

Hd. Qrs. 20<sup>th</sup> Maine Vols.

Camp at Rappinock Station Va.

Feb. 13<sup>th</sup> 1864.

Gen. J. L. Hodsdon

Adj. Gen. State of Maine

General:

I have the honor  
to acknowledge the receipt of your  
letter of the 9<sup>th</sup> inst.

The vacancy of 1<sup>st</sup> Lieut. in "B"  
occurred on the 29<sup>th</sup> of Nov. 1862. By  
the resignation of Lieut. Lyford. I  
recommended Sergt. Griffin at the  
request of the Captain of his Co.  
and because I considered him  
eminently qualified for the position.  
I recommended, in concurrence  
with his Captain, that he supersede  
Lieut. Lane, for the reason that, in  
my judgment Lane is a very  
poor officer. His Excellency will

doubtless observe that no previous  
Commander of this Regiment has  
recommended the promotion of  
Lieut. Lane, although the vacancy  
of 1<sup>st</sup> Lieut. has existed a long time  
in that Company.

I beg leave to call your attention  
to the vacancies in Co. "A." That  
Company has now no commissioned  
officer. Lieut. Bessee who was  
commissioned Captain, but never  
mustered as such, has recently  
been discharged - I suggested  
1<sup>st</sup> Lieut. Jm. H. Morrell for that  
Captaincy - He is the Senior 1<sup>st</sup> Lieut.  
not otherwise recommended (with  
the exception of Nichols who will  
soon be discharged) and is a  
worthy officer.

Very Respectfully  
Your Obedt. Servt.

Elias Spear-

Maj. Comd'g. 20<sup>th</sup> Maine Vols.

May. C. Spear 20<sup>th</sup> July  
July 13. 64.

Recommends Wm Griffin  
to be 1<sup>st</sup> Lieut Co B

Com issued July 20<sup>th</sup> 64