

May 4th 1918.

My Dearest Wife:-

This is a perfectly beautiful day,
it is neither too hot nor too cold.

Just right to be outside, and therefore

I have spent all my time since 6:45

this morning (it is now noon) in the

wards doing dressings and writing

histories. There is a tremendous

amount of work to be done with

all these cases – paper work I

mean – and we have to spend

all our spare time doing that.

I haven't worked in the operating

room today and am off duty from

1:00 P.M. till eight, but I guess

we will make up for it tonight

when we are on all night

long. Everything seems so

quiet and peaceful around here. We only occasionally hear a gun now. It is so bright today however that I expect there will be some aeroplanes over. In fact there is one just appearing and the guns just started firing at him. I don't bother to watch them any more unless they get close to us. Then it is interesting.

I wrote you a long letter yesterday dearest. I write one every day but I don't imagine you get them all. I keep track of the dates on your letters and there are about thirty five that I have not received if you have written to me every day. Of course that is something we can't help, either one of us, for it is to be expected that some will be lost in transit.

2.

I just had to get up and go
out to have a look at the Boche
plane. He got right over us
but the shrapnel got so thick
he finally had to turn back.
I don't imagine he will give
up so very easily though
for they are sure gritty
fellows. Here he comes again
I must go have a look.

He is up so high I couldn't
see him at all, but from the
way he is sticking around I think
he will be back again.
Although this is the fourth of
the month we have not received
our paychecks yet. I will be
glad to get mine, not that I
need it but I can add it

to my savings. I have 180 francs left from last month and my mess bill all paid. That isn't so bad is it dear? I hope you have some success with Mel when you are in Detroit. I think it is a dirty shame for him to act the way he does about that money – especially when you girls need it so much more than he does. There is no excuse for it whatever and I am thoroughly disgusted with him. It is just like him though. He has been that way ever since Father died. I think he is absolutely no good and will always think so if he doesn't do the right thing by you and Tud.

Well it is time for mess now so I will want to finish

3.

this untill after mess. Goodbye for a little time dear. I love you.

Well here I am back again dear. We had a good meal and after dinner an officer's meeting at which Major Lyle and Major Brewer gave us a very good talk. I feel much enlightened since, too. It has turned very warm and my heavy underwear is too heavy. I will be glad when my other BVD's come for they will be much more comfortable in hot weather. I have recieved one sent from you already, but letters saying that several others

are on the way. I have a few more histories to write up this afternoon and two more dressings to do, and then I am through until 8:00 o'clock where I go on duty in the operating room again. So far I have not seen any surgery which is startling. However I expect that I will learn a lot from these New York surgeons before I am through, and we are all pulling together to give these poor [blesses] a square deal as far as their surgery is concerned. They are most certainly entitled to the very best they can get and they are getting it. This hospital and #1 are considered the two most important

surgical and medical units in the entire army at present. Major Brewer so informed us this noon, so I feel quite proud to be associated with it. Aren't you proud of me dearest?

The Boche plane is still over. I think he is trying to get an observation balloon of ours which is right near by but I don't think he will. He tried it yesterday without success. I got a letter from W.J. Wallace today but so far have not had time to read it. It was nice of him to write and I am

going to answer him
at once.

Kiss the babies for me
dear. Tell them how much
I love them. Give my
love to Tud and tell her to
be a good girl. I love you
Marie dearest, with all
my heart and soul. Don't
ever think for one minute
that there is anything
in my heart except love
for you. I love you so
much. Each time I get blue
a visit with your picture
makes me feel better. i
sure wouldn't know
what to do without them.
I am so anxious to have
the pictures of the babies
come. The proofs are
all fading out and I
keep them in a dark

place too.

Well I must close
my dear girl, and go to
work. I love you. Love
me always dear, as I do
you.

A.B.

I will not fail to write to-
morrow.