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Letter from George W. Porter to R.R. Towns

George W. Porter

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Head Quarters 2nd Brig 3 40 in 17 th.C. du the field as Big Black 6 th May 1863 A. A. Genl 3 delis, I hereby respectfully decline the honor conferred on me by the Comd's Officers of the 2 natingade in sending forward my name as a suitable person for the boloneley of the 11th Louisiana Rogh of Ufrican descent, and desire that you cause a more suitable person to be selected. I am frompted to this course by a feeling of my lack of sufficient experience in the world (being but 23 years old) to undertake so grave a re = sponsibility as the charge of a colored Regiment, and make its component facts first men then Soldiers - as well as by the Knowledge that there are elder men, eminently better qualified for es good a mork, than one so young as I could be at have the honor to be, Major, Your Obdir Servir Geo W. Forter, 1 excent loo. "B." 78 th Ov. J. " My A. A. D. C. 2 ndBrig.

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May 6, 1863

Head Quarters 2nd Brig 3d Div 17th A.C.

In the field in Big Black 6th May 1863

Major R.R. Towns

A.A. Genl 3d Div

Sir

I hereby respectfully decline the honor conferred on me by the Comd'g Officer of the 2nd Brigade in sending forward my name as a suitable person for the Colonelcy of the 11th Louisiana Regt of African descent, and desire that you cause a more suitable person to be selected.

I am prompted to this course by a feeling of my lack of sufficient experience in the world (being but 23 years old) to undertake so grave a responsibility as the charge of a colored regiment, and make its component parts first men then soldiers -- as well as the knowledge that where there are older men, eminently better qualified for so good a work, than one so young as I could be.

I have the honor to be, Major

Your Obd't Serv't

Geo W. Porter, 1st Lieut

Co. "B." 78th O.V.I. and

A.A. D.C. 2nd Brig.