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## Letter to Patrick Guiney, 1862 August 18

John Mahan

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Suffolk Co

August 16. 1862

This day the within named John W. Mahan personally appeared before me at Boston in said County, and he being duly sworn deposed that the within statement by him subscribed is true, and subscribed to the same in my presence.

Taken to be used at the trial of Col. Patrick R. Guiney, by Court of 9th Regt Mass. Vols, by

joined two pieces of Artillery upon  
our Camp at Harrison's Landing, being  
unable to walk on the wounded leg  
I rode to the front with the regiment  
and remained doing duty all the time  
until ordered on Recruiting Service.

John F. Mahan  
Capt. 9<sup>th</sup> Mass. Vol.

Aug. 16<sup>th</sup> 1862.



Colonel Guiney, who had been complaining of severe indisposition during the day, was so prostrated that he could not ride his horse and, gave up Command to Major Hanly. On the 30<sup>th</sup> of June Colonel Guiney was much worse and was obliged to ride in the ambulance.

~~ment of other circumstances occurring, - he returned~~  
I am detailed on the recruiting service for the State of Massachusetts. I have been in the regiment ever since its organization and been in every skirmish and battle, in which my Regiment participated.

Was in the battles fought at Mechanicsville, Guiney Mills, and Malvern, and was present all the time when the Regiment was engaged. At Guiney Mills, in

consequence of ~~the~~ Colonel Cass being compelled to give up Command of the Regiment, Colonel Guiney, who had been in the field and at his post with his Regiment - assumed Command, and led the Regiment in nine successive charges up the hill near the Hospital where line of battle had been previously formed; and, which has already been reported to in General Hovey's official report. Col. Guiney was in the thickest of the fight and several times gave up Command to Major Hanly but, as many times returned to take Command himself.

At my time during that day Colonel Cass, said to me that he would



I John D. Mahan Captain of  
Company D, Ninth Regiment of  
Massachusetts Volunteers, of the age  
of Twenty-one years, being duly sworn  
on oath do say -

I am Captain of Company D, Ninth Reg-

Laid to  
Retrace their steps and take position  
upon Malvern Hill, Colonel Cass ~~that~~  
Colonel Quincy ~~that~~ "I know how to  
feel for a sick man - I had better  
remain in the ambulance, as I feel  
a little stronger and feel it is my  
duty to go with the Regiment," he  
wrote to that effect.

Some of  
my know whether we were going, but  
our Regiment was posted on the extreme  
left of the battery of field artillery,  
in front of a large mansion on the hill,  
we retold our position again on the evening  
of the 30<sup>th</sup> and laid down in the  
wheat field near the house alluded  
to, and near to the right. The

next day, the first day of July, our  
Regiment shifted position several times  
while supporting the batteries. Colonel

of the fight and led the Regiment being  
conspicuously exposed to the enemy's fire,  
but, at no time was he absent when  
the Regiment was under the enemy's fire.

June 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> Colonel Quincy  
commanded the Regiment Colonel Cass  
being still unable to ride his horse.

Upon the evening of the Twenty-ninth



Who the individuals are, but -  
I make no exception; their  
names cannot cover their  
guilt. I would deem  
it an especial favor if you  
would let them read my  
opinion of their Characters.

If anybody is desiring of  
knowing my opinion of you,  
let them refer to the Gazette  
published several weeks since,  
but what is my opinion?

I spoke of Gen. Sherman's  
official report of the Battle  
of Gaines' Mills, in my former  
letter to you - I intended  
to send the extract taken from  
the N. Y. Herald to the Boston  
Journal for publication but,  
I will enclose it in this  
letter - show it to the Slanders  
and make them eat their words.

Ms 2  
Dec



I wish you would give  
it to the Journal for publication.

It is late & I am not  
well so I must finish  
this hastily written eulogy  
upon the defunct reputation  
of the very brave & valiant  
stay at home gossip.

I trust you are better -  
Some of the officers are very  
little better than the individuals  
referred to - But they have  
had my opinion & you  
can see them occasionally in  
tows & throngs whispering, - as if  
to plan some way of action,  
by which they can advance  
their own selfish ends - Gen.  
Griffin is posted on all - he is  
a Latitudinarian kind of man.  
He sent for me to thank

me, he said, for my services -

He recommended me  
strongly to the Commanding General  
for leave to go home and assist  
in recruiting, with the understanding  
that I should only be gone  
three weeks or a month, - long  
enough to recruit my health -

Gen. Moull approved  
the appointment but nothing  
more has been heard from it.

I think Porter is holding it  
back until your arrival, not  
wishing to let a Captain go  
at the present time. When  
you arrive you must assist  
me in getting a short leave -

Write & send me some papers -  
I remain

Ever yours,  
John W. Mahan  
"Capt. C. D.