

175.

Camp Knox June 19 1861

Sir

Yours of 14th inst in relation to the commissioning of Mr Stearns came duly to hand. In answer I would say - I employed Col McKenra to raise a Company for this Regiment & also to look to the recruiting going on for the ~~it~~ - He the Col did raise the Company with Your kind efforts & also did send me some recruits. On his return he informed me the best way for me to fulfill my Command would be to authorize men to enlist under the promise of commissions - I did not do this as I have so many young Lieutenants & others of taking commands even - I thought it injustice to them - Col McKenra spoke of Mr Stearns in particular & was much interested in him - I am disposed to do my & every thing that is right & will raise no objection to his being commissioned should You desire it. Still I think the policy of commissioning them wanted by the several Companies the best for the Service - a proper guard being had over the whole matter to see that no improper person is favoured.

Should you wish to have Mr Stearns Commissioned please inform me that I may know your wishes & I will see that he has a chance in a few days as one of my Officers will be promoted on Division Staff, perhaps two - & he can have one of the places -

The names I send you please send me commissions for as the parties are quite anxious to get commissions prior to the advance which will be in a very few days

Hoping you may have a harmonious session of the Legislature & that all things may be conducted therein to the advantage of our common Country

I remain

Very Respectfully
Gov of Maine

Your Obedt Servt
H W Perry & Moore