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 SC 331, Folder 3 [unpublished]

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[s.l.]: [s.n.], [unpublished]

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Richmond Va, Oct 1st 1863

Dear Father & Mother

You will doubtless be surprised at receiving a letter from me written 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. Co^l Robert and Captⁿ Ewen are here, and others from the 27th 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 spirits, 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 pertaining 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 that you can put up, This is all that I am allowed to write, (42 Sheet,) hoping this will find you all ^{well &} will close - find the direction on the next page - Yours with much love Harry

1863
Lieut Henry C Taylor
Purser of War Richmond Va
Via Honors Monroe

Care of Genl Meredith
Corns of Ex

From Lilly Prisons
Oct. 1st 1863

I am well and could have from home to day would
I had from you, but you can write to me now, and
I want you to do so often, your letter (as soon as you
will be important before they come into my hands, though
you will not wait any long operation to be war, but
but family matters will have, and transfer a lot of things
but I want you to send me, as soon as you can = a letter
that, I Mr. Colton Brown, of Jackson, a good, I like
back I can send, best soap - I think I can
for the evening - one from Camp of Butler, can describe, for
I want coffee for friends here, every packet, and any
thing of the kind, but for comfort up, this is all
that I am allowed to write (to best) hoping this will
find you all well, I find the children on the
next page = yours with much love Henry

Sibby 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 morning's fight Write me all the news - and write often I must close this as short letters are more sure of getting to you

Love to all from
Henry

Lieut Henry Le Taylor
Prisoner of War Richmond Va
via Fortress Monroe
Care of Genl Meredith
Comdr of Exchange

201 11/11/18
Miss Phelps

Dear Miss Phelps
I have just received your kind letter
of the 11th inst and am glad to hear
from you and hope you are well
I am well at present and hope
these few lines will find you
the same. I have not much news
to write at present. I am still
at the exchange and hope to
be exchanged soon. I have not
heard from you for some time
and hope you are well. I am
your affectionate friend
Henry Le Taylor

[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

Miss Phelps

17
Libby. Grison. Richmond Va.
Jan'y 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 Mottie 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 almost 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 almost 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 present 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 I we are not allowed to receive, well I am most to the bottom of the sheet and have not written half that I want to, my head is so full, that I can't get anything out as it ought to come, Remember me to all friends, I accept, with much love
from Henry

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

Henry

J. M. Taylor Esq
Fond Du Lac
Wisconsin

Jan 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 -
Lins up, good bye
Henry

Write on the Envelope

Rec^d three lines from home the 1st

L.M.

Dear Mother
I have been thinking of you
very much lately and
wondering how you
are getting on. I hope
you are well and happy
as usual. I have not
heard from you for some
time and it is very
pleasing to hear from
you now. I have been
very busy lately but
I have managed to find
time to write you a
few lines. I have not
heard from you for some
time and it is very
pleasing to hear from
you now. I have been
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you are well and happy
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heard from you for some
time and it is very
pleasing to hear from
you now. I have been
very busy lately but
I have managed to find
time to write you a
few lines.

L.M. The 1864

Sibby Prison Richmond Va
Sunday July 14th 1864

Dear Sister Jane

Your very kind letter was rec^d 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 or
that. I am well and ~~am~~ in good spirits, and hoping for an exchange
It is a beautiful day here, but we get very little of the sunshine through
the grated windows. Love to all friends, and a good share ^{write often} for your self

From Henry

Mrs Jane D. Taylor }
Fond Du Lac }
Wisconsin }

Libby Prison, Richmond Va.
Monday Febry 22^d 1864

Dear Father (to 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 troubles all right. Love to all, six lines or nothing.

Henry

Feb. 22nd 1864
rec^d March 1st

J. M. Taylor
Ford Du Lac
Wisconsin

[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

[Faint handwritten signature or initials.]

Recd of Mary 2nd
Sept 25 1864

Sibby Prison Richmond Va
Sunday, July 25th 1864.

Dear Father & Mother

All well in Sibby. Sitters from home all recd. up to Sibby's. 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. W. before
this, I was not in luck, send us a box. Keep in good spirits, as your letters regul-
ate my spirits, Hitch is not here. How do you like his line letters? Love to all. Exchange

Henry

J. W. Taylor
Send Du Sac
Richmond

Handwritten text, possibly a signature or address, written vertically on the left side of the page.

Extensive handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the paper, covering the middle section.

