

August 3<sup>d</sup> 1918

My Dearest Wife:-

First to get rid of some business. The man who was going to send the 100<sup>00</sup> to you for me yesterday, per Y.M.C.A., bought a U.S. Postal Money order instead and I am inclosing it in this letter, to you. I think I will be able to send more next month. You may be sure dear girl, that I will if I can.

I wonder if the news from the Front thrills you the way it does me? It is wonderful – simply wonderful – and the glory and honor our army is winning for itself is absolutely beyond description. Even the phlegmatic British in their Press, fail to find words sufficient to describe the heroism and valor of the American troops, and that means they've got them all stopped, Germany is tottering. There is no doubt of it, and while there is plenty of war ahead, victory is in sight and it is a safe bet now that the Germans are beaten. Not so bad, is it?

I have just finished all my rounds and dressings and have no more work for the day. I had to be up last night several times to take care of trivial cases, but tonight I can sleep for I don't go on duty

again until tomorrow morning. So this afternoon I am going downtown to play a game of billiards, for the first time in ten days.

I think Chaney is going with me.

The letters I got from you yesterday dearest, were wonderful and I got so many of them. I had a great afternoon reading them too. In addition to the ones I received from you, I got one from Dad, one from Frank, one from George Wright, one from Hazel + Parke, one from Jack. Sweetheart, be very careful not to mention in your letters, the place by name, that you mentioned before. Our locations must not be written in the mails and while I am glad you know, still we mustn't discuss it at all. The pictures you sent to ~~you me~~ of yourself and Tud + the babies – the last group, are simply fine. I am surely happily surprised to see you looking so wonderfully well. You surely have gained in weight and I hope you keep on gaining. You look better than I have ever seen you and I am so thankful. Glad and the babies look fine too. I know you

can't appreciate how much those pictures mean to me and I hope you will keep them coming. I am getting a nice collection now and I love them.

Your work in the Red Cross is hard dear and I don't want you to sacrifice your health and pleasure to it. It must not be forgotten that you have two children and a husband to take care of and I want you to take care of yourself so that you can do it. You are such a wonderful brave little woman. All the letters I get from my friends, tell me how wonderful you are – how brave and cheerful, and how indefatigably you and Glad work at the Red Cross. And I am so proud that you are my wife and Glad is my sister that words fail me to express my pride.

It is a perfectly beautiful day, today. I will have to admit that French weather is hard to beat when it is good and it has been very nice this summer. I wish

however, that you could witness our rather laughable elation, when the nights are dark and cloudy. The moon is an unpopular animal over here. We have no use for him at all.

My cough is all well dear. You have asked about it several times. It is entirely a thing of the past and "Richard is himself again." I am going to close now. Kiss Tud and my two darlings for me and give them their Daddy's love. I love you sweetheart, with all my heart and soul. I am lonesome for you. (Don't worry that I will take advantage of the kissing permission you gave me. My kisses and my love are all, all for you dear). I love you and you alone and all my love is yours for all Time and Eternity. I love you.

A.B.

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

Enclosure. \$100.00 U.S. Postal M.O.