

915
Camp Russell,

Near Winchester - Va.

Nov. 22^d 1864

Genl. J. L. Hudson

Adjt. Genl. of State of Maine,

Dear Sir,

While I was
the Chaplain of the Maine 5th I received a Commission
from the Gov. & Council, to act as Commissioner for
Maine troops, & thus aid Soldiers in the field, in legal
matters, which required judicial sanction, in signing
deeds - making affidavits &c.

Having served three years with the Maine 5th &
being mustered out with that Regt. at the expiration
of term of service, I was elected & commissioned
by Gov. Seymour, as Chaplain of the 121st N. Y. Regt.
This Regt. belonged to the 2^d Brigade, the same
to which the Maine 5th was attached. I am, as
it were, in my old home, in the midst of familiar
faces & with officers & men with whom I often offic-
iated, when with the Maine 5th.

My home is still at Gaham, Maine, & my
family is now residing there. My franchise is

Here - & I am named as a resident of Maine -

My object in writing is to learn whether my
commission, as quasi Justice of the Peace, by
the Special Act, holds good, in my new position.

There was no limitation expressed in the commission
itself - & some of the Old Fifth are still in the field,
- now assigned to the 1st Maine Veterans.

I do not make the enquiry, as though it were any
favor to myself, but for the interest of others from Maine
now in the field.

By conferring with His Excellency, Gen. Lang - you
will learn his opinion, & if my commission holds
good, I shall be ready to do all in my ^{power to} aid the
Maine Soldiers - now, as before, without fee or reward.

Very respectfully,

I am, General,

Your Obedient Servant

John R. Adams,

Chaplain 121st N. Y. Regt.

My P. O. Address with name of Regt. is

Washington, D. C.

P.S. If I should serve, in future, as commissioner, my
official signature would not date from this Regt, but
from the Camp, where we may be located - as for
instance, "Camp Russell" -