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## **Papers, 1858-1865, 1895. SC 331, Folder 7 [unpublished]**

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[s.l.]: [s.n.], [unpublished]

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Chattanooga Oct 27<sup>th</sup> 1863

Dear Sir

Your note of 4<sup>th</sup> inst was duly recd, I saw and conversed with a number of our wounded who were brought in from the Rebel lines, but none knew anything of any one except the wounded that were close by them

I have been in hopes that in some way I should hear from Dr Reems and learn more of Henry and other prisoners, but do not. Of the fact that Henry was taken and not wounded I have no doubt I have his Valise which

contains an Ord. Seargt's Blouse  
1-pc pants - 1-pc Drawers 1 shirt  
1-pc Socks - Silver Watch and  
a few letters - the letters I put  
in a package and sealed up.

I think Henry took my advice  
some time before the battle when  
we were talking over such chance  
and destroyed the most of his  
letters. I think his Drep.  
suit must have been in  
St. Adams Valise at least tis not  
here - The watch I think belongs  
to Lt Morgan as he had such  
a one and I never saw H. carry  
it - St Adams would know  
- The socks you spoke of  
came by mail. the paper around  
them was nearly all torn off

and if there was any note  
in them it was gone

Many thanks to Mrs J. for  
the present of the socks.  
I will send every thing I  
have the first opportunity  
Hoping a speedy exchange  
for Henry and with respects  
to your self and family

I Remain Truly Yours

E. Gould

E. H. Goulds Letter

Oct 27 1863

J. M. Taylor  
Forest Home

Impation  
Kunington

|||



Chattanooga Nov 10<sup>th</sup> 183

Dear Sir

Yours by Capt E—  
was rec<sup>d</sup> last Friday—

I have packed Henrys  
things in Mills Valise to save  
trouble with two. St Clark  
goes home tomorrow and will  
take them. I think it a good  
chance to send by him, as there  
is no express to Nashville

I took advantage of your  
kind offer and kept a pr of  
woolen mittens and if Henry  
gets home before warm weather  
mother must knit him a pr

I am glad you have heard  
direct from him Dr Beers  
wrote Oct 16<sup>th</sup> the boys were  
all well then— We are  
having pretty cold weather  
just at present. Every

thing in front is quiet  
we keep on building forts  
and getting on big guns

I am proud to hear that  
Wisconsin has rolled up so  
large a Union majority - our  
regt were over, half at Stevens  
- on which accounts for our light  
vote - Did Lt Adams take  
any thing home of Henrys  
if not does he know what  
his drop suit was in - I  
would like to know & if it  
is still here I will try to  
look it up.

Remember me to Mrs Taylor  
and friends - Truly Yours  
Ed. Gould

At Lawrence etc  
Nov 10 1863

Milwaukee Nov 26<sup>th</sup> 1864

J. M. Taylor }  
Fond du Lac }

Dear Sir:

Yours of the 17<sup>th</sup> inst is this moment received. My residence is at Milwaukee City, and a friend there informed me that there was a letter addressed for me here. On my arrival here this morning I received your note.

Knowing the extreme desire of friends here to obtain information <sup>regarding</sup> of prisoners, and especially with reference to those who are sick or who have died there I should be glad to communicate information about your son, but shall be obliged to disappoint you. We were very much restricted in our intercourse with those in hospital or who were confined in different localities from our own at Charleston, so that I did not see your son after my arrival there - the 28<sup>th</sup> of July. Capt<sup>n</sup> Harkness of Delavan, <sup>I think</sup> who is still a prisoner, will probably be able to give you the latest and most authentic information about him whenever he shall be released. A note to him - Capt<sup>n</sup> Harkness - care of Lieut J. M. Goff Delavan will reach its destination on the release of Capt<sup>n</sup> Harkness. It is possible also that Lieut Goff may be able to give you some information on the subject, - being of the same Reg<sup>t</sup>.

I last saw your son at Miam on the 27<sup>th</sup> of July. He



was there in the hospital, but thought not to be very dangerously ill,  
though not so well as Lieut Burdick who was also in the hospital. Both  
have since died. I heard of the death of your son but a day or two  
before leaving Charleston - which I did on the 5<sup>th</sup> of October.

Regretting that I cannot give you more definite information and  
tendering you my heartfelt sympathy in your affliction, I am

Very Respectfully

Your Obedt Servt

John B. Thier

Capt. Co. F. 31<sup>st</sup> Va. Vols

J. B. Thier  
Nov 26th 1864

Fond du Lac Wis. May 23<sup>d</sup> 1864

Dear Sir

I have a son in Libby Prison "Lieut. H.C. Taylor and his friend, Capt. "Mill" Owen", my near neighbors son; they have been in both of the 21<sup>st</sup> Reg. Wis. T. - they have been in were taken at Chickamauga Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> 1863. We have sent them provisions but presume they are now on Prison Rations. I write to know if communications are open so that we can send more - It is not possible for us to get facts in regard to this matter by the papers - The last letter from my son, <sup>May 2<sup>d</sup></sup> informed us that he expected ~~to~~ to be exchanged soon, what ground of hope he had I do not know but I do hope, ~~if you can facilitate this~~ <sup>they will soon leave that</sup> ~~that~~ <sup>to</sup> ~~some~~ <sup>some</sup> place you will do so - "Our Boys" have both slept on the same board now near 8 months and I dare hope ~~that~~ we would be very happy ~~to~~ <sup>to</sup> ~~be~~ <sup>met</sup> ~~privileged~~ <sup>to</sup> ~~meet~~ <sup>them</sup> ~~both~~ <sup>at</sup> ~~home~~ Will you do me the favor to write me ~~to~~ <sup>to</sup> ~~me~~ <sup>me</sup> in regard to sending supplies & the prospect of exchange Is it possible for us to get our Boys by allowing the Reds to select 2 of their ranks in return? I am told such changes have been made in Please excuse this intrusion for it comes from an <sup>aged</sup> ~~very~~ Anxious father

Maj - Mulford }  
Fortress Monroe }  
Pa }

Jm Taylor

Head Quarters Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina,  
Office Commissioner for Exchange,

Fort Monroe, Va., Aug 3<sup>rd</sup> 1864.

Mr J M Taylor  
Fond Du Lac

Wisconsin

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your communication of 23<sup>rd</sup> May and in reply to inform you, that in consequence of limited and uncertain transportation within the enemy's lines, it is at present deemed inexpedient to forward Boxes or Parcels to our prisoners south of Richmond. When these difficulties are obviated notice will be given through the newspapers. All letters destined for the South, must be accompanied by Ten Cents, for postage.

Our authorities are doing all in their power to effect an honorable and speedy release of all prisoners held by the enemy.

The principal depots for Union prisoners are as follows: Officers, at Macon, Ga., Enlisted Men, at Andersonville, Ga., to which places, in the absence of more definite information, your letters should be addressed.

I am, very respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant,

Jno. E. Meulford

Major and Asst. Agt. for Exchange of Prisoners.

Special Exchanges are sometimes made by consent of the "Surg of War", but are very difficult to arrange, requiring strong influence on both sides - I doubt the propriety of your undertaking such a task. Yours &c

Copy

To Gen. Foster with  
\$25. in gold by Express

Fond du Lac Wis. Sept. 28th 1864

Gen. Foster

Dear Sir

I am informed that  
our Prisoners in Charleston are allowed  
to receive money from their friends -  
and that you will forward money &  
& letters sent to your care. I have taken  
the liberty to send to you by Express  
\$25. in gold for my son Lieut H. C.  
Taylor Co. A. 21<sup>st</sup> Reg. Wis. Volunteers, who  
I learn is now in Charleston and  
must be in great need; for he has  
been a prisoner over a year, and was  
in Hospital the 5<sup>th</sup> inst. -  
Gen. will it be asking too much of  
you, to interest yourself in getting my  
son Exchanged or Paroled; I am  
willing he should stand his chances in  
the Battle field, as he has already done  
several times, closing up at Chickamauga

but I cannot bear the thought <sup>of his</sup> dying  
in a Rebel Prison -

If you can, consistently with your duty  
procure his Release, you will place  
his Father under lasting obligations to you  
and perhaps save the life of a descendant  
of a Revolutionary Patriot to fight again  
for the Union. Please accept from my  
best regards - with my sincere prayer for  
the success of the cause you fight for

Respectfully your Obedt. Servant

J. M. Taylor

P.S.

Since writing the above, I have been requested  
to send \$25. to Capt. <sup>"Mull"</sup> Ewen Co 7<sup>th</sup> 21<sup>st</sup>  
Reg. Wis. Volunteers making fifty dollars  
in all - you will send it all, or a  
part at a time, as you deem expedient  
Capt. E<sup>s</sup> Father will write him  
by Mail, as I have done to my son

Yours truly

J. M. Taylor

"They will be done"

Let. South Carolina Hospital.

