

October 23 d, 1918.

My Dearest Wife:-

I wonder if you will pardon the typewriter again. I have a different reason for using it this morning, on which I am a little bit ashamed to confess. I have a lot of work to do, but ^{was} wait to write to you before I get too busy at it, and when I am at work on the typewriter, it looks as if I were very busy at important matters, connected with my office, so you see Dear that I am not above resorting to a sort of camouflage to attain my ends. It is quite apparent that the rush we are at present struggling with is not going to let up for some time yet, and it is getting worse all the time, for some of our own men are getting sick. This leaves us very short of men to do the necessary detail work around camp, and that is what is bothering me so much at present. It seems at times, as if I would go crazy, trying to keep everybody satisfied ^{and} good natured at the same time. It is a hard job, but so far I have gotten along all right.

The news from the front continues to be excellent. The last German note is going to be a failure, thank the Lord. They will soon realize that one thing, and one thing only will relieve the situation, and that is unconditional surrender. That is all we over here want to see, even if the war has to go another year to get it. They are being consistently licked at all points and there is nothing else to be considered than the above settlement. I am personally inclined to think that it will come in a very short time, too.

It rained all day yesterday, but is clear and pleasant today. It is almost as warm as a summer day. It does not take long for this sort of weather to dry out the mud, and I most certainly hope that we have a lot of it, for it is this sort of weather that will win the war in a hurry. Men simply can't fight in mud up to their necks. And nobody who has not seen French mud, has any idea of what mud really is. It is simply indescribable.

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I recieved no mail from you yesterday/ much to my disappointment, for it has now been nearly a week since I have recieved any. I am going to be very much worried , if your next letters do not contain word that you have recieved the last box that I sent to you. I can't imagine why I haven't recieved word to that effect, for Rosy has heard that a package he sent at the same time, has been recieved , and s o have some of the others around here. I am not going to take any chances with the things I have now, unless you recieved the last O.K. I have not yet recieved the last package from Harrod's of London. Something has happened to keep it from coming through I suppose. Many things can happen, of course, and on the whole there can be no complaint of the mail service over here, for it is operating under great difficulties, and we must make many allowances.

I am now faced with the delightful prospect of having some Dental work done. You know how much I enjoy that. I have two or three teeth that must be filled, and the best part of it is, that I will have to have it all done over when I get home, for the Dentist here can only put in silver amalgam fillings. That is nice isn't it? I have a slight cold at present, but in every way am feeling fine, and so far have not been touched by the big epidemic of grippe that is going around at the present time. I will be very careful, and if I should ever have it will get in the hospital at once and have myself well taken care of. There are a good many cases here now.

Well Dearest I must close. I will write again tomorrow. I have to make rounds of wards and details, and then do about fifty dressings and I go on duty in the operating room at one o'clock, while taking care of the Detachment affairs all the time. Outside of that I have nothing whatever to do today, so may have a lot of time to loaf. Give my dearest love and a lot of kisses to Glad and the dear little ones. Tell them that Daddy is thinking of them with love , every minute of the day. With all my dearest love to you Sweetheart, I love you. I love you. Goodbye untill tomorrow.

A.B.

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