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1861-06-14 Colonel Jameson writes to Governor Washburn to complain about poor quality of knapsacks

Charles Davis Jameson

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Head Quarters 2nd Regt U. S. M. M.
Camp Surgeon
Washington June 14th 1861

Hon. J. Warburn J.
Dear Sir

Your several
favours have been received &
contents noted. I was much
pleased to learn that our rubber
blankets would reach us soon.

In regard to the application
I made for a commission for
Dr. Palmer. I was as confident
when I wrote you on the subject,
that it was entirely out of your
power to grant the request, as
I was after reading your letter;
but Dr. Allen was very desirous
I should address ^{you} on the subject,
which I did in closing the letter

before it was mailed,

I don't think it is possible to make decent Knapsacks from these we have, by any alterations that can be made in them,

I knew very little about the necessary outfit for a Regiment before leaving Bangor, but ~~from~~ what I have witnessed in that line since, has caused me to wonder how human ingenuity could have invented the illshaped things our men are compelled to wear on their backs, and call them Knapsacks. My men are not disposed to find fault, but they feel very badly indeed about their Knapsacks, and I assure you they would be better soldiers if they could have good nice Knapsacks in the place of the ones they now have. Still if we

Cannot get them, we will en-
deavor to do our duty with
the old ones. I do not know
whether the general Government
will furnish us with horses, &
wagons sufficient for our
transportation or not. I made
a requisition for one saddle
horse, & a four horse team for
the Quartermasters Department,
& they were furnished immediately.

I did not ask for any more,
as I did not know, but what
you were making arrangements
to furnish them from Maine.

I will ascertain tomorrow if
they can be furnished here.

Is there to be a Brig. Gen.
sent from Maine to command
the Maine Regts.?

Very Respectfully

Yours Obedient

C. D. Jameson

Col. C. J. Jameson.

Washington,

June 14

[Faint, mirrored handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. The text is largely illegible due to fading and orientation.]