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Murfreesboro, Tennessee November 24, 1834

To the Honorable Lewis Cass

Sir

Being advised that there are certain claims due to the legal heirs of my grandfather Colonel Clement Read deceased and my grand uncle Captain Edmund Read deceased under the Act of Congress of May 30, 1830, entitled "an act for the relief of certain officers and soldiers of the Virginia line & Navy; and of the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War" : and also under the act of Congress of July 5, 1832, entitled "an act to provide for liquidating and paying certain claims of the State of Virginia." And having taken out letters testamentary *de bonis non* upon the goods & chattels rights and credits of my said ancestors, I hereby file my claim for such a commutation as they may be entitled to under the aforesaid act of 1832 – Which I will prosecute, by attorney, under such rules of testimony &c as your department shall proscribe.

I am, for my own part, and as attorney-in-fact for my co-heirs do also file my claims to all the scrip, which we may be entitled to as heirs of the aforesaid decedents under the act of 18[text runs off page, but probably read "1832" since the file cover refers to the claim as being for Half Pay] which I will prosecute as aforesaid.

I have the honor to be

Sir Your Obedient Servant

S/ Sion S. Read

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Sion S. Read". The ink is dark and the paper appears aged and slightly textured.