

Head Quarters 3^d Me. Regt. Vols.
Camp near Harrison's Landing
July 22nd 1862.

John L. Hodsdon
Adj't Genl of Maine.

Sir!

Your letter of July 17th to Col. Staples, were received by me this day. As Commander of the Regt. in the absence of the Colonel, it becomes my duty to reply to them, but the Colonel is now in Maine and will probably arrange matters with you before you receive this. Still a few suggestions may not be considered out of place. There are several Sergeants who have earned and deserve promotion, and I think it would be unjust to commission new men over them. If these Sergeants could be commissioned in the new Regiments, and fill the vacancies here by new appointments, it would be better for both old and new Regts. The old Regts. would gain in the number of men with few new Officers and the new Regts. would gain experience and good Officers who have seen service. There is now three vacancies for Lieutenants in this Regt. and there will probably be eight or ten in a few days. Any promises on my part that commissions should be given to men who could get a certain number of recruits would of course be out of place. As the Governor has the power of appointing all officers. Hoping these few suggestions may be rec^d as intended, for the best interests of the service. I have the honor to be

Very Resp^{tly} Yr. Obedt. Servt.

E. Burd. Maj Comdg 3^d Me. Regt.

May 13th 1862

July 22nd 1862