

May 13<sup>th</sup> 1918.

Dearest Marie:-

It is raining again today – seems like every letter I write you starts that way. It turned rather cold last night and rained all night long and is still at it today. I have done all my dressings and made rounds and it is now nearly noon, but I can at least get a start on this letter before mess. All my patients are getting along fine and some of them are very interesting cases too. It is rather nice to be back at the work I am trained to do and I am much better satisfied now than I

have been in the past.

There doesn't seem to be much doubt now that the Michigan troops are coming in up here, and I am very glad because I know so many of them from both Grand Rapids and Detroit. It will be nice to have some of my old acquaintances here won't it?

Wonder of wonders! — the sun is shining. It is a rarity, surely. I'll say one thing for it however, when it does shine it really does shine and it warms up at once. It bids fair to be rather warm here this summer and I am going to be glad when my B.V.D.'s come. If they don't come

I will get some from the Quartermaster – if I can.

Well dear, I put the [illegible] on the contents of the last of your packages, this morning when Lt. [Notbohm] and I together ate up about ten cookies. I wonder if you can realize how good they tasted to me? They were absolutely the best things I have had to eat since I left home. You know how fond I have always been of them don't you Lover? Now I guess we will have to live on ordinary army fare for the rest of the

war and do without the  
goodies you have been sending.  
I won't suffer for nourish-  
ment at all, but I will miss  
the packages. They have  
been so good and I have  
enjoyed them so much.

I think I am still  
losing weight. It seems, to  
me that my serge uniform  
still is loose for me and  
you know how much  
I had it, cut down at  
Ft. Harrison. I won't  
mind being thin, for I  
was sure fat when I  
came into the army.  
If the sun will only  
come out and stay out  
I will have my pictures  
taken and send them  
to you. I have been  
waiting for a chance

for a long time but it never stays clear long enough for me to get downtown, but I will watch my chance dear and get them as soon as I can.

I wrote you a long letter yesterday, which was Mother's Day. It is supposed to come right through by special Delivery and I want you to let me know how long it takes it to come. I go on duty in the operating room this afternoon at 1:00 o'clock and stay on untill eight tonight but I don't

really believe we will have much to do because it is very quiet around here now. I had to buy a new flannel shirt today but it is the first I have had to get and I think that is doing pretty good don't you dearest, because I have been in the army now for ten months. It seems like ten years doesn't it dear?

I want you to tell Tud how much I enjoy my field glasses and how useful they are to me. They are wonderful glasses; by far the best in the camp.

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Well I had to stop to go to mess and on the way

back from the mess hall  
stopped to see about mail.  
I had six wonderful letters  
from you dear, I have  
just finished reading them.  
One of them contained an  
enveloped – stamped and ad-  
dressed to E.B. Fisher – whoever  
he is – an containing a lot  
of drool about me. If any  
one ever puts up any scheme  
like that just kick them out.  
I don't want anything at  
all printed about myself  
anywhere, and I know  
the sort of game that fellow  
works.

I am really not at all  
surprised to hear that the

Robinsons are divorced and that the Carys are so near divorce. It is not contrary to what I have believed for a long time. I have often told you Walter and Marie could never go on the way they were and live happily together. It is too bad but still it is no more than they deserve for they have both been very foolish I think.

I am glad to learn about Adele. God bless her – no man can be too good to her for she is a mighty-fine girl.

I am glad you have matters fairly well straightened out with Mel now, too.

It will be a great relief for you to have no more dealings with him in a business way for he

is certainly untrustworthy and hard to do anything with. If I ever meet the Long boys I will write at once to tell you, and I will do anything for them that I can. I should think that Ferris and Brotherhood would get into the service. It would seem that they would be shamed into it soon, if nothing else will do it. They are both needed. Everyone is needed and I hate to see any of my friends hold back. It does me good to see how such persons as Mrs. Hulst and Mr. Metzger are treated

back home. That's the way to handle those people and all like them and it can't be done too drastically. They deserve no consideration at all, who are not wholly and soulfully loyal during times like these.

It cheers me up so much to learn that all is going well at home. Your good health and the children's are sources of the greatest thankfulness to me and are direct answers to my daily prayers. Mrs. Bissel's death is shocking and although I didn't know her, I knew Irving and would send him my deepest sympathy if I knew where I could reach him. I wish you would call up Anna Hessman and

express to her my sorrow  
over Mrs. Wiesman's death.  
That was a shock to me  
also because you know I  
saw her in very good  
health at Fort Harrison  
while I was there.

Well it is a funny life  
and no matter how short  
or how long my absence  
from home is, I will find  
many changes when I re-  
turn. All I want and all  
I pray for it to find you  
and my two dear kiddies and  
Tud, well and strong, and  
our beautiful home looking  
just as it did when I left  
I can picture everything in

it exactly as it was – from the cab just inside the door, to the dish rag over the kitchen sink – so let's have it as nearly the same as possible when I come back.

The sun seems to be out for good this afternoon and I am glad – it may dry up some of the mud. I am going to have very little to do this P.M. I guess although I am on duty from now until eight o'clock. I am going to do some darning tonight and also will sew on some of my names on some new things I have. If things aren't marked they become lost very easily in this army, so I never

send anything to the Laundry  
unmarked.

Well dear I will close.  
I love you my Dearest Wife  
I love you. Kiss my babies  
and Tud and tell them I love  
them. Remember me to Mary  
and Margaret. With all my  
love to you, my dearest  
darling girl, I love you, love  
you, love you.

A.B.

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