


 ARMY AND NAVY
 YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION


"WITH THE COLORS"

September 20, 1917

My own dear Grace:—

Now to answer you two letters of the 17 and 18. I am glad you were not disappointed in receiving my letter. I received your letter this morning and your record this noon.

We all want to go across. We all know the sooner we get across the sooner we will come home. To any of the officers around camp that you ask how long the war will last, they say probably a year or less. They say it can't keep on much longer.

Yes my dear, I feel more at home by the gun. I feel I am doing something. I enlisted to fight and I am coming


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home a fighter. I will get enough of office work and I have had enough already. I suppose you have my picture by this time. I hope you like it.

Now for your letter of the 18. You not the only one working hard. But at that I can't say I work hard. In fact I don't.

I don't know if you do. You may in some instances. But you ought to follow my advice in regards to catching a cold. Just leave it alone. My cold must have come back to me as my nose feels very funny to-night somehow.

Yes you will have to be satisfied with waiting for me until I come home. Many


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times I wish you lived near
 by so I could come to you.
 When I get home I will come
 as often as you will allow
 me to. I will always
 enjoy that walk to your
 home.

I will wait for an
 answer from your daddy,
 but I am not worried about
 it. Why should I be? If he
 won't let me have you I will
 come and take you. As long
 as I am in the service they will
 have protection. You know me
 my dear. I don't think your
 father has anything against
 me.

I am so glad Grace dear,
 that my letter was some help
 to you. I want my letters to


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be so, as I try to put my
 heart into my letters. It is
 the only way I can tell you
 of my love now. I am glad
 I have some way of doing it
 or I don't suppose I would
 be able to call you my dear
 very long. But you will know
 after I get across why I can't
 write so often. I will try to
 write once a week, more if
 possible. Mail from across
 won't cost anything, all I
 put on is "Maines" letter and
 the postage is paid.

The hikes are fine, I would
 like one every day. The drills
 make me tired, but not so
 in a hike. Anything to get
 away from drill and discipline.
 On the hike we can talk and


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laugh, but not so in drill. If I keep on in the way I have been going I will be some what jollier when I come home. To tell the truth, I keep the boys busy laughing at me. I will spring something and I ~~hear~~ ^{hear} about it for a month.

I can imagine how Arline would feel. I feel sorry for ~~her~~ her and it is not her fault. That is what hurts me. Gem is the one to suffer, but as usual it is the woman who falls for the man and must suffer. Some day Gem is going to suffer and I hope he gets it good. I wish I could help, but my hands are off. I think it best, don't you dearest. You will never feel sorry for trust-


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ing me Grace. I can imagine how a woman would feel when she is in love, and can't trust her lover. But don't you ever worry about me. I will always be true to you no matter what may happen. I am so glad I can feel you trust me and have faith in me. It is such a help my dear. When you feel lonely Grace, think of me and that I am just as long-some for you, and more so than you are. Grace try this if you want to. When you go to bed at nights, kiss your hand and make believe it is me. Will you?

I received your candy to-night. It is fine, but the only thing is it disappears so quickly


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in your mouth, I think I
 prefer you other as it lasts
 longer. I could eat this boy
 in no time as it does not
 last in your mouth. I want
 something that lasts. See?

I will close for tonight. Good
 night and sleep tight my darling.
 All my own and best love with
 mistakes are for you my own
 sweetheart.

Your lonesome boy,
 Dave.

S. W. G. K's.