

To His Excellency Hon Samuel Cony
Governor of Maine

The undersigned Commissioned Officers of the 1st Regt Maine Infy, very respectfully ask leave to submit to your consideration the following statements which they ^{believe} to be in accordance with the facts, respecting the appointment of a successor to Col. Daniel Chaplin, our late able Commanding Officer.

The undersigned deem that the appointment of Lieut Col. Thos. H. Talbot to the command of the Regiment would be fatal in its results for the following reasons.

1st. Two years acquaintance has demonstrated to us the entire inadaptation of his ability to military pursuits, particularly to command a Regt.

2^d. The existence of a lamentable want of confidence, on the part, of the line officers, in his military capacity; which in circumstances of peril, where his judgement is involved, cannot do otherwise than prove disastrous.

3^d. The deficiency of proper respect for him among the enlisted men, arising from a deeply rooted opinion on their part of his not possessing the peculiar genius required for a military commander.

4th. Physical incapacity to withstand the hardships of the field. During the present campaign he has not been on duty more than one fourth of the time.

The condition of the Regiment is such at the present time, that it demands @ Colonel of the greatest prudence and sagacity, one possessed with executive abilities of the highest order, and, at the same time, secure the confidence and esteem of the entire command.

The Regiment are fortunate in the possession of @ man, who unites these qualities in @ high degree in the ^{person} of Maj. Russell B. Shepard.

We therefore respectfully, yet earnestly pray that he may be commissioned Colonel of this Regiment.

Zimrold Smith, Capt. Co. C

Paul E. Shaw, Capt. Co. D.

Fred. C. Low, Capt. Comp. B.

S. J. Cakes, Capt. Comdg. Co. I.

Charles Merrill 1st Lt. Comdg. Co. A

Benj. C. Frost 2^d Lt. Co. A

Lucius B. Gibson 1st Lt. Co. K

Samuel T. Savage 2^d Lt. Co. C.

Wm. H. Batchelder 1st Lt. Co. F

James A. Dole 2^d Lt. Co. F

Ira M. Bowers 2^d Lt. Comdg. Co. H

B. F. Cakes 1st Lt. Comdg. Co. J

P. A. Gatchell 1st Lt. Comdg. Co. L

Geo. H. Cakes 1st Lt. Co. L

Benj. F. Rollins 1st Lt. Co. E

Albert White 1st Lt. Co. I

Hudson Sawyer 1st Lt. Co. G

Charles H. Sawyer, 1st Lt. Co. E

Officers 1st M.C. Arty.

Recommend Major Sheppard
for promotion

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4 En closures

In favor
Major Sheppard for Capt. rank
according to the 61st of
Art Act passed -
Aug 31 1862.