

5-11-1864

# Letter from R. T. Cornwell to Thomas White, May 11, 1864

Robert Thompson Cornwell

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Westchester, Pa. May. 11. / 64.  
Hon. Mrs. White: —  
Dr. Jr.

Arrived at this place last Saturday evening. My meeting with family and friends was a very happy one. Left Libby on the morning of the 30th of April. Received a letter from the Major a short time before I left. He was taken from Libby last Christmas morning and sent to Gauleburg, N. C. He says in "Circumstances beyond my control have prevented me hitherto writing you. As you may be aware I arrived here on the 27th of Dec. with no cheerful spirits. My home anticipations were suddenly changed for the less agreeable prospect of a trip farther South. I have come up however with as much good cheer as possible. The officers here I have found to be kind and humane. I have

W. S. Cornwell  
May 1864.

"preferred this place to Libby." It is  
"needless to say that often my spirits  
"have well nigh broken, yet my health  
"has kept up remarkably. I have been  
"without any intelligence from home since  
"Feb. 13<sup>th</sup> but hope all is well there.  
"When or how I will be exchanged I  
"cannot tell, but sure I am if any one has  
"had bad luck since he has been a prisoner, I  
"am the man. — I trust better luck in the  
"future. Living is not very luxurious here  
"Corn bread & bacon make up all the  
"courses. I have rec'd no boxes. Transpor-  
"tation from Richmond here is very uncertain  
"yet if any boxes came for me or if you have  
"anything to spare, I would be glad if you  
"would send me something.

The above letter was sent to  
Libby by an officer who was sent  
from Salsbury back to Libby. He  
says that Harry looks better than  
while at Richmond, and that

Salsbury is much to be preferred  
to that place. Not knowing  
but that this intelligence may  
be news to you I have  
submitted it.

Truly Yours  
P. S. Comwell