

July 16, 1863
No. 116
Mrs. Andrew Upson
Plantsville, Conn.

(White envelope with a three cent stamp, postmarked Georgetown D.C. Jul 16 1863.
Letter is on one sheet of lined stationery folded in half and is written on four sides in ink.)

Union Battalion near Fort Ethan Allen
July 17th, 1863 –

My Dear Wife –

For two days now no mail has been recd by any of the officers – That for the men has come along – We think it very strange – There may be nothing out of the way, but such a fact could hardly occur twice again – In your last, that of Sunday Evening, you speak of writing next day & also mention the probability of Wm. Js. having something to say – I think you did write & probably others, but some miscarriage has happened – You spoke of sending some money; that makes me a little uneasy – Perhaps tomorrow will furnish more favors – But waiting a whole day now seems (Pg. 2) a great while – Though last Monday that the week could not end with out giving me some glimpses of a better state of affairs – But it is like to end without any such good fortune – The weather is very gloomy – We are having thunder & rain everyday – Last night it poured down as if knows how to pour here in Va. I have thought of that rye crop & should not be disappointed now to hear that it is much injured – Bad weather for harvest – There is no news here & you can believe it is under the circumstances pretty black encouragement to think over the condition we are in – Craw has just gone to Washington – He will not return till to-morrow – Is looking for money from home sent to the Express Office – If he gets a remittance it would (Pg. 3) be just like him to make for Norwalk – I prefer to hang on - & if everything turns out bad Upson won't sit him down & cry by a long sight –

Aroma must be a budget of fun since his wonderful experience in the army – I venture he was a soft brick – but then his good nature doubtless saved him from extreme teasing – Almost every company has one scapegoat – If he can be of any service use but don't pay him high – He will work cheap & eat freely unless soldiering has enlarged his mind of the expense of his stomach. Assure him of my gratification at his safe escape from the perils of war – Hope he will be an honor to his name. The biggest rebel of all is called Lee – We ought to have one distinguished patriot as a counterpart & I hope (Pg. 4) the great Confederate Robert will yet be ashamed of his own doings when he hears of the exploits achieve by the Union Aroma –

We have several 9 months men in this battalion – The time of some is expiring nearly every day – They are sent home promptly – The 27th goes to Ct next week – Capt. Birdsall, who has been in command of this battalion, leave to-morrow – Another Captain will doubtless be sent to take his place from the Convalescent Camp – Have not heard from any of my boys there since leaving not from Millard or the regt. – The Press was welcome & looking at your picture is the only real comfort I have now – It is cool enough

(7-17-1863)

for a fire – Tell me about the draft – I have recd nothing from Mrs. Granniss since writing her at Stafford C. House – So she is mistaken about my indebtedness

(Written in left margin side ways on first page)

This is a short note on poor paper – But it comes from your husband & his love is true

– A. Upson