

Office Surgeon in Chief 1st Sep. Brigade
Relay House June 30th 1865

Col J Simpson Med Director Middle Dept
Baltimore

Sir -

Asst Surg McKee

1st Del. Cavalry has just returned to this Post
by my advice in order to have his affairs settled
up at once - The position is such a complicated
one that I hesitate accepting the responsibility
of ~~directing~~ ^{directing} him to adopt
any one of the three measures which
there seem to be of settling - He seems to have
intended to do perfectly right in the affair -
but to have been used by Surgeon Shields. So
have erred wholly through ignorance - Dr McKee
states that all the stores are now in the
charge of Capt Cummings - A 2nd M Baltimore
I also that he was compelled to send them there
as Surgeon Shields refused to receive them
or receipt to him for them - I left the Regt
on the same day the goods were shipped
I suppose he can invoice the property to the
Med Purveyor at Washington if the Med Purveyor
at Baltimore is prohibited from receiving them

but as Surg Shields is not to be mustered out
with the Regt - I should have been made res-
ponsible for the stores some time ago. It is
a question if he should not be made responsible
for them now - He can invoice them to Surg
Shields. But it is a question if an officer under
arrest, & being tried by Court Martial & then
absent can be made responsible for property.
He can turn them over & get receipts from
some Medical officer here - But I should
be unwilling to direct any of them now here
to become responsible for the whole lot, as
really nothing is needed - & none can be
used except a portion of the small
stock of medicines. Will you be kind
enough to endorse your opinion on this
as an order so that I can know how to
act - I have it serve as a direct authority
for Dr McKee.

Very Respectfully
Yrs O. S. Lerant
A. P. M. Surg. U.S.A.

W. H. D. Mail Regd 8th M.
Baltimore June 25th 1865
Respectfully returned to
Surgeon A. H. Rice U. S. A.

Inasmuch as the question
of property responsibility in
this case belongs exclusively
to the Medical, a decision can-
not be given at this Office.
By order of the Act Med Board

W
Chas. B. Vincent
Act. Surgeon U. S. A.