Sir:

In compliance with your order directing me to prepare a statement of the present condition of the State, I called upon the Sheriffs of the various counties, to furnish me with statements of all cases of murder and attempts to murder in their respective counties since the first day of January 1873. Up to the present time twenty-nine (29) counties only, have been heard from officially, and twenty-five (25) unofficially, reporting seventy-eight (78) cases of killed and seventy (70) attempts to kill, as follows:

Cherokee County.

William R. Dobson was murdered by William Priestly January 8th 1873, at Jacksonville.

George Forman shot and attempted to murder William Laidlow at Alto, February 11th 1873.

Wesley Peace shot at and attempted to murder Denny, February 1st 1873.
Mavericks Co.

Juan Reclus was murdered by Jos. Tumbleston at Eagle Pass Feb. 16th, 1873. Zapata County.
— Tucker killed a man, name not given near Laredo Feb. 16th, 1873.

Davis Co.

Louis Spanke murdered by unknown parties Feb. 19th, 1873 at Austin.

William Blair assaulted John McFarland with an ax about the 15th of March, 1873.

S. Melasky shot Henry Delham April 13th, 1873, Austin, 1873.

Lampasas Co.

Sheriff of Lampasas Co. was shot by a desperado G. W. Short Jan 14th, 1873.

Capt. Thomas Williams, Wesley Cherry and J. M. Daniels murdered at Lampasas Nov 14th, 1873 by Bill Bowen.

Jerry Scott and Whitcraft. Mark Howell and several others Andrew Melville wounded at same time, since dead.
Smith Co.

W. D. Remington was shot and killed by J. B. Rogers at Dyler Feb. 21, 1873.
George Williams was killed by an unknown assassin near Dyler Feb. 1873.

Titus Co.

J. P. Smith, Wm. Obwell and H. C. Pittle attempted to murder — Nighthower since Jan. 1st, 1873.
J. B. Jones and W. D. Pallifers attempted to kill J. B. Clifton about 15" Feb. 73.

Hamilton Co.

Mrs. Carpenter was killed by John Hardin Jr. Feb. 73.

Johnson Co.

Bob. McBlannahan was murdered by one Avants about 7th April 73.

Red River Co.

Amos Stone was stabbed by F. P. Stewart April 8th 1873.
Fannin Co.
- Jack was killed by Whartley who shot and wounded one Thornton at same time. Oak Grove Feb. 13.

Collin Co.
Chas Watson was shot by - Balch Feb. 24-'73 at Me Kinney.
St. Yadek was killed April 2' at Me Kinney by a man whose name is not given.

Lavacca Co.
Itha Wyatt age 14, W. B. Wyatt age 13, and Thomas Bowler were shot and murdered June 11-'73 on prairie. It is supposed by hide thieves whom three boys discovered at work.
Jack Hobde was killed by Mr. Garrett March-73

Austin Co.
Bill Jackson alias Bill Math killed one Lafayette Penrice about 1st of March-'73.
Billy Nichols stabbed a negro man, at Kemp's Head March 29-'73, whose name is unknown.
Frank Watts was killed by C.E. Greager March 31st 1873
Hunt Co

Hue Simmons was killed by a mob March 12th 73

Montgomery Co

Joseph R. Nevill was killed by B.S. Meadows March 28th 73

Brown Co

Charley Hammond, Lewis Night and two others murdered a negro near William's store Jan 25th or 30th 73

Upshur Co

Brown attempted to kill N. J. Roe Longview about the 8th of April 1873

Kendall Co.

Louis Aragon was murdered by Simon Hernandez April 6th 73

Mason Co

Wm. B. Locke attempted to murder Robert Brown since Jan 1st 1873.
Wood Co

J. M. Jones was shot and murdered by Barney and James Madden March 1873.

Caldwell Co

Ed. Franks was severely cut by J. L. French about 30 of March at Lockhart 1873.

Walker Co

John Fitzpatrick shot and wounded Wm. Simmons at Phillips Station Jan. 30th 1873.

Hascosa Co

— Ragedale was killed by— Stedman at Palo Alto March 23-1873.

Galveston Co

Jas. Helms stabbed and murdered policeman Ferguson and stabbed and wounded Thomas Burns John Myers and Mrs Benison April 6 1873.

Harrison

James Planagan killed by Lewis White at Marshall 26th or 28th March.
Washington Co
Mr. H. Sternberger was stabbed by H. Arnold at Giddings Feb. 18-'73
N. Harvey shot and wounded a woman at Brenham Feb. 29-'73 whose name is unknown.

