

42  
Head Quarters 2<sup>nd</sup> Div. N.M.  
August 20<sup>th</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> Sep. 1859.

Sir,  
Since my last communication to you on the subject of the expedition against the canal ridges, and the march of troops, I have been anxiously looking for a communication from Col. Thurston, particularly as many and conflicting statements were made to me of his movements on the line. I have now the honor to inform you that by the arrival of the boats here on Monday evening, on their return from the line, I was made acquainted with the operations of the detachment and of the close of the ~~close~~ of the Campaign and have waited, since then for the official report of Col. Thurston, which I have just received, and hasten to forward to you, the enclosed copy, and a copy of his letter accompanying it.

I take pleasure in saying to your Excellency, that I am justified in the opinion, heretofore expressed to you, of the military character and qualifications of the officer selected to command the corps and from the issue of the Campaign, as detailed in his report, I trust in your approval of his proceedings, and of the conduct of the officers and men under his command.

When the Troops left the line, the laborers were represented as quiet and humble, but since then we have reports that many of them have manifested a return of a restless and vicious spirit, and threaten mutiny. Others again are said to have attempted to rise for trespasses &c.

I still entertain the opinion that it will require a permanent force to keep the disaffected and turbulent in subjection, and to quiet the fears and secure the safety of the inhabitants in the neighborhood of the works, and the contractors and orderly laborers engaged on it.

The troops are discharged and have returned to their respective homes, and it is my wish for me to advise your Excellency, that they have my thanks for the promptitude, energy and zeal with which every officer and soldier performed his duty, and that they may be relied on in case of any further call for their services.

To

His Excellency  
Governor General

I have the honor to be

Yr. Obedt. Servant  
Wm. B. Bay