

Field Hospital
Near Big Shanty
Georgia June 28th 1864

My Dear Mother

I am still unfit for duty but I will be able for duty in a few dayes This is the longest siege that I ever had with the lumbago Their is no news hear excep(t) we are banging away at the Rebs from our entrenchments our Corps lost yesterday we lost fifteen hundred to two thousand men in trying to take then enmy first line of works but failed our Division (was not) engaged I have not seen Robert for more that (than) weeke but he must be well or I would have heard from him Capt Feastman of the 93rd OVI killed on the twenty second of the month he was good and brave officer we have lost a great many good officers and men in this campaign I hope it will soon end the Rebles thinks this will be their last hold and they fight desperate they seem to think their cause is lost if they dont hold Atlanta The hospitals are better supyed (supplied) with Sannitary goods than they ever wer(e) before it makes the wounded feel good to think they are remembered at home we have plenty of rations of hard bread and bacon sugar and coffee but the skirvy is braking out among the troops and I am afraid it will stop the Campaign if it is not stoped I do not know their is anything more Give my love to all your most affectionate Son

W L Patterson

To Mrs. Julia J. Patterson
Dayton
Ohio