

Marilyn J.	Southwood	1005 Edison Ct.	Pekin	IL	61554-2939	n/a	n/a
Oscar Easley, Co. F, 84th Illinois Volunteer Infantry, William Hoopes, Co. B, 84th Illinois Volunteer Infantry (G-G-Grandfathers)							

I

Ashville Tenn. ~~Wednesday~~ Dec 24th 1862

Dear Wife and Sisters

I will now finish ~~my~~ letter if no
preventing providence I am still
well and hope these few lines will
find you the same you must excuse
me for not writing sooner for I have
been busy I had to ~~do~~ yesterday
I told you in the other sheet that
I would go to the regiment yesterday
but going to the regiment is ~~planned~~ out
with us we have got in so close a list that
there is no one allowed to leave camp I
cant get to go to ~~the~~ ~~regiment~~ I cant
get it yet that ~~is~~ ~~the~~ ~~reason~~ but I
will get it the first chance I get
I must now tell you about our fore
noon tramp this morning at
four o'clock the reveille beat for roll
call so we new there was something
to be done we went out to roll call

and we was ordered to get breakfast as soon as possible and get our days provisions in our haversacks and about one hour before day light we started about thirty three hundred of us and we marched out about three miles on the franklin pike where we halted. there we received a continued camp from the time we started and the artillery commenced to come down on to the pike and the cavalry began to beate for the rebels to fall in to line there was about 89 pieces of artillery came out and about 5 thousand men were seen and we went about two miles further and then we formed in line of battle and we planted some of our batteries and that is our company was left to protect a battery so we stood in line for a while it raining at first been raining all morning the balance went on ahead to feel for the rebels as it is said we stood for a short time when we fell back a

few faces and I took out arms and
ammunition and a pile of cartridges
that the negroes had piled up and
I found we was some on a crack
we soon surrounded them. I remember that
we got no better results except one
we took him prisoner we stayed about
two hours when we started for camp
again. we haven't heard the result
of the balance of the day we will
soon hear no doubt but they haven't
had any engagement yet here we could
hear the bull dogs bark that took
with them. we will soon hear them
no doubt as the rebels will have to
give back we may possibly hold back
until after new years. as to them I
think if peace is not declared
there will be some bloody work
done but I hope it will be settled
by that time but I cant see much
prospect. I believe our brigade would
as leave fight anything else I

W. D. Dear wife I will endeavor
what you requested me to do if I can
you wanted to no if I had been minister
in to the U.S. Service I was before
I left Quincy by K. Knox
I did allow to have got a list of let
from Capt Cox if I could not get
to the regiment before I wrote and
sent to you he has the papers that
I got from Knox he has a list of my
descriptive list with

and as for your going to live with
Sarah I cant say anything against
that but I want you to take good
care of your health if you
cant take good care of my health
here I want you to be in good
for I think I shant have to stay
more than eighteen months at
the out side for the abolitioners are
free them and if we dont whip them
before that time we will all quit

Washville Christmas Morn

Well we are still here

But we are all ready, every thing
 packed up ready to start at a
 moments warning. We have orders
 not to let a man out or in of
 the lines today. This is the way
 we will put our Christmas up
 but it is hard to tell what will be
 done before night. But for all that
 we can see and hear things are to be
 a forward move before long. We will go
 on towards Franklin. We would have
 been moving on before this time but
 we could not get provisions sufficient
 to take us through. We have
 got up this morning at two o'clock
 to clean rations and it was two days
 before our time to start. So we thought
 we would be off in a few minutes
 but we have not orders yet

Well Anna and Amy I cant
give you much satisfaction about
the boys in the regiment for I cant
get to go to see them. But John
since a miss knock is in the hospital
at Nashville and so far as I know the
rest of the boys are well.

Well I will close my scribbling for
I expect you will get tired of it
before you get it all read that is if
you can read it at all.

I wish you all a happy Christmas
and a good time eating these
peaches and tomatoes and other
good things you must let me see how
you put in your Christmas. It is
like Christmas to me. It is a nice warm
weather we only have fire to cook with
the rook has been starting yesterday
it rained just enough to try the best.
I hope you will have a good singing
School for I hear plenty of good

Musid there is one of the best
bands in camp that I ever
herd play and I have herd several
since I left home and all other
kinds of musid I wish you could
all be here one day to see and hear
the performances it would be a
good show for you all

I shaint tell you about any
of the curiosities I have seen
here I can tell you when I get home
Amy you said you would be
marion for me I want you to have
time to kiss you for me for I cant
tell which one I like the most
about for I think of you both
every hour in the day and I pray
for you every night
Christmas gift Merry and Amy
you may keep it untill I come after it
and I cant tell when that will be
but I hope it will be soon

I want you all to write soon
tell C. Cox that I want him
to write too I wrote him a letter
when I was at go Bowling green

