

Headquarters 5th Maine Regiment
Camp Franklin, Nov 1. 1861

Col Neal Dow.

Colonel - Enclosed please find my letter of acceptance of the office of Adjutant of the 13th. I shall join you immediately, after receiving my commission - I can not get away before. Will you please have the Governor make it out and forward to me, here, at once.

Have any portion of the officers and men been mustered into the service of the United States? Where, and when will the Regiment go into camp? How many men have been enlisted? You will drill Harder, of course! I am very anxious to see you having much to say, which I believe would be of profit, to the Regiment - All "small things" in themselves, but vastly important in the sum total.

Our officers have expressed much regret because of my leaving, and my men did not believe it at first - It is hard to break up old associations and particularly when they all have been exceedingly agreeable - There is not a man in the 5th who wishes me ill - I have not an enemy in the Brigade.

I have the honor to be, Colonel

Your most Obedt Servt

Frederic Speed