

to. Sig. C.
J. L. B. S. C.
a. e. f.

officers m.

9-8-18

(read!)
"Rainy Sunday"
in a monastery



Mrs. J. P. Walker,
506 W 113th St.,
New York,
5 W. N.Y.



8 Sept. 1918. ①

Sweet wife & mine,

Just better today
and has the other
day since I wrote last.
Isn't that fine? I'd
sure say it is, 'cause
they're better bread
and butter for me. They
just naturally make a
new spirit run thru
my veins - no there
isn't any spirit there
now that shouldn't
be there.

Now don't you think
I'm sick or something -
just 'cause I'm writing
poorly. You see I'm
scribbling on my knee.

Just now it's raining
very hard - always does
when we move about -
and I'm sitting on a
bunk in an old monas-
tery supposed to have
been built by Charle-
magne - and if my his-
tory serves me right
that old Dad of three
worthless sons lived
a long long time ago.

But this is the
sort of a place that
lasts a long time - stone
walls two feet thick -
tile roofing, and built
right from the bottom
up. It's a massive place
wonderfully carved and
arched inside and out -
and the stone stairways

have deep rents worn ³
by many ages of foot-
steps. With all its
massive grandeur it's a
barren place, and the
rooms - four stone walls -
a stone floor and a
tiny window - speaks
plainly the ascetic life
of a monk. A fellow
with a bit of time
and a researchive turn
of mind would have
quite a deal of sport
learning about all these
places. The farthest
my research goes just
now is a good look at
the friends of Boche and
allies alike - the Cootie -
and a fairly comfortable
place to flop.

and in that lost ^(B)
matter a book could be
written, as I have in-
timated. "Places where
I have slept" will al-
ways stir memories in
my mind, and I know
it will for all my men,
because they never fare
so well as the officers.
werent you shrewd enough
(and complimentary enough
also) to remark what a
blessing it is that I,
can be cheerful? Sure
thing it is sneaky - I
find that without half
trying I just naturally
make myself believe that
things as they are - are
just as they should be -
Only - oh you know the

whole sad love-story - and you know too that all the sighs, are just smiles being stored away against the day when they can be delivered personally -

Got a Life and a Puck the other day and engaged them immensely in a few stolen moments. But don't get the idea that every moment that I'm in that rushing around madly is stolen. 'cause it isn't. One year of soldiering has given me a certain poise that gets to things in their turn. The three months at the Presidio

was a wild scramble
of worry and uncertainty -
~~that I don't think~~
can ever come to me
again. I had had it
before many times - Boston.
Haverhill - Reno -
most every place where
I've made a start, but
that phase of my "boy-
hood" has passed.
Good thing eh? Guess I'll
be a lot different when
I get home, but I'm
always going to be a
crazy young kid 'cept
when there's work to
do. That O.K.?

Had a letter from Ray
today and his in N.Y.
without your address.

curses on him - I'd like
him to see you, and ⑦
tell you all the gossip.
He's kind of a reprobate
at times, but he has
a mighty big heart.
Right now he's thinking
of eviling because he
feels that he's needed.
and "despite the fact
that you are 6 years my
junior" (as he puts it) "I
want your fatherly advice
on the matter." I'm going
to tell him that if
he wants to broaden
his chest, and his
outlooks - if he wants
to crawl out of his shell
of high living and find
out what wonderfully

clear air there is out-
doors - and if he wants
the grand and glorious
feeling of being in one
of the best teams in
the world where a fellow
works for everybody instead
of just himself or a boss
more ambitious still - if
he wants all these things
that it has taken
two pages to record - then
he should enlist, and
work like a hungry demon
to make good. 'Cause it
is fine, sweetheart, and
anyone
~~at~~ with this personal
sacrifice idea may
please apply to me for
comfort - I could make
em shed huge weeps
just to tell 'em about.

you waiting in strange-
unfriendly N.Y. for your
sadies boy - and all
that Harrah stuff! x x

But this rainy Sun-
day afternoon in a
monastery has loosed my
pen - the ink won't
run fast enough for
the drool to run off.
you don't care do you? But
you'll be kind enough to
say you like it. x x x x

and old man Krall
has married again? Can
you beat these old
birds? I can't - nor
Ruth M. either still
sighing for her adorable
creeps. wonder if his
skin still smells so
sweet? That was mean

of you to mention, are ⁽¹⁰⁾
were several other things.
but doesn't it all go
to show what a strange
thing life is?

Well Kiddie I'll be
running - must give my
gang a little start that
will carry them over
some more miles and
work. I'm a wonderful
detail organized to the
point where I can say
- The division moves to
such and such a place
and will open at such
a time - and I don't
even need to check them
up (only I do) but can know
that at that time all
the Generals and Colonels
etc. will have a phone

that they can talk
all over & come on.
Organization is the
word, and she worked it
nicely.

and surely have you
wondered why I'm not
promoted yet? I've ceased
to worry, and I now
know enough to sit
tight and wait. my
recommendation for a
captaincy has gone in, but
don't be disturbed - I've
for the 1st Lt. haven't
but results yet. Really
we're too busy fighting
to worry about it. well
leave that for those in
the states. I wouldn't
change places with the
best of 'em, and you

know full well why! x x

Slowly - I'm sure
going slow - but I'm
telling you all sorts
of silly nothings as
I go. But I'd like to
see you, and make you
take care of yourself, and
just love you till you
called for help - but I
can't right now. Some
day - some time - Bosh
what wonders are yet
to come

Big hug, Sweetheart &
mine, and kisses till
you cry, quits -

+ + + + +
+ Loves Tom +
XX

Signed and sealed
in blood etc. only
your nice red envelopes
leak a lot.

X X X

Sommie, just mail this slip back to me with answers "yes" or "no"

1. Are you getting "Life" I'm sending every week? Qui!
2. Did you get my second cablegram sent about Mar. 25? Qui!
3. Altogether have you had 4 packages from John Wansmakers - one being from Aunt Carrie? no - only three!
4. Did you get the \$95 sent about June 11th? Qui!
5. " " " \$20 " " June 25th? Qui!
6. " " " " sent from Mrs. Brown? No!
7. " " " letters with pictures? Qui!
8. " " " " " music? Qui!
9. " " " letter with red-white + blue ribbon for your kitten? not from Missist Qui. only
10. Do you get me? mais Qui!
11. " " lumme? Qui, Qui, Qui, ma chérie xxx
12. " " got a case on any "frog maiden"? no! Qui! Qui! Qui! Qui! Qui!
13. " " remember - you have a wife? Sure
14. " " want a sweater? no -
15. " " " " box of eats? no -
16. " " know what to do if ~~you~~ ^{you} want the last 2? Yes.
17. " " like me to send you an occasional N.Y. paper - especially Sunday's? Oh yes -
18. " " know I'd kiss you awful hard if you were here, Lover!!? No. would you? xxx
19. Do you know you're getting later each day for that 4th of July date you had with your awfully wedded wife? Alas - Alack - alfo