

18th Regt
In the Field June 2nd 1864

Major-Genl R Taylor

Kenning West

I received a

letter a few days since, from my Uncle, Mr
Henshaw, informing me that my Father's Overseer
Mr Kearney, had been ordered to report at Camp
Hunter for enrollment. We have thirty working
hands, still remaining on the plantation and three
hundred acres of Corn under cultivation. Our place
is in fact, ~~is~~ one of the few in the Parish of St
Marys where any crop will be raised. My Father
~~is in Texas and my brother is himself in~~
the Army; Mr Kearney is the only white person
remaining on the plantation and has been supplying
the people in the adjoining Parishes with salt.

I would therefore, General, most respectfully request
that Mr Kearney, be allowed to remain upon
the plantation, at least until my Father can
come from Texas and make some other arrange-
ments. I would not, Sir, have taken the liberty to
write to you, had my Father been present to attend
to his interests, with high esteem and respect, General

I have the honor to remain your obedient servt
W Dudley Avery Lieut Col 18th Regt