

St. Col. Millett

Col. 19 -

~~Confidential~~

Gorham Nov 21. 1863

Hon. Abner Coburn,

Governor of Maine

Sir,

I understand
that there is a vacancy in the Colonelcy
of the 19th Regt.

Allow me to inform your Excellency
that St. Col. Millett of the 5th Regt.
is strongly recommended for that
position, tho' his papers may not
have been rec^d by you.

He is recommended by the Com-
mander of his Brigade - by Genl
Wright, Com. of the Division, &
by Genl. Sedgewick, of the Corps.

In all probability his papers are
also endorsed there by Genl. Meade,
as they were left with Genl. Williams,
who gave assurances that Genl. M.
would endorse them, & he was

to forward them to the Secy of War, from whom they would be sent to you.

As there may have been some delay in forwarding these papers, permit me to ask you not to fill the vacancy until you hear from Washington in regard to Levi Mudgett, as I am sure you will find his own meritations to be of no ordinary kind.

There seem to be very strong reasons why the 5th should be particularly noticed.

Their gallant conduct & heroism & their great achievements in the late battle on the 7th inst. sh^d be ~~worthily~~ remembered.

And it sh^d not be forgotten that ^{twice} ~~but~~ they have had field officers put over them from

from other Reg^t. viz Col Jackson from the 10th, & Lt. Col Steath, from the 3^d.

I am told that there is an application to have this vacancy filled from the 7th.

Now, while in the one case it is a Major & in the other a Lt. Col the difference in rank being of some consequence, is it not true that the Lt. Col. of the same 7th Reg^t has been promoted to the Colonelcy of another Reg^t? And if so, is it quite just to take two field officers from that Reg^t? Is it not now time to give the 5th a chance?

Pardon me for writing so freely - but I know Col M. & have followed him from the start. & know him to be a

most worthy, noble & honor-
able soldiers. And I also
have from the first felt a
peculiar interest in the 5th,
as it was originally com-
posed of so many of my
neighbors & friends, & one Co.
was almost wholly recruited
in this town.

I felt anxious that you sh^d
not act supposing that no
movement was making for
any other person than the appli-
cant from the 7th -

I think Col Millett himself
knows nothing about this
movement - He was severely
wounded in the battle of the 7th
& is in Hospital in Washington.

Trusting & believing that you will
do justice to all concerned in
this matter,

I am

Yours very respectfully
John A. Waterman