

Ans'd. Sept. 30. '62

4 Priates.

4th Rpt.

Port Hamilton N.Y.
September 22 1862
Governor Washburn

Dear Sir

I am seated under circumstances
to address you in behalf of myself
and others which I think claims
attention, the circumstances are
these, we whose names are attached
to this epistle were taken prisoners
on the third day of July at Carter's
landing so called on the James
river, about twenty miles below
Richmond we were sick with the
typhoid fever at the time and
were paroled to do justice to the
confederates I must own we
were well treated, after remaining
with them six days the gunboat
Marytowna took us away and

putt us on board the C. Vanderbilt
which was at Harrison's Landing
and from that place we were
conveyed to Bellevue Hospital,
the officers of that institution
wished us to hand in our descriptive
lists which we had so that they
could make out a payroll.
we did so, the payroll was made
out, and the mustering officers
came and our names were called
and then they made the wicked
excuse that all was wrong and we
gott no pay. soon after this we
were sent to Fort Hamilton.
but ^{made} a demand of our descriptive
lists, and some gott them and some
did nott, and since we have been
here the paroled prisoners are required
to perform guard duty sick or
well, we seem to have no sympathy

from any quarter. dear sir imagine
yourself @ soldier in the army
fighting for liberty and worn out
by fatigue so that you are not
fit for duty and @ family to
support which you are bound
by the laws of God and man
to do and that family in want
of the necessaries of life what
would be your feelings in such
circumstances, imagine this and
you will have some adequate
idea of our circumstances. I
was paid up to the first of last
March and I have received ~~not~~
no pay since and it has been
longer than that since some
have been paid off we feel that
justice has not been towards
us as we have exhausted all the
means in our power we feel that

this is our last chance for redress
our prayers are that you will
rectify this gross negligence in
regard to pay and try to procure
us ~~to~~ furlough home untill we
are ^{are} fit for duty or a discharge
one thing more we wish to know
if we are obliged to assist or aid
against the confederate government
when we have sworn not to assist
against them untill we are properly
exchanged. some have to do duty
on guard duty by the aid of our
your answer and assistance will
greatly oblige the supplicants
respectfully yours

J. H. Emerson Comd'g the 4th Maine reg.
Leary Nickerson .. H.

Alex. Nute .. G.

E. H. Allenwood Capt 4th Me