

the spring of & holds on the bay mouth, be properly  
boarded on but that two screws be put in <sup>126</sup> through

the hull Head Harton 4<sup>th</sup> Reg Maine Dec Nov 18 1861

we obtained from Col Marshall some rifle

~~See~~ Col. Nickerson arrived in Camp Yesterday  
about from Maine. The New Company came with  
him. It is a fine body of men & I shone a few  
new Officers. For this kindness on Your part  
~~in~~ clothing them now. & further interest You have  
manifested in the Gd 45 pieces as well my  
warmest thanks - We are in good  
health & are encoutered in every respect  
I hope to do continue - In regard to Sec-  
-cessor to Col Nickerson - Should he leave the  
Reg - I will advise you of a due time -  
any other state I will accept of Your kind offer  
of Union Rifles and will make my arrange-  
ments accordingly - We have here one kind  
of gun to each Regiment so the kind of Am-  
munition is one that is safe to go into battle with  
& therefore prefer all Union Rifles in lieu of  
half Union & half Enfield -

~~See~~ Col. H. informs me that you  
are making arrangements to fit the bayonets to the guns  
I would therefore suggest - That the Catch that receives

the spring of & holds on the bayonet. be not only  
braced on but that two screws be put in through  
the Catch & into the base of the Rifle - Those Rifles  
we obtained from Col. Marshall were all right  
The Bayonet Catch will be secured by ten screws. Those  
that the 3<sup>d</sup> Maine receive some will be fast the  
Catch only braced on. & they are all coming off  
which renders the Bayonet of no use & the  
Solider is consequently less confident in his  
piece - Do not allow the work on them have  
affect to be slighted in the least - The arm  
is a splendid one & is my opinion the best  
in use -

Maine is doing her part in this war  
you are doing services rendering Maine here  
- And such ~~Maine~~ too - better than those from  
any other state - do not let any ~~one~~ you  
allow your health to be undermined by over  
exertion, -

My kind regards to Gen. Sedgwick

Recheerfully yours truly  
H. A. Washburne

for me -

Col. W. G. Berry will tell you  
I have the too say that the Catch that secures