

Camp 3rd Maine Regt near Brandy Station Va
Dec 17th 1863

To Your Excellency
the Governor of Maine.
Sir

Through the influence of Col Latham I was recommended by your Honor for a Commission as 2nd Lieut in Co B 3rd Maine Regt and through you the request was granted the Commission arriving on Dec 8th and delivered to me by the Col the same day.

I at once took measures to get mustered out of the service of the United States as an enlisted man for the purpose of being mustered in as a Commission Officer making direct application for my discharge, was examined by the Regimental Surgeon and received from him a Certificate of Mental and Physical ability, was sworn by Adjut Drew on my affidavit also made out my Final Statement These Papers with my Commission were forwarded to Brigade Hd Qrs on the 12th of Dec. and since that time I have been anxiously waiting for their return that I might be mustered

but nothing was heard from them until last night, when they were all returned with the word that as there was not a minimum number of men in my Co. for three (3) Commissioned Officers. I could not be mustered. We number 70 enlisted men, 2 Officers. This verdict to me at this late hour was most unwelcome, for since I received my Commission, thinking every thing would be sure. I have been to no little expense buying my Sword, Belt, Shoulder Straps, a portion of my uniform, the remainder being ordered, and now these articles are the same as useless on my hands. What I want to come at is this.

I would like very much to be transferred to some new Company (either Infantry or Cavalry) now forming in Maine and report at once for Duty, for with 2 1/2 years experience as a Soldier in the Field, I know I could make myself very useful in the formation of a new Co or Regt.

I am desirous to reenlist for 3 years longer, but in the capacity of a Commissioned Officer, for I do think if faithful service is a necessary requisite it belongs to me, for I have ever been found at my Post, having participated in every engagement of the Regt, up to the Battle of Gettysburg, at which I

I was taken prisoner, marched to Richmond, and paroled Aug 29th sent into our lines for exchange, which was effected in the early part of Oct. I reporting at once to my Regt for Duty. If Testimonials are required to gain the position sought, as regards my moral character, I would respectfully refer you to the Hon H. K. Baker & Hon E. Rowell, Editor of the Hallowell Gazette where both these Gentlemen reside, and as to my military abilities refer to Col. Bakeman, Maj. Morgan, and any line Officer in the Regt. I may be forward in thus addressing you, but when you visited us last Spring, and took each and every one of us by the hand so cordially, I said to myself at that time, if I ever had any reasonable request to make I would not fear to make it in person. My Father may be known to you. Mark Johnson of Hallowell, and as loyal a man, as ever polled a Vote.

If my request is not unreasonable to you, I would like very much to be Commissioned and transferred to one of the three Regts now forming in Maine & be mustered for 3 years or during the War, for my Patriotism is yet good for 3 years longer if required as long. The experience and practice I have is no trifling recommendation in the formation of a new Regt, and I flatter myself in saying

I have had enough of both to capacitate me for
any position as a line officer. I am very well
aware that many promotions are obtained through
the influence of Friends, but I have none to offer
there assistance. I stand alone on my own footing
and ask this favor on my own worth and take
the responsibility on my own shoulders as to the
result. I throw myself on your merits

In closing I subscribe myself

Most Respectfully

Your O^bt Serv^t

To Hon Abner Coburn }
Governor of Maine }

Hannibal A Johnson
1st Serg^t Co B 3rd Me Reg^t

Hannibal A. Johnson,
Dec 17, 1863.

About Transfer.

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Example of 3rd Me Reg^t, 1st A.
Johnson W. A.
About Transfer - -
Dec 17, 1863.