

my explanation, and I gave him the receipt for the oats taken. I presume Mr. H. forgot to tell you he told the Sergeant (whose name is Hamandis) that he was sorry to see his name disgraced by that uniform, and that he told me he would not take the oath of allegiance or sell grain to the Government at any price, and that the Sergeant behaved in the most gentlemanly manner. I am fully satisfied he would not have taken the oats against Mr. Hamandis' wishes but that he understood me to say he must get them; He is a perfectly reliable man and during the five months he has been with me has not been guilty of an infraction of discipline. Besides this, he is a Refugee from Loudon County Virginia. His Father (John B. Dutton) has twice been imprisoned by the Rebels for adherence to the cause of the Union and has been robbed by them of nearly all he possessed. In view of these facts I am certain you would not wish me to punish a man for doing what he thought his duty, even though in the performance of it he overstepped the bounds of Civil Law. I have the authority of the Sergeant for saying that no threats were used or pistols drawn to his knowledge, and I would believe his simple assertion before the affidavit of any living Secessionist. I wrote to Col. Belger asking that Mr. Hamandis be paid for the oats at once.

I stated to Mr. Hamandis that I believed there was a Law requiring Drafted men to defray the expenses incident to the search for delinquents, but did not state it as a certainty.

I regret exceedingly this affair should give your Excellency so much trouble, I always endeavored while under your orders, to avoid giving offence to people entertaining Secession Sentiments, and have often taken insults rather than risk in any way injuring you with your own people, however widely they differ from your views —

Accompanying this letter you will find the full statement of Sergeant Dutton.

I am Sir, Your obt. servt.

Theodore Clayton

Capt. Comdg. Co. C. Purnell Cavalry

For statement of Sergeant see Letter file enclosed in the above Communication

Head Quarters Middle Department 8<sup>th</sup> Army Corps  
Baltimore Md. February 18<sup>th</sup> 1863

To His Excellency

A. W. Bradford Governor of Maryland  
Governor:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Communication of the 16<sup>th</sup> Inst. and to inform you that Col. James R. Swain, Commanding Scotts 900 U.S. Vol. Cavalry, has been relieved in the Command of that portion of my department, over which he has heretofore exercised control; and that the whole of that portion of Country lying between the Patuxent and Potomac Rivers has been placed under the Command of Brig. Genl. W. W. Lockwood.

I am very Resp<sup>y</sup> Your obt. servt.

R. C. Schreck Major Genl. Commanding