**“Treason and Insurrection”**

**Questions:**

1. Who wrote the letter and when?
2. What type of “secret society” does the letter’s author discuss? See “Introduction” for more information.
3. Secret anti-Confederate organizations were distinctly created in the Southern Confederate states. That was because, in other states, individuals did not have to hide their anti-Confederate views. Why do you think Scott writes that the organization that he discusses was “of Northern origin,” which is not accurate?
4. Why do you think Scott believes that the organization that he discusses “breaths Treason and insurrection of the most conclusive and positive nature”?
5. How did the secret organization discussed in this letter operate? What kind of signs and secret signals did its members use to convey various messages?
6. What does Scott mean when he writes that some members of the secret organization “were to volunteer & go into the army of the South and there work our destruction”?
7. Where did the secret organization concentrate in Arkansas? Locate these counties on a map. If possible, use a map from 1861.
8. What else do we learn about the secret society from Scott’s letter?
9. How could Scott’s point of view (i.e., his views and beliefs) shape his description of the secret organization that he discusses in this letter?
10. How did Scott obtain all the information about the secret organization that he discusses? See the first lines of the letter for important information.
11. Although Scott opposed anti-Confederate groups and considered them treasonous, his letter allows us to study their history. Why do you think we can learn so much about those secret organizations from the letter of an enemy of such organizations?