

St Louis
April 27 [1862]

J. A. Roosevelt
New York

Dear Sir

Your two dispatches of 26th are recd, one late last evening and the other this morning. I endeavored to see the asst adjt General last night, in order to give you the required information, but failed to do so. To day I saw Genl Ketcham, the adjt General having been suddenly called away. After seeing him I dispatched you "Examination shall be waived. Transportation furnished from here to Pittsburg, no uniforms required, no rations furnished. Surgeons not absolutely required" My order was predicated upon a dispatch sent from Genl Halleck, a copy of which I enclose you. The authorities here say that as the directive was given to send surgeons from St Louis, that transportation would be furnished only from there to Pittsburg Landing. My object in telegraphing you was the fear of not being able to supply twenty from this city, and that there might be many surgeons with you who would be willing to volunteer if necessary in the good cause. All that have gone from here were of this description with one or two exceptions. We can make up the entire number, so that it is not now necessary. Besides the delay will I fear be too great. We feel that a battle may take place any day. So you need not send any, if thee have started of course they will be engaged. We feel the deepest anxiety in the approaching combat. It must have an important bearing on the final result. If we are successful we will have peace, I think in less than six weeks, if not the struggle will be prolonged for months.

Very truly yours
James E Yeatman
Sanitary Comm

Enclosure

Pittsburg Landing

To Jas E Yeatman

At least twenty additional surgeons are required here in the hospitals and in the field. Dr [] Medical Director here will make contracts. The pay is one hundred dollars per month.

*signed H.W. Halleck
Maj Genl*