

Aug. 31<sup>st</sup>, 1863  
Mrs. Andrew Upson  
Plantsville, Conn.

*(Yellow envelope postmarked Washington, D.C. Sept. 2, 1863 with a three-cent stamp. Letter is on one sheet of stationery folded in half and is written on four sides in ink.)*

Camp of the 20<sup>th</sup>  
Near Kelly's Ford, Va.  
Aug. 30<sup>th</sup>, 1863

My Dear Wife –

Yours of the 24<sup>th</sup> was recd. two days since – Expect to get another tonight – We have just as lovely a Sabbath morning as ever shone upon Eden – Things are quiet & we shall read, write & meditate at leisure – The first number of the War Record was recd. here last Thursday – A copy for each company was sent by the publishers as a sample & to induce subscriptions – The project strikes all favorably & I doubt not will succeed – On some accounts it is a pity the enterprise was not started sooner – I think it must enlist hearty support at home, & among the Conn. Vols. There is talent & incident enough to make the respective volumes rich in interesting matter –

A dozen copies or even half a dozen sent as Mr. Smith propose to the company would enable every one of E. to keep informed of its contents –

*(Pg. 2)* It is eminently proper that Conn. should embalm her heroes in this way – There never has been any too much State pride in character & institutions – I hope this journal may be the means of awakening throughout the Commonwealth a better disposition & higher aspirations – You of course will seek the various articles pertaining to each regiment & I need not refer to the one on the 20<sup>th</sup> by Suff – Capt. Post –

There is no news in camp – I have drawn up a statement for the War Dept. which both Cols. Ross & Wooster accepted as fit & to the point – It has started on the road up – Ross approves officially & so it goes along the ladder of Brigade, Division & Corps commanders until it passes Gen. Meade & thence gets access to the Great Hd. Qus.

If no one of these twinkling or shining stars proves adverse it will arrive in the presence of the Chief War Dictator, Sec. Stanton in the course of a month & about the time the leaves are falling I may hear that the *(Pg. 3)* request was recd. so & so, read – Disapproved & respectfully returned – or striking the big official in a favorable mood he may signify assent & in Special Order 500 & some more, A.G.O. xc. & xc. proceed to say that 1<sup>st</sup> Lieut. Upson dismissed at such a time & reinstated at some other time on conditions is now fully restored – I have got sick of the whole thing & heartily rejoice that I am so situated as to lay the business pertaining to it upon the mouldy self of red tape – Positively I do not care enough about it now to write three words to another official – Ross & Wooster are exceedingly cordial & appear to entertain good feelings towards me – I have not recd. from either any reproofs or aught that was inconsistent with the utmost gentility – Ross & Beardsley just now are not wasting any

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love on each other – However such things are trifling – We all feel good over the news from Charleston – Beauregard's indignant protest against being insulted by guns at a range of five miles excites (*Pg. 4*) continual fun – We can only laugh at his impudence – The Rebellion is crumbling & must tumble before long into ruinous disaster – The reb pickets along the river are exceedingly desirous to get hold of our papers – They come down & try all arts to obtain a copy – Communications is strictly forbidden but there is more or less by talking – The last day I was on at the post opposite my reserve they tried various arts to induce an exchange of words & journals – We kept wary – had to hold our tongues although desirous to tell them of the shells dropped into Charleston –

Our living is a little improved, potatoes composing the additional dish – But no fruit – I would jump a rod for some sweet apples or a watermelon – A piece of pie & some good bread & butter would not go bad – But you will expect another letter tomorrow – Charlie Clark has just come - & here goes this – You are probably getting ready for church – Wish I could go too – We have no chaplain – Had a prayer meeting last Sabbath evening & shall meet again tonight –

Love Ever –  
Yours A. Upson