

At Totty Furnace July 31st 1864

Mr Nelson Waller

Dear Sir

I am informed by
Mr Brooks that you are dissatisfied in regard
to the course that I took with your boy Haws
which I am inclined to think is incorrect
unless you have been misinformed as to the
facts in the case. For several days previous to
the raid by bandal thieves I had Haws working
at the Ore bank & windlasy & wheeling from the
Shaft - believing it possible that the Gaunkes
would come to the works I sent off the Flour &
Bacon on hand by way of the Ore mine into
the Mountains and sent three of your boys
Moses, Peter, & Haws with the teams hauling the
same, under guard of four white men well
armed to protect the property with instructions
in no event to let the negroes escape from them
The boys were well supplied with provisions and
I understand seemed perfectly contented until
Saturday morning the 11th June (The Furnace was burnt
on Friday evening ^{the 10th} about dark) they asked permission
to step aside to attend to the calls of nature - and
made their escape. Moses & Peter coming in time
to get with a squad of struggling Gaunkes who
passed by here with them - in less than a half
hour after this Haws was captured by ^{3 men} Ambodens

I presume he had got loped from Peter & Moses
but was evidently aiming to get to the Yankees.
Imboden's men also captured a Negro in the
act of piloting Yankees to where we had concealed
some horses. In about a half hour after the
capture of these Negroes Genl Imboden sent for me
to make some enquiries about abroad - after which
he remarked that his men had captured two Negroes
that belonged to the works & asked what he should
do with them. I replied that I had no way to
keep them & that I wished him to take them in
his charge. I had every confidence in the General
and knew that he would have them sent to a
place of safety. He asked me to go and see the
Negroes so as to be certain that they belonged to the
works which I did. An officer standing near
the Negroes grossely asked whether I did not
want them hung. I replied that I did not care
what he done with them. Well said the officer
I will hang them. This officer who was simply
jesting to frighten the Negroes had nothing to do
with them. I looked to Genl Imboden for their
protection. Since that time the Genl. has been
moving so rapidly from place to place that
I have had no opportunity of corresponding with
him. I am now satisfied that Hays is safe
in Staunton. and I expect to bring him home

Next Monday - I understand that you wish
to have him at home "if so" I will send him
home although I should like to have his servi-
ces here for the remainder of this year
I was here alone - without a horse to ride - and no
place of safety to confine the negroes and had no
certainty that the Yankees would not return again
so that I adopted the only sure plan to secure
the negroes - This is a plain statement of facts
which can be corroborated by several respectable &
disinterested persons. I hope that this statement
will be satisfactory to you. I also understand
that some imp of the devil informed you that
I worked your boys in the in the mines raising
ore - "which is false" notwithstanding I never
was informed as to the conditions of the bond
until within the last few days I knew that
the Waller family always were opposed to having
their boys worked in the bank and consequently
did not work them at raising ore but did
occasionally work them at the windlass and
to wheel ore on the yard. If you have heard
anything different from this statement please
inform me of it & give me the name of the
author. - In any event please let me hear from
you immediately

Yours very respectfully
No. 1111
For the news

Mr. Truckler for

- J. B. Anderson

W. Jay Furness 1862

At. Ferry, Iowa Sept. 13th 1864

Dr. Nelson Waller

Dear Sir

I have concluded that it is best to send Haws home - He still complains of weakness in the back - He eats hearty & appears well in other respects - Whilst he is of service to us in his present condition I think that he needs medical attention and it is difficult to get a Physician here to give such attention as he perhaps requires - I have heard nothing since the raid of Moses & Peter & Andrew your boy Lewis says that the last he saw of them was in Craig County where he left them Lewis & George are well they wish me to

say to you that they are satisfied here but wish to hear from home as to how all are &c

The Provost Marshal Capt. Avis says that Haws rec^d good attention whilst with him in Stanton.

Yours very respectfully
M. Strickles, Major
for J. R. Anderson & Co

