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Biddesna, Sept 20. 1861.

My Dear Governor;

I have returned this morning to the Adj't Genl. a list of the persons enlisted for the Cavalry by me last week. - I think my success has been good, and the prospect of filling up the company speedily good. Most of my time last week was passed in going from point to point in different parts of the County, enlisting men, and making preparation therefor; occupying the evenings with appealing to the people; have made arrangement to continue this week. I have twenty eight fully enlisted, and notice of others. Enlisted informally by those cooperating with me, which when enlisted, will make my number nearly between thirty and forty. I go to Hollis Centre this afternoon, to complete the enlistment of number enlisted informally by Mr. Chas. Brown. In the course of the week I hope to double my number.

The time has come when I may with propriety speak with respect to myself in connection with the Company, or with the Regt. to which it is to be attached. I should be glad of a position such as I may be filled for, either in the Company I am raising, or in the Regt.

I have, as I have before written you, the permission
of the P. O. Department to enter the Service, unless make
my arrangements to leave, and my friends, business and
personal, will aid in carrying out my wishes. The offering
of the Regt., I understand, whether made through elective
nominations or otherwise is practically with you. If an
election is thought expedient in the company, I am willing
I can rely confidently on the kindness of the company to
give the desired recommendation, or if another course is
pursued, and the matter should come direct from you I
should be glad to take such position as you might think
me fitted for.

I have no view of personal advantage in this
matter. Considerations of duty alone actuate me, and I have
fully, I may say prayerfully, considered the steps I am willing
to take. Should I obtain the post. either through the
kindness of the men approved by you, or by your own kindness
I am ready to make the necessary arrangements to leave
when the Regiment goes. This much I have thought best
to say of this personal matter. Should not have said
it had I not seen that there was a great prospect for promotion
in this Regt. but should have left the matter to be
considered when we had a personal interview. It is my

purpose this week to press vigorously forward the
Enterprise. If matters go along as well as I anticipate
I hope to be able to go to Augusta on Friday or
Saturday. May postpone it until the Monday following.

Am. Israel Washburn }
Gov. of Maine }
Augusta. }

Yours truly,
Lewis O. Cowan