

Canton Mills July 24/61.  
Gen John L. Hodsdon

Dr. Sir:-

By the earnest solicitations of the parents of George C. Hayfords, a volunteer in Company No. 5<sup>th</sup> Reg. I address you asking for your aid in obtaining his discharge in full or temporarily. He is but 17 years of age. He enlisted without the consent of his parents either verbal or written. He is now unable to do duty and his parents fear that unless some more comfortable accommodations are permitted him he will fall into the consumption, a disease which is constitutional with the family, of which he shew symptoms for three months before

he left home. They received  
a letter from him last eve,  
stating that he had been  
sick ever since he left  
Washington. Naturally feeble, <sup>about</sup>  
the smallest man in the company,  
and having been unaccustomed  
to fatigue, the changes of climate  
operate injuriously.

What course can be taken  
in order that he can be  
restored while living if alive  
he is. Will you advise in this  
matter by return of mail?

Yours in haste

John P. Eraser