Camp of the 30th Maine Vol in the trench near Petersburg Va
July 14th 1864

My Dear Sister

I read your kind letter of the 1st and was very happy to hear from you my health is good at present and I hope that these few lines will find you the same. The weather is hot and we have heard at present the rebels and our boys have a thoroughly devil ever since they had yesterday morning. That wonder two out of Co. One with a solid shot and the other with shill the ten I have read five dollars in all you wanted to know if I wanted you not heard in this place I don't I should like to have a homestead if you can send one we often have advanced our lines some ten or fifteen rods that's point nowicket fire...
in front of us head every thing is quiet hear this morning I should like to be at home this summer but if god spare my life it won't be long Helen tell mother and the rest of the women that if they have anything to give the sick and wounded soldiers to give it to them in person not give it to the Sanitary Cor for the needy don't get it where they send it to the boys in the field they don't get it the officers help themselves to what they want and the soldiers get the rest if there is any to get Helen I suppose that you have seen in the papers what a sort of Jubilee dinner we got I will let you what we got for 27 men one can of Chicken one of Tomatoes seven Cucumbers pickles and can of Milk for the bowl go there was enough to sent to us but
We don't get what is sent to us Helen give my love to allquiring
friends have wrote all that think
of at present give my love to little
Attie and tel her to remember Yet
Helen Peter is all right
I must close for this time
So good by from
your Brother Sylvester P
Baker Co. 20th
Maine, Vt.

Mrs. Helen M. Baker
Bingham, Maine