5-6-1863

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

George W. Porter

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Head Quarters 2nd Brig 3-8th U.C.
In the field near Big Black 6th May 1863

Major R.H. Towner.
A.A. Asst. 3rd Div.

Sir,

I hereby respectfully decline the honor conferred on me by the Commanding Officers 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 33 years old) to undertake so grave a responsibility as the charge of a colored regiment, and make its component parts first men in soldiering as well as by the knowledge that there are elder men, eminently better qualified for so good a work, than one so young as I could be of have the honor to be, Major,

Your Obd't Servt.
Geo. W. Porter, 1st Lieut.
3rd Bt. 7th C.V. 1st N. 5th A. 3rd Div. 2nd Brig.
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.