

8-8-1864

Letter, 1864 August 8, Oscar D. Ladley to Mother and Sisters [Catherine, Mary, and Alice Ladley]

Oscar D. Ladley

Follow this and additional works at: https://corescholar.libraries.wright.edu/special_ms138



Part of the [United States History Commons](#)

Repository Citation

Ladley, O. D. (1864). *Letter, 1864 August 8, Oscar D. Ladley to Mother and Sisters [Catherine, Mary, and Alice Ladley]*. .

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Special Collections and Archives at CORE Scholar. It has been accepted for inclusion in Oscar D. Ladley Papers (MS-138) by an authorized administrator of CORE Scholar. For more information, please contact library-corescholar@wright.edu.

(17)

Convalescent Hosp'tl.

St Augustin Fla.

Aug 8th 1864

Dear Mother & Sisters,

I have just received yours of the 4th & 12th of July and was indeed glad to hear from you again, as the last one I had was written on the 6th of June. I am a great deal better than I was when I wrote you last and I think still improving, though it takes a long time in this climate at this time of year.

I am indeed sorry to hear of the death of Mrs Mills. I always had a high opinion of her and family. Remember me kindly to the family and relations.

You spoke of a correspondent, I know of ~~no~~ no one of this Regt. that writes to the papers, it must be some

person outside of the Regt. though
I may be mistaken. What was
the date of the paper or if you
can get me send it to me.

The weather here is quite warm
the thermometer ranges from 85° to 90°
all the time but the breezes from
the sea in the day time and from
the land at night keep it very
pleasant. June is considered the
warmest month in this climate. I
felt the heat more in June than I
have since.

You spoke of having peas & garden
vegetables are forgotten long ago and
the second crop is about ready.
Potatoes are old corn is all too hard
to eat, watermelons are about gone.
Peaches are plenty, figs, Pomegranites,
are ripe. The "Pomegranite" grows on
trees about the size of Quinces, they
look very much like them, except in
color which about the same as
the "lady blush". There is a fruit

called the "Citron" which resembles the Lemon but grows six or seven times larger, it makes splendid preserves. Then the "Bamand" grows here also, and the "Pine Apple" but they are not cultivated much at present. Sis wanted me to feign sickness so that she could come down here and get some oranges. There is no need of feigning it if you are not careful you will be sick any how. And I have been sick in earnest.

Our fourth of July was spent and less excitement than it was one year ago, then we had all we could do to keep from having our heads knocked off. It is almost the same here now, we have to be careful or we get our head eat off by mosquitoes.

Our Regt. has been on another tramp. My company captured a couple of wagons from the rebels in a charge, one was loaded with sabers, and they are

now armed with them.

Old Birney has been ordered to the army of the Potomac with his Brigade of Negroes, and every body is joyful. Gen Hatch is in command again he is the Gen. who mounted us, he thought an Ohio Regt. was better suited for mounted duty than any he had in the District. When the 40th Mass was mounted they drilled a month before they did any duty then they had just learned to stick to their horse. We drilled two day and started on our first raid, our men could all ride from the start. The Ponies or horses that I spoke of belong to the Government but they are mine while I am accountable for them. one is a dapple gray and is the fastest trotter in the Department. the other is a cold black and is a good horse every way, wind & limb.

(85)
I expect it is rather common at
Y.S. just now. I should think it was
about time for the National Guards
to return. I wonder how they feel
by this time, do you think they will
get enough soldiering in 90 days?

I should like to board at the Hotels
would enliven things somewhat.

I have not received stereoscopic view
yet. I am looking for it every mail.
The large picture was spoiled. That
is the plate was scratched so that
it was ruined. I don't know whether
I can have a picture taken on horseback
or not. The flies are so bad that it
is almost impossible to keep him
still long enough. The head and tail
of a horse in a picture looks like
a cloud or a big smoke.

Things are getting up in the pictures
a little. We pay five cts per lb for flour or
5.00 per hundred .50 for coffee .17⁹ for lard.
.17⁰ for white or brown sugar 1.00 per bu for
potatoes, beef steak .18⁰ when we buy it.

(66)
of late we have not paid any
thing for it, we just take it
on the hoof from the woods.

Malamba & Steven have both been promoted
to 1st Lt. but have not been mustered
yet. It costs us something to live
down here, I am now paying
\$7.00 pr week before I got sick it
cost our mess from four to five dollars
each a week for provisions.

I should I have thought some would
have been ashamed to come to our
house, had it been them a cold
shoulder would have been my welcome.
I don't think there was any thing
in the letter that Jim Gin carried
of any consequence, it has been so
long ~~so~~ since that I have forgotten what
was in it.

There is nothing allowed the Army
for captures they may make either
military or Naval captures, so I have
rested very easy about the matter, I
never expected any thing so I shall not

be disappointed ~~and~~ should I get nothing, but I would be very much disappointed should I ever receive any of the benefits. The blockade Schooner that was blockading the port will get a certain share although she had no hand in the capture, neither had Gen. Birney nor Harris nor any one else but the men of my company. I should like to see the account of it. I could tell whether he knew any thing about it or not.

Well I have written quite a lengthy letter for you and I will stop.

My kind regards to Jennie. And I believe I have never had an introduction to the rest of the name that is to be.

Regards to Augustus Mills also.

Affectionately

Direct to the Regt. as usual. O. D. Bradley
Jacksonville Fla.

P. S.

5
tell me the ones on
a letter and I
should like to be reading
it

227