



State of Vermont.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,

Brattleboro, Mch. 10, 1862.

Brig. Genl. J. W. Phelps,
My dear General:-

The bearer of this letter is my son, William C. Holbrook, now Major of the 7th Vt. Regt., formerly the Lieut. in the 4th Vt. Regt., to whom you offered the place upon your Staff. He will explain to you the various causes which conspired to prevent him from going upon your staff. Of course, I consider him a promising young man, and I suspect that others, outside my family circle, "the world's people", so far as they know him, think well of him. Will. is not a clashing or showy person, but the substance, I believe, is in him. For a volunteer, he is well posted in military matters, and is called a good officer. Should it be in your power to befriend him in any little ways, with propriety to yourself & your position, I doubt not you will do it, and any friendly