

From the holdings of
Western Archives, Western University

In the Field
18-IV-17

Dearling Mother

Am back at my old billet again
for a day or so having left one
squadron (McEwen) up in front
and have been going over some of
dear Woads things and sorting out
his papers. A sad sad business
and a lump rises in my throat
very often.

Your dear cable came yesterday
and did help so as it seemed to
bring us closer together. It was
sweet of you to think of me when
I know how your dear hearts
are torn but it did help.

I am sorry I did not cable
more fully a week ago and more
specifically say that the dear boy
did not suffer as I am

2.

certainly he was practically paralyzed from the beginning as Dr. Buckley had to hold his hands on the stretchers ~~and~~ as they otherwise would have hung over the sides and he said ~~twice~~ that he had no feeling in his legs, but complained of being cold which is always a bad sign I am told. Dr. ~~however~~ covered him with his own coat and he was well wrapped in the ambulance ~~to~~ which it did not take more than 15 or 20 minutes to reach.

I was not able to see Dr. GALLAGHER who dressed his wound at the dressing station but McEwen saw him for me on Monday. He said Wood was unconscious and his heart and breathing very weak when he arrived there and only slightly

3

responded to a restorative. He examined him all over very carefully for another wound but could only find the one in the top of the left arm and was of the opinion that the piece had penetrated from there. This confirms my own opinion although it seems fruitless now to bother yet I feel you want to know everything and for that reason have kept absolutely nothing back.

I am sure he did not suffer much and was spared a long carry over trenches and shell holes from front line like some poor fellows have, as he was not more than 400 yards from the road where the first aid post was.

I have his diary and papers

4

line now and will send it by
registered post to Father tomorrow.
I had a little trouble getting it but
succeeded and will include the months
in the portfolio as well.

I will also send an inventory of
his kit which I am having
typewritten.

I do wish you could see Robertson
soon as he knows more about him
personally for last year than anyone
as they were very close friends. I
spent Monday night with him and
he told me so many little things
about the dear boy. He had H. C.
with Cannon Scott at his former
position about a month ago and
remarked about the attack on Easter
that "the better the day the better the
deed".

I have to go up to see Mr. Ewert

5

this afternoon but will try and write again tonight and send a deferred cable again today with more particulars I was pretty well tired out last night and went asleep when I sat down to write as I had intended. However I feel better today after a good sleep and am glad to say have gotten rid of my German parasites!!!

Mood's diary is right up to date and beautifully kept. I would like to read it but know how Father will want it so will get it off as soon as possible.

God bless and help you my dear dear Father whether or not my own grief seems nothing when I think of how your dear hearts are torn. Just I could help.
Love
Jbb