

Nov. 3d, 1863  
Mrs. Andrew Upson  
Plantsville, Conn.

*(Envelope is postmarked Nashville, Ten. Nov. 6, 1863 with a 3- cent stamp. Letter is on one sheet of stationery folded in half and is written on four sides in ink.)*

Stevenson, Ala.  
Nov. 3d, 1863

My Dear Wife –

It is now 4 P.M. We have had a very warm day – A faint sultry heat has made us almost wilt – I have thought of our bracing northern winds & pure water & wished I could get a whiff of one & a drink of the other – Would give, well perhaps the amount need not be mention, for a glass of good worked cider – Next should go in for a mess of picked codfish, with pickles & bread & butter – In truth wife, I never knew the comforts of northern homes & civilization until we reached Stevenson – The sights & smells around here coupled with the ability of sutlers to afford us something a little better than bacon & hard tack provided we can pay the bill are quite enough to neutralize whatever sources of comfort remain - I fairly hate to stir out so repulsive is everything around – But then there is one place where we can get a draught of pure water – There is a fine spring back of the village (**Pg. 2**) a clean half mile from our camp, & I manage to fill my canteen only there – Have been up after dark through mud & ditches to get a fresh suck before going to bed & thought of Col. Kimball's pump the while – But I don't believe this water is near so good as that was – Nor is so good as that from my own free stone well beneath the maple trees – As for news here I can give you little – Apples are worth 5cts. a piece & dead horses can be had for nothing – The later are most abundant – the former most in demand except the money to buy them – No mail yet since Saturday night & no trains north today, an engine being off the track somewhere up the road – I & my Lt. have a tent to ourselves now – We shall go to work on muster rolls tomorrow morning – Yesterday I drew Clothing xc for the company & the issue of that has kept me partially busy – Have got along very well – like the men better & better as I become acquainted with them – Sunday I had one sent in who deserted from the company two days before the regt. left New haven (**Pg. 3**) He was arrested last September, sent to Fort Trumbull & since then has been on the way to the regt! Says he is ready now to do his duty – I do not know what will be done with him – Probably he will be put on duty & serve his three years, in which case you see we have the advantage of him by considerable over a year – We have changed the location of our camp & a battery has taken our place at the earthwork –

David & Houston are still at the hospital but both are getting along – David has been down to see me today – quite a walk for him – He says the overcoat I loaned was stolen by some of the 5<sup>th</sup> Conn. at Cowan – Soldiers will take things, that is a large number of them get light fingered in respect to needful articles & respect no ones rights provided they can safely gratify their own selfishness – But with such weather as today has

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brought overcoats would be an intolerable burden – I guess changes here are great in the climate, though not so sudden as with us – Saturday was an exceedingly chilly disagreeable day – This (*Pg. 4*) one has made us think of lemonade & ice cream – The sun has set beautifully since I began this, for many interruptions have happened – My thoughts go often homeward & especially do I wonder whether father is still in the land of the living – It is a great satisfaction to me that you are so attentive to his comfort, for I know it is in your power to please him & so alleviate his sufferings – I always thought mother had more confidence in you than in her other daughter & while she may exert herself well to attend to his many wants you can super add various little things that will go a great ways to break the monotony of a sick bed room sooner – If he is still alive bear to him my most tender sympathies & love – God grant him peace & the full joys of a heavenly future – Charles Clark, who came down with me from Nashville, is still here – He is waiting for some quartermasters on the way hither – He had his picture taken in Washington - It is a fine one & you have the right to request one copy of his wife – By the way where is the mate to that one of yourself I saw at Willard's? Now don't try to pull the wool over my eyes, for I am certain sure he showed me the best likeness of the face I have so often kissed, & would jump to do the same again, that ever got before me – What makes you so silent? Did not I write once before of this matter? Come, woman, Eves daughter, no games now – your picture! Your picture! I say – But it is time for supper – A word to the babies – a word to you – Father loves all –

A. Upson