Papers, 1858-1865, 1895. SC 331, Folder 3 [unpublished]

Taylor, Henry Clay, 1838?-1864
[s.l.]: [s.n.], [unpublished]

Richmond Va. Oct 1st 1863

Dear Father & Mother

You will doubtless be surprised at receiving a letter from me writen in Libby Prison, but so it is — I was taken on Sunday night (the 20th Sept and arrived here last night in Company with about one hundred Officers and any quantity of private Soldiers. Colo. Corbit and Capt. Ewen are — here and others from the 21st that are strangers to you and — I will not mention any more names. I am well, and could I hear from home to day would be in good spirit, it has been just one Month since I have heard from you, but you can write to me now, and I want you to do so often. Your letters, (the same as mine) will be inspected before they come into my hands, therefore you will not write any thing appertaining to the war, nothing but family Matters will pass, and now for a list of things that I want you to send me, as soon as you can — 2 cotton Shirts, 2 pr. Cotton Drawers, 2 pr Stockings, 2 Towels, 1 Tooth brush, 1 hair brush, Toilet soap — Thread, Buttons &c — In the Eating line — one Ham, Can of Butter, Can Chowder, five pounds Coffee, five pounds Sugar, onions, pickles, and any thing of the substantial kind you can put up, This is all that I am allowed to write, (1/2 Sheet,) hoping this will find you all well I will close — find the direction on the next page — Yours with much love Henry

Lieut Henry C. Taylor
Prisoner of War Richmond Va.
Via Fortress Monroe
Care of Genl. Meredith
Comdg. of Exp

From Libby Prison
Oct. 1st 1863

Libby Prison Oct 11th 1863

Dear Brother

This is Sunday, And I write a few lines to let You Know that I am well. I wrote to Father the first day I was here, and hope he has received it before this, as I presume You were all very anxious about me after hearing of the Battle. I wrote to Father for a box of clothing, Eatables &c. I hope he will get it started as soon as possible as the articles I sent for are very necessary for my comfort. Milt Ewen wishes to have You inform his friends that he is well, and is waiting for the things he sent for very patiently we do not expect them however, for two or three weeks yet. = I have not heard from home since the 30th of August, and I am quite anxious to hear how you all are, has Capt. Edwards returned yet, is R. Adams at home, he was wounded the first mornings fight Write me all the news — and write often I must close this as short letters are more sure of geting to you

Love to all from

F. Ewen

Lieut Henry C Taylor
Prisner of War Richmond Va
via Fortress Monroe
Care of Genl Meredith
Comm'r of Exchange

Libby Prison Richmond Va.
Jany 20th 1864.

Dear Father and Mother

I was made as happy to day as a man can be in my circumstances, by the receipt of five letters from home, two from you two from Mollie and one from Azro. and I can assure you they were read more than once. as it was the first I had heard from home in a long time, I am so glad to hear you are all well, that I can allmost forget my own troubles. and if you will only think that I am well and not worry so much about me. I shall be much better pleased, if I am sick you will find it out quick enough. I hope you will continue to write good long letters, they come through as well as shorter ones, it allmost makes me shiver to think of the cold weather you have had, the coldest that has been quoted here was 2 degrees below zero, and we thought it was pretty cold, I did think at one time that I should be at home this month, but I think Exchange is played out for the pursant I am not quite out of money or provisions yet, but if we are in for the war. I think I shall need some before I get out money however ~~is~~ we are not allowed to receive, well I am most to the bottom of this sheet and have not written half that I want to, my head is so full. that I cant get any thing out as it ought to come, — Remember me to all friends, & accept, with much love

Your Henry

The reason I have not written before is because I had no stamps

Henry

J. M. Taylor Esq
Fond du lac
Wisconsin

Jany 20th 1864

Libby Prison, Richm.d Va. Feby 7th 1864

Dear Father,

I can only write that I am well, as we are only allowed to write ~~but~~ six lines now, and that but once a week, each monday; We are about out of provisions, and want you to send another box, put in plenty of Coffee & Sugar, also Candles & beans, Exchange Stock is below par here, but we are well, and will try and keep up good spirits, I am anxious to hear from Em—, lines up, good by

