

State of South Carolina }
Abbeville District }

To His Excellency A. G. Magrath, Governor,
Sir, The Board of Trustees of
the Drew West Female College would respectfully
petition your Excellency that the Rev. J. A. Bonner, President
of said College, and Messrs J. S. Lee and J. P. Kennedy
Instructors in the same, may be exempted from service
in the Army and be allowed to remain in their present
positions. The Drew West Female College is a
Chartered Institution, has been in successful operation
for five years, and now contains more than one thousand
and pupils. The President of the College, Rev.
Bonner, has been engaged in teaching most of the time
for the last eighteen years, and has been principal of the
College since its organization. He is a Minister of
the Gospel and is preaching regularly to two Churches.
Messrs Lee and Kennedy have been Professors
in East River College; the former for fourteen, and the lat-
ter for five years. Their ^{services} not being required in said
College at present, they have been employed in the Fe-
male Institution, where their services are indispensable.
They volunteered in "Orr's Rifles" in 1862, but were dis-
charged on account of physical disability; they have
been twice exempted from service in the Conf. Army
on account of their connection with the Colleges in
Drew West.

To withdraw these men Messrs Bonner
Lee and Kennedy from their duties in the Drew West
Female College in the middle of the Collegiate year,
would result in its entire disorganization during
the war, and prove detrimental to the cause of

education.

The Board of Trustees of said College do therefore respectfully petition that the Rev. Mr. Byrnes and his Co-laborers Prof. J. F. Lee and J. P. Kennedy be exempted or detached from Military service; and we, as in duty bound, will ever pray &c.

By order of the Board,

New West. S. C. Jan. 10. 1865

A. C. Hawthorn } Chairman Pro Tem
Robt. L. Grier } Secy

Petition of
Board of Trustees
New West. S. C.