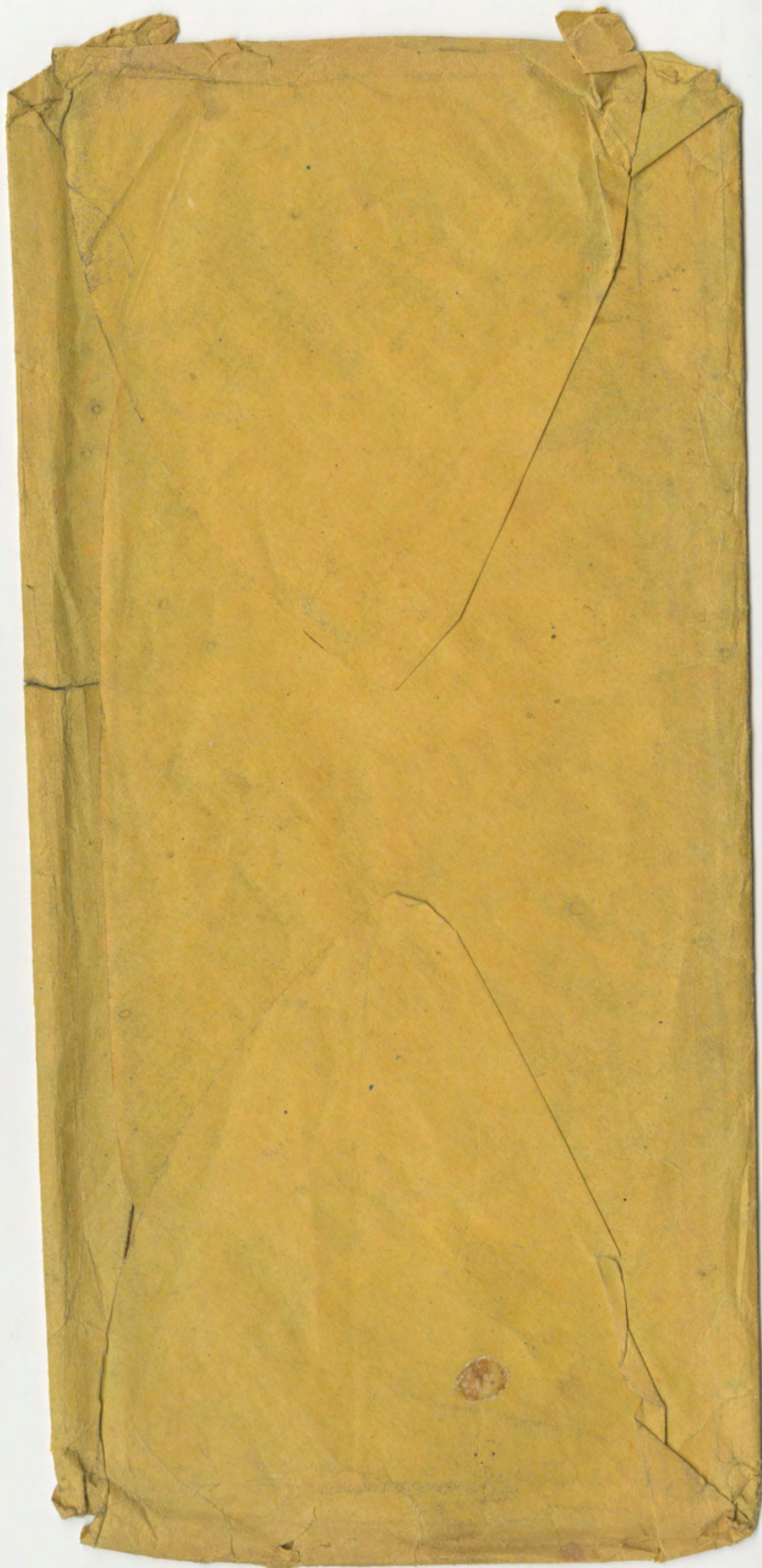


Copies of Letters &c
to War Dept and
others in reference
to St. Petersburg

Private

Petersburg
Nelson

R.B. Osgood



Head Quarters 57th Regt. Vt. Vol.
Athens Ala 19th April 1864

J. D. Townsend
~~Adjutant General~~
~~Abraham Lincoln~~
President U. S. A.

Having learned today ~~that~~
that Wilson F. Staunburg 1st Lieut & Adjutant of the 57th Regt
Ark Inf Vt. Vol. has been dismissed from the service of
the U. S. for an alleged misdemeanor in transporting
citizens over the Rail Road on Government Transportation
I requested him to make a statement of the facts in the
case which is herewith enclosed for your consideration
of the truth of enclosed statement there can be no
shadow of doubt.

