Near Fort McRee Florida

May 3rd 1862

My Dear Sister

I take my Seat to answer yours of 28th April which almost broke my heart when I read the contents of it Dear Sister it is almost imposible for me to answer your letter Oh when I I think that my onley Brother is no more to be Seen on this earth it Seem to me that all is gone Sister I use to look forward with great anticipations when we would be order away from Pensacola for I thought then I could See my Dear Brother but Oh them expectations was all in vain Oh it Seem as if I could have been with him it would not have hurt me So bad I do hope and pray that he was kindly treated while Sick for his Sufferings was great I know he was Sick So long Dear Sister it A consolation to me to think on the batter as I do For I do Sincerely believe that his Soul is at rest for if there is any good people in the world I think that Charles was one. Sister I have just finish packing

up my clothes and Sent them off all except one Suit My bedding is all pack up except one blanket and is Sent off also Dear Sister, we are going to leave here in A Short time and it is Supposed we will goe to Corrinth Miss Sister I have Some winter clothes I will Sent to you for the Summer will be two warm for thick clothes I think my Surest plan will be to take them with me to mobile and get ferde to Ship them to Washinton
I got A letter from Ferde yesterday at the Same time I got yours he was well I will answer it to morrow Give my love to Sallie and kiss your little babes for me I expect to leave in two or three days from to day I will write to you as soon as we Stop and let you hear from me and where I am Dear Sister I have one request to make to you not to mourn the loss of A Dear Brother no more than you possible can avoid for the time will not be long at the longest before we all will be layed beneath the cold Soil then we will meet to part no more

Farewell my Dear Sister your Brother
J. R. Riggs