

Camps of the Third Maine Vols.  
near Falmouth, Va. February 8<sup>th</sup> 1863

Hon. Gen. W. Mosiell  
Sir:

I respectfully desire to tender to the Government, through you, in the service of some one of the "Colored Regiments" about to be raised, whatever of military education and experience I may have acquired during (nearly) two years of active duty, in ~~the~~ the Third Regiment from Maine.

My motive in so doing is two-fold. 1<sup>o</sup>. from a belief that I could be of more benefit to the country in a new than in an old Regiment.

2<sup>o</sup>. From a desire for promotion, which I trust will not be deemed censurable. My present Rank is honorable, yet humble, being that of Sergeant Major of this Regiment.

As to my abilities I do not hesitate to refer you to my Colonel, Mr. B. Sakeman, Capt. Hatch, or any of the officers of the "Third."

Your kindness to me at the time of my graduation from Bowdoin College and subsequently at ~~my~~ interview with you in the Senate Chamber, in 1861, induces me to hope that my desire will be favorably considered. It would please me greatly could I receive an appointment, and in Col. Chas. Hamlin's reg't.

as I was acquainted with him, during my college course.

I trust Sir, you will excuse me for trespassing so long on your  
time, and do me the honor to grant a reply.

Allow me Sir, to

remain, most respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant

Charles W. Gardner.

Serg't. Major.

30 Reg't Maine Vol.

Charles W. Gardner. Serg't Major.  
30 -  
Asst. for Com' under Wilmour. in -

I hope you may be  
able to do something  
for Sgt Gardner  
Wm Hamlin  
Capt U.S.A.