

February 20th 18.

My Darling, Darling Wife:-

I am so happy tonight that I can hardly contain myself, for I have had fairly recent news from you and it was not bad news either. I received your letters written between January 16th and 28th today and they were all wonderful letters. I want to tell you now

Dear, that I surely appreciate the way you are standing all your hardships, and that I think you are one of the most wonderful and brave women in the world.

You don't say a thing in any of your letters that might worry me and I won't permit myself to read between the lines as I might, because I can also see from what you tell me that our friends there are proving their

worth and showing you that
they are friends indeed. I wish
I could write you the long
newsy letters you write to me,
but postal regulations over
here are so strict that our stock
of conversation which is not
"defendu" is very limited. We
cannot mention the names of
places in which we are or have
been - we cannot write about
military matters - and even the
above restrictions are so compre-
hensive that you can see it leaves
very little to write about. But
I don't fret, and I know
that you are glad to get my
letters no matter how little they
say. Your letter, written on

our wedding^r anniversary, brought
tears to my eyes, a lump in my
throat and sweet memories of the
wonderful times we have had on
that day each year since we have
been married, especially the last.
We did have a good time didn't
we dear? I remember every detail
of the party as clearly as if it
were yesterday. I am so much re-
lieved to ~~hear~~ that Brother's ear
is better. Poor dear little chap
he has sure had a hard time with
it and I have been very worried
about him. The things that they
say are cute. I would give any
thing in the world to see the two
dear kiddies. Send me a picture
of them as soon as you have

one made dear. I don't know
what I'd do if I didn't have these
pictures I have. I have a large
shelf over my bunk and my
family pictures are there where
I can see them and have my
little visits and talks with
them. They are wonderful pict-
ures too.

I am so glad you got my cable
and that it made you feel so much
better. I sent it at the earliest
possible moment and will
send another when I can get
the C.O.'s permission. As I
told you in one of my previous
letters, he is opposed to our
using the cables at all and

forbids it except in cases of dire necessity. Poor old Fisher. I am so sorry for the lad. He must be more seriously ill than any of us realized if he is losing flesh so rapidly. I hope sincerely that by this time he is away from the Hospital and out of the Army, for he should be in a place where he could regain his health and strength if it is possible. I am so sorry dearest, that you have been having more sick headaches and more trouble with your skin, but glad to hear that your stomach trouble is better.

I know that you are in good hands and am sure that if you will be faithful, Dr. Brotherhood will fix you up all right.

The coal shortage there must be a fright. The news clippings you sent me indicate as much. However I am again confident that Mr. Wallace will take care of you and so don't worry. Not one of the packages you sent me has reached me yet except one box of Huyler's chocolate, and believe me that was welcome. The others are no doubt safe and will reach me in due course of time. As far as the typewriter is concerned, I will let it go.

It might get ⁴ lost on the way
over and after all, I can get
along without it very nicely. I
am "much obliged" for looking
the matter up, anyway, dear.
In one of your packages to
me I will be glad to have
you put some of my B.V.D.
underwear suits. I will need
them this summer. Don't send
more than four suits.

So the units sailed. Well
I hope Dr. Smith finds him-
self as well prepared for
his work as he will need to
be, for it is entirely out of
his line. I hope I meet them

over here somewhere and it is
not at all improbable that I
will. I am mighty glad to be
with this unit even if I have
only a Lieutenant's Commission.
I have no military ambitions
and only joined the army be-
cause I felt it was my duty.
So advancement to me is a
purely secondary consideration.
I know I will get it if I
deserve it and I am going
to try to deserve it. Dr. Smith
could never offer me as much as
I can get with this outfit for I
know that it is one of the best
Medical units in our Army and
I'm right glad to be on the staff.

But not half so glad darling as
I will be to get off from it.
I don't want to, and wouldn't
leave until I feel that my
"bit" has been done and the
thing is all over, but when I
can leave and return to my dear
wife and children, I'll be the
happiest man in the world. It
will be like starting life all over
again, won't it love dear?

Oh! Honey, I love you so much.
You are so sweet and good, and so
brave. You are the most wonder-
full little woman in all the
world and I know you are
loving me every minute. Well,
I want you to know my dear

that "Somewhere in France"
your husband is loving you
and the babies, with all his
love, every minute of his life.
So let's try to be contented with
conditions which can't be helped!
You can realize now more than
you ever have, how necessary
it was for me to volunteer. I
do, every day of my life. And
you and I must continue to
to do our bit, until the war
is over and the right side has
won. God grant it may be
over soon. Your prayers have
always been answered darling,
and you must keep on pray-
ing that the war will end
soon and that we may all

be reunited in good health. Well it is now 9:00 O'clock and I must retire for I had a hard day today and another coming tomorrow. We expect a visit from the Commander in chief tomorrow and are going to show him our outfit officered by Reserve officers that is a real outfit.

Give my regards to all my dear friends. Kiss my babies and Ted (God bless them) and tell Ted I'm glad she's such a good girl. And Oh! Honey Dear! with all the love you and I have ever been able to imagine or conceive; with worlds of it, and millions of

Kisses, I wish you goodnight
and pleasant dreams and may
the Good Lord watch over you
all and keep you for your
Daddy,

From St. A. B. Smith M. P. C.
Evac. Hosp #2. U.S.A.
A. E. F.