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Dearest Mother

17 Sunday 7 Oct
No letters yet for some very good reason. I
suppose but likely this week will make
up 1. Will add the last two days to bring
this up to date and start off again on
weekly letters.

Saturday 6th Oct Got up early and
fully intended going up in front with
Taylor to see the river there, but rain
started while I was shaving so decided not
to go as no use getting soaked when I don't
have to and was glad later as it simply
poured and I could not even go out for
a ride. Had a fire in house for breakfast
which was very acceptable. Remember the
same day and weather a year ago on the
same day with men and horses in the open
and was thankful for our present comfortable
quarters even if I have to give up my
bedroom. Sent in my recommendations
for the changes in officers and hope
they will go through all right as and
perhaps to see little Campbell get his
captaincy. Am running a revolver
class for officers and then with a
new 16 teaching them to shoot
walking running and riding. It
is funny to note that some of the
wheat shots standing do best when
draining. As a matter of fact 9

chances out of 10 that we would get would
be while in operation so this instruction
should be most useful. Our horses
clippers have come so we are starting
to clip all horses as I want it
all done before end of month, instead
of during winter as last year, and
now that we have our winter rugs we
can go right ahead. Attended stables
and inspected new but we are building.

Miss Hanson and Spencer in the house
as this rather quiet and no business
yet on latter's place. Spent afternoon
cleaning up in office and arranging for
a new party at 1st front line abundance
and then went down and called on my
old friend Barber and arranged for
3 or 4 lessons a week. Smith and
Rackham are also taking it up as
bad weather is now going to keep us
in more, but feel we have taken
fullest advantage of good weather all
summer and are like training
grounds. Too cold in my socks as
I have no coat yet so sat in mess
and played 5 rubbers of bridge in
evening putting our matches back
our horse at midnight, to color
one more again. The ladies

7-10-17

we put them around last March was
the second last day I saw dear Wood.
Sunday 7th Oct. Cleared 288 yards
of registered rubbish in England to be
made in 4 weeks. Had a new church
parade combined with Cychets and
Machine Gun school. Col Mc Giver
telling the bad hour arrival. Expected
my return afterwards and must say that
the standard of smartness and cleanliness
has improved during the summer but
not without constant following up.

Rain during stable and all
afternoon. Had one case for office
and inspected progress in chipping.

Fire at lunch and decided to have
dinner at 7.00 instead of 7.30 for the
winter. Wrote a letter to Col Draper
about Blechners commission and
have been in room here with coat
on writing ever since. This is
my 4th letter and must now go
down for my talk with old Barbier.

Fear Sarah is going to feel the cold
in Paris as she did not bring over
her winter things and I know Club
will be drafted. Think of you all
so often. Very much love
John