

Camp of the 154th N.Y. Vols  
Lookout Valley, Tenn.  
Dec 18th, 1863.

Dear Uncle and Family

Yours came to hand yesterday I was glad you were in such good spirits and have plenty of eggs and potatoes, but I shall be obliged to decline your invitation for the present at \_\_\_\_ a furlough & would not take if I had the chance and my term of enlistment has not half expired yet. So you will have a chance to raise potatoes twice yet before you see me unless this cruel war should suddenly come to a terminus

well the 23d of last month we left the Valley and crossed over into Chattanooga and on the 24th made the grand atact the left centre was atact by western troops our right resting on their left in line of Battle. we gained a ridge that was not much inferior to old Missionary herself that night we worked making rifle pits planting Artillery and getting ready for the morning well morning came and so did Old Joe for he and Genl Thomas took to running the Rebs off Lookout mountain something of a job but after 12 hard hard fighting Joe held the mountain. all this time Genl Sherman was not idle he was on the extreme left and turned their flank in that direction on this 3d day our Brigade marched to the extreme left to protect Shermans flank and it was all serene with us our Regt did not get the Brunt of it in the Battle we only had 9 men wounded in the whole 3 days on the fourth we took our line of march in pursuit of the retreating Rebs such sights of ammuniton and caisens waggons corn and corn meal at Chackamauga Station every mud hole chucked full of Shell and canister one car load of fixed ammuniton stood upon the track well in we went and had a bully thanksgiving fresh Pork corn meal and molasses coffe and sugar well when we got to Parkers gap two companies of us were detached to guard Priseners into Chattanooga and then came into our old camp remained here untill the 13th of this month then all ordered to guard a waggon train to the corps I started but had to back out I have had the Tenn quickstep so long that I am pretty weak if I only had a box of those Pills that we used to get I think they would straighten me up again but we dont get any medicine here that is any act at all

You asked me how I would like a comish in a collored Regt I would accept one for I dont imagine I shall ever get one here our Regt is so small that we canot muster all the Officers that have already got their comissions and have had ever since last July.

The weather has been cloudy and rainy a few days past but now it has cleared again and last night we had a frost

good bye write soon  
Yours truly  
Clark Oyer  
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