

Portland July the 27 1862  
Genl Esral Washburn

Dear Sir

My Husband My Sinking <sup>was</sup> in  
the first Maine cavalry and at the time that he  
was listed we lived in Richmond in this State  
with they agreed to pay me 400 dollars per month  
for myself and 2 small children one 6 years the other  
3 years old after the absence of my Husband i began  
to be lonesome on account of <sup>his</sup> absence I thought i  
would come and see if i could content myself  
better in Portland as Mrs Parthurs Mother lived  
here they have helped me all they could but not  
enough for me to get along comparable after  
i come here i sent to Richmond that what was  
due me they payed me march and April i  
sent for the month of May but they say they  
are not abliged to pay me as long as i am out  
of town i have writen them several letters they say  
they same it is very hard for me to be deprived  
of my Husband and to take care of my children  
and myself with what little he can spare out  
of 1300 per month before he went he had no  
property and all we depended upon for a living  
was his trade he would not left me and the small  
pay of what he could send me out of his 1300 ~~per~~

when he enlisted he could have had wards  
at his trade if there is any way that i  
i can have my rights i should like to know  
i should not trouble to write but i and  
in actual need and would be satisfied with  
what they agreed to pay and fear the more i do  
not want to call on the town for help  
when i consented for my Husband to go and  
fight for his Country it is hard i think

Mrs Mary J. Perkins  
Please Answer this soon

Portland July 29, 1862.

Mrs. M. J. Perkins,

Concerning State Aid,