

Washington D.C July 1st 1865.
 New Army Milwaukee Wis.

(Washington)

Sir,

Learning that you are in this city and being from the same state, and county, I take the liberty to address you for the purpose of informing you of my present employment and constitution, and to put you under my debts - On the 31st day of December last, I was ordered from this city to the Camp Pendleton at Chino Wis. for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of General Order No. 305 of 1864 at that rendezvous. I entered upon my duties at Chino on the 9th day of January 1865. I soon discovered that these duties could not be performed without the help of other clerks. I applied to the Paymaster General for two additional clerks, and received authority to employ but one. The barracks where the men arriving at Pendleton were received, was situated some distance from the Head Quarters, where I was obliged to have my office, and the labor of receiving the money, taking it to the bank, counting it, making out the "check books", and keeping the necessary accounts, drawing and quilling the checks, and answering a large correspondence, that was every day increasing, imposed upon me an amount of labor, which with the ordinary services of two clerks it was impossible for me to perform. I again made application to the Paymaster General for two more additional clerks, which was not granted, and finding that I could not draw away with the emergency I after consulting with my clerks, agreed to give them each extra compensation at the rate of 100 per month, that the accumulation of

work ought to be done, which could only be accomplished by their
 working from eight o'clock in the morning till twelve and then worked
 at night, and which they did audaciously, in connection with myself.
 Being unable myself to pay them, and a great deal of my labor
 among them the Orders given by the Union in favor of the sutlers,
 Messrs. Dorman and Caldwell, editors and proprietors of the republican
 paper at Elmira, they volunteered on their own part, to give and
 money to pay my clerks their additional compensation. I was relieved
 from duty something over a month ago, and during the time I
 was stationed at Elmira, ~~amounted to the amount of~~ between
 ten or twelve millions of dollars in money, and near one million
 of dollars in bonds & certificates, paid into my hands, every dollar
 of which has been faithfully accounted for by me. I have in this
 city made about nearly two weeks. My only office I have stated
 above - You will doubtless remember that in January 1861. Gen.
 Andrew (Trask) step to ascertain, what troops in Massachusetts
 would volunteer their services to the country, in case a rebellion
 should break out - I then commanded Co. H, 6th Regiment Mass. B.
 and volunteered my services with my company; subsequently, and
 before the breaking out of the war I was transferred as Aide de Camp
 on the staff of Major Genl. Smith of Mass. On the 15th day of April
 1861, I left my home, and was detained by the Governor of Massachusetts
 to take charge of, and forward to Marlinton (the 6th, 7th, & 8th Mass.
 of our Cooks battery (that being the order in which they left the State).
 After I had got the 6th & 8th regiments through N.Y. city on their
 way to Marlinton, I received a telegram from the Governor, to provide
 rations and transportation, for twelve hundred men to Marlinton, who
 would report to me in New York City the next day. I, a short time

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Before, received information, that the 6th Regiment had been attacked
at Baltimore, (an irregular attack), a column of mine (Luther Ladd
and another were slain) and, that communication with Washington
by said had been cut. I immediately sought the aid of Colonel
Becker of Land Gravel Staff, who was then in New York City, he
referred me to Capt Tompkins of the 11th Regt, and he in-
formed me he had no authority to furnish transportation for the
1200 troops and could not furnish it. I then on my own responsi-
bility, and in the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,
chartered the Steamships Ariel and De Soto, and put upon them the
troops and their baggage, and started them on their way to Washington
without the approbation of the Director in the Marine Light Committee
known that day. I have continued in the service of my Country ever
since, have disbursed several millions of dollars, and have truly and
faithfully accounted to the Government for every dollar of Public
money, and as far as I know, up to the present time, have been regarded
as an efficient and faithful officer, by my superiors. I think pro-
per to send my resignation, which I respectfully request you to present
to the Honorable Secretary of War, and ask his acceptance of the same
for the reasons therein stated, and as he has always been courteous and
kind to me, in granting several requests I have made of him, I feel
with a proper understanding he will favor me in this as in others.

