

Lee

Adj. Gen. 1st Division 3 Corps.
Tuesday Sept. 19. 1862.

To His Excellency.

Gov. W. Mahan

Augusta Maine.

Dear Sir,

I have your esteemed
favor of 17th inst. An opinion of Col. Staples
Coincides. —

1st Lieut Lee, of the 3^d Maine nephew by the
Mar of Erie Steward is one of the most active
gallant, brave officers in the service. In every
engagement I have used him where the occa-
sion demanded such a man. Ab. Chantilly he
was more than brave, his horse was shot under
him and he was unafraid. I have recom-
mended him for promotion, he deserves it, and
I hope services in staff will not preclude it.
He would as a Captain be returned to his
Company, I would dislike to lose him, but
it would be unjust to prevent his promotion.
He should be appointed 1st Lieutenant.

Higgins is a very fair officer, and would make an average Captain, but why not promote from the Company. Bush is a very brave officer, without much intelligence, a good deal of partisan feeling, and one not calculated to promote harmony. He is high enough. —

Lakeman is a gallant officer, deserves much credit for his exemplary behavior, and would make an excellent Colonel, Lieut Col, or Major. He has energy, and great decision of character.

Whitehouse I had discharged and sent to join his regiment. Bush gave much trouble in preventing these matters from coming to me. —

Adjutant M. Dutcher was a singular case — this officer had absented himself from every battle, claiming sickness, before investigating his case for a Court Martial I found that he was an enlisted man, not mustered as an officer in U. S. Service, or holding any appointment or commission. Of course returned him to ranks. The case had been previously brought to my knowledge by his uncle Dr. M. Ruer but statement made that he had been mustered

into U. S. Service. — Your Excellency can of course give him an appointment of your thanks best. I could find no precedent or authority for making such a person an officer for payment.

I would suggest to your Excellency, that you would oblige the commanding officers of regiments to have their recommendations for promotions endorsed with the opinions of the Brigades and Division Commanders. You could of course follow or disregard these endorsements of opinions but it would render Colonels more careful in their appointments, & prevent the mustering of officers incompetent.

Gov. Burgan took my suggestion endorsed by Genl. Kearny in this matter and we find it a great check on favoritism. The 3rd Maine has many intelligent gallant privates, deserving promotion.

Yours truly
D. D. Perrey
Brig Genl Comd Division

~~Brig Gen. Birney~~
~~Major Gen. H. H. H. H.~~
~~H. H. H. H.~~

Sept. 19.

Hd. Qrs 1st Division 3 Corps

September 19. 1862

Birney D. B. Brig. General.

Recommends 1st Lieut. S.
Perry Lee for promotion to
Capt in Comp E. 3 Regt M. V. Inf.