

Blanchard Mar. 16th 1863.

For Colburn

Dear Sir

Excuse me for taking
the liberty to trouble you but knowing
as I do your ever readiness to oblige a friend
and especially the Soldier for if we repose
confidence in them they will stand by
us in every time of need but to make
a long story short as you are making
some appointments ^{of Officers} for the Colored Regts
I have the name of Charles S. Patten.
Private in Co. E, 1st Maine Heavy Artillery who
is well posted in the Drill and discipline
of Infantry and Artillery. And who by meri-
tious conduct has well earned a Commission
in the Army I would refer you for further
particulars to Capt Whiting S Clark
and 1st Sergt John S Ober of the same Co
if you will do as well as you can for him and oblige
yours Truly
A. J. Smith,
(For Abner Colburn) Formerly of the 15th Me

Blanchard, Mr.

March. 16 1863

Smith. A. S.

Recommends C. S. Patten

1st Me. Lea. Art for promotion