Henry

Written on the Envelope

Rec.d three letters from home the 1st

Fort Fisher 1864

Libby Prison Richmond Va
Sunday Feby 14th 1864

Dear Sister Jane

Your very kind letter was recd last night also one from Father & Mollie. I can not answer your letter as I would like to, as we are only allowed to write once a week, and only six lines of that. I am well and in good spirits, and hoping for an exchange. It is a beautifull day here, but we get very little of the sunshine through the grated windows. Love to all friends, and a good share for your self. write often

From Henry

Mrs Jane E. Taylor
Fond Du Lac
Wisconsin

Libby Prison, Richmond Va.
Monday Febry 22d 1864

Dear Father & Mother

As this is the only day in the week we are allowed to send out letters, I will not miss the opportunity although I do not feel much like writing. I have just finished my two weeks washing, and the skin is all off of my fingers which is the case every time I wash, we are well and in good spirits. I am quite anxious to hear from Em—, hope she will pass through her trouble all right. Love to all, Six lines or nothing.

Henry

Feb'y. 22d 1864
Rec'd March 1st

J. M. Taylor
Fond Du Lac
Wisconsin.

Libby Prison Richmond Va

Sunday, Feby 28th 1864.

Dear Father & Mother —

All well in Libby. Letters from home all rec.d up to Feby 8th. Glad to hear that Em — is safely over her trouble, think she has as much infantry now as she can support. What is the name of the "poor Soldier"? If the watch is an open faced one keep it untill I return, if a hunter case, it belongs to Adams. I presume you have seen Col. M — before this, I was not in luck, send us a box. Keep in good spirits as your letters regul — ate my spirits. Fitch is not here. How do you like his line letters? Love to all. Exchange dull

Henry

To —

L. N. Taylor Esq
Fond Du Lac
Wisconsin

J M Taylor Esq
Fond Du Lac
Wisconsin

Stat/ 25th 1867
Rec'd March 18th

Libby Prison Richmond Va
Sunday March 6th 1864.

Dear Father & Mother.

All well in Libby. Letters from home up to 15th Febry rec'd. nothing will interest me more than to have you keep writing just such letters. they help wonderfully to drive dull care away. If exchange rumors are all true this morning I will be with you in a few days. I do not talk any stock in them however, Tell Mr. Beaver there is no such man as Fitch here or in the 21st Ill's. I have the authority of the Col. of the Regt.

Love to all. Henry

J. W. Taylor Esq
Fond Du Lac
Wisconsin

March 6th 1864

Jno Taylor
Fond du Lac
Wisconsin

Libby Prison Richmond Va.
Monday Mch 14th 1864

Dear Brother.

We are all well in Libby this morning and in good spirits. Exchange looks favorable but it will take a long time to get us all out of here at the rate they have commenced. I hope our time will come soon as we are living on prison rations now, and it is a little tough. I will write or telegraph to you from Washington

Love to all

Henry.

To
H. G. Taylor.
Fond Du Lac
Wis

A H Taylor Esq
Fond du Lac
Wisconsin

Libby Prison Richmond Va
Monday Mc: 21st 1864

Dear Father & Mother,

I do not feel one bit like writing to day. I have got a hard cold and a back ache and feel as if I had been poorly starved with. Your short letter of the 2d: is rec: glad to hear that the friends at home are all well. If we had that box here now I think we would be a little more contented to wait our turn for Exchange. We have roll call for breakfast, corn bread for dinner and go to bed for supper. There was Sixty one Officers left here this morning for the north. I do not understand why they cant push the thing a little faster, at the rate they are at work now it will take untill the fourth of July to get us all out. — To day is my 26th: birthday. a pretty old baby, Milt says he will invite in some friends this Evening and eat a watermellon. I think if I was at home I would get a good dinner to day. Well I will close this and I hope I will not have to write more than one more from this place. Remember me to all friends and accept with this the love of your