Charleston So. Car.

Oct. 2. 1864.

J. M. Taylor Esq.

Dear Sir:-

I am at same Hospital as your son Henry. I am sorry to inform you that he is very low indeed. He has had a long run of the diarrhoea, and his lungs are badly affected. In fact the Dr. told me he has the Consumption and that he cannot get well. I think it due you that you know the facts. Henry has had excellent care here in Charleston. St. Mason M. D. has been with him and done all in his power. <sup>for him</sup> He has been a good friend to him and Henry is grateful, and wished me to mention him to you. Henry is still in good spirits and believes that he will get well. but all the doctors say the contrary. I am to be sent to town to-day but St. Mason will remain until the last. I wish I could give you some hope but in truth I cannot. If there should be an exchange of the sick right away St. Mason thinks he could move him. I cannot at present write more. Excuse my plainness in writing, but I think it best you know the worst.

Yours truly  
H. M. Taylor  
For the sake of the

your obt. Servt.  
Charles H. Morgan.

Atlantic Georgia.

Camp of the 21<sup>st</sup> Wis. Vol. Oct. 2<sup>d</sup> /64  
Sir

I take my pen to inform you that I just received some sad news in regard to Henry. The Lieut. Col. of the 2<sup>d</sup> Ohio was taken at Chickamauga at the same time that Henry was & has bin with Henry during his sojourn in Bebleton. He was exchanged a few days ago & he came here about twenty minutes ago to tell about the officers of our regt. & he said that they were all well with the exception of Lieut. Taylor & that he was not expected to live when he left him at Andersonville about seven days ago.

The Col. would not have bin exchanged now only for his time being out the 2<sup>d</sup> Ohio went back about a month ago to be mustered out & go to their respective homes.

The Col. said that Capt. M. Owen was well but he said that Henry had bin sick for a long time & had suffered a good deal.

This cuts me as deep as it would to hear of my own Brother thus for such he was to me, yet Henry & I tented messed & c to gether I dont now but what he had ~~mentioned~~ mentioned my name in some of his letters to you but it matters not only I wish to God he could be exchanged in time to save his life, it is not only my self that is grieved at those sad tidings but every man in the

Company is with me yet Henry were a friend  
to me all & we miss him much I have his  
book & also needle book a saving for him on his return  
yet my is the time that we have placed them & other  
with care on one little stand off a Sunday morning before  
Inspection. He never had felt found with our tent it  
was so one every time that there was inspection

Well I have already gone further than I intended to  
on my details so I will close hoping that Henry  
will recover from his illness & return safe safe home

I am Very Respectfully Yours  
Yours Obedt. Servant  
Watson H. Cook

To  
The Mayor of  
The City of Fond Du Lac

Supt. Co. A 21<sup>st</sup> Wis. Vol.



Company) as with me yesterday  
to Fond du Lac Wis Dec 23<sup>d</sup> 1864

Dear Sir

Your kind letter of the 2<sup>d</sup> of Oct.  
was duly received ~~but not in time to~~ for <sup>the</sup> kind feelings  
expressed in it for my son Henry you have my sincere  
Thanks, you of course heard before you started for the coast  
that he was ~~dead~~  
dead, as the first information I had of his death  
came from Ed Gould

I am very respectfully  
Yours truly  
Wm. H. ...

Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> 1864

2d Line St Phil<sup>a</sup>

Oct 6th 1864

Hon J<sup>r</sup> Taylor

Mayor Louisiana

Mayor

Your son was a com-

-rade of mine as a prisoner of war - I would  
have written to you before this but from disease.  
He came into the Unit<sup>y</sup> of Paris in Hosp<sup>l</sup> at Macou  
Ga early in June sick with dys - recovered - Came  
back and was quite sick for some time but recov-  
ered sufficiently to be removed to Charleston  
SC where he was in good health when one of  
my comrades left some my release. It  
affords me great pleasure to tell you Sir that  
your son was kindly cared for by Capt  
Pichley 73 Ind vol - Lt H P Crawford  
2nd Ill<sup>y</sup> and by other friends - that he  
was ~~so~~ always patient, brave, enduring  
and loyal and that those who

Associated with him respected  
him a g brother in arms and  
gentleman and will always be  
Anxious for his welfare

Respy  
D. J. Walton  
Jury Asbol

Send du Lac Oct. 20th. 1864

Col. Frank P. Sherman

Dear Sir

In the list of Prisoners  
published in the Chicago Journal  
of the 17th inst. furnished by you  
I do not see the name of my son  
Lieut. W. C. Taylor of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wis.  
Reg. ~~My~~ My son was in Hospital  
~~at~~ ~~at~~ Charleston the 2<sup>nd</sup> inst  
dangerously sick - if you can give  
me any information in regard to  
him you will confer a great  
favor on an anxious father

Respectfully yours  
Wm Taylor

Chicago Oct 22<sup>d</sup> 1861

Sir

Yours of the 20<sup>th</sup> is at hand  
I regret that I cannot give  
you any satisfaction in reg-  
ard to your son Sicut Taylor  
I got the names of as many  
Western Officers as I could  
and have had them published  
for the benefit of their relatives  
in the North

With respect I am

Sir

Respy Yours

W. Sherman  
Col

[1864, OCT. 30]

Fond du Lac Wisconsin Oct. 30<sup>th</sup> 1864

Lieut. Col. W. T. Bennett } Dear Sir

Agt. of Exchange &c }

I write to you for information in regard to my son Lieut Henry C. Taylor of the 21<sup>st</sup> Wis. V. I. - a Prisoner of War I rec<sup>d</sup>. information that he was in Hospital in Charleston, ~~Ark~~ <sup>Ms</sup> and that on the 2<sup>d</sup>. inst. he was not expected to recover; I have heard nothing from him since, and am in painful suspense in regard to him. If my son is still alive, is it not possible for you to get <sup>him</sup> into our lines that I can go to him! I wrote to Gen Foster in Sept. and sent money - which probably come under your supervision. It might have been more proper for me to have communicated with you at first, but I did not know it then. Any information you can give me in regard to the fate of my son, will be highly appreciated by his anxious father

Respectfully your Obedt. Servt

H. M. Taylor

Fond du Lac Nov. 22<sup>d</sup> 1864

Capt. R. H. Spencer

Dear Sir

I have just learned from Mr. M. Donald that you can give me information in regard to the reported death of my son Lieut. Henry C. Taylor, of the 20<sup>th</sup> Wis Infantry — If you will give me such information as you may have, in detail ~~remembering that even trivial~~ ~~things~~ you will confer a great favor on his afflicted relatives. Please bear in mind that the most <sup>last moments</sup> trivial circumstances in regard to the death of ~~the~~ <sup>our</sup> loved one <sup>will be</sup> of much interest to us —

Respectfully &c

J. M. Taylor

P.S. May I also ask of you such official evidence of my sons death, as will enable me to settle his a/c with the gov't.

Dec 5<sup>th</sup> 1864 Dear Sir Your favor  
of the 28 Nov came to hand in due time  
for which you have my thanks -

I have received no further information  
in regard to Henry's death. I notice his  
place in his com. has been filled by  
com. to W. H. Cook - The same evidence  
that would justify the gov. in his  
action, must I think be sufficient  
for me to ~~settle for~~ use at  
Washington

7 " "

10 Nov

For  
Capt James



1864, Nov. 8

Extract from a letter from E<sup>d</sup>. H. Gould Nov 8<sup>th</sup>

"I have to think that Henry Taylor is dead. Col. Hobart says he saw two officers of the 10<sup>th</sup> Wis. who escaped, who say they helped bury him. Should we get to Macon, I shall find his grave if possible and do all I can to fix his last resting place, in a suitable manner & I fully sympathize with his family in their loss. I will say, he was a friend with more good than bad qualities, and may his life, given for his country, bring forth good fruit. A braver Boy has not died"

Fond du Lac Nov 17th 1864  
Capt. - Viet

Dear Sir

In  
~~By~~ a letter rec<sup>d</sup> <sup>yesterday</sup> ~~from the 25<sup>th</sup> Wis Regt~~  
by my neighbor it is stated that my son  
Lieut. H. C. Taylor of the 25<sup>th</sup> Wis. Regt is  
dead - that Col. Robert saw two officers  
of the 10<sup>th</sup> Wis, who <sup>had escaped,</sup> said they helped bury  
him. Having seen a notice of the  
escape of yourself + Agt. Gof, I am  
inclined to think you must be one  
of the officers alluded to, and I  
take the liberty of writing to you for  
any information you can give me  
in regard to my son. The last direct  
information I had in regard to him,  
was by letter from Lieut. C. G. Major  
dated Oct 2<sup>d</sup> at that time he was very  
low + not expected to recover in.  
Will you do me the favor to answer.  
Any information you can give me  
will be on this painful subject will  
be rec<sup>d</sup>. as a great favor by an affected  
Father

