

In the Leaches near Petersburg

Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> 1865.

My dear Pat. Your call letter came to hand yesterday and though I wrote but the other day I feel that I must again write I am sorry to hear that you are still suffering from a rising breast. Had hoped that you had gotten well before this. But am very glad that you have not suffered as much from it, as you had anticipated. I am exceedingly anxious to get home to see all of you, but know of no plan except the one I mentioned in my last letter, viz. to get a retail to go to King & Queen to bring over provisions for the Company. This I could not do unless I could get a government wagon to haul them to Richmond. You know I have not the team to do it with and then we shall be very much behindhand in planting. If Capt. Wilson at Martins will promise to furnish a wagon, I will undertake the job, and put in my application to that effect. Tell Buster to find out immediately and let me know. If I should not be able to come in this way, I want you to send over Winsten with some cattle. Pear, meal and a piece of middling would serve me best. He must leave the horse at Joseph Smith's until his return. If you could send a box as you did before and write me before hand when it was coming, that might be better. But whatever you send let it be well packed, unless it be



a pudding or some peeps and the like. I am nearly starving  
for some home victuals - if you saw what I mean to eat  
and your warden would be there I don't at all. The others  
Lewis & Besmer & W<sup>m</sup> Hasper got a good deal from him  
about a month ago and that has lasted nearly very  
lately. If you could see the corn bread we have to eat  
and the little piece of pickled pork (the scales on our mounts  
from its extreme fatness) you would say that our lot  
was hard. And now as Columbia has fallen and  
our communications with the South cut off, I don't  
know what will be my condition. Sherman seems  
to march through the country unimpeded and  
I should not be surprised before he is done, if he  
marches through McCardian and forms a junction  
with Grant around Petersburg. Surely Beauregard  
could have any army;

"All the regions they much strangled every muscle now  
to get the plowing up to put out all the means  
that can be raised. You have not said whether or  
yet the South side has been broken, that must help  
to plow this Spring.

Tell Willie he must not be such a lazy boy. He must  
clean his book and not let Peter beat him.  
And now, dearest Pat, may the Lord be with us both,  
and soon bring us together. My love to the children

Your husband's most truly  
Jos L Pollock