

Dear Sir, I have the
Honor of your letter of the
27th inst.

Hon Samuel Cary
Governor of Maine

Sir:

Col. Gilmore of
this Regiment (now in Washington)
intimated to me that you
wished to have Sergt. David Keene
of this Regt. recommended for
promotion. I have been to submit
a note of explanation, but I
seem not properly mindful of
your wishes. It has been
customary with this Regt. to re-
commend non-commissioned
as well as com. officers, for
promotion, according to rank, unless
there were special objection, or
the obvious unfitness of the
senior officer - a officer. It
should not yet the case of Keene,

We cannot get mustered
2^d Lieutenant, as the Reg.
is below the minimum -
When it is raised above
the minimum, I shall
be happy to recommend him,
after several others. There will
be vacancies for other ~~officers~~
~~and~~ senior, and for him -

I am happy to state that
the 20th is in excellent health,
- & of good courage & we have
lost head, as have all the
others - I have one hundred &
nearly right (198) guns -

Trusting that the Department
in regard to ~~Sgt~~ Kien will be
satisfactory

I am
Very Respectfully
Yours
J. W. McArthur
Capt. and 20th

20th Me. Vols.

July 27. 1864

Spear Major E

Recommends Sergt Keene
20th Me. Vols. for promotion