

Camp Whipple  
September 26<sup>th</sup> 1862

To His Excellency  
Governor Washburn

Dear Sir

Pardon me for  
calling your attention to a matter  
which we have before this talked  
over. I am here with the  
Sixteenth Maine Regt. and have been  
since we left Augusta, & have been  
left in charge of property belonging  
to the same that was left behind  
when the Regt was called away.

I have just returned from  
Washington where I saw Capt Kane  
who is very sick. It is thought  
by his Surgeon that it will be some  
length of time ere he recovers suffi-  
ciently to take command.

I also understand that

Capt. Hutchins is very sick at Frederick city Md., Also Lieut Com-  
erby and quite a number of non-  
Commissioned officers and about  
200 privates.

I think that the Regt was  
put into hard service rather too  
soon and that, together with the  
change of climate has tended to  
thin its ranks. Some of them  
however are recovering and will  
soon be able to rejoin their Companies.

Col Wilder felt very bad on  
account of his Regiment being put  
into immediate service, and were  
it not for the persuasion of the other  
officers would probably have resigned.

The men put great confidence  
in Col Wilder and no doubt would  
have lost an able officer had he  
resigned.

In conclusion, I would  
just say that, if it be your plea-

to confer on me any favor, such  
as 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>d</sup> Lieutenant, either in  
the old or new Regiments it would  
I trust be filled with honor, and  
satisfaction to your Excellency and  
the officers under whom I may  
act. I feel myself fully  
competent to fulfil the duties of  
either of the above named offices  
having had experience during the  
last year to some considerable  
extent.

If you desire, reference can  
be given in writing, as to my suit-  
ableness for the either of the offices,  
by Col Wilder, Capt Moses Rand,  
Capt S. C. Whitehouse who know  
my proficiency in these respects.

You may rest assured that  
I will fulfil my duties as a faithful &  
obedient servant to my Country.

Hoping this will meet your  
approbation, I remain now

Camp Whipple

Sept 21, 1862

Savage No. 16<sup>th</sup> Mo Regt.

Applies for Commission in New  
Regt.

J. A. Mearns  
Mo. Regt. U. S. A.  
My address will be Co. H. 16<sup>th</sup>

we ever  
Yours O. S. West  
Hesperus Savage  
Sept. 21.