



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.

(91)

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

Morganza Va. Jan'y 29th 1865.

My Dear Bro. Alexander,

I have this day received a letter from home, and I was glad to hear from you all again, that all were well and doing well.

This leaves me enjoying the best of health, and I trust it may find you in like condition.

This is the Sabbath, lovely as June. I came of duty this morning, as Brigade Field Officer of the Day, which duty by the way I like very well.

I had a fine horse and made a tour of the Reserves and chain of Sentinets four times during the ^{hours} twentyfour, the weather being dry and mild. I enjoy such duty very much, especially when I have no trouble but get on my horse, which is always brought to my door night & day, when I call for it.

After making my report I thought
to myself, that I would like to
take a walk to Cleveland or to some
of the neighbors, but I found I
was in Morganzia. Until last week
there was a Rebel family living
here, between our infantry & Cavalry
lines, named Morgans. They lived
in a fine white house on my part of
the line when on duty, and I was
troubled by them more than once for
permission to come in, but since
Gen. Ulmarrus took command, they
enjoyed but few privileges, so they
left. Although Rebels, they were a
very agreeable family and I spent
now & then a pleasant hour with them.
After pacing up and down a few
minutes, I sat down to read some
good C. Con. pamphlets, & papers
and thus spent the day till I was
handed a letter from home which
I now answer.

It was well filled and gave me lots
of news. I was glad to hear that Joe Everett
was back safe. I suppose he & Willard
will soon be married. Give them my respects.
Genl. Thomas, A. G. U. S. A., is expected here
in a few days, and may disallow our
Consolidation; unless it has gone to the Sea,
of war, I don't mind which way it goes,
but I believe we will be consolidated.
The River is higher than it was before,
but it fell an inch since yesterday &
I think will now recede. I hope it will.
I heard from Lt. Gordon who is well, and
says Mr. Libbells is coming down the River
a. When I wrote last I had the toothache. I
had to get it extracted to get rid of the pain.
Mr. Col. Barritt was here yesterday on his
way down this Regt. in Texas.
I wrote to Cousin Morrow last
week sending her my photograph
as he drills now four hours daily.
The health and spirits of all
are in good condition.

Tell Ma. that I thank her for her
generous offer of sending me
socks, collars &c, but I am not
in need of either or of any thing
else that I know of. as I have
plenty of clothing of all kinds.
I accept the will for the deed.
I bought 100 collars last spring
for \$4. which will last me a year
yet, half linen & half paper, excellent.
I suppose you are going to school now
I hope you will learn fast, now is
your time. I am glad to learn that
you got the clothes I sent. They will
be of much benefit to you all.
The Steamboats are constantly passing
up here. It is very agreeable to see them.
I am very glad that Elizabeth is enjoying
herself so well. Will is glad also and
sends his love. He sent some money.
One eyed Kershey (a lively boy of mine) took it
into his head to write to her and I send
his letter as a specimen as he wants me
to direct it. My orderly wrote it. He
now makes out the morning Report
hoping this will find you all
well & with best love to you
and all. And kindest regards
to friends I remain
Your loving Bro. Thomas.