

February 1, 1864

*(Letter with no envelope is on one sheet of lined stationery and is written on two sides in pencil. It was dictated by Capt. Upson and written by Private S.M. Smith.)*

Tracy City, Tenn.

Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>, 1864

My Dear Wife

It is a beautiful day the 12<sup>th</sup> since I was wounded. I am alive and for ought I can see shall continue illustrating how low and weak man can be reduced & still survive. My organization is performing its functions as well as it could be expected and I am able to think of you all with ardent desire for your comfort. However my body will survive its vigorous action is hard to state but my changed quarters are much more favorable and I hope at the end of another week I can make statements of great joy to you all. You speak of Miles' bill. I have lost all of my papers here. You must get it of him again. You need not send me any money. I can get all I wish of kind friends. I have recd. letters from you down to the 21<sup>st</sup> & thank you for their consoling contents.

Wife, do not be to much discouraged by this severe blow cast upon us. I pray God for his mercy to us & that we may together thank him for his goodness. You must manage family affairs entirely for two or three weeks. I trust your judgment as ever. God bless you my dear wife. Of course as soon as these wounds begin to heal I ought to assume a condition of new strength. But the building up must be very slow. I think of (**Pg. 2**) Ida, Frank – Willie & Mary. How often I think of obligations under which I rest to my faithful wife. But there are joys for us yet.

Good bye

A. Upson

pr SMS

PS. The last letter contained fifty cents & a previous one sixteen stamps.