

February 7th 1918.

Marie, my Sweetheart:-

I got another letter from you yesterday - as sweet as it could be. Full of love for me, and thoughtfulness, and just as brave as it could be, also. I think you are the most wonderful little woman on earth and am so proud of you. It is sure, that I am the luckiest man in the world, to have a woman like you for a wife.

Oh! Honey dear, I love you. I love you more than any words can tell. I love you and love you. You say in your letters that you want me to write every day. That is not possible dear, but I will come as near to it as I can. I couldn't write while on the ship.

Major Syle was very strict about it and even asked us not to keep diaries. It is all right too, because we no doubt would unconsciously write things that we should not, and if by any chance such things

should get into the enemy's hands it would be unfortunate. But now that our line of communication is established we will hear from each other fairly frequently dearest and we must always remember that no news is good news. In the army that is a very safe rule. The Government has a system which will inform you at once if anything goes wrong with me so you need never worry if you don't hear from me for a time.

At last, my dear, I am relieved as mess officer. An order came out this morning relieving me and appointing Stanley in my place. That is the best news I have had for a long time. I have had all the hardest part of it though moving the men since we left 1

Fort Harrison. It has sure^v been some
job giving the men their meals on
the road but I got along fine with
it and really enjoyed the experience.
It has been a valuable experience
too and now that I am out of it
I'm glad I had it. It is another very
beautiful day. The sun is shining
brightly and every body is in good
spirits. American troops are coming
in all the time - a steady flow
of them. My estimates while I was
in the States, were not at all
wrong. We sure are proud of our
army too. They look mighty fine
and there are many very inspirit-
ing sights. We see lots of aero-
planes here. This is all very interest-
ing but I'll be glad - Oh! how
glad I'll be - when I can leave
it and return to my family. I

never will leave you when I get
back. Where are we going on our
honeymoon dear? Have you made
up your mind yet? Where ever
we go we will have a wonderful
time together won't we dearest?

None of your boxes or packages
have arrived yet. They say it
takes a long time for them to
come through. Don't bother to
send any sugar dear. There is
lots of it over here. The food in
the army is plentiful and good,
and people who have relatives over
here should not worry about
their food. It couldn't be better.
The men are kept warm and are
well fed.

I am perfectly well. I gained
weight while on the ship but
have lost it all again, we have

been working so hard here. One thing is certain, the army is no place for a loafer. There is work to be done every minute by everybody and it has to be done. I don't believe I ever will be able to sleep late in the morning again. I have the early rising habit.

How is dear little Brother's ear getting along? How I would love to see the two kiddies. Don't let them forget me dearest. I am not afraid little Marie will but Brother is so young he may. Is he growing a lot? I probably won't know either of them when I see them next. I am glad Warren Snow, Chet Idius and Howard Parker have at last gone into the army. They deserve some

credit for it and I wish them
all well.

Well I will close until later
dear. Give my love to everybody.
Kiss Ted dear and the babies and
tell them Daddy loves them.

With all my love sweetheart,
and with millions of kisses
to my own dear wife. I will
write again tomorrow soon. I
love you. I love you.

"A.B."

From

1st St. Ansel B. Smith U.S.A.

Exec. Hosp. #2. U.S.A.

A.B.