

Confidential

Newbern July 7th 1861

Lieut W^m Shaw

Dear Sir -

I went directly to head quarters on my arrival yesterday, to get the order for a court martial, but the General was absent. I applied to his aid, Col^l Collier, and he frankly told me that under ordinary circumstances he would sign the order, but that he had just received a letter from Genl. Fryer, & things were in such confusion that he did not know at present the extent of his authority. It is said here on the street, that the Genl. has been raised again, & I have good reason to believe it to be so.

You must therefore hold the usual Company Court Martial, and deal with Barton as you think fit. You might ask William to preside if you think proper - or some other captain.

I shall go to Raleigh in the morning & perhaps to Halifax. The 10 Regiments are nearly filled. There is a vacancy in M^r Rait's Regiment, & I learn in one or two others. I have seen Dr Ruffin & Major Bachman, & they are anxious for us to join

to Ray. I don't fancy this idea if
we can do better.

I have been striving to learn whether
the 7th Regiment of 12 Miss Volunteers
(our Regiment) will be disbanded. Nobody
knows. Some say it will, some say
it will not. I am resolved not to
go back until I know all about
it. Col^l Collins thinks it will not
be disbanded, but retained in the service
of the State. I see by the Raleigh Stan-
dard which I send down, that Pres:
Davis will accept more volunteer
regiments than the fix, provided they
volunteer for the war. If this be
true, we can yet get in, by becoming
volunteers for the war, instead as we
now are, for 12 Miss. I will try
to be down in a day or two & will
then know all about it, & how to
advise.

The Jeff. Davis Rifles are here &
leave tomorrow or Tuesday. They are
in the 10 Regiments, but not Anderson's.
Anderson's I learn is full. I had
hoped not, for it was there I wanted
to go.

I send several of the last
papers. I would like for Mrs Spaww

To see them, & then have them sent
over to Capt. Sharp's camp. You will
see that Genl Johnston has three times
repulsed Patterson, & got him in a trap
at Martinsburg Virginia. It is said
that Patterson must surrender or be
cut to pieces.

I send four gallons of brown
flour. Let our boys use one of the
derringers, & reserve the others until
my return. I will send scratch
brushes if possible - could not get
them yesterday. They tell me here, to
get cast off card, from the cotton
factory - as good as any in the world.
I will bring some of that & also some
envelop paper when I go down.
Let the guns be browned & put in
order as fast as possible.

This letter is for the eyes of your-
self - Whitehurst & Thomas. I will
use all expedition in getting back.

Make every man sign the Muster
Roll. Our regiment must be organized,
or we are nowhere. Dwyer should
order an election, but he is at Raleigh
looking after his own interests.

Very sincerely
Yours &c J. Sparrow, Capt.

15 Dr Warren wrote a long letter
to Genl. Foy, setting forth the
necessity of his leaving the hospital.
Col^l Collier told me in the afternoon
that he had drawn an order on me
for its delivery. I asked to be heard.
Went to his rooms last night, &
checkmated the movement, at least
for the present. I think finally.
I told him he might order me to
furnish quarters for the sick, &
I would comply, but that I would
not turn any man out of the
hospital. W's letter was four
pages long, & I heard most of
it read. I is rich. What good
luck that I managed to come
up in ~~the~~ time to stop the order.
The letter was written July 2nd.

J. S.