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## Letter to Mrs. Shaw, 1864 June 2

Patrick Guiney

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Roxbury Mass. June 2. 1864

My dear Mrs. Chan

After an absence of three years, I am once more with my family. My career in the Army, I hope has been such as you would wish it to be, useful and honorable. Up to the battle of the Wilderness, I had not been wounded although meeting with what are termed "hard-wood escapes" in many a battle. Now, at last, I am proud to say - and I know you will participate in this pride - that I have been given an opportunity and of which I availed myself, to shed my blood for our beloved Republic. This is a



source of great pleasure to  
me and one in which the  
pain and consequences of my  
wound are entirely lost.  
One other source of pleasure  
though, is deeper and gives  
more satisfaction to my heart,  
~~and~~ that is the conviction  
that I have many times assis-  
-ted in the damage and discom-  
-fiture of the Enemy. That Enemy  
is now driven to the wall  
and I hope Grant will dash  
his press him to it until  
a rebel throat is unable  
to choke for "Quarters"! You  
may think this a little blood-  
-thirsty, but it makes one feel  
as if to lose nearly all the blood  
he had, in the Wilderness. I have  
nothing for the foe but hate  
now, as I am unable to fight  
any more and my regiment is

to come home in a few days  
- its turn served.

My wound is still suppu-  
-rating, and on account of ~~the~~  
the fracture of my skull, my  
head troubles me. My eye is  
gone - and, on the whole, I  
am very much used up. You  
though, with the angel-like  
kindness with which I am  
cared for at home, will improve  
me sufficiently to recommence  
the practice of my profession.  
How strange has been my for-  
-tune! You know the commence-  
-ment. The end is not yet.

My compliments to Mr.  
Shaw - and believe me my  
dear friend.

Ever Truly Yours.

P M Quincy