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## Letter to Jennie Guiney, 1862 February 18

Patrick Guiney

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Mines Hill Pa. Feb 18<sup>th</sup> 1862

my dear friend:

Yours of the 15<sup>th</sup> inst. is before me. We are all well in camp. Capt Hanly is Major - Hanly is a young widower, and is courting a niece of Colonel Boss - it is a family arrangement you see. This is, of course, private. I am glad Hanly has got the appointment - he is a good fellow. He is about my age perhaps a year older. He was formerly Plunkett's 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant. I enclose an account of our late "Reconnaissance" from New-York Herald. It does not do us justice - we did the skirmishing - we repaired the Raig Road - we first entered Vienna - we took up a bold position while our friends took up position in a dense wood and behind a fence - we offered to commence a battle, but our prudent Commander, Brig. Gen. Murell - would not allow it. The reporter could <sup>not</sup> even do Colonel Boss the justice to spell his name correctly. The ladies whom we left in camp were all weeping and praying all day. Poor blessed creatures! We returned to them smiling and bloodless.

You may send that last picture of mine  
to sister Mary. do not send any to  
Jeristow. Father Scully has been sick for  
a long time - he had typhoid fever. He is  
now well. He does not remain in camp  
but is stopping at a Mr. Burke's house  
out near our picket lines. The family is  
a Catholic one - <sup>very</sup> good people. He comes  
in every Sunday to say Mass for us. He  
has frequently desired to be remembered  
to you. but I forgot to do so. My dear  
when are you coming? Have you got any  
money to come with? I am all out. If you  
wait until about 6th March I can send  
you some. But if you have got any, use  
it, and come as soon as you get ready.  
You had better sleep on the ground for some  
few nights before you come - so that you  
can appreciate fully the soft luxuriousness  
of my couch.

I am going to Washington tomorrow.  
Tell me, dear, when you are coming. As usual  
I am impatient. But, oh! Jennie prepare for  
good. We are connected by telegraph with  
Washington, and, consequently, get all the news  
from General M<sup>r</sup> Lellan, immediately, on its recep-  
tion at War Department. We are in raptu-  
-rous glee over late victories.

P.R.S.