

Samuel Cabot, Jr. to James Blood

Samuel Cabot, who was directing a Boston effort to send clothing to Kansas Territory, advises Blood he was aware of the goods that "had been stopped at St Louis by the closure of navigation." He also comments on the reluctance of some to accept relief; these individuals are to be advised that "This supply is not a mere charity but a contribution of the North to soldiers, who have been bravely battling for the case of freedom & in defense of our common rights, against the Slave Oligarchy." Cabot encloses a printed letter titled "Clothing For Kanzas," listing New England contributions.

Creator: Cabot, Samuel

Date: December 28, 1856

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KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Boston Dec. 28th 1856
James Blood Esq.

Dear Sir

Yours of 6th inst has
been recd. I already knew that most of
the clothing sent to yourself & Rev. W. N. Hale
since I ceased sending through Chicago, had
been stopped at St. Louis by the closure of
navigation. At the time I wrote, I asked
you to either distribute them in your
individual capacity, or as a member of
the Distribution Committee, I have
reason now to wish that you should
not let them go through the Committee
but to advise with Powers & Rev. W. N. Hale
in regard to the distribution. I hope
you will be able thus to supply some
of those who have been too proud to
be willing, that their names should be
published, & have preferred rather to
suffer want. This supply is not a mere
charity but a contribution of the North
toward the support of her free-state
proslaves, who have been bravely battling
for the cause of freedom & in defense

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of our common rights, against the Slave
Oligarchy. The names of the recipients
should be kept sacredly to yourselves &
all that I want as a proof that I have
taken proper precautions to secure
the proper distribution of the clothing,
is a statement to that effect signed
by yourself & Messrs. Kate & Poviney with
an enumeration in good of the amt.
distributed. I shall send more soon
by the way of N. Orleans to arrive at St.
Louis in time for the opening of navigation,
& shall probably direct that they be delivered
to the charge of yourself & the above named
gentlemen. I send you herewith my
report to the State Kansas Committee & also
the report of the Boston Kansas Clothing
Soc. who have been my most efficient
coadjutors in this work.

Yours very truly

S. Cabot Jr.

Sub-committee of Kansas State Committee



CLOTHING FOR KANZAS.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE KANZAS COMMITTEE.

Boston, Nov. 28, 1856.

Gentlemen:—Having been appointed by you a sub-committee to take charge of sending clothing to Kansas, I would report, that the success of the undertaking has surpassed our most sanguine expectations. The women of New England have most nobly responded to the appeal made in behalf of their suffering, struggling brothers and sisters in oppressed Kansas. I have reason to believe that, by this time, more than enough good clothing is on the way to supply their immediate wants.

I have placed the towns in the following table in the order in which the first packages were received from them, and it will be observed that Cambridge and Concord take the lead in time, and Boston and Chelsea excel in numbers.

Over 280 packages are known to have gone to Kansas from New England, of which 276 have passed through my hands, or rather have gone numbered and directed by me, as some were despatched from the country without ever coming to Boston. Of these, 137 are barrels, 105 are large cases, 9 are cases of boots and shoes, 4 are bales, 4 tierces, 1 is a trunk, and 15 are unknown. Each barrel will average a little short of 100 lbs., each case and tierce will average between 200 and 300 lbs., each bale over 100 lbs., so that, at a rough estimate, about 20 tons of clothing have gone from New England to Kansas.

It has been found impossible always to ascertain whence the packages have been sent, and in a still larger number of instances to procure lists of contents, so that, in making out the table of articles, it has been necessary, after analysing the lists procured, to allow according to an average for those packages of which we had no lists. This, though not giving a perfectly accurate result, will, I believe, be an approximation sufficiently near to enable us to regulate future supplies, so that wants may be met and superfluity avoided.

Of the packages sent, 243 were forwarded through the National Committee at Chicago, the rest have gone direct through Messrs. Simmons and Leadbeater of St. Louis. Each package has been carefully numbered, and memoranda with corresponding numbers were kept, so that at any future time, by referring to my accounts, I can tell when and to whom each package was directed. With each lot sent off, letters have been written giving careful directions according to the expressed wishes of the donors as to distribution, destination, &c. Duplicate lists (when lists could be procured) have been sent on, and the originals kept, and when, as, in many instances, was the case, bundles to individuals have been enclosed, I have notified the donors here to inform their friends in Kansas of the number of the package in which their bundle would be found. So that, in as far as I have been able, every precaution has been taken to guard against error.

