Thomas L. Evans letter to his parents from Milliken's Bend, March 17, 1863

Thomas L. Evans

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Milligan's Bend, March 17th, 1863

Dear Father,

I wrote you a day or two ago but I suppose you will not hear from me too often though I write again to day. My health is now remarkably good & I believe this climate will agree with me in part or at least I hope so though it is getting pretty warm here already & we can sweat very freely sitting in the shade and like the first warm days of Spring they go pretty hard with us but we will soon get used to it and not mind it more than we do now. This is my opinion. I hope the summer here (contrary to the usual belief) will be more healthy for us than the winter has been if not there will be few of us left by fall should we remain here, but we hope for the best and take new courage. The health of the Co. I think is still improving except those who are sick from vaccinations that is not serious they will be the healthier when they get over it.

I send you one hundred and fifty dollars to the Marysville bank for you.

Cut off it. Pay the Simon Shaw ($30) with interest since last August.

Also pay Dr. T. Paul what he has charged to me. I suppose it will be above $30 and some interest as some of it is borrowed money.

Also pay him 40 cents which Mr. Dolphine (a member of our Co.) gave me for him.

That little is left do as you please with it really I don't know but I give you a good part of
it as I have no account of how we stand or which is Dr. Be that as it may keep the money as your own & please send me word how we stand when you write. I have paid all my debts here. That is for my clothing & board since I came into the service I have about sixty dollars left to do me until next pay day & to have in case of an emergency. So I think on next Pay Day if it is not too long coming there will be no drawbacks. You excuse me for speaking of the money subject in two or three different letters the mail is so uncertain now you will be likely to get one and if you get all me letters don't these answer. Immediately yours truly.

John Evans.

W.L. The money I send to The Shawsville Bank with others whether that or this letter will arrive first I cannot tell. Send me a Dollar's worth of postage stamps we cannot get them here.

March 13th. Send me more reading matter a Cincinnati weekly paper is good as anything but we want something to read. Report this morning says our Gunboats have captured a heavy part of the yaggo and 50 or 60 Transports & 7 Sunboats. Very good if true it gives us the key to Vicksburg and we will have the place ere long. I wish I knew whether to believe the report or not.

Thomas.
Dear Father:

I wrote you a day or two ago but I suppose you will not hear from me too often though I write again today. My health is now remarkably good and I believe this climate will agree with me first rate, at least I hope so though it is getting pretty warm here already and we can sweat very freely sitting in the shade and like the first warm days of Spring, they go pretty hard with us but we will soon get used to it and not mind it more than we do North. This is my opinion. I hope the summer here (contrary to the usual belief) will be more healthy for us than the winter has been; if not, there will be few of us left by Fall should we remain here but we hope for the best and take new courage. The health of the Co., I think is still improving except those who are sick from vaccination and that is not serious. They will be the healthier when they get over it.

I send (150) One Hundred and fifty dollars to the Marysville bank for you. Out of it pay the Simon Moore ($30) Note and interest since last August. Also pay D. T. Paul what he has charged to me. I suppose it will be above $30 and some interest as some of it is borrowed money, also pay him 40 cents which M. M. Griffin (a member of our Co) gave me for him. What little is left, do as you please with and really I don’t know but I owe you a good part of it as I have no account of how we stand or which is Dr. Be that as it may. Keep the money now as your own and please send me word how we stand when you write.

I have paid all my debts here, that is for my clothing and board since I came into the service and have about sixty dollars left to do me until next pay day and to have in case of an emergency so I think on next pay day
if it is not too long coming, there will be no drawbacks. You must excuse me for speaking of the money subject in two or three different letters. The mail is so uncertain now, you will be likely to get one and if you get all, no harm done. Please answer immediately.

Your son,

Thomas.

J. Evans.

P.S.

The money I send to the Marysville Bank with others, whether that or this letter will arrive first, I cannot tell. Send me a dollars worth of postage stamps. We cannot get them here.

Mch. 18th. Send me more reading matter. A Cincinnati weekly paper is good as anything but we want something to read.

Report this morning says our Gunboats have captured a heavy fort up the Yazoo and 50 or 60 transports and 7 gunboats. Very good if true. It gives us the key to Vicksburg. We will have the place ere long. I wish I knew whether to believe the report or not.

Thomas.