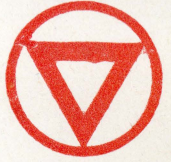



 ARMY AND NAVY  
 YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION


"WITH THE COLORS"

September 23, 1917

My own dear Grace:-

I feel pretty near my old self, but not quite.

I don't think there is much chance of me being home for Christmas this year. Every indication points to us being gone by Oct. 15. No doubt it is God's will that it should be so.

I try to do the same my dear. Not many knows how I feel. You are the only one. I have always tried to be cheerful and I am not going to stop now. By making myself cheerful I lose my loneliness and get to feeling cheerful again.

That has been my one ambition. To be a man. Maybe if you could see me by myself some times you would not say I act

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like a man. You would say I was a baby.

I have five pieces of your candy left. It certainly is good only it does not last long enough. I have been very ~~to~~ hoggy about this candy eating it all myself. I don't care though, do you?

I hope you have my picture by this time and the pennant too. You may be sorry you waited for it when you see it.

Yes my dear, I feel the same way, brass or no brass, just so I get home again to mother and you. It has been a long wait and I will have to wait a little longer, but we both have to wait together which helps it along a lot.


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Fall is fast nearing Virginia. The leaves are turning brown and red already and our days are pretty cool. I was out in the woods this morning and oh how I loved it. I could have staid there all day. I had a little prayer meeting all by myself.

Don't feel that way about it Grace. Tell me just how you feel. Promise me you will, my dear? Why shouldn't you tell me when I tell you how I feel? You know what I wrote in one of my letters last week about this.

I know that when I do not receive a letter from you, it is not because you do not want to write, but that some hindrance has come in the way. I know


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how you feel about it.

It must be a mother's love. Father wrote me that mother still has her crying spells. All I can do is to trust God and put her in God's hands. I know I am coming back to mother and you. I have put you in God's trust to Grace. I take everything to God these days. I have learnt to trust him more than ever. If I didn't believe I was coming home again I couldn't be so cheerful and then I never would have ~~let~~ allowed you to promise me to wait.

I am sorry Grace dear I ever asked you to remind Lillie she owed me a letter. I don't know now why I did it. I realize I

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did wrong. Will you forgive me for doing it? I ~~can~~ too have letters from girl friends that I have not answered and I never will. I feel about it the way you do. The only letters I ~~look~~ look for are from home and from you. If I only receive those I am satisfied. I hope I have not lessened your trust in me Grace.

I was to Sunday School and church this morning and I enjoyed it and felt at home. The Y.M.C.A. have started Bible Classes that meet every Sunday at nine o'clock and Thursday nights at 7:45. These surely will be a great help to a Christian in such a place as this.

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We had some dinner today, chicken, mashed potatoes, peas, bread, coaco and chocolate pudding. We have a new mess ~~et~~ sergeant and he has promised to feed us. So far he has lived up to his promise.

My best regards to your folks. All my heart's love with mistakes are for you my darling from your own boy.

Dare.

S. W. 3K's.