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Letter to Jennie Guiney, 1862 December 18

Patrick Guiney

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Camp Near Salmonsburg Va.

Oct 18. 1862

My Dear Annie

I wrote you a brief note from
Fredericksburg just after the battle. I
enclosed list of casualties which in
two or three particulars was erroneous.
It turned out on a more careful
survey of the facts that two men report-
ed killed were still living although
badly wounded. I have sent on
to Adjutant Gen. Schenck a ~~copy~~
list and when persons make en-
quiries of you, refer them to him.

I am quite well
and ^{have} pitched my tent on the same
spot where it was before the
fight. I will endeavor to get in
to Washington soon so as to send
on money to you.

At the last battle the troops
gloriously fought bravely. Some few
regiments broke. The "White" was splendid
in action. We were fortunate too. We
went up in line of our own open
plain and driving the enemy back

to his entrenchments where on a sudden
we struck against the enemy's very
strongest works lined with heavy
artillery. We were sent in as a reserve
to another Brigade which was ordered
to storm these works. This brigade could
not carry the works and it was found
to be impossible for us to do more than
to hold our position which we did
until four afternoon 13th to morning
of 16th.

I feel as every soldier in the army
who looks back at the events of that day
with an impartial eye - indignant. I
feel now too deeply that our troops
- our brave troops - are not - and seem
- by not to be, skilfully led. I despair of
Generalship for us!

I have received letters and
papers from you, I will send home
my broken scabbard soon. My boxes
have not yet come.

I would like to spend
Christmas with you but it is no
use to hope for that. You and Annie must
drink some wine that day for me.
Adieu
Quincy