1861-10-03 Frank Nickerson solicits a position from Governor Washburn

Frank S. Nickerson

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Confidential

To: [Address]

From: A. Lincoln

Oct. 3, 1861

Sir: I have been made acquainted with your kind intention toward me, now and for some time past. You will not, therefore, consider me unmoved by it, even if the word of respect suggests to Mr. [Name], which he [does not] escape to show me. I am not the one to feel the need as I have known in other matters, think you have been the object of your kind regards, without my acquiescence. I am, therefore, 

Your sincerely,

A. Lincoln
I propose to speak plainly, myself, (not deferring my outside influence at all,) I hope the interest of others, in behalf of friends, will have no influence in the matter.

I say this, because I know there is no cause for the place, but I do for the officer of it, not from any disapprobation of you, but just from their weakness, which, I'm afraid, is enough of it, and which is good policy.

I have great doubt as to the meaning of this addressing you, but I know your good name will not misguide me. If I had not known you feeling, I would not have troubled you with it. I only understand that Bunker is quite a town, and that if influence is proportioned to the grade of men, the District will own whatever I do.

Believe me, I do not mean to assert, but a force dedicated to the cause of the country, the service will own whatever I do.

I think I have contributed something to make good feeling in the 44th Col. B. So far, kindly to you. Our trip is now entirely ended. I go to Washington to-day, to close the books. Our Major (Hallen) is a good officer, if with the appointment of Mr. Estabrook, Mr. Estabrook (if it should be so done)
Bel. 13. must be entirely satisfied.

I have no friends when judgment should weigh in this matter, since there were strangers here when I entered the room. In whatever they may say of me. Therefore, proceeding with no one to oppose, I shall not ask the assistance but to them. I shall be most willing to [illegible] for you.

I know how generous it is to [illegible] more the voluntary obligations, which I have assumed in this letter. If it be true, a weaker I will of course in the language of the Hebræos, which you doubt, in effect, When asked for some evidence, he replied, that he considered himself with glory, that if the Gods intended him for a soldier, not a man.

With great respect,

I am,

 Truly ye.

F. S. Nicholson