

A photograph of a handwritten letter on lined paper. The handwriting is in cursive and somewhat faded. The text is as follows:

Lewiston April 24th 1861
Hon. I Washburn
Dear Sir
Permit
me to ask you whether in compliance with the Law (see Revised Stat p. 153. sec. 8) you have made the appointment of the Surgeon or Surgeons therein required. If there are eight or ten Regiments to be mustered into service the importance of this matter will become apparent. It would be a burning disgrace to have our soldiers called into battle, as they are likely to be at any moment, and inefficient preparations for their comfort be behind or totally unprovided. No doubt the respective Colonels of the Regiments will appoint suitable men for their particular stations but there must be a power behind

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MMN # 66028

Date: April 24, 1861

Description: Letter of Alanzo Garcelon to Israel Washburn regarding the appointment of surgeons to regiments.

to make such preparations as the exigencies seem to demand - I doubt not you will be able to find such without delay (if you have not already done so) as I hold that in times like these whatever a ^{man} hath, that is his County's.

You will pardon me for this suggestion - but I feared that in the multiplicity of your cases the importance of this matter might be overlooked until perhaps the shattered limbs and ghastly wounds of our Soldier's presented a state of things unworthy the Dirigo State.

Our people here are about in rallying to the defence of their County - The Rebels must be vanquished May our Rulers not falter for they people are with them in this great struggle of Liberty against Slavery -

Your Obt. Servt.

To His Exel. I Washburn Alonzo Garcelon

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