Hart Island Nov 29th
1869

Dear Mother,

After having devoured my portion of the "Thanksgiving dinner" that was prepared for us at the expence of the benevolent and patriotic citizens of ~~the~~ my native State I thought I would try and answer your your letter of the 20th.

The name of the dinner was much larger than the dinner itself. If a person had been here and seen ~~all~~ the Turkeys, pies ~~etc~~, potatoes, ~~etc~~ Onions, turnips, carrots and various other ~~vegitables~~ vegetables that was dealt out to the different

companies this morning he would have imagined that the Soldiers were a going to have a great feast to-day— It is time they got a much better dinner than usual — but if the turkeis & vegitables had been cooked properly it would have been better still— But I do not suppose I ought to complain — I can assure you that the rich mince pies did not go bad —

Every Soldier feels thankful to those who have given their share to assist making the dinner for the soldier,

The Soldier will have the memo of having had a "Thanksgiving dinner" given them and the officers will undoubtedly live on

roast turkey for a ~~wk~~
week or more to come
The money you sent
arrived all safe, I have
not received the box you
sent yet — I am sorry it
was not sent by express —
if it had been I would
have got within three
days after it started — a great
many men have had express packages
sent to them since I have
been here and none have
failed to get them ex-
cept myself — I am in
hopes it may come a-
round all right yet — but
I feel as though it is making
slow progress. — You ask
if they will take provisions
out of the box and eat them
— I can assure you they
will not — They never take

anything out but in-
toxicating liquor and
citizens clothing" — but they
are required to examine every
box — You ask, if Mr. Bissell
~~[illegible]~~ agreed to give me the same
bounty the ~~[illegible]~~ town did — He
did not" but he was to give
fifty Dollars more than the
town allowed me — If the
town had allowed the $650
dollars — He would have given me
a note of $700 but since it
allowed but $350 the note will
be ~~[illegible]~~ but $900" I am well as
usual — They sent the most
of the men off of the Island
yesterday" to the army — we
are having very cold but
pleasant weather — It is
getting about dark so
Close happing to hear from
you soon" give my respects
to all

Your Son
Geo D Barringer