

Fort Delaware May 14<sup>th</sup> 1865.

My dearest Mother;

I embrace this sabbath evening (which I cannot call here a quiet one, surrounded as I am by upward of 100 men who reside in this Divn. [division] and all of whom are talking more or less loudly) to inform you of my continued welfare, and possession of as great a degree of happiness as confinement will allow one of my disposition to enjoy. Mrs. R. has been very kind to me. A few days ago I recd. [received] from her a check of \$20, & yesterday a box containing a very nice suit of clothes, including underclothes & hat. Our prospects for leaving here unless the influence of outside friends is made use of at Washington is very indefinite in spite of the fact that we signified our assent to take the oath, with an offl. [official] promise of a speedy release. If this state of things continues long had I not better write to H.W.D. of Balt. [Baltimore]? We have a "Christian Association" here of which I became an active member shortly after my arrival here. I am now on the Committee of Order and arrangement. We have Episcopal serv. [services] regularly every Sunday morning. I have conducted prayers several times in my division & although I experienced great difficulty & embarrassment, I felt it a duty too important & necessary to discontinue on account of my unfitness for it. I have depended entirely on the Spirit of Prayer which I have always invoked. I should like to hear from Miss Ella M. My love to all.

Your devoted Son. Eugene F. Cordell

Lt. Div. 34 O.B.

[Lieutenant Division 34 Officers Barracks]

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