Henry

March 21st 1864

J M Taylor
Fond du Lac
Wis

Received June 9th

Libby Prison Richmond Va
Monday Mch. 28th 1864

Dear Father and Mother

Writing day is once more at hand in old Libby. The order we recd some time ago has been partly countermanded we are now alowed to write a full page once a week, which I think will please you much better than six line letters. In my last letter I wrote that I was not feeling very well. I hope it will cause you no unasiness as I am all right now, and hope soon to be with you. Letters from are recd up to Mch 14th but the box has not made its appearance yet. You do not mention in your last whether you had seen Col Hobart or not I understand he was to speak to the people of F. D. L. I presume he will give you some interesting anecdotes of Libby. We have had very disagreeable weather here all this month. I hope it will be pleasant when I get home, I can hardly wait for that time to come. it seems a long long time since I was in any place of comfort or rest. I would be remembered to all enquiring friends, tell Bro not to work to hard and Eth to be carefull of herself. I want to see her looking well when I come home. a pa pt this with much love from your Soldier Boy

March 28th 1864

Paymr Genl

Dept of Tenn

Memphis

Libby Prison Rich.d Va
Monday Apr 4th 1864

Dear Brother.

I have very little to write this morning. More than to say We are all well, and have great hopes of giting out of this place soon, we will probably have to remain in Washington or Annapolis two or three days for pay, and then I shall take a straight cut for home. I will telegraph to you as soon as I get to a place where I can do so. The box has not been rec.d yet I expect to get it this week, Well as I have nothing more to write I will close this hoping that I will not have ~~more than~~ write but one letter more from this place, love to all Henry

A N J Taylor Esq
Fond du Lac
Wisconsin

Jan. 7th 1864

Libby Prison, Richmond Va
Sunday Eve Apr. 10th 1864

Dear Father & Mother.

I have nothing of interest to write you, but I will not miss my weekly letter for you might think all was not right, however I do not think you have rec. my last three letters yet. It is raining hard in Richmond to day, and in fact it has rained nearly every day for the past two months I do not know what to think about Exchange matters! the papers said a week ago that all difficulties in regard to Exchange had been settled, but there has not been a Yankee sent north, or a Confed sent South the past week, the thing is working altogether to slow for "Young America" but I have strong hopes of being home some time this summer, I rec. the box the 5th inst, just one month on the road, had a good mess of pork and beans for dinner yesterday, I hope we will get a mail this week, your letters come two or three at a time, you wishes me to telegraph when I get out, I will do so as soon as I get my pay, then I can let you know when I will be at home. Well I must bring this to a close. Remember me to all friends and accept this with much love to all from

Henry

Apl. 10th 1864

J. M. Carter

Fond du Lac

Wis

Libby Prison. Richmond Va.
Monday Morning Apl. 25th/64

Dear Father and Mother,

I hardly know what to write this morning. I have about made up my mind to remain in the South untill the war is over. I think however that I will wait untill my next letter before I give you a list of the articles that I shall need during the next five years. Letters from home are rec.d up to M.r 25th and I hope you get my letters. I have written a letter to some of you every week since my first six line letter. I am sorry to hear that Em. does not improve in health a little faster, but hope that time will bring her up all right. I learn from Mollie's letter that they were to run D. M. T. for mayor. If he run I hope he was not defeated, is all I have to say. I would like to know who the City Officers are. — The last that I heard from our boys in Danville, I learn that John T. Austin of Co "K" died there of small pox, his friends live in Fond Du Lac, per haps they have not heard of his death. Do you ever hear from Capt. Edwards. I think if I remain here a month or two longer I will write to him. Well I have nothing more to write this time, but if we do not know something more definite about Exchange before I write again. I shall give you a list for a box, which we might send every month and also authority to draw my pay. Remember me to all friends, Broom & Woolf, not excepted, and accept this with much love to all from Henry

Apl 25 1864

J. W. Taylor Esq
Fond du Lac
Wisconsin

Libby Prison Richmond Va
May 2d 1864 –

Dear Brother

We are all well in Libby this morning, and that is about all I have to write. We hope to get out of this place before long. It is quite warm here now, and I presume it is begining to look some like spring in Ky. Well I have been confined in this place seven months, and I think I will know how to appreciate sun shine, and fresh air, when I do get out, and I will try wait patiently for the time to come. If any thing should turn up to stop the exch we depend on our friends at home for provisions if such should be the case I shall make arrangements to have my pay sent home. I had much rather draw it myself if I can do so soon. Remember me to al friends, and accept this short letter, with much love to all from

Your only brother, H. C. Taylor

70 A320
May 2d 1864

A. J. Taylor Esq
Fond Du Lac
Wisconsin