
William Knight Civil War Letters, 1861-1863
MS/52, 1863 Letter 003

1863-03-06

Knight, William W., Letter to Mary Knight, March 6, 1863

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UUID: 91B3F9D1-1B25-4C9B-8184-535504616386

Recommended Citation:

Knight, William W., Letter to Mary Knight, March 6, 1863. MS/52 William Knight Civil War Letters, Box 1, Folder 3. Valdosta State University Archives and Special Collections. Retrieved from <https://hdl.handle.net/10428/6868>

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Camp Young March 6th 1863

Dear Mary I received yours of the 1st I was very glad to hear you and the children are well I have been very sick since I wrote to you before I was taken the same day I wrote to you with fever last Saturday I had severe chill I have not had any fever since Monday night I feel nearly as well as I did before I was taken sick; the regiment left camp Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock for Genesee's point the Yankees tried fort McAlister again that day four Iron clads and three mortar boats all day dismounted one gun wounded slight two men; they fired on the Fort all night but our men put the gun up and repaired all the damages by mid night it was ready for them next morning the Iron clads left before night the mortar boats left about daylight next morning the later done the firing on the fort at night I do not know when the regiment will come back but in a day or two I reckon

they have no tents nor any thing to cook
in nor is there any thing to do there to keep
to keep them there are more Soldiers here
now than there ever has been before

Gen Clingmans brigade of N. Carolina
troops are here five regiments a great ma
ny others besides some of the big officers
think the Yankees are going to try to
take Savannah this time but they have
done all they are going to do I think
they have failed so far on Genesee
point - if they cannot take it it will
be useless to try Savannah or any of the
other approaches to it all the others
are much stronger than it if they could
take it they would be about fifteen miles
from town and would have to come by land
if they had one hundred thousand men there
then they never could get ten thousand
of them to Savannah alive Well Mary I
donot want to write or hear any thing
more about war now. but about your
affairs I would like to see the place
and all stays on it and all the coun
try around are a great many corn

planted yet have you got any planted
yet - is Dick ready to plant - how has he
got along with the new ground has he got
any fence around it yet how does your oats
look or have you got any have you got any
thing in your garden has your potatoes
keep well is your cane planted if so how
much did it plant how does the mare
look also the cattle the hogs chickens
ring and your shade trees has the place
changed much what become old Mullis
does your girl stay with you yet and
how does Thursa get along ^{is she} staying at
home if so is any body staying with her
has Lem been home lately is Frank getting
along well have you planted any water
melons (woul you like to have your
patch ploughed this spring) done.
Brother John passed through town the
night - going home he had to go on
crutches a young man name Alonzo
Green of our regiment come down
from Atlanta with him Green told
me he knew Fathers wife was dead but
I do not think knew that Eliza was

dead I would liked to have seen him
very much if could Green told me
said he was coming to camp but I recon
he heard the regiment was gone and he
went on on home next morning write
to me how he is if you hear from
him I do not think our country would
ever appear like home to me any more
so many gone since I left and so many
changes I want to be with you and tell
you all I have seen since I saw you
I have traveled great deal and seen
more of the world than I ever saw be
fore I saw Kay yesterday and several
others of Browns M. officers come down
to the big fight I recon they will all go
back in a day or two for I am sure there
is no use for them here at this place some
of them had on their stars ~~and~~ bars
swords like they were real officers
shurre enough in stead of being mere
phantoms, officers indeed and not a
man to command. the thing perfectly
rediculous. Kiss the children for me
& I will do as much for you W W Wright

1863-03-06

Camp Young March 6th 1863

Dear Mary,

I received yours of the 1st. I was very glad to hear you and the children are well. I have been very sick, since I wrote to you before. I was taken the same day, I wrote to you with fever last Saturday. I had severe chill. I have not had any fever since Monday night, I feel nearly as well as I did before. I was taken sick; the regiment left camp Tuesday morning at 1 o'clock for Genesis Point. The Yankees tried fort McAllister again that day. Four iron clads and three mortar boats all day dismantled, one gun wounded slightly two men; they fired on the Fort all night but our men put the gun up and repaired all the damages by mid night[sic] and was ready for them next morning. The iron clads left before night and the mortar boats left about day light[sic] next morning. The later done the firing on the fort at night. I do not know when the regiment will come back, but in a day or two I reckon...

they have no tents nor anything to cook in, nor is there anything to do there to keep them. There are more soldiers here now than there ever has been before. Gen. [Brigham's?] brigade of N. Carolina troops are here. Five regiments, a great many others besides some of the big officers think the Yankees are going to try to take Savannah this time, but they have done all they are going to do. I think they have failed so far on Genesis Point, if they can not take it, it will be useless to try Savannah or any of the other approaches to it. All the others are much stronger than it, if they could take it they would be about fifteen miles from town and would have to come by land. If they had one hundred thousand men there, then they never could get ten thousand of them to Savannah alive. Well Mary, I don't want to write or hear anything about war now, but about your affairs. I would like to see the place and all stays on it and all the country around. Are there much corn...

planted yet? Have you got any planted yet? Is Dick ready to plant? How has he got along with the new ground? Has he got any fence around it yet? How does your oats look, or have you got any? Have you got anything[sic] in your garden? Has your potatoes kept well? Is your cane planted, if so, how much did it plant? How does the mare look, also the cattle, the hogs, chickens [ring?] and your shade trees? Has the place changed much? What become old Mullis? Does your girl stay with you yet, and how does [Thurza?] get along? Is she staying at home? If so, is anybody staying with her? Has Lem been home lately? Is Frank getting along well? Have you planted any watermelons? (would like to have your patch ploughed this spring) done. Brother John passed through town the night going home, he had to go on crutches. A young man named [Alonzo?] Green of our regiment come down from Atlanta with him. Green told me he knew Father's wife was dead, but I do not think [he] knew that Elsa was...

dead. I would liked to have seen him very much if I could. Green told me, said he was coming to camp but I reckon he heard the regiment was gone and he went on on home [the] next morning. Write to me how he is if you hear from him. I do not think our country would even appear like home to me any more[sic], so many gone since I left and so many changes. I want to be with you all and tell you all [what] I have seen since I saw you. I have traveled [a] great deal and seen more of the world than I ever saw before. I saw Ray yesterday and several others of Browns M. Officers come down to the big fight, I reckon they will all go back in a day or two for I am sure there is no use for them here at this place. Some of them had on their stars and bars [and] swords, like they were real officers. Shure enough instead of being mere phantoms, officers indeed, and not a man to command the thing. Perfectly ridiculous[sic]. Kiss the children for me. I will do as much for you. - W. W. Knight.