Camp Pettus
Near Mobile Ala

July 2 the 1862

My .. Dear .. Brother

I received y
kind and affectionate letter this morning and endeav
to answer it in haste I make the attempt this evening
ind order that you may hear from me as soon as posib
these few lines leaves me enjoying very good health
hoping they may find you and family all well I have
no news worth writing to you The health of the regin
is not very good at present we have A good many sick
with us now Some four or five very low but they
improving and with good attention I think will ov
Oh I like to forgotten to tell you about the accid
which happened last Saturday was A week agoe there
an english Vessel run the Blockade at Fort Morg
loaded with guns & munitions also coffee Sugar & medic
the Vessel ran a ground on Saturday night and ins
telegraphing up to moble forth with for assistance fu
it off intil five oclock Sunday morning we Succeeded
getting About half of the cargoe when the yankeys S
A fleet after the boat and commence bombarding her
about eight Hundred muskets & Rifles together & a
Hundred Barrels of powder also some tea
we gave her up the yankeys mistrusted that we
trying to fool them they thought we had A Slow
match Set on fire under order to blow them up whi
do wish we had had one fixed but we did not
would not venture up [illegible] until monday

I am So Sorry we did not Save the hole cargoe and the
Vessel The Capt of the Vessel Says that He dont think
it will be of much Benefit to them for the machinery
was all bogeth to new idis that he was certain there was
not any more like the Machinery on that Vessel in the unit-
ed. I do hope they can not work the Machinery
erde if Mr Wilson wants the Horse and you think
best to let him have the horse you had better do so
if I conclude to Join the cavalry company I will
to See you before I goe very far it with it
think likely I can get a furlow before very long
I can I will come up to see you all once more I am
I am perfectly willing for Sallie to have
Charlies affairs in her hand I want you and
girls to Settle that without my name being
signed first settle it between you three and I
you I will be Satisfied with the Settlement
my love to Sallie and Sister and kiss your
children for me you must be sure to com-
ting to me for I am always anxious and
us to hear from any of you no more at present
remember me to all inquiring friends
you must write Soon

James R Riggs