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Letter to Jennie Guiney, 1862 February 10

Patrick Guiney

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Camp 9th Regt.
Miners Hill Va.

Feb. 10/62

My Dear Fannie:

I must confess
that I have been negligent.
I have yours of the 31st
Jan. and 2^d Inst. and yet,
up to present, no answer
from me. Well dear indulge
my misfortune for such it
seems. I have not written for
some ten days and yet I
can offer no reason for my
neglect during such a period.
God knows me, and I wish
you could judge me as he
does - by the heart. I am
in such a rush of ideas of
my future - in such dreams
of "days to come" - in the way of

Such a multitude of little and im-
-portant duties of a military cha-
-racter, that I even pass over the
hope of my soul - which is the
welfare of yourself and little
per - to attend to them, to think,
to act - to the end that "my life"
may not be inglorious, but good,
uncommon, perhaps noble! It
is in such mental fancies that
I forget to write to you and
everybody else. My darling
when we were married - nay,
since I was born, it was thus
my mind was bent. This char-
-teristic is your husband as
well as I am - blame but do
not condemn. But Jennie do
not follow my example in this
neglect - you are a woman and
a loved wife, whatever I may
seem.

Here we are yet, sunk deep
in the mud of Mexico's hills.
O! God, deliver us! I want
this war finished in June next,
sure, if not sooner. I wish
General McCallan's wife
or some other influential person
would tell or coax the General
to Advance the Army.

As to that Watch case
I want it. Send on the Journal.
To show you how "immense"
I am, as Mr. Houston says, I send
on a likeness taken in Camp in
full Military Costume. I feel
sure of being Lt. Col. I will not
want clothes till Spring. I will see
about Bullet Proof Vest. I received
a letter from your Brother John.
Believe me Dear
Ever yours

P.S. Enclosed
I send \$20.
and am - P.S.