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Letter, 1863 May 24, C. Ladley [Catherine Ladley] to My Dear Son [Oscar D. Ladley]

Catherine Ladley

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Yellow Springs May 29th 1863

My Dear Son

We received yours of the 16th for which we had been anxiously looking for some days. we were afraid you would be down sick after the terrible hardships you had undergone and the awful sights of the wounded and dying it seems to me that alone would be enough to unstring the nerves of the stoutest hearted. I am glad you have heard of Capt. Morey I was afraid he was killed he has been associated with you so long and shared your dangers and hardships that we regard him as a dear old acquaintance and love him very much, if you write to him while he is in prison

tell him we sympathise with
him in his confinement and hope
he will soon be exchanged. why dont
John Ginn write to his Mother
she has had no letter from him
since the battle and she dont know
what to think if he has no writing
materials cannot you furnish him
some so he can write to her. we
were very sorry to hear of Col.
Riley's death we saw an account
of it in the paper before receiving
your letter who will be your Col.
now? what is the Army of the Potomac
going to do now. last night's paper
says they are going to fall back
on Washington is that the order?
we will send you three Commercial's
giving an account of the battle of
Chancellorsville I hope you will
succeed in your endeavors to get
out of the 11th Corps but dont do

any thing to get the ill will
of your Superior Officers. I feel as
though Gen. Howard was very much
to blame. no one blames the two
Brigades McLean & Bushbeck's
in one of the papers I send, you
will see an account of the arrest
of Vallandigham. he is sentenced
to be sent into Dixie to remain
during the war. I have never
heard you express your opinion
about him. I think he is as black
a Traitor as Benedict Arnold ever
was. tell us what you think of
the Copperheads in general.
well to change the subject we
had Radishes & Onions for dinner
to day and wished so much you
had some of them. we shall have
some fruit but not so much as
last season. I wish we could send
you some Canned fruit. I hope you
can get a furlough to come home

then we will give you lots of things to take back with you we would like to have you come to Commencement we expect McNeil's will be here then.

we think the last Photograph you sent is the best Ally claims it for hers. Ally has got to be a big Girl I guess & she will be tallest one of the family Mary has grown some to but not so much as Ally. Fox is home recruiting I saw him in Church to night he looks and ~~act~~ acts as if he held all the Offices from ~~Maj. Gen.~~ 2nd Lieut. up to Maj. Gen. Combined he had on white kid gauntlets that reached nearly to his elbows and other fixtures to correspond I tell you he felt his dignity. there was a lady asked me if I thought you would act so when you come home I told her I thought not. well I must close tell the Boys their friends are all well be very kind to your companions in arms. and ~~write~~ write often to your Mother.

C. S. S. S.