

State of Vermont.



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,

Brattleboro, Vt. 6. 1862.

Genl. J. W. Phelps,

My dear Sir:-

I am indebted to you for two or three letters from Ship Island, which have been read with great interest, & for which I am much obliged to you. I send this by hand of Col. Stephen Thomas, Commanding the 8th Vt. Regt. I am very proud of him & his Regt., and that I can send you such an offering, I have known Col. Thomas for many years, and can commend him to you as being "every inch a man"; - a gentleman of culture and ability, and I fully believe you will find him a reliable & able officer. He has many excellent officers in his Regt. Lieut. Col. Brown is a fine man every way, & a superior tactician. Major Dillingham is a young man of the best promise. Lieut. Mr. Smith is a superior business man and a gentleman. Adjutant Barstow is as good