

Camp near Belle Plain Landing  
January 27 1863

Hon. Abner Colburn  
Dear Sir

Being personally acquainted with Daniel Marston of Co C 16<sup>th</sup> Regt and knowing him to be a man of good habits & excellent qualities for a military commander & learning the anxiety for his promotion to Major of said regt by all, do represent him to you as a man in my opinion well qualified for the position as he is a man that all soldiers love & obey with pleasure & one who will give but little Satisfaction to his Regt & this Brigade than any other man. I learn by all that he has always been on duty & at his post ever ready to bear

The hardships of tho. Soldiers  
life & that he has not an en-  
emy in his Regt or Brigade -  
he is not one of your intrigu-  
men seeking for Office but a  
Man of good sound judgment &  
& good understanding & one in  
whom we can place the utmost  
confidence & trust & possessor  
true courage & coolness and  
good judgement at all time.  
I pray you therefore to grant  
him the favor of promotion.

Respectfully your

Obedient Servt

Nathan Mayhew

Commissioner of  
1<sup>st</sup> Brigade 2<sup>nd</sup> Divisio<sup>n</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> Arm  
Corps of the Potow

Genl Abm Collier  
Genl of Maine