

Adj. Grs 62. Va Regt.

Col Hoffman.

March 19th 1864.

Esteemed friend,

I take pleasure in speaking in the highest terms of the conduct as soldiers of the following "names", since they have belonged to my Regiment, viz Elisha McCloud, junr Robert McLaughlin, Jacob McLaughlin, Jacob Shuts, Geo. Wilfong, Zachariah Swints, of Co A. (62 Regt) and J. M. Trimble and Elisha McCloud Sr, of Co D (62), and while I do not disapprove of their leaving the 31st of Regt I think much leniency should be shown them; they left in that dark hour in the history of West Virginia, while our armies were falling back from Allegheny & Shenandoah Mountains, a time when the best of men, (men holding positions became alarmed) — Their families were left in the hands of a merciless enemy, their fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, wives & children, their ignorance of the movements of armies, all of these were strong inducements, magnified as they were by disheartened creators, to induce them to leave, and return to the bosom of their families — Their conduct since proves that they did not intend deserting the service. Further, when they joined this, 62nd Regiment, they were made to believe they had a perfect right to do so, and have been serving in good faith — they have become identified with this, the (62nd) Regiment, and leave it with a great deal of reluctance, I therefore respectfully ask that they be transferred to this, 62nd Regiment, and hope you will "being" to do them the justice, and favor to approve and forward papers for them to that effect, stating the facts in their true light, with your endorsement upon their transfer.

Respectfully your obedient servant

(Signed)

N. B. Loring

1st Col. Comd,

62nd Va Regt

Coley
J. Hoffman.

Adjutant
31st Regt.

