

Chet Parsons to Adrian A. Parsons

September 3, 1918

American Red Cross



Sept 3 – 18

Dear Dad & Mother ÷

Rec'd today your letter of Aug 5th. Thought some of sending a cable to let you know that it was some other C Parsons taken prisoner in stead of yours. But by this time you have no doubt rec'd. letters that would convince you that it was not me. You surely are not getting any ways near all the mail I send as I have never failed to write each week and some times twice About two weeks ago I ~~sent~~ started a paper and certificate of my last promotion but I very much doubt if you get either. I have only rec'd two bunches of papers that you have sent. On May 12th I wrote Mama a long letter and you evidently did not get it as I asked some questions that you never refered to. There is a girl not far from you that writes ever other day and I recieve about one fifth of her letters. Henry Miller who lived in Danville at the time you held office has a son Robert in my outfit. I wondered if you remembered or knew him This lad has an aunt by name of Frazier who still lives there.

Before this time you have rec'd letters stating the kind of work we are doing. Well we have made a record that no other outfit has any ways near equaled. That is construction of aviation fields, that includes the field, barracks & hangers for the planes. Pete is a carpenter foreman & I am a field. Us field men were packed to leave yesterday but orders changed and are still here but expect to go any time. The front is so far from here now that we are in no danger at all ~~now~~ of being bombed or gassed We can still hear & feel the guns but nothing like at first. I really think the German planes crossing the line is a thing of the past. There is getting to be a lot of cavalry used and every time I see an outfit Dad I aske to get in it. Born & bred in me I guess.

So Long
CA

P.S. Maude, your letters recd. and I appreciate them very much, but would not attempt to write to each one as writing here is a big job and not much news. Keep them coming & tell Uncle Denny to display some of his wit. CA

[envelope:] Mr A A Parsons/Plainfield/Indiana/USA
From Chester A Parsons/482 Aero Sqdn./Am Ex Force/APO758
[postmark:] US [] Express Service, [date unreadable]

Historical Notes:

Chester "Chet" Adrian Parsons (1887 – 1977) served during WWI in the American Expeditionary Force in France from April 1918 – April 1919. He exchanged letters with his father, Adrian A Parsons (1846 – 1929), a disabled Civil War veteran. These letters provide insight into life on the front.

"Henry and Robert Miller" unknown.

"Maud" is brother Gilbert's wife Laura Maude (Symmonds) Parsons (1885 – 1965).

"Uncle Denny" is unknown; neither parent has a sibling or in-law with a name for "Denny."