

October 30th 1918

My Dearest Wife :-

I wonder if this day will ever be forgotten? I presume it may sometime but I doubt it for there is no doubt that it is a great day. Austria Hungary has surrendered and now Germany stands alone - the last of the enemies of Democracy which the Allies have to subjugate. Believe me it will not be long now until Germany will be following the example of Bulgaria, Austria and Turkey, and terminating an absolutely hopeless fight by complete surrender. Think what wonders have been accomplished by the Allies arms this summer! It has so far surpassed our fondest expectations that we hardly know

what to expect next. Anything
may be expected. I personally
expect to see the war end by
the first of January. I may be
greatly disappointed but it is
inconceivable to me that it can
go beyond that point with Ger-
many - the sole remaining ad-
versary - in such a precarious
political and economic condition.
I expect to be home some time
next summer dearest. How does
that sound? Bad, I guess.
I am very happy dear girl because
I can now see the definite end of
this affair and I know that our
separation from now on is more
able to be measured by months
than by years. Also I know that
Iud won't leave home now as it
will be unnecessary. That will be
a comfort to me all winter.

I got some letters from you yesterday written from Detroit on Sept 30. I don't doubt that the next I receive will give me news of the "lost" box which has caused me so much worry lately. I trust that matters have been satisfactorily adjusted with me so that you will have not only no more trouble with him but also no more dealings of any sort with him in the future. It is to be hoped that we will need to have nothing more in a business way to do with him in the future. He is about as worthless as anyone I know even if he is your brother.

My office, at present, is full of officers all excitedly discussing peace, which is the principal subject of discussion today. It sounds good even if the momentous decisions of

the ward will not be based on it.

One of our officers came down sick with Pneumonia the other day, and is very sick today. He is a mighty fine fellow - you don't know him as he was attached after we came over here - but we are all much worried about his condition. Believe me it pays not to be careless in this climate and I am taking very scrupulous care of my self because I don't want anything of that sort to hit me and don't intend to have it.

I am just completing the first month as Detachment Commander and it has been a very successful one. I have had little or no trouble with

the men, who have behaved
better and soldiered better than
I can remember their having
done at any time since we
have been together. I appreciate
it too, I can tell you, for I
know the boys are behaving
because they like me. They
all feel better about my
promotion than I did myself.
It is mighty interesting work
and I will be glad to have
my tenure of office continue
as long as I am in the
army.

Well dear, you have had
descriptions of fogs from me
in past letters, but we are
having a fog today that —
I simply can't describe it. It
is as thick as a blanket, and
is cold and piercing, so I am

keeping myself well snuggled
up near a radiator this A.M.
I have to leave now to make
my rounds and inspection. I
will write again tomorrow
sweetheart. I love you. I
love my dear babies. I love
Glad. Oh! how I long to see
you all. Goodbye dearest
girl. I love you. Lots of
kisses and love to you and
the babies.

Daddy,

Annal Smith:

Capt. W. C.

Evac Hosp. #2 U.S.A.

Amer. E. F. France.