

Aug. 12, 1863

No. 131

Mrs. Andrew Upson

Plantsville, Conn.

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

Camp Distribution

Aug. 12th, 1863

My Dear Wife –

Yours of Sunday evening & also the one conveying Col. Wooster's communication arrived today – Recd. too one from Gov. Buckingham, dated July 20th – It is curious how the documents relating to that matter went traveling over the country – Did you not think Col. Wooster rather flattering? He was more high falutin than I expected – But one thing is certain, he has had fair opportunities to know all about me – Gov. Buckingham says Col. Ross was about to make the proper representations at the War Dept. Says “if you are not already reinstated, let me know & I will do anything my time allows” – What Capt. W. relates of Ross is curious enough – He is rather crooked I fear – You need not trouble Wm. J. any more about the case – Had I known of Col. Wooster's efforts should not have troubled the Gov. – But no harm will come of that – Sooner or later I shall be restored & go back to the 20th – As for the promotion, my impression is that Ross though highly commendatory, will be influenced by uncertain considerations in recommending appointments – If the matter was left to Col. W. (**Pg. 2**) I feel very sure he would remember me – But what ever comes these testimonials are very gratifying & speak so positively that there is no mistaking their significance – How do you suppose, for instance, the copperhead slanderers of Southington would range their fertile fields of slander for some new charge? Let them rage & bark – They will overwhelm themselves with shame – I should have written to the Capt. but did not know how soon he might be ordered back – Why don't our letters get through in two days as formerly? That list of dismissed officers I have perused – Guess there is some mistake about Capt. Stevens – He has been in Washington since last April – But visiting houses of amusements & fancy women is quite common – I know several in this camp who were caught in that situation – Don't feel much sympathy for officers dismissed under such circumstances – Whoring is far more common than I had imagined – Men sit down & coolly relate their experience with lewd women as though it was all proper – The revolutions of depravity in our men high & low lead me almost to tremble for the fate that await us as a nation – Perhaps these things are no worse than they always have been – But human nature is destitute of goodness – Sin & crime are everywhere & how can we wonder at Gods judgments! The amazement is rather that we are not all swept away – The other night an officer was sent to our tent from Hd. qts. He introduced himself – said he came from Washington, was caught with the girls ex. & hence got ordered over here – I did not enter into his conversation very much – He described me, as I have since learned, as a very gruff fellow

(8-12-1863)

– My respect for such like him is certainly small –

(Upside down on first page lower margin.)

Lieut. Smith returns his compliments – I consider him a native gentleman.

(Side ways on first page right margin.)

Henry Bishop has been put in the invalid corps – He went to Meridian Hill yesterday –

(Upside down on first page in upper margin.)

I bought Bleak.... House in Washington - This is a hasty note – You must excuse its shortness – Our mess is going finely – Carter is a bully cook –

Yours Ever –

A. Upson