

Head Quarters, 17th Regt. Vt. Vol.

Before Petersburg, Va. July 17. 64.

Friend Williams -

Yours of the 11th inst. reached me this a.m. - the first mail we have recd. for some time or your days, on acct. of Roberts great "raid" I suppose. I am very glad to hear from you, but sorry to hear just what you write. But your case as stated is a clear one, to me, and Lt. Col. Balw evidently has made himself very liable by such tampering with your rolls. Your "Certificate of muster" - if by a Mustering Officer must be held a valid muster, I am quite sure - papers or no papers, beside.

Go straight forward - but stand for your rights. As your discharge was in proper form you must be a Lt. of "C" or a citizen - and I could almost congratulate you (certainly I could Mrs. S. S.) if your certificate of muster proved invalid. In your case I would go to Gen.