

Head Quarters, Middle Department, 8<sup>th</sup> Army Corps  
Baltimore, December 7<sup>th</sup> 1864

My dear Friend

I have just finished writing your Bro. Theodore a long letter, laying before both you and him my plans and intentions in regards the Regt to be raised and the New Corps to be commanded by General Hancock. I shall anxiously await your opinions and suggestions in the matter and only hope that you can both consistently give me a favorable answer. After I left you on Friday evening I saw your Bro both at the house and the club, and he very kindly offered to try and get me ordered to Genl Hancock which as you know would be of immense advantage to me whether successful or not in my plan.

I left New York several days sooner than I had expected owing to the fact that I thought I saw an opening to get to the front but I was mistaken. I am very glad I came as I have had an opportunity of thoroughly examining and studying on the matter about the new Corps, which had I been in N.Y. I could not have done as I would have had nothing on which to found my ideas about the men whose terms expire within the next two or three months.

I am anxious to push the matter so that I get ordered to work at once, and if possible get the first chance in the 1<sup>st</sup> Regt which would be of immense advantage for the Regt on acct of its having the right of the Corps, not to mention the fact that one Regt must be filled before another can be commenced. If the League could be induced to take hold, what greater honor could it have than to raise one more "N.Y. Union League Regt" who being [ ] would do some good active work with such an officer as Hancock to command, and would [be] a fit representative of that patriotic club.

I sometimes think that you and your Bro. must feel that I do not fully appreciate the interest that you have evinced in me, as I have never through mere words tried to express it. Yet I know that you will believe me when I tell you that every effort that I have made towards doing my duty to my country and myself have been efforts to prove that your many many kindnesses were fully and thoroughly appreciated and that I considered you [ ] both preferred that I should express it in some way more emphatic and expressive than mere words, and I have acted accordingly.

Remember me kindly to Mrs Roosevelt and the fancy Ladies, as also to those never tiring young Gentlemen.

Yours Sincerely  
Oliver Matthews  
AAG

If the plan is favorably thought of by yourself and Bro. how would it do to bring it before the Club. I think that with your combined influence, together with the ever energetic Col Bliss it would succeed, if at all by any means. I could have sent you many other papers but I am afraid you could get them to read more than the Red River papers and the others.

