

1-6-1863

**1863-01-06 Bernard Esmond recommends Thomas E. Wentworth  
for promotion**

Bernard Esmond

Head Quarters 16<sup>th</sup> Regt. Me. Vols.  
Camp near Belle Plains, Virginia  
January 6<sup>th</sup>, 1863.

Hon. Abner Coburn, Governor of the  
State of Maine,

Dear Sir:

Relying upon  
the privileges secured by an old acquaintanceship,  
I take the liberty to lay before you, for your  
consideration, a few of the claims of my friend  
Capt. Thos. E. Wentworth, Co. F, 16<sup>th</sup> Me Vols., to  
the Majorship of this Regt., in case the expected  
vacancy is realized by the promotion of Major  
Farnham. I have been on intimate terms with  
Capt W. since the organization of the Regt. at Augusta,  
and have always found him unflinching in the  
performance of his duties, and wholly devoted to  
the interests of his Co. He is well qualified for  
the position both by his experiences in the service,  
and his military bearing. He is also the choice of  
Lieut. Col. Pilder and Major Farnham, and were

it not that, by advocating his cause, they would indirectly claim their own promotion, they would be among the first to lay his claims before you. As far as Seniority is concerned, there is but one, Capt Marston C.C. who takes precedence; and the date of his Commission is but a few hours anterior to that of Capt. Wentworth's.

At the time of Col. Wildes first resignation, in September last, an appointment was made in favor of Capt Waldron, C.S. But what claims he had then or now has to it I know not—certainly none as far as the regular line of promotion is concerned. He is not the choice of the rest of the Staff, and although a brave Officer in my opinion, he falls far short of what the position demands, in Soldierly bearing and Military knowledge.

But I will not disparage any officer of the 16<sup>th</sup>, neither do I wish, my dear sir, to press the claims of any one unduly. If, after examining, to your own satisfaction, the claims of all applicants, you should find those of Capt. Wentworth superior to others and should grant him the promotion, I feel assured you would

make an appointment eminently satisfactory to the existing Staff, and a very large majority of the Line Officers, and at the same time do the service a favor by rewarding a true-hearted and meritorious soldier.

I am Sir, Very Respectfully  
Your Obedt Servant.  
Bernard Esmond

Benard Esmond.

Jan 6, 1863

Rec<sup>d</sup> Capt Wentworth as Major 16<sup>th</sup>