

Adrian A. Parsons to Chet Parsons

March 6, 1919

Plainfield 3 – 6 – 19

Dear Chip.

I trust you are so firmly grounded in the belief that every condition in which we are placed is a step forward if we can only bear resignedly. But it sure is a bitter pill now. for we are surely going through the mills of the Gods, and they grind so slowly.

We have worried much on your account But to day in reply to inquiry the Adj. Gen wrote me that they had no report of anything concerning you and gave the location of the 482" that you was not billed for an early return. That gave us relief but why dont we get a letter – not since the 8" Dec. –

It will all come right at the end, but just now we have another worry. Last Sunday Wade came to see us and stayed till Monday evening. And this morning our garage was empty, that hits me hard, for I didnt have it paid for. Everything is being moved to get it back and a reward for the thief but it no doubt is in slick hands, and all traces were so carefully covered that if I had not intended to go to town I would not have missed it for days.

Your ~~form~~ last letter was so encouraging that Bert rented of Al Miles and staid with us long as he dared but had to get to work so he moved away last week. there was not much ground to cultivate here 10 a. in bottom and the north field and there was no chance to rent more so he did not have much show for this season here and where he goes he gets HOA clover for corn – so he did the right thing and we were not loath to have Maud leave.

As we were intending to turn everything over to you. I let Bert take an outfit to farm with only kept the two young mares and Nell, we had your letter before a buyer came along for her. so this morning I was glad I had her, for Bert has never had a bridele on stub and just worked bunch a little But you can make a fine team out of them and Will said they would start the crops so that if you came in later you could finish them up. and you can find plenty of neglected work, to keep busy at, we have a fine lot of clover and it wont loose the farm any money to let it run, and the stock can live on the pasture if some body doesnt steal them. I was hoping the war was over and you would get home immediately Mother is getting old mighty fast, and has spent much time in the last two months looking down the lane. and says every day I do wish that boy would come. I guess we are getting childish, we want you before you have time to change your clothes to take Hazel to a square or somebody and bring her in to help us out. I think she has the qualities of a solder and we will test them, I was talking to her over the wire and gave the report just received she says she has heard

nothing but has kept on writing we have not written for long time. hope we can hear soon But we are not out of the woods yet, and may have war at home but wont discuss politics. Keep a stiff upper lip

Dad

[envelope:] Sergt Chester A. Parsons/482 Aero Squadron Signal Corps./American Expeditionary Force./A.P.O. 767/Nantes France
From A. A. Parsons/Plainfield/Ind.
[postmark:] Mar/7/4PM/19/Ind

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 home front and his political views.

"Wade" is unknown.

"Bert" is Chet's brother Gilbert "Bert" Roland Parsons (1883 – 1959) who had been farming with Adrian.

"Al Miles" may be George Allen Miles (1864 – 1950)

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

"Hazel" is Hazel Frances (Miller) Parsons (1896 – 1983) who married Chet Parsons on June 11, 1919.