

Copy of a letter from Gen. Howard

Head Quarters 3^d Brig. 3^d Divis.

July 27th 1861

Capt. Thomas

I gladly take this opportunity to commend you, and recommend you to the position you seek.

You have done good service on picket duty, at Springfield station and elsewhere - I have never known you to murmur under hardship on the march. On the day of battle I found you working hard to rally a broken line - I know your father, the Mayor of Portland Maine - and consider you socially, and from personal qualifications, well fitted for an officer in the regular service. If this, or any thing further, can help you to advance your wishes, it is willingly offered you.

Signed, O. O. Howard, Col. com. 3^d Brig. 3^d Div.

To H. G. Thomas Capt. Co G. 5th Maine Vol.