It would take too much time and space to enumerate all the unpacked goods received from various persons and places which have been packed here and sent off whenever a sufficient quantity accumulated to fill a case. I ought to mention, however, that this is partly the reason why Boston so far surpasses all other places in the number of packages sent against it, as all cases packed here are marked in my tables as from Boston.

I have reason to believe that all of the goods sent have arrived safely, or will soon be in the Territory, and are in course of distribution.

Where so many have generously given their time, labor and money, it seems almost invidious to mention names, but I cannot refrain from offering my thanks in behalf of the committee to the members

of the Kansas Clothing Society of Rev. J. F. Clarke's church, to the officers of the New England Emigrant Aid Society, and to Messrs. J. B. and Chas. Fowle, the latter of whom has acted as Treasurer since the absence of Mr. Austin, the Treasurer of the Clothing Society, for the efficient aid they have afforded me in carrying out your wishes.

Respectfully submitted,

S. CABOT, JR.

The following table shows the contributions of different towns:—

Packages.	
Cambridge, Mass.	4
Concord "	5
Hopkinton "	6
Boston "	65
Taunton "	2
Stowe "	1
Charlestown, N. H.	1
Topsham, Mass.	1
Plymouth "	1
Clintonville, Mass.	7
Kingston "	3
Lowell "	3
Chelsea "	14
Salem "	6
Beverly "	3
Reading "	3
Watertown "	6
Lynn "	6
Bellford "	2
Chicopee "	2
Deerfield "	2
Cambridgeport Mass.	5
Springfield "	6
Heylierville "	1
Dorchester "	1
Melford "	2
Northborough "	3
Woburn "	1
Dover, N. H.	2
Bradford, Mass.	1
West Corinna, Me.	1
Ashburnham, Mass.	1
Framingham "	3
Templeton "	1
Quincy "	4
Sterling "	1
Franklin "	4
Westford "	2
Medway "	5
Wayland "	1
N. Medway "	1
Belchertown Mass.	3
Mason Village "	1
Lexington "	1
Petersborough "	1
Kennebunk, Me.	2
Lancaster, N. H.	1
N. Amherst, Mass.	1
Waltham "	2
W. Cambridge "	1
Manchester, N. H.	2
W. Boylston, Mass.	1
Williston, Vt.	1
Wrentham, Mass.	1
Halifax "	3
Newton "	1
Clappville "	4
Easton "	4
N. Becket "	1
Natick "	2
E. Cambridge "	3
Bangor, Me.	8
Winchester, Mass.	2
Concord, N. H.	3
Dexter, Me.	1
Sharon, Mass.	1
Bridgewater, Mass.	3
Duxbury "	3
Ellsworth, Me.	2
Groton, Mass.	1
Sa-bury "	1
Tewksbury Mass.	1
Belfast, Me.	1
Deilham, Mass.	3
Andover "	5
Holliston "	1
Unknown	15
260	
275	

Second Report.

DECEMBER 3d, 1856.

Since the above report was handed in, 22 more packages have been received and forwarded, namely: 3 large cases not known from whence; 1 large case from Boston; 2 bbls. from Georgetown, Mass.; 1 case from Jamaica Plain, Mass.; 3 cases from Claremont, N. H.; 2 from Great Barrington, Mass.; 5 barrels from Pepperell, Mass.; 4 barrels from Lawrence, Mass.

As nearly as I can ascertain, there have been forwarded through your Committee, 19,109 articles of wearing apparel and bed-clothing, 2726 yards of cotton cloth, 303 yards of de laine, 167 yards of woolen cloth and flannel, 50 yards of linen, 47 rolls of cotton batting, 60 packages of hocks and eyes, 8 gross of knitting needles, 600 papers of needles, 8 pounds of yarn, 16 pounds of thread, 19 packages of sundries.

S. C., JR.

Expense Report.

Received for payment of freight and purchase of clothing, \$1510 94; paid \$1301 04; on hand to meet drafts daily expected, \$209 90.