May 12th

My Darling Darling Wife:—

Your birthday, and we are so far apart. I am really homesick today, but there is no help for it. I am sending you my dearest love, all of it, my sincerest congratulations and wishes for many many happy returns of the day. God bless you, my darling, and protect you, so that you may enjoy the most wonderful health and all the good things of life with your husband when he comes back. Oh! my darling how I love you and how I miss you. With all my heart and soul, strength and might. Dear, I love you, love you.

There is a regimental band playing rag time out in front of the hospital; lots of pieces. We have danced to many tunes.
and that only makes memories more vivid and we so much more homesick. I was on duty this morning from 8:00 A.M. till 11:00 P.M. and go on at 8:00 P.M. till 8:00 A.M. Then I have all day tomorrow off in the operating room, but that doesn't mean we will have nothing to do.

The sun is shining!!! What do you think of that? It is the first time in a week we have seen anything like the sun and it does seem good but I am not too encouraged for it will very likely be behind a cloud in less minutes more. It will need to a hine day out right for a week to dry up the mud. I never have seen anything like it. I had four letters from Jack today and Honey what do you think—Jack and I were within a very few miles of each other and had no way
of finding it out on account of censorship rules, so we missed each other. It just made me sick when I found that out. Poor Jack is sure blue. He is reacting for a transfer and I am raising heaven and earth to get him with us. We have to admit that it doesn't seem very hopeful at present. But I think going to keep on trying. I'd give anything to have Jack with me and I know he would too.

The big guns are banging away this afternoon at a merry rate. If the noise is any indication we should have a busy night tonight. I will be so glad when the Germans are licked and this is all over. It is hard to be away from all your loved ones and
to have to face it for so long.
But it would be harder to face it for so long.
But it would be harder for me to have you loved ones go through all the suffering the women and children of France have. I do not feel as though the women and children are the ones who have suffered. I am here and want to stay here until there is no danger of that.

I got your letter written on Easter Sunday, this morning, and it was such a sweet letter. You are the bravest little woman I have seen. You are the bravest little woman I have seen. I am just feeling over with pride for you. I love you dear. You spoke about writing Mr. Ed. Wallace. Haven't they received any of my letters? I have written several to them and can't understand why they shouldn't have received some of them. I have received to date, two packages of cigarettes from them and I certainly think it is wonderful of
them to keep sending them.

Do you remember what we did on your birthday a year ago? I never will forget the nice little party first we two had and how much fun it was. How is the old Morton Prize anyway? Wouldn't it be fun to go down there and tell Frank to serve us the best meal he could. Can you hear him saying "The baby lobster is very good this evening, sah"? Many and many a time have I thought about the "snow bird" and other good things we had to eat in Indianapolis. Capt. Vandevort and Howard often speak of the Christmas supper they had with us. I gave everybody your message of Christmas Easter.
Greetings, and they all sentiment
their love. I tell you dear, the
officers and men in this outfit
owe a lot to you and Itd. you are
two wonderful girls.

I think your Red Cross
work is noble. You mentioned
the immense amount of dressing
your chapter produced in Mail
and it is almost unbelievable.
It is a wonderful work, and
you deserve worlds of credit
for it, for without such help
the army could never win the
war. We are going to win
dear and believe me it isn’t
going to take as long as many
people think. Now, money
and morale, behind the cause
of right, will win this war
and we have them all. The
morale of our troops is perfectly
wonderful. All these boys
can think of is to fight and
they’re not happy unless they
are fighting. They possess a spirit which can't help defeat the Germans. But we all want to get it done and get back home.

Home. What a wonderful word and what a blessed thing. It means wife, babies, and all my life associations which are dear to me. When I get home, I never will want to leave again.

Oh! how I love you dear. The "big boys" are still at it making a fearful racket. There must really be something doing at the front today. This is the heaviest artillery fire I have heard here during the day time. I hope each shell gets 10 Germans. If it does they can have much of an army left by now. We are fast getting
settled here so that operation as a hospital is becoming a lot easier. It has been a tremendous task and is still hard, but at last begins to assume a more settled aspect. I am sure seeing all the surgery I want to ask my ideas of the treatment of this class of cases, are undergoing very radical changes. Nowadays I am learning nothing of great value to me in my own particular branch of surgery. That doesn't matter to me. What I know I won't forget and I am learning all the time about other things. However, I didn't come into the service to learn surgery. I am willing to do anything. Fear, I don't care what it is. Well, my darling wife I have to close. Again I congratulate you and wish you many happy returns and send you all the love.
dearest of which I am capable. I do love you so much. Think of you and my babies all the time, and love you with all my heart and soul, dear girl. Give my regards to all. Kiss my babies and with all my dearest love to you on this day of all days. I want to come for you for years and years. I will say goodbye, till tomorrow. I love you dear. I love you. I love you.

A.B.

H. A. Smith, M.P.O.