

and that there may not occasionally
have been depredations committed by them
but I do say the instances have been rare
and then only where the example had been
set by other Commands and that the bad
are kept in check by the example and
the fear of the good. In the good of
the service and in behalf of the good name
my Regiment has always borne ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~protection~~
~~against the policy~~ ^{protection} ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~secured~~
~~by~~ ^{and} ~~as~~ ^{an} ~~act~~ ^{act} ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~justice~~
~~that~~ ^{to} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~faithful~~ ^{faithful} ~~soldier~~ ^{soldier} I protect against
the ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~suppression~~ ^{suppression} ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~a~~ ^a ~~policy~~ ^{policy} which
makes no distinction between the good
and the bad — In order that it may
not have the for effect that it will
inevitably have if pursued in (that
of licensing the evil disposed to commit
depredations at the expense of those who
would condemn such acts, I have deter-
mined to pay myself the assessments made
against my Regiment when I believe they
are unjustly made preferring to do this
than to see a principle destroyed upon which
the efficiency of my Regiment depends



I respectfully beg leave to call your atten-
tion to the enclosed receipt and accompany-
ing statements in relation thereto. In consequence
of the number of depredations committed upon
private property the Brig Genl Comg Div
has issued an order regarding ~~the~~ ^{the} amount
of damages committed to be assessed to
the different Commands throughout his
Div and it was under that order that
the ~~the~~ ^{the} payment referred to in the receipt
was made — The assessment was made
~~against~~ ^{upon} the pay of the officers and men
composing my Regiment — but feeling
dissatisfied that no part of the depredations
were committed by the men of my Reg
I have chosen ~~to~~ ^{to} pay the amount
out of my own salary rather than they
should pay for depredations which they
did not and which I honestly believe they
are too honorable to commit — The assessment
is made equally upon all of the different
Commands composing the 1st Brigade ~~and~~
thereby implicating all to an equal extent
in this one act — and fixing indelibly upon
~~the~~ ^{the} each & every Regiment — a stigma which