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Thomas L. Evans letter to his mother from Homes Plantation, April 22, 1863

Thomas L. Evans

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Dear Brother,

I write again to let you all know that we are all well and prosperous. The weather is quite warm here and the corn is about like it is in Ohio on middle of June. But it is not very well cultivated as as our army came here since it was planted and the laborers are gone. The weather has been quite showery since we came here so it is so muddy about half the time that we cannot drill & I am getting so fat and lazy that it is almost a task to write a letter every three days. But I manage to do it as I get up to roll call in the morning through a sense of duty & I believe that would fail if it were not for the thought of how anxiously they will be looked for and read. If I get home by harvest I suppose I will have a chance to
work some of this engraves off
and if I could not do it it would
be different from what it always
has been herebefore. I have said we
were all well. Tom Sterling is not well
and several others are complaining but we
have more men able for duty now
than we have had since the fight at
the Post. Sgt. Turner is healthier now
than he has been since he enlisted.
We have all kinds of rumors here.
but no news. Charleston is taken,
Rosencrans has annihilated Braggs army.
Nashville evacuated & a thousand other
rumors which nobody believes.
and so we content our hopes ourselves
by talking of other things as we
know nothing about the army or
the war. I wish I had something
good to read and if I don't get it
I don't know but I will take to
reading novels which I have thus far
refused to do. Write soon and often. The
last letter I got was written by Sally 20
days ago. Its more but remain
your affectionate Don.

Thomas

Brother's Father.
Camp, 96th, Holems Plantation, La.
Apr. 22nd, 1863.

Dear Mother:

I write again to let you all know that we are all well and prosperous. The weather is quite warm here and the Corn is about like it is in Ohio in the middle of June but it is not very well cultivated as our army came here since it was planted and the laborers are gone. The weather has been quite showery since we came here so it is so muddy about half the time that we cannot drill and I am getting so fat and lazy that it is almost a task to write a letter every three days but I manage to do it as I get up to roll call in the morning through a sense of duty and I believe that would fail if it were not for the thought of how anxiously they will be looked for and read.

If I get home by harvest, I suppose I will have a chance to work some of this laziness off and if I could not do it, it would be different from what it always has been heretofore. I have said we were all well. Tom Sterling is not well and several others are complaining but we have more men able for duty now than we have had since the fight at the Post. Ag. Turner is healthier now than he has been since he enlisted. We have all kinds of rumors here but no new. Charleston is taken, Rosencrans has annihilated Braggs army, Vicksburg is evacuated and a thousand other rumors which nobody believes and so we content ourselves by talking of other things as we know nothing about the army or the war. I wish I had something good to read and if I don’t get it, I don’t know but I will take to reading novels which I have thus far refused to do. Write soon and often, The last letter I got was written by Sallie 20 days ago. No more but remain, your affectionate son,

Thomas.

Mother & Father.