

217.

Camp Lyon, Halifax Co., N.C. Oct 13th 1861

Hon Israel Washburn Jr
Governor of Maine.

Drew Sir: Your favor of the 8th inst.
is recd - I last week, by strong effort
obtained from the Med Director of the Army of the
Potomac twenty hospital bed cots, good ones;
three sent to the 3^d Maine some time since
from Bath were too narrow and short, I
understand by Dr Buxton, who is in Camp
to day, that there are some cots, in deposit
at Washington for this regt - sent from Maine
I shall look them up to morrow; if there
are more than we want with those
already on hand, I will leave the balance
in care of Dr Rotis, to be disposed of as
you may direct

In relation to being transferred to
the 3^d I like my present location
but do not like the position I have
as Liep Col Surg of the 5th as the 3^d

- but the position here at present is not pleasant, from the uncertainty connected with it - Dr Buxton's parole, he shew it to me to-day - is indefinite, I mean his time of absence - his parole of course holds him till the end of the war, or until an exchange is effected - and he tells me, he expects to return to his regt soon, that an exchange will be made - if such should be the case I am left as Adj Surgⁿ of the 3^d

Again Dr Buxton gets Surgeon pay, and is the only Surgeon recognised by the pay department - I can't get a dollar from Government, and must look to Maine.

Now a vacancy exists in my old regt, all the Officers and men, express their preference for me; I would also like the position, only, that ~~it becomes~~ I exchange an uncertainty for a certainty - and if you think it would be for the best, not only for the regt but for myself I would like the appointment - If not - I am yours to command and serve anywhere -

Your Ovt Serv^r Thos E. Buckett