

July 24 1918.

My Darling Wife:-

It is now 3:30 in the afternoon and I am "at rest." I have sure been a busy man for the past few days as the short letter I wrote to you yesterday will indicate. I felt ashamed to write such a short note dear girl but the lack of time made it an absolute necessity and I knew you would be glad to get even such a short note. It is beautiful weather. I am enjoying it particularly – sitting outside of my tent in the sun – writing to the one I love best. I have just had a haircut and a wonderful shampoo by our company barber and I feel great at the present time. There is nothing in the

world greater than good health  
and I am certainly enjoying it  
now to the utmost.

The news from the big drive  
is wonderful. I won't tell you  
about it for you get it all in  
the papers more completely than  
we do here but I will say that  
it is all true. The Germans have  
suffered a crushing defeat and  
will be on the defensive from  
now on and incidentally, the  
possible duration of the war is  
a much more cheerful thing  
to consider than it has ever  
been before. How wonderful  
it is to think of the great

part the American Army is playing in this critical battle. Each day of my life makes me more proud that I am on American and have such a wonderful incentive to be here, and I know the same thoughts are in your mind Beloved, when you have struggles and trials at home. They are all worth while for they are helping to win the war. I see by the papers that the Government is taking into hand, control of the medical situation and Doctors are going to be “selected” for service. I knew it would come and to us who have been in the service over a year it is the best news possible to receive. I hope Ferris is the first one sent for.

I go on duty at eight o'clock tonight for an all night tour of duty and tomorrow I am off duty all day. I am perfectly happy as far as my work is concerned as I am doing a lot now and it has been more interesting lately and then my pro-

motion is a sign of appreciation  
by my C.O. I will let you know  
at once as soon as my commission  
comes dear so that you will  
know.

Tomorrow I intend to try  
to go downtown in the afternoon  
to play a game of billiards  
as it has been several days  
since I have been down.

Sometime I want to have a  
billiard table in the house  
because I do love the game  
so much. I'd prefer a combin-  
ation pool and billiard table

and we could have loads of  
fun together playing it.  
We will talk it all over  
when I get home.

When I get my promotion I  
am not going to increase  
my allotment but will send  
the additional money to you  
each month. I will be able  
to send you nearly \$100 a  
month more – maybe more  
than that. That will help  
you a lot won't it dearest?  
I hope it is not long before  
it is possible but it maybe

two or three months yet.

How are the babies dear? It is needless to ask because I know that with your care they could be nothing but well. But I like to have you tell me about them as well as about yourself. Kiss the dear little kiddies for me and tell them how dearly their daddy loves them. Give Tud my love and tell her to write to me. Is she coming over or has she changed her mind?

Well dearest I will close and write more tomorrow. I love you dearest, with all my heart and soul. I love you. Love me as I love you and be brave until I come back. God bless you dear, and keep you safe and well for me. I love you.

A.B.

1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Ansel B. Smith M.R.C.