

From the holdings of
Western Archives, Western University

France
21/6/15.

dearest Mother

Your letter written early in the month came in on Saturday also one from Alice which I will try and answer next.

My Battery undoubtedly did more and went through more than any other Battery in the Division and I have already sent Father a copy of my official report which goes into matters pretty fully. As I have often said that people whose accounts are in the papers are usually those who have done the least and the same is true in this case. It is quite likely that other people may get a lot of credit by blowing their own horns but I don't worry about that as I'm here to do my duty and not to seek reward by exaggerating and boasting about what my Battery did.

It seems funny that Dph had not gone when you wrote. I have always known that Hughes was not to be relied upon but I hope he will carry out his promise

regarding the Divisional Cavalry, I
 have already written Ibb several times
 to Enghat thinking he must surely
 be there and I wrote again yesterday
 also to Lully but addressed the
 letter to the latter at Oakwood.

Please thank Fisher for the
 Saturday Evening Post. I have arrived
 in the same mail with your letter.
 They make excellent reading and
 afford a diversion which comes in
 very nicely in spare time of which
 we have a good deal some days
 and very little others.

I think your own method of
 bringing up babies was quite good
 enough despite what you say about
 Ednie's methods. There is such a thing
 as going too far along the new
 methods and though hardly a
 parallel, we must remember that
 the most scientific and highly
 trained people in the world have shewn
 themselves in this way to be below
 the level of brute beasts.

There have been no attacks
 here worth speaking about since
 I last wrote though of course
 something small goes on nearly

every night. One rarely passes without
and firing at least a few rounds
and sometimes it has to be kept
up all night. Today we fired at
some German marksmen parties behind
their trenches and scattered them
but of course cannot say what
other effect the fire had. The Germans
have shelled nearly all the buildings
on our front to the ground and it
gets increasingly difficult day by
day to find a place where we can
observe the effect of my shooting.

As you know I had several guns
more or less smashed up when at
Ypres and I brought a smashed gun
wheel down with me in the hope
that I might be able to send it
home as a relic. I carried it
around until the other day as they
are very strict about preventing anything
of the sort being sent away by
individuals. Then I heard that Folger
was ordnance officer for the second
contingent and by means of a
few tips I got the local ordnance
people to ship the wheel to him
as government property. I have written
Folger to have it forwarded

from England to Canada addressed
 to father care of E Leonard & Sons
 Ltd. I know he will do what he
 can to get it through but of
 course there is no guarantee that
 the wheel will reach its destination
 safely. Should it arrive it could
 be put in some shop window with
 a placard stating that it was a
 wheel from one of the 12th Battery
~~guns~~ (old 6th London) guns which
 was smashed by German shell fire
 at the second Battle of Ypres. Later
 it could be kept until my return
 and I could then decide what to do
 with it. Perhaps the above is looking
 rather far ahead but I am merely
 outlining my idea in trying to get
 the wheel home.

The enclosed clipping concerning
 Hugh Owen's letter may be founded
 on fact but I expect it is well
 exaggerated. Everyone who knows Hugh
 Owen knows him to be a good
 liar and I do not expect that
 his present experiences tend to
 blunt that particular faculty in
 his make up.

Did I tell you that Uncle Jack

sent me some tobacco and a couple
 of pipes the other day. I was glad to
 have both especially as one rather
 gets into the habit of smoking a
 great deal out here. However as one
 is in the open air all the time it
 cant do one much harm and there
 is certainly no curtains to become
 discolored!

Well close now as it is getting
 late and my candle is commencing
 to flicker. Love to all

your devoted son
Wood