

From the holdings of
Western Archives, Western University

Saturday 10:15 PM

23 June 1917

My dearest Mother

No letters since last I wrote you except two which Sarah forwarded from you and Elaine and a business one from Father, but perhaps I may be more fortunate before I close this tomorrow. Rather an uneventful week with some intensely hot weather to begin with but cooler now.

Monday 12th June Intensely hot. Some slacks and nice short white socks in office were spent the morning. M. O. froze and then lacerated my ankle which was quite swollen and consequently it was very sore all day and I could only limp around.

He also diagnosed my rash as ring worm and gave me a salve for it. It has now hung on nearly 3 weeks and I should have attended to it sooner but only thought it some kind of prickly heat. He says I must have picked up the bug somewhere either off horses or dirty milk. However I have treated it faithfully all week and I think am getting best of it. It is horridly itchy in hot weather or when I ride and it is as painful all over legs and ——. Had to put boots on in P.M. and go to Corps Hqs to parade

The officer about whom I sent in an
unflinching report before our new Corps
Commander Sir Arthur Curry who I
must say was very fair to him but
backed me up and sent the report forward.
Got a side car to go up and back so
the trip did not bother me very much.

Called in at B and sat half an hour
in the sun talking over forthcoming
Corps Sports tomorrow. Campbell is
looking after them and has his hands
full. Wrote Lorna Harris & May Beddome
and also Sarah who is miserable again
and about whom I feel worried. Too hot to
sleep so did not turn in until about 2:40
and then only rolled around without
covering.

Tuesday 19th June Up early and
visited the C. V. S. class. Signed a few
letters and started off in side car which
I had arranged to keep over night for
Corps Sports at 11. Unfortunately
rain made the ground too wet for
jumping & jugging so they were put
off except the half events, one of
which I judged. Saw Victor Maddison
& the Taggart who is going to complete
a short history of W. R. O. O. O. O.
over here which I mailed and sent

to him to complete in answer to
Father's letter on the subject. I don't
altogether like either of the Companies
whose prospectus you sent me and
have not decided yet whether I will ask
them to include him in their publications
but in any case am getting the facts
together as far as I can. Although I
only have my memory and those
who were with him as druggist and
all other matter has been sent to you.

I enclose a letter from Estabrook
Branch about his effects. I also took
matter of clothes that were on him
up with the Fitch ambulance in
question but have not heard yet.

Saw Ben Parrot and quite a few
other old friends and got a ride back
in a car in time for dinner. The
rain was to be regretted but could not
be helped. Had Wheatons and several
others in evening. Nice letter from Edna.

No word from Sarah yet. Also wrote
Eveena about Ivan who is "ear
marked" for 13th when he gets over.

anxiety rash and itched foot but
could not sleep much as rain seems
to have made it hotter than ever. Have
fever only very slight so far and am

using "Hayasa" Cider and many
faithful and think it helps.

Wednesday 2 June. B Co's class
has made a good start. Decided to cast
four old crabs we have been nursing along
for some months. You would be
surprised how well some of the wounded
crabs have recovered but who do not
ourselves instead of evacuating. Spent
an hour in office and then went over
all billets and kitchens to see if proper
sanitary arrangements ordered a
month ago were being carried out
and on the whole was well pleased.

Held office at 2.00 but dismissed the
case as I did not consider the accused
had intentionally did what he was
charged with. Went for first ride
in 10 days and walked ankle which is
much better. Read latest list of
honors in Times. Read Cosmopolitan
of which I now have 3 latest, such
good reading to. Reach dearest Mother
& Father very little use your sending
local papers home except perhaps
Sat. Night and "Sunday at Home" in Standard
(which I always like) as news is old
and they do tend to hold up meals
here. Send me clippings of local

interest only and personal remarks.

The London papers have never given me much chance and often not even my due but they made up for it with Wood although never as much as he deserved. I suppose I never encouraged them to do so and perhaps that is why they are perhaps sore on me and general to Wigle, Mulligan, Ingram and others (where are they all now?).

I was however put out by enclosed which old Leslie brought up to me much incensed. It might be well to let them know that I command the C.L.H. and have been in France nearly 2 years without a break and lead the Regiment in the picture they published. I am not looking for "honour" or advertising and if I ever get back will be perfectly satisfied with the moral satisfaction of having stuck to it in France and done what little I could without a pause.

Thursday 21st June Up early and saw W.C.O.'s class started, had breakfast glanced through letters and then rode up to postponed sports with Ransom and spent a very pleasant day seeing a lot of old friends. Some of my interests did very well but some made

23-6-17

poor performances. Spencer got 2nd in back jumping and tent pegging. Was same. I was out in some extent myself but as I did not qualify though our show it could not be helped. Had a long chat with Lt Col McParland who has taken Wood's place. The Brigade is out resting at last. Saw old Shucky who said he was writing also Fred Betts and young Scotland. Had tea with Major Foster (Quenie's brother-in-law) DSO. MC with a bar. He seems a fine chap.

Ram again stopped a couple of last nights and caught us sending home letters from Sarah who is very miserable and had to see a doctor. I fear little woman much run down due to long strain. Received official word at last about my appointment. Much cooler and slept better.

Friday 22nd June. Up there early and about 11.00 started off to lunch with Macdonald of 3rd Bde but was caught in heavy rain passing McQuinn so did not go on and stayed there and came back in ration's lorry at 11.00. Some nice snaps from Sarah taken during our leave which she will send you. They are better than photos

23-6-17

last card in which we both rather
showed what the last few months have
meant to us. She is better I am glad
to say and apparently enjoying the
country life and housekeeping for
herself and the Wilsons.

You have never sent me, dearest mother
pictures of your dear self and Alice
that I have asked for. All I have are a
couple of little Muskoka snaps and
only a newspaper clipping of Father
but it is a good one.

I asked Sarah to order him 6 more
of Wood, his best one I think that
came out in Ill. London News. I have
dozens of letters to write and try to do
one a day but sometimes don't seem
even able to drive myself to it. I am
sure you will understand the feeling so
read a little and retired at midnight.
Have moved into Smith's room and
Rockham has taken mine. It is more
airy and larger and I am most
contentable and have a small lounge
although I don't know that I will use it
very often!! French beds are more
luxurious than ours & softer. I have now
a big eiderdown pillow very light to
put on my feet in cold weather!!!

Saturday 2.3rd June Much cooler.
Visited my classes, attended to office
and spent an hour at stables. Haul had
all horses put out of doors and am
starting to repair stables as winter
as instructions already out to begin to
make winter arrangements. Had old
Dean rearranged my room a little.

Went over to ~~the~~ in inspect some
remnants and then rode over to the
grave to see if picture has been taken.
Flowers still blooming, pansies, green
borders of daisies. Picture not taken so
will write direct to graves commission
about it as Captain Banks has gone
and a new padre there. I miss my
little visits with road more than
ever, as they were my greatest comfort
over here. My thoughts of him riding
back were now sweet but sad.

Had a delicious dinner, new potatoes,
cambflower and stewed prunes and
after reading Times came up here to
write. Felt much encouraged over
Russians situation so perhaps our
"Russian roubles" may not be a loss
after all. 11.30 so will close and
finish tomorrow.

END OF BOOK XIV