Respectfully yours

J. M. Taylor

Petters Lt 1 Capt. Viet  
Powers Rodgers & Co 1 Adjutant Gen  
Petersilea C. 2.  
Pike W. R. 3  
Pomise J. 6. 8. 10.  
Pierce W. 7.

do  
Capt. Viet

Fonds du Lac Wis Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> 1864

Doct. J. S. Watson

Dear Sir

Your favor of the  
6<sup>th</sup> inst. came to hand this morning.  
Most sincerely do I thank you Sir, for  
the interest you take in my son Henry,  
well fare, and your kindness in writ-  
ing to me. But Sir our poor Henry  
will not probably need friends much  
longer. I received a letter <sup>from his friend & fellow Prisoner</sup> from ~~Leitch~~  
~~Prisoner of War~~, <sup>dated at</sup> Charleston -  
<sup>Oct. 20<sup>th</sup></sup> ~~dated the 2<sup>nd</sup> inst~~ informing me that ~~the~~  
~~my sons disease~~ disease had settled on his lungs  
and there was no hope of his recovery  
~~This is sad news for us, for he was our~~  
~~the child we had hoped to have had spared~~ ~~us~~  
~~youngest son and we had had~~ ~~we had had~~  
~~to lead our declining limbs in~~ ~~in~~ ~~old age~~  
~~mainly dependent for the future. Henry is a good~~  
~~Boy, but he has been sacrificed. The cause~~  
~~I suppose has required it. Truly yours~~  
J. M. Taylor

~~But~~ This is indeed sad news, for us,  
~~and it is hard to be reconciled~~  
~~to have die without the privilege of~~  
It makes a child of me and I must  
close by again thanking you -

Truly yours

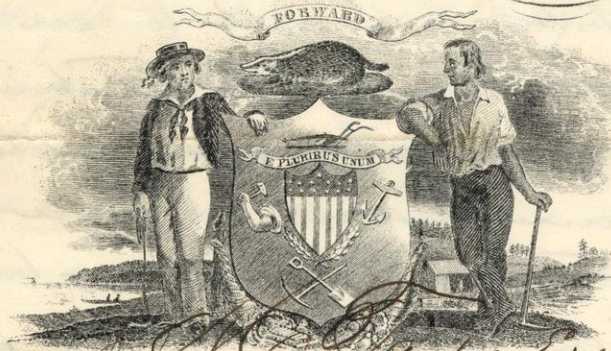
Jm. Taylor

50  
904 17 Water  
copy

# State of Wisconsin

SECRETARY'S OFFICE

Madison Nov 28 1864



J. M. Bayliss Esq

My dear Sir

Your note of the 23<sup>rd</sup> making enquiries in regard to your son has been received, I should have written you something ago had I not supposed you had heard by letter from Charleston in regard to him. He went into hospital in the first place when we were at Mason Sw and after being there sometime was returned to the yard with us, but he soon failed again on the miserable diet we were compelled to live upon and went to the hospital again. He was very much reduced indeed. We hardly expected him ever to get away from Mason but he did and was sent to Charleston with the balance of the sick. When he arrived there he found an opportunity of getting some money by giving to a Citizen a draft on one of his friends here at home. I do not know who he drew upon. But the draft will probably be presented before a great while. He received very kind treatment while at Charleston. The Physicians taking a particular interest

in him. He always expressed himself as determined to live through and get home even up to the day he died. One of the officers of his regt went to see him two days before his death and Harry told him he was getting along first rate and was going to live through the imprisonment and get home again. For his determination the physician took very particular pains with him but he said it was impossible that he could live. He was very reduced indeed nothing but a skeleton. But he was the best plucker of any one of the prisoners used was known by a great many from that fact alone. Outside of a large circle of personal friends. In regard to St. Mason I do not know his address but I will find out through an Ohio friend of mine and inform you in a short time I do not think he has gotten out of prison yet.

Do not give yourself a particle of uneasiness about any money Harry may have borrowed while sick. that is all right, besides what he drew a draft for the amount will be very small, and that draft may not be presented for a long time being held by a southern firm, as it may have <sup>been</sup> simply an order on a paymaster.

In regard to a settlement of his account with the Government I do not know the precise steps necessary to be taken. Any claim agent will tell you. I think were I interested I should buy the

matter before Mr Quincy of this city I think  
he has the largest experience of any man in the State.  
Anything I can do for you or if there is any further  
information you would like to have that I have not  
mentioned write me. I shall be happy to reply to any  
communications on the subject, I believe I have  
answered all the enquiries made in the notes before me.

Very Respectfully

Your Obedt Servt

P A Spencer  
Capt 10<sup>th</sup> Ws Regt



Fond du Lac Wis Nov. 29th 1864

Lieut. Col. W. J. Bennett

Dear Sir

Your two notes of the 13th inst. with  
Confederate Officers Receipts for \$25. in gold for Capt. Muller  
and \$25. in gold for my son Lieut H. C. Taylor  
came duly to hand - Since the receipt of the ~~same~~ <sup>same</sup> I  
have rec<sup>d</sup>. information that my son died before the money  
reached its destination. I have now to request you to ask  
"Capt. N. Soule C.S.A," to return the gold to you, and if ~~you~~  
he should do so, you will please send it to me by Express  
One favor more sir and I will not trespass further on  
your generosity - ~~I have only heard of my sons death by~~  
~~second reports~~ although fully satisfied that the <sup>report</sup> ~~information~~ <sup>of my sons death</sup> is  
too true. Still I have no evidence by which I can settle  
his ac. with the Government - Will you procure that for me  
and much oblige your Obedt. Servt. J. M. Taylor

Fond du Lac Wis Nov 28th 1864

Dear Sir

We have received ~~the~~<sup>reliable</sup> information that we deem ~~to be correct~~ that Henry is dead, but have had no particulars in regard to his death - Should you ascertain the facts in the case you will confer a favor by communicating the same to us - if possible in such form as will enable me to settle ~~off~~ his ac. with the government

Respectfully yours

L. R. Davis

O. S. Cont. 21 Reg. W. T. I.

J. M. Taylor

P.S. I suppose that by Henry's death  
you are entitled to a com.

If I am right in this, and can be  
of any service to you, you are  
at liberty to call on me.

Yours  
J. M. F.

To Laeins  
Nov 28<sup>th</sup>

[1864, Dec.]

I am advised that I shall need the affidavits of yourself  
 and some other commissioned Officer, ~~to me in stating the~~  
~~time~~ to enable me to settle my late sons account with the  
 Government - Stating the ~~time he was in command~~ <sup>he was entitled to pay</sup> ~~of the company~~ <sup>the time he</sup>  
~~and any other thing~~ <sup>taken for service</sup> ~~else~~ <sup>them else</sup>  
 you may deem necessary to state, to make the evidence plain  
 to the Department. I also wish to ascertain whether Henry  
 owes any other person except the balance due you -  
 Poor Henry - his troubles are over - and may God forgive his  
 murderer - Please say to Lieut. Cook that I recd. his letter  
 of Oct. 2. and feel thankful to him for the interest he took  
 in Henrys well fare - If he can preserve the little things he  
 has of Henrys until we can get them, they will be preserved as  
 relics. That Rifle too, Henry was so anxious to get it home,  
 I hope it may come some time - but the chances of war are against  
 it I fear.

~~I am very happy~~ <sup>glad</sup> to hear of the perfect <sup>Shermans</sup> success of ~~the~~  
"great reputation of ~~Gen. Sherman and~~ <sup>hop</sup> that before this  
reaches you, he may have possession of Savannah

Please send the papers as soon as you conveniently can  
as it takes a great while to get these matters settled up

Very truly yours  
Jm Taylor

Capt. A. M. Edwards  
Co. A. 21<sup>st</sup> Reg. Wis. I. P. 9

Capt. Edwards  
Co. A. 21<sup>st</sup> Reg. Wis. I. P. 9

glad to hear of Sherman's success - hope soon to hear that he  
has Savannah - then Charleston - where lay the bones of  
dear boy - should you go there you will find them  
I trust - it makes a child of me to think of his

fare so no more  
Capt. A. M. Edwards  
Co. A. 21<sup>st</sup> Reg. Wis. I. P. 9

Very truly yours  
Jm Taylor



Fond du Lac Wis. Dec 7<sup>th</sup> 1864

Hon C. A. Eldridge

Dear Sir

I intended to have seen you again before you left for Washington; but have just learned that you started yesterday I desire to ~~procure~~ your aid in settling my sons ac. with the government, and as I have not ~~as yet~~ <sup>the necessary</sup> ~~received~~ such information ~~and~~ <sup>as yet</sup> ~~read~~, to predicate a claim upon, I will ask you to enquire at the Sgt. Genl's Office whether they have evidence of his death. If they have, I will send <sup>to you,</sup> <sup>it up</sup> you the necessary papers <sup>if correct</sup> to close ~~his ac.~~ at once; if not, I must of course wait until the proper evidence can be <sup>obtained</sup> ~~procured~~.