I have the honor, Sir,
to remain, Very Respectfully
Your most Obedt Servt.
George Ladd

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Letter Transcription, please email paul@majorjonathanladd.com if you can help with the missing words I could not decipher.

(Ladd archive letter)

Washington D.C. July (6th) 1865.

Hon Henry Wilson U S.S.

Washington

Sir,

Learning that you are again in this city and being from the same home state and county I take this liberty to address you for the purpose of informing you of my present embarrassed condition and to seek your aid in my behalf. On the 31st day of December last I was ordered from this city to the draft rendezvous in Elmira, NY for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of general order No 305 () 1864 at that rendezvous—I entered upon my duties at Elmira on the 9th day of January 1865. I soon discovered that these duties could not be performed without the help of extra clerks. I applied to the Paymaster General for two additional clerks and received authority to employ but one. The barracks where the men arriving at rendezvous were received. I was situated some distance from their headquarters where I was obliged to have my office and through labor of receiving the money taking it to the bank counting it, making out the check books and keeping the necessary accounts drawing and mailing the checks and answering a large correspondence that was every day incoming imposed upon my own amount of labor, which with the ordinary services of two clerks it was impossible for me to perform. I again made application to the Paymaster General for two more additional clerks, which was not granted, and finding that I must in some way meet the emergency, I, after consulting with my clerk agreed to give them each extra compensation at the rate of 100 per month, that this accumulation of work might be done. Which could only be accomplished by their working from eight o'clock in the morning till twelve and one o'clock at night and which they did admirably on cooperation with my help doing work myself to pay them and a great deal of my labor arriving from the orders given by the (Amer) farm if the (Suttons), Miss. (Amer) and Caldwell editor and proprietor of the (upatham) paper at Elmira they volunteered on their own part to give me money to pay my clerks their additional compensation. I was relieved from duty something over a month ago and during the time I was stationed at Elmira bounties to the amount of () two and three millions of dollars in money and near over million of dollars in bonds and certificates poured into my hands, every dollar of which has been faithfully accounted for by now. I have been in this city under arrest for nearly three weeks. My only offence I have stated above. You will doubtless remember that in January 1861 Governor Andrews took steps to ascertain what troops in Massachusetts would volunteer their services to the country in case a rebellion should break out. I then commanded (CR) H 6th Regiment MASS and volunteered my services with the company. (Inarguably) and before the breaking out of the war I was transferred as Aid De Camp on the staff of Major

General Sutton of MA. On the 15th day of April, 1861, I left my home and was detailed by the Governor of Massachusetts to take charge of and forward to Washington the 6th, 8th and 5th of Mass V and Cook's battery That being in the order in which they left the state. After I had got the 6th and 8th regiments thru NY city on their way to Washington, I received a telegram from the Governor to provide rations and transportation for twelve hundred men to Washington who would report to me in New York City the next day. I, a short time before, received information that the 6th Regiment had been attacked in Baltimore, in which attack, a cousin of mine Luther C. Ladd and another were slain and that communication with Washington by rail had been cut. I immediately sought the aid of Colonel (Bicott) of () Gen. Scott's staff, () them in New York City, he referred me to Captain Tompkins V. (M.) whom I saw and he informed me he had no authority to furnish transportation for 1200 troops and could not furnish it. I then on my own responsibility and in the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts chartered a steamships Ariel and DeSoto and put upon them the troops and their subsistence and started them on their way to Washington which met the appreciation of the Governor and the (unions) (safety) commanders (chosen) that day. I have continued in the service of my country ever since. I have disbursed several millions of dollars and have truly and faithfully accounted to the Government every dollar of public money, and as far as I know up to the present time having worked as an efficient and faithful officer by my superiors. I herewith forward to you my resignation which I respectfully request you to present to the Secretary of War and ask his acceptance of the same for the reasons therein stated and he has always been (conscious) and kind to you in granting several (requests) I have made of him. I feel with a proper understanding (he) will inform me in this as in others.

I have the honor (intention)
to remain, Very Respectfully
From most (obedient)

Jonathan Ladd, Paymaster U.S.A.