

Camp 26th Va. Regt.
June 5, 1863
Burton's Farm

My dear Pat-

Mr. Schools arrived last night and brought the letter and things safe. The eating effects were very acceptable, and were received with many thanks to the thought given. The socks and shirt also. The shirt I am particularly pleased with. You need not be in a great hurry about the other shirts as the two blue ones I have now will last me the summer out. I received too a very long letter from you yesterday, for which receive my warmest gratitude. I am glad to hear that matters are progressing so favorably at home. Of course sell the calf if you can get a very good price for it. And sell the lambs too. Lewis has given out buying at present high rates. I prefer Cousin Jack's sending the lambs and the calf to Richmond if he can make up a sufficient number. The negroes planted considerably less corn than I used to plant, perhaps they have got in all the land Cousin Jack intended them to take in. It is generally good land and if properly tended ought to make the best crop of corn we have ever made.

I am glad to hear that the colt has improved so much. You did not say whether Cousin Jack had or not attended to the Thos. Croxton affair. I wrote you all about it and how Cousin Jack could get the money to pay it off. Keep at him until it is all settled.

I was to go to Richmond today to see Wm. Phillips - what he had done about Fuller's affair, but was taken with the "bowel complaint" yesterday, and think it imprudent to go today. I shall be well by tomorrow. There is a good deal of this complaint in camp. Charles has been sick with it for several days.

When your fowls get large enough don't send over many. I shall be sure to have them stolen. I prefer your keeping them and selling them. We can hardly afford to eat a chicken at 3 or 4\$.

You did not say anything about Betsy and the ring - was it large enough and was she pleased with it.

I shall send you back the yellow striped shirts, the flannel shirts and some socks. I wrote to you a day or two ago by mail, which you received Wednesday I reckon. If you raise many good water melons, be sure to send me some. I suppose you all have received all the news about Vicksburg - that brave little town is still holding out and that Johnston is massing a large army in Grant's rear. We are all praying and hoping that the whole Yankee Army may be crushed and entirely routed, and that the N. W. states may be brought to their senses, and be brought to make an alliance with us. We have also understood that taking alarm at Lee's late maneuvers, have withdrawn all their troops from W. Point, Yorktown and Glo. Point.

Now you give my love to the children, tell Betsy to send me word how she likes the ring. If you will send over two other buttons I will have two made for Mollie and Katy. My best love to you, dear Pat, and my constant prayer, that you may "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord" day by day that He may bestow upon you every temporal blessing.

Your affectionate husband,
Jos. L. Pollard.