Very truly yours &c

Jm. Taylor

Henry's <sup>partner</sup> ~~address~~ was, Lieut. H. C. Taylor  
Company A. 21<sup>st</sup> Reg. Wis. V. Infantry

U.S.A. Gen Hospital No 1  
Annapolis Md  
Dec 7<sup>th</sup> 1864

Dear Sir

Yours of the 28<sup>th</sup> inst was duly rec<sup>d</sup>.  
I was very sorry to hear of the death of Henry, and  
that information I have been able to collect here confirm  
what you seem to consider as reliable. I had been  
anxiously looking for some Officers to come through  
& was really in hopes I might see him but there  
has not but 17 Officers in all come through & not  
until the last Boat but one did they come. There were  
no Wis Officers among them. But I saw a Capt  
N. N. Clark, of the 25<sup>th</sup> Ill Reg. who was in the same  
Hospital & ward with Henry who says he died on  
the 2<sup>nd</sup> of October. I also saw a Sicut Scrauton of  
Co K. 18 Ct who was not in the same ward but  
knew him well, & had it that he died the 3<sup>rd</sup> of Oct.  
He being in another part of the Hospital thinks Capt  
Clark is correct as he might not have heard of it  
until the next day. They both spoke of Henry in the  
highest terms & Lt Scrauton told me he was the  
8<sup>th</sup> out of 13 who were moved to the Charleston Ark  
who died & that it was as I think you told me that the  
Consumption set in at last and carried him off.  
Capt Clark lives at Champaign Ill. & Sicut Scrauton  
at West Killenly Ct and expect to be at home soon.  
I suppose if you had a large number who were know-  
ing to all the facts in relation to his death you would  
have to get all your information which would  
be of any advantage about settling his acct from  
of the Treasury but there may come

Ad 7 Jan 27 1864

as a reference for him. I am under great obligations  
to you for your kind offer in relation to the Commission  
I cannot tell what I may do when the Regiment gets  
where we can hear from it again. If Capt Edwards is  
still alive & in command of the Co I shall freely give  
my chance to any one who wants it as he & myself are  
if not personal enemies not on good terms & it would  
be very unpleasant for us both. If Lieut Adams or Army  
were in command of the Co I should feel proud to  
serve with them but that cannot be now. I inclose  
a list of deaths in the 21<sup>st</sup> in the Rebel Prison. sent through  
by Capt George Burroughs of Co A as far as he had been  
able to learn at the time it left. I presume it does not  
include near all of the 21 who have died who were cap-  
tured at Chickamauga yet it is a fearful mortality  
thing I believe 1/2 of all who were captured. I thought  
perhaps you would think best to have it published  
in your City papers for the benefit of all interested  
Should I learn anything more or if I can  
in any way find out or do any that will be any  
benefit or interest to you I should be happy  
to do so at any time. I should be glad to know  
of this is etc<sup>n</sup>

I am Very Respectfully Yours

J. W. Taylor Esq  
Soldier's Co  
Wis

Edward F Davis



Fond du Lac Wis Dec. 19th 1864

His Excellency James T. Lewis

Dear Sir - I received information some time ago that my  
son, Lieut. H. C. Taylor Co. A, 21 Reg. Wis V, I, - died in Charleston  
between the first & fifth of Oct. last, I have not such infor-  
mation as I need ~~to send to the War Department~~ to settle  
his ac with the government, I notice that you have filled  
~~his place by commission~~ the vacancy occasioned by my  
son's death, and therefore concluded you must be in  
possession of evidence ~~that~~ such as ~~is~~ may be required  
of me. If so you will confer a great favor by informing

111

how I can avoid myself of the use of it

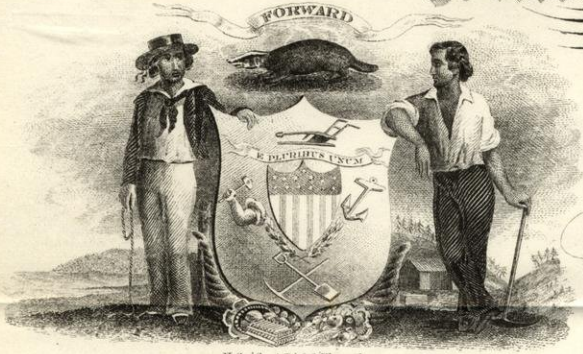
Very respectfully your obt. servt,  
J. M. Taylor

79  
Gov. Davis  
Dec 19th

# State of Wisconsin

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Madison Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> 1864



H. Seifert Lith. Milwaukee

J. W. Taylor Esq.  
Fond du Lac.  
- Sir -

Yours of the 19<sup>th</sup>. inst. is received. The Governor directs me to hand you the enclosed extract from letter of Sgt. Ross Hitch of 21<sup>st</sup>. Wis. Vol. in regard to the death of your son W. C. Taylor, formerly 2<sup>d</sup> Lieut of Co. A of said Regt. in prison at Charleston, S. C. and to say that this is all the evidence of your sons death on file in this office.

Respectfully  
Yours  
Francis H. Linn  
Asst. Secy

Spord Ave. Lee, Va 20th 1884,

Dear Sir

I have no information that  
my son Lieut W C Taylor 21 Wis Reg.  
died on Charleston between the 1st & 5th  
of Oct. Cont - but I have no official  
evidence of the fact - I write to ask  
you to procure for me such evidence  
as I need to settle his case with the  
Govt - presuming you can ascertain  
the fact of his death (of his murder)  
while in camp, with the authorities  
at Charleston. Resptly yours  
Wm Taylor  
Col. John E. Knapp  
Adjt of Ex }  
James Brown }



To

Fond du Lac Dec 22<sup>d</sup> 1864 L. F. Jones  
Dear Sir

Yours of the 7<sup>th</sup> inst. is received for which you have my thanks - I had the list of Murders published and of course it makes more sad hearts soon after I wrote you before I saw by the Sentinel, that Watson H. Cook had received a Commission "vice Taylor deceased" I was surprised ~~at~~ to see that, ~~for two reasons first - I had not only knew of Henry's death by report, and of course thought they were in rather too much of a hurry; and in the second place~~ <sup>and</sup> I knew of no reason why you were not to <sup>fill</sup> ~~be commissioned~~ in his place & on the rec<sup>d</sup> of your letter however I could in part account for ~~the same reason~~, ~~But~~ I wrote to the gov. ~~in regard~~ <sup>for the</sup> to the evidence he had of Henry's death - presuming he must have what I need to settle his ac. I rec<sup>d</sup> in an answer last evening with copy of letter from Lieut Col. Fitch; which the gov says is all there is on file in the ~~State department~~, <sup>in regard to his death</sup> This letter is dated at Kingston G. a Nov 8<sup>th</sup> in which the Lieut. Col. recommends "Acting first Sergeant Watson H. Cook as 2<sup>d</sup> Lieut vice W. C. Taylor died" &c -

I have now written to Washington to know whether they  
are informed of Henry's <sup>his</sup> death - It makes my heart  
sick to read of the <sup>condition</sup> of our prisoners - there  
must be ~~wrath~~ in store for those worse than savages -  
I notice that Capt. Baldwin of the 2<sup>d</sup> Reg. is exchanged  
and hope to see him soon when I shall probably  
hear more about Henry & Mitt

Very truly yours

L. F. Davis

C. S. Co A 21 Reg. Wis

Jm. Taylor

Copy

Friend du Lac Dec 22<sup>d</sup> 1864

may be a ~~more~~ <sup>more</sup> ~~copy~~ <sup>copy</sup> of ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~same~~ <sup>same</sup> ~~copy~~ <sup>copy</sup> as ~~you~~ <sup>you</sup> ~~sent~~ <sup>sent</sup> me ~~last~~ <sup>last</sup> ~~year~~ <sup>year</sup> ~~by~~ <sup>by</sup> ~~mail~~ <sup>mail</sup> &c

Capt. N N Clark Dear Sir I have been informed that you  
were in Hospital with my son Lieut. W C Taylor in Charleston  
when he died - The last direct information I have had in  
regard to my son is a letter from Lieut C. W. Mordant  
of the same Reg. written at the Hospital Sunday the 2<sup>d</sup> of Oct,  
Morgan wrote me there was no hope of his recovery, and  
I have heard from several sources that he died ~~before~~  
soon after - but as yet I have not ~~been~~ <sup>been</sup> able to get any  
thing ~~definite~~ <sup>definite</sup> evidence <sup>of his death</sup> by which I can settle his ac with  
the gov. - by ~~any~~ <sup>any</sup> information you can ~~give~~ <sup>give</sup> me in regard  
to his sickness & death you will confer a great favor on his father  
Jm. Taylor

Urbana Ills  
Dec 27<sup>th</sup> 1864

Mr J. M. Taylor

Dear Sir

Your  
letter of Dec 22<sup>d</sup> is at hand.  
I know Lt H C Taylor of 21<sup>st</sup> Wis  
& came from Macon Ga at the  
same time he did. He had  
the Chronic Diarrhea at that  
time & died with it on the  
3<sup>d</sup> day of Oct 1864, <sup>at Charleston S C</sup> as my di-  
ary shows which was taken  
from the Hospital record.

