

Washington City

Feb. 7, 1863

Mrs. Cook

Dear Madam,

Though I send to the Post Office every morning for letters I was surprised yesterday to find three for me advertised. Great blundering in that P.O. somehow! Among the three was yours of the 22nd ult. This will account to you for my not acknowledging the receipt of the half barrel, with butter etc. I have been wondering where it came from as I could find the name of no town upon it but Boston. Though I suspected it was from South Danvers as I had been promised some butter when there.

You would have been delighted to see the boys receiving the butter as I went around amongst them, some in their cups, some with a little piece of paper and some in their bare hands. I had just received a barrel and box of homemade bread and rusk from Philadelphia, and the boys took to their bread and butter quite naturally through they had not seen the two together for a long time.

I am glad to learn that the Ladies have not become weary in well doing and will be pleased to be their agent in doing good. I meet with hundreds of Mass. Soldiers daily and almost every night several lodge in my tent and I have a greater demand for goods than ever. I am reserving a piece of the butter for the son of Mr. Fitch Poole as I shall go to the Fort where he is in a few days. Please remember me kindly to my friends and believe me yours truly,

Mrs. J. T. Fales