

RUNNING WATER IN ALL ROOMS

METROPOLITAN HOTEL,

SOUTHERN HOTEL CO., INC.

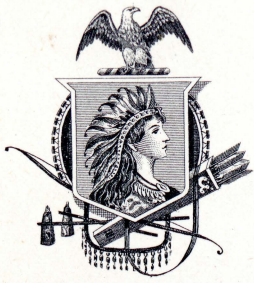
T. A. MCKEE, MANAGER.

WASHINGTON, D.C. *Wed. Sep. 1,* 1917

My own Dear Grace:-

Just in from a long ~~hike~~ hike and feeling very tired. Washington, as far as I have seen it is fair. To be the capitol of the U. S. it is far behind Chicago and many other smaller cities I have seen. I wish you were here with me Grace. Just think I could have you for two whole days. I received your letter today just before I left on my liberty.

Did you leave for home on Thursday? I mailed a letter to Elyria on Thursday. Well you will get it later any way. No, I knew you wouldn't



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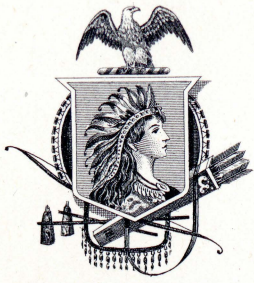
WASHINGTON, D. C.

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regret your trip. The only trip I regreted was on having to come back to Quantico.

I see the Austrians are being driven back by the Italians. That is fine news. If only Russia can be strengthened the war will soon be over and I can then come back to you.

Our captain is a fine fellow. Every day now our food is inspected before we eat. He does everything for us. Today he payed our salary so we could all go on liberty. Other companies were not so fortunate. He is a man risen from the ranks and you can tell the difference right



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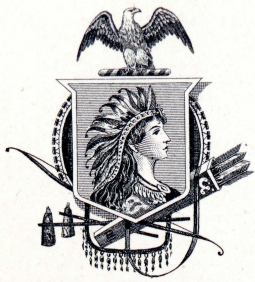
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the lat.

I am very glad you had such a good time at your party.

You certainly are getting to be some heavy weight. You weight almost as much as I do. I weight about 136 lb. I weighed that 3 months ago and I don't think I have gained very much since then. Did you think I was very fat when I was home?

Tuesday I am going to parade here in Washington. Our whole company is going to march. It is for the men that have been drafted and



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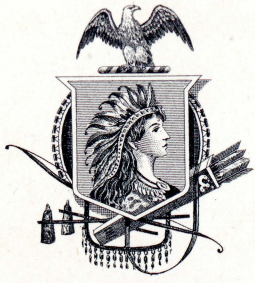
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They are going to give them a
send off. Poor fellows.

I bought you ring today
and I hope you like it. I hope
it fits you I had your size
and the saleslady said that
this ring would fit you. I hope
so. It is just a keepsake and
I want you to think of it as
from your Marin sweetheart.
Will you Grace? Also that it
in a surer way shows you my
trust I have in you. If I didn't
trust and love you my dear I
wouldn't send it to you. If I



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don't come back, put it away
some place and look at it once
in a while and think of me as
one who loved and trusted you.
I feel sure though that I am
coming back and then we will
see.

My best regards to your folks,
Good night to you my own
dear girl with all my love and
mistakes for only you.

Your ~~own~~ own Marine boy.
Dad.

S. W. & K's.