

563 Gnr: W. J. Shave  
14<sup>th</sup> M. G. Co  
A. I. F.  
On Active Service

If this book is found, please send it to  
Miss. A. Buchanan  
"Kelso"  
Woodbury Street  
Marrickville, Sydney. N.S.W.  
Australia

Editor's notes  
M. G. Co - stands for Machine Gun Company.

***NOTES TO REMEMBER***

***Watch No.*** 8305903,2746

***Regiment*** 14<sup>th</sup> M. G. Co A.I.F

***Regimental No.*** 563

***Owners Name*** Gnr: W. J. Shave  
"Kelso"  
Woodbury St  
Marrickville  
Sydney.

***To whom please return this Book if found.***  
Name on cover.

***SATURDAY, Jan. 20<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(20-345***

June 21<sup>st</sup>  
Poppy picked  
on the ground  
where the "Great  
Somme Offensive"  
started  
see WJS Bible

***SUNDAY, Jan. 21<sup>st</sup>, 1917.***

***(-344)***

***3rd after Epiphany.***

This poppy was  
picked on the ground  
where the "Great  
Somme Offensive" started

**FRIDAY, June 1<sup>st</sup>, 1917.**

Sep-13-1917

**(152-213**

Belton Park Camp    Grantham

Volunteered for "Over-Seas"

Sept 13<sup>th</sup>

Another party were told off to go up into the line in the evening. Oh what a game we had. We got lost and shells were flying about in all directions. I nearly got a 'blighty' but not quite. I stopped a piece of shell with my tin helmet and then lost my hat. We got to our destination about 1-0a.m. Soon after we commenced to dig Fritz started sending us a few whiz bangs. Bombardment started at 3-0am, so we got for our lives. Coming home we had the trip of our lives. I went into the mud about 8" above my knees, lost my rifle, fell into shell holes etc. As we passed " Hell Fire Corner" we saw men and horses lying on the road. Lorries and carts turned upside down. All landed home safely.

Editor's Note

This diary entry is continued from Sept 13<sup>th</sup> (256-109)

***SATURDAY, JUNE 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1917.***

***153-212)***

Wasmad for "Over- Seas"

Sep 20<sup>th</sup>

- on our left and completely accounted for a party of pioneers. Things quietened down about 8-0 p.m. We went on filling our belts, ready for any emergency call. The Australian took ? Woods and Nonne Bossen.

Editor's Notes

This diary entry is continued from Sept 20<sup>th</sup> (263-102).

The unreadable name ? could be Glencorse Wood, it is close to Nonne Bossen on the map and is mentioned on Sept 26<sup>th</sup>.

***SUNDAY, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1917.***

***George V. born, 1865  
Trinity Sunday.***

***(154-211***

Mr W. Wellbourne  
37 Bridge End Rd  
Grantham  
Lines.

Made tea and spent the evening at the above address.

Sep 26<sup>th</sup> Glencourse Wood

dark. Fritz was shelling my ? all the time. We counter  
attacked 2 or 3 times. We gained our objectives (Jetty  
Wood).(Rare Comer?)

I got word that Jim Watmough was missing. Happy this  
proved to be wrong. He was wounded.

Editor's Notes

This diary entry is continued from Sept 26<sup>th</sup> (269-96)  
Glencourse is spelt Glencorse on the map.

***MONDAY, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***155-21?) Last day in England***

9-0am Inspected by O. C

9-45 " " " ?

11-45 " " " G. O. C

General De La M. Mill.

2-0p.m Parade

4-0 " "

6-0 " "

7-0 " "

8-0 " "

8-30 " Dinner

9-20 " Parade

9-30 " Marched off

10-45 " Arrived at station

11-35 " Left station for London

2-0am Arrived at Kings Cross

2-35 " Arrived at London Bridge.

Friends from Grantham came to see us off

Marched into town headed by "our band".

First official engagement of the band.



***TUESDAY, June 5<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(156-209***

Arrived at Boulogne

5.5.am Arrived at Swarcliffe marched to rest camp ?. ? we had breakfast.

