Dear Mother

We have not gone away from here yet I don't thing we ought to want to get away eather as far as the rations and quarters are concerned. But we didn't come here to guard prisoners We want to see the country. I think we will soon for on dress parade this afternoon we got orders to be ready to march on Wednesday at 5 oclock in the morning with 9 days cooked rations in our haversacks I tell you all the boys are mighty glad over it Direct my letters to camp xxxxxxxxxxx (I made a mistake) S- P- company A 86 regiment OV Camp Chase Ohio forward to Cap Mac Farland the post office man here will forward all letters that are directed to this regiment after it is gone. From all that I can hear we have a very poor field officers ____ explain ____ the boys are busy packing up and sending their cloths home All that I am going to take along is my uniform wich is a dark blue blouse and black pants the pants were _____ to day we will get new ones when we get to Cumberlain where they say we are going if we go there I expect to have a good time There is so much noise in the shanty that I can hardly write at all. I believe I was telling you what I am going to take besides my uniform is one ____ [pair] of dr___ [drawers] 2 pairs of socks two flanel shirts and those shoes that I got at home I have been offered 3 dollers for them the fellows are making such an infernal noise getting ready that I will have to stop I am getting fatter and stronger evry hour

> Give my love to all Your affectionate sun Stephen L. Patterson