

*[Letter with no envelope is on one sheet of lined stationery and is hand printed on three sides in ink to Capt. Upson's son Frank.]*

Cowan, Tenn.  
Oct. 18<sup>th</sup>, 1863

My Dear Frank –

Last night a little kitten came to our tent – I intend to keep it for a pet – As I write she sits close by my side and purrs – She is black and white: her tail is all black – I am going to call her Rosy –

The cars make much noise close by our quarters – As many as 12 or 15 trains pass here every day – They run nights too – The water tank is near by and the engines stop to fill – They whistle and scream so loud that it annoys us –

South East of here there is a range of mountains - To get over these the track is built on an inclined plane. But one engine is not able to draw up a train – An extra engine is kept at this station which goes behind each **[Pg. 2]** train and pushes – It is called the pusher – It is a funny looking thing –

Saturday morning I walked up towards the mountains – Birds were singing sweetly – It seemed like spring – One I saw was entirely red – Squirrels also were chattering in the trees – There are said to be wild cats and bears and deer and wild turkeys in these mountains –

I suppose your flowers are all killed except the chrysanthemums – Do those look pretty? I have not seen any grape vines about here – Guess they do not flourish as farther north –

How far have you and Willie dug into the bank this season? Hope you will not uproot the apple tree – Have you a wheelbarrow as well as Willie? If not don't quarrel.

**[Pg. 3]** Now that you have vacation there will be time to do many things – I guess mother can find several little jobs for you two boys, and you must assist her in every possible way –

The men of Co. E. are busy this morning fixing up their winter quarters – They will have snug houses in two or three days – But the houses are small, not much like those in which you live – Soldiers learn to get along with a very small cabin –

I hope you and Willie will never have to engage in war – Peace is a great blessing and those are wicked men who stir up war and fighting –

I wish you to write me often – Accept my best wishes, and render the same to mother, grandmother – Aunt Julia Ann. – Aroma and all the family.

Your affectionate father,

A. Upson -