

1-11-1863

Letter, 1863 January 11, Oscar D. Ladley to Mother and Sisters [Catherine, Mary, and Alice Ladley]

Oscar D. Ladley

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Stafford C. Ho th 11:7:563

Dear Mother & Sisters,

I received your ever welcome letter last night and hasten to answer. In the first place we have been having remarkably fine weather for a few weeks past, though the nights are a little cold. St. Morey and myself have a wall tent and a good "fire place" built to it and mud and stick chimney and it makes the tent almost as comfortable as a room in a house. The men dig a hole in the ground and build up with logs then cover with their shelter tents and they live nice. You asked about "Winter Quarters" well, we have never been ordered in to Winter Quarters but that made no difference for the boys were bound to keep warm so they went to work and some are improving all the time and now if they will only let us stay where we are it will be all right, but if they move, terrible will be the suffering.

I sent a letter to Milo yesterday and directed it to U.S. I supposed that he had been brought,

home, I suppose they will forward
it to him.

You wonder if the war will ever end, well
I dont exactly know wheuer how it will
end, there is not much sign of the end
yet as I can see. I received a letter from
Hawkin & Kallaghan along with yours.
John told me about his new business.
I expect Cap. Tully is a strict Officer,
but that is necessary to insure success
in the end. What could one or two men
do with a mob of a hundred, they must
understand discipline is what conquers.
Suppose a Regt. should be ordered to charge
at a critical moment when all depended
on that place ^{being taken} at that time, and the men
should refuse to do it? Of what account
would such an army be if they would refuse
to obey orders. Though Tullys may be over-
bearing, that is not right especially in
the Volunteer service.

So the wood sawyer sent the books etc?
Well, I guess, he has sawed enough.
I think the girls had better go one more
term to Antioch Mary should at any
rate, and Abby too, if she wants to.
Well I have nothing much to write
about this time. So I will close

Remember me to all

And believe me ever

Yours,

Inclosed you will find
a sprig of holly, an
evergreen it grows about
from 5 to 10 feet high