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Thomas L. Evans Civil War Correspondence and Diary

10-4-1863

## Thomas L. Evans letter to his father from Camp 96 O.V.I. , October 4, 1863

Thomas L. Evans

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Camp 96. O. D. J. Oct. 4, 188. Dear Father I received your letter two or three days ago & since then we have been on the move. On Friday evening we received arders to be ready to move by daylight yesterday morning and we were About & oclock in The evening we started & got on The boat at-Carrollon a little before sim down and fout of down the siver arriving at edgiers apposite there Orleans fust at dark. By Soclock P. M. Me we aboard The cars & on our way to Brashear Citydistant- about niesty miles, Me were on top of cattle ears which were loaded below with Houses. The ears run very fast & the breeze created by their movement soon chilled us, the wraped upinour blanket & lay down the sharp breeze . cutting through our blanket & we constantly Sliding down the smoth ear roof then ereching up again to keep from sliding entirly off Thus the cars rattled along & with a canteen for a pillow I would snatch a little map & wake up to find myself

Sliding down the car roof would erech up on my fillow again draw my blanket closer arround me & try it over again. I had taken about a half dozen such maps when I was waked from one of them by the cars stopping at Brashere City about Boclock This morning. By four we had got off the ears & spread our blanket on the wharf where we took a map of perhaps an hours lesgth. cand within the next- have got aboard The steamboal & cropped Berwick Bay which at this point is less than half a mile wide. Having stacked asmo croped The Bay we stacked arms armes & went into campe here where we are likely to remain for several days. The boys spend the day in carrying boards from an old camp about half a mite distante & building Them shanties as their tents were all left behind. They are all very comportably fixed to night & merry as can be, I have my tent along which makes a good home for me leapt. Eline met. Godman of his be, & spisting orders allow but one tent to three Officers. It is said there is some danger of an attack on This point but I think not much, We are at the terminus of the

R. R. from thew Orleans westward & when we move from here will have to march, In pleasant weather with a pleasant camp as we have here earny life is a pleasant one it senfoy it much, But give me action in fine weather It may be & often necessarily is a little harder But it is life, of course I would be glad to have my money bring me a little interest if it can be & you may loan it for a year or more or less where it-will be safe. The health of my Co. is excellent. Every man who same with me from Micksburg is along & well except-Georg Ruchlin (of their Calafornio) who has been very unwell but is now much better & has started home on a sick furlough . He said if he got well he would call at my old home & I hope he will, This is Sunday but it seems as little like it as any I have since I came in the service we have been so busy fixing up our camp &c, White very often. With my sincere love to you all and a hope that I may get home to see you I bid Good night you affectionate son Thomas

EWSC Archives 72-6 P.S. Me can get fresh æyster here for ten cent a doygen. They are splended too 20 I eat a dogen once in a while for the Daes it - do the any good if not I suppose I must eat more soit-will, Thomas sadang the & of lan secondard is not att and an ale the state for the had a se meant and have been been any and for a year or anno on left where als I de safet The she all al and the so to Classif Rovers 12000 and Rovers and a thickers of an and and bally and have had been stanted home and a dech within the He said at the said at well he second and atomy and home & hile the will have in I wasday a hustor at seeings with the shall I have shines I can a me the have Walkers hard the bally files and and the read of land willight with sail surveyer love to stannesser and hiel and said in

Dear Father:

I received your letter two or three days ago and since then we have been on the move. On Friday evening we received orders to be ready to move by daylight yesterday morning and we were. About 4 'o" clock in the evening we started and got on the boat at Carrollton a little before sun down and put off down the river arriving at Algiers opposite New Orleans just at dark. By S o'clock P.M. we were aboard the cars on our way to Brashere City distant about ninety miles. We were on top of cattle cars which we"loaded with horses. The cars run very fast and the breeze created by their movement soon chilled us. We wrapped up in our blankets and lay down, the sharp breeze cutting through our blanket and we constantly sliding down the smoothe car roof then creeping up again to keep from sliding off entirely.

Thus the cars rattled along and with a canteen for a pillow I would snatch a little nap and wake up to find myself sliding down the car rood - would creep up on my pillow again draw my blanket closer around me and try it over again. I had taken about a half dozen such maps when I was waked from one of them by the cars stopping at Brashere City about 3 Q'clock this morning. By four we had got off the cars and spread our blankets on the wharf where we took a nap of perhaps an hours length and within the next hour got aboard the steamboat and crossed Berwick Bay which at this point is less than half a mile wide. Having crossed the Bay we stacked arms and went into camp here where we are likely to remain for several days. The boys spent the day in carrying boards from an old camp about a half a mile distant and building them shanties as their tents were all left behind. They are all very comfortably fixed to-night and merry as can be.

I have my tent along which makes a good home for me.

Capt. Cline and Lt. Godman of his Co. and existing orders allow but one tent to three Officers.

It is said there is some danger of an attach on this point but I think not much. We are at the terminus of the R.R. from New Orleans westward and when we move from here, will have to march. In pleasant weather with a pleasant camp as we have here, camp life is a pleasant one and I enjoy it much but give me action in fine weather. It may be and often necessarily is a little harder but it is life.

Of course I would be glad to have my money bring me a little interest if it can be and you may loan it for a year or more or less where it will be safe. The health of my Co. is excellent. Every man who came with me from Vicksburg is along and well except George Ruehlin (of New California) who has been very unwell but is now much better and has started home on a sick furlough. He said if he got well he would call at my old home and I hope he will.

This is Sunday but it seems as little like it as since any I have seen, I came in the service. We have been so busy fixing up our camp, etc. Write very often. With my sincere love to you all and a hope that I may get home to see you, I bid good night.

> Your affectionate son, Thomas.

P.S. We can get fresh cysters here for ten cents a dozen. They are splendid too so I eat a dozen once in a while for thee. Does it do thee any good? If not I suppose I must eat more so it will.

#2.