I can give you no information  
as to his financial affairs as  
I never made inquiry. neither  
do I know who took charge  
of his effects but think  
Lt A. G. Scranton 18<sup>th</sup> Conn vols



His address is West Kill-  
ingly Conn & he was exchanged  
at the time I was.

Or Lt E H Mason 21<sup>st</sup> Ohio  
Infy who was ward Master  
at the time of your Sons  
Death Masons address  
if at home is Columbus  
Ohio but was not exchanged  
at the time I was, & if not  
yet exchanged his address  
will be Columbia SC

This I believe is all  
the information I can give  
you. which I do with great  
pleasure. Your son was  
greatly beloved by all his  
fellow officers & his death  
deeply regretted

Very Respectly Yours

A M Clark

Capt 22<sup>nd</sup> Ill Regt

Headquarters, Department of the South.

Hilton Head, S. C., Dec. 30<sup>th</sup>, --- 7864

Mr. J. M. Taylor,  
Fond du Lac, Wisconsin.

Sir:

Lieut. Col. Bennett

Yours of November 29<sup>th</sup>, ultimo, informing ~~me~~ of the  
decease of your son, Lieutenant H. C. Taylor of the 21<sup>st</sup>  
Wisconsin Infantry, while in a rebel prison and ask-  
him to obtain the Twenty five dollars in gold delivered  
to Capt. W. Soule of the rebel army for your son & return  
it to you, is received at this office.

In reply I have the honor to state that I have this  
day written to Major Geo. J. Lay, who is in charge of the  
rebel flags of truce from Charleston, asking the return of  
this money as desired. Should I receive any reply to my  
request, I will communicate it to you.

Very respectfully yours,

Stuart L. Woodford

Lieut. Col. 127 U. S. V. in charge of Flags of Truce.

Adjutant General's Office.

Washington, Jan'y 4<sup>th</sup> '65

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 16<sup>th</sup> ult<sup>o</sup> requesting information of Sicut Henry C. Taylor Co. "A" 21<sup>st</sup> Wis Vols. and to inform you in reply that he is reported on the records of his Regiment for Sept & Oct 1864. as "Captured by the enemy"

I am, Sir

Very Respectfully

Your Obedient Servant

Sam. D. Dyer

Hon C. A. Eldridge, M.C. Lieut Adjutant General.  
Washington, D.C.

Head Quarters Co "B" 21<sup>st</sup> Regt Mis Vols  
Near Savannah Ga January 10<sup>th</sup> 1865

Dear Sir

Yours of Decr 26<sup>th</sup> is before me, any thing I can do to assist you, in settling Henrys accounts with the Government will be done with pleasure. I have in my possession papers which together with the affidavit with a few enlisted men of my Company, will be sufficient to enable you to settle his accounts satisfactory, these papers I will arrange and send you at the earliest opportunity,

As regards the Rifle it is still in the hands of a man in the Company, who will take good care of it. I have kept it because Henry prized it so highly, and now he is gone you can have it with pleasure, it may not be convenient to get it home, before we come has the orders are so very strict, it would have to be packed in a box and smuggled through those little things. It look mentioned I will send by mail, we have a prayer book, a needle book, and a match box, I think is all I would like very much to keep them in remembrance of Henry, but as you have the first claim I will send them. I need not tell you how much we regret his death from our first acquaintance I felt a deep interest in him

and had he been my Brother, I could not have loved him better, but, Alas, he as been sacrificed, I say sacrificed because some one as a fearful account to render at the last day, for the murder of our brave boys in Southern prisons, by Henry death, you have lost a dear and much beloved son, and me a brave, kind, and noble companion, and brother Officer, And should we ever be permitted to visit his grave, no time or means shall be spared, in erecting a monument, worthy of his memory, I can only extend you, my heart felt sympathy in your bereavement, and that God, will give you strength, to bear up, under your afflictions is the prayer of

Your humble servant  
H. H. Edwards

Es

J. M. Taylor Esq  
Ford du Lac  
Wis

P.S. Please remember me kindly to W<sup>rs</sup> Taylor, Cole, and Carey, also Szere

H. H. Edwards

Camp Chase  
Columbus Ohio  
January 22<sup>nd</sup> 1865

Mrs. Co.

I have the honor to say that I received  
A letter from you while at Columbia S.C.  
writing me to give you some information  
in regard to your sick Brother Lieut H. Taylor.  
I received your very kind letter the morning I left  
Columbia to be <sup>the 10 of Dec. sent</sup> changed, and so would have answered  
immediately had he not been sick, and unable  
to write. Your Brother is dead, which I presume you  
have heard before this, I saw Capt Morgan and  
Lieut that he had written to you.

I was with the Lieut while at Macon Ga. a long  
time and was sick myself a long time and  
as soon as I was able, I was up and help  
take of him, of those that was much worse than  
I was, and the Lieut was curious all ways of what  
he was saying and doing; he was satisfied that  
he could never get well and was willing to die like  
A Soldier. many of our poor Boys had to die  
in the Confederacy just for in the want of  
Medicine, but they got all the care that any  
one could wish for. I was not with the Lieut when  
he died, but I believe it was the last of Sept. I always  
don't for him what I wish to have occurred for me  
and only thought it my duty to do so to my

Brother officers; I cannot for get him for  
he was always so kind and good natured  
and felt so thankful for what I use to do  
for him, that it really a pleasure to write  
on him. I am very glad that you write to  
me and I cannot think it compensation  
what you I am only sorry that I could not  
be able to answer sooner.

I was released on  
parole and am here waiting my  
exchange which may be some time in  
next month. I reside in South Bend Ind.  
and any thing that you wish to know  
I shall greatly oblige with all the informa-  
tion I can. I was not with him at the  
time that he died; I was confined  
in some other building and was not  
allowed to visit the Hospital.

I Remain very Respectfully  
Yours

Capt John A. Richey  
South Bend  
Ind.

Fond du Lac Feb'y, 5<sup>th</sup> 1865

Dear Sir

In order to draw pay for a  
Sergeant for my late Son Lieut H. C. Taylor  
I have to furnish evidence that he had one  
under pay - other than an Enlisted man  
This I know from his letters that he had  
A Negro by the name of Sam I think -  
I have written to ~~the Reg~~ <sup>Helsley</sup> for the evidence,  
but it may be a long time before I can  
get it. It has just occurred to me that  
you may know the fact. If so, and  
you will furnish me with an affidavit  
of the fact I will feel under great obli-  
-gations to you, and will pay any expen-  
you may have to incur in the matter.  
Henry Neg. came home with Helsley -  
(I rather think S. & H. had him together) but  
~~he is not now here with us I know~~  
~~I do not know when he is gone~~  
~~where he is~~ Very truly yours

L. F. Davis

J. M. Taylor

C.S. Com. A, 21<sup>st</sup> Reg. Wis  
U.S. Hospital Md



U.S.A Gen Hospital Dist Dist

Annapolis Md

February 12, 1865

Dear Sir

Yours of the 5<sup>th</sup> inst was not rec<sup>d</sup> until yesterday & I have made out such an affidavit as I thought would be required but could not get the Certificate of the Clerk of the Court upon it yesterday but expect to be able to tomorrow. Should it be insufficient in any respect please make one out as you want it & forward it & I will attend to it & return it immediately. I rec<sup>d</sup> also the reporter with the lines dedicated to the death of Henry for which please accept my thanks. My health is quite good as well as that of my wife who is on duty here as female nurse.

