

Governors Island, N. Y.

October 21, 1904

Mr. Francis J. Shields

Dear Sir:

Your son Joseph E. Shields who is a member of my company and who has been ill for the last week has been suddenly taken with a turn for the worse. He may not live until morning.

You can come over to the Island tonight or tomorrow with any member of your family. The last boat tonight leaves the dock next to the ~~Island~~ South Ferry at 12.30 tonight, after that you cannot get a boat until morning. This letter will be authority for you or your family to go on boat.

Yours very truly,
Edwin M. Johnson
Capt. & Infy