

Transcription

**"It is my purpose to remain in the Army"**

New York Hotel

March 12. 1861

His Excellency

Govnr. Jno Letcher

Richmond Va.

Dear Sir:

I received yesterday a letter from Maj Gilham of the Va. Mil. Institute dated the 9th Inst in reference to the position of Chief of Ordnance of the State, in which he informs me that you had requested him "to ask me if I would resign from the service, and if so whether that post would be acceptable to me." As he requested me to make my reply to you direct, I have the honor to state, after expressing my most sincere thanks for your very kind offer, that it is not my wish to leave the Service of the United States as long as it is honorable for me to remain in it, and therefore as long as my native State Va. remains in the Union it is my purpose to remain in the Army, unless required to perform duties alike repulsive to honor and humanity.

I am Sir

Very Respectfully

Yr. obt. svt.

GEO. H. THOMAS

Maj U. S. Army

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**Citation:** George H. Thomas to Governor John Letcher, March 12, 1861, Executive Papers of Governor John Letcher, Acc. 36787, State Government Records Collection, Record Group 3, Library of Virginia.