

Camp near Petersburg, March 8th 1863
Letter from Edmund Berkeley for Sinclair
Box #27, Folder 4, Accession # 36787, RG-3
Virginia Governors Executive Papers – John Letcher

Gov. Letcher, Dear Sir.

I see that you have been pleased during the past 12 months to pardon several convicts who have partly served out their several terms of imprisonment in the Penitentiary. This has emboldened me to lay before you the case of one which has nearly completed his term of imprisonment and whose family being without our lines is now in a state of suffering for the common necessaries of life. I refer to the case of Wm. Sinclair of Fauquier County who was sentenced to a term of 5 years imprisonment for the killing of Mr. Huet in a drunken quarrel & whose term will expire in the month of May next. Sinclair has a large family & provisions are so high that they are in a needy condition. As I know they living near me. Sinclair is a stout able bodied man a splendid rifle shot & would make a good soldier would I am sure like to take a part against his Countries Enemies before this war is concluded. Believing his to be a suitable case for the exercise of your Clemency I would respectfully call your attention to it.

Respectfully Yours.

Edmund Berkeley

Major 8th Regt. Va. Vol.