My Personal knowledge in regard to the matter
is. That Adj. Staunburg did report to me at Camp
Fry near Chicago as he states. That it was proven to
the time alleged in the Chicago paper that the citizens
were transported.

The Regiment was ordered to rendezvous at Camp Fry
on the 5th day of March. To have recruits mustered in on
Monday the 7th. To leave for the field on the 8th March.
Adj. Staunburg from the date of his arrival at Chicago.

untill the Departure of the Regiment for the field (which took place on 9th March) was our duty with the Regiment at Camp Ford during the whole time. From the morning of the 4th untill the departure of the regiment the adjt was exceedingly busily engaged in his duties with the Regiment which was in Camp about 3 Miles from Chicago.

Knowing that the Citizens who are represented to have been transported did not receive their transportation untill 5 day after adjt Staunburg had arrived in Chicago, also knowing that adjt Staunburg had not been absent during the time from 28th Feb^y untill 9th March. I am positive he was not implicated in the transaction personally.

I neither heard or knew of the case untill my attention was called to an article in the Chicago Times about the first of inst. Viewing the Report as published to be false I called the adjt attention to the article. He then reported to me verbally, as his written statement would represent. Thinking our examination had brought out the actual facts of the case, is our record no more attention was given the matter at the time. Another was the article which I saw was published in a paper called the "Chicago Times" and I did not suppose any loyal man would believe anything it published.

It would most respectfully represent that adjt Staunburg has been with the Regiment since its first organization (more over 2 1/2 years) holding a Commission from the State of Illinois during the time. That his reputation never was questioned as to loyalty of

purpose or purity of motive in serving his country
His integrity has never been questioned, and in my
opinion stands above reproach. He has been in every
Battle & Skirmish in which the Regiment has participated
has always shown himself to be a brave and gallant
officer on the field of battle
In his official capacity as Adjutant he has shown
much more ordainary ability. Having become thoroughly
acquainted with the duties of the office, and by
promptness in discharge of his duties has always
shown the true Worthy Soldier in Camp.
I can assure you Sir that if the Order is issued
the Army will lose a Brave officer, and the
Regiment sustain a Great Loss

I can hardly imagine that an officer who has sustained
himself so well at Donelson, Shiloh, Advanced on Corinth, Battle of
Corinth and in various Skirmishes should have his fair name
blasted. His reputation as a ^{Soldier} & as a man
disgraced and exposed his family never to be effaced
for the misconduct of a Sargent.

He might have committed a fault in trusting the Transport
to the Sargent, but if fault it was I can only attribute it
to his zeal in procuring recruits for the Army which he worked
most faithfully for during the time the Regiment was recruiting
Hoping you will in the multitude of your more important business find
reason to excuse the fact, B. living and trusting that if such
~~order should be issued~~, you will at once re-instate
the officer in his former position which he has

so promptly and bravely filled.
Hoping this may meet with your early
consideration and receive your approval

I am
Very Respectfully Yours &c. S. L. Smith
4th Street bet 2nd & 3rd
Commanding
57th Ills Light Inf Regt

Head Quarters 3rd Brig Iowa Inf 16th AC
Dept ^{and} Army of the Grand
Attn Gen April 23 1864

To His Excellency
Abraham Lincoln
President of the United States
Sir

Having just seen an
order dishonorably dismissing from the Military
Service Adjutant H. Flansburg of 87th Regt Ills Vet Vols
for passing citizens on Government Transportation,
and having learned that the Officers of the
Regiment are making efforts to have him restored
I desired to make in his behalf the following
Statement viz —

Adjutant Flansburg is an
efficient able and brave Officer. He has held
that position in one of the Regiments attached
to the Brigade which I have had the honor
of commanding for the last eighteen (18) Months
and has acquitted himself well. No charge of

any kind derogatory to his character as an
officer or a gentleman was ever before
whispered against him. and it will give
us all great pleasure to hear of his speedy
restoration to his old position.

