

Washington, D.C.

To Miss Annie G. Cooper

Treasury Department.

July 23^d 1864

Dear Sister.

I received your welcome and long looked for letter to day. I did not know what to think of the delay, but with the cares at home I suppose your time and thoughts are fully engrossed. There is no news here other than you can read in any newspaper. Carnage, desolation, & death, having become such familiar words, that one's mind feels relief in not reading at all. God in his own good time will end the contest.

Well Anne, you are good girl anyhow, like myself a little impetuous, but kind and affectionate after the fever has passed. I should have liked very much for you to have taken a position in my room but you have certainly a higher, holier and more noble task at home - that of smoothing the pathway of our mother. She has indeed had troubles enough for one, since the death of Father. She once wrote to me when in Columbus Ohio, and when I was very despondent to cheer up and ~~said~~ feared that I ~~had~~ had inherited some of the melancholy tendency of her nature. Now I don't think that Mother is by nature of a melancholy ~~sate~~ temperament, but circumstances over which she had no control have conduced to make her so. She was right in supposing