

My Artillery

Pocotaligo Decr 27th 1864

On the 26th, my precious wife, we took up the line of
march for Grahamsville, whither we reached about sunset,
traversing over an excellent road, and accomplishing the
journey with but little fatigue to either troops or animals.
The night was dark and rainy. At Grahamsville I saw Col
Colcock and his Wife. They both appeared perfectly happy
and were mutually interested, tho' not in the other, to
a remarkable degree. She has a very pretty figure, is
pleasant in conversation, and seems formed for love. -
The kindred inquiries were made after you. Early the next
morning we made forward for Pocotaligo. Well, however,
was the condition of the roads, that the Column halted
just across the Pulifinny and then went into Camp
for the night. My Artillery, despite the mud, was
safely transported. I am now with Genl W. Laws
near Pocotaligo, at the abandoned residence of Capt
Gregory. The Genl of the Enemy are surrounding us and
Necessity says I have had no opportunity for acquaint-
ing myself with the Country in the neighborhood, but

Accession No.

213

Box Number

8

Folder Heading

8:5

Charles Colcock Jones Jr. Papers

SPECIAL COPYING INSTRUCTIONS:

Expect soon to do so. How long we will remain here it
is impossible to state. My own impression is that we
will not occupy our present position more than a few
days, and will then retire to the line of the Co-
"bated. All the portions of the State will probably be
given up, and it now held principally with a view
to retaining the provisions in the Country, and the
Garrison at various points along the Coast. - There is
certainly nothing very valuable or attractive in the
Country itself, and with the fall of Securus the
River forming regions of both Georgia and South Carolina have
escaped from our hands. When will we ever get them
back again? When will the scene of retreating Peace and
Happiness disperse the deep gloom which settles about and
around us on every hand? A contemplation of the fu-
"ture brings with it the sudden apprehensions, and
realizing the utter futility of all human effort, as well as
the immediate necessity for the intervention in our be-
half of some Great and Higher Power, we exclaim in
view of our present dangers and privations - as well as of
our great sufferings, Oh! Lord how long! The Enemy is evidently
but upon the utter destruction and annihilation of our
Country, and to this end has, of late, been putting forth
great forces, directed also with remarkable skill and energy

I
don
our
an
be
We
it
for
the
an
" ha
ma
See
for
for
don
for
ape
fel
bee.
" m
Cel
wa
" m

I regard the movement of Wood into Decatur, and the aban-
donment of Georgia as well nigh fatal to the existence of
our Confederacy. But it will not answer to yield to gloom
and despondency. While life lasts we must fight to the
 bitter end, and look for deliverance to a Higher Power.
We found at this point, General Jones and Saliferno. General
McLean appointed command the morning of the 11th
from Grahamville to the Combahee, relieving them both.
But whether either his Command is still in our rear
and thus our force at Grahamville need at Crossed-
hatch. So far as ascertained, the Enemy has not yet
made any movement from Savannah in their direction.
Such however may be expected as soon as the New Year
festivities are over. I have heard of you my Darling at several
points along the Road from my Friends who seem to have
done all that they could to facilitate your journey, and
for these kindnesss I am greatly indebted to them. I can
assure you that when I see you safely out of Savannah, I
feel that a weight of anxiety - often upon Selina's brow, will
be lifted from my heart. I would not for worlds have you
run in that stormy City. I am glad to know however that the
Citizens have been treated with much greater consideration than
was expected. I long, my own sweet wife, to hear from you, and to
know that you are well and happy. God bless you and my precious

little Reubin. Do you my own darling wife do yourself low and deor-
tion of the warmest heart are ever found. Every moment passed
away from your dearest companionship is filled with regret and
longings for the return of all those blessed love and happiness
influences which you alone can give. My darling, you alone know
how I love you, and how I sigh for a return to your dearest
love. - Do write me all about your journey homeward. How you
passed night from Boston & Reubin and Ecclestone. Did you
receive a parcel of money so from George Oakes, & a bundle
from Charles for Express? Did my goods accompany the latter?
I sometimes feel my gloomy view of the Past and the Present,
but so long as my wife and child are spared, and I have
life and health, there is a world of happiness still in store,
and I can labor for their comfort and joy with all the ardor
and the energy of absolute devotion. - Did you get all your
baggage through safely? You will have nothing to take care
of what little is left. But I would not excite you of this
for I know that you will do all that the noblest woman
can do. - I think that those Federal Rascals will not turn
their attention towards Augusta.

Do get Reubin with you as soon as you can. Write
me to Charleston. Care of Dr. Paul Hender for the present, until
our marching are over. Col. Roy, his Chief of Staff has promised to
forward my letters to me. Be cheerful Darling. Do you still contin-
ue your studies with Reubin?

Your warmest love to dear Mother, Miss Sides &
me and remember me to Reubin. - Take every care of your precious
health, and know, whatever circumstances may attend, that you
are my own precious wife, the best beloved, of, and the one all
together lovely to
Your own devoted

Mrs. Elizabeth Jones
Augusta, Ga.