

Camp Armande St. Washington D.C. Jan. 24/64

Dear Wife,

Yours came to day and in reply I would say - In regard to presenting said letter in person it would be impossible for me to do so, as the said Hospital is over on the Potomac side - I have never been there but when I went to Alexandria I went in sight of it - I should think it was four or five miles from the City of Wash.

It is situated on an eminence and I have been told is a splendid place. No one is allowed to go over the river without a pass from the Military Governor of Wash. D.C. It seems to me it will be rather an expensive experiment for her to make as it will cost her certainly \$20, to get there and if she should not succeed \$20, to get home, still I will put your letter in the office as desired.

I think her health is too poor to go far from home, where she had no friends to call on for anything. If you come out here to stop a while you may find something for her to do in the City - The Government employ a great many girls to work in the various branches - The Custom House and public printing works employ hundreds.

The Custom House is a very desirable place, but the one who secures it must be recommended very highly, as their business is counting, and doing up money &c and commands large wages - I have seen them there, they dress nicely, and the work is clean and healthy. The Government Printing works are very extensive, for printing blanks for the whole U.S. and any quantity of general work there but I learn the places are now occupied, but changes of course will sometimes occur in the event of human life, and she may get a chance there, but as I said at

first, the expense will be great for her to come out  
 here on uncertainties. I went over where our barracks  
 are this P.M., they are getting along finely, but I don't  
 think they will be ready to go into by the first of Feby.  
 I don't know where I shall have a room yet. I suppose  
 by what you say you sent those boots back to Worcester,  
 if they are only 12 inches through the leg I certainly  
 cannot get them on, if they were 12<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> I could but  
 I should prefer to have them 13. I sent Hadwin a  
 measure over the instep and from heel to instep also  
 the length. the length of them is just about right. I will  
 write Hadwin a letter in regard to them, if nothing was  
 done about them it would be better for me to get them  
 here, than I can get just what I want, and the expense  
 will be about the same. I recd. a line from him Mon-  
 day saying they would be P. Gov. I supposed they  
 would be as much as that. I should <sup>not</sup> have sent them  
 for a pr. at all but I thought perhaps I might get  
 Hitchcock to make a pr. on that Act, or rather note &  
 be sure of so much, but as you ordered Hadwin to make  
 a pr. I told him what I wanted, he got Rice & Mechem  
 to make them as he does make anything such as I  
 want. I don't think you better send the box until  
 you hear from the boat for they are what I want more  
 than anything else. I am now wearing my shoes, and  
 they have holes through the soles, and the ground is  
 wet and muddy, I get my feet wet every day, but  
 if I don't catch cold, I don't mind it. I think I shall  
 write to Hadwin if they will take them back, he need  
 not send me a pr. at all and I will get me a pr. made  
 here. I am not at all particular about a box until I  
 move for I shall be quite unsettled, and have the  
 more stuff to move, and some of it may get sto-  
 len, still act your own pleasure about it. A man  
 died in our Regt. last night and one the night before.

Small-pox is quite prevalent in the city some  
 of our men are exposed to it every day when they  
 go on duty. Has it ever been vaccinated,