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December 4th/16.

FEL/C.

FRIDAY

November 24th. Paid \$3459.00 to 175 men including \$938.00 piece work.

SATURDAY

November 25th. Very cold with 4" snow. Arrived home at 5.30 yesterday and looked over some papers and trophies, helmets, which arrived in good shape. Was much pleased with the map sent me and readily got locations from Ibb's letter which is very gratifying. Will have the map mounted and hung in the library for reference.

Paid Hayman the balance on the boiler house contract \$332.00.

Spent the afternoon in office looking over letters and talked with Messrs. Holmes & Morgan about shell contracts. We will start full handed very shortly as we have rough blanks enough to do. On the whole things have gone along very well during my absence which is very gratifying.

Got a cheque for \$9800.00 from the Imperial Munition Board, and the balance to-day in our favor is \$27,500.00.

Innis called on us at 9 P.M. and had a good talk, he looks well and likes Ottawa.

MONDAY

November 27th. Mild and bright. Maitland laid 24 ft. cement floor in the Blacksmith shop yesterday which will bring it up on the floor level. We will utilize this for drilling the small grub screw holes in the end of the shell and catch the shells on the way to the inspection room which will leave more room for Jas. McIlvanna to do his work *in mounting shop.*

Maitland got all the shells under cover to-day.

TUESDAY

November 28th. Cloudy & foggy. Dictated long letter to you both. Shipped car of shells 982. Looked over some of Woodmans papers in the evening.

WEDNESDAY

November 29th. Rain. Made up a price of four Special Oilwell Locomotive Boilers for Waterous to go in connection with the saw mill order he has got. We infer that they could not make them in time to fill the order. We raised the price so we will have a fair profit in them after allowing them 10% which is the standard discount between us whenever we can work each others good *S* into a sale.

Looked over the cost of 4.5 and 5" shells for a letter to you later on.

Had my ears and throat examined by Dr. Thompson with a view of

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taking treatment for my hearing which has gone back on me considerable the last 12 mos. He informs me that he could do nothing for me as the tubes are more or less hardened and he knows of no treatment that could assist me, I was not very much disappointed but he informs me that the possibility is that my hearing may not get any worse.

THURSDAY

November 30th.

Cold and dull. Mr. Morgan has been off three days with a cold but came round for a couple of hours.

Received a lot of printed matter from Wm. Dolton caretaker of Lundys Lane Battle Ground comprising papers on the war of 1812 which I will look over and hold for your inspection when you return home.

Received \$6600.00 from the Imperial Munition Board. Shipped 1488 shells to-day.

We had notice from Thos. Robertson & Company that boiler tubes have made another advance and they will sell from stock in Montreal at these astounding prices.

2", 20¢, 2½", 26¢, 3", 30¢, 3½", 36¢, 4", 48¢.

Our 5000 tubes coming in would not cost us half these amounts so we will be very well stocked for the spring business.

Finished cementing 40 ft. between the rails from sand shed to past the office in the boiler shop which will be a great comfort to us all and keep us out of the mud this winter considerable.

Paid 57¢ per lb. for 200 lbs. tin, this is the highest that I can remember to have ever paid for this precious metal.

Mailed two page letter to sons with list of employees and customers. Credit at the bank the end of this month \$28627.60.

FRIDAY

December 1st.

Bright and warm. Paid \$3468.00 to 177 men including \$1004.00 piece work. Worked only until 11 P.M. as we only had work enough for a few men for the balance of the night.

I have christened this day as the Village Blacksmith day which you will understand from the letter I wrote you on Sunday.

Wired price to the Purchasing War Commission on 20 Eclipse Boilers 40 H.P. 42" x 14 ft. and two oilwell boilers 40 H.P. if Watrous does not take them.

Looked over our stock of plates and tubes with the Cook boys and find we have everything except fire brick slabs, steel nozzles and braces which is very gratifying.

Had a call from the representative of the Keystone Pulley Company Oneida, N.Y. State who urged us very strongly to become their exclusive agent for London on the sale of their splendid pulleys which Evans has taken up in place of the British Steel Pulleys which he is unable to procure from Great Britain under the present situation. We were almost persuaded to take a stock of 200 assorted sizes costing about \$1200.00 to start the business with which would net us at least 25%. Felt very favorable to the proposition but asked them to hold it open for six months as we have not the room to stock them. This Agency would we think bring us in touch with a lot of customers that we seldom hear about in Western Ontario. You might say what you think about this matter. They would furnish us with printed matter and help us in every way.

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SATURDAY

December 2.

Banner week in the production of shells, total for the six days 3448. Wired the War commission to-day that we could make and furnish five boilers in three weeks, five in two weeks after and five in two weeks after that which we think should bring the order. This does not include the five 40 H.P. Eclipse that we have in Vancouver, Montreal and St. John, which we think we should be able to get off in two or three weeks if they give us the order.

Price of iron is now \$3.75 per 100 lbs. and for steel \$3.38.

Called with Mother on Mrs. Mercier late 6th Field Battery and found she and her children wonderfully bright under the circumstances.