

Panama, August 8, 1862

Hon. Isaac Washburn Jr.
Gov. of Maine

Dear Sir-

Learning that a 20th Regt. is organizing in this State, I again solicit of your Excellency a commission in it for my brother Richard Kelleher, who is now sick in the U. S. General Hospital at Annapolis, Maryland, and in whose behalf I visited you at Augusta last week.

Richard as you know is a member of company I, 2nd Maine Regt., and has been with the Regt. ever since it left this city. He was originally orderly Sgt. of company I, but from the circumstances of the breaking up of that company, and the taking of its place by White's, he, together with all the non-commissioned officers of his company, was consigned to the ranks, in which position he now remains. When he left this city he was receiving a salary of 600 dollars a year in a counting room, but cheerfully gave up his place to obey his country's call. I am informed by several who have lately returned from the 2nd Maine, and who know my brother well, that when White and his co. joined the Regt., he, then in the ranks, had to teach them their duty. He is a good soldier and has been in all the battles that his Regt. has been engaged

in. It is only proper that a young man of his ability should not be overlooked by your Excellency in the many commissions that are granted. You may rest assured that to whatever position you may assign him that he will perform his duty faithfully and well. He will also be of much value to a new Regt. having seen considerable service. He is about 27 years of age, well educated, and maintains a good moral character. For three years he was assistant Clerk of the Courts in this city under Mr. Weston. By referring to the letter of recommendation from Mr. A. N. Paine, Hon. S. H. Blake, Chas. P. Brown Esq & Mr. A. L. Simpson (gentlemen by whom he was intimately known) ^{which I handed you last week} you will find abundant testimony of his ability and good character.

In view of all these things, I sincerely hope that your Excellency will remember him this time while an opportunity offers - that you will give him even a Lieut. commission so that he may be placed in the right path to distinguish himself. By writing immediately for him to the Hospital he can be here in 7 or 8 days.

I am

most respectfully Yours

J. H. Allen

Bangor Me.
August 8th 1862.

Kellihen F. D.

Recommends Richard
Kellihen for appointment
to position in 20th Regt Me. V. Inf.

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I have of late been thinking much of you, and of the fact that your Excellency will be required to fill an appointing office - that you will be a direct commissioner for that the way the place will lead to distinguishing himself by doing more for him to the Regt. he can be here in 7 or 8 days.

I am, Sir, very respectfully yours

Wm. H. Ketchum

Per
Richard Ketchum
2d Regt.
Com. in 20th.