

Sept. 28, 1862
No. 8

Mrs. Andrew Upson
Plantsville, Conn.

(Envelope is postmarked Washington, D.C. 29 with a 3-cent stamp. Letter is on two sheets of lined stationery and is written on four sides in ink.)

Camp Chase, Va.
Sep 28th, 1862

My dear Wife,

Yours of the 24th & 25th both arrived last night – I was glad enough to be favored but wish the 1st written had come the night previous – I was disappointed enough then not receiving any – As to your blue times they will probably come along now & then – I don't know as any recommendations will avail to prevent them. I expect to write you twice a week if possible – Where the time is coming from to do all the correspondence that is expected puzzles me to foresee – We are like to have plenty of work at drilling xc, xc - Then the duties devolved upon us require constant care & presence – But I shall begin this week & try to remember some of the old friends & acquaintances – The conveniences for writing as you know are diminished very much by tent life – The constant interruptions are enough to confuse a fellow – I have a good big boil exactly on the front of my cheek bone – the same cheek that (**Pg. 2**) was favored before – It pained me much for 3 days & nights but now has come to a head & probably will not trouble a great while longer – It makes a beautiful addition to my face especially for dress parade – Otherwise I am entirely well & begin to enjoy the evolutions – I wish I only had charge of Southington Co. I am sure it could be made the best in the Regt. In some respects it is now – but Capt. W. is not quick enough by half for our boys – They like him & so do I - But it is plain as daylight to me that our progress would be double its present rate if only he had the steam & dispatch that his position enables one to exercise so well - This I tell you confidentially whatever I write on this subject at any time, I wish you to keep to yourself - Wiard is bitter & all the rest are well save some trifling looseness - Our Chaplain was on hand today & gave a short discourse at 10 A.M. He is not any relation to Jo Twichell but may do well – I wait for further acquaintance before giving any opinion of his merits – This is the most quiet Sunday we have seen so far – David & I went out to the head of the stream that runs by our camp this morning & washed up – I smoked like a tea kettle - a good sign – But it was good to clean up – We have to walk in clouds of dust every day – Our boys have dug a well 20 feet deep in order to get water handy – But it is so dry I doubt about their being rewarded by plenty of water – We got a big mail last night 68 letters for the Co. E – How their faces brightened when I sung out to them fall in for mail – You speak about coming (**Pg. 3**) down here – I should be delighted to see you if you can get away – It would afford me great satisfaction if you could take such a jaunt for your own satisfaction – I fear however that coming down here would be only a partial satisfaction – It is a matter of doubt whether I could get a chance

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to spend much time with you. Nor do I know how long we shall stay here – We may move tomorrow & we may not for a month – The conveniences for getting out here by visitors are scanty - a pass is necessary to cross Long Bridge & omnibuses do not run - But the thing can be done; & if you & John & Maria are disposed to come to Washington do so – Should we be gone you will still see sights - As to father you must stand up for your own rights – If you wish to go out do so as often as you please – If you wish the horse take it & have your own way if it is a reasonable one –

Wish you would tell me about the bills & other money matters whenever you have anything to do with them – There is a bill at Theodore Lewis; made by Aroma which perhaps I did not tell you of – I hope those store obligations & other little matters will be attended to as soon as possible – But don't let all (*Pg. 4*) your money go- keep some on hand for emergencies – About the cows, there is stuff enough in the barn – tell him to feed out as much as necessary & not allow them to go hungry – As to pickles & grapes they would go finely – Still I don't think half so much of those things as I expected to – When Ida told me about picking the clusters my mouth watered for a taste of Diana's – But you need not calculate about sending me much but letters – Wait & see whether the box now on the way arrives before shipping again unless some one is coming direct – I have no need of more clothes at present, particularly if we are to be deprived of our trunks – Tell me all about matters, keep cheerful & enjoy yourself at the best possible rate – We had a good meeting tonight. Perhaps we were singing the same good old hymns you have enjoyed – But good night tattoo has beat & Capt. W. likes to go to bed early –

Truly Yours
A. Upson