
William Knight Civil War Letters, 1861-1863
MS/52, 1863 Letter 008

1863-04-02

Knight, William W., Letter to Mary Knight, April 2, 1863

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UUID: E3C74A2B-C647-44B8-8905-20FBF2259530

Recommended Citation:

Knight, William W., Letter to Mary Knight, April 2, 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/10428/7025>

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Camp Young April 2nd 1863

Dear Mary I received yours of the 28th March I like very much to get letters from you the longer they are the better I do not always write long letters to you often I have not the time to write a long letter I have just come off of drill and have half an hour to write till dress parade and after night I have no chance to write Mary I am very sorry to hear you are in the bad health I was in hope from the letters you have been writing you were fat-saucy as a two year old Mary you study too much you are injuring you self by it I expect you ought not to look to the dark side of affairs so much it does not show a christian spirit to repine so much at the ways of the world it does no good in the way of helping thing it only injures you without any benefit to yourself or any body else you must look to the real blessing you enjoy or

Should enjoy if you would only let the true light enter your heart do not re- pine at your lot this world is but a probationary home to fit the soul for a brighter purer world to come people in a great measure make their own happiness or misery not that we have the power to work our souls to heaven but we have the power to make ourselves happy or miserable according as we look to the things of this world we should strive to feel thankful in our hearts for the benefits we receive not suffering our selves to repine and fret at what we cannot help that bring a true enjoy- ment to the heart of those that strive to do right that will lead to a con- tented mind the true man or woman can always find something to strength- en their mind and bring a pure joy to their hearts in all the affairs of life; Mary I got a chance to go to town to day I needed a few things myself and I got you something to take and I hope it will cure you it is the same

I got for you when we were first married I will send it in a box to Haylor also some envelopes. two little books an oven lid for the oven I sent you last fall I hope it will fit the oven was worth nothing to you without a lid I will send you some stamps in this letter Mary I am in hopes you will get well soon do please not write to me any more as you did in your last I have never accused you of being extravagant or of causing any debt to be made on the contrary I am proud of you as wife you have been to me all I could ask for as such I never have feared you would be other than a true loving and faithful wife I know your lot is a hard one now but you must recollect thousands of wives ^{are} situated like you are A great many are much worse off than you are hundred have nothing to eat and their husbands dead or so far from them that they can do nothing for them and while I can I want to pay all the debts I can I do not blame you for getting

Rails split fifteen or twenty dollars paid
for them for the purpose you have them
split for may enable you to make two
or three hundred dollars this winter
coming if you can get peas sowed on
the ground I will try to answer your
questions meal is worth two dollars and
half per bushel bacon 80 cts pr. lb. pork
and beef 50 cts pr. lb. peas three dollars
pr bushel pinders five potatoes from
 $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 dollars soap from 30 cts to
1. dollar pr lb according to quality good
hard country soap about 75 cts yours
would bring all you ask for it may be
more here syrup is six dollars pr gallon
chickens two dollar a peice turkeys five
eggs 75 cts pr dozen thread is 11 dollars
for all sizes over 8-10- for all under the
no-. I will try and send the boy
tomorrow and I want you to take
Drops and try and get well and
do not brag any more about what
you can do when if you were dried
up you would not make one good
~~##~~ your faithful William

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should enjoy if you would only let the true light enter your heart. Do not repine at your lot. This world is but a probationary home to fit the soul for a brighter, purer world to come. People in a great measure make their own happiness or misery, not that we have the power to work our souls to heaven, but we have the power to make ourselves happy or miserable according as we look to the things of this world, we should strive to feel thankful in our hearts for the benefits we receive, not suffering our selves[sic] to repine and fret at what we cannot help. That bring[s] a true enjoyment to the heart of those that strive to do right that will lead to a contented mind. The true man or woman can always find something to strengthen their mind and bring a pure joy to their hearts in all the affairs of life. Mary, I got a chance to go to town to day[sic], I needed a few things myself, and I got you something to take and I hope it will cure you. It is the same...

I got for you when we were first married. I will send it in a box to Naylor, also some envelopes. Two little books, an oven lid for the oven I sent you last fall. I hope it will fit the oven, was worth nothing to you without a lid. I will send you some stamps in this letter. Mary, I am in hopes you will get well soon. Do please not write to me any more as you did in your last. I have never accused you of being extravagant or of causing any debt to be made, on the contrary, I am proud of you. As wife you have been to me all I could ask as such. I never have feared you would be other than a loving and faithful wife. I know your lot is a hard one now, but you must recollect thousands of wives are situated like you are. A great many are much worse off than you are, hundreds have nothing to eat and their husbands dead, or so far from them that they can do nothing for them, and while I can, I want to pay all the debts I can. I do not blame you for getting...

...rails split. Fifteen or twenty dollars paid for them for the purpose you had them split for may enable you to make two or three hundred dollars this winter coming, if you can get peas sowed on the ground. I will try to answer your questions. Meal is worth two dollars and a half per bushel, bacon 80 cts. per lb., pork and beef 50 cts. per lb., peas three dollars per bushel, pinders, five potatoes from 3 ½ to 5 dollars, soap from 50 cts. to 1 dollar per lb., according to the quality. Good hard country soap about 75 cts., yours would bring all you ask for it, may be more here. Syrup is six dollars per gallon, chickens two dollars a piece, turkeys live eggs 75 cts. per dozen. Thread is 11 dollars for all sizes over 8-10, for all under this no-. I will try and get well and do not brag any more about what you can do when if you were dried up, you would not make one good.

Your faithful,

William