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Thomas L. Evans Civil War Correspondence and Diary

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Thomas L. Evans letter to his parents from Youngs Point, February 22, 1863

Thomas L. Evans

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Sabbath Evening Feb. 22, 1863

Dear Parents,

Mr. Hardee did not get started so soon as expected. We got the corpse up to-day and I suppose he will get started back to-morrow. I went to assist him & protect one from another such task. As it is and I know to to have our friends buried all along the Cape River, but if when they are once buried I think it does not better if any to even disturb them. I know that though it might be a satisfaction to have few Spanis friends to have him at home but surely it would be bard for them to see him in his present condition.

I received your letter to-day written on the 17th, but the one written a week sooner I have not seen. What you say of my health is what I expected when Paul went home & since then I have written accordingly. But I have been honest & in all my letters I always wrote on what I thought was right. Some of the time I did not able to write so much as I should like especially just after the battle at the poth. What I have already said of my health is strictly true if I could but write so of all the company. It would be nonsense to think of coming home even if I were not able for duty for the men worse than I have been at all. I cannot get away & I could be of use to
Then, if it would only discourage them for an officer to leave them for the time, as their greatest need is when they remain here, yet duty is here, while I can be of the least use in any way, so I could not even consent to go much less seek to get away. But I am thankful I have no need to get away now on account of my health. I think it doubtful about being able to get summer home. He is buried about four miles above here along the river, if it raises a little higher it will be over him. Our Regt. went away up the river last Friday week & were to be back three days ago but we hear nothing of them. If they have charge of a post up there we will move up soon then I can do nothing for him. But if we remain here I will do all I can for him but he can get him only by sending some one on purpose, & considering all things it would be a very doubtful trip. Then, I don't know yet whether Clint will get home or not. I hope he will not have to be absent long for I should be lost without him.

I send a pair of shoes to Rose by Carlet. I have been out of money for a long time but while I am well I don't need though if I had it I could not keep it. For the sick need money. Don't send a lot until some one come with it for it won't come. Look for the pay master soon but may be badly disappointed.

In love your ever
Thomas

I have not seen Mr. Smith for some days he has been better of his cough than he is able for duty now. For some of the boys say they saw him at work to day. You know he is under with the Asians.
Dear Parents:

Mr. Corbett did not get started so soon as expected. We got the corps up to-day and I suppose he will start back to-morrow. I went to assist him and protect me from another such task. It is sad I know to have our friends buried all along the Miss. River but when they are once buried, I think it does not better it any to ever disturb them. I know that though it might be a satisfaction to Spain's friends to have him at home but surely it would be horrid for them to see him in the present condition.

I received your letter to-day written on the 3th but the one written a week sooner, I have not seen. What you say of my health is what I expected when Paul went home and since then I have written accordingly but I have been honest in all my letters and always written what I thought was right. Some of the time, I was not able to write as much as I should quite, especially just after the battle at the post. What I have already said of my health is strictly true. If I could but write so of all the Company. It would be nonsense to think of coming home even if I were not able for leaving for the men worse than I have been at all, cannot get away and I could be of use to them and it would only discourage them for an Officer to leave them in a time of their greatest need and when they remain here, my duty is here, while I can be of the least use, in any way so I could not even consent to go much less seek to get away but I am thankful I have no need to get away now on account of my health.

I think it doubtful about being able to get Sumner home. He is buried about four miles above here along the river.
and if it raises a little higher, it will be over him.

Our Reg. went away up the river last Friday week and were to be back here three days ago but we hear nothing of them. If they have charge of the post up there, we will move up then I can do nothing for him but if we remain here, I will do all I can for him but he can get him only by sending someone on purpose and considering all things, it would be a very doubtful trip then. I don't know yet whether Cline will get home or not. I hope he will not have to be absent long for I should be lost without him.

I send a pair of gloves to Rose by Corbett. I have been out of money for a long time but while I am well, I don't need though if I had it, I could not keep it for the sick need money. Don't send a box unless someone comes with it for it won't come. We look for the pay master soon but may be badly disappointed.

In love,

Your son,

Thomas.

P.S. I have not seen Wm. Smith for some days. He was better of his cough and is able for duty now for some of the boys say they saw him at work to-day. You know he is detached with the pioneers.