

Detroit August 25th 1862.

Your Excellency

Colonel John C. Walker of the 35th Indiana Volunteers was associated with Major Charles E. Norris of the 2^d Regular Cavalry and myself as one of a board of 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 &c approved July 22^d. 1861 to examine into the capacity qualifications, propriety of conduct &c 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. This 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 pronouncing 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

Your Excellency

Abraham Lincoln

President of the United States

Washington

D. C.

I remain

Your Excellency's

Obedient Servant

Wm. W. Duffield

Col. 9th Mich. Vol

Commandg 23^d Brigade

Army of Ohio

WM. W. DUFFIELD
COL. 9 MICH. INFANTRY USA.

To
Mrs. Lincoln

Dear Mother
I received your kind letter of the 22nd and was glad to hear from you. I am well and hope these few lines will find you the same. I have not much news to write at present. I am still in the hospital and do not know when I shall be able to return home. I have been here for some time now and have had a good deal of rest. I have also had some of the doctors' visits and they say I am getting on well. I have not much to write at present. I am still in the hospital and do not know when I shall be able to return home. I have been here for some time now and have had a good deal of rest. I have also had some of the doctors' visits and they say I am getting on well.

22nd August 1861