It is very stormy & windy here to day & quite cold. I remain with much respect

Very truly Yours

J. M. Taylor

Ind du Lac

Wisconsin

Leonard F Davis

E M S T A M N F

My son Lieut H, C, Taylor  
of the 21<sup>st</sup> Reg. Wis T<sup>o</sup> died in  
Charleston Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> 1864 - I intend  
to ~~also~~ apply for permission to take  
his body home. in the mean time &  
~~wish~~ to have his grave so marked  
if his grave can be found I wish  
to have it so marked that it  
can be found if I am not  
permitted to view him until fall  
As a father of a much loved  
son I appeal to your Sir to ~~take~~  
course this favor to be granted

[1865, Mar. 4]

I enclose to you a note to the <sup>2</sup>d auditor  
of accounts relating to the settlement  
of the ac of my late son with the  
Government, ~~which~~ with the request  
that you cause it to be delivered to  
him personally if you can do  
so conveniently - assuring him  
that I would not, under any  
slight pretext ask a public  
officer to deviate from his  
usual course of business -  
I will only add the amount  
of money advanced is considerable  
and it has been really advanced  
for the Government - He need it ~~at~~  
very much



Fond du Lac Wis, March 4<sup>th</sup> 1865,  
 Second Auditor of Accounts,

Sir,

Two months

since I applied, by my Attorneys, Messrs. Gillett & Conklin, for the back pay, bounty &c due my deceased son, Lieut H. C. Taylor of the 21<sup>st</sup> Reg. Wis Vol. Infy. who died a Prisoner of War, in Charleston, Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> 1864

I have furnished all the papers necessary for a final settlement of the account

I am informed by my Attorneys, that on account of the pressure of business in your office it may be several months before the claim can be adjusted.

This information induces me to make the following statement.


My son was commissioned the 8<sup>th</sup> day of May, and was "mustered in" as 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieut the 17<sup>th</sup> day of June, 1863.

was paid as Sergeant up to and including the  
30<sup>th</sup> day of April 1863, and received no pay  
thereafter. By reason of his not being paid  
which was not his fault, myself and son  
at home, were under the necessity of  
furnishing him with funds, which we  
continued to do up to the time of his death.

The object of this note is, to ask  
the favor of having the ac<sup>ts</sup> taken up, out  
of turn, perhaps, and adjusted at once.

This request, may or may not be  
admissable, but I feel as though I am  
not asking anything unreasonable under  
the circumstances — I enclose this to  
Hon E. V. Howe, who will vouch for my  
integrity & honor,

Very respectfully your O<sup>b</sup>d Serv<sup>nt</sup>  
J. M. Taylor



Tond du Lac March 4<sup>th</sup> 1865,

Dear Sir,

I enclose to you a note to the  
second Auditor of Accounts, relating to the  
settlement of the Ac. of my late son, with the  
request that you cause it to be delivered to  
him in person; if you can do so consistently,  
assuring him that I would not for any slight  
pretext ask a public officer to deviate from  
his usual course of business,

I will only add, the amount of money we  
have advanced, really for the Government,  
is considerable and we need it.

Very respectfully your

Obt<sup>d</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

J. M. Taylor

Hon. J. C. Howe,

Washington

D. C.

Fond du Lac Wis. March 11<sup>th</sup> 1865  
Lieut. Col. A. G. Bennett  
Provost Marshal  
Charleston S. C.

Dear Sir

My Son Lieut. H. C.  
Taylor of the 21<sup>st</sup> Wis. Reg. died in the  
first S. C. Hospital in Charleston Oct. 3<sup>d</sup>  
1864, was buried by friends who probably  
marked his grave as well as they could  
under the circumstances. I hope to be able  
to remove his remains in the fall, if  
permitted to do so, and for that reason  
I ask of you the favor of having his  
grave, if it can be found, identified, so  
marked that it can be readily found.  
While asking this favor for my self, I  
will also ask the same in behalf  
of the father of Lieut. C. A. Burdick of  
the 10 Wis Reg, who sleeps near my  
son. By granting this request, you  
will confer a very great favor on your  
Obedt Servt  
J. M. Taylor



Prison City Wash Co. Dist.  
Sept 11<sup>th</sup> 1866

Mr Taylor  
Hornlatch  
Wisconsin

Dear Sir

I have met  
Capt Robert Jackson of the 21<sup>st</sup> Wis Regt and thru  
him I have learned Lieut Henry C Taylor relatives where  
abouts but I have written to the same place 2 or 3 times but  
never got any answer to my letters and Captain Robert Jackson  
has promised to carry my letter to Henry C Taylor's father or  
brother and will try to give you a history of his sickness and his  
death although I suppose you are familiar with a part  
of his sickness when Captain Ewing and Lieut Taylor was separated  
at Macon Georgia I had escaped from them on the cars but was captured  
or gain on my arrival back to the old prison at my surprise I found  
Lieut Taylor there and both of us being well acquainted and him  
being sick and not expecting to ever see any of his friends any more  
the sight of me was more than he could stand he wept like a child  
and he said it was like seeing his brother and he begged for me  
never to leave him so I told him I would if I could get permit by  
the rebels authorities to stay and I succeeded in getting to stay

after I got permission to stay it appeared that he had now life -  
a gain and he said his life was in my hands from that time I was with  
him all the time of there was Parolee and appointed Hospital  
Stewart and that give me a better chance for to take care of him  
we left Macon Georgia in July and was sent to Augusta Georgia  
stayed one week and we then received orders to go to Charleston  
S.C. all of these moves was an injury to Henry because he was so much  
reduced down it still exhausted him more but before we left Macon  
Georgia I had succeed in getting brandy and wine so I had enough  
for Henry to Augusta Georgia and by finding a Union lady there I  
got more brandy and wine while we was at Augusta we had no chance  
nor no tents I got some poles and with my blankets I fixed Henry so  
the wind would not fall on him I succeeded in getting any that the country  
to eat for he always had great appetite to eat after we got to Charleston  
S.C. went to the hospital and then I expected to have leave Henry  
but I still got the permission to stay and being successful in getting  
in the good graces of Dr Todd the sergeant in charge I told the  
Dr that Serat Taylor was a particular friend of mine he gave me  
permission to take all of the care I could of Henry and he promise  
to give particular attention as a physician so I had particular  
attention to Henry often would come and talk to Henry and  
incourage him and tell him that he would get to go home  
which Henry felt almost certain of seeing home and friends a gain  
Henry all ~~way~~ always keep good courage and said that he would  
not die as long as I was with him and was lively and pale

His first sickness was the chronic Diarrhea but after ~~some~~ rumm in to the  
april ~~scotch~~ consumption Dr Todd brought 8 physicians to  
see Henry but they told me that he could not live and to give him any  
thing that he wanted if it was in the hospital Dr said hummed Henry  
to every thing so he could <sup>not</sup> fret but H Henry never fretted I was by his bed  
side all of the time and Henry often begged of me to lay down and rest  
for I could not stand to be up so much I dont think there was one thing  
that Henry wanted but what he ~~got~~ got He even wanted to smoke  
and he had pipe and tobacco and segars I had the priviledge  
of sending down to the city to get any thing that I wanted to  
get I got all the confederate money I wanted by giving  
my obligation so I could get every thing that Henry wanted  
wanted all throo Henrys sickness I never heard him complain  
after I was taking care of him all throo his sickness he often talked  
of his mother and his sister often told me that if his mother knewed  
of his being sick and in the condition that he was he said it would  
kile his mother & he told me all of his ~~tricks~~ and all of his bayish  
tricks and of his being <sup>the</sup> favorite child he was as much of a favorite  
a mong his fellow officers as he was at home I ~~found~~ I made Henry  
a large chair and had it cushened with cotten so he could set up  
when he wanted to I always had to carry him from <sup>the</sup> bed ~~to~~ to the  
Chair when Henry begin to fail and all hopes was gone I thought  
it was necessary for me to tell him that he could not live  
but a few days <sup>more</sup> and if he heard preparations for death that he had  
<sup>better</sup> avail him self of the opportunity before it was to late

