

8<sup>th</sup> Regt<sup>th</sup> Vt. Vols. Co. A  
Algiers La.

August 31<sup>st</sup> 1862

Dear Brother Charley & all the rest.

I take my pen  
once more to write you a few lines to let you know  
that I am well & hope these lines will find you  
the same blessing. Since I last wrote to we have  
had quite a time. last Thursday morning at 10 o'clock  
our Co. Co. C & a Co. of Massachusetts Cavalry &  
a detachment of two 12 pounders Howitzers belonging  
to our regiment. was routed up got our breakfast  
and made ready for a reconnoissance up the river.  
we got ready and got aboard the cars & at 4 o'clock  
we started up the rail road. we moved on all  
quietly for 6 miles when all at once the hind train  
was stoped as sudden as if it had run against  
Terrorferma, there was not much excitement created  
in the car that our Co. was in; it being the hind  
car on the train, but was soon ascertained that we  
had met with quite a smash by running our train into  
the train before us, the train before us was run  
by a Southern engineer who had appeared to be a  
union man and we have considered him as such until  
we got smashed on the cars, it was foggy so that  
the man running the hind engine could not see ahead