Head Quarters of the Army,

Washington - 1862

August 30, 1862

Colonel John C. Kelton,

Respectfully Sent

And Chief of Staff,

Sir,

I have the honor to report for the information of the Major General in Chief, that there are now at Aquia Creek seven Companies of my Regiment, the 1st Mass Cavaller, three Companies of the Regiment, being on board the sailing transport "Plants" where they have been since their departure from Hilton Head, S. C. (about eleven days) and where the horses have been unable to lie down and the remainder at home. During the month previous to the sailing of the above detachment, I do not think that the Regiment received one week's forage and in consequence many horses died, while the remainder were left in an
exceedingly feeble and poor condition. It has been
impossible to improve them during the voyage.
On the contrary, their condition is much worse
many of them being chafed very badly by the
rolling of the transport. Since the Regiment
came into service I have been unable to com-
plete its armament. Until within the last
few days I had only received two hundred
and forty carbines, the pistol holsters, or sabre
knots, with the exception of the two hundred
and forty carbines, I have been able to issue
them to any of the companies except those
which have been lamed at Aquia Creek.
My men and officers are well disciplined
and instructed. If consistent with the in-
terests of the service, I would most respectfully
ask that some other Regiment may be ordered
to the front, instead of mine for a week
or two, until I can recruit my horses and
equip my men.

I am very respectfully,
Your obedient,

Wm. Williams
Col 1st Mass Cav