7-0am Left Rest Camp and marched to wharf.

Left wharf at 8-20am and arrived at Boulogne about 10-0am.

Marched to rest camp. What a hill we had to climb. The camp is situated near a wireless station.

(Ostrohove Camp) Went for a walk around Boulogne.

Filthy town. The slums of London are not a patch to the slums of Boulogne.

***WEDNESDAY, June 6<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***157-208)***      Arrived at Camiers

Up at 5-30a.m. Had breakfast

Paraded at 7-40a.m.

Marched to Neufchatel Rest Camp, with full pack up.

Had dinner there and then made our own way to Anzac

M. G. B. D, Camiers

Went for a walk through town after tea.

Another filthy town.

(Editor's Notes

This entry below is continued from Oct 15<sup>th</sup> (288-77)

Me on "Exempt of Duty"

So I went back into camp and stayed there.

The ground where our guns position were, was, in piece a fine Belgian Garden, but what we was up there, it looked greatly different.

***THURSDAY, June 7<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***Corpus Christi***

***(158-207***

Nothing particular doing to-day.

Several of the boys including myself went for a paddle in the Channel.

? our gas helmets.

Wrote to Alice No.23.

***FRIDAY, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***159-206)***

Put through our stripping, lock and gun.

Put through our stoppages on 30<sup>th</sup> range.

***SATURDAY, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(160-205***

Went to Etaples to draw our rifles. Called into a camp on our way to go into gas chamber also to go through trench for tear gas. We passed a terrible lot of camps, also hospitals. 24<sup>th</sup>+26<sup>th</sup>. General Hospitals are situated here. We also passed a cemetery. The average burials are 62 a day.

***SUNDAY, June 10<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***161-204)***

***1<sup>st</sup> after Trinity***

Nothing particular doing today.

Cyril Hughes and myself went down to Camiers Beach and had our tea.

(Wrote to Alice 24)

***MONDAY, June 11<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***St. Barnabas***

***(162-203***

Picked out for draught, to proceed to the firing line.

***TUESDAY, June 12<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***163-202)***

Arrived at Etaples

Inspection – by Lieu: Colonel.

Marched out of camp 5-30 p.m.

Arrived at Etaples 7-15 p.m.

Etaples is the biggest camp we have seen so far in France

Etaples is the biggest Infantry camp.

Stayed at I. B. D Rest Camp

Etaples for the night.

Wrote to Alice 25.



***WEDNESDAY, June 13<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

Arrived at Albert and Becourt

Up at 4-30 a.m. Got aboard train to proceed up to the line. Passed through Abbeville, Amiens. Got out at Albert Station had been blown to atoms. Marched through the town. Town also blown down. Cathedral- felled to the ground. The "Modonna" was hanging, but was prevented from falling, by wires which had been put there by the engineers. We marched to Becourt Camp. This is situated on the battle-field where the great battle of the "Somme" was fought. We were put in this camp so as to wait to join up our company. According to what we see here the German prisoners have a real good time. Just at the entrance of this camp is a charred cross. It is said that at this cross a Canadian was crucified and burnt.

***THURSDAY, June 14<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

Arrived at Albert and Becourt. continued

Out on parade with 14<sup>th</sup> Brigade, (Infantry).

In the evening several of the boys myself included went for a stroll over trenches and into dug outs. We saw the largest mine crater that has been laid up to the present time. By all accounts the Germans began to mine this place and the British mined underneath them. The British caused the trouble because they blew up the German that were above them. It's a tremendous hole and there are 20 British soldiers buried at the bottom.

Alice (wrote to) 26

Wrote to mother.

***FRIDAY, June 15<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(166-199***

Bathing Parade. Marched to Aveluy, and bathed in water that flooded the park. This water came here by an old woman opening the lock gates and so flooding the ground, thus preventing the advance of the Germans for 3 weeks. This old lady was the only female that ever received the "French Legion of Honour" medal. She died about six months afterward.

Wrote to Mona. 20.

Sent card to Alice. Had it returned

***SATURDAY, June 16<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***167-198)***

Nothing extra doing today.

