



Head Quarters,

Fifth Regiment, M. V. M.

Camp Preble, Portland, Me.

June 7. 1861.

Dear Sir:

The muskets for our reg. have arrived and we shall take possession of them this day - We shall return the old muskets now in the possession of the different Cos. to the Arsenal. I mean the "all sorts" of muskets which we are not expected to retain -

Major Hayden has been ^{on} our ground here this morning - We hope to be ordered off some time within the next few weeks - but if it should be the best to remain here & with the other form a 'Camp of Instruction'. I pray you put us on some one of the Islands - They tell me that Fort Miana is just the place

and that we can well and easily discipline
& retain our men. Major Thomas N.
J. Miller, S. E. Spry and a very good
man assistance in securing the
Hanza and the expenses there would
not equal to what they are here, and
more than that the ~~the~~ soldiers could
^{not} commit so much waste as here - I
earnestly recommend this subject to
your consideration. Col. Miller has
returned & will visit us - We have
wished assistance in making up pay
rolls as we have but a few, if a
single man, who can do it - The
Muskets will be distributed this day -

Yours Very Truly

Mark H. Jewell