

Head Quarters 20<sup>th</sup> Me. Reg.  
August 16. 1862

Gov. Washburn,

Dear Sir:

You have designated  
for my first Lieutenant B. F. Hamilton  
of Biddeford. He was here to see me  
today and is dissatisfied with coming  
into the company on the ground that  
we are all strangers and other grounds.

He is a fine appearing fellow and, so far  
as I am personally concerned, I should like  
the arrangement; but my men are dissatis-  
fied, and I think with reasonable cause.

We have been pushed around from regiment  
to regiment and delayed in every way till  
we are dirty and, I fear, lousy. — Men at  
large you know will not see the necessity  
which lies at the bottom of these things, but  
think they are neglected and abused.

If you can consistently give Mr H. a  
place elsewhere, and give the bearer, Mr.

Besse, the 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant of it would be gratifying to us all around. I think it is due him for services in behalf of the company which is unanimous in his election.

I would not urge this if it were not in accordance with the wishes of Mr. Hamilton. It does not appear from the enlistment papers thus far that Mr. D. M. Johnson enlisted a man.

Yours truly  
H. C. Durian

I cheerfully subscribe to the above.  
Wm. C. Bailey

Hd Qrs 20<sup>th</sup> regt Me. Vols 1<sup>st</sup>

Portland Me. August 16. 1862

Merriam H. C.

Recommends Besse for ap-  
pointment as lieut in 20<sup>th</sup> regt  
Me. Vol. Inftry.