November 28, 1916

My Dearest Marie:

This Thanksgiving morning, there is one thing that could possibly make me any more thankful than I am, and that is to be with you. The war is over. "Le Sureau est fini." (I do know a little French) and that is indeed a thing to be greatly thankful for. You and my babies are well and strong and comfortable — and that is another source of thanks — that is another source of thanks. I thank God, from the bottom of my heart, with all sincerity, for the many things I have to cheer me today. I look forward to the one thing remaining, with all the anticipation in the world. I can hardly wait for the time to come, and still I trust it will be the happiest time of my life, dear, and of yours. Can you picture the meeting we
will have after two years of separation? Never again for me! My wife and I, for the rest of our lives, will live for each other and with each other, and where there is any traveling to be done, together we go. I am convinced enough to take it for granted dear that you feel the same towards me as I do towards you. I know I am right too, dear. I know that you love me almost as much as I do you. Not quite as much, for I consider that impossible. But we both know that there is nobody on earth that loves the way we do, and all we want is to be together. Our separation is the chief thing that we have against the Kaiser and
I will never be satisfied until he is disposed of.

Till we sit here without orders. Of course they are liable to come at any time so we keep up hope, but nothing can be conceived that is more monotonous and disagreeable to undergo, than this long endless wait for orders to move, when the war is all over. Patience is indeed the soul of virtue, and I am acquiring more and more respect for our friend Job, of biblical fame. He was a patient man all right, but had nothing on me.

I sent you several postcards today of Baccarat, and will send you more later of Fren...
find some more good ones. I am letting the crew celebrate considerably today. I have given a lot of passes to the front and we are going to give a lot of late passes so the men can go to a show downtown tonight. They behave very well and have taken little or no advantage of the favors I have given them. Once in awhile one gets a good arm out, but I have no trouble with him again. They are certainly good boys and I like them more every day.

It is raining again today and is rather disagreeable, but not nearly as cold as I expected it would be at this time of the year. We were led to believe
that the weather would be very severe here but it seems that we were misled somewhat, as the weather so far has compared very favorably to our early spring weather.

I have bought some more things for you dear. I just couldn't help it for I knew how much you would like them and such things are so cheap over here as compared to the States. That is the reason I have bought them, for I know we will never get over to this country again.

The sweater you sent me, dear—the one that is knitted double—is the finest thing
If the sort I have ever had, I was warm without being too heavy. I certainly am grateful to you for sending it.

Well I must close. Give my love and kisses to Glad and my kiddie. God bless you all - how I love you!

Daddy.

Russell L. Lucas
Capt. M.E.

S.H. 2

Amer. E.T. France.