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Thomas L. Evans letter to his father from Port Cavallo, Texas, January 9, 1864

Thomas L. Evans

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Jan. 11th Since I commenced this I received a letter
from Rose and one from Sallie. Mailed Dec. 17th
It is quite pleasant this morning.

Fort Cavallo Texas

Jan. 9. 1864,

Dear Father

It has been some two
week since I wrote home & still longer
since I heard from you. We are still in
the same camp we occupied when I wrote
to Penrose. But we have had a great
change in the weather since then.

On the evening of Dec. 30th there came up
a heavy Northerner and we have had
it quite cold ever since which accounts
for my delay in writing as it has ^{been} too
cold for me to write in my tent
without fire & I have have no stove
and cannot get one here. However I have
got along very well as there are two
or three stoves among the officers
and I have made it convenient to spend
the most of my time around them.

The boys however have not fared so well
and have suffered a good deal with the
cold. The weather is so much colder than
we expected to find here that we were
not very well prepared for it. It is
unusually cold too for this climate, some
nights the ice has frozen half inch
thick. And we have no wood here scarcely
enough to cook our rations with.

There are quite a number of
troops camped here perhaps ten thousand
and I think we are likely to remain
here sometime perhaps until spring
which will be here now in a month or

so. I cannot guess anything about what our next movement will be or where there are any "Rebs." but spring will no doubt see us on the move in some direction. We are now fortifying this place so as to be able to repel any attack the "Rebs" may make on us. However I don't think they are likely to attack us but it is best always to be ready for them.

The boys who we captured at Grand Portau in the battle of Nov. 5, have part of them been exchanged and the rest paroled and are at New Orleans but none of them have come up with the Regiment yet.

The boys are all well and getting along very well except James Shearer who is very much troubled with the rheumatism & I fear it will bother him now until warm weather.

The wind has fell and it is quite pleasant to day however it is cloudy and there is a prospect of rain, after which we may expect it pleasant again. I have received but one letter from home since the fight. They must get mis carried. Write afterwar
Will love to one and all I remain
your affectionate son

Thomas

P.S. Direct to

J. S. Owens

New Orleans La.

St. Co. R. 96. A. V. S. 4th Div. 13. A. C.

Jan. 11th. Since I commenced this, I received a letter from Rose and one from Sallie mailed Dec. 17. It is quite pleasant this morning.

Port Cavallo, Texas.

Jan. 9, 1864.

Dear Father:

It has been some two weeks since I wrote home and still longer since I heard from you. We are still in the same camp we occupied when I wrote to Penrose but we have had a great change in the weather since then.

On the evening of Dec. 30th, there came up a heavy Northerner and we have had it quite cold ever since which accounts for my delay in writing and it has been too cold for me to write in my tent without fire and I have no stove and cannot get one here, however, I have got along very well as there are two or three stoves among the officers and I have made it convenient to spend the most of my time around them.

The boys however, have not fared so well and have suffered a good deal with the cold. The weather is so much colder than we expected to find here that we were not very well prepared for it. It is unusually cold too for this climate, some nights ice has frozen half inch thick and we have no wood scarcely enough to cook our ration with.

There are quite a number of troops camped here - perhaps ten thousand and I think we are likely to remain here sometime, perhaps until Spring which will be here now in a month or so. I cannot guess anything about what our next movement will be or where there are any "Rebs" but Spring will no doubt see us on the move in some direction. We are now fortifying this place so as to be able to repel any attack the "rebs" may make on us, however, don't think they are likely to attack us but it is best always to be ready for them.

#2.

The boys who were captured at Grand Coteau in the battle of Nov. 3, have part of them been exchanged and the rest paroled and are at New Orleans but none of them have come up with the Regiment yet. The boys are all well and getting along very well except James Shearer who is very much troubled with the rheumatism and I fear it will bother him now until warm weather.

The wind has fell and it is quite pleasant to-day, however, it is cloudy and there is a prospect of rain after which we may expect it pleasant again. I have received but one letter from home since the fight. They must get mis-carried. Write oftener.

With love to one and all, I remain,

Your affectionate son,

Thomas.

P.S. Direct to

T.L.Evans,

New Orleans, La.

Lt.Co.R. 96,O.V.I. 4th Div.13 A.C.