

210.

Camp Howard Fairfax Co. Va
Feb. 5th 1862

Gov. Washburn

Dear Sir

At the risk of appearing impudent by calling your attention to the appointment of the Sergeants of Co "D" so often - I take the liberty to write once more on the subject.

Having worked hard since the company was first formed for the interest of the Company, of course I cannot but feel deeply interested to know who my Sergeants are to be -

I have received letters from different parties in Maine with reference to the office of Second Lieut. - the last one was from a Mr Shaw who it seems is very anxious that his son Henry H Shaw should have the place -

Mr Shaw is a young man of excellent moral character - but has not the

requisite qualities for a military man - I do not think the well being of the main troops would be benefited by his appointment -

In order to settle the matter of the Lieutenants in Co "D" I have this day per order of Col Staples, holden an election for first and second Lieuts - with the following results -

For 1st Lieut whole number votes cast fifty (50)
Sergt W. B. Higgins received 37
Alfred S. Merrill " 9
Scattering 4

For 2nd Lieut whole number of votes cast 51
Alfred S. Merrill has 34
Scattering 17

Although the result of the vote is different from what I have recommended heretofore I am still of the opinion that the men I recommended to your notice are the men most suitable to fill the vacancies -

The whole matter is now in your hands with the facts and figures in the case, and I sincerely hope you will give it your earliest attention; for you must know that unless our organization is completed we cannot fulfil all the duties required of us - I am averse to having sergeants appointed as Acting Lieuts - unless their appointment is certain, or nearly so -

I trust that the commissions ^{will be} filled out

for someone and speedily forwarded -

If I have any voice at all in the matter I should prefer to have Mr Merrill for 1st Lieut.

If it is not too much trouble I would like to know if there are any vacancies in any of the main Regts for Captains - if there is whether or not I could be transferred from the 3rd Regt.

I can give my reasons at a suitable time for wishing to be transferred - and can furnish recommendations as to my capability of taking charge of a company if required -

Respectfully Yours &c

W. H. Watson Capt Co "D"

3rd Regt. Inf. Regt

Gov. J. Washburn Esq

Augusta, Me.

Capt. W. H. Watson
Co. "D." 8th Regt.
Pike S.
