Dear Silter,

I received yours last night. I can scarcely write this morning, on account of my being in so much pain. I am suffering nearly half the time from the jad acts or something else. I have got a terrible pain in the breast as it happened this morning, but in spite of all my sickness I weigh 183 hundred and eighty seven pounds and am four inches larger around than when I first came. I have a chill or two every week, I never do anything for them at all. They come whenever they please to and go the same way.- medicine does me good.

As to ships there is none as usual. We have been expecting an attack all this week and last, but there haven't been Yankees in sight the whole time only the blockade running vessels. One of the vessels came nearly to us last night and was that I ever saw before. We could see the smoke boiling out of
The smoke stack was enough also the color made it. It played that near two days, then cleaned off immediately afterwards the whole horizon was whiff with sails. I do not know where they were going to. Magruder had the whole two under guard yesterday and behind the breast works, kept them in the whole day nearly, when he knew there were no Vessels more than thirty miles of him. He will get the men to the earth eminence out part of these times on account of his feeling him so often. I am not going to believe the Yankees are any where about until I actually see them and shoot at them. You need not believe any report you hear about this place. Dec. 21st I will now resume my writing as I now have another comparatively good opportunity, though the room is crowded with men. They are nearly all any fifteen children you ever saw. They are making a great fuss over our regimental uniforms. Every man in the regiment nearly are opposed to having one. I think less. Holquist is acting wonderfully.
in this matter. He had taken all the men's money in the regiment, for their clothes, to buy us a uniform when nearly every man had more clothes than he can carry.

You spoke of your visit to Lord Battle and asked me, didn't I wish I had been in your place? I have got so that a girl never crossed my mind, all of my former loves have departed from me and the only remaining affection I have has centred it to strength on home and friends. I do not and never expect to love another woman in Christendom so far as marrying is concerned. I have such a disposition that I cannot make anyone happy and believe it would be a positive sin for me to marry a girl and make her unhappy.

I do not like to have myself bound much but there is a great responsibility resting upon a man who talks upon himself the duty of making another happy. I do not look to assume responsibility any way.

I forgot to tell you that a whole company belonging to the 13th of the reg. lay down their arms this evening and refused to do any more duty until paid up. They were arrested by the Sergeant Battalions and put in
the guard-house, they are in there now, and will
by court-martialed of course. They still receive
pay, but on duty. They have not kept in seven
months, so I don't blame them much. There is
great dissatisfaction in our reg. at the way Colquit
is acting in referred to the miter stones and the way the
protected the Butler of the reg. after he had murdered
of the men. There is a band of them sworn to
kill the Butler and a great many swear they
will not have Butler uniform. Colquit says
he will enbue the reg. or suspend all power of them.

Magruder

I understand we are to get England into this quarn and yet,
Gave you got those books? I sent to Dis Mary B. when I left
here? If not please get them before the sale come off.
We get papers from Richmond every day but
not from here. We have five reg and one
reg from here. On the 6th, 12th 16th, 20th
and 24th. I have a great many school mates
in near age of them. Butler is in the Tidale reg
there. I send to all. Respect to neighbors
One home in his 20 that is from Floyd's line. By
Floyd to Funk near Floyd's Spring Hill.