

J. Johnsbury Sept 23^d 1862.

Gen J. W. Phelps,

My dear Sir,

I was gratified to receive your valued letter of the 4th instant, as also one of a previous date which arrived during my absence from home.

I am glad to notice your testimony in regard to the conduct of the Vermont 7th. I had read with pain the General order of the commanding Gen. No 62, which appeared in the newspapers, and was led to suppose that there must have been some error in relation to it.

The conduct attributed to the 7th Vermont was so different from the character and proof of Vermont Soldiers, that if the report had any foundation — if there was anything reported to the commanding Gen. like what he describes, I felt assured he was misinformed, or else that the circumstances must have been so peculiar as to place them in a position to be misapprehended by those giving the information.

Every where during the war, when the Vermont Troops have been brought into action, they have evinced a coolness and perseverance that has won for them the just commendation of their commanding officers, and the gratitude of their fellow citizens at home.

Their previous deeds have not been recorded in the newspapers so frequently as those of the Massachusetts Troops, for the reason that they have not, like them, been attended by a corps of special newspaper reporters; but for loyalty, patriotism, courage & endurance, no other troops have surpassed them.