


4-25-1864

## Letter from Thomas S. Armstrong to Francis P. Porter

Thomas S. Armstrong

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Letty, Prison } Apr 25 1864 Richmond Va  
Frank, Dear friend yours of Mar 13 was recd Apr 21 I was very  
glad to hear from you did not say whether you was well or not  
Your words were kind ones & full of encouragement. I hope  
all will come right I try to be of good cheer But  
then one cant be blind to the realities you know  
nothing of Prison life in Richmond & God grant  
you never may know the horrors that I could tell  
you. What do you do in your lesure. I am studying  
german & french here. I should like to know what you are  
studying do you study Music. I wish you would  
its so pleasant. But then maybe you would  
laught at the idea of one in my position avising  
you who breaths not the air of a dungeon but  
God's free air. Frank I often think of you in  
my duties here if duties they can be called. Well  
if the government wanted us out worse than they  
wanted us to stay in prison Why we would be  
out So you see its our duty to wait patient  
ly & not grumble. I dont grumble My  
hopes are bright for the future & for our future  
especially May God bless you & preserve you  
in your trials Yours as ever J.

Providence Letter

Almon's

James F. Parker  
Burlington

De W. M. Co

April 25, 1864

Addressed to Miss F. Porter

Clinton, Dewitt County, Illinois

Libby Prison Apr 25, 1964 Richmond, Va

Frank, Dear friend. Yours of Mar 13 was recd Apr 21. I was very glad to hear from you; did not say whether you was well or not. Your words were kind ones & full of encouragement. I hope all will come right. I try to be of good cheer. But one can't be blind to the realities. You know nothing of prison life in Richmond & God grant you never may know the horrors that I could tell you.

What do you do in your leisure time. I am studying grammar & French here. I should like to know what you are studying. Do you study music. I wish you would. Its so pleasant. But then maybe you would laugh at the idea of one in my position advising you who breathe not the air of a dungeon, but God's free air.

Frank I often think of you in my duties here if duties they could be called. Well if the government wants us out worse than they want us to stay in prison, why, we would be out. So its our duty to wait patiently & not grumble. I don't grumble. My hopes are bright for the future & for our future especially. May God bless you & preserve you in your trials. Yours as ever. T.