Direct your letters
to Nashville Tenn
Third Battalion Pioneer Brigade

Co C
In care Capt. Clemens

I will now close

Good Bye
Dear Friends

Affectionate Friend

Wm. C. Cady

NASHVILLE, TN: DECEMBER 24, 1862

Dear Wife and Sisters

I will now finish my letter if no preventing providence I am still well and hope these few lines will find you the same You must excuse me for not writing sooner for I have been busy I had to drill yesterday I told you in the other sheet that I would go to the regiment yesterday but going to the regiment is played out with us we have got in so close a place that there is no one allowed to leave camp I cant get to go to town ether so I cant get you that picture now but I will get it the first chance I get I must now tell you about our forenoons tramp this morning at four oclock the revolu beat for roll call so we new there was some thing to be done we went out to roll call and we was ordered to get breakfast as soon as possible and get one days provision in our haver sacks and about one hour before daylight we started about thirty three hundred of us and we marched out about three miles on the Franklin Pike where we halted there have been a continious camp from the time we started and the artillery commenced to come down on to the pike and the drums began to beat for the regiments to fall in to line there was about 32 pieces of artillery came out and about 5 thousand some men near So on we went about two miles further and we was formed in line of battle and we planted Some of our battery we that is our company was left to protect a battery So we stood in line for a while it raining and had been raining all morning the balance went on ahead to feel for the rebels as it is sed we stood for a short time when we fell back a few paces and stacked arms and charged on a pile of walnutts that the Negroes had pilest up and I found we was some on a crack we soon made them surrender but we got no butter nutts except one- we took him prisoner we stayed about two hours when we started for camp again we havent heard the result of the balance of the boys we will soon hear no doubt but they havent had any engagaement yet or we could hear the bull doggs bark they took with them we will soon hear them no doubt as the rebels will have to give back we may possibly hold back until New Years and then I think if peace is not declared there will be some bloody work done but I hope it will be settled by that time but I cant see much prospect I believe our brigade would as leave fight as do anything else

Well Dear Wife I will now answer what you

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Well Dear Wife I will now answer what you

NASHVILLE: CHRISTMAS Morn 1862/3

dusty until yesterday it rained just enough to lay the dust I hope you will have a good Singning School for I hear plenty of good music thare is one of the best bands in camp I have ever herd play and I have herd several since I left home and all other kinds of music I wish you could all be here one day to see and hear the performance it would be a good show for you all

I shant tell you about any of the curiosityes I have seen here I can tell you when I get home

Amy you said you would kiss Marion for me I want you to have him to kiss you for me for I cant tell which one I think the most about for I think of you both every hour in the day and I pray for you every night

Christmas gift Mercy and loving you may keep it until I can come after it and I cant tell when that will be but I hope it will be soon

I want you to tell all to write soon tell Ebon that I want him to write two I wrote him a letter when I was at Bowling Green

Direct your letters to Nashville Tenn third batalion pioneer brigade Co D in care of Capt Clemens

I will now close

Good Bye

Dear Friends

Effectionate Friend

Oscar Easley

A letter from Oscar Easley to his wife Amy:

MURFREESBORO, TENNESSEE: JANUARY 28 1863

Dear Wife

I again take me pen in hand to write you a few lines to let you no that I am still well and hope these few lines will find you the same and all the rest I havent had a letter from home for three weeks or soes the last letter was written on the 26 of last month it seems like a long time to me to hear from you but I think that I should get one soon we hear that the mail rout is open through to Louisville again I expect that I have wrote several letters that you havent got but I hope you will get them they will tell you a little about my situation on the battlefield

MURFREESBORO, TENNESSEE: JAN 30, 1863

I will try and finish my letter now you must excuse me for not writing oftener I believe I have wrote three letters before this one this month and I have only got one I commenced this the other day and in a few minutes David and R P Atherton come to our camp from the hospital and we talked a few minutes when some of the boys came in and said our Reg was at work in a fort only about a 1/4 of a mile from here so I put my letter away and started over to see them and had a good time of it I havent seen many of the boys since the battle before they all seemed like brothers they all stopped work to shake hands they are generally well Ephraim Renner is getting better our boys at the hospital are all getting better except David Hughs he is in rather bad fix he is wounded in the arm and it is a bad wound the bone is broke Lank Miller is getting along well and the most of the wounded are with the regiment thare will be several of them sent home J B Green Stanton Holiday, Frank Ball are all in the penitentiary at Nashville garding prisoners we have a pretty good time now it is rather cool weather here it has been freezing considerable for a night or two I was out forageing yesterday we went across the battlefield it is a sight to see how the trees are torn to peaces and to see the dead horses laying over the field some places as high as five horses killed from one peace of artillery but I shant say much about the battle in this letter I did think I would try to draw a draff of the ground whare we were in the battle but I will do this when I get home we all feel in hopes that we will never see another battle thare is something going on

MURFREESBORO, TN: JANUARY 30, 1863/2

among our head men either to settle the fuss by a compromise or to plan out a way to settle it by hard fighting but we hope it will be done soon some way but before we will acknowledge the Southern confederacy we will fight them to Chattanooga and on to Mobile and back again but we dont want to have this to do if we can get along without it We havent drawed any pay yet the papers say that we will be payed up to Oct 1st about the 12th of next month so I will only get two months pay I will try and send it home I will try and start you my picture next week