

12-15-1864

Letter, 1864 December 15, Oscar D. Ladley to Mother and Sisters [Catherine, Mary, and Alice Ladley]

Oscar D. Ladley

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Camp 45 078 Dec, 15, 1864.
Pocatoligo, S.C. Near the Charleston & Savannah
R.R.

Dear Mother & Sister,

We left Jacksonville on the 8th inst
arrived here on the evening of the 15th raining very hard.
We have only 100 muskets seven of piece. We have not
seen any fighting since coming here but have been
in the front all the time. I was within three hundred
yards of the R.R. that they have been trying to cut
since coming here. We were reconnoitering, we sneaked
up on their pickets but did not fire as it would
have brought on an engagement which was contrary to
orders. We could see the camp plainly and count them.
we kept an advanced position all day and night
and camp very near freezing that night, which
was the coldest I have experienced since coming
south. There has been heavy firing in the direction of
Savannah since the 11th inst. which we rightly supposed
to be Sherman. Last night at 10 o'clock a dispatch from Gen Foster
was with Gen. Sherman yesterday stated that Savannah
had surrendered. Ft. McAlister was stormed and taken.
Glorious news. We knocked a train off the tracks right before us.
I don't know how long we will have to stay here. I hope not longer than

the 25th of this month.

"G." "H." "I." & "B" Capt. Mowry left in the night with a
had our troops not been repulsed in their attack
on the R.R. at this place. Gen. Kilmerth will be
at Y.S. before this reaches you. The 25th Ohio Vols.
fought splendidly and are the heroes of the expedition.
They lost 231 men and 14 officers killed wounded
and missing. They charged right over the two N.Y.
Regts. and one Negro Regt. & than no doubt our
boys would have done as well as ever had
they been called on, but as yet we have not
been engaged. The Mail for Sherman's Army
is here 240 bags. Gen. Leammor commands
the District of Florida. I must close as I have
to go on picket.

My respects to all my friends.

Affectionately

O.D. Badley
Capt

P.S. Ink is scarce
so I write small.

O.D.