders I would not ask but we have not sufficient force. There are two distilleries in this District that ought to be stopped. one of them belongs to John D. Harper who was the regular Bonded District Distiller. He is at this time distilling in open violation of all law. He requires two bushels of corn for one gallon of whiskey and he says that he is now not distilling for the State. The other has no authority of any kind to distil. The grain will be needed for the support of the families of soldiers and if a force can be sent down these things ought to be attended to.

Yours very

Edw. F. Portis
Asstt En. Off.
Distr. Distr.