

Washington, D.C.:

31<sup>st</sup> July, 1861.

George Wallace Esq.  
Sacramento, Cal.

Dear Wallace:

At the request of our mutual friend Senator Latham, I leave to-day for Cal., via overland route, to obtain, if possible, the Lieutenant-Colonelcy of the Infantry Regt. to be called out by the Gov. for the protection of the overland Route.

I shall stop a day at Trenton to see my father, and two days at St. Louis with my wife; leaving St. Jo. the 7<sup>th</sup> proximo. I will be much obliged to you for your influence with the Governor in my behalf, as I suppose there will be applicants innumerable, many of whom know ~~about~~ as much about organizing and drilling a Regt., as a town-tit does of an opera.

Mrs. Latham, too, requested me last evg. to tell you it was also her wish I should

be apptd. Lt. Col., and you must not fail to secure it for me."

I first intended taking steamer of ~~the~~ tomorrow, but concluded to take the overland, with a view to observing the general topography of the country, and having an eye to suitable sites for military posts & camps. The Field-Officers are apptd. by the Governors, and the Company Officers are elected by the men.

I think I can safely assert, California will soon be called upon for a Brigade of 5000 men, to proceed to Texas, via the Gadsden Purchase, (Arizona,) to reestablish the authority and laws of the U.S., & to occupy that State.

I have this from high political authority. Let me find a letter, ~~from~~ at Carson, or some other prominent point, from you; and remember it is the Lieut. Colonelcy of the Regiment to protect the overland route I want. I do not wish to go to Texas.

My remembrance to the Madam.

Your Kinsman - George J. Thrie,  
Late U.S.A.