

this my circumstances forbid, or if I  
were able to sit quietly down in the  
midst of all the suffering and devastation  
around me without even attempting to  
relieve any portion of it, - then I would  
not ask - this my nature forbids -  
and hence I ~~am~~ must trouble others  
with my requests -

Washington D.C. Jan. 18<sup>th</sup> 1863.

Hon. H. Wilson }  
U. S. Senator. }

Sir

I take the liberty to  
request that you would assist me to procure through  
the Surgeon General such a supply of medical stores  
as I can use successfully on the battle field or in the  
hospital. Any, (transportation, or Commissary)  
Stores are kindly and readily supplied me by Col.  
Rucker. So Hammel also <sup>procured</sup> ~~supplied~~ me some  
months ago with a fine lot of liquors which were  
used mainly at Fideucksburg. The last bottle  
cup of ~~it~~ I remember to have distributed among  
the poor sufferers who were shot in Saturday's  
<sup>fight</sup> and left lying <sup>up</sup> on the field, until brought across  
the river under flag of truce on Tuesday night -  
(the little clothing left on them saturated in blood  
and frozen firmly to them) to be seen, most of them  
in chills and cramps, to be lain upon the ground



light-coring-  
(in tents) with less than one blanket-apiece  
no fires. I shall never forget my own gratitude  
to ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> ~~many~~ <sup>many</sup> of them  
for the possession of the little comforts I held in store  
for them,-

The articles I most need <sup>at present</sup> are Whiskey  
brandy-vine, condensed milk, prepared  
meats, cups, plates, a few dishes and kettles  
necessary for the preparation of <sup>for such</sup> ~~some~~ suitable food  
Some flannel <sup>under</sup> clothing and a few blankets

Feeling assured from the deep and abiding  
interest I knew you to cherish in behalf  
of our wounded and suffering heroes I  
respectfully ask that you would if  
possible so arrange the matter  
that I could have permission or  
an order to draw ~~the~~ articles desired  
from the Medical Purveyor from time  
to time as I may need them.

You have I hope a sufficient assurance  
of their being prudently and properly ap-  
-plied. If I were able to purchase ~~the~~  
~~what~~ ~~I~~ ~~need~~ these things at my own cost  
I would not ask them of the Govt