
Your Excellency,

Colonel John G. Walker of the 35th Indiana Volunteers was associated with Major Charles S. Morris of the 2d Regular cavalry and myself as one of the four officers appointed by General D. C. Buell commanding the Department of the Ohio in accordance with Section 10 of the act of Congress entitled an act to authorize the employment of volunteers as officers July 22d, 1861 to examine into the capacity qualifications, propriety of conduct of the volunteer commissioned officers in that Department.

This board remained in session several months and during that time I had ample opportunity of ascertaining Col. Walker's proficiency and knowledge in the profession of arms. His knowledge was of course purely theoretical, but subsequent acquaintance and observation convinced me that the practice as well as the theory of this profession was equally familiar to him.

I have therefore no hesitation in recommending him a most thorough and accomplished officer, not only well versed in the theoretical knowledge but also practically familiar with the duties of a soldier.

The prominent traits of his character are moreover those which a soldier should possess. He is prudent, cautious, cool, calm but resolute and bold in danger and eminently qualified for a high command.

I remain, Your Excellency's obedient servant,

Abraham Lincoln
President of the United States
Washington, D.C.