



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.

January 14th 1865.

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

My Dear Mother,

90

Your letters are to me a source of much pleasure. I was pleased and feel grateful for your account of the friends in Ireland. I will write in a few days to Ireland. I wrote last March and May but it appears they did not receive my last.

I don't wonder much at your feeling so uneasy in not hearing from me for five weeks. especially when I write regularly. How glad you can take life easier this winter than usual. You had much need of help. I think Elizabeth is learning fast. She will yet learn to write me a letter perhaps. The darkies are having a regular jollification since pay-day. Poor boys, they were much in need of money. Some throw their money next to away, while others save all.

The Post Field Officer of the Day was killed one night last week, by one of the sentinels. He was in the habit of fooling with sentinels, trying to surprise them, intimidate them &c. a dangerous business. He had narrow escapes before being fired on several times, but this night he was shot dead for not halting when ordered. The command here is in a good condition well supplied, and in good health & spirits. Gen. Ullmann is no friend to Rebels. We have heard no war news lately. You talked of getting certificates concerning Lizzie's marriage. I may attend to it, but I don't think it is necessary.

He is willing. They are man & wife in the eyes of the law, and are married as nearly all their race are; common consent of both parties as long as they can agree. There is genuine affection between some, and others if too long separated will marry again anyway.

I will now close for the present. Hope you are all well. Love to all. Your affectionate Son Thomas Montgomery