Nueces Co
Jesuelio Avando was murdered March 6-'73 at Corpus Christi March 6-'73 by parties unknown
Mariana Garcia killed by Francisco Bosque and others March 18-'73

Gonzales Co
Rena Walker was murdered by Reath Walker March 4-'73
Wesley Hardin killed a man name unknown March-'73

Bell Co
Jesse Ruble, killed by aheader,near Baggetto Ranch March 8-'73, whose name is not known.

Bastrop Co
Wm. Battingham killed by Mexicans, names unknown Jan.-'73
Bastrop Co
Emil and Constantine Voight were fired upon by Floyd Barker and another party Feb. 3rd 73
Dolph Culver murdered Jordan Smith About March 20th 73
John Cottingham shot and killed Newton — April 10th 1873

Gillespie Co
Mrs. lemon 60
— Williams was killed by — Duncan March 73

Parker Co
One Masters was killed by mob in Feb. 73

Sparks Co
Sam Moody was shot and killed, John Moody and a
Mr. Williams were wounded and a negro shot and
in a row at White's store Near Navasota about
March 15th 73.
Grimes Co
Willie Kennedy was killed by Jones April 1st 1873.

Cook Co
A man was robbed and murdered and thrown into a creek in Cook Co, by unknown parties, the body was found March 7th.

Claiborne Co
Ad Owens assaulted and stabbed a man at Bluffton March 1st 1873.

Anderson Co
Henry Coleman was killed by a mob in Anderson Co on 18 of March 1873.

Co Lulach Co
Mr. Wainright was shot and killed by WM Bobo March 4th 1873.

De Witt Co
A man named Cooper was shot at Bueno Mich 30th 1873 by Jack Blake.
John Morgan was killed at Bueno April 4th 1873 by Fred Johnson.
Harris Co

Bob Dawson was killed by John Shaw at Houston March 1st 1873.
Policeman Curley was killed at Houston Feb. 23" 1873 by James Thompson.
Pat Murphy was stabbed. Matt Burns March 29" 1873 at Houston.

Calvin Sellers was murdered by George Fisher March 30" 1873 at Houston.

Austin Wood shot and wounded Gus Thompson at Houston about the 1st of April 1873.

Claiborne Bagner was killed by Charles Ohleson at Houston April 7" 1873.

Hill Co

Poll Gerke was murdered by disguised men Jan. 24" 1873.
Ben Davis shot by J.D. Green Hill Co March 26" 1873.

J.W. Mc Kee murdered a man at Fort Graham about 14th Jan. 1873. Name unknown. Fayette Co.

Simon Walters was shot and murdered by an unknown party on night of April 10" 1873.
Falls Co

Wilton Brothers was murdered at night by a mob near Blue Ridge. Feb. 21st, 73.

Wilson Co

Charley Enke murdered March 1st, 73 near Sutherland Springs.

Grayson Co

John Stink, a deputy constable was killed by horse thieves near Collinsville about 20” Feb. 73.
James Cameron, Robert Broiles, William Brewer were killed by parties unknown 30” or 30” Feb. 73.
Four men at Denison fired upon Deputy Sheriff and posse, fire was returned and John McKaskie killed Feb. 24th, 73.

Polk Gatewood shot by Anson Harrison Jan. 5th, 73 near Sherman.

San Saba Co

John Sellers shot and killed -- Jackson Feb. 10th, 73.
And Jackson, brother of Jackson killed by Sellers, killed with an axe D. T. Williams and John Sellers Feb. 10th, 73.
Robertson Co

Warren Hightower was killed by Bud Adams Robertson Dec 1873

Edward Bailey was killed by Christopher Searcy at Rumond about the 12th March 1873.

Corzelle Co

Wm Bell found hung near Eagle Creek Dec 22 1873

Newy Bruts, Frank McElroy and John Barodin charged with the murder

Wm Nevill killed by J.W. Beasley since Jan 1 1873

Mr Wyatt shot down at his gate by unknown assassins Jan 1873.

Hughes and Payne killed since Jan 1st 1873 Asa Langford Sr, Asa Langford Jr and Richard Duffin charged with the crime.

Marion Co

James Cockhart shot James Gorman at Jefferson Jan 1873.

Warwick was murdered at Jefferson by John Pettyjohn Feb 22 1873.
Fort Bend Co.

Richard Robinson was murdered by Clark Johnson at Walker's station Jan. 6, 1873.
Friday Carr was shot and wounded by Anthony Boy March 7, 1873.
Oliver Thompson, fatally stabbed by Wm. Johnson March 5, 1873. Thompson died March 16.

Medina Co.

Julius Kerckhake stabbed Charles Smith and Joseph Koening March 5, 1873 at Bastropville.

Dallas Co.

