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Letter to Jennie Guiney, 1863 September 28

Patrick Guiney

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Culepepper Ca Sept. 28. 1868

My dear Jennie

Your favor of the 23rd inst.
enclosing stamps came to hand this evening.
I am very glad to hear that Yourself & Josie
are in such good health & spirits.

You will see from Reading
that we are still at Culepepper on the
North bank of the Rapidan - our old
antagonist in diminished numbers
occupying the South bank. Our army
is also somewhat diminished in numbers.
Reinforcements from us have ^{been} sent
all round - I understand - to help
our friends Rosecrans & Gilmore.

There are many here who are secret-
-ly glad that Rosey got a whipping.
As these western fellows were in the
habit of taunting the Army of the Potomac
- with want of success if not coward-
-ice - while they were brave and succe-

Fal. The truth is we have always been fighting
the best & bravest troops in the South - our
Western friends have been dealing with
poor ignorant undisciplined troops (such
Bragg & Pemberton). Now when Lee's troops
unexpectedly met the Western Hossiers
they suddenly found out the reason why
the A.P. were not always successful in
battle. However, I am sincerely sorry for
Rosecrans and his gallant army - and
I am no great lover of the A.P. - but
it fights well - no mistake.

It is impossible to tell what the
upshot of our stay here will be. Things
looked peaceable here as I write - to day we
had a review by Gen. Cortez of Mexico.
This is significant. I think if this war were
settled tomorrow - we would declare war
against France in Mexico. Will these hor-
rid wars ever end? We had once what was
called an "Age of Reason" but this seems to be
an "Age of Blood." My regards to Miss Bessy
Gather, Phelan - Lizzie Mages M'e Clallans
(when they come) & Miss L. Lohie. Quincy