

Portland Maine May 24th 62

To his Excellency

Israel Washburn

Gov. State of Maine

Sir, I have the honor of stating to you that the bearer William Merrill was 1st Lieut Co A, 1st Me. Reg^t. I considered him at the time a good Officer. He drilled his men well Had good discipline when he acted as Commander of a Company, Officer of the Guard &c.

In looking back I think that few of the Officers in the Reg^t knew the drill, their various duties, their relation to their superior Officers, & the relation of Subordinate Officers, ^{& privates} to them as well as Mr Merrill. He was both a trustworthy & trusted Officer.

I am Sir with Great Respect

Yr Obed^t Serv^t Henry G. Thomas

Capt 11th Infy U.S.A.

Portland Me.

May 24. 1862

Thomas. Capt H. G.

Recommends William
Merrill