

Wednesday
Thursday
July 18th

Dearest Elsie,

Another very wet day finds us indoors again and enough food in our larder to last us until the evening meal. Alf's well with us and Jimmie is always a source of amusement and new surprises.

We awoke at the usual time, had our usual breakfast and then rested most of the morning. Jim played with his toys, rocked on Blue Boy and I'm reading Maupassant's Razor's Edge, which is an interesting novel. Mom went to chat with a neighbor across the street. After our lunch, Jim had an hour nap, I read some more and the afternoon went quickly. Bess called, is well and Jan is very little trouble since the girl is taking care of him from 9 to 6. Ned is busy at the camp most of the time and we've only seen him twice in 5 weeks, when he came here to cut the grass weeks ago.

The postman brought most welcome mail, your letters of July 1st & and July 7th, my two allotment checks and

I have been thinking of you very much lately, and wondering how you are getting on. I hope you are well and happy. I have been very busy lately, but I have managed to find some time to write to you. I have been thinking of you very much lately, and wondering how you are getting on. I hope you are well and happy. I have been very busy lately, but I have managed to find some time to write to you.

a letter from ^YBetty Rosen, who's
now vacationing with Lawrence at White
Sulphur Springs. I'm to call her to-
morrow evening at 7 p.m. Your letters
were elegant reading but in your
July 1st letter I note much too
much sarcasm. Don't think I've ^{lost} that
sack of humor again, I haven't. And
darling, I'll not answer any of your
questions. Perhaps my mother isn't the
kind you like but my mother she is
and I'll be as loyal to her as I am to you.
If nothing else, she taught me decency,
self-respect and honesty. I'll be proud
of you whether or not you write an
indiscreet letter to my mother
and I'll never stop loving you as
long as I live. You are, of all the
people I know on this earth, the one
with the kindest heart and the least
amount of faults. So to judge everyone
else according to you, my beloved, is
quite unfair. If only your kind existed in
this world, you wouldn't be in Germany,

[illegible]

at present, Bob wouldn't be a bankrudder
and wars woud never start on any
Continent. We'd only live in a word of
love, peace, freedom and happiness.

According to your latest letter you
must be situated in another town. Are they
sending you boys this way at least? I do
hope your living conditions are getting better
and better and that the good continues to be
good. Am looking forward to that letter
you mentioned written by Frank, jr. I had
^(Frank's) that last letter you sent me to the folks
on Saturday night and they were quite proud.
About that leaving for Billy to be given
when you return is a swell idea. No one
deserves it more than he. Haven't heard from
him since June so I'll write him a card again.
These air-mail envelopes which you wish to
be preserved, I have with all your letters - at
home and here. They'll never leave me.
Your latest snapshots assure me that you look
quite healthy and that snap of Bob flatters
him quite a bit. Your explanation of how
the ^{patrolling} company is divided up clears up quite a lot

[The page contains faint, illegible handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side.]

And now I see ^{why} you make so many trips from one station to the other.

Yesterday I forgot to mention that you left us 16 months ago for that army career and it's about time you returned to us, darling. Couldn't you boys do some writing on mail regarding the allotment? Everything helps and I gather about 35,000 of you over 35 - ought to answer to a list. You can write to Senators too, ^{de plan} just a note.

I'm sure relieved about those allotment checks and have cashed them in today - I'll buy a bond for us this month and try to work a little. No one in my family knows about our income - but your family knows all - including Mom, Pop, Bob, Frances - and I'm sure Ben & Kay (altho' nothing was ever mentioned to me).

To-night after we had supper, Jim fell asleep quickly and Mom stayed with him while I went to the movies in town. I saw and enjoyed Bette Davis in "The Corn is Green". Don't miss it if it comes your way. I also read a little before

My dear Mr. Garrison
I have just received your letter of the 10th inst. and am
glad to hear that you are still so active in the
cause of the oppressed. I am sure that your
efforts will be successful in the end. I am
very much interested in the progress of the
anti-slavery cause and hope to see the day
when all men will be free. I am, dear
sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
Wm. Lloyd Garrison

I went to bed. ⁶ Good night - dearest.

I'm finishing this in the morning
and it's coming down again in bucket
fuls and rained hard all night long.
According to some holidays if it keeps up
we'll have rain for 3 or 40 days. Still
sure the road wet washed after all
that rain. The sun will shine soon
I'll bet and all will be rosy again.

That's all for now, dearest, and
please don't think I love you any less
even though my name doesn't appeal to
you. You're still my life, love and
everything that's dear to me and be
careful, Jim is running a close second.

As always, my love and devotion re-
main unchanged, I miss you terribly
and want you near me so darn much.
Kugs and kisses from precious and best
regards from Boss and Mom.

Truly yours,
Flavence

[Faint, illegible handwriting visible through the paper.]

Thursday eve -
July 19th 1895.

George, dearest,

The birds are tweeting their heads off and the sun peeped out for a moment after another day of rain and more rain. It's crazy weather we're having and the wettest summer ever. We still have weeks to go here and we'll soak in plenty of that sun and fresh air before departing Sall. County.

To-day was very uneventful and all the Postman brought were some snapshots from Fox Fotoo. There are a few. These were taken in back of our dwelling and don't forget to keep at our linen rail, newly polished. We had our breakfast at 8.30, waited for the rain to subside and finally went out shopping with Jim a carriage and an umbrella. Rain stopped for about one hour and so we did all our shopping and got home in time before it started to pour again. While in the kitchen, I got a small break with the

meat (and no points) and had to stay
along with the butcher who got very interested
in the fact that my husband was in the service.
You see, he cashed ^{one of} my allotment checks —
the bastard. Mom and Jim were with me
and I'll see that they go with me every
time I go to this butcher. All the hotels do
business with this place and every customer
pays a different price — but plenty of meat he has.

In the afternoon Mom cut out a pretty
sun back dress and bolero jacket for me
while Jim did all in his power to tear
the dress apart. The material is a cool
shantung, coral color with an attractive
white flower on it. It'll be pretty when finished.

After supper, Jim fell asleep quickly as
he had no nap today. I did call Betty Brown
and may visit her if she stays in at White
Sulphur Springs. All is well with the boys and
they send their love to you. I'm going to
lie in the hammock and dream of you for
I'm now finished with all my letters.

All the love that's in my heart is yours
and I'm still lucky that you're mine.
Kisses and hugs from Jim and regards from Mom
and Jess.
As always, Flannel

[The page contains faint, illegible handwriting throughout.]

AFTER 5 DAYS, RETURN TO

Mr. Florence Staff
41- Landfield Ave
Monticello, N.Y.



VIA AIR MAIL

7/18
7/19

Cpl. George Staff 42050100
CA-735 - RWY OPN BN
APO#350 % Postmaster
New York, N.Y.

