

September 15 -1918.

Darling:-

It is now eight o'clock at night – a beautiful moonlight—but to—with the moon. I have not had a hard day at all. This morning I did all my dressings and then went downtown with Chaney and after getting the communique we played a few games of billiards. I took a much needed nap this afternoon and tonight am on duty but am going to have time to get this letter off now that I have started it. I wonder how people in the States like the news of our All American offensive. It must make pretty good reading for you all and I'll bet it had created a tremendous amount of enthusiasm. It is being kept very quiet over here so far but we know that all is going well and the world will probably be electrified again in a few days by still more wonderful news.

I was so anxious to tell you all about my Dijon trip the other day that I neglected to tell you anything about meeting Jim Shelly. I went out to the Base Hospital to see him and found him very easily

as he is a Sergeant in the Adjutant's Office. He is looking fine and is certainly in good health and very well satisfied with his outfit. They have a splendid plant and are in a place as safe from danger as Grand Rapids is. Tell Jeanette not to worry about him for he is fine, and tell her also that I think he is a fine fellow. I imagine she will be glad to know that I have seen him.

Rosy and I are sitting in our room with a fine electric light writing letters on a fine big table. These are certainly comfortable quarters – the most comfortable we have had since we have been in the army. It just occurred to me today that we have been in France quite a while now. We are entering on the ninth month of our service over here and that is quite a bit. It won't be so very long until I am wearing two service stripes on my arm but I hope I don't have

more than three on when the war ends. I really don't believe that I will either. Things all look so encouraging now that we can expect anything to happen at any time.

I have had no luck with mail. I do wish the mails would get straightened out sometime so that we would receive letters with some degree of regularity but C'est le guerre! We can't help it so must stand it. It is hard however to have to get without mail so long and it will be a relief when the service can be improved.

Tomorrow I am going to get some lace and handkerchiefs and chemise which will complete my Christmas boxes home, and which I am sure you will like. I most certainly hope that the stuff I send home will reach there all O.K. It seems to me that you should have received

the money I sent by this time and I am looking in each letter for information that you have received it. You will be sure to let me know when the things come darling, won't you, because I will worry about it if you don't.

Well I guess I will close this letter now and see if the Boche will let me get a good night's sleep. Don't worry about me dear during this drive. I am perfectly safe and perfectly comfortable and there is not the least need of worry. I love you my darling. Give my love and kisses to Tud and the babies. God bless you all. I love you. Goodnight dearest, and sweet dreams.

Daddy.

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