1862-10-07 Colonel Walker sends a petition requesting appointment of Charles McCobb as assistant surgeon

Elijah Walker
Local Quartermaster, 4th Regt. Mary Vols.
Camp at Point of Rock, Ind.
Oct. 7, 1862.

Sir:

With this I have the honor to hand, for your consideration, a petition from the Officers of this Regiment asking that Charles T. McCoft be appointed and commissioned Assistant Surgeon.

Thinking that some explanation might be desirable, I take the liberty which fully endorses the petition to make a brief statement regarding the qualifications of Mr. McCoft for the position.

He is a young man of good education, having graduated at Bardonia College in the class of 1860.

Having decided on the study of medicine as a profession he improved the opportunities offered while in college of attending the lectures and operations before the medical class.

On graduating he studied with Dr. Alger Peterson of Boston and the organization of this regiment where he was appointed Hospital Steward.

At the battle of Bull Run, July 21st, 1861. he was taken prisoner at the Field Hospital and carried to Richmond. Where, during our imprisonment of five and a half months, he was continually occupied with the care of our sick and wounded friends.
on his release, last winter, he reported to the Regiment and resumed his duties in his former capacity, in which he has since been employed.

During his connection with the Regiment and during his imprisonment he has continued his studies, so far as he has been able, and is at this time fully competent to discharge all duties pertaining to the position of Assistant Surgeon, having had much additional experience, during the late campaign, in attending the Wounded.

We have been without an Assistant Surgeon since the first of March last, the vacancy having been filled by the temporary appointment from time to time of some one of the extra Acting Assistant Surgeons in the employment of Government.

The one who has filled the place lately, and whose contract will soon expire, intends to leave within a short time, when another appointment will be made by the Medical Director of the Army unless the vacancy is filled by some one commissioned by yourself, in which latter case it would give me much pleasure should you choose as Mr. Mc. Bode as worthy of the office, and I am confident that he is better qualified and would give more general satisfaction than any man who could be appointed.

With much respect,

Chas. Ashburner to your old friend.

T. Walker

Col. 7th N. Y. Militia Vol. 1
For

Ant. Bryan.

I most cheerfully endorse the within petition, knowing that no person could give more general satisfaction to the Regiment as Acting Surgeon than Mr. M. P. Cobb.

William D. Pickett
Major 4th Reg Vol