

8-4-1862

Letter, 1862 August 4, Oscar D. Ladley to Mother and Sisters [Catherine, Mary, and Alice Ladley]

Oscar D. Ladley

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Camp near Sperryville
Aug 4th. 1862.

Dear Mother & Sisters,

I received yours of the 26th. inst. yesterday and hasten to answer. The weather is extremely hot, almost unbearable while on drill, we have Battalion drill every day, Sunday excepted, and Company drill in the afternoon, Brigade drill once or twice a week and Division drill once a week, and a Review, or rather manouevring as if we were engaged in a grand battle by Sigels whole Command. We had one of the last named the other day, we cooked our day rations and marched six miles and were on our feet all day, performing as in battle.

We sometimes would get a glimpse of the skirmishers, away two or three miles in different directions supported by different regiments. The grandest sight of all was to see the Cavalry make a charge on an imaginary foe, they looked as if they could sweep every thing before them. Col McLean was at their head in one of their charges, with sabers drawn and glittering in the sun, it looked very nice. something you will not be able to see in Ohio, much less a real one.

I was afraid I would be too late, I refer to the commission I spoke of in my letter. If you should see Mr. Kearland you might speak to him, he will have a good deal of influence. I can ^{give} good vouchers as to my ability,

It may not be too late for something if the truth was known. So Mild Lawrence is to be Captain is he, now did that come about I cant see into it, after while it will be nothing to be Captain or Lieut, nothing less than Col. or General will satisfy me after while, or Lieut. (High private) I have served in that capacity and our own do so still, what I have now is not much or better except in pay and the difference in that is only \$4. pr month. Just to think marine troops recruiting for a Captain!

How are the folks in and about Yellow Spring is the health of the place good? The sickly season is upon us

and there will be a good
deal of it I am afraid.

There is an artist from
Harpers Weekly in this
Department and he has
commenced his sketches.
There may be one from Leslie
but I have not seen any
of the papers for six months.

I wish instead of forming
new regiments they would
fill up the old one ones
to the maximum number
then they would not need
nearly the drilling that they
will they way they are
doing now. There is hardly
a Regt here that numbers
good fighting men and
some of them not near
that number.

I expect from the way things
look that there will be a
move before long by this army.
Tell Mrs Sever that I have not
been in Winchester, the nearest
I have been was Middletown.
When I was in Woodstock I
was shown where the old
stone house stood that Sather
lived in, there is a fine building
in its place now.

Gas Reid and Armstrong had
better try it for 3 years.
I should like the privilege
of selecting a company from
around home and bring
them out here and show
them the Elephant!

Tell Mrs Seatz that Burny, snitcher
is still alive and full of
life as ever. Channing White
is well I don't see why they

don't hear from them often
he writes as often as I
do. I got the letter that
Sivore brought and have
had two or three since.

Gen. Pope is well thought
of but we have not
seen him yet

Do you know where Coxes
division is stationed, we
hear that he is to join
us here. I suppos. Mill
can tell you when he
gets home. Ask him if
he cant give me a
Lieutenancy in his company

I must close

Remember me to Augusta, Mill
and the rest of the ladies.

affectionately

Osceola