I have the honor to be

Very Respectfully

Your Obedient Servant

M M Bane Col 50th Ill Infy Comd'g 3rd Brig

Genl Geo Jrs State of Illinois
Adjt Genl's Office Chicago Ill April 29 1864

Hon John H Farnsworth M C
Washington D C

Dear Sir

Allow me to introduce
to your favorable acquaintance Lieut ^{and} Adjutant
Flausburg formerly of the 5th Ill Regt

He has recently been dismissed the
Service without a trial and in his behalf, I
insist-upon a prompt and fair examination into
the merits of his case, and if not guilty, and I
have no idea ^{that} he is, his honorable and early
restoration to Service. Lieut Flausburg is a
gentleman and a first-class Officer. No man in
the Service from this State stands higher, and I
respectfully and urgently request as a personal
favor that you interest yourself in his behalf,

Very Respectfully Your friend

And Obedient Servant

Allen C Fuller

United States

vs

Geo Husted

E Q Reed

J W Emery

United States Attorney's Office

N District of Illinois

Chicago April 30th 1864

Statement of facts

On the 25th of March 1864 These parties were arrested upon a warrant issued by U S Commissioner ^{Phillips} Heywood for a fraud on the Govt in riding from Galva Ills to Chicago Ills over the C B & Q R R Co upon Govt transportation They not being recruits or soldiers in the army of the United States, the complaint was made by Lucius Howland Conductor of the C B & Q R R Co. The evidence showed that Sergt William Leath Co H 5th Regt Ill Vol had Gov transportation for St. Plausburg and 17th men. Sergt Leath came aboard the train at Galva with 14 recruits and the three defendants and passed them off as recruits. Ser Leath signed St. Plausburg's name to the receipt on the back of the transportation. Sergt Leath stated that he had orders from Lieut Plausburg to bring these men to Chicago and pass them off as recruits. The statement of Sergt Leath was the only evidence at all implicating Lieut Plausburg in the matter at the hearing.

E C Larned U S Atty

Statement of facts by

Edgar Allan Poe

United States
vs
John A. Burt
D. O. Burt
J. M. Burt

United States Attorney General
Department of Justice
Chicago April 20th 1844

Capt's Office 5th "All Duffy" N V
Athens Ala April 22 1864

E D Townsend
Asst Capt Genl W S A

Sir

In reference to certain charges made against me for passing citizens over the R R from Galva to Chicago Ills on the 6th ult representing that they were recruits, I would most respectfully report that while on recruiting service at Galva Ills I had instructed my new recruits that on the 27th of Feby they must be ready to go into camp at Chicago Ills, that being the time veterans on furlough from the Regiment would return. On the 25th of Feby I received a communication from H J Hurlbut Lieut Col Comdg 5th "All Duffy" informing me that veterans might remain at home till March 3^d. I informed them of the fact, also gave the recruits permission to remain till that time. On the 26th I received another communication from Lieut Col Hurlbut Ordering me to report with Maj Fossé of my Regt at Camp Hay on the 27th, and having been relieved from recruiting service I accompanied the Major to Chicago Ill where we arrived on the morning of the 28th of Feby 1864, having given the new recruits permission to remain until the 3^d of March, some

of whom were out in the country. I could not get them together in time to take them to camp with me, and having only one ticket of transportation, I left it with Sergt William Leath of our Regt with instructions to gather up the recruits and bring them to camp when he came. He came to Chicago on the night of 3^d of March arriving on the morning of the 4th. I met him with the recruits at the Depot. He then informed me he had passed two (2) Citizens on the pass I gave him and the conductor was likely to make him trouble about it. I told him he had done wrong and that if he saw the conductor again to inform him that I desired to see him about it, and in fact was very anxious to see him as my name was on the pass. I think before giving the pass to Sergt Leath I signed my name to the receipt. Since which I have understood he represented to the Conductor that he (Sergt Leath) was the Officer named in the transportation. I heard nothing more of the matter until after arriving at Athens Alabama with the Regt a notice appeared in the Chicago papers announcing my arrest and arraignment for trial in that city. I have never been informed officially or otherwise of having been placed in arrest, (except the notice in the papers) or that either my reputation as a gentleman and or position was in jeopardy. I have never had a hearing in the case, and

