



LIBRARIES

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Papers, 1858-1865, 1895. SC 331, Folder 4 [unpublished]

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[s.l.]: [s.n.], [unpublished]

<https://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/MAT2KD7PBJMUS8Z>

This material may be protected by copyright law (e.g., Title 17, US Code).

For information on re-use, see

<http://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/Copyright>

The libraries provide public access to a wide range of material, including online exhibits, digitized collections, archival finding aids, our catalog, online articles, and a growing range of materials in many media.

When possible, we provide rights information in catalog records, finding aids, and other metadata that accompanies collections or items. However, it is always the user's obligation to evaluate copyright and rights issues in light of their own use.

Murfreesboro Tenn^{en}
April 5th 1863

Dear Father & Mother.

As this is Sunday evening. I do not think I can improve the time better, than by writing to You. This has been a very fine day warm and pleasant. Birds of all kinds, have been singing, and it really seems quite cheerful in Camp. The Mawking Birds are here in great abundance, I wish I could get a pair of them home they are beautiful songsters. I expected a letter from home to day, but it did not come I guess it will get along tomorrow, for there those in the Company, that rec^d Letters Yesterday which were mailed Monday. You have in all probability rec^d my Letter written on my 25th birth day, does my picture look natural when I can find a place that they can take a picture standing. I will have it taken again, with my gun and accoutrements on. I learn to day by Frank Rice, Col. Starbuck and Capt Grew are in Louisville, if this is so. You will not get Ems letter in time to send the things I sent for. Perhaps you will have an opportunity to send them by some one else, if you do not. I would like to

Wednesday Morn, it is a beautiful morning. Several like to be at home, to have a walk on Capt. or the Capt. from your farm and from the other things



5281 5 1863

You pick out a good Gold Pen for me and send
it by mail. And I will find a holder for it
here, if you show you can trade my big
pen for one. I think it would more than pay
for a good pen with out the holder.

Jim Dings paid \$6, for it. you know he gave it to me The drums are beating
the tattoo all around in every direction, ~~ours~~ will
sound soon and then I shall have to quit for ~~2~~ night.
I wonder how it would sum, to return to a
civilized life, where you could not hear, drum, fife
Musket or Cannon, or Fall in "Box & for Drill.
Roll Call, Fatigue, Guard, or Rations. - Thus goes our
tattoo, and I must go and call the roll, I will wait
untill tomorrow before I finish this and see if I dont
get a letter from you. - Good night. - Oh how I
wish I could be at home to night, I want to see you
all so bad. But I must wait.

Tuesday Evn April 7th
This is the first opportunity I have had since Sunday
Evn to finish this letter. But I will try and finish it
before I sleep to night. We had a company drill yesterday
morning from 7 till 9. a Battalion drill from 10 untill
11 1/2 and a Brigade drill from 2 untill 4 P.M.
Perhaps you may say I might have finished it last
Evening, but I was too tired to write. today we
have had an Election, { I was Clerk of the Election }
and commenced making out our Quarterly clothing
return, and I have been busy all day and will
be for two or three days more. We follow 39.

Wrote for Luther S. Dixon, Chief Justice
how did the Election go off in Grand Du Lac?
and who are to be the City Officers? I have
not heard any thing about it. Will Col. Swen
run for Mayor again? I hope they have not got
you in again. There was some excitement got
up here yesterday, occasioned by the shooting
of a Rebell Spy, a man about fifty five years
old, he came in to our lines about a month ago
and reported to Gen. Baccruss as being a deserter
from the Rebels, he was allowed to go and do
as he chose untill last week, he was arrested on
suspicion of being a Spy, { I suppose the Gen. had some
one watching him all the while, they do not often catch
"Rosy" asleep. } and put in chains, Well night before
last, { or rather it was about 4 O'clock in the morning
he managed to get the chain saw from the post
he was hitched to, watched his opportunity, got out
of the tent and run, the man that was guarding
him had nothing but a revolver, and the Reb. had
got to much the start for him to shoot, so he
ran after him, and chased him about 1/2 mile,
before he gained on him, he then commenced
firing, at the third shot, the Spy turned around
and said, You d-d Yankee Saw of a s-h you
have shot me, and that was the last of him
when the guard got to him he was dead, with
three ball holes through him, one through his leg
one through his arm and one through his heart.

Spies

He was examined and a Commission and a Pass from
Jef. E. Davis was found on his person, and in
the lining of his boots were found papers, and
drafts of all of our fortifications here. He had
attained his object, all but going back to the
Rebels line, he could ^{have} given Jef. E. Davis a
great deal of valuable information if he had got back
but he will spy no more, in this world, on judgments
from his last words, and what I have been caught to
believe is in store for the wicked, he will spy instead
of spy, in the other world, what I have written, I
learned from the guard that shot the man.

I see the looked for letter to day, also one from Em.
I am glad to learn that Em is getting along, and hope
she will not have another pull back, and I am glad to
that you have got your Panster matter settled up
I hope you will not try to do too much work this
Spring and Summer. What are you going to do with your
titting ground? I would let Tompkins take it again if
he wants to, did he do well on it last year, remember
me to him when you see him, and ask the Col. if he
is not afraid some of his boys will be drafted.
Who was Jim Lawrence marry? I thought he was in the
army, have I got any friends, I mean relatives in the
army, that you know of? I have met lots of Boyers
but they are probably nothing to me, well I am going to
the bottom of the page, and must stop. I have finished
this, sitting in my bunk, the tape have beat and it
is time my light is out, remember me to all friends,
not forgetting My Sorrow and Goals, Mrs Gould writes to
Ed that mother frets about Henry, you certainly ought not to
when you know I have enjoyed such good health, and been
so fortunate, since I left home, I mailed a letter to Em
and a paper to Ed last week, has Ed got the papers,
I wish you would send me some thin to read, in the shape of
papers, the City papers do not amount to much, they are so stale
when you get them, Well Good night with much love from - Henry