



State of Maine.

Executive Department,

Augusta, Jan'y 9. 1862

Brig. Genl. Sedgwick

M. S. V.

Sir,

Believing the policy
which Col. Staples of the 3^d Me Regt.
had adopted in reference to the vacancies
occurring in his regt., to be exceedingly
unwise, I informed him that the rule,
unless in exceptional cases, that they
must be filled from the regt., must be
observed - When he was here, a
few weeks ago, he acquiesced in
the propriety of the rule, & expressed

a desire that I should myself appoint
in every case of vacancy. & I ~~then~~
formed him that young McHenry
could not be ^{in the adpt.} commended. He
afterwards insisted upon making him
~~his~~ Adpt. I then appointed to this
office, Mr J. H. Plaster.

While ordinarily it is peculiarly
fit that the Col. should appoint
his ^{own} Adpt., in this case, ^{Col. Hapley} having
insisted on the appointment of one
who he knew I would not commend
after he had requested me to make
the appointment myself, I felt
no hesitation in exercising the
power conferred by Act of Congress
of July 22.

Col. Hapley, erroneously believing that
his Chaplain, the Rev. Mr. Leonard,
has been instrumental in procuring the

disposal of Mr. McHenry, & I
am advised has caused Mr. L.
to be placed under arrest.

I beg to say that I have
known Mr. Leonard long &
intimately, & ^{that} a better, truer,
purer man does not live.

I feel sure that no wrong to
him will be permitted.

Yours obt. servt.,
J. Washburn

Augusta, Me.
Aug 9, 1862.

Copy of letter from J. Washburn

To Brig^d Genl. Sedgwick.

Wm. A. Sedgwick
Jan. 9.