and not guilty of the alleged crime of passing
three citizens on Government transportation. I was not
in Chicago at the time the examination took place
in regard to the transaction. And have not been at
Galva since leaving there on the 27th of Feb'y to report
to my commanding Officer at Camp Ford which I did
on the 28th and have been constantly on duty with
my Regt. from that up to the present time. The date of the
receipt of the order dismissing me from the Service.
The Offence I ~~understand~~ purports to have been committed
on the 6th of March 1864. After reporting for duty on the 28th of
Feb'y I ~~did not leave the city~~ remained at on duty at Camp
Ford and did not leave the city until the 7th of March
and then in company with the Regt. on its way to the
field. It ~~really seems hard very hard indeed to me~~ after
~~leaving home friends and all~~. These are the plain facts in
the case without any coloring whatever and believe from them you
^{will} be able to judge as to my innocence or guilt. It really seems
hard indeed to me that after having left my once happy
home, family, and friends, and for nearly three years ~~and~~
taken my chances on the battle piece fighting for my
country using my utmost endeavors to further the ^{conquering} ~~crushing~~
out of this ~~unholy~~ rebellion, to thus ~~be~~ disgracefully dismissed

the service, And ^{Sir} were it not that I can
raise my right hand toward ^{high} Heaven and
in the presence of Almighty God testify as to my
innocence, and in justice to my Aged Parents Brothers
Sisters Wife and ~~for~~ small children I would not
trouble you thus, but believing that it is not the design
of the Govt to punish the innocent I would most
respectfully request that the order be rescinded and
I restored to duty with my right in my former
position

I have the honor to be

Very Respectly
Yours at Servt

O. H. Hastings Citizen

Head Quarters Left Wing 16th A.C.
Athens Apr 25 1864

Genl E. D. Townsend
A. A. S. Washington D. C.

I respectfully request
that Lieut M. H. Langburg Asst S. of "The Indefatigable"
who was dismissed the Service by Special Order
No 143 Par 8 Head Quarters War Dept be given
an opportunity to defend himself against
the charges on which he was dismissed.

From my knowledge of this Officer. who has
served in my command eighteen months I am
convinced there is some mistake in the matter.
and that it will be found that he is not the
party at fault. As an Officer he has done his
duty faithfully and efficiently and has shown
himself to be an upright industrious officer
of excellent habits and by his conduct has won the
esteem and confidence of his brother Officers.

He feels keenly the disgrace attached to him
and I have no doubt will show to your

Satisfaction that he is not guilty of the act
I am very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
G. M. Dodge
Brig Genl

SPECIAL ORDERS, }
No. 143. }

WAR DEPARTMENT,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, April 9th, 1864.

(Extract.)

* * * * *

8. By direction of the President, Lieutenant and Adjutant *N. Flansbury*, 57th Illinois Volunteers, is hereby dishonorably dismissed the service of the United States, with loss of all pay and allowances, for committing a fraud upon the Government, by passing three private citizens, on Government transportation, from Galva to Chicago, Illinois.

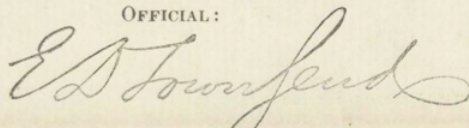
* * * * *

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,

Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:



Assistant Adjutant General.

C.O. 57th Illinois Vols 3
tho Army of the Land. — 3

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
WASHINGTON, April 24, 1904.

No. 143.

(Encls.)

By direction of the President, Lieutenant and Adjutant W. Evans
and Staff Illinois Volunteers, is hereby respectfully requested the ser-
vices of the United States, with loss of all pay and allowances, for con-
sidering a fund upon the Government, by passing from private citizens
on Government transportation, from Cairo to Chicago, Illinois.

