

Appreciate

Block 8 Co 14 U.S.M. Prison

Johnson Is. V. Feb. 28th 1865

My Dear Cousin:

Today Dr. Everman came to see me & showed me a letter from you asking permission to send me some eatables. His object was to ascertain the state of my health, which at present is very bad, as I have a very severe cold & cough & very hoarse. He told me he would approve your letter & send it to you. I suppose it will be left with you what article to send, if so I would like for you to send me some Sugar, Butter, Cheese, Biscuits, cake & if convenient, some Syrup & any thing else you may desire.

As I expect to go on exchange in about 3 or 4 weeks it will be unnecessary to send much of any thing, I suppose. Your letter containing five Dollars has been received for which I am very thankful.

The ice on the Lake has broken & it may be some time before it will be safe to cross over on the ice again & thereby interfere with the exchange.

I hope it will soon freeze hard again or thaw so a boat can run. Please write as soon as you receive this & let me know when you will ship the Box so I may be on the lookout for it when it comes. I heard from my sister (my only sister) who is married & living in Ark. yesterday for the first time since I was captured (14 months).

Ever

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Your Grateful & affectionate Cousin.

G. M. Melvin.