

Cambridge 13<sup>th</sup> April 1829

Dear Sir,

My son Andrew O. W. who is in your company, wrote to me last Nov<sup>r</sup> that he was in the last year of his enlistment, and asked my advice. I answered him directly; since which I have not heard a word from him.

I consulted the friend of us all, Major General Dearborn, stating to him every view and circumstance relative to my son, and his expectations. The General, after judiciously remarking the difficulty of giving advice to a man who had attained the years of the person concerned, said, that taking all things into consideration, his advice to me was, to write to you, and say, that if Andrew could obtain the place of orderly sergeant, I should advise to his re-enlistment in your corps; but he could hardly bring himself to advise his re-enlistment as a private soldier; but repeated the difficulty of giving advice to any man who had arrived at that period of life, when most men act by their own bias and inclination; and had acquired habits that seldom very materially altered.

The General said he felt entirely free in advising me to consult you, whose friendly advice would be more correct than his could possibly be. And this letter is written with that express view. You doubtless have formed a correct judgment of him by this time; and you, I am persuaded, would advise for the best. I wish him to remain under your command and protection; and only hope that he merits a higher station, consonant to his habits, integrity, and morals. He chose the line of life he is in without my knowledge or wish; but being in it, I wish to make it as pleasant, and as respectable as possible. Be pleased to accept my reiterated thanks for your friendship thus far, and believe me to be with constant esteem your obliged friend & serv<sup>t</sup>. Benj<sup>n</sup>. Waterhouse

D<sup>r</sup> A. O. Waterhouse  
3<sup>rd</sup> April 1829

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