Camp Maxey
Near Chattanooga Ala ~~Tennessee~~

August 3th 1862

My Dear Sister

I received yours of the twenty third A few moments agoe I had just got back from Atlanta Georgia from tring to get in A hospitle but my health improved so much after I started I would not goe to no hospitle there was several of us sent off to the hospitle and myself & one more got lost off from the rest in Atlanta and I do not know what become of the others Dear Sister I wrote you A letter before I left Mobile and would have mailed it sooner if I knew every thing would have turned out as it did I gave it to A gentleman in montgomery and asked him to mail it for me Dear Sister I intended to come to see you while ~~A~~ I was in montgomery but we got there at ten oclock in the night and left at three the next morning so I had no time to come Dear Sister I would have written to you sooner but my health would not admit of it I do hope and pray that I may have good Health Sincerely wishing these few

lines may find you and family all well and doing
Dear Sister it is not worth while to say any
thing about coming home for I do not expect
to see home in twelve months longer provided
I should live that long but do not think
off my coming home for I assure you if
ever I get the opportunity I will besure to
come to see you. you must tell Ferde I ~~have~~
have given the idie out of being transfered
to do what he thinks best with poor Charlie
horse oh it to seems so hard to use dear Brothers
names and him laid beneath the cold soil
but all we can do now is to pray for us
to meet him in heaven Dear Sister our
duties is tolerable hard when we stand
pickett guard we have to stand forty eight
instead of twenty four we have this to do
on the account of our pickett lines being
so far from our camps our boys some
times talks with the enemy ~~A~~ cross
the river the orders is for the picketts
not to shoot each other unless it is an ~~offic~~
officer. the sentinels is not allowed to shoot
from either side Oh you have no idie
how bad I hated to pass thorough
montgomery without coming to see you
Your Brother J. H. Riggs

Camp Mayer
Near Chattanooga State of Tenn

Dear Sallie

I thought I would finish my letter to you for I want to write to you both Some for I do not know wheather I will ever have the opportunity again or not for one do not know one minute what has to be done the next Dear Sallie you must tell Sister that my clothes all fit me very well and I am very much obliged to and Sister for them Dear Sallie we have a Beautiful camping place but how long we will stays at them I do not know we are opposite Benels army the distance between us is four miles but still I apprehend no danger unless we have a general fight Bendl forces is supposed to be about forty or fifty thousands Strong and ours forces about the Same So we will be able to hold them a right tight fight you must write to me as soon as you get this for I will be very glad to hear from you and I will write once a week to Some of you and you must all besure to answer them you must kiss Sister little babes for me and tell them that I say I want to see them very much

So I will close give Jerde my best respects and tell him he must write to me when you write direct your letters to Chattanooga Tennisee Company G 27th Miss regt. in colonel Mayers Brigade write soon to your Brother

James R. Riggs

P S weather it is necessary to mention the Brigade or not I do not know for we may be in some other Brigade by time I could get a letter from you Your Brother

J. R. Riggs

Tell Jerde he must write with pen and ink for I can not make out what he has wrote with a lead pencil I wish I could

your Brother
write soon
J. R. Riggs