

to be extended to them by the authorities and citizens of Portland :—

PORTLAND, MAINE,

30th July, 1858, 10 P.M.

SIR,—I have only time, at this late hour, to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 24th instant, by the hands of Captain Malhiot, intimating the intention of yourself and command to visit Portland in August next, and to assure you, that not only the military, but all our citizens will be pleased to see you here at that time, and to extend to you the hospitalities of our city.

Very respectfully, &c.

WENDELL P. SMITH,

Major-General 5th Division V. M. of Maine.

Lt. Col. THOMAS WILY,

Commanding Montreal V. M. Rifles.

VOLUNTEER MILITIA OF MAINE,

Head Quarters 5th Division,

Portland, 2d Aug., 1858.

SIR,—Your favor of 24th instant to Major-General Smith, relative to the proposed visit of the Montreal Militia Rifle Companies to this city, was received by him at so late an hour as to preclude so full and explicit a reply as he desired, and, at his request, I hasten to express again, in his behalf, the great gratification a visit from our friends of the Montreal Militia will afford the military of this city. And the interest felt at the visit of yourself and your command is not confined to the military of our city. Our merchants and the citizens generally look forward to the occasion with pleasure, and regard it as another opportunity to promote and extend those friendly relations between our two cities, which have been more fully developed within the last few years.

As regards the time named in your letter (10th August), I would take the liberty to suggest (such being the opinion of the officers of the companies) that 17th August would more fully convene our military. We trust that such a postponement will not interfere with the arrangements made by you.

In relation to your enquiry as to whom application should be made for permission to enter our State, I do not know that such permission is required, any further than is necessary to pass at the Custom-House with your baggage and equipments; but that no necessary formality may be omitted and obstruct your visit, I would advise your application to the Governor of the State, the Hon. Lot M. Morrill, of Augusta, who will give you permission if necessary, or advise you what course to adopt.