

tell Father, Mack & will write to him
in a few days tell him & parley &
elancy to write to me often & was glad
to hear that William was on the mend
give my respects to Mr. Ellises family
tell him to write to me if he pleases
it is raining now & it is disagreeable to
be out this is nearly the disagreeablest
place we ever camped surrounded on 2 sides
by the gulf & Bay & this Peninsula is a
open Prairie for 60 miles nothing but a sandy
plain cant hardly get wood enough to cook
our grub but I wrote these things before
when you write give me all the news
a bout home I love to get letters from
Brother Stickler for he was out long enough
to no what a man wants to hear from
home so I close

J. S. Morgan

(Sam Abel)

Matagorda Bay Texas Jan the 2nd 1864

Dear Companion & children
I embrace this opportunity to answer yours
of the 2nd & 9th of Dec which come to hand
3 Days ago I was out on picket when the mail
came I was going to answer your letters
today but in the first place I had the
sick headache so bad I could not write second
it was too cold we have had 2 Days & nights
of uncommon cold weather for this climate
it froze ice 2 inches thick here night before
last the north wind commenced blowing
night before that we had borrowed some old
tents & the wind utterly tore them up my
feet & legs were with cold to my knees
yesterday morning I awoke with the sick
headache but I was able to get up this morning
I eat a cracker & some beacons & coffee the
weather has moderated some & it is misting
rain to say I guess night before last was the
coldest spell that has been here for years
we suffered greatly by the cold wind so turn
over

Now Rachel I was glad to hear from you
a gain for these was the first letters I have
got since I dated you the 15th have not heard
as yet whether you got your money or not But
I hope you have got it all I was glad to hear
that you had your hogs nearly fat & that
you thought you would have corn enough
to do you also that you had been offered
per hundred for your pork Now Rachel I have
years But what you will get a long well if you
all keep well tell Finley & Samney I was sorry
to hear that their dog was dead But tell
them to raise another a gainst pap gets home
you said little Julian dreamed of seeing me
ask him if he thinks he would no pap tell
the boys pap wants to see them very Bad But
I expect he would like to take a peap at their
another first But thank god if we live to
see a nother newyears Day the probability is
that we will enjoy eachothers company
the good lord has brought us through many
Dangers through the year just past last years
We was rite in the face of the enemy on the 20th

The same omnipotent power can preserve us
this year that did last it is in him
I expect to put my trust I am sorry to say
that nearly $\frac{2}{3}$ of our Regt. has been on a Drunken
pres. T. Buskirk treated our co. to 9 Bottles
of liquors costing \$25.00 But thank god
some of us managed to keep sober so none
of that I have writen a list all that is necessary
at this time as I have wrote to your father
often if you dont get letters often
Just consider they have been miss carried
for I have plenty material to write on
I expect to use it I have to write to my
friends at home it is good pass time I
cant tell you how long we will remain
here our teams hasent come from Orleans
yet we may be sent up this Bay a piece on
messals some of our troops has gone up
the Bay to a place called powder horn
tell Father Decker I am still waiting for
his letter & ready to answer it so I will
close Direct yours as before your husband
as ever D. S. Morgan To Rachel Morgan