

Thursday 5-25-44

Florence, dearest:

Last night the last tune I heard on the radio before turning in was "Good-night, Sweetheart, until we meet to-morrow", and immediately the song seemed so apropos of our present separation that I have adopted it as my official good-night tune to you. Each night as I prepare for bed I will hum this tune to myself, with the hope that the morning sun will greet me with its symbolism so suggestive of you, my sweetheart. Life and love has been good to me, and to you too, I hope, in that all things beautiful and sweet remind me of my one and only true love. It is probably more than I deserve, but I shall do all I can to appreciate my good fortune, and I hope I will continue to be so well blessed for the balance of our lives. Each day in the army seems the same as the day previous, but somehow I daily remember the many wonderful virtues that are part of you, and each day I rejoice to think that you and I are sweethearts. How and with what could a man be happier?

Your Monday letter arrived to-day, and I was happy to learn all was well at home. I'm very glad you manage to write Bob long letters and if I knew soldiers, especially Bob,

I'm sure he will not be bored with news from home and stories about Jim. I, too, received a letter from him to-day, and other than being as fed up with the whole army as I am, he and Fran seem to be in good health and spirits. I think I told you I sent him the Mother's day picture of the folks, and when I receive those pictures I requested from you I will send him one of them.

I'm sorry I couldn't keep you to summerize the house, but I guess Jim did all he could to substitute for his prent daddy. It doesn't seem possible that he could get better looking, but I certainly expect him to be nothing short of a prodigy once he gets started. However if he is just a normal bright obedient boy, I am sure you and I will be just as proud and happy as if he were a "juicy kid". I hope Joel comes around O.K. and that the impending operation is not as serious as expected. Don't let Jim away or harass him too much, as he might get nervous.

Your suggestion to get pop a fountain pen for his birthday sounds good, but I think he has one, or is it on the way? However whatever you do will please me and it's good if you to ^{be} ever mindful of my folks. I wish you would complete the roll of moving picture films and return the camera, as I would hate to have it stolen. No news yet

From June 20th to July 1st, 1881, I was
in a house near the river, and
I have been very comfortable and happy
and after a long stay I have
been very much improved and
I am now in good health and
I feel very much better than I
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about the transfer, but be patient, everything happens for the best and I guess, since we cannot look into the future, that perhaps all this is for the best. In any event I should know something very shortly, and when I do I'll be able to tell you what to do. In the interim, sit tight, and should you decide to go to the country instead of trying to make this safari across the country, do so and I'll be on your side.

Since you do not mention anything about it I am assuming that Irving did not visit you. I received several cards from him but they interest me very little, as you can well understand. Thanks for taking care of those duplicates, and I'll be on the lookout for them. I feel fine and dandy, still a corporal, and still working on the charts. No one bothers me, time is my own, and if my army life gets no rougher than this I guess I'll look back at my stay at Fort Snelling as a swell vacation, lacking only the one person I want most near me - you.

Hope you, Jim and the folks are all well and happy. Kiss each other for me, and give my best to everyone - With a kiss in mind for you both, and with all my love you find me

as ever,

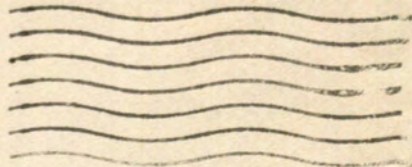
Joe

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