

don't write them for everyone in Hartford.

Well, take care of yourself and we will do# the same. Don't worry about us just because we have to keep those irregular hours, or you will lose more sleep than we do. This life is all right until it gets monotonous which it hasn't yet.

With lots of love from
CHANDLER

March 5, 1918

Dear Emily,

This ought to reach you before your birthday, and perhaps we will get back into civilization in time for me to get some little present to celebrate the event. How old will the budding young lady be on April fifth? Fourteen, fifteen, or what? Remember when I used to get your goat by asking whether you were in the fifth grade yet?

When we get back from the front I am going to subscribe to the A. E. F. weekly newspaper called "Stars and Stripes". It is certainly interesting to us and probably will be to you, as it has more dope in it about our life here than I could ever write in letters. When I get a chance I will mail one or two home.

Dave Hitchcock's folks just sent him some good magazines and I have been looking over the January Atlantic Monthly and noticed some things about the war that you and Mother would like to read, if you haven't already. In one article, called "More Letters From France" there is a fine description of the French soldier- just the way we see him every day. Nowadays I talk for hours with Poilys from all parts of France, and also borrow their daily newspapers to read, since none in English get up this way.

One thing we do get up here and that is some good eats. Some of the things we have had are- turkey, pancakes, french fried potatoes, steaks, and other good things. Tonight we are going to have pancakes. This is an easy day for me as I have no time on duty during the day. However, I have to get in my sleep in fact that is abo t all we do when off duty, except eat.

We have been having rotten weather, but now the sun has come out and the snow which fell during the night is melting. Also the airplanes are again buzzing over our heads. If they are French or American machines they are probably observing the fire of our artillery. If they happen to be Boches they are probably taking photos to try to locate our dugouts or our machine gun or artillery emplacements, or else they are scouting around for a chance to shoot down our big observation balloons, which are always up back of us in clear weather. If they get one of them the men in the balloon will calmly jump out and come down ~~###~~ in parachutes. At first we were quite excited when they did this stunt, but now we don't think much about it. I can remember seeing nine such parachutes coming down.---- A fellow who just came in says that an airplane was just brought down a minute or two ago in sight of here.

I didn't tell you, did I, that MR. Wiley came up here one night to see Jack for a few minutes? I had a little conversation with him. He has not been very well and is going to Nice, to rest up at one of the many fine hotels there.

Keep writing, me petite soeur. The last package was fine. I am using the Hersay's chocolate box as a writing desk now. Your loving brother.
CHANDLER