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I bh getting married. I had
known of this engagement long
since it became an
accomplished fact but had
no hint that they would
decide to tie up so
soon.

I am quite convinced that
they did the proper thing
under the circumstances but
it was too bad that
mother could not have
been present. She will
naturally feel it but they
will likely get a chance to
go to London for at least
a day or so before I bh
leaves which will do a
lot towards straightening
it all out.

Am glad Uncle Jack
was in the secret as he
is such a blabber what
a chatter there must

West Saxon Hall
Lolishbury Plain
16. 12. 14.



Dear Elaine

Your two letters
came duly to hand and I
was delighted to get them
also your good wishes
which I naturally appreciate
very much. Mother also
forwarded me several of
your letters giving some
particulars of I bh's wedding.
These with yours to me
and one he wrote himself
have posted me pretty well
on the great event and
attendant circumstances.

I do not think that
I was as much surprised
as some others at ~~it~~

have been among all the
relations in Montreal when
they heard the news
also among the people
in London.

Mother tells me that
Anthony did very well at
his ~~exams~~ examinations
and I suppose that I
can tender my
congratulations. Did he
join the Vics or some
other Montreal regiment.
He ought to make an
excellent officer and
will no doubt take
the thing up very
seriously. How does he
like guarding the

Lochme canal, should
think that everything is
so frozen up by now that
even a German bomb
would not do very much
harm. How did you all
get on at the C.

Sydney Lyman's doubtless
you had a most jolly
party and they
probably spread themselves,
had all the best
silver and linen out
and so on.

Mother sent me
Lally's letter and I am
returning it the next
time I write. She will
get a separation
allowance from the
government of fifty
dollars a month which

actually going to the front. We are still lying in a sea of mud and as it rains nearly all the time everyone is more or less wet. This however is a minor evil and the men are on the whole, standing these discomforts very well. There was quite a bit of excitement yesterday when someone shouted out "the sun is shining". I rushed out of my tent but was too late to get a glimpse of old Sol, though there is every reason to believe that he appeared for a moment or so.


I now have command of the Twelfth Battery in

5.



is entirely separate from It's pay. This is not a very large sum but it will doubtless help and they would not have had it, if they had only been engaged. When I heard about it I at once looked around for someone to marry but unfortunately there was no one just then available and I had to let the opportunity slip.

Things here are not moving very rapidly ~~fast~~ and as yet we have no definite word of



the Third Field Artillery
Brigade. It is made up
of sections from other
Batteries and it means a
lot of work to get it
in shape. However I
have Mr Emen Leardrett
and Mr Taggart with me
and my officers at least
will be second to none
which means a whole lot.

Nyla has secured
a commission in one of
the new battalions in
Hutchinson's army and is
stationed at Lurndon, a
couple of hours west of
here. I have made

several abortive attempts to
see him but will probably
hit it off sooner or later.
Mrs Betts is staying in
London and I called when
up there but missed her.

I am trying now to
plan for plum pudding
and mince pies for
the men on Christmas
but we are in the
middle of a plain here
about 10 or 12 miles
from a railway and there
is no way of getting things
out here that is at
all satisfactory. I think
I shall spend Christmas
here and try to run
up to London for
New Year but have



as yet, made no definite plans as the organization of the new Battery is by no means complete.

I had a letter the other day from Mary Labatt thanking me for congratulations etc. I suppose she is really finally and definitely engaged at last. I always had a soft spot for her but will now have to transfer it to someone else. I do there anything new about Jean and Balder; am pretty sure they are engaged. Suppose this regiment is still in Bermuda.

Have little or no news so
will draw this to a
close. Give my best to
Anby and the same
for yourself

your loving brother

Ward.

P. S. If the "Bhotam Lemards"
are still at the "Anby
Schapfields" give them
the same as above.