

Encampment Maine 5th Regt
Mar Alexandria Sept 21st 1861.

Hon J Washburn Jr
Governor of the State of Maine.

Sir.

A Petition has
this day been circulated in the Regt (unknown
to me at the time) praying you to appoint Capt
Haskell of the third Regt to be Senior Col of the
first & myself to be Major. The paper was
presented to only a part of the officers and some
(I know not how many) whose names are on
the paper never signed it. A week since
a petition was presented you through Col
Jackson that I should receive a "high position
on the staff." My purpose in writing you Sir
is to disclaim entirely any connection whatsoever
with the one of today. It is very well known
that there have recently been vacancies in the
third Regt and the question has very significantly
been asked here today why Capt Haskell was not
selected to fill one of them instead of being transferred
to another to fill the position of Senior Col.

Several appointments have recently been made
from Officers of other Regts to fill vacancies in ours
and some feeling has been engendered in con-
sequence though I do admit the wisdom of your
course in the matter and no man laboured
harder than the Subscriber to dissipate the feeling
which did exist in consequence of said appointments.
And now permit me to ask you - would it
be just to all the Capt of the Fifth to
take a Capt from another Regt for the position
of Lieut Col of this & another from this for Major -
Should not the Capt of our own Regt receive
the first appointment provided he is equal to the
others in his military capacity?

Excuse the liberty

I take in addressing you, but I wish to be frank
and speak as I think and whatever course
your wisdom may dictate I have no right to
question your good judgment or the purity of your
motives.

I am Sir

Your Obedt Servant

E. A. Scamman
Capt Co 'H
5th Mr Regt.