

Office Chief Eng of 8th Army Corps
Baltimore May 11th 1863

General

I have respectfully to request that application may be made to the proper authorities for five hundred Negroes (contrabands) to work on the fortifications at Harpers Ferry the number of troops at that point being too small to furnish the detail that is required - It is presumed they can be had at Washington or Fort Monroe

If it is impossible to procure the number specified or nearly that number I would request that none be sent; as it would render it necessary to work them with soldiers which would probably do more harm than good

I have the honor

to be very respectfully

Your obed^t Serv^t

W. B. Reynolds

Fort & Chief Eng

Maj. Gen. R. C. Schenck }
Comd'g }
Baltimore }
Md }



[Faint, illegible handwriting covering the majority of the page, likely bleed-through from the reverse side.]

Wm. F. Reynolds
East Mol. Conn
USA