

Rooms of Sanitary Commission
St Louis April 4 1862
J.A. Roosevelt Esq

Dear Sir

Your favor of 31st is recd and I must thank you for your great kindness in taking upon yourself the trouble of receiving and forwarding donations to the Western Sanitary Commission. We with reluctance called upon the citizens of New York knowing of the liberal contributions to the US Sanitary Commission in New York. We felt that our work was rather a peculiar one and that it might commend itself to the sympathies of the loyal citizens of New York without in any way interfering with contributions to the US Sanitary Commission. We are as it were a commission in the field, having [] upon us the sick and wounded of this department. The poor soldier wounded is borne from the battle field, his clothes are torn from him either by some camp follower or the enemy, or by the surgeon in the discharge of his duty. His personal effects are generally lost, and he sent to hospital and separated from his company. There is no way for him to draw his pay or clothing owing to the peculiar regulations of the army. These poor fellows we have to clothe and provide comforts and delicacies for them that the army regulations will not supply. Our commission have aided in the establishment of all the hospitals in the state. In addition to this we have filled up hospital cars for rail roads for the comfortable transportation of the sick. These are fitted up with all the appliances of a general hospital, with nurses, cooking stoves, and beds etc. We have just started two hospital steamers to follow our army and bring back the sick and wounded. These are as complete as any hospital on shore. Thus a home for the soldier which is doing much good. These are some of the objects we have made our charge and all of which require money and hospital supplies. The amount of good which is being done is beyond calculation. The members of the commission are all earnest, practical, hard working men who give their time and labor to the work. No one connected with the commission receives any remuneration whatever, so what is received is expended for the benefit of the poor soldier. I write this that you may know what is the general scope of our operations. In regard to the allotment system it commends itself to us, and were it not that our labors now are already greater than we can perform would take hold of it. We endeavor to interest some of our good citizens in it as directed. I will draw on you to day for \$100⁰⁰. If you could procure donations of old clothing, they could be used to advantage. We have a great demand for them.

Very respectfully, James E Yeatman