Officers Hospital No.2. Nashville, Tenn July 5th 1864

My Dear Mother

As this is the day after forth of July I must give you a little description of how we spent the forth in the Hospital Well the first thing in the morning awaykend by a hundred thirty two pound shots from the forts in the Suberbs of the city The next thing Breckfast after this came a band up the street followed by a Regiment Negros they martched pr(e)tty well but have not the stedyness that the whit(e)s have It makes the Rebles mad to see this they almost spit in their faces Well after this about forth of July was about over and the best news I can is that I am getting well and I drew six months pay to day of whitch I will send five hundred and fifty home to morrow so you can look for it at the express office in a day or two Give my love to all Your most affectionate son

W.L. Patterson

To Mrs Julia J Patterson Dayton Ohio

P.S. Direct your letters Officers Hospital No. 2 Nashville Tenn