

In the Field
Sep 21st 1863

My dear

Mother

We have had a hard fight and had to retreat and leave all of our wounded in the hands of the enemy I just saw Frank Jones and he says his Brother William was killed yesterday we have lost heavy the men fought well but were overpowered are now lying in line of battle awaiting the enemy to attack we have retreated ten miles our left now rests on Chattanooga there was two officers wounded and one killed in our regiment Capt Dornbush and Lieut Grove wounded and Lieut Johnson killed Thank God for sparing me so far

Your most affectionate son

W. L. Patterson

Co H 1st OVI