Before Spanish Fort
April 7th 1865

My Dear Sister,

I write by looking over my list of letters that I have received but 5 letters from you this year or it may be more. I wish to warn you I guess some of them must be lost. We are getting hammering away at Spanish Fort and I think will get it before long. Our living is partly at the houses, almost within stones throw. Our men are permitted to bring proofs or in other words private parts. We many are being mulled but got only two or three homes some part yellow is brought in with a brightone mind. Our lives etc.
some 8 or 10 miles. A small column is kept up at intervals all the line. A day or two ago a fire was kept to spread all along the line, and continued for an hour or two. The Rebel guns did not reply at all, because just as soon as one of this gunners showed his head a dozen balls was fired at it from our sharpshooters.

Our own approach to these works by what is called gaps. These are ditches dug after dark, running up to the Rebel works. The ground is intelligible in all directions by these gaps, our men can compactly advance but the poor Johnnies have to pursue this work or be surrounded by ditches and sharp stakes set in the ground, and have little else. They have a run of torpedoes surrounding this works - which
uphold when stopped upon—a charge would be very dangerous to us.

I went to the front a day or two since, and had a pleasant view of the Bay, Mobile, and their garrisons and transports. Our hospital is yet in prime running order. There is charge of the culling the—apartments, and see that the men have plenty to eat—and that it is well prepared. I think I shall make a good horsekipe—don’t you think so?

I received a letter from Aunt Emily or you deep sincere enclosing photographs of her family. We are having delightful Spring weather, mother is hot and cold. I am aspiring uplifting letters from you all.

Brenn Matthews.