Scarborough March 1863

Sir,

Should a vacancy occur in the first line Tenancy, 40, 720 Acres, in 1864, and any person be proposed for that place other than my son, Edward Silverton, I would respectfully request that you will defer commissioning a person till I can have a hearing upon the subject. It is my practice for ten years, I think, except the army of disregarding the proper line of promotion, in order to make way for some particular favorite of the superior officers, this doing a great personal injury and essentially injuring the service by removing all inducement to well doing among aspiring young men. My son was orderly of the company, and a vacancy occurring in the 5th line he was entitled to the place; yet his superior officers nominate a relation of his—a 4th sergeant of another Company; for it, the injustice of the act was apparent to Government that he join the company at once with the rank. And I learn that with a prospect a vacancy in the 1st line among the same thing is to be attempted over again.

For my son’s loyalty and fitness for those places 1
[Handwritten text]

Big request to refer you to the following documents on file in your department, which they were used by your predecessor in the case just alluded to: A letter from Hon. Hamilton Hamlin, one from Judge Dickson of Belfast, one from Meriden Woodward, two of the major sons of Brownstone College, and a paper signed by the Waldo delegation and by other influential citizens.

Sincerely,

Respectfully,

P. Simonus

[Handwritten date: March 7, 1863]