Head Quarters Potomac
Banks near Harrison's Landing
July 27, 1862

Brig. Gen. Thomas 33
Adj't Hqrs. 1st Army Corps

I respectfully apply for the permission to send an officer from each regiment to the place where it was raised, with authority to bring on every officer and man he can put fit for duty, whether on leave of absence or not, no matter from what cause the leave may be granted. I have official assurance that the number of people absent on leave is having an injurious effect on the recruiting service. Absences, till such exaggerated stories as the hardships and sufferings of camp life and of the dangers of the battle fields that they desire recruit from enlisting. The leave might be revoked by an order from the Adjutant General's office, except where the case is that of bona fide sick and wounded unable to join the officers I request to lend.
from each regiment should report at your office and receive orders (such as my application) to visit all hospitals and places where soldiers may be detained whether on extra duty or otherwise no matter by what order or whose authority and bring them here to their regiments. The recruits service or other important duty of course will be excepted. I am satisfied that the most fertile source of increase to the demoralized ranks of the regiment is to get back the absentee from the army. There are two well men absent to one really sick man.

G. B. McCullough
Maj. Genl. 
Conn.