



Master Willie C. Upson

Plantville

Conn

Care of Mrs. A. Upson

Camp near Fort  
Etham Allen,  
July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1863.

My Dear Son Willie -

It is raining  
here - but still the soldiers re-  
member it is Independence  
Day & they are contriving various  
ways to celebrate it -

You & Frank ought to get  
out your flags - Maybe  
mother will give you a ride  
if the weather is fine -

I hope you & Frank will  
grow up brave boys - Learn  
to do right & hold up your  
heads - Tell the truth & mind  
your mother -

Can you count the chick-  
ens? How many have you  
got?

A band of music is playing  
across the river & on the hill  
near by I hear a quail  
whistling, "more wet" - Just  
now the sun shines out which  
will please a great many  
little folks & some big ones -

Papa wishes he could  
step home to day - It would  
be a comfort to see Millie  
& Grandma & look all  
about the place -

But he hopes you will  
all enjoy the day & be  
very happy -

Millie must help  
mother when Frank is gone  
to school - Millie must be a  
brave boy & not cry for trifles.

From your loving  
father

A. Upton