

Sep 15, 1862
No. 3rd

Mrs. Andrew Upson
Plantsville, Conn.

*(Envelope is postmarked Sep. 15, 1862, Washington D.C. with a 3-cent stamp.
Letter is on one sheet of lined stationery folded in half and is written in ink on four
sides)*

Washington
Sep 14, 1862

My Dear Wife,

I wrote you from Baltimore expecting that you would receive it by Saturday Evening supposing all the while that it was Friday when I wrote – In fact I did not know that yesterday was Saturday until we arrived here & by accident I overheard some of the men talking about Sunday – You must excuse me for not writing from Phil. in which case you would have recd. it before Sunday – We remained there more than six hours expecting to leave every moment; after we had fairly got under way I felt provoked that we had been compelled to waste our time standing in the depot – My other letter brought down our journey to our arrival at Baltimore – I had the pleasure of taking charge of 20 deserters who had been picked up in Ct. & sent on with (**Pg. 2**) our regt. to W. They were a curious lot & afforded some amusement & some trouble, particularly one who was subject to fits & went through two while I was with them – We left Baltimore about 8 in the morning – The 21st came up one half an hour previous – Our journey to W was much delayed our train having to stop several times & switch off for an hour or two that others might pass - I told you of guards being stationed along the road & at all important bridges before we reached Baltimore – They were thicker after leaving the city & soon we saw signs of war that could not be mistaken – We found camps all along the way on the hills – Regiments were drilling – guns were planted, fortifications were visible on the higher elevations especially after we got within 5 miles of this city – One large tract of forest (**Pg. 3**) had been cut down recently to give range to the guns - & from all the encampments we passed there came cheers & warm welcome to which of course a thousand mouths shouted back their gratification – We reached W – about 4 ½ o'clock – After a mean lunch & some considerable delay which we begin to see invariably attends Military matters our line was started & we moved off past the Capitol & eastward about 1 ½ or two miles to the ground which was occupied last year by thousands & tens of thousands – The field is a very large one embracing hundreds of acres generally level & affords a good camping ground but will be sticky in wet weather – We had no tents to cover our heads, so down went the rubber blankets on the ground then ourselves & the blankets over us - As I got little sleep the 1st night (**Pg. 4**) & none the 2nd after leaving N.H. - You may believe I was in the arms of ...somes (?) pretty quick & the next thing I remember was waking up a little before light – I slept like a tot – right straight through & found myself all right in the morning – Did not have cold feet nor think the bed hard –

(9-15-1862)

That was my first bivouac - Thus we were situated this Sunday morning – Today we have done little that was in accordance with the Sabbath – We had a meeting in our street well attended – But aside from this there was next to nothing that reminded one of old habits - About noon the order to pack up & sling knapsacks was given soon we were marched to a different part of the field & there assigned our “places”; about 4 o’clock the tents came & from then till after dark we have been busy in getting them up & settling ourselves for a stay longer or shorter – I am entirely well, have a good appetite expect to get along as well as the best of the boys – All well in our company.

(Upside down on 1st page top margin)

I want you to write me immediately – Feel some anxiety about the baby.

Love to all