

Boston Feby. 11, 1865

My dear friends

I have heard it said that "no news is good news" It is not always so, for if I had written to any time since you sent the box, until this week, you would have known that it had not been forwarded. The Express Cos refused to take it as they have hundreds of boxes now laying at Fort Monroe for prisoners of war which the Govt have not forwarded, and they will not have any more on their hands —

I had no other means of sending it until the Govt had a vessel from here, which was not until this week. I have written twice to Charles once to say that the box would be sent, and on Wednesday to say that it had started. I have also written to Col Mureford at Fort Monroe requesting him to forward it as soon as possible.

I enclose a list of the articles sent which includes all that you sent except the souse which was a little mouldy, and I gave it to Henry.

I have marked them + such articles as I furnished. Chas Mureford was in and wanted to give something, and as I had got everything but the money, he gave me \$5.00 which I secreted in spots as you will see by the memo. The money in the

Pepper box will be likely to bring tears  
from somebody's eyes. + if the rebels steal  
it I hope it will make them blind -

If Charles gets the box he will not  
need much money, and I think it best not  
to send much, and send only the \$5.00 -  
What can he use the Tooth picks for? To  
pick out the corn meal from his teeth?

Let me know when you hear from him -

I see by the newspapers that Genl Hays has  
been distributing clothing, &c to the prisoners in  
Richmond, and was about to learn for other  
prisoners. I hope <sup>he</sup> will be in Columbia soon.

I have had some correspondence with Mr  
Asa Duran of Kum, and sent a box to his  
son who is also in Columbia -

The folks in Hanson, Durham, Portsmouth and  
Baton are well as usual. So & wife have  
gone to New York to live. James Hickey,  
Sarah's brother, ventured into the rebel lines at  
Brownsville Texas, to trade, was taken as a spy  
and his chances of being hung were good at  
last acct. He is so strong & secure that it  
may save him, Ella is in Portsmouth with  
Nell, will both come up next week -  
We have had steady cold weather this winter, and  
slighing since Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> which is very unusual  
for us. I enclose my photo taken from the

Arguamtyth. that I got away from B.  
in Nov<sup>r</sup> I also enclose one of Edward  
Errett. which is an excellent likeness —  
Did I write you that Edward Holmes of  
dosham was dead? He died very suddenly  
in R. I. in Aug. — Edward (the dr)  
Came on from Chicago. He is doing very  
well indeed —

Love to all

Yours affectionately  
B. F. Brown

