

State of South Carolina
Executive Department
Spartanburg, 10 April 1835

General.

I have to submit to you the following proposition. That the horses belonging to the Confederate Government & now in this State to be recruited, be given out to such citizens of the State as have lost their stock by the invasion of the State: to be by such persons returned at the expiration of a certain time: & in the meanwhile used for agricultural purposes. These horses, to be of course, not only cared for, but supported by the person who receives them.

You will have learned before this, that a large portion of the cattle of the State, especially mules & horses, have been taken & killed by the enemy. With this wanton & savage act, there has been also exhibited the vindictive hate of the foe, in the destruction of all the implements of husbandry which could be found. The people therefore of these portions of the State have not only been stripped of all their present means of subsistence, but also deprived of the means by which they could procure it in the future. Their use of the horses of the Government would supply a great want.

I have no doubt the Government itself would be greatly ^{the} gainer by this arrangement. The improvement of these animals would be much more marked under such care & treatment as they would receive from their farmers; than

under the system which is now adopted for
New treatments.

If you will accede to this proposition,
will take care that the distribution of the
houses into be made under the direction of
proper persons; & that every care into be taken,
of this part of the business of the Government.

Respectfully &c &c.

A. G. Magrath

Brig. Gen. Lawton
Dr. Martin Genl.