

Sep. 28
No – 160
Mrs. Andrew Upson
Plantsville, Conn.

(Yellow envelope is postmarked ...Petterman Va. Sep. 29 with a 3-cent stamp. Letter is on one sheet of stationery folded in half and is written on three sides in pencil.)

Balt. & Ohio R.R.
Sep. 28th, 1863

My Dear Wife –

We have just arrived at Grafton - 280 miles from Baltimore – Have not stopped except for wood & water for the engine or to pass other trains – Last night we were served coffee at Martinsburgh & again this morning at New Creek - It is very tedious riding – We have boxcars which are provided with a row of seats lengthwise around the outside & one through the middle – Of course with 40 men to the car we are rather close – During the day some ride on the top – but at nights all are within – It is impossible to get much rest - We can not lie down at full length – From this point we take the Wheeling branch & shall cross the Ohio at Benwood & thence by cars to Cincinnati – So we are like to get about as much car riding as will satisfy desire for some time - **(Pg. 2)** Since writing the above I find we are to be served to coffee here – We have had some most romantic scenery while crossing the Alleghenies – From Martinsburgh to New Creek we traveled by night – But as it was morning we could distinguish the outline – However our eyes get so full of cinders that it is painful to keep looking – I think this route rather surpasses the N.Y. & E. for grand views – There are several tunnels, one 3/4 of a mile long. When we came to the highest ridge the train was divided in to three. Each with a heavy engine & thus in close company we ascended the heavy grades – Arriving at the top the trains were gradually united into one & we descended to this side – The route is very crooked which adds much to the interest of the passage over these great variations of nature – All have enjoyed the ride very much so far. But **(Pg. 3)** if we are not a set of sleepy fellows about the time of our arrival in Nashville there is no betting what deprivation of rest we shall not be able to stand – But no one complains – All were glad to get out of Va. – though we are still in the state –

I have no time for more if this goes now – The mail is just here.