

J. J. Banker ^{Oct 28}
Washington
D.C.

Camp Howard, Oct. 28th, 1861.

Gen. Goddard:

Dear Sir:

Your letter, with accompanying blanks, mailed 22^d inst., was received in due season, and I hastened to comply with the order by filling out the blanks and delivering them to Col. Staples, who immediately mailed them to your office. From the tenor of the note and the style of the blanks I judged that you desired to ascertain the state of the band as it originally left for the seat of war, and I filled out accordingly. Since we have been in service, there have been several discharges, (as I showed in the "Remarks,") and others taken in by transfer from Companies. If you wish to know the state of the band as it now is, I will cheerfully give it to you, as I have always been ready to do whenever proper blanks were furnished.

¹⁴There is another matter of which I wish to speak, viz: my position as Leader.

The late law of Congress gives leaders of bands the pay and emoluments of 2^d Lieut. of Infantry, but says nothing of rank. Gen. Howard, however, gave as his Opinion that it was necessary to have a commission, and wrote to Gov. Washburn to that effect, recommending him to forward one to me. ¹⁴To that letter he has had no answer, (so he informed me, consequently I am left in the dark as to what my rank really is. I wish you would be so kind as to direct the Governor's attention to the subject, and if I am entitled to a commission, have one sent to me as soon as practicable. ¹⁴The band is improving finely, though laboring under many disadvantages.

Very Respectfully Yours,

¹⁴Genlon G. Parker,
Leader Band 3^d Me. Regt.