

Camp in the Field July 31st 1864

Gen Wagon, Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that I recd your letter of June 27. a few days since & you say it is useless for me to try to avoid my enlistment under Capt Thomas. Do I understand by that that he can make me serve three years in the 17th Regulars after I am discharged from this at the expiration of three years. Now I holden for bounty of my enlistment by 17th Regulars & 16th Maine you stated you did not understand me that I had recd Bountys or not. I stated in my letter that I did receive Bountys from Town & \$27. U.S. but it was under my enlistment with the 16th Maine

but under my enlistment with Capt
Thomas. I never read any thing
of Government. was never reported
to the Regt. Simply enlisted with
him, after he gave me papers stating
that he enlisted me as follows,

Bethel July 24th 1862 I hereby certify
that I have this day enlisted Chas. A.
Locke as a Soldier in the U. S. A.
that I enlisted him in & from his place
of Residence Bethel, ~~and that I enlisted him~~
as one of the Quota of said Town, ~~and~~
under the call of ~~three~~ hundred
thousand Troops, & that as such
he goes to help fill up the Quota
of said Town Bethel, & by the last
Disition, he is entitled to state aid
for his family, (& six sub it)

Capt W. G. Thomas

Capt of the 11th U. S. A

These were the inducements he held out to
me & caused me to enlist with him, if
I had of known that I was not entitled

to those Bountys, I should not have
enlisted with him at all, & I consider
my enlistment under Capt Thomas
fraud. I know Bountys were paid
& that was the reason I re-enlisted into the
16th Maine, not because I wished
to Desert, nor got more than one Bounty,
for I did not receive but one, I wish to
know if I am holden for three years in
each Regt. if the Country needs my
services, I am willing to render it,
but don't wish to be used in that way,
please inform me! Capt Thomas has a
Col's Commission & in a Colored Regt.
he arrested me, as a Deserter, kept me
at his Hd Qrs from the 8th of May until
the 25th of May, not under guard.
I went & done as I pleased. he asked me
if I should cause him trouble if he would
take of his guard, I told him I was
properly arrested & should not leave un-
till I was properly released, & I did
not. he returned me to the 16th with a

Letter to the Col. I will send you a
Copy of it; would my Oath be
allowed, on the statement that he
gave me, that caused me to enlist with
him, the Statement I spoiled, by putting
Post-stamps in it. The Stamps stuck &
I saw the Stamps I spoiled the Statement.
I stated in my letter to the Governor,
I presumed that was the Letter you read,
that Lawyer Hammond upon the
strength of the statement that I spo-
iled, gave me by Capt Thomas, that he would
cash my Town Bounty, but after you
informed me, through Lawyer L. B. Gisson
that I was not entitled to what Capt
Thomas has promised me, Hammond
did not cash my Town Bounty, for
I was not entitled to it. If I can
bring a suit, against Capt. Henry G.
Thomas, for fraudulently enlisting me,
with the evidence that I have stated
I would like to know it, I would
like to know what the penalty of such
a crime as that, committed by holding
out those inducements, to you, & causing
me to enlist, yours with much

Respect Chas. A. Locke
Co D. 16th Me Inf