J. M. Taylor Esq
Fond Du Lac
Wisconsin

Rec'd March 15th
1874

Sibby. Prison Richmond Va
Sunday, March 6th 1864.

Dear Father ^{and} Mother,

All well in Sibby. 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 2^d Ill^o. I have the authority of the Co^l. of the Reg^t.

Love to all, Henry

J. W. Taylor Esq }
Sond. Du Lac }
Wisconsin }

March 6th 1864

J. W. Taylor
London, England
Macintosh

J. W. Taylor
London, England
Macintosh

Dear Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2nd inst. in relation to the purchase of a pair of boots for my son, and in reply to inform you that the same have been ordered and will be forwarded to you as soon as they are ready. I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Yours truly,
J. W. Taylor

J. W. Taylor
London, England
Macintosh

J. W. Taylor
London, England
Macintosh

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 a telegraph to you from Washington

To

Love to all

A. J. Taylor }
Ford D. Lee }
His - }

Henry,

A. J. Taylor Esq
Fond Du Lac
Wisconsin

Jibby Prison Richmond Va
Monday M^o: 21st 1864

Dear Father & Mother,

I do not feel one bit like writing today. I have got a hard cold and a back ache and feel as if I had been poorly stayed with. Your short letter of the 2nd is rec^d. 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. Today is my 26th birthday. a pretty old baby. Will says he will invite in some friends this evening and cut a watermelon. I think if I was at home I would get a good dinner today. 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

Received June 9th

J. N. Taylor
Fond Du Lac
Wis

Libby Prison Richmond Va
Monday Feb. 28th 1864

Dear Father ^{and} Mother

Writing day is once more at hand in
old Libby. The order we rec^d some time ago has been
partly countermanded we are now allowed 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 uneasiness as
I am all right now, and hope soon to be with you.
Letters from are rec^d up to Feb^{ry} 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 S. 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 too hard
and Ed to be careful of herself. I want to see her
looking well when I come home, except this with
much love from your Soldier Boy

March 28th 1864

Dear

My dear

Dear

I have just received your kind letter
 and am glad to hear from you
 and that you are well
 I am well at present
 and hope these few lines
 will find you the same
 I have not much news
 to write at present
 but I will write again
 when I have more
 I am your affectionate
 friend
 J. D. [Signature]

Sibby, Prison Rich. 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 getting 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~~ ^{write} ~~than~~ ^{but} one letter more from
this place, love to all
Henry

W J Taylor Esq
Fond du Lac
Wisconsin

To Mr
April 17th 1864

Libby Prison, Richmond Va
Sunday Eve Apr. 16th 1864

Dear Father & Mother,

I have nothing of interest to write you, but I will not miss my wally letter for you might think all was not right, however I do not think you have rec^d. 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 Confid 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^d. the box the 5th inst, just one month in the road, had a good mess of pork and beans for dinner yesterday, hope we will get a mail this week, your letters come two or three at a time, you wished me to telegraph when I get out, I will do so as soon as I get my pass 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 except this with much love to all from
Henry

Libby. Prison. Richmond Va.
Monday Morning Apr. 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 until the war is over. I think however that I will wait until 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 not up to me. 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 Mother's letter that they were to run J. M. S. 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 "A" died there of small pox. His friends live in Fond Du Lac. I hope 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. Still 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 want sent every month} and also authority, to draw my pay. Remember me to all friends, Friends & Wool, not excepted, and accept this with much love to all from Henry

Apr 25 1864

J. W. Taylor Esq
Fond du Lac
Wisconsin

Dear Sir
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th inst. in relation to the above named matter. I have the honor to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration. I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Yours truly,
J. W. Taylor

Received of J. W. Taylor Esq
the sum of \$100.00
for the purchase of land
in the town of Fond du Lac
County Wisconsin
this 25th day of April 1864
J. W. Taylor

Sibby Frison Richmond Va
May 2^d 1864 -

Dear Brother

We are all well in Sibby this morning, and that is about all I had to write. We hope to get out of this place before long. It is quite warm here now, and I presume it is beginning to look some like spring, in this. Well I have been confined in this place several 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 ship we depend on our friends at home for provisions if such should be the case I shall make arrangements to have my boy sent home, I had much rather draw it myself if I can do so soon. Remember me to all friends, and accept this short letter, with much love to all from
Your only brother, W. C. Taylor

70 A 320
May 2^o 1864

A. R. Taylor Esq
London
Wisconsin