



State of Vermont.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,

Brattleboro; Vt. May 2. 1862.

Genl. J. W. Phelps,

My dear General:-

Learning that a mail starts for Key West & Ship Island in a day or two, I embrace a few moments to say hurriedly that we are all delighted here in Vermont to learn of the safe arrival at the Island of our two Regts, the 7th & 8th. You must have hailed their advent with peculiar pleasure, as representatives of your native & beloved State. They are composed of superior material, and under your skillful forming hand, must make excellent & reliable Regiments. There are no better troops in the service than Vermont has furnished. The recent affair, of Apr. 16th, near Yorktown, Va., shows conclusively that our Vt. men are brave & reliable. Their praises are spoken by all, since that affair, & were freely ex-