Henry said that he had nothing in particular to say only that  
he was satisfied that he had not long to stay in this world and he said  
that he could not ~~truly~~ give up that <sup>world</sup> and him being so young  
and he implored for me to ~~write~~ get him out <sup>of</sup> the world <sup>that</sup> he was <sup>in</sup> <sup>and</sup> <sup>was</sup> <sup>in</sup> <sup>the</sup> <sup>great</sup>  
great calculation and getting well and we would both of us go three <sup>or</sup> <sup>four</sup> <sup>times</sup> to gether  
and have me to go there with him and see all of his folks. But he said  
if it had to be so that he could get well he would quietly submit to the  
lord's will. He had already begun to have sinking spells and was  
like to drop off at any <sup>time</sup> <sup>or</sup> <sup>moment</sup> <sup>or</sup> <sup>minut</sup> he finally told that finally told  
me that he was satisfied that he could not leave over his hands and  
not tell his mother for it would certainly kill her and tell his sister  
not to grieve after him for he was going to a better world and not  
to think that he suffered for want of care and he desired me to tell  
you that he wanted <sup>of</sup> all of his friends to remember that he died  
for his country. Henry desired for me to visit you. Henry said before  
that he could not think of leaving me and he said if he only could  
see home once more he could leave this world happy. When Henry  
died he died in one of his drinking spells and with his arms ar  
ranged my neck. <sup>J. B. Burgess</sup> bought a coffin for him  
and had him shaved and washed and his uniform on  
and buried decently. I paid 100 dollars for his coffin in  
confederate money and I had his head board lettered out with  
his name and rank and Regiment and after he was buried  
I went to his grave for 3 times. He was buried in the potters  
field. I could not save any thing of Henry's for I had  
to turn all of his things over to the confederate authorities.  
After I wrote of to his friends 3 times and never could get  
an answer. After receiving this letter any communication  
communication you wish to send to me I will gladly receive it.  
Yours Respectfully Major E. W. Mason

[1965, Jan. 28]

Delaware Jan 28<sup>th</sup> 1865

Gen Taylor,

Dear Sir,

I wish to know what knowledge you have in regard to the sickness & death of your son at Charleston, S. C., your son & mine were taken sick at Macon about the same time, I understand by Capt. Harkness of 10<sup>th</sup> Regt Co. A, that your son & mine lay side by side through their sickness & were like two Bros we have my sons day Book he kept a strict account for two years until July 3<sup>rd</sup> 1864 when he entered Hospital at Macon there seems to be a stop, the rest of his Book

is, a, blank (oh how still)  
you know what I mean  
Lt. E. H. Mason of Columbus  
Ohio, you can address him at  
<sup>that</sup> place he had the care of  
both until they died.

I hardly know what to  
write, but we fully feel to  
sympathize with you for the  
suffering & death of such an  
noble youth as we were informed  
that your son, was, & how  
you can sustain such a loss  
is more than I can tell.

Lt. Capt. Burdick was our youngest  
child he was a lovely and  
dutiful son of thirteen years  
when he entered the service  
had been in two years eleven  
months when he died.

we have one more child, he  
is in California

so you see we are quite  
lonely this winter.

I wish you would write me  
what you have heard in  
regard to your sons sickness  
& death

Enclosed you will <sup>find</sup> a  
Photograph of my son  
please send one of your  
sons if you have any  
as they were so much attached  
to each other in their sickness  
& now sleep together & will  
until the last Trump

I would like to keep both  
Photographs together that  
will be some consolation  
you may think it childish  
to write so, but you please  
Excuse & remember me  
your friend & well wisher

Delavan  
Walworth Co } Hiram Burdick  
Wis

1<sup>st</sup> Lieut. C. A. Burdick Co. C 10<sup>th</sup> Reg. Inf. V.  
died in 1<sup>st</sup> S. C. Hospital Charleston a  
Prisoner of war Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> 1864 aged 22 years

C. A. Burdick  
+ copy of  
Answer



Union City Dark Co. Ohio

Sept 11<sup>th</sup> 1865.

Mr Taylor,

Dear Sir; -

I have just met Capt<sup>r</sup> Robert Jackson of the 21<sup>st</sup> Wis<sup>h</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>, and through him have learned the whereabouts of the late Henry G. Taylor's relatives, I have written to the same place two or three times and have never rec<sup>d</sup> an answer to my letters, and now as Capt Jackson has promised to carry a message to Henry's father or brother, I will try to give you a history of his sickness until his death, although I suppose you are familiar with a part of his sickness, When Capt Ewing & Lieut<sup>r</sup> Taylor were separated at Macon, Ga, I had escaped from them on the cars but was recaptured, and on my arrival at the old prison was surprised at finding Lieut<sup>r</sup> Taylor there, we were old friends, and he being very sick and not expecting to meet any of his friends again, was completely overcome at the sight of me, he wept like a child, said it was like seeing a brother and begged of me never to leave him, I told him if I could get permission of the Rebel authorities to stay, I would and I succeeded in doing so, After this he seemed to have new life, and said his life was in my hands, from that time I never left him until he died. I was paroled and appointed Hospital Steward and that gave me a better chance to take care of him. We left Macon Ga<sup>n</sup> in July, and was sent to Augusta Ga<sup>n</sup>, stayed one week and then rec<sup>d</sup> orders to go to Charleston S. C, which journey was all too much for Henry, he was so much reduced it exhausted him still more, but before I left Macon I had succeeded in getting brandy & wine, enough to last him to Augusta, and by finding a union lady there

I procured some more, so that it relieved him a little. While we were at Augusta we had not even a tent for shelter, I found some poles, and with my blankets fixed a covering to protect Henry from the heavy dews, I succeeded in getting everything he wanted to eat, for he always had a good appetite. After we got to Charleston, he went to the Hospital, then I expected to have to leave him, but still got permission to stay, and being successful enough to get into the good graces of Dr. Todd, the surgeon in charge, I told him that Lieut Taylor was a particular friend of mine, he gave me permission to take all the care I could of him, and promised to give him all the professional aid in his power. He would often talk to him and encourage him, telling him he would live to get home, and Henry felt so sure of seeing home and friends again, that he always kept up good courage and said he would not die if I was with him, was very lively & cheerful, His first disease was Chronic Diarrhea which run him into the quick Consumption, Dr. Todd brought another physician to see him, but they both told me he could not live, and to give him every thing he wanted if it was in the hospital, The Dr said, "humor Henry in every thing, so that he will not fret," but Henry never fretted, I was by his bedside all of the time, he would often beg me to lie down and rest, said I could not stand it to be up so much. I do not think there was anything Henry wanted but that he had, He even wanted to smoke, and he had pipe tobacco & segars, I could get all the Confederate money I wanted by giving my obligation, and had the privilege of sending to the city for every thing. All through his sickness I never heard him complain, he often talked of his mother and sisters, often told me if his mother knew what condition

he was in, it would certainly kill her. He told me all of his history, all of his boyish tricks and of his being the favorite child, and I assure you he was as much of a favorite among his fellow officers as he was at home. I made Henry a large chair, and had it cushioned with cotton so that he could sit up when he wanted to, but I always had to carry him from the bed to the chair. When he began to fail, and we had given up all hope, I thought it best for me to tell him that he could not live but a few days and if he had any preparations to make for death he had better do so before too late, Henry said, he had nothing in particular to say, that he was satisfied he had not long to stay in this world, but it seemed as if he could not possibly give it up while yet so young, he implored me not to let him die - that he had made great calculations on getting well, and we would both go through the lines together and I should go home with him and see all of his friends, but he said "if it must be so, that he could not get well, he would quietly submit to the Lords will, He had already begun to have sinking spells and was liable to drop away at any moment, and finally told me he was satisfied that he could not live over 48 hours, but not to tell his mother for it would certainly kill her, tell his sisters not to grieve for him for he was going to a better world, and not to think that he suffered for want of care, and he desired me to tell you that he wanted all of his friends to remember that he died for his country, he wished me to visit you, said he could not think of leaving me, and if he could only see his home and friends once more, would die perfectly happy.

When he died, he died in one of those sinking spells and with his arms around my neck, I bought a coffin for him had him shaved and washed, his uniform put on and buried decently, I paid 100 dollars for his coffin in confederate money, and had his headboard lettered with his name rank & Regiment, after he was buried I visited his grave two or three times, he was buried in Patters Field.

I could not save any thing belonging to him for I had to turn it all over to the Confederate Authorities.

After receiving this letter any communications you wish to send to me I will gladly receive.

yours respectfully Major E. H. Mason.

