

His Excellency
The President of the
United States Sir

Camp of the 35 N. Y. Vol
near Brooks Station Va.

Dec 8. 1862.

At the risk of being considered presumptuous I beg leave to address you in brief on a subject which may be of importance to the Government.

The first thirty eight Regiments of Volunteers Recruited from the State of New York numbering from one to thirty eight inclusive were mustered into service for two years from about the first day of May 1861, and consequently have only but about five months more to serve. In Doubledays Division. You may note Corps there are six of the first thirty eight Regiments - namely the 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th. On the rolls of these six Regts there are (aggregating & averaging) 3000 names to each. In the field carrying muskets there are but about 2000 men to the Regt. The rolls of the six Regts. have 3600 names, and there are but 1560 muskets. In balance number the Hospital. To carry 1560 muskets the Govt pays 28 Field, 20 Staff, 120 line officers and 3600 men. It cannot be presumed that the Hospital can give to these Regts any more men who will be effective in the next five months.

If the six Regts named above can be made a criterion to estimate the strength of the balance of

the thirty eight by then there are only 9880 men carrying musters to 22,800 men borne on the rolls.

I don't know what may be the plans of the war but if the army is not to be immediately met an immense expense can be saved by mustering out of service the first thirty eight Regiments from the state of New York. The men composing them can do but little good in the army this winter - they can do a vast deal of good at home.

By mustering the Regiments out of service, at least 10,000 men will be mustered out who will remain in Hospitals or away from duty until their term of service expires - the expense of 38 Regts and at least 9 Brigade organizations would be saved the Government, and 280 army wagons and 1200 horses could be used for new troops. And further 500 officers would not be paid to get an effective force of 10,000 men. The army would lose but 10,000 men and would gain greatly in mobility.

Should the army go into winter quarters, the nine Brigades and thirty eight Regimental organizations would be maintained five months for not more

than one months service which could by any possibility be rendered by them. If the 38 Regts are discharged now or say on the 1st day of January at least 3/5^{ths} of the effective men would be back in the service wearing an equal number with them before they were at home three months. The Regimental organizations would number half less and would be full and strong.

If the Regts are discharged in May next but few of the men would again enter the service as opportunities for employment would induce them to remain out of the army.

I do not make the foregoing suggestion through egotism or a desire to leave the service. I am in for the war in any capacity, or as a soldier and desire only the best interests of my country.

It might also be asked why not discharge all of those who are now in Hospitals belonging to the first thirty eight Regiments from N.Y. and consolidate the effective force into a smaller number of Regts. I will not trouble you further upon this subject until I know whether I have presumed to far already or not.

I am sir respectfully,
yours
M. Lord
Co. 35 N. Y. Vol.

Franklin Street

1334 Agg Post

Camp of the 35th N.Y. Vol
near Puerto Plata, Va.
December 1862

~~1334~~ ✓
H. B. Lord, Col.
35th N.Y. Vol.

Marked suggestions relative to
the muttering out of certain
New York Regiments.

St. Louis, December 17, 1862

Dear General

Yours

Read the above no. 1862

H. B. Lord.
Col. 35th N.Y. Vols.

To: Pres. Lincoln