

Fort Taylor Key West Fla
January 24, 1863

Dear friends,

Your letters of the 4th and 11th were both received the one several days ago, the other this morning. The news of Aunt Marys death although in a manner expected, was nevertheless sudden and afflictive. Thus it is, one after another papers away and are forgotten, and still the world moves on, the inhabitants eat, drink, and are merry. Life is truly but a pickle thread.

The friends of Sergt Haupt are certainly a singular party. They must think we have an abundance of money to send home strangers and pay \$700 for it. However it makes no difference to me. It was to him I made the promise, on his death bed and I fulfilled it, more for his sake than any one elses. So I care not what they do.

But I cannot help thinking that his
body has been thrown around enough
without being disturbed at home.
Common humanity, would seem to
dictate it should be left alone.

You
had better not send any boxes here
as the Express does not run. I have
not received any of the boxes sent
me, nor the barrel from Mrs Wilson,
but Mr Stinson the Express Agent at
Beaufort, promised to forward them
to me, and I have no doubt he will.
I do not think, however, we will
remain here long. The indications
are we will soon be relieved and
sent into the field. I shall be
glad of it as I am tired already
of garrison duty.

I hope General
Cameron has been elected U S S
from Pennsylvania. He is the man
from the times, and the one that
should fill the position.

I am sorry to hear Warren Moeven is so poorly. I had hoped he would get better at home. I am also sorry to hear of Mr Reardon's going to leave. He is a fine man and it is to be regretted that he must be sacrificed to those rebel sympathizers. If I were at home I would try it, but here in the Army I have very little use for it.

I intend going over to Havana next week and will have a lively time there. It is only fifty miles from here and boats are running between the two places almost every day, so I won't be sea sick. This week the Rebel steamers *Lago* and *Oreto* were both in there. I may get a sight at them. At all events I will get to see Havana and the Island of Cuba, as I intend going out some distance into the Country.

To-morrow is my birthday, when
I believe I will be 26 years old
Crackly. I am getting old and still
single. To save time I have got a
motion to get married here. Don't
you think it would be a good
idea.

Fighting is going on all
around us. At Galveston the
Rebels gave us rather a neat whipping
but it was the fault of the Gun Boats.
By this time however it is all
right again. A vessel from
New Orleans brings us news of the
capture of Vicksburg and consequently
the opening of the Mississippi. I
begin to think the war is about
over.

Give my regards to Grandmother
& Uncle Sol, as well as all friends
Dante from

Yours
Jesse Lindell