

Chiles Mich Aug 8th

to Gov. Gates of Ills

please forgive
me for presuming to take one moment
of your precious time but I don't know
what to do so I venture to ast you
the question I have been vainly asking
my-self the last three months that is
what shall I what can I do but
you must first know my circumstan-
ces & wants which I must give you
briefly as possible because I am not able
to do other-wise I am sick have not
been able to do an hours work in the
last ten months I am the wife of an
Ills volunteer a member of the 9th
Can Col Kellogg enlisted one year
ago this month at Vandalia Fayette
under Capt Koehler he expected to send
me money every two months instead of
that he was payd but twice before
they went south each time he sent

me \$15 all he could because he had
his horse to pay for out of his wages
\$30 in a year to support two (a daughter
12 years old) & medicine for ten months
aside from that we have lived by charity
& now as I do not expect to get well
I want to go to my Father in New York
where I can have a home & be taken care
of while I do live & leave my child
where she will be cared for when I am
gone to do this I must have help
enough to pay our way & a few articles
of clothing enough to be decent & now
the question am I entitled to help from
county or State as a Soldiers wife I think
I am but dont know what measures
to take to get it another thing does it
make any difference because I am out
of that State if you can give me any
information or assistance you will
recieve the thanks & blessings of a grateful
heart —

Mary A Sims