

(Private)

Lee August 7th 1863

Gen. John L. Hodsdon

Dear Sir

I have
a Son who was a member of your Bangor
Co. in the 2^d Maine Reg^t and who was
engaged in ten of the eleven pitched battles
in which that Reg^t was engaged from
the first Bulls Run down to Antietam.

He is an educated man, & of morals
too good, I fear, if possible, for the Army,
but he is naturally discontented with his
present quiet life, and wishes to fight again.

My object in writing you, is to ascertain
from you, whether under the Draft, ~~or under~~
~~the Draft~~ or under existing circumstances
in any way, the God^d has it in his power to
give him a Lieutenantcy, provided he (the said
Son) is suitably recommended.

We can obtain from Roberts & Varney
the late Col^d of the Reg^t and from Garndey
the Captain of his Co. certificates of his
fitness. You can understand doubtless the
feelings by which I am actuated

in being unwilling that he should go out again as a Private. There may be something of personal pride in desiring that my boy, should not be overriden by the Surge of Bangor, or any other place, as well as a regard for his interests.

The friendly personal relations to say nothing about political ones both of which I trust have ^{which have existed many years} been mutual ~~lead~~ lead me to believe that it is unnecessary for me to make any excuses for troubling you for your advice. Will you give it to me. I feel as if I was entitled to ask something for this one as all my other sons are in the Maine Cavalry as Privates.

Yours Very Truly
W. B. Field