By order of the Secretary of War:

R. D. TOWNSEND,

Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL



Adjutant General

L Morrissey
717 8th Ave N.Y.

War Department
Adjutant General's Office

Washington April 9th 1864

Special Orders

No 143

3

extract

+

+

+ + 8 By direction of the President
Lieutenant and Adjutant N. Flensburg 5th Illinois
Volunteers is hereby dishonorably dismissed the Service
of the United States with loss of all pay and
allowances, for committing a fraud upon the
Government by passing three private citizens on
Government transportation from Galva to Chicago Ills

By Order of the Secretary of War

E. D. Townsend Asst Adj. Genl

Official

E. D. Townsend

Asst Adj. Genl

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of extract
S. O. 143 current series War Dept now on file at these
Head Quarters

F. A. Hurlbut

Lieut Col

5th Ill Cav, Conely

W H Burdell
MS Sept 4
New York

(Must make to him
N 213

W H Burdell

W H Burdell

Banking

Frank Smith, Illinois

United States District Attorney's Office
Chicago April 30th 1864

Hon D. A. Arnold

Dear Sir

St & Adjt Flansburg 5th Ill Reg
who will hand you this has been summarily dismissed
the service for alleged misconduct - in passing citizens
over the Ill & B & N R R upon a transportation ticket -

St-Flansburg has the highest testimonials in his
favor as an Officer, and has been dismissed without ever
having any hearing or opportunity of defence

I have no doubt ^{that} the charge against him was
based upon a report from this Office to Genl Orme of
upon the proceedings upon complaint before Commis-
sioner Heyne, upon the trial of which it was proven
that three citizens were transported to Chicago on a
U S Transportation Order together with 14 recruits
That this party was under the charge of Sergt Leath
of that Regiment who signed the name of St-
Flansburg to the receipt on the back of the Order
and who stated upon oath that he took these
men by the order of St-Flansburg. This was all

The evidence implicating Lt. F. in the matter and was probably given by the Sergt. to shield himself & as it is now alleged that Lt. F. was not at Galva at the time and gave no such order and had nothing to do with the matter.

It seems wholly wrong and unjust that Lt. Flansburg should be discharged the service upon the statement of a subordinate made under such circumstances and without any opportunity given him to show its falsity. and I trust you will be able to give him prompt and efficient aid in obtaining a restoration of his official position.

His testimonials are of the most satisfactory character. I feel the more interest in the matter for the reason that I have (though without fault on my part) been the means of bringing this injury and disgrace upon this officer.

I reported the facts just as they appeared in evidence but supposed of course that they would be investigated before action

Your Obedient Servant
E. C. Larned
W. S. Atty.

Mayors Office 3rd Dec Duft. 42
Athens Ala April 24th 1864

I hereby testify that on the 27 day of Feby 1864
I left Galva Ill with Flaustburg Luit and Capt 57 Ill
Duft. 42 and proceeded to Chicago Ill where we arrived on
the morning of the 28th reporting for duty to Luit Col F. J.
Hendbut Comdg 3rd Ill Duft. 42 and that the said Capt
Flaustburg did there remain constantly on duty at Camp
Foy until the Regt left for the field on the 9th day of March
1864 and that in my opinion could not have passed
citizens over the C. R. & G. R. R. as alleged by the Chicago
papers representing them to be recruits. And do further
believe that he is wholly innocent of the crime charged with
passing citizens on Govt transportation thereby committing a
fraud on the Govt. And having been connected with
him as an Officer since the formation of the Regt
and him an excellent Officer and a good Soldier
and by his dismissal from the service a position is
vacated which cannot be easily filled by so worthy
and competent an officer as he. Hoping that he may be
speedily restored to his former position as in my opinion justice demands
I subscribe myself Very Respectfully
E. Foster Maj 57 Ill Duft. 42

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th inst. in relation to the matter of the Chicago and North Western Railway Company, and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration. I am, Sir, very respectfully,
 Yours, &c.
 J. M. Smith

J. M. Smith
 Chicago, Ill.

May 16 1870
Certificate

Headquarters Left Wing Sixteenth Army Corps,

Athens, Ga. April 23^d 1864.

Mem. Order }

Lieut. Flansburg, Adj't.
57th Regt. Ills. Vols. will proceed
to Nashville, Tenn. on important
business connected with his
position in the Army.

