

Virginia Feb 25th/64
Dear wife
I will pencil a few lines to you today
I wanted to ask you what you thought
my reenlisting for three years in
a battalican of Pioneers they are
drawing up a paper to send to the
war department to see if they will
except it Gen Sedgwick wants
it to go, it will be for the use of this
reg corps to fix roads and build
bridges they want to get a
batalion of a bout one hundred
men they wont take the men
that have accinlested if they
can get enough out of the ^{regt} that
have not if it is excepted by the
war depart ment the men will
be intitlled to a thirty days
furlough immediately the three
hundred dollars State bounty

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(Coll. S-166, Misc. Box 6/7)
MMN #35838

Date: Feb. 25, 1864

Description: Mashall Phillips to wife on reenlistment

and four hundred dollars from
Government to be paid by
installments as they serve their
time out, we shall not have to
go in to any Battle we shall
not have to carry our knapsacks
we shall either have wagons^{es}
to carry them or be mounted
all the danger that we shall
be in perhaps we may have
to build a bridge in front
of the enemy sometim and
may be exposed to their sharp
shooters, but in such a case
our army will form close
to us and protect us as
well as they can we shall
have our gun with us orner
us all the time they will enlist
for three years or during the war
if the ^{war} closes in one year they will
be dischar, I think there is a good
prospect that it may but it is
uncertain

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but Dear wife I shall
not enlist with out your
concent as a grate many
Solgers do Diana I want
you to think of it and write
to me as soon as you get this
and tell me what you think of
it, it is getting a quite a bountia
if they get out of it in a year
all right it would pay
it would probly save my
going in to battle this spring
don't ^{let} any one see this nor
tell any one what I wrote
except my folks it concerns
no one but you

M. S. Phillips

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