

May 27 – 1918.

Marie Darling:-

Today is Sunday and a perfect day. I have finished my arduous duties for the day and have nothing to occupy my attention untill eight o'clock tonight at which time I go on duty in the operating room untill the same time the next morning. It has been very quiet again for a few days and all I have to do is to attend to the ordinary routine of hospital duties with which I became more or less familiar at home. I have just finished cleaning and polishing my "Sam Brown" belt getting ready for the

minute inspection I know we will receive if Gen. P – comes today as we anticipate. My orderly is not so very good now. I guess the warm weather has given him spring fever, for he has religiously neglected over half of his duties the past week and I am about determined to fire him and get another one to train. It is mighty hard to get a very satisfactory orderly and we have to do over half the work ourselves.

Last night I heard one of

the best bands I have ever heard in my life. It was the regimental band from a regiments of Artillery which is stationed near here. They played wonderfully well, one of the best features of their playing being the performance of their trumpeters, of which there were about twenty.

It was a very enjoyable entertainment. After the concert, I took a good hot bath and went to bed at 8:45 and slept wonderfully well.

We had oatmeal and eggs on toast with bacon this morning for breakfast so you see the day had a good start. I am only afraid that I will get fat again if I eat so much and exercise so little.

The news this morning made us all feel good. It was very encouraging for “our side” and I hope that it continues to come in just that way each day. It makes us all feel good to know that real things are being accomplished by our own Army now and the list is growing

daily to our credit. It won't take long to convince "Kaiser Bill" that he is up against some real fighters.

We expect some air battles around here today. It is the right sort of weather for them and we may have a show this afternoon. I'd like to have you see one for them you'd understand what an opportunity we have for watching these scraps from a reserved seat, as it were. Once in awhile they are very

interesting – when one of our planes goes up to fight and brings one down.

I am glad you replanted the garden this year. It is an excellent thing to do and will be a great saving to you in grocery bills. I only wish I could be there to enjoy the good things with you, but we will have to make that garden a permanent institution I guess, so I can get in on it another year. It really is a good thing and

I am glad I had it put in last year. Do you remember how every one laughed at us when we ploughed up the yard? We showed them didn't we dear? I think it would be an excellent idea to start an asparagus bed. You know it takes a year or two for it to get a start but it is a fine thing to have. Think it over.

It is just ten minutes before mess and I have to go to the ward first so I will close for today. God bless you my dear girl. I love you. I pray for all of you every day – it is one of the habits you got me in that I still have. Give my love and kisses to the dear babies and Tud. With all my love to you, worlds of it, and millions of kisses, I am your lonesome

Daddy.

Lt. Ansel B. Smith M.R.C.