In Hospital At
Ringgold " Catoosa County Georgia

September 5th 1862

My Dear Sister

It is with pleasure that I seat myself to write to you once more to let you know that I am yet alive but am not in very good health Dear Sister hoping these few lines may find you and all the rest of your family well and doing well Oh it seems as if I never will get well any more but I do hope and pray that I will not have another back set for I have had quite a hard time since I left Mobile I have not seen a well day since Oh Sister how I wish you were here with me but knowing that it is impossible for you to come I try and content myself the weather is getting a little cool up with us but nothing like frost Dear Sister I suppose you have all ready heard the news in Kentucky with Gen Kirby Smith and the enemy who was ten thousand strong General Smith killed two of the enemy gen'ls and taken one prisoner also captured three thousand prisoners
Our forces is following Buel up but it appears as if he can not fetch him we are expecting a general engagement every day now Buel but their is no telling what day we will meet ——

Sister I saw several of the Prattville Dragoons the evening they arrived at Chattanooga there was One of the Debarlabons & one of the Mims also a young man who I think his name was Mr Sims

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Smith,, Mr Debarlebon Said
he Saw Sallie A day or two before
He left I wish I was certain
about the name wheather it was
Smith or not Sister he was Sent
with poor Charlie to the house
where Charlie Died he was Sick
at the time Sister probibly you may
know who was Sent with Dear Brother
[illegible] was Sick. The young man
who I am trying to find out his
name is very low and thick also
A very healthy looking man
He Conversed with Sallie while we
[illegible] the river that is
[illegible] I ~~[illegible]~~ was on my way to
Pensacola probibly Sallie can tell
you who it was.
He promised me he would write to
me but I fail to give him my
company therefore if he was to write
I might never get the letter He
appear very anxious for me to join
his company. [illegible] if I can find out
his name I will write to him
Please let me know how you would
~~[illegible]~~ direct y A letter to one of the
Dragoons Sister you must be
certain to write to me Just as soon
as you get this for if you do not
I will never get it also let me
know wheather Ferde got the twenty
dollars I Sent him or not
Give my love to Sallie and Ferde
and except the Same for your Self
Tell the Children all How do you for
me when you write direct
yours thus,, Ringgold Post office
Cotousa County State of Georgia
mension no regt or company
no more from your affectionate
Brother write without
fail,,

J.. R.. Riggs

P.S Give me Mr Smith
Given ~~[illegible]~~ name Just Sign his name for me