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2015.001.078 transcription

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Chattanooga, Tenn

December 29th, /64

Sir Mr & Mrs Leedy . .

And all the rest of the family. It is once more I am permitted to address you by way of letter. Your letter of the 26 of last Month came to hand the Evening of the 27th of this month which made it just one Month and one day on the Road which was rather slower traveling than I done when I was on my way home, and I thot [thought] that was about as slow as time its self. I would recommend you to wright fast letters after this for the news gets rather Stale by the time they get here. Though you are Excusable this time as old hood [Gen. Hood?] was to blame instead of you. But I think he is out of the way now so that your next letter can come through somewhat swifter.

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The Battery has been out for one month fighting the rebs and from all accounts have seen a little of what the boys Calls H**l, with the Exceptions of the brimstone, but powder was used in its place which made it rather disagreeable to take. But they have Stood right up to the Storm and have done some hard fighting they fought two days at Nashville and one day at Franklin and about four hours at Murfreesborough and were still on the persuit of the rebs. on the morning of the 23rd they were at decatur Ala. in the mud up to their knees their was two of the boys sent Back here from their with a lot of baggage. their was ~~two~~ about a dozen men wounded at Nashville and three or four at Franklin. But none were killed on the field their was one of our Lieut wounded in the left arm he was about the best officer in the Battery but that is generaly the luck the best gets hurt and those that we dont like stays with us the longest. Our boys were all sound when I herd last but some of them

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had some narrow Escapes. Their was 16 men besides myself were left here to guard the Camp and take care of some horses and mules and some other property that was left. We have been on half rations Ever since the road was cut and I expect we will be for some time yet. But I am doing fine as it is. My health is good and my average weight is 175 lbs which is very good considering the times

my duty is not much now not as much as it would be if I were with the Battery, I have nothing much but overse the rest of the men and that is a light task. We look for the Boys back soon and then work will set in we will have stables to build for our horses which will be quite a job. the news from Sherman is very favorable. the report here is that he has taken Savannah with 12,000 prisoners. Hoods loss Since he Came into Tenn has been over 15,000 which will make 27,000 men the rebs have lost within the last month. I understand that Lincoln has called for 300,000 more men by the 15th of February.

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In regard to those gloves it will hardly pay under the Existing Circumstances. The Commander of this department has Issued an order that sutlers shal only make (25 per, Cent) on all their good and things can be bought here now pretty near as cheap as you can get them at home and unless a Change Should take place it will hardly pay as their is a great risk to run now sending such things.

I see Jno [John] Fluke and Geo Hase Every fiew days they are well, and speak of you very often.

The weather is quite cool at present. I would like very well to spend Newyears day with you if I Could. But as I can't I wish you g a good time.

My best wishes to all the friends and write as soon as you can and tell me all the funny stories you know. I will close

Yours with respect

Smith M Logan
20th Battery Ind Vols
Care Capt Osborn
Chattanooga, Tenn