

Master Willie C. Upson
Plantsville, Conn.
Care of Mrs. A. Upson

(Yellow envelope with a three cent stamp postmarked Washington, D.C. Letter is on one sheet of unlined stationery folded in half and is written on two sides in ink.)

Camp near Fort Ethan Allen
July 4th, 1863 –

My Dear Son Willie –

It is rainy here – but still the soldiers remember it is Independence Day & they are contriving various ways to celebrate it –

You & Frank ought to get out your flags – Maybe mother will give you a ride if the weather is fine –

I hope you and Frank will grow up brave boys – Learn to do right & hold up your heads – Tell the truth & mind your mother –

Can you count the chickens? How many have you got? (Pg. 2)

A band of music is playing across the river & on the hill near by I hear a quail whistling, “More wet” – Just now the sun shines out which will please a great many little folks & some big ones –

Papa wishes he could step home today – It would be a comfort to see Willie & Grandma & look all about the place –

But he hopes you will all enjoy the day & be very happy –

Willie must help mother when Frank is gone to school – Willie must be a brave boy & not cry for trifles.

From your loving father,
A. Upson