

From the holdings of
Western Archives, Western University

Reed 24 Aug
Wednesday
9th August
8.30 P.M.

My dear Father

Your letters have all come in a bunch the last few days, in fact a lot of old mail turned up. I received in all 7 letters and will be busy answering them.

Your business letter of 17th came out Tuesday and the next day I received your personal letter of same day from Wood and sent him your personal letter of 2nd (will etc) which had been delayed for some reason. Today your letters of 23rd arrived and your business letter of 24th with short note to me.

Will I am acknowledging want to thank dearest Mother for her letter of Sunday (?) via Sarah about your hat (with in London) and also for birthday box (2nd one) with 2 prs sachs and delicious Rowan trees candy. She is too kind altogether

I also have some enclosures from
 Lermia Wood and some today with
 a short note. Please reassure her
 about hay fever as I am perfectly
 exempt now and faithfully
 using Edna's remedy to try and
 ward off a September attack.

Alice's letter of 23rd also came
 so you see I have had a regular
 fest this afternoon (although at
 present the mosquitos are feeding
 on me) I will try and write her
 a birthday letter before the end of
 the week. I had also passed on whole
 Jack's post cards which are funny
 but would likely appeal more to a
 Scot than not. I am enclosing
 one of your envelopes just as it
 came. Some of them get well
 prayed and I think if you order
 any more they should be made of
 a little heavier paper. If you
 notice the post office people

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have put a string around it as they have several others.

I am sending cable tomorrow with good news about the confirmation of Wood's promotion. I am indeed glad he has his rank (Lt Col) and the Brigade at last. I know he feels it better to command his old brigade than have a green one in a new division like some of the others.

I have been walking outside as it is cooler but must go in as it is too dark now.

Your letter my dear Father about ~~my~~ your will is perfectly satisfactory and after reading your views (you never discussed it that I remember) I cannot but see the justice of your stand. I am speaking perfectly freely and in a way felt that I had raised the question but you

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will understand that our remarks were not intended as a criticism and also that you will have taken them in the spirit in which they were intended. The prospects of the business as a result of your hard work and management are in better shape than they have ever been and its future (God willing) is bright. Proud of both feet very proud of you and what you have done and I am sure that the present conditions must be a great personal satisfaction to yourself.

I am sorry you are short of your contract for July but perhaps with the new machinery and after the harvest you will be able to more than make it up and so keep up your good stands with the Production Board. I still think you rather misjudge Cariss but time will show. I never met a harder worker. I would not

5.

worry about the experience he carried away about engines. It ~~was~~ cast us a lot and maybe nice to have but never earned us a cent and won't earn more for the veterans.

Glad the hair shop is busier and hope the Coaks will see that good work is turned out. I will write Sam soon again but you might give him this message in the meantime. I feel sure they are all doing their best. I have already stated my reasons for not investing in the hydraulic press and what you say about Inghis rather shows you think a little differently.

I am glad you are not going to spend money on machinery and are going to stick to the 5" shells but at the same time spend that too if necessary. As far as I can see of the military situation over here the end of this front is not in sight

and unless the Austrians can be
put out of business it is going to
take a long time to get Germany
where we want her and where
she must be put.

Who are the skimmers, I do not recollect
the name but perhaps know them.
sent the note on to Wood.

Please let us know about the
war tax as soon as possible as we
are half anxious to know how it
will effect us.

The heat must have been very
trying especially at the Mark and
Shapton it is over. I know Sarah
felt it in England and it has been
warm here but nearly always a
breeze on the ridge where we are
although I know it has been very
trying in the trenches.

The harvest all around us is
being rapidly taken in and I
should say (not being a farmer)

that it is a wonderfully good one

I am delighted to hear about this and wish to congratulate you and hope it will never have to be done again. I agree with you about

Muskoka do I am sure it helped and trust you will try to get some golf in now. Things are more settled.

Tell Mr Morgan & Mr Holmes I feel I should write them more than I do but sometimes don't seem to be able to much more than keep you posted at home and Sarah in England. I hope they will overlook it and I know they get what news I have from you.

Make your remarks to Wood about affire and apprae. It is in line with what we have discussed several times. [Tell Mother I am eating the delicious gums as I write] I see that our slack is greatly reduced

which is a good thing, even deducting this from our reduced over draft are rather adding it, the shell business is responsible for a lot.

Your remarks about the agents are very interesting: We are at least keeping touch everywhere and I think at minimum cost.

I fear the diary is a goner but as you have the originals it does not much matter.

I have never seen Inglis spinning machine but have seen Lukens which is similar. I don't think fuelbox necessary as we have never heard of a Lukens head failing and the metal around tube holes is not even heated.

I don't agree with you about being glad about getting second in command as I think I should certainly have had the Regiment

You likely say this to pacify me and
make it easier. I feel it is hard for
you all to explain at home also but
I am making the best of it for the
present at any rate but tell you
sincerely I am not satisfied.

However I am at least playing the
game and doing my bit without
wire pulling etc. and time may
change things.

I will remember your good
advice about keeping cool
when we run up against the
Huns but our chances seem
shun at present and it looks as if
we would have to wait another
winter for our chance.

Tell Mr Morgan I am so sorry
about his leg and give both him and
Mr Holmes my very kind regards.

Regards are that I all received over here
after all. Very much love

your devoted son,
J.B.