

6-1-1862

George W. Randolph, Confederate Secretary of War, writes to an unidentified cotton manufacturer, June 1862.

George Wythe Randolph
Confederate States of America

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Confederate States of America
War Department
Richmond Va June 1862

Sir

The War Department will require a quantity of Cotton snaburges or cloth suitable for making sacks or bags for flour & Meal, haversacks &c for the use of the Army.

I have been informed that notwithstanding the low price at which raw cotton is ruling, exorbitant, exorbitant prices are being charged for "goods" suitable to the purposes above named.

You will please advise me on receipt of this, what quantity of the above described goods you can furnish now, and in the next thirty, sixty and ninety days the prices per yard, deliverable at Montgomery Ala, Columbus, Atlanta, Macon, Augusta Savannah, Ga, or other points on the lines of Railway in your State.

As planters and farmers are having their hands and teams impressed, their fences and crops destroyed or ruined, Cotton Manufacturers must not expect to sell their goods at unreasonable prices and thus make enormous profits while other classes are suffering heavy losses.

The Government is prepared to pay liberal prices for all articles necessary for the use of the Army, and desires particularly to avoid impvements.

Very Respectfully
Great W. Prentiss
Secy of War

RANDOLPH