Cumberland Field, Oct. 2nd, 1864.

Dear Aunt,

It is some time now since I have heard from you. As you see we are still at Cumberland. Have been here four weeks to day. It has been a very pleasant time. I assure you after our long summer travels, but we are all beginning to tire of it, and long for active service in the field again. I wish we were with Sheridan for having traveled the road before, and become somewhat acquainted with it, we could go over it a second time with more pleasure.

The last heard of him he was at Stanwix and I should think had about sized up Early's Army. I only fear that the two will gather in force enough to prevent his further march and drive him back. I understand however, that he (Sheridan) is receiving reinforcements, so I hope he will be able to follow up the rebels to Richmond. The great disadvantage he has to labor under is the difficulty of getting supplies. I have heard nothing about Joseph. I suppose he is either if not killed or wounded in the recent battles. I wrote to him a short time
before the battle of the 19th but have not
no answer as yet.

My hopes are much stronger now for
the speedy close of the war than they ever were
before. And I have no doubt that every one sees
it. The late victories of Sherman, Sheridan,
and the advantages gained by Grant cannot
but dishearten and weaken the Rebels very
much. If the men at home do their duty and
put Abraham in the presidential chair again,
and I think they will! it will put a stop to
the war in a short time.

Last Friday, Joseph Broest, Co A, 1st N. Y. Cav
was h ung for murder, in the presence of all the
soldiers here.

I have not heard from Lyburn but one
since he left home that was while at Cincinnati.
He said then, that he was going to Camp Nelson.
By the next day, I have written him two
letters since then but have not heard had
one in return. If you have heard from
him since that time I wish you would
let me know how and where he is.

The thing I was to receive from home have
not come yet, and in fact I know nothing
of them. The last letter I had from them
was written 3 weeks ago, and since then I
have written 3 or 4 letters to have them
send them on, but can not get a word in return. We were paid last week, and I sent some money home to you, and left him to pay you the two hundred dollars I borrowed last spring. I am sorry that I could not send it to you before.

When you write to me direct to Cumberland Mt., for I think if letters are not so distant they go up the valley to Sheridan.

We are having very easy times now, live very well, have good quarters, and not much to do. Baitshakes are very high, and it costs from 5 to 6 dollars a week to live, and then it is hunting extra. Grapes are abundant and cheap, but that is the only article of fruit that is so.

Give my love to all, and let me hear from you soon.

Your nephew

M. B. Westcott.

Post Aug 21st 1863.