

Private

Washington Aug. 15. 1861.

Gov. Washburne.

My Dear Sir;

The condition of Maine troops has been growing worse and worse, until open rebellion is manifested. Last evening, about 11 o'clock 62 members of the 3^d Regiment, were marched into the City, on their way to jail, surrounded by about 200 mounted men. Now, my dear Sir, this Regiment alone saved Maine from utter disgrace at the Battle of "Ball's Bluff," and it seems very hard that such men, whom Gen. Key says, is a "Nate to Col. Jameson," surpassed for bravery anything he had ever seen in the service, should be almost driven to this condition ^{for want} of a little prompt attention. The immediate cause of this outbreak, was the want of shoes and pants, suitable to appear on dress parade in. Most of these Soldiers are new recruits, and quite inexperienced at home, and hence, without shoes, (many of them were without an apology for shoes) and with shirts protruding from many holes in their pants, these men refused to exhibit themselves

to a gaping crowd of idlers, on dress parade,
and for it, they are to be transported to the burning
sands of Portugal, to suffer for three years. Now
my dear Sir, must say that I think a little
attention on the part of our State would have
prevented this, and a little prompt attention,
as it must be prompt, will prevent its repetition.

Mass. keeps two good business men here all the time,
to look after her troops. She has now stored here more
than three thousand uniforms to meet any demand
that may be made by any of her troops. Beside she
has not less than fifty thousand dollars worth stores
constantly on hand, to use, in case of sickness, or
in case of any deficiency on the part of the General
Government.

I noticed Potted Meats of all kinds, Crushed
Sugars, Tea, Pickles, Vinegar, Cheese, Hard Bread, &c
in almost fabulous quantities. Showing how well
she takes care of her men, who have come to take
care of and fight the battles of the Country. Now
I do not expect Maria to do any such thing, but
then promising I think it would be well to do.

First she should have a prompt, energetic, business
man here, whose sole business should be to look after
our troops and see that all reasonable complaints are
promptly attended to. All our affairs are going,

and quite unacquainted with business, &
when they get into the crowd that demand
the attention of the Government, are easily jostled
aside. What I have said of the I may be
said of most of our W. Regiments, except the rebellion,
and that is not regarded as improbable. The result
of all this is to create great feeling against our
party, and many of the men who now come
here from Rep. are now loud in their censures
against us, and we may be sure they will
call us to account, or the polls, for we are
not guiltless. You will excuse my earnestness,
when you remember I see all this, and as a citizen of
Maine, feel deeply

Respectfully

Yours etc. S. J. S.

A. B. Farnwell

Washington, D. C.
Aug. 15. 1861.

Farwell. A. B.

urges the necessity of more
attention to the ~~parasites~~
of Maine Troops

A. B. Farwell
Newbury
Aug. 15