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17
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FOREIGN:- SUAVITER, LONDON.

TELEPHONE NOS { 5722 } AVENUE.
 { 5723 }

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148½ FENCHURCH STREET.

LONDON. E.C.3.

23rd August, 1917.

Mrs Leonard,
Hotel Lord Byron,
Champs Elysees,
PARIS.

Dear Mrs Leonard,

Your letter of 20th inst. reached me this morning. I got your previous letter alright and I sent you a few lines in acknowledgment. Can it have gone astray? There was nothing of importance in it. It was merely wishing you to convey my best wishes to Mr. Leonard and to wish him the best of good luck.

I can quite understand your remaining in Paris when there is always a chance of seeing your hubby. I can quite believe that Paris is not like what it used to be in the old pre-War days, but I am surprised that it is even duller than London. Perhaps when you get to know some of your neighbours you will get over the lonely feeling you have.

Any correspondence that reaches here for you will be promptly re-addressed to the Hotel Lord Byron.

TO Mrs Leonard,
Paris.

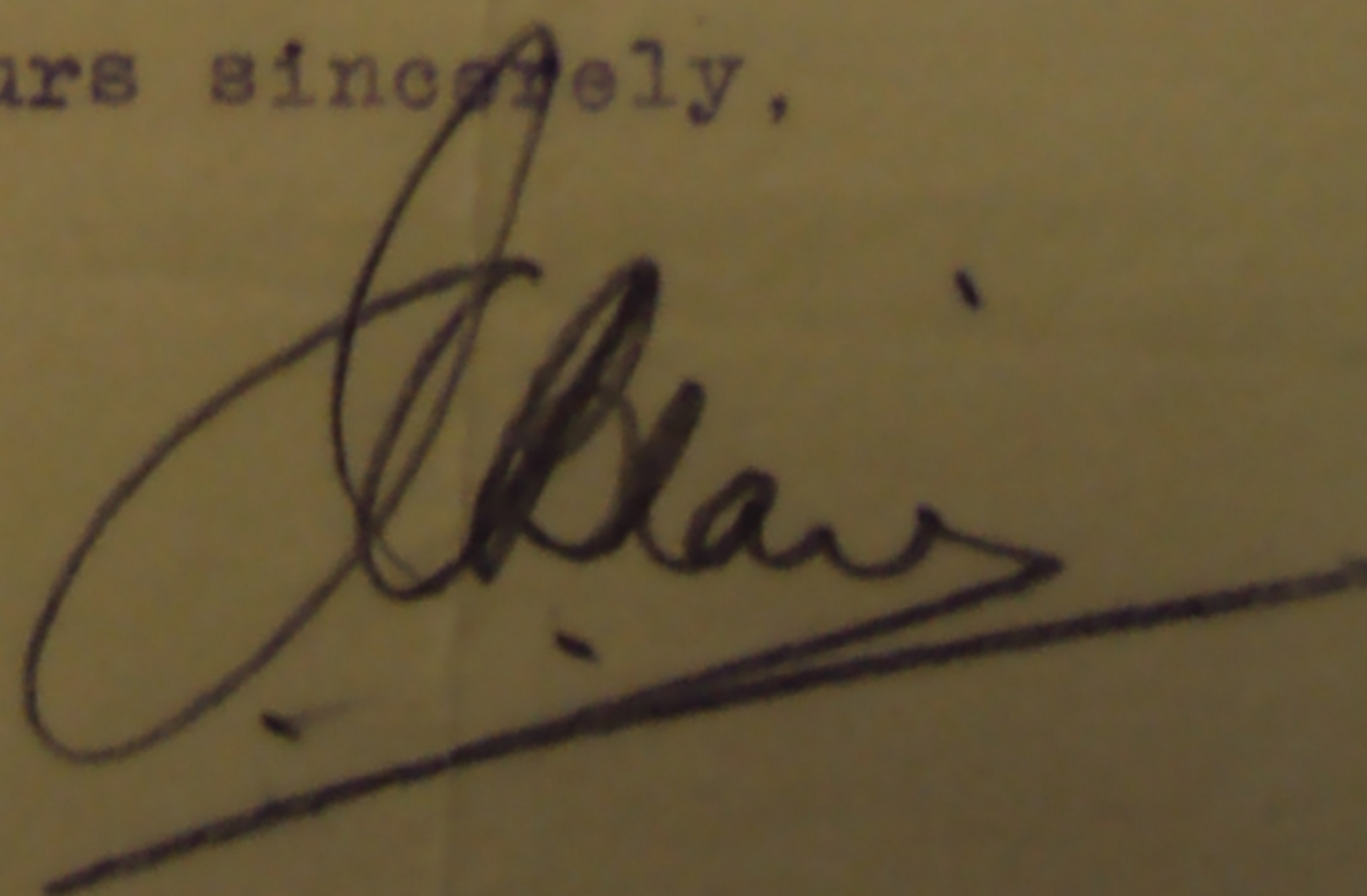
DATE 23/8/17.

My boy Tom was home for ten days leave and left on Monday. We were very glad to have him with us. He is leaving the Artillery and going into the Flying Corps. That seems to be the attractive Service nowadays for the younger generation.

It is with great regret I have to inform you of the death of Captain W. H. C. Kidston, of the A. & S. Highlanders, who died from wounds received in action on the 8th inst. I do not think you met him as he joined up early in the War and was only home occasionally on short leave. He assisted me in the management of this office and I feel his loss very keenly. He was a fine, straightforward fellow, of sterling qualities, and a personality that endeared him to all. He was the eldest son of our Senior, aged 38, and unmarried. He has three brothers and two sisters, and to his Father and Mother his death has been a great blow.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J. Blair', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.