

Soldiers of Biddeford:

The women of your city wish to say a few parting words ere you leave to take up arms in the noblest cause that was ever espoused by man! It is not only for your contry and posterity that you are to do battle, but for you God. This sublime movement is not of man--he is irresistibly impelled by Him who is above all nations, "whose glory is above the Heavens." Successfully accomplished--not one of us doubting--it will carry us an immeasurable distance towards the glorious destiny which was handed down to fulfill, as a sacred trust, by Washington, Hamilton, Warren, and a host of martyred heroes whose blood would cry to us from the ground should we prove recreant.

These simple offerings we present you tonight, through your officers, not so much for their intrinsic worth as an expression of our fervent wish to do something to show you our hearty interest in your welfare. Believe us when we say, there was never a band of more willing hearts and hands, than those employed in making up these small packages; and we shall be amply rewarded, and most happy to do more, if by so doing we can contribute in the least to soften the hard labor before you. In conclusion, we assure you that not a day shall pass over our heads that we will not implore our Heavenly Father to shield our soldiers from danger, and bring them safely back to their homes, crowned with the laurel wreaths of victory.