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Navy Department.

Washington, 3<sup>rd</sup> August 1871.

Dear General:-

Referring to your note of to-day in regard to the appointment of Christopher K. Beebe to the Naval Academy, I regret to state that there is no vacancy to which I can appoint him: some of the candidates "at large" may fail to pass the required examination in the latter part of next month, and possibly an opportunity may occur at the last moment to have him examined.

Very

Very truly yours,  
Gideon Welles  
Secretary of the Navy.

Hon. W. W. Belknap,  
Secretary of War.