

9-30-1862

## Thomas L. Evans letter to his Sister from Kentucky, September 30, 1862

Thomas L. Evans

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Tuesday Sept. 30. 1862

Dear Sister,

All I have to do this afternoon is to write this letter so I can take my time to it. I am getting pretty well again. Yesterday I sat up a part of the time went down to the table for my meals & walked about a little in the evening taking no medicine except what I got at the table & that was or rather is not bad to take. This morning I walked about a quarter of a mile for some milk & I found it right good with some pot mettle crackers in it for dinner. This evening I must take a walk about as far the other way & get some good light bread and butter something I have not in <sup>had</sup> Ky but I think I will have a feast of it for supper or at least for dinner tomorrow. I shall have to remain here a few days yet before I am able for service. About tomorrow or next day I can go out to camp (about <sup>4</sup>half a mile off) & see how the boys are getting along. There is a good deal of sickness in camp now but

much of it very serious, some four or five  
cases of fever here at the hospital. I must now give  
you a connected account of about what has  
transpired in our camp since I last wrote a  
letter of any length or interest which was  
last Sunday week. Monday we had our usual  
drill & parade Tuesday I was unable to do  
any thing Wednesday I was a little better  
& in the afternoon we moved the camp back on a  
hill about a half mile nearer Newport & I  
was about tuckered when I got there. Thursday I  
was still worse & Friday morning came here  
you have my history since then. The history  
of the Reg. since is of <sup>little</sup> interest except the  
review which took place at Newport last  
Saturday. The review (I understand was of  
our brigade one other brigade and the  
city forces of Cincinnati Covington & Newport  
in all about 10,000 men our men I  
suppose got pretty tired before they got  
to camp in the evening but still it  
was a change from the regular routine  
of camp life & I suppose it was a good

thing for them. I have no war news to tell you except what I get in the dailies every day & suppose it not worthwhile to write that from here in a letter. Talk about being in the ~~the~~ army to get the news of the army, humbug we would not know any thing more here than at home if we did not get the printed news. There is a rumore here however that we will advance toward Lexington in a few days this may or may not be so I hope not till I get able to go along then I dont care how soon. We are camped here in a very hilly & very beautiful country. I can count <sup>from</sup> the window where I am now writing at least a half dozen really splendid buildings situated on the surrounding hills. The only objection I have to it all is that it is so broken we cannot find a level spot large enough to camp on which makes it very unpleasant indeed. Then the landscape ~~is~~ does not present a single barn of any considerable size the close proximity of the market rendering them unnecessary. Orchards & fruit are

plenty indeed almost too plenty for the  
good health of the soldiers.

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We landed here on the first day of this  
month and this is the last & it has  
certainly been the most beautiful  
Sept. I ever saw. The air so pure  
and mostly dry and pleasant  
having had but two showers of  
rain. But I had like to forgot we  
have had some very hot days.  
it is so pleasant here in the  
hospital we dont feel the heat at  
all. Well I guess I had better quit and  
leave the rest of this to fill out in the  
morning in case I can find some thing  
to fill it with. Remember me to all  
my old friends & neighbors  
my love to all your brother  
Thomas

Tuesday, Sept. 30, 1862.

Dear Sister:

All I have to do this afternoon is to write this letter so I can take my time to it. I am getting pretty well again. Yesterday I sat up a part of the time, went down to the table for my meals, walked about a little in the evening taking no medicine except what I got at the table and that was or rather is not bad to take. This morning, I walked about a quarter of a mile for some milk and I found it right good with some pot mettle crackers in it for dinner. This evening I must take a walk about as far the other way and get some good light bread and butter, something I have not had in Ky. but I think I will have a feast of it for supper or at least for dinner to-morrow. I shall have to remain here a few days yet before I am able for service. About to-morrow or next day I can go out to camp (about a half a mile off) and see how the boys are getting along. There is a good deal of sickness in camp now but much of it very serious - some four or five cases of fever here at the hospital. I must now give you a connected account of about what has transpired in our camp since I last wrote a letter of any length or interest which was last Sunday week. Monday we had out usual drills parade Wednesday. I was a little better and in the afternoon we moved the camp back on the hill about a half mile nearer New Port and I was about tuckered when I got there. Thursday was still worse and Friday morning came here. You have my history since then. The history of the Reg. since is of little interest except the review which took place at Newport last Saturday. The review (I understand was of our brigade, one other brigade and the city forces of Cincinnati, Covington and Newport, in all about 10,000 men. Our men I guess, got pretty tired before

they got to camp in the evening but still it was a change from the regular routine of camp life and I suppose it was a good thing for them. I have no war news to tell you except what I get in the dailies every day and suppose it not worth while to write that from here in a letter. Talk about being in the army to get the news of the army, humbug, we would not know anything more here than at home if we did not get the printed news. There is a rumor here however, that we will advance toward Lexington in a few days. This may or may not be so, I hope not until I get able to go along then I don't care how soon. We are camped here in a very hilly and very beautiful country. I can count from the window where I am now writing, at least a half dozen really splendid buildings situated on the surrounding hills. The only objection I have to it all is that it is so broken. We cannot find a level spot large enough to camp on which makes it very unpleasant indeed. Then the landscape does not present a single barn of any considerable size, the close proximity of the market rendering them unnecessary. Orchards and fruit are plenty indeed almost too plenty for the good health of the soldiers.

We landed here on the first day of the month and this is the last and it has certainly been the most beautiful Sept. I ever saw. The air so pure and mostly dry and pleasant, having had but two showers of rain but I had like to forgot we have had some very hot days. It is so pleasant here in the hospital we don't feel the heat at all. Well I guess I had better quit and leave the rest of this to fill out in the morning in case I can find something to fill it with. Remember me to all my old friends and neighbors. My love to all,

Your brother,

Thomas.