

Head Quarters 56th Regt. Pa. Vols.

Camp near Kelly's Ford, Va.

December 5th, 1863.

To

President Union League,

Philadelphia.

Dear Sir:

Permit me to offer for the acceptance of the League over which you preside, the accompanying flag. It has been used by my Regiment as a Camp Flag.

In the month of June last, the Regimental Flag was sent to Philadelphia, to have inscribed upon its folds the names of the actions through which the Regiment had passed. This Flag was then used as the Regimental Flag, and as such it was carried through the memorable battle of Gettysburg.

It was the fortune of my Regiment to open that battle, as is attested by the enclosed extract of a letter from General Cutler, commanding our Brigade on that occasion, to his excellency, Governor Curtin. The Officers of the Regiment have desired me to present this Flag to your League, in appreciation of its services in our common cause==the crushing of the fratricidal rebellion.

The Flag bears the Disc, or Sphere, the badge of our Corps in the the Division color. It also bears some evidence of the strife through which it passed.

In presenting this Flag to you, you will pardon me, sir, if I, with some feelings of pride, ask your attention to the complimentary language in which General Cutler alludes to the Regiment that I have the honor to command.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

Your fellow-citizen,

J. Wm. Hofmann,

Col. 56th Regt. Pa. Vols.

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