

(missing: censored?)

I think that Rosecrans was a little if not a great deal to[o] fast in occupying so much of the enemy's territory. There is no necessity at-all for men to suffer as his have done for the bare necessities [necessities] of life and I think he is greatly to blame. He seems to have taken no thought of how he was going to live here and I really believe that his men would have starved as his horses & mules have done by the hundreds and thousands if he had remained in command. If it was doing any good for men to suffer in that way I should not say a word but when it shows that it owing to a lack of administrative qualities on the part of the General I think it is time for him to be removed. The United States is abundantly able and willing to feed and clothe her soldiers well and if it is not done somebody is to blame. It would make many a mother and father shudder to know how their sons are faring or have been at least here and especially those that were wounded at Chickamauga. It is really horrible. I thought the army of the Potomac had enough but it is nothing compared to this. I think though that this Army will soon be straightened up and affairs more better.

I recieved two letters and a paper from you the day after our skirmish and I scarcely need tell you that they were very gladly recieved. We had not recieved any mail of any account since leaving Virginia. I saw the notice of Stewart getting the premium. If I had known that you were going to show that letter about the Xenia girls I should have written more carefully and could have said a great deal more. The boys of both the 11st and 12th Corps still talk of the good time they had a Xenia.

I shall remember about Breene as soon as we are paid which will be about the fifteenth of this month I told Will about that package that was left at Nashville He has not recieved it nor does he know anything about it I do not know when I shall see him again as the 1st has gone back to Chatanooga and I may not get away for some time to go there. I should like very much to order some clothes but no one there has my measure and I do not know how I could get them if they were made. Every thing in the clothing line costs so much here that I cannot afford to buy here \$15.00 for pants \$15.00 for boots and other articles in proportion. If you can send me by any one coming down a pair of high top heavy boots I wish you would please size no 8. Those that we get here are badly made and do not last anytime at all.

As it is getting dark I will have to close this hastily written letter. Remember me to all.

Your Affectionate Son
Robert Patterson