

The above was a part of a letter  
 M. B. Stone, Jr. to a friend the

morning after the news reached here  
of the capture of the Mass troops  
in the city of Baltimore the 19<sup>th</sup>,  
of April 1861.

RATES		Unpaid		By Stamp.		In Money.		Free.	
Cent.	No.	Cent.	No.	Cent.	No.	Cent.	No.	Cent.	No.

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LETTERS from North Oxford, Mass.

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them safely at Head quarters, - I have no doubt -  
but it has all been properly done, - A bag for the  
25<sup>th</sup> I had delivered to Capt. Atwood's co -  
and he was with much satisfaction the gratification  
it afforded the anxious recipients - The men  
was looking splendidly, and I need not tell  
you that <sup>the 25<sup>th</sup></sup> is a live regiment from its Col  
& Chaplain down. Worcester to his just cause  
for pride.

I come now to the expression in your  
excellent letter which I have all along  
feared - no our labors needed, shall we not  
"a shall we not" - for the first I have  
dreaded lest a sense of our concertants in regard  
to matters here should discourage the efforts of our  
patriotic ~~ladies~~ <sup>ladies</sup> at home - it was this  
fear and only this which ever gave me courage  
to ~~re-act~~ <sup>alleviate</sup> ~~calm~~ the worthy ladies of your committee  
(so nearly my superiors) <sup>to confer</sup> upon a subject  
after which they seem perfectly familiar &  
knowing so little. - ~~But~~ now more I scarce  
know how to reply - It is <sup>when I am affected</sup> said that our Army  
is supplied - All this may be so it is not for me  
to gainsay - and so far as <sup>our</sup> New England troops are  
concerned <sup>it</sup> may be that in these days of idleness  
they have really no pressing wants - But on the