

From Thomas Carney to James L. McDowell

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Washington  
June 26th 1863

Dear General[,]

The Secretary of War refuses to approve the order made by Maj[.] Genl. Schofield to raise the regiment except to be used wherever required. I have an order to raise a regiment of Cavalry--but could not get the clause approved as put in by Schofield. I have my own views upon the subject but of course that will not help the people any, and I can only say that I am sorry. I shall have to look to Ewing & Schofield for the protection needed for our state, and if failing to get it from there will be compelled to foot the bill myself or abandon the helpless women & children to the brutal assaults of the ruffian raids that have so long cursed our state, which I shall not do. Protection I am bound to give & will do it. Come what will, God helping me.

Can a regiment of Cavalry be raised and what do you think of the policy--provided Schofield will allow me to go over into Mo[.], or anywhear in his department for

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the purpose? I think it could be raised without doubt in that way.

I have had what a chistian would say a refreshing time since I have been here. Some times the lightnings & thunders would play & dreadfully roar, [*text stricken through*] sometimes the sun would break out in gorgeous spendor, all the more beautiful because of the contrast.

I telegraphed you to day, that all company officers would be commissioned on the nomination of the Company--same [*text stricken through*] rule will be observed in regimental officers.

I had the order changed, and I did this, first because it was my right and second, because it is a rule I have before adopted to give the soldier a chance of choosing his commander.

With the exception of the Home Guard regiment, probably shall not have much cause to complain. At least it looks so now.

This has been a very bad week to be here, as these raids into Penna. [Pennsylvania] and the immediate prospect of a Great battle

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between Hooker & Lee ocupies pretty much all the time of the Department.

I will only be here a few days[,] say two or three longer & then will be off for home.

Say to Senator Fishback All was done that could have on my part, but failed to get the last paragraph allowed--

If a regiment of Cavalry can be raised, and our people want to go into it I will raise it as I have the order to do it & you can so inform the people.

Your friend[,]  
Thos. Carney