June 6th, 1862 Camp near Richmond

My dear Pat-

I understand Mr. William Boulware is over at his farm (near which I am stationed) and that he intends starting home tomorrow. If he will be able to reach home you can through him hear from me. But I think that very doubtful as the Yankees are all along the Chickahominy. Our regiment has been in no engagements yet - though there has been a great fight along the line of the Chickahominy in which Bagby's and Montague's Companies from Glo. Point had a hand. We should have been in it too, had we not been changed to Wise's Brigade. We are now stationed near the James to prevent any landing of troops from their gunboats.

I wrote to you by Robt. Bates which you have not received. I hope this may reach you. I heard that there was a letter in Richmond for me, but Mr. Cauthrow could not find it, thinking Joe Smither had taken it. So that is the manner people treat them after promising to do little favors. I am exceedingly anxious to hear from you and if the mail continues to run to Newtown you must write me immediately. And as Dick Cauthrow and Joe Smither have been so particular as not to send me your letters you had better direct to me in this way.

Jos. L. Pollard, Esqu Care of Capt. J. W. Smith, Co. I 26 Va. Regt., Wise's Brigade Richmond

It may come straight in this way. I have not as yet heard the particulars of the fight of Saturday and Sunday last with the exception that the Yankees were driven from the field into the Chickahominy which was behind them. We claim the victory as we captured their camp and all their artillery this side of the river. But, my dear wife, there has to be a great deal more hard fighting before Richmond will be safe, if the Yankees persist in their attempts to take it. Jackson's great success however may turn their attention elsewhere. I suppose you have heard that he had completely routed Bank's army, is in Maryland and threatening Washington itself. May the Marylanders flock to him by scores.

I understand Bagby lost some men in the engagement on Saturday, none of which you know, except James Harrison. He has fallen. Otey who had command of the batallion of artillery (changed into infantry) from Glo. Point was shot from his horse. After that Capt. Bagby had command. It is said that Bagby's men and all in that batallion fought very bravely. Baytop, Lt. in Montague's company was killed. Montague was not in the action. I saw Brooke the other day and he told me what I have written. We were on the James River flats drawn out into line of battle awaiting the landing of the Yankees from their gunboats when he rode up. How glad I was to see him. I had not seen him since leaving Hanover Ct. H. He said he believed all our relations in Montague's company were safe. We have had a very hard time now, moving about so much and all the time raining. I never saw such a rain as we had last night. It came down in torrents. I keep my health very well so far,

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though I have had a cold for some time. Smith has been raised to the Captaincy and I his orderly Segt. In consequence I have a great deal to attend to, not much spare time.

You must be satisfied with this - in our disturbed state you can't expect such letters as I used to write you from Glo. Point. So remember me to the children - my mind often turns home to you and the children.

My love to you and them.

Your affectionate husband

Jos. L. Pollard

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