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August 13th/17.

Lieut.Col. Ibbotson Leonard,
Canadian Corps Cavalry Regiment,
B.E.F. France.

My Dear Ibb -

SUNDAY August 5th. 91 In the shade byt cool in the evening with rain. Went to church as usual and heard a very good sermon from young Doherty an old member of Memorial church.

Maitland moving Clipper engines from platform shed into mounting shed and they are a pretty scaly lot of machines with the dust and parts all separated. We will have to get them cleaned and painted 1st opportunity before we repair them as they are like so many singed cats.

Morgan fixed quarter belt pulley and got it back in place and relined furnace to-day.

MONDAY August 6th. Civic holiday. 81 in the shade and a beautiful day. Opened mail, some money but no orders. Received power of attorney from E.I.L. to act as executor in his place for Woodman's Estate. Nearly all the men are at work and a splendid start is being made on 4.5.

Maitland cleaning out shipping shed for a new bonding room which is made necessary because we have to have one car load loading and one carload in bond to keep the machine in proper running order. Mr. Holmes and Mr. Lamond away to-day. At 2.30 we had a ride in the new Sedan on the river road to Delaware, Mount Brydges Strathroy, Coldstream and home in about 4 hours net going totalling about 51 mi. The day was perfect and dustless, Mother in excellent spirits.

TUESDAY August 7th. Warm and bright. Received E.I.L.'s will and sent it down to Gibbons, Harper & Gibbons, received cable word "Well" which is very gratifying. Paid \$1212.00 for Sedan and accessories to the Ford Company. The machine is perfect except for one or two remedable faults which they have primised to rectify.

Inspector Cooper of the Ontario District and his Assistant, Steel, Local Inspector made a two hour call upon us and discussed copper banding and other matters. The former he was not pleased with and we have promised to rectify it. They do not send us the copper bands of the same composition, some are hard and some are soft and they do not ALWAYS press up into the dove-tail, we laid this matter before him and he would not yield an inch but as we are now using a narrower band on the 4.5, we think there will be less ground for complain in the future.

Sent you copy of letter re Sarah and also included business notes which are this week one day later.

WEDNESDAY August 8th. Paid \$4617.00 for Workmens Compensation for 1916 and a part payment towards 1917 this is an awful charge and an outrage to those in our class of business. They have raised our rates from .80¢ to \$1.30 and \$1.60. There is no more risk in running a machine making shells than there is in turning engine work, we however have no chance of appeal and they are soaking us as hard as they can. It is enough with the War Tax and these Laws they are constantly bringing forth to drive manufacturers out of the business and prevent capital in the future going into it.

Board met and decided to not proceed with the wall next the G.T. track until some decision has been arrived at for Traction business or some other kind of Marine work. Read them part of E.I.L's letter mentioned a 50 ft. crane.

Attended Huron & Erie and Canada Trust a long tedious meeting but everything quite satisfactory. Business rather dull in finances.

Wrote Paymaster Robertson, Woodman's friend a long letter thanking him for his many courtesies.

THURSDAY August 9th. It is four months to-day since dear Woodman gave his life up at Vimy, we are all feeling his absence very much. Things very quiet in the office and works to-day.

FRIDAY August 10th. Cool and bright. Paid \$3877.00 to 195 men including \$1336.00 piece work. Men very slow in taking up the finishing of 4.5 shells. We also find the Inspectors more than ever stringent especially as to weight. Nosing press has been out of service from a broken platten at the top.

Maitland and his crew cleaning up Western boulevard remains of part of our York Street shed.

Mr. Holmes announces that he has overlooked deducting \$5600.00 worth of condemned shells as a loss which will come off our value of stock on hand. This seems a large sum but when you consider it is the result of machining nearly 150,000, 5" shells with a lot of very very inexperienced and stupid workmen.

Got press working at 10 P.M. and worked all night. Have about the works about 10 series of 5" shells in process. Got samples off for Quebec for firing purposes as the test will take place this side of the Atlantic instead of in England for 4.5. This will delay our holding 3 series at a time for 4 days and necessitates additional bonding room as spoken about previously.

SATURDAY August 11th. Cold and bright. Mr. John Weld has a cable that his son who was reported missing is now a prisoner in Germany. Mrs. Weld was feeling dreadful over the suspense and now everything is joy and happiness, she is a great worked at Red Cross.

Went for a ride to Delaware, Kilworth and Springbank, a beautiful perfect day, very tired at night and retired early.