

Camp 26th Va. Regt.
March 22, 1863
Burton's Farm

My dear Pat -

Mr. Owens has returned, and this morning I received your very welcome and gratifying letter. You write like yourself and such letters come as balm on the winds, soothing and consoling to my troubled spirit. Such awakens, dear Pat, the best feelings and the most pleasant emotions in my own breast, and bind me more tenderly to you all.

I don't know why the Messenger has not been sent you. I certainly ordered the back copies to be sent and saw your name written on a bundle that was to be sent by the next mail. I received a letter from you also on yesterday by mail and was glad to hear that the almanac I sent you had reached you. This and the likeness I sent by David Graves. I am sorry to hear of the Mare's sickness, and from what you write me, I think she must die. If she does you must send to Dick's and get Wm. Jones' mare and work her on the farm for her board. I have seen Wm. Jones and he has agreed to this arrangement as Dick has horses enough without her and he wants her to work to pay for her board. So if you get her you can send over with Mr. Minor and still keep the ploughs at work. Fanny will be a great loss, as she is a good plantation nag and then I shall loose the colt also. She must have gotten hurt some way or other. When you send over, send me some peas and hominy. I would not think of sending in the present condition of the roads. Our men, who came in last night, represent them as being in an awful condition.

Elijah Schools paid for the cotton as he owed for Lewis' work. I offered to give him money but he would not have it. About the sugar, I will give Mr. Minor some money to buy some when he comes over and the boy that comes over can carry it to you. I have drawn some money since I came over and have \$50 or \$60 and can spare some for that purpose. The trip over here from home though cost me a goodly sum.

I am glad to hear that you have got a woman to live with you and a weaver at that. Don't you think you could have me two blue checked shirts for summer? If you have not the indigo to dye with, I can get it and send it to you. It costs 1 dollar an ounce, but some of our men have been buying it and send it home. Bernard says Cousin Malvina has had him two very pretty ones woven. I like the small blue checked better than anything else. I am glad to hear that Bob has gotten a position in the Army above that you wrote me in a previous letter, as he will have an easier time and not so much exposed to the hardships of war as the common soldier. I think when the spring opens he will see a plenty of fighting and will have to witness all the horrors of war. There will be a combined effort on the part of the enemy to carry every position from the Potomac, along thro' Tenn. and down the Mississippi River. So you may expect to hear of terrible fighting on the upper Rappahanock, around Murfreesboro, at Charleston and Savannah, and before Vicksburg and Port Hudson. You see from this programme their intention is to surround us on every side and by attacking us at so many places at the same time, so to distract our forces and

Camp Zach Va. Regt.
March 22, 1863
Editor's Care

My dear Sir -

Mr. Jones has received, and this morning I received your very welcome and gratifying letter. You write like yourself and such letters come as a balm on the winds, soothing and consoling to my troubled spirit. I am glad to hear that you are well and that the most pleasant emotions in your own breast and mind are constantly to you all.

I don't know why the messenger has not been sent you. I certainly ordered the pack to be sent and your name written on a package that was to be sent by the next mail. I received a letter from you also on yesterday by mail and was glad to hear that the shipment I sent you had reached you. This and the likeness I sent by David Jones. I am sorry to hear of the party's sickness, and from what you write me, I think you must die. It also does you great good to hear of the party's sickness and work her on the farm for her board. I have seen Mr. Jones and he has agreed to this arrangement as Dick has horses enough without her and he wants her to work for her board. So if you get her you can send over with it. Dick will keep the ploughs at work. Fanny will be a great loss, as she is a good plantation hand and then I shall lose the colt also. The seal have gotten hurt some way or other. When you come over, send me some seeds and hominy. I would not think of sending in the present condition of the roads. Our men, who came in last night, represent them as being in an awful condition.

Right Joseph said for the cotton as he owed the lady's work. I offered to give him money but he would not have it. About the sugar, I will give it. Mind some money to buy some when he comes over and the boy that comes over can carry it to you. I have drawn some money since I came over and have 500 of it and can spare some for that purpose. The trip over here from home though cost me a goodly sum.

I am glad to hear that you have got a woman to live with you and a weaver at hand. Don't you think you could have one and one checked with your summer. If you have no time to do with, I can get it and send it to you. It costs I believe 20 cents, but some of our men have been buying it and send it home. I like the article and think it better than anything else. I am glad to hear that you have got a plantation in the Army above and that you were in a good position. It will have an easier time and not so much exposed to the dangers of war as the common soldier. I can witness all the horrors of war. I am sure it will be a continued effort on the part of the enemy to carry every position from the former along the road and down the Mississippi. So you may expect to hear all terrible fighting on the upper Mississippi, and Fort Jackson, at Charleston and Savannah, and before Richmond and Fort Mifflin. You see from this programme their intention is to surround us on every side and by attacking us at so many places at the same time, so to distract our forces and

weaken our armies, as to make an overthrow of our arms an easy matter. How far they will succeed in this programme I cannot tell, but I am very fearful they will get possession of the "Father of Waters" and thus silence the discontent in the North West. I feel sure that Gen. Lee will see to Hooker and that the advance on Richmond will not proceed far from the banks of the Rappahanock. We have a great Gen. too in the person of Johnston in Tenn. This year will truly be the greatest effort of the enemy for our subjugation, and will require all the energy and patriotism of the South to withstand it. Then let all our prayers go up and from the heart too - that the Lord of Hosts will yet be on our side and will yet give us the victory over our invaders.

You can pay Jinty (?) and when I draw the next time I will send you more to replace. You have not written whether Cousin Jack has attended to the matter with Thos. Croxton. Tell him be sure to do it and get a deed for the land and send me word about it. Be particular about burning the chimney and don't be caught as you were before, you might not be so fortunate as you were the last time. Tell Lewis whilst he can't plough to do the fencing and cast out the manure. Now is the time to be up and adoin for another crop.

Wm. Phillips sent me word that Sutton the surgeon to the Hospital was absent for a month and that nothing could be done about Fuller until he returned. I thought about writing to Mr. R. A. Garnette about the matter. And so Betsy knew the likeness and little Kate kissed it! The color of the clothes was taken badly. I wish it could have been more perfect. Tell the chaps when they look at the likeness they must remember their Papa who is far away.

I have a notion of buying a furlough after a while if they continue. Peyton Parker will sell his, what do you say to it? But do not set your heart upon it as I may fail.

I will send you the account against Peter Samuel - give it to Cousin Jack for him to collect it.

I believe I have written all and hence must close. This Sabbath day is beautiful overhead and the snow is dissolving very rapidly. And now may the Lord be ever with you and my little ones is the prayer of your

Affectionate husband

Jos. L. Pollard

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