

12-27-1861

Letter, 1861 December 27, Oscar D. Ladley to Mother and Sisters [Catherine, Mary, and Alice Ladley]

Oscar D. Ladley

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Camp Jno. W. Lean.

Dec. 27th. 1861.

Dear Mother and Sisters,

I received your letter this morning and was very glad to hear from you, and that you were all well, I am very sorry to hear of so much sickness in and around the Springs, Our camp still keeps healthy. Our Regt. is about full by the consolidation of the 79th with the 75th, They are from Athens and the Coal region along the Ohio River, and are good fighting men I think. They seem dissatisfied since they came down here and threatened to leave last night whether or no, and if we attempted to stop them they would "clean us out" and then go. probably they could have done it as there are only about a hundred and fifty of us in camp at present, the

being off on furlough. I think they
are quieted down now, the Colonel
talked to them a good while last night,
I received a letter from John
Hawkins yesterday, he seems very
much dissatisfied with camp life,
well, I don't blame him much
for not liking it, to tell the truth
I don't nor never did ~~myself~~
~~very much~~, It may look romantic
to an observer, but to one who
has to go through with all the
hard ships connected with it,
it will make him think of home
in spite of himself, a Soldier
should not think of past comforts &
all the time or he will be sure
to get home sick.

Our first Lieut. came to me and
wanted me to instruct him in
the school of the Soldier and
company, he knows nothing about
it at all neither does the
Second Lieut. know much. I can
teach him or all three of the

Commissioned officers a good
many things if I do say it
myself. If it had only come
to an election I could have
been something. One of the boys
told Swope to his face that Ladley
had ought to have been Captain,
but I never aspired quite so high.
You spoke about coming home, I
don't know whether it is best
or not. ~~in the~~ I have not got
the money, or at least haven't
enough. I never told Swope that
I was coming up between Christmas
& New years. It will cost about
\$5.00 home and back and I
have not got the money. if they
would pay us off then I would
come. I believe there is nothing
more at present. Remember me to
all. and believe me as ever
O. Ladley.

P.S. Ask Jim Richardson what he will
take for his knapsack I think he
has one. I may be mistaken.
Write soon. O.D.L.