

4-26-1863

## Letter, 1863 April 26, Oscar D. Ladley to Mother and Sisters [Catherine, Mary, and Alice Ladley]

Oscar D. Ladley

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Brookes Station, Va.  
Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup> 1863.

Dear Mother & Sisters,

I received your kind letter this evening and hasten to answer. The slip of paper and pepper come safe, and if necessary will profit by the instructions.

You say you feel bad because you have to use my money to pay that note. Don't worry on that account. What is mine is for the good of you all, and when you need any thing don't be afraid to use it.

The indications are that we will move in the morning, but do not know where to. If it is for the purpose of attacking the rebels we shall not have to go far, but if it is ~~the~~<sup>a</sup> strategic movement, we may have considerable marching to do. Every man has to carry eight days rations, five in the knapsack, and three

in haversack, one extra shirt and pair  
of stockings. You see we are prepared  
for something. The whole Army has the  
same orders. This letter may not reach  
you, but I will write as if it would.  
The mails as I understand have  
stopped going out but they still  
come in. I got the paper, Franklin  
I am sorry that there is a slim prospect  
for a school, I had hoped that you  
would be able to get one this Spring,  
but it seems that luck or something  
is against you. But keep your eyes  
open and do the best you can.  
Do you know it all do you? I hope  
there is nothing wrong with what I  
done. The boys are keeping up quite  
a noise to night, setting fire to old  
tents and burning all useless articles  
generally. It is always the case on the  
eve of a march. Well I will close,

Give my respects to all,

As ever Affectionately,  
Oscar.

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P.S. I did not get a  
Chance to mail this before  
we left, so I send it  
now -

Dear