Richmond May 19th 1862

My Dear Wife

I have not recd a word from you since I left home and am fearful that I never will unless times changes we are cut off from Texas & nearly all the South I send this by a man that is discharged and coming home to Polk County Texas, I am well Except a cold we have had a hard time since we got with the Army which was at Yorktown we left there the next day for Richmond about 75 miles of as bad muddy road as I ever saw raining on us nearly all the time while we were marching no tents and part of the time nothing to eat. the Enemy after us all the way untill we got within a few miles of this place. I do not no where there are now we had two fights with them one at Williamsburg and one at West Point Twice in the last engagement and killed a Yankee, we do not no how long we will stay here nor what we will do next. I find Mag. Lo Gibbon, and Bennit Cathey here they were very glad to see me, this is the fifth letter I have written to you I sent you an order by

Enough been for you to draw the money and send it to Abe Wammack for the use of his home you get Rainey to attend to it and send the money to Wammack if he will not have the money at his young, you must continue writing I may get some of them, it raining and I am writing under a blanket on my knee. I will write again in a few days if I got a chance, there is a good many of our recruits sick, Spencer got badly wounded in the fight we had at West Point a ball passed through his thigh breaking his thigh bone but he is getting well and will come home as soon as he gets well, Bomb shells and grape shot fell all around us at West point, May was shot in the neck & just cut through the skin no one hurt in our company except Spencer Zell Sapp and others that I have no chance to write to them we are marching nearly all the time I will write to them when I can do the best you can and trust in God for the future, I find Lehat have a first rate clever fellow I mess with him I will close give my respects to all enquiring friends, do not let my children for get me I do hope it will not be long until I meet you and them at our humble little

Home if not we must meet in the better world above so good bye I remain your affectionate Husband untill death

W. G. Wallingford

Mr Tell Polly to write to me give my
love to her and tell her to conduct her self
in a manner that I may be proud of her and
not ashamed. Tell Mrs Worthington the
most excite to Worthington that I am
well and been in one fight, write to
me where he is at and the news tell
Pappa not to let any thieves get my calves
and attend to my cattle the best he can
tell Fargusar the same. I wrote to Hiram
on the way I think he will get the letter I
sent it by hand. E. G. Wallingford

Mrs Evaline Wallingford
Hempstead
Texas

Transcription by Arthur Moore, Jr., and Joan Wallingford Mickler

Mrs. Evaline Wallingford
Hempstead
Texas

Ritchmond May 19th 1862

My Dear Wife

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God for the fureture. I find Chatham a first rate clever fellow. I mess with him I will close give my respects to all enquiring friends. do not let my children forget me. I do hope it will not be long untill I meet you and them at our humble little Home if not we must meet in the better world above so good bye I remain your affectionate Husband until death

T. G. Wallingford

?? [possibly NB} Tell Polly to write to me give my love to her and tell and tell her to conduct her self in a maner that I may be pround of her and not ashaimed. Tell Mrs Worthington she must write to Worthington that I am well and been in one fight. write to me where he is at all the news. tell Sapfe not to let any thieves get my calves and attend to my cattle the best he can tell Farquhar the same. I wrote to Hairany on the way I think he will get the letter sent it by hand.

T. G. Wallingford

Notes from Arthur Moore, Jr.

This letter is all one piece of paper and is folded double to make four pages. Each page measures approximately 5-3/4 inches by 9 inches. The paper is not lined, so the straight lines of T. G.'s handwriting appear quite remarkable given that he was writing under a blanket on his knee in the rain. My father had the letter laminated in the early 1970s. This may not have been wise, but the letter does not appear to have deteriorated since. I recall the paper was almost like tissue paper resulting in the bleed-through of the ink from page to page.

As apparent from page four, the letter was folded with the PS written in one portion and the addressee and address written in another portion. I assume that the letter was hand carried, folded with no envelope.

Notes from Nick Wallingford

Both T.G. and his older brother Louis Bean used an uppercase letter at the beginning of each line of a letter – regardless of where it might be in a sentence.