

Confidential *Pro. R. Adams*
Camp Vernon
Sept 9

2132

Camp Vernon, Va.
Mon. eve. Sept. 9th '61

Gov. Warburton,

Dear Sir,

As I have
received a commission, at your hand,
as the Chaplain of the Maine Fifth,
I feel that I have a right to address
you, though I am personally a
stranger to you.

Some one ought to write to you,
& I have determined to do it, though
I do it without the request of any
one.

Lt. Jackson is appointed Lt. of this
Regt & will assume command
tomorrow. As it is my purpose
to sustain you in this appoint-
ment, you will, I trust, appre-

ciate my motives, if I state
some things with the almost
frankness & candor.

I will begin, then, by stating that
~~Lieut. Col. Kelly~~, Lieut. Col. Hamilton,
& Major Thompson, have this after-
noon tendered their resignations - I
use the titles accorded to them by a
recent Regimental vote - You have
doubtless heard of this late vote - The
commissioned officers were required
to throw their three votes at once -
The object of many was to elect
Capt. Hamman as Major, in oppo-
sition to Capt. Thompson. Had the
votes been called for separately, many
would have been thrown for him as
Lieut. Col. - if defeated in this, then
they would rally around him as
Major -

The election was ordered without much
notice - a couple hours, perhaps - &

several of Capt. Leammans' friends
were absent on picket duty - or
otherwise detailed - eight or ten
were absent - As it was, Capt. L.
had eight votes - & Capt. Thompson
had ten - Capt. Thompson was the
third Capt. - & on this account had
speeded claims - He is an intelligent
man & a brave man - & I did his duty
faithfully at Bull Run - And but
- shall I say it - it is well known that
he drinks something stronger than cold
water - In a moral point of view,
I prefer to have for a commander
a man, who has a cool head -
uninfluenced by stimulants. Am
I not right in this?

As the election created some un-
easiness - another election was
ordered, & Capt. Leammans know-
ing that difficulties would grow
out of the reversal of the previous
vote, requested his friend, not to

vote for him - with this view -
to promote good feeling, &c. &c. Thank
you received an increased vote at
the second election -

The Temperance views have been ridi-
culed by some of the officers - but the
Dorset was popping away - till the
wound burst again this afternoon,
by the appointment of Mr. Angell,
which nullifies the late election -

It seems that we are to have a
New Ed. from the First of March Regt.
& a Quartermaster & his Sergeant &
the Adjutant & all from the First -

I am sorry to inform you, that
some speeches have been ^{made} in camp,
bright, I will not tell you by whom
nor where, which are not calculated to
promote good feeling - nor to advance
military rule - which, in my view,
means submission to authority -

If you wish to know, who were the

speakers - & what was said, I prefer
you to interrogate others & not I
fear the consequences of such
speeches as the men, where Col.
Jackson appears as Party -

It is said that the men of the 1st
Maine Regt have been very re-
serve in their remarks about the
5th Regt, since their return to their
homes - & after an appeal is made
to the men, in view of this fact,
they ^{are} asked, is it right to transfer
a man from Meridian Hill,
to the charge of men, who were
to Pull's Run - & this in pref-
erence to officers, who ~~had~~ smelt
powder & heard the whistle of Bells.
More than this, it is intimated
that Col. Jackson by coming, is
to show his influence in favor
of other men in his former Regt
to fill his staff. Names are

already mentioned of outside
Candidates.

Now, my dear Sir, will you allow
me to make a friendly suggestion—

If the gentlemen named above choose
to resign—will it not be best to
have the Staff filled by appointments
from this Regt—

No better man can be found for
the Lieut. Col. than Capt. Edward
A. Scamman. He is as true as
steel—always at his post & most
faithful in every duty assigned to
him. No Capt. in the Regt is more
systematic & vigilant in camp duties
than he. If the election were sub-
mitted to the officers, to whom it
being understood that the above named
men were not candidates) Capt. Scam-
man would be their choice.

Capt. Clark S. Edwards of Belknap is the

Senia Capt. but he wants Mr. Ham-
man to be the Lieut Col. He would
not allow any to be put for him-
self as Maj'r, in preference to
Capt. Lammear,

Capt. Edwards would be the choice
of the officers as Maj'r - He is an
excellent man in private life &
strict disciplinarian - & one, who
never drinks a glass of spirits in
his life.

In these statements, I refer you
to Col. M. H. Durrell -

Would it not be but to make
the selections from such men
of this Regt, rather than to
take others from the Fifth of the
particular friends of Col. Jackson &
a from other Regts - & thereby ig-
nore the Fifth & men, who did
their duty at the Battle of July
21st at Bull Run.

excuse the suggestion - I do it in
all good faith to allay the existing
feeling - & to reward true merit.

I shall sustain your appointment
of Ed. Jackson - & do all in my power
to consult the best interests of the
Regt - I trust, therefore, you will
appreciate my motives in writing
to you, as I do.

With much respect,

I am, very truly

Yours

John R. Adams -

P.S. If you choose to make en-
quiries of me, in any particulars,
your confidence shall not be abused.

You will understand this letter to
be for your private eye -