

In the trenches near Petersburg

Jan 27th 1866;

My dear Pat - your last letter has been received and as I had just written to you I have not hurried to answer, I wrote you that my expectations of getting home about the first of next month had all been blasted, and no doubt you have been greatly disappointed as well as myself; I hope though the time will soon come when I shall, through the goodness of God, be with you for good. Every thing wears the aspect of Peace - glorious Peace - there is hardly a gun ever fired and all of us feel so much relieved. There are now three Commissioners - Hunter, Stephens & Judge Campbell - waiting to pass into the enemies' lines it is said to arrange about a truce and finally a treaty of Peace. Oh that God may be in this effort and the best consequences may result. I could not tell you how I should feel, to bid farewell to this field of blood and carnage who would not rejoice? Then there is our home & the land and we have been so long separated from peace brings a happy reunion - Oh who would not have peace? But then peace cannot restore those who have fallen in this war - there will be many bleeding hearts to mourn over the past - we cannot cast a veil of forgetfulness over it. All the troops are in high spirits about the aspects of affairs - all are talking about peace.

I wish they may not be disappointed,

Tell Geo I received the box but it had been robbed of some of its contents,

Tell the negroes they must leave out the old meadows and not plow them up - they never pay for working them, and we have plenty of land without them, Be sure, now Pat to have them left out and not cultivated, Ask Cousin Jack to get a reliable hand to alter the will, this is the Spring for him to be altered, I wish you would get Brother to collect Simon's land and to have him laid out again,

A flag of truce has just gone in and the men are crowding up to see the Commission and just over, I went up to see the white flag the emblem of peace, but no answer as yet - from Grant - our Com: are waiting his pleasure.

I believe I have written you all that is now occurring around us here, May God bless and comfort you Give my love to the children. May I see them before very long. My best love also to you - fare well -

Yrs affect: husband

Jos L Pollard