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2015.001.060 transcription

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Ordnance Office, Dist of the Etowah

Chattanooga, Nov. 15th, 1864

Friend Lottie:

Becoming impatient and somewhat restive at not receiving a letter for more than a week. I came to the conclusion that though I could not receive letters I could write them, even if they did not amount to much. Only think how lonesome I must feel not to receive a letter for more than a week when I have averaged, all summer, 5 letters per week. What have I done to cause this sudden falling off of letters? I would be very happy to know. Perhaps tomorrow's mail will bring me a full dozen.

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Wouldn't that be a rare treat? How I would feast my greedy eyes, indeed. It would please me almost as much as it would to have a furlough placed in my hand. By the way, I'm coming home this month, at least I shall do so if I stay in this office. I shall probably come somewhere between the 15th of January and the 15th of February. Look out for music if I do come for I shall intend to enjoy myself so long as I stay there, my poor little horse will no doubt be well pleased when I leave for here again. You may expect me at the Deacons within 24 hours after I land in Smithport, have the table well loaded with pork and beans, (baked of course), for I shall starve myself for a month before starting and shall not eat anything for a long time after starting back. I will leave my mark (in the pork barrel and bean sack). Rest assured of that.

How is Lyda getting along, has she got convalescent yet? I hope so for I never like to hear of any person suffering from sickness, hold 'em too fast. I believe that last winter I expressed a wish that Mrs. Downey was sick, then perhaps we could say something without having it repeated to us the next day, down town.

What has become of Orpha? You have not said a word about her for a long time. Is she still alive and well? I saw your name in the Miner. Didn't Rogers put it on pretty thick as regarded [?]. I also saw Pria Leomes [?]

name. I shall never forget the evenings I spent in company with you Orpha and Pria. What would I not give for just one such evening spent as we had the evening that I fixed the [?].

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You cannot imagine how busy we are at present. In fact for the past month I have not went to bed before 12 or one o'clock and up as soon as it was light enough to see. We will be over the hurry in a few days and then if I don't get some letters you may expect there will be music [?] in camp. It is getting too dark to write any more so you will please excuse me.

My compliments to all, also accept a goodly portion yourself.

A friend, in all sincerity,

George Young

20th Ohio Batty

Chattanooga