

July 1865

## Letter to Brig. Gen. Thomas Bowen from Col. W. F. Cloud

W. F. Cloud

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Leavenworth Kansas.  
July 18th 1865

Gen Thos. M. Bowen

Dear Sir

Permit me to suggest that no friendships are more lasting than those formed between Soldiers who have shared dangers Battles and victories.

This having been our relation I assure you that I hear with regret that you have been "dishonourably dismissed" the service of the United States.

Now Gen when I remember that you were the first to enter the service at the breaking out of the rebellion. that you served during the entire war - that you have held official position and have risen rapidly in rank. that you have had the confidence and esteem of your several Commands



That you have had commands of danger where your vigilance and skill have enabled you to acquit yourself with honour and to the good of the service - that you have invariably maintained good discipline in your commands and laboured to secure for your commands all the benefits of the service. that you have been generous and courteous to your fellow officers although ambitious and aspiring I conclude that erroneous presentations must have been made to the war dept and alike unjust to yourself and dangerous to your brother officers.

Permit me Gen to express a sincere hope that an investigation of your case will obtain a reversal of the order and accord to you the honour which you deserve

Sincerely your friend  
W. Cloud  
Sate Col Ind Kan Cav



Plans

Faint, illegible handwriting covering the page, likely bleed-through from the reverse side. The text is mirrored and difficult to decipher.