

Sandy Hook Md July 25th 1862

Dear Governor

Yours of June 11th, directed to me at Williamsport Md - has this day been received by me. And I hasten to answer although very weak and feeble, having been taken down with the Typhoid fever at Fort Royal, on the 21st day of June, and am only able to sit up a part of the day -

I am very naturally, enquire or ask me to explain the reason of Gen Banks silence in regard to the Maine Cavalry, in his official report of the retreat of the 24th & 25th of May last - I will endeavor to give such information in regard to the matter as I have.

The 2^d day after the retreat ended, at Williamsport I made to Genl. Hatch chief of Cavalry, in Genl. Banks division - full report of the two days operations, together with a full description of my loss in men and horses as I was then able to do, and I would here say, that about that time I rec^d several voluntary assurances from Genl. Hatch & others, that the Me Cavalry would get a favorable mention in the official report - I did not get a copy of the report until I had arrived at Winchester, on our return up the Valley, and on reading the same: it was with the greatest mortification & disappointment to learn that the Me Cavalry were entirely left out. I called on Genl. Hatch at my earliest opportunity,

and requested to see his report. The Genl. readily granted the request, and at the same time said that he had been much disappointed in not seeing the Me Cavalry mentioned in Genl. Banks' report, and that he would take his report to Genl. Banks that day and call his attention to the omission. and on the next day I called myself upon Genl. Banks. he said that Genl. Hatch called his attention to the omission and said at the same time, that the mistake was made by one of his staff; a Maj Copeland I think. and also said that if I would prepare and furnish to him a report that would be satisfactory to me, that he would then report it to the Secretary of War, in an official letter I did prepare, or caused to be prepared such a report, and it was carried to Genl. Banks Wed Pm next day by my Adjutant, E. S. Pillsbury - since which time, I have not had the pleasure of seeing Genl. Banks or his official letter. And being disappointed in Genl. Banks not carrying out his voluntary offer to me - I have taken measures to procure an abridged copy of Genl. Hatch's report, (although not so full as I could wish or as I think we are entitled to) yet he has made favorable mention of us on both days, and also a statement of the Rebel Genl. Ashby to Asst Surgeon Heal, who was left at Middletown with May Cilly, who declared that he had never met such Cavalry before - and that Banks owes his escape to that force &c - The truth

of which I have no doubt I could satisfy you
in an interview of 30 min's. which I have the
pleasure of having, as I have applied for a short
furlough. by the urgent request and advice of
my attending Physician -

I suppose you have learned
That the Regiment are now all together, at or near
Warrenton, under M^c. Dowell

I am - Governor
Very Respectfully
Your At Serv't
L. S. Duntz

To Hon J Washburne Jr
Governor of The State of Maine -

Lieut. Col. Dwyer,
McCavalry
July 26.