By Order of
Brig. Genl G. M. Dodge
J. W. Barnes
A. A. G.

Preparation for the 23rd day

Attn. Mr. C. W. 23rd day

Mr. C. W. }

Dear Mr. C. W.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23rd inst.

and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,

Wm. C. W.

Wm. C. W.
Wm. C. W.
Wm. C. W.

I hereby testify, That on the night of the 3^d of March 1864 I
went from Galva Ill to Chicago Ill over the L & N R R and that
on the same train was Sergt William Leath 5th Ill Infy, Co A
Husted, Elias O'Kee & John Emery citizens of Galva Ill, who Sergt
was passing as recruits. The Conductor suspicious that they were
not recruits and after passing Keokuk, (first station east of Galva
on L & N R R) the train was stopped, and after making inquiries
as to the cause. I was informed by Sergt Leath that the Conductor
had attempted to eject the aforementioned citizens and insisted that
~~they should~~^{on their} leaving the train unless they paid their fare as he did not
believe they were recruits. but he (Sergt Leath) insisted that they
were recruits and should go to Chicago on the Govt transportation
that the conductor had quailed and the boys were going through
all right. which they did arriving by same train in Chicago Ill
on the morning of 4th of March 1864. And further Swear that
N. Clausburg Lt & Capt 5th Ill Infy, was not on the train any
part of the trip from Galva to Chicago, he having left for
Chicago several days previous { Iress Williams Private Co H 5th Ill Infy, Co A
Subscribed and Sworn to before me by
Iress Williams Pri Co H 5th Ill Infy, Co A this 24th
day of April 1864 at Athens Ala

Geo C Fitcher Lt & Actg Judge Advocate
Left Wing 16th A C

Chicago April 30th 1864

Hon Isaac N Arnold

Dear Sir

The bearer Lieut Filanburg late of 5th Ills visits Washington for the purpose of presenting his case to the War Dept and requesting an investigation. I am without personal acquaintance with him but from letters he has presented me from my friends who are in the service. I have no doubt he is entitled to a fair hearing and that upon such hearing he will be able to establish himself as a gentleman and good Officer.

You will very much oblige me by rendering him any assistance in your power and I will esteem such act on your part as a personal favor to myself.

Yours Truly

Nathan Mears

SPECIAL ORDERS, }
No. 175.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, May 12th. 1864.

(Extract.)

* * * * *

3. So much of Special Orders, No. 143, April 9th, 1864, from this Office, as dismissed Lieutenant and Adjutant *N. Flansburg*, 57th Illinois Volunteers, is hereby revoked, and he is restored to his command, provided the vacancy has not been filled, evidence of which must be obtained from the Governor.

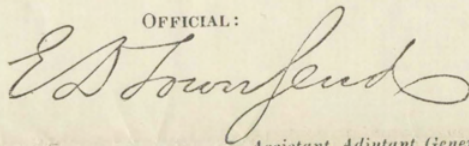
* * * * *

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,

Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:



Assistant Adjutant General.

C. O. 57th Ill. Vols
this Army Tenn

WAR DEPARTMENT

(Extract)

3. So much of Special Order, No. 143, April 30, 1911, from this
Office, as directed Lieutenant and Adjutant A. F. Fawcett, 67th Illinois
Volunteers, is hereby revoked, and he is restored to his command, pro-
vided the vacancy has not been filled, or filled of which must be obtained
from the Governor.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND

Assistant Adjutant General

Official:

E. D. Townsend

5025
The Chicago Tribune

War Department,

Adjutant General's Office,

Washington, May 12th 1864.

Special Orders, }
No. 175 }

Extract.

3 So much of Special Orders No. 143, April 9th 1864, from this Office as dismissed Lieutenant and Adjutant W. Flansburg, 57th Illinois Volunteers, is hereby revoked, and he is restored to his command, provided the vacancy has not been filled, evidence of which must be obtained from the Governor.

By order of the Secretary of War:

(Signed) E. D. Townsend

Assistant Adjutant General.

Official

Thomas M. Vincent

Assistant Adjutant General

Lieut. Flansburg
Present

