

U.S. General Hospital  
Annapolis, Md. Aug. 31<sup>st</sup> / 86

Dear Governor,

Capt. P. M. Fogler of the  
20<sup>th</sup> Regt. has written me expressing some  
grief that he was not appointed Major of the  
Regt. and asking me to recommend him to  
you for appointment in some new Organization.

I am not aware that any such or-  
ganizations are proposed, but I cheerfully  
(as in duty bound) bear testimony to the  
merits of an officer who has endeavored  
to honor his profession.

Capt. Fogler has taken  
pains to acquaint himself with the duties  
of his position. He is a thorough tactician  
& takes excellent care of his men, and  
I have never known him to fail under  
fire. Some time ago he was examined  
before Genl. Casey's board, & passed for a



first class Major of colored troops. He has been in daily expectation since, of receiving his assignment. Other things being equal, he was perhaps entitled to expect promotion in his own Regiment.

In view of peculiar circumstances, however, connected with our Regimental history, it was feared he would be wholly unable to exercise proper command over some of the other officers, and for this reason he was not recommended.

But there is no objection that I am aware of to his appointment to a Field position in a new organization. On the contrary he is so conversant with all that is required in the organization & drill of troops, that he would no doubt be an efficient and valuable officer, in such a place.

In response to your inquiry as to a brother of the late Capt. Keene, I doubt if I am acquainted with him, but if he is as good a man as the rest of the family he must be deserving of the place he seeks.



My recovery is going on slowly. I am able to sit up a good part of the day & am assured that time only is needed to complete my restoration to health.

I am trying to get on fast enough to go to Maine in season for the coming election, but I am afraid I shall fail in that. However I have been doing what I could here, looking up soldiers in the hospital who are true to the Country's cause in order to have them sent home to vote.

I hope the prospect is good for us, but I feel that every one should do all he can to keep old Maine steady in the front rank of patriots.

Allow me to thank you for your letter - hearty and affectionate beyond the custom of whistles of condolence or congratulation, even among friends. I assure you I place this among my treasures and trophies - kept for my children - & not the least (if you will permit me) among the "laurels" of which you so kindly speak.



I long to be in the field again  
doing my part to keep the old flag  
up, with all its stars.

Your friend & servant  
J. L. Chamberlain

Wm. J. L. Chamberlain  
Aug. 31. 1864.

Capt. J. L. Chamberlain

Chamberlain, Wm. J.  
Aug. 31. 1864

Chamberlain, Wm. J.

Recommends Capt. J. L. Chamberlain  
20th Me. Vols. for promotion