Thomas L. Evans letter to his sister from Perkens Plantation, May 4, 1863

Thomas L. Evans

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Perkins Plantation Co.
May 14, 1863

Dear Sister,

It has been more than a month since I last wrote you & I suppose you think I have something great to tell by this time, but you will find yourself mistaken.

We are camped about half way between Vicksburg & Grand Gulf. The army is all in advance of us except a few troops left at Young's Pt.

The army is now on the other side the river below having crossed at grand gulf and are making their way out toward Jackson. They are out from 25 to 40 miles & a battle is imminent every day as the rebels are said to be coming to meet our forces to prevent them from cutting the Rail Road.

So we will get a chance to fight them out of their stronghold the time I hope. & if a battle comes off immediately I don't fear the results but if we delay I know not what may come of it.

We are all well now that is
Those who are left of us, there are about 50 of us here and only one or two complaining.

This post is to be vacated and we have orders to move to Grand Gulf to garrison that place. We may remain there for weeks if we do we shall have a very good situation. I was down there last Monday but it is a hilly romantic place. It is to be landing for all stores and supplies for the army until Petersburg is taken.

J. B. Reever is now working in hospital at Grand Gulf. His health is good except rheumatism. I am glad you are going to live in town. I suppose you will want to hire a private teacher for your numerous children.

Wish that she a grand chance for a town gentleman just returning from the army. Such a grand town too. Hal! Hal! Hal!

Write soon it has been sometime since I got a letter from home.

Love to all, Brother Tom
Perkens Plantation, La.
May 4th, 1863.

Dear Sister:

It has been more than a month since I wrote you and I suppose you think I have something great to tell you by this time but you will find yourself mistaken.

We are camped about half way between Vicksburg and Grand Gulf. The army all in advance of us except a few troops left at Youngs Pt.

The army is now on the other side the river below, having crossed at Grand Gulf and are making their way out toward Jackson. They are out from 25 to 40 miles and a battle is eminent every day as the rebels are said to be coming to meet our forces to prevent them from cutting the railroad so we will get a chance to fight them out of their stronghold this time I hope and if a battle comes off immediately, I don't fear the results but if we delay, I know not what may come of it.

We are all well now, that is those who are left of us. There are about 40 of us here and only one or two complaining. This post is to be vacated and we have orders to move to Grand Gulf to garrison that place. We may remain there for weeks and if we do, we will have a very good situation. I was down there last Monday and it is a hilly, romantic place and as it is to be landing for all stores and supplies for the army until Vicksburg is taken, it will have to be strongly garrisoned.

J. McKeever is now working in hospital at Grand Gulf. His health is good except rheumatism. I am glad you are going to live in town. I suppose you will want to hire a private teacher for your numerous children. Won't that be a grand chance for a town gentleman just returning from the army. Such a grand town too. Hah! Hah! Hah! Write soon. It has been sometime since I got a letter from home. Love to all.

Brother Tom.