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Letter from William Patterson to his mother Julia on September 6, 1863

William Patterson

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Sept 6th 1863

the farm, but having an opportunity
until to day I have reopened it
we are now about forty miles from
Stevenson on the south side of
the Tennessee River I think we will
go to Rome Georgia from here
we are now on a look out mount-
ain this is the worst country
we have ever been in the
road is up mountains and down
mountains we have to move
very slow we have to put eight
and twelve mules to a wagon
and fifteen and twenty horses
to an artillery carriage to get
over my second Lieutenant
McCrae was in Dayton
on the twentieth of August
on his way to Columbus to
recruit for the regiment
I have been very well so far
on this march my back
got very sore not being used

to walking but I have got over
that now there is now enemy
nearer than Chattanooga and
mountains are full of deserters
from the Rebel Army

The mail boy is waiting
Good bye

Your most affec
Don M. L. Patterson