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Recd. apl 14-18 17 March 18
Dearest Mother to continue
Monday 11 March Fear, James did not sleep well
and was loathe to make the move in AM, but as
he could not get a car had to make fairly early
start even if we again sat up very late as so
much to talk over. Went to office before
breakfast which we had at 8.30 and I later
started him off for — on a bright sunny
morning in his mess cart & a good horse, a
drive of about 11 miles, including to ride
part way with him on horse but was
detained by Woodman and did not catch
mess cart until nearly at — and so
decided to ride on & see him on train which
I did about 11.30, very sorry to see last of
the dear boy. Smith came in on return
from leave before James left & introduced
them and he used the mess cart back. We
had lunch at a French tea room 'Le Miroir'
and I of course got home ahead of him about
3.30. A very warm day just like summer
and Mahomet's restlessness at every motor we
passed. Held office and reprimanded an
M CO and refused Blake's request to transfer
to artillery. Spent afternoon in office
starting at arrears accruing from my
leave. Large Canadian mail which I
have already answered but was sorry it
had not come before James left & wrote

17-3-18

Sally but as very much behind in sleep
only read part of mail & turned in, sleeping
very well.

Tuesday 12 March, another summerlike
day. Wrote arrears of pocket diary in mess
after breakfast and did not ride as 22
miles on a hot day yesterday left me a
little sore. Missed Ianto very much
and wish he could have stayed longer &
regret missing so much of his visit.

Made a clean up in office and went out to
see our drill field which is rapidly drying
up. Talked over plans for cultivation
with Brimble. 5 senior NCO's have
gone to England for commissions and
interviewed & temporarily appointed
an RSM & two SSM's. Also interviewed
an new armorer Sgt. Resided our
Hatchkins classes which have been going
on in my absence. A lecture on "Tanks" at
Army H.Q. which I was sorry to have missed
but could not help it. Mr. Ewen attended it.

Continued my Canadian mail and wrote
mother in evening. Father wrote about
tablets & other matters. A nice box of
stuffed dates & small cake from Aunt
Elizabeth very acceptable. Lenny has
been given an advanced class at school
and can no longer come for which I am

17-3-18

any sorry but will try & get somewhere.
M.O.'s Birthday and gave a party in the
evening but left early to write & prepare
my lecture on Geography of Northern France
for next Thursday. Worked about 200
on Paris on Monday but am taking no
news from Sally. No good news and in
any case a unit takes nearly as long as
a letter either way.

Wednesday 13th March Another beautiful
day, almost unreasonable this month.
Worked in mess at maps for lecture, then
in office and inspected letters with M.O.
Had a talk with MacEwen about sports.
and in afternoon walked over to field &
saw our first football game against
cyclists. We were beaten 2-0. Walked
back just in time for dinner. No letter
from Sally & naturally worried, especially
to know she has to use Metro to & fro
from work and in which 66 were
killed in a panic. They become death
traps under such circumstances very
furious are in Paris so perhaps they
looked after her. Read Father's business
letters in evening and worked at lecture
which entails a lot of work, and will be
glad when I have given it. Letter from
Ransom in England.

7

17-3-18

Thursday 14 March. Rains at last & cold
 now although fine in the afternoon.
 Finished maps for lecture in mess in AM
 working up to lunch and went at 12.00
 PM, also a short talk on Franco Prussian
 war 1½ hours in all but officers & CO's
 seemed interested. Cosmopolitan talks
 papers from Canada. Cleaned up my office
 and spent balance of afternoon & evening
 writing diary letters, which I was glad to
 get off my chest, but not difficult as of
 course had my pocket diary to go by. (McEwen)
 dropped in for a short call. I cannot say
 too much in favor of this exceptionally
 fine type of young Canadian, although
 even he is getting a few grey hairs.

Friday 15 March. Rode up to Corps with
 young Hume Blake (whose mother you
 knew) and had an easy date at Brits
 martial as only 2 cases instead of 7 or 8
 Boho army man boy and we had lunch
 together at Officers Club a new but very
 much needed institution about which I think
 will tell you as he stayed there. Met
 young Griffith who is at last back with
 R.C.A. He says Seeley Hunt is now a
 Brig - General in Canada. Met several
 others we know and rode back across
 country as fields were chined up

5

17-3-18

Heard Gen Henri Pantl near me in nest
but leaving tomorrow so went down & had
tea with him, stayed 2 hours chatting,
a fine chap but quite white now. Mrs
Pantl still in England. He says Warran
has never forgiven him for Petawawa
& his backing Wood. Late for dinner.
Mayer Lydyard arrived & was attached in
Scherson's place. No word from Sally
and Ann worried. Scherson has got
candy from dear Alice. Made Faltwat
sundae in evening. Mines
heavily bombed between 8 & 10 P.M.
although quite black outside. I don't
know how they find their way about.

Saturday 16 March Rode out to drill
field after breakfast with Smith to plan out
course of jumps and to interview the old
"Gard du bois" about getting the necessary
material but could not find him.
Attended stable. Ground frozen during
night but warm & bright during day.
Held office after lunch and gave Mr. C.
21 days for using profane language to
an M.C.O. Spent all afternoon in office
planning a few tactical schemes for
next week and was not through until
nearly dinner time. Had a letter from
Sally at last telling about road which

6

17-3-18

was a great relief. She was dining
down town and had just finished
dinner when the "alert" went.

She went to the Crillon with the party
and waited there until midnight when the
"all clear" went & then walked home. 2
bombs fell very close and she saw a
wounded French officer brought into
hosp. Since then there has been
another big explosion in Paris. Read
Cosmopolitan all evening (Feb no) but
have not rec Jan but with the synopsis
it does not matter.

Sunday 17 March another beautiful day.
Inspected all officers' chargers on field at
10.00 AM, then dismissed them & did a
little tent pegging. Did not get a peg as
eye out of practice I suppose. Radd again
after lunch & meeting the Mayor of - in the
Bais with some friends and hunting
accepted their invitation for café (Piquon)
and made all arrangements about material
for jumps. Schooled Peggy on field
where she put me off!!!! Signed
returns in office. Bird have been visiting
here ever since except for high tea at
6.00. Eating Alice's cucumbers & still
now read Canadian mail and add
a few lines after. St Patrick's Day

7

17-3-18

your letter dearest Mother of Feb 18
 (a month) with announcement of Col
 James death and McTaggart's call.
 He is one on a thousand of the best and
 has been wounded several times but
 never went to hospital. The last time
 was badly but in thigh but attended
 to all his men but lay still before
 he awoke up to it and a result wound
 became infected. Hope he does not
 hurry back. Always ready here but
 no tobacco or rasins you spoke of
 before but plenty of time yet as
 parcels very slow! None have ever
 reached Sabah so far. Thanks
 also for all enclosures. Griffith
 and Jean Balders still on Island
 Night with malaria. Balders
 over here again.

Tell dear Father he need not put
"or Belgium" on my letters. "France"
 quite sufficient.

Father's letters of Feb 18th to hand
 and have only read them hurriedly.
 He was very kind to me over! O!
 Will try and analyze later send
 him in a week or so. The letter
 from Edna. Very much love
 Jbb