

Dr. Morrison
H. Emerson
Sept. 5.

250.

Fort Concord Va.

Sept. 5, 1861.

My Dear Governor

You may get impatient at my frequent letters, but I shall make no apology as you have the power to remove me. New clothing for the soldiers have just arrived, so that they will soon feel much better natured. I have been here already long enough to learn, that by a few individuals, there has been a great tendency to evil, but now especially since our officers have left matters are assuming a much better aspect. I may hereafter when I have leisure, give you some details by no means creditable to certain individuals. I have been very busy since I arrived, in striving to learn my duty, and have been treated with cordiality by every individual both officers and soldiers whom I have met. Quite a large number of men have either been discharged ^{are to be} or sent

home on a full scale, and there are
yet others who should be treated in the
same manner. Many of the recruits
sent here last, as I am informed
by the officers come wholly unfit for duty.
I knew at the time they were sent
from Banga that was true with regard
to some, but as I had nothing to do with
the examinations it did not become
me to interfere. If more men are wanted
to fill up this Regt. I think recruiting
officers should by all means be sent from
here, and even Medical examiners if
at all consistent. Doct. McRae made
out a Requisition upon the authorities
at Washington for certain articles needed
in the Hospital Department, but was
informed that a certain portion were
to be furnished by the State. Accom-
panying I send a list of those arti-
cles indispensable to the comfort of
the sick. It is not nearly as large as
Dr. McRae's list or as we are entitled
to, as you will see by the Regulations
of the Medical Department of the Army.

I said to the Col. this morning, that I
woud make the list as small as I all
consistent - We have now on hand none of the
articles mentioned in list except four
woolen blankets. We have now ten or
fifteen patients in our hospital lying
upon straw beds, directly upon the ground,
or with a simple layer of straw under
neath ^{them} ~~it~~. There has not even been a sup-
ply of straws until within a short time.
The Hospital is simply a tent of canvas
without any floor, so you may judge
not very comfortable, especially in a
day like this with a severe rain
storm upon us. The Hospital steward
has even in some cases been oblig-
ed to give up his bed when a patient
quite sick has been brought in, so late
in the day that he could not be sent to
a hospital upon the other side of the
river. I hope I need not assure you that
during my stay here he it being asked
I will be as prudent and economical as
a due care for the comfort and safety of
the sick will justify.

I would like to hear from you as soon
as convenient, and know the probabilities
as to the return of Doct. Allen, or whether
it will be desirable for me to remain
here any considerable length of time
in case she should not return. I have
not changed my position in one as-
pect at all and think I shall not at
present. That is I am willing to stay
here if I can be useful or willing
to go home if another can be induced
to come who would do better. You get
all the general news sooner than I can
give it to you - The knowing ones in this
vicinity think we are liable to have a fight
any day - Picket guards are being shot
down frequently, and the Regts stationed near
the fort have been sleeping upon their
arms for the last two or three nights -
But best I leave you I have been -
Very truly -
Wm. J. Washburn Jr. S.B. Morrison

P.S. Doct. Humble fully concurs in
what I have written as to supplies
for Hospital, & informs me that he has
used all the effort in his power & has
them purchased before - S.B.M.

Wm. J. Washburn Jr. I have ^{read} most of the accompan-
ying to Col. Roberts and he fully ap-
proves, but suggests it would be better
for you to order the articles purchased
here - The Col. wishes me to say to you
that the Knapsacks promised have
not arrived, but are much needed.
He read to me a copy of his letter
to you of Aug¹⁵, but says that now
every thing is right, and going along
well -
S.B.M.

Articles necessary. and which are needed
immediately for the use and benefit
of the Sick of the Second Maine
Regiment Volunteers

Articles	wanted	wanted
<u>Bedding</u>		
Iron Bedsteads	No 10	
Woolen Blankets	No 10	
Coverlets	No 10	
India Percha Cloth	Yds 10	
Blanket cases	No 2	
<u>Instrument</u>		
Lance & Spring	No 1	
do. Thumb	No 2	
Probes	No 4	
Rubber Sponges		
for the Throat	No 1	
<u>Miscellaneous</u>		
Razor	No 1	
do. Strip	No 1	
do. Knife	No 1	
Aperted Vials	No 1	
do. do. Corks	No 1	
<u>Books</u>		
Medical Practice	Watson's No 1	
do. Dictionary	U.S. No 1	
Dispensatory	U.S. No 1	
Blank	No 2	
Order & Letter	No 1	
Prescription	No 1	
Register	No 1	
Requisition	No 1	
Returns		
Reports of Sick		
do. Morning		

S. B. Morrison
Surgeon

man discharged or sent