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In the Field
4/2/17.

Dear Alice

Will send my mubly letter to you this time. am sorry not to write you personally oftener especially as you are so good about your end of the correspondence. Am afraid I have been even worse than usual lately but a variety of things have interfered and it has not been entirely my fault.

I have not heard or seen anything of young Patterson and he may still be in the D.A.C. for all I know. Of course I would not recognize him even if I did see him as I only have a faint recollection of an extremely fat boy.

I wrote Aunt Silly during the week but am not by any means sure that she will get the letter. The address I put on the envelope was Renmore Place but I wasn't very sure whether this was her or

the Burms when they were in
Boston. I had no record of her
address in my book and it
had never been impressed on
my mind by usage.

I had a very nice letter
from James a fortnight ago
and he enclosed two snapshots of
his son and heir. Apparently
they are very happily situated
in Ottawa and I don't suppose
there is much possibility of their
moving back to London for
another year. People in England
seem to think that the war
will be over this summer. I don't
see it that way but even if
peace does come then it will
take six months or a year
to get all the overseas troops
home, perhaps longer.

I am very sorry that the
Wicks have bought Endicott
but it cannot be helped. They
won't be troublesome neighbors
but it won't make Oakwood
any the more marketable when
the time comes for us to

disposal of it.

McLaggart returned from an artillery course in England a few days ago. He is looking better than he has for a long time back. I know his father but not Mrs. McLaggart. They say the sister you speak of is exceptionally pretty.

I got word yesterday that Major Ball had left England so I expect that he will be back with his battery in a very few days. He married when in Canada and has installed his wife in Bath for the present. I believe that there are a great many Canadians there.

I had a nice letter from Julia Hobbs the other day, acknowledging my Christmas card. She told me that her engagement was off but didn't give any particulars. I also had a letter from Ethel Blake to send thanks for card. She writes rather a peculiar letter,

quite flowery but in a prosaic way that spoils the effect. I should not have thought her style would be a success in newspaper work but probably it is just what is required for the social column. I also had quite a long letter from Aunt Elizabeth. She apparently likes Bermuda very much. It is funny that the Denisons should be so close to her.

My supply of socks is ample so continue to send yours to prisoners or anywhere else you like. I have worn the seamless sweater several times lately as the weather has been so cold and at night I am using it as a sort of pillow as you see it is coming in very useful.

I think there is no doubt about young Dick whether being dead. He was in one of the Highland battalions, either Monmouth or Toronto and was missing after the fighting at

Ypres in April 1915.

Hugh Kiven has command of a school of instruction near here and has been given the temporary rank of colonel while in command. I have seen him once or twice but I don't think he was quite sure whether it was I or myself that he was talking to. I believe he is now married and to a girl worth several millions as he has fallen on his feet. I think his true brothers-in-law the Beardmores ought to be ashamed of themselves. They have certainly turned out to be church parade addicts and nothing else.

They called for a return giving names and addresses of all Canadian soldiers wives at present living in England, some weeks ago. I think there was some plan on foot to send a proportion of them back. But now that Berman has started on her new anti-machine campaign

the authorities will hardly be likely to make anyone take the ocean trip.

We have no news yet as to what course Wilson will adopt in view of the new situation that has arisen. There seems to be no doubt that intercourse with Germany will have to come to an end but whether there will actually be war or not is another matter. I don't see that it will make much difference anyway. It would take at least a year before the U. S. would have an army big enough to enable them to send a few divisions over here and by that time things ought to be pretty well settled.

The U. S. navy should be helpful in keeping the submarine activities within reasonable limits on their own side of the Atlantic and thus relieve the British fleet to some extent.

Except for artillery activity

and on occasional wind things are
 still fairly quiet on this front.
 The ground is still frozen hard
 but there is only a very light
 sprinkling of snow. However
 the days are bright and if
 we had more snow the weather
 would not be unlike our own
 at home.

It should be returning
 from leave about now but
 on account of the cold the train
 service is at present quite
 irregular. The engineers aren't
 able to keep steam up as
 they seldom, even in a life
 time have this sort of
 weather.

I am that a Lieut G.W.
 Little has been wounded and
 expect that it is George
 Little. If it is not serious
 he should have a nice time
 as he will probably be shipped
 to England and his home
 is there and will be just
 humming with anxiety to nurse
 him and so forth.

T.

Crewar left for England today to attend the artillery course. He came in yesterday to get his warrant and to show me a photograph of his wife and baby. They make a very pretty picture.

I have lost Morgan as he has gone as staff captain at divisional artillery headquarters. I am very sorry as we have been together ever since leaving London in August 1914. However it cannot be helped and I shall have to dig up someone to take his place as my adjutant.

I haven't much news so will draw to a close. With much love to yourself and mother and father

your affectionate
Ward