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Hd. Qrs. 4th Maine Regt.
Camp Pitcher No. Falmouth Co.
February 18th 1863

Sir.

Commissions for E. Whitecomb Major,
C. F. Sawyer Adj. R. H. Gray Capt. Co. I,
C. H. Conant 1st Lieut. Co. C. J. R. Conant 2nd
Lieut. Co. C. Geo. M. Bragg 2nd Lieut. Co. F. and
Orpheus Roberts 2nd Lieut. Co. I have been
received.

I have filled up Major Whitecomb's
and Capt. Gray's commissions dated Dec. 14th
1862 - Geo. M. Bragg's Jan. 1st 1863; am not
able to fill up C. F. Sawyer's Adj. on account
of his being absent from the Reg. on recruit-
ing service; have requested his return,
and am daily expecting him. Have not
been advised of the promotion of 1st Lt.
Geo. T. Crabtree Co. C.; therefore cannot fill
up the appointments of C. H. Conant and
J. R. Conant. I will fill up commission
for Orpheus Roberts to rank from the date
of his acceptance by the Examining Board.

I am very much disappointed by some of the appointments. — They are not in accordance with my recommendations or the wishes or benefit of the Regiment.

In all recommendations made by me I have had but one object in view.

In the service I have no friends to reward on account of friendship or enemies to punish except the enemies of my country.

In the appointment of R. H. Gray to Capt. I Co. you have given me an officer of some ability, but one who has seen little or no service in the field, he having been sick or on detached service most of the time since the organization of the Regiment.

J. R. Conant appointed 2nd Lieut. C Co. is a young man of worth and ability; his courage none can doubt; he has been with us in all the battles in which we have been engaged. None in my Regt. is esteemed by me more than he. He is a wounded prisoner of war and if exchanged will not be able to rejoin the Regt. for a long time.

Orpheus Roberts was mustered and joined the Regt. as Sergeant & was reduced to the ranks by order of Col. now Gen. Perry for incompetency; he

he has made but very little improvement since.

Lieut. W. A. Barker was recommended to the Captaincy of B Co. by the request of Capt. Whitcomb and the consent of a majority of its members. Not an officer of the Regt. but has called on him to assist them in their executive department; I will not except its former Colonel. He has been on duty every day since we left the State. In all the battles, skirmishes, picket, fatigue marches and bivouacs he has been with the Regt. and in no case has he failed to do his duty.

At the recent battle of Fredericksburg he was twice wounded but remained on the field looking after the interests of the Regt; he was then acting Adjutant.

Sergeant Rogers has been on duty every day since the Regt. has been in service; He is a man of iron constitution & a true soldier. The past eleven months he has been detailed as Div. Provost Sergeant. All Div. & Corps Commanders we have been under have spoken in his praise and suggested his promotion that they might make him Provost.

4th
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Commons
Col Waller
of an appoint ment.

Marshal. He has not been in the pitched battles like many of us: but none doubt his courage. The lamented Kearney has spoken of him in the highest terms for his bravery in times of extreme danger.

N. A. Robbins who was recommended as 2nd Lieut. to Co. has not been off duty since he enlisted. The past 12 months he has been 1st M. Sergeant. He has a fine education, good abilities and possesses all the qualifications to make a fine officer. The soldiers will long remember him for his promptness in getting provisions to them when they have been bivouacked in the face of the enemy.

Crockett who was suggested as 2nd Lt. of Co. is and has always been on duty with his Company: he can show as clear a record as any man from the State. He has had charge of his Co. part of the time the past six months.

In conclusion I would say. I have no desire to take from his Excellency the Gov. any authority granted him by the Govt. but being a better judge of the men in this Regt. I think my opinion is entitled to some consideration. I am
Adjutant General } Very Respectfully,
Maine } E. J. Waller
Col. 4th Me. Inf.