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Castine July 28th 1842
W. A. A. Wilder -
My Dear Sir

Undoubtedly you
would like to have a report from me
in regard to the company assigned to
me to raise in this county. - Would
that I could say that it was full.
I have made a begining here & shall
probably have this towns quota by the
middle of the week; have also made
a commencement in Penobscot & Bluehill.
Intend going to Brooklin & Seelywick
tomorrow & am in hopes by the last of
the week to make a favorable report.
I am inclined to think that it will
be impossible to get the full quota from
Brooksville & Deer Isle without resorting
to Draft & I for one would like to see
it done in these two places if now
where. In all the Sea-board towns about

here, the majority of the young men
are absent & those at home are either
engaged in haying or have not courage
sufficient to serve their Country. It is,
as I expected, a pretty hard field to
raise a company in. I find that there
are recruiting Officers in all of the
towns about here, some are enlisting for
the 18th & some for other regiments, with
the expectation that they may receive a
commission by getting twenty five or thirty
men. This is one thing that retards
recruiting for our Regiment in the
towns about here. If I could have
the quota of these this town, Pembroke,
Blanchard, Brooksville, Brookline, Sedgwick
& a part of Deer Isle, with the privilege
of appointing my own officers it would
very much facilitate the matter, but
where one is expecting a commission,
by working the quota of one town up
with that of another. As is the case
at Brookline & Sedgwick it has a

tendency to interfere with my operations,
particularly where I think the
man trying for a commission, hardly a
suitable person. Would it not be well
for the Adjutant General to give me control
of these ~~quotas~~ from these towns & then
I think the number might be had at
short notice, provided I could have au-
thority for saying to some of them that
unless the number was raised in a
certain time, a draft would be made.

This course would be likely to bring them
forward when others would not. They
would see at once that their chance
for getting clear of a draft was
small & it would be far better to
volunteer & receive the bounty than
to wait for a draft.

Please
write me what the Gov. & Adj. General
think of the above course. We want
the men & must have them by some means.

In haste Yrs. Obedt. Servt.
Obedt. Servt. to Major Farnham. Thos. D. Pitkin

Leut. Col. Helden.

16th Regt.

July 28