

Lorham, June 15th. 1863.

To John L. Hodsdon,

Adjt. Genl. State of Maine,

Sir.

This is for the purpose of obtaining a certificate of my merits and capability to facilitate my purpose of joining the Invalid Corps, with the rank that I held in the 5th Me. Vols.

You will probably recollect me as being in Augusta connected with the 16th Vols, and assisting in its formation, Camp instruction &c. of that Regt.

It is incumbent on me to obtain certificates of the officers that I formerly served under, or the Adjt. Genl. of the State, and as I do not know the address of any of them, except

Capt. Thomas West (who at that time belonged to the same Regt. that I did, and whose certificate I have already procured) but who belonged to a different company from mine; I have therefore applied to you.

If in your opinion I am meritorious and capable to fill the position to which I aspire, and will send me a certificate to that effect to be shown to the Provost Marshall, you will greatly oblige me.

I am Sir with respect
Yours Obedt. Servt.

William Merrill,
Gorham,
Me.