

7-31-1864

## Letter, 1864 June 31, Oscar D. Ladley to Mother and Sisters [Catherine, Mary, and Alice Ladley]

Oscar D. Ladley

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St Augustine Fla.  
July 31<sup>st</sup> 1864

Dear Mother & Sisters,

I have not received a letter from you since the one you wrote on the 6<sup>th</sup> of June.

I am now in Hospital at this place. I was taken with the Malarial & Swamp Fever the attack was not severe, and I have not been confined to my bed. In this hot Climate when a person gets down a little it is almost impossible to get strength again.

I am troubled with a severe cough that keeps me under the weather. I have been here just two weeks to day.

The Regt. is now ~~on~~ a raid in the direction of Lake City and

Lalabassa, Gen Birney has  
his whole force along and they  
have captured about two hundred  
prisoners. we don't hear much  
from them, but the papers will  
probably give you an account of  
it before long.

We hear that the rebels have  
been making another raid into  
Maryland & Penna. We get very little  
news down here. We get a paper  
dated the 1<sup>st</sup> of July, then probably  
we will not get another for two  
weeks, so that we get no connection  
of news and hardly know what  
is transpiring north.

We have just got a rumour to day  
through rebel sources that Petersburg is  
taken and also Atlanta. And another  
rumour that Gen. Grant was blown up  
by a torpedo while riding in a car.  
They are throwing shells into Charleston  
pretty strong, they have been knocking  
Fort Sumpter about their heads again.

I should like to hear of the  
fall of Richmond, very much  
I suppose you at the North are  
just as anxious as we are about  
it. I think it must fall, but I am  
afraid it will be some time yet.

We have a very nice place here.  
The House was the former residence  
of a Ship Captain, the house cost  
about twenty thousand dollars, and  
there is quite an extensive garden  
surrounding the place. It is just  
on the outskirts of town. We are  
having Watermelons, Peaches, Apples,  
and all such things in abundance.  
Well I will close writing for  
Direct as usual to the Regt.  
and they will send them to  
me, as I cannot tell how long  
I may stay here.

Respects to all  
Affectionately  
O. D. Badley