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Brouth, Virgil M. to Mr. E. J. Scott

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17TH PROVISIONAL TRAINING REGIMENT ASSOCIATION.

Camp Grant, Illinois.
January 26, 1918.

The Honorable,

Mr. E. J. Scott,

Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

You will recall the invitation you so,generously extended to us at Des Moines, Ia., to write to you at any time concerning our camp activities. Our failure to write before now, is not due to any indifference on our part. Our time has been so filled with the organization and constructive work of the command that we have had but little time for any thing else. Now that there is a moment for careful thought, we wish to make a few observations, which we consider vital to our cause and that of the Nation.

We believe the Secretary of War sincere in his promise that our officers ought to be treated with absolute fairness. We understand that the 93rd Division, composed of Colored Men, is to be formed. This, we think, is our opportunity to press our point to promotions for Lieutenants and Captains. We feel also that we have men who are capable to be Staff and Field Officers. With two exceptions we are not represented in the capacities named. It would greatly increase the morale of us all if there were some recognition. The recent promotions of Captains Green and Davis has thrilled us with devotion to the cause we represent.

Wishing you continued success in your work, we remain,

Very respectfully,

Virgil M. Boutte
.....
President.

.....
Secretary and Treasurer.

Address:

1st Lieut. Thomas M. Gregory,
349th Field Artillery,
Camp Dix,
N. J.