Bill Perry charged with the murder of Elizabeth Anderson 1st of Feb, 1873 near Dallas.
James Beeding attempted to kill David Britton 1st Feb 1873 at Dallas.
Thomas Bennett attempted to murder one R. W. Littlehale Feb. 10, 1873 at Dallas.
J. C. Bledsoe attempted to murder J. D. Albair on 2nd Feb. 1873 at Lancaster. Dallas Co.

Goliad Co.

Hosseinda Baldana was stabbed by one Sacramento de La Garza Feb. 23, 1873.
Nilam Co
Samuel Dunn assaulted and dangerously cut J. H. P. Burts at Bryant's Station March 28-73

— Young killed a negro, whose name is unknown, at Pitts' Ferry on the Brazos March 1873
— Smith was shot and killed by a man, name unknown, at Bean's Camp on the Great Northern R.R. March 73
Wm. Bizziness was killed by J. G. Wariner at Fincastle
Henderson Co since Jan. 1st 1873
Wm. A. Doggett attempted to murder W. G. Waller Erath Co
Asa Reese shot and killed Bill Hardin Jan. 73 at the plantation of A. W. Marshall on Red River
H. B. Kennedy was killed by a man, name unknown, near Tehuacana Limestone Co since Jan. 1st 73
Since the first of January last, I have been called in, either by delegations of citizens or officers of fourteen different counties, who stated the county officers were unable to suppress the existing violence or give the citizens protection and requested detachments of State Police to assist the County officers in the execution of the laws. The names of the Counties are as follows: Austin, Burnet, Comanche, Duval, Erath, Gonzales, Hill, Kerr, Kinney, Lampasas, McLennan, McCulloch, Refugio, and San Saba.

Here is also in Coleman county near Camp Colorado a band of Horse thieves and murderers of considerable strength, estimated at from 17 to 75 in number.

Captain Rieck with a detachment of Police is now after this party. Some twenty-eight shots have been exchanged between Rieck’s detachment and the outlaws during the last week. Some of the new engaged in the murder of Captain Williams (as his new at Lampasas) are reported to be of this party.

In Austin County under command of Lieut. Adams a detachment of State Police arrested a portion of the outlaws and drew the balance from the county.

A detachment sent to Burnet County were unsuccessful in arresting the parties who had appeared in disguise.
a number of the citizens from the county, threatening their lives if they did not leave within a given period.

In Oconee and East counties there is now, and has been for over
at six, a strong force of Police who have made upwards of fifty
arrests of parties charged with murder or theft.

In Duval County, Justice of the Peace, J. C. Lucy, telegraphed me on
April 2d for assistance from State Police, and stated that a band
of murderers and thieves, numbering sixty, under command of Anto-
nio Alvarado "6o Alberta Garza" were depredating on that county.
Dat me ordered Lieut. George H. N. Commanding Co. V, Medina
Co. Minute Men to proceed to Duval County and assist Sergeant
Winder of State Police, to arrest these parties, and as yet
has received no report from them.

In Gonzales County there is a strong band of thieves and murderers
headed by John Hardin, alias Wesley Hardin, alias Wesley
Clements, who is reported to have committed fifteen different mem-
ders, and has threatened to kill a member of the Legislature, Hon.
J. D. Robb. One thousand dollars reward has been offered by your
Excellency for Hardin and One thousand by the State of Mississippi. On the 23d
day of March this year Hardin with a squad of twelve men all armed with Win-
chester guns set out with the town of Gonzales to destroy the County
jail of all its prisoners, threatening the guard with death if they made
any alarms. The Sheriff of Gonzales County informs me that he has made no effort to arrest any of these parties; that the citizens will not answer his summons, and that the outlaw must be released, even if caught and placed in Gonzales jail. I have made several efforts to arrest Hardin and his companions, but owing to the Police force having received no pay for several months, it is impossible to move them in sufficient strength to capture the outlaws.

Niel County is infested with a band of lawless characters who in disguise and under cover of night go about murdering and outraging whoever incurs their displeasure. To give a correct idea of how they carry on their atrocious deeds, I have added a copy of a communication from them to a citizen of Niel County who is recommended to me as a peaceable citizen and a farmer in that county.
To Yard Kee, Dick Thomas Smich and Wm. Glen.

We give you choice between two things, you can take which you please.

Many of your companions in thieving have gone to another country. The ropes and six shootin' balls are also prepared for you by the same one. If you wish to preserve your lives, leave this country in thirty days—get clear away. If either one of you are found in this country after the 15th of April you will meet with same fate that Russell Dean, Pole Cauble and others have met with.

Yours respectfully,

Deak to thieves.