

Dec. 30, 1862
No. 34

Mrs. Andrew Upson
Plantsville, Conn.

(Envelope is postmarked with a 3-cent stamp. Letter is on one sheet of lined stationery and is folded in half and written on three sides in ink.)

Camp Near Fairfax Station
Dec. 30th, 1862

My Dear Wife –

I seize a few moments to inform you of our welfare – We have as yet recd. nothing since Friday – Then I got yours of the 21st & the next morning when you were “washing hogs” – How vividly that brought Willie to mind & the trouble we had at another time trying to heat water in that streamer – About mails we hear that five days of letters have gone down to Acquia Creek – They will fetch round right some time – Saturday I was on duty – Officer of the Guard – About 9 o’clock P.M. we had orders to prepare 3 days rations & be ready to march next morning – I did not believe we should go – but we did – You know it has always been my luck to enjoy 24 hours picketing or guard duty before any of our long marches – As usual we were relieved at the last moment & fell in with the rest – The morning was beautiful but I could not realize it to be **(Pg. 2)** Sunday & that you were at church – Saturday afternoon we heard firing in the direction of Dumfries – And our movement was a reconnaissance in force to see what the rebels were about – We went down past the Ocognan the same road as formerly & about 3 P.M. halted – Staid an hour or more then faced about a mile or two, encamped for the night, waited till yesterday at 2 P.M. & turned our steps for camp which was reached at 6 - Geary was ahead of us & yelled the rebels a little – One genuine cavalry rebel was caught while we halted Sunday – I cannot stop to write longer because this is an extra mail closes soon – I only know a few minutes since that one was to go – My health is as good as ever – There is considerable diarrhea & some lung fever – The regt. is greatly reduced in numbers – Officers & men are thinning out – Sunday was a very warm day **(Pg. 3)** & made the soldiers sweat like summer – Such weather you know suits me, but I can see that it is not best for the greater part.

Yours hastily –
A. Upson