



Thomas Montgomery and family papers.

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The U. S. Christian Commission
sends this as the soldier's messenger to his home.
Let it hasten to those who wait for tidings.

"There is a Friend that sticketh closer than a brother."

Morganzia La. Aug. 22nd 1864

Dear Mother,

I need more haste to write
you a few lines, hoping they will
reach you and find you well.
I am in good health. Last night
being Sunday night, a meeting was
held. Lieut Mann, preached. Meetings
for religious purposes have been held
nearly every night for a long time
they awaken a lively interest, and
are largely attended by the men.
Several conversions have already
taken place. There are several colored
preachers in the Regt. one is in my Co.
He preached night before last. It
was an earnest & able discourse.
Mourners are up nearly every night
on breaking up, one night last week,
one of the preachers (I think) remarked
"addressing those up for prayers"
"When you go back to your Co. your comrades
may laugh at you, but remember they
cannot die for you."

I feel myself lately, that I ought to live
with an eye single to God's glory in all
things. I have very little encouragement
here, except from a select few, and the
Bible & religious papers, which are strewn
around so plenty. I know I have your
prayers & those of my friends and surely
I need them. I have my enemies even
in this Reg. those who would like to hurl
me from my position, but they can't
do it. In God is my trust. I fear not
what man can do unto me. Better is he
that is for me than all that are or may be
against me. My last promotion put me
over some who used to be my warm friends
but are now as cold as ice. I see their
purposes as well as that of others, and
consequently have to be diligent in my
duties & exemplary in my conduct.
I try so to do. Pray for me that I may live
a quiet & peaceable life in all godliness
& honesty. I know I have the best wishes &
regards of my Colonel & Major. The Lt. Col &
some of the officers are drinking men. I am not
still I can't say that I have the ill will of
any officer in this Reg, and I am sure I have
none against any myself. I am going to
send home Lizzy, by the Colo. Brother G. Hodge, a
religious man. He goes to Mantoville, Minn.
& takes her that far. I send \$50 with her to pay
expenses. I hope she may arrive safely. I will send
directions with her how to go, &c. She will start
this week if all is well. Give my love to all.
Respects to friends. Write soon & often as you
are wont to do. With kindest wishes for your
health & love I remain your
affectionate Son C. Montgomery