

“ . . . they intend to resign . . . and volunteer.”

Letter from Julian Burnett of Brunswick to Governor Joseph E. Brown of Georgia
SC01326, Special Collections Research Center, Swem Library, College of William and Mary

Brunswick Ga Feb 16th
1862

To /
His Excellency Joseph E Brown

Dr Sir

The County Officers

of this County Glynn, that is the Sheriff, The Clerk of the Sup & Inf Courts,
Ordinary,

& Surveyor, have requested to ascertain if they will be subject to a draft to make
up the numbers of troops Georgia is requested to furnish, if the number is not
made up by volunteers by the time specified in your proclamation, in case they
are subject to resign their offices and volunteer. You will please enlighten me on
the

subject as I am unable to inform them correctly on the subject. and they wish to
know in time to avoid a draft.

I am Very Respectly
Your Obt Svt
Julian M Burnett J. IC

(ed: Certain job classifications were exempt from the draft. Also, at this early date, men older than 35 were exempt. Mr. Burnett seeks a note from the Governor regarding the draft status of these County Officers. These men did not want to be drafted. They would prefer to volunteer for a specific company or command, and not trust where a draft might place them, if they are no longer exempt. Given a choice they would prefer to volunteer for artillery or cavalry versus being in the infantry.)

(ed: We contacted Jay Gaidmore of Swem Special Collections and advised that this letter was available for purchase. He was able to acquire in January, 2018, and the James City Cavalry assisted with the purchase.)