Tond du Lac, Feby 5 /65

Wiram Burdick Esqr;

My Dear Sir,

Your

kind and sympathising letter of the 28<sup>th</sup> ult., came to me by due course of mail, I have rec'd many letters before yours, from strangers, as you are to me, expressing much feeling for me in my afflictions; but yours is the first that has come from one who could really sympathise with me from actual experience, and I can only say, I appreciate your sympathy, and return the same to you in kind, — You wish to know what knowledge I have in regard to the sickness and death of my son; It would take too much writing to give you all the particulars on that subject, for I have written very many letters to obtain the facts in the case, and have not yet got all the information I desire, — I first heard that he was sick

in Macon, Ga.", in August; the next I heard  
of him, was that he was in Charleston, "getting  
well fast," this was in Sept. The 11<sup>th</sup> of Oct. I rec'd  
a letter from Lieut "C. H. Morgan, saying that  
my son was "very low and could not recover"  
this letter was written at the Hospital the 2<sup>nd</sup>  
day of Oct," was sent direct to N. York and mailed  
it came through in nine days. The first report  
of his death came by way of Atlanta, Ga. brought  
by escaped prisoners; I did not learn the date  
of his death until the 27<sup>th</sup> of Dec" when I rec'd  
a letter from Capt. N. M. Clark of the 128<sup>th</sup> Ill<sup>th</sup>  
Reg., Capt Clark, wrote me as follows, "I knew  
Lieut "H. C. Taylor of the 21<sup>st</sup> Wis, and came  
from Macon Ga" at the same time, he did.  
He had the Chronic Diarrhea at the time, &  
died with it on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of Oct" 1864 at  
Charleston S. Ca.; as my diary shows which was  
taken from "the Hospital Record" — Capt Clark  
mentions, Lieut E. H. Mason of the 21<sup>st</sup> Ohio as  
being Ward master at the time of my sons death,  
thinks he is yet a prisoner, I have learned from  
other sources that this Lieut Mason was very kind

and did every thing he could for the sick, and  
in Lieut. Morgans letter, my son desired me to be  
informed of the fact, I should be live to get home.  
I hope to hear from him all the particulars of  
my sons last sickness & death, and have an opportu-  
nity of expressing my gratitude to him for his  
kindness; - I have many letters from officers  
of various grades, all testifying to the loyalty,  
courage, and gentlemanly conduct of my son,  
also to his patient endurance of his imprisonment  
and of his almost superhuman determination  
to live to get home. He knew he could not get well  
and was willing to die a soldiers death; but the  
strong desire to die at home seemed actually  
to prolong his life until at last he became  
insensible and died in ten minutes.

Thus my dear Sir, I have given you as far as I know  
the particulars of the sickness and death of my son  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lieut. Henry Clay Taylor of the 21<sup>st</sup> Reg. Wis. Vol.  
Infantry; the weakness of his human nature may  
have caused him to go astray at times, but a  
willful fault was not his to commit -  
Henry was our youngest child, and my calculations

for the past ten years, have all been based on the idea that I was to have him to lean upon, while treading the down hill of life. When he left us I pressed him to my heart, trusting in God that he would be permitted to return to us; but for some wise purpose he is taken from us; I grieve his loss, but it is Gods will and I submit, mourn but not murmur, many others have furnished their sons, brothers and husbands, all as dear to them as mine to me, to put down this cried rebellion, When will it End? The horrible suspense that we endured, while we knew our loved ones were suffering and needed our care yet we could not render it, is over, we no more see them with our minds eye as sufferers; let us now look at a brighter spectacle, let Earth return to Earth, and we will hereafter see them, not in their military uniform, but dressed in "Robes of Glory, singing praises to "our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb" — In this light only can I feel reconciled to the loss of my dear Henry, by the same train of thought, I trust you may be reconciled to your loss — I can imagine how lonely you feel, for although I have three children left, one son & two daughters, still they all have families, are near by & call almost daily, still my family proper is only myself, wife & little Grand daughter; she usually retires about 8 o'clock from that time until ten. I think I can judge something of your feelings; But sir I am intruding too much upon you and will close by saying, Our son had no opportunity to get a Photograph of himself after he entered the service, we have Daguerreotype pictures of him, have had Photographs taken to paint, large ones, and are soon to have some of the size you sent me, for which I am much obliged, I will send you one as soon as I get them — Excuse this long and disappointed letter and accept my best regards for you and yours, hoping we may yet have a personal acquaintance  
I am most truly yours —

J. M. Taylor



Madison

Jan 1<sup>st</sup> 1865

Dear Mr Taylor -

I recd a letter from  
mother a few days since, telling  
me of your affliction in Henry's  
death - I do not know that  
I have any thing to write that  
will comfort you or Mrs Taylor,  
but a friend of mine, Capt Rollins,  
has just been exchanged having  
been with Henry & messed with  
him while in Libby or at other  
Prisons - He told me that Henry  
never suffered more than you  
would ordinarily expect, of course  
there were times when various  
men were shot, but that he  
was cheerful or never fretted or  
Chafed much about being released

4. said that Henry with himself  
in every field much better  
than many others - When he was  
taken sick at Inacon I think,  
he was sent to the Hospital &  
after getting better had a relapse  
of Dysentery from impurities  
eaten - Their rations of course,  
were Corn meal &c, his men issued  
or placed by the side of his  
bed, where probably he helped  
himself without discretion - some  
of his comrades were with him,  
one named Charlie Morgan from  
some where near your place was  
with him when he died -

He had no suspicion that  
he was going to die & became  
unconscious about 16 minutes  
previous to his death -

I inquired particular about  
his case & if he ever actually  
suffered - He assured me that

he had good care under  
the circumstances & that his  
suffering all during his  
confinement were light to what  
many a poor fellow endure, if  
there are any question you would  
like me to ask Dr. Pollen I  
will cheerfully do so -

Pollens has just returned from  
Nashville where he has been  
unsuccessful in finding business,  
I told him I would ask you  
what the prospect was at

Tomb den Lae - I wish you would  
inquire at the Insurance office  
he is willing to go into a  
store or an office anything so  
that he need not be obliged  
to return home this winter, he  
is acquainted with Insurance  
business - I should like to  
have you reply immediately as  
he will do him only a part of

This week - Remember with Love  
to Mrs Taylor & the Girls -

Yours truly -

Helen R. Adams



Jun 15 / 65

Dear Mrs Taylor

I received your letter  
in reply to mine several days  
since & should have written  
sooner but Capt Rollins has been  
away - He has now returned &  
would have written you directly  
but says he is unable to give  
you any information excepting  
what I shall write & his time  
is as good as all occupied as  
he leaves for the East tomorrow -  
He says that he thinks Henry  
never received any money & of  
his knowledge in a case & that  
undoubtedly he should have known  
it if such had been the  
case - but says the way that

Henry obtained money was  
through your friend Mr. Emery  
who sold his watch & divided  
the money with Henry, I asked  
how much he supposed the  
watch brought & he said  
upwards of two hundred dollars -  
& that he received letters from  
Rome & wrote home also & he  
also said that the head  
nurse in the hospital was  
a Lieut. Mason of our Army  
who was a prisoner & that  
he took care of Henry & had  
charge of his effects if he  
had any - Lieut. Mason is of  
some notoriety - as having  
been engaged in some  
bravery said upon the  
battles, was taken prisoner, sentenced  
to be hung &c. but was not  
& has received from our  
Government honors enough to

carry him through the world  
& is from Ohio - I like  
you these particulars so that  
if you ever read of such  
a prison being released you  
will know if he is the one  
who took care of Henry - &  
sometimes you may be able  
to communicate with him -

I was sorry to hear of  
the sickness of Emma's children,  
& would like to be remem-  
bered to her & Mrs Taylor & Mary -

Yours Truly -

Helen Adams

THE UPHAM & RUSSELL CO.

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R. W. JACKSON, TREASURER.

Shawano, Wis. Apr. 3 1895

Friend Taylor

Your letter received.

and what I much regret is that I cannot recollect more about the circumstances connected with Henry's death. Our block in the City of Charleston S.C. was occupied as follows.

"Sail and Sail Yard"

"Roper Hospital"

Work House

Marine Hospital

When we first met them we were confined in the Sail & Yard. We after a few days were given the Roper Hospital provided we would not attempt to escape this was a 3 story building large and roomy. It was the custom when any of our number were taken very sick to separate them from us by taking them to some other place on Hospital



## GENERAL MERCHANDISE,

Lumbermen's Supplies, Etc.

FARMING LANDS FOR SALE.

Shawano, Wis.

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and my recollection is that this was  
done in Henry's case of course after  
they were taken away we had no  
further communication with them except  
it was through some doctor bringing  
us word as to their condition. Now  
it maybe that some of the other  
boys may remember more about it  
"C. F. Weston Webster City Iowa"  
I Howard Jenkins Oshkosh.

Mr Watson Brooklyn WY.

If I get out this summer  
I will stop over one train  
and make you a visit I am #  
some grey. & C & C. weigh 212  
and feel about as young as  
ever

Your Truly  
Bob

fact the Boy came home <sup>[N.D.]</sup> with Adams  
after the Battle of Chicomanga - but he  
is now in part unknown. I have written  
to the Reg. for the Evidence but it may  
be a long time before I can get it and  
it has just occurred to me that you  
can provide what I need - If you can,  
and will take the trouble to do so, I will  
be thankful to you, and remit <sup>to you</sup> any expense  
you may incur

Very truly yours

L. F. Davis U.S. }  
Co. A. 21 Reg. Wis V.I. }

W. Taylor