All we did was to go on an "Out-post" stunt.

Wrote to Mrs Jones

" " P "

" " G. Burgess.

" " A. Clipsham.

" " Mrs Buchanan.

***SUNDAY, June 17<sup>th</sup>, 1917***

***2<sup>nd</sup> after Trinity***

***(168-197***

No church parade today.

Went into Albert and saw Alick Orth and Frank Cooney.

Wrote to Major Buchanan.

***MONDAY, June 18<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***169-196)      Battle of Waterloo, 1815***

Cyril and myself went to Warloy-Baillon to see Jack Robinson and Sam Baugh. Jack looked remarkably well. We had a real good feed before returning to Becourt Camp.

Wrote to Alice 27

***TUESDAY, June 19<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***O 1.2 p.m***

***(170-195***

Same old routine, route marches.

***WEDNESDAY, June 20<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***171-194)***

Today the officer tried to give us a route march right around France, or at least it seemed like it, because he walked us fairly off of our legs.

Frank Pennington and the rest of our mates left us today to join their company, near Amiens.

Wrote to Miss. L. Mills.      Delayed  
“      “      A. Clipsham.      “



***THURSDAY, June 21<sup>st</sup>, 1917.***

***(172-193***

Usual routine. Route marches and the drill.

***FRIDAY, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1917.***

***173-192)***

***Summer Commences***

Arrived at Warloy-Baillon

Got orders to get ready to move to join up our company.

Moved off at 12.45 p.m. Had a "joy ride" in a motor lorry to Warloy-Baillon where our company was situated.

Arrived there about 2.0 p.m.

Jack and I went for a stroll around the neighbouring country.

***SATURDAY, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1917.***

***Prince of Wales born 1894      174-191)  
Cambridge Easter Term ends.***

Jack, J Hodgen and myself went for a good stroll around some of the neighbouring villages Contay, Esbart, Beaucourt, Bavelincourt etc. Arrived back too late for dinner.

I was put into number 3 section for the time being.

In the evening I visited Warloy-Baillon Church. Very pretty little church.

Wrote to	Alice	Field card + letter 28
"	"      Emily	"
"	"      Mother	"
"	"      Mr Ball	"
"	"      Mrs Jones	"

Just six months since I left ?.

***SUNDAY, June 24<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***175-190)***

***Midsummer Day.***

***St. John Baptist***

***3<sup>rd</sup> alter Trinity***

No church parade to-day.

I intended going to the Y. M. C. A in the evening,  
but was prevented owing to having to mount guard at  
5-45p.m. This was my first guard in France.

Jack went to Amiens for the day, and Alick and Ernie Orth  
came to see me from Senlis.

Wrote to	Miss M. Quine.	Field card
" "	Mrs Bradley.	" "
" "	Major Buchanan."	" "
" "	Mr Reeling.	" "
" "	Mrs Quine. letter.	

About 8-0 p.m. I had a very pleasant surprise. Percy Jones  
came to see me from Aveluy.

I thought he was in the line but instead of that, he was  
resting.

He stayed about 45 mins. It was real good to see him.

***MONDAY, June 25<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(176-189***

On guard until 6-0 p.m.

Wrote to Alice. Field-card

***TUESDAY, June 26<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***177-188)***

Spud- barbering for one hour. Then went collecting wood for cookhouse.

Finished at 9-0 a.m for the rest of the day.

Wrote to Mother

“ “ Mrs ?. Field-card.

Editor's Notes

A “Spud-barber” is a man on cookhouse fatigue, especially potato peeling.

***WEDNESDAY, June 27<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***) 4.8 pm.***

***(178-187***

Brigade route march to Frankvillers on to the Amiens Road and back again.

Percy Jones and Ray Williams came to see me about 1-0 p.m.

We had a good talk over old times. It was real good to have them here. We had tea together in the canteen.

Both looked real well. They went back to their billets in Aveluy about 7-0 p.m.

Editor's Note

Frankvillers could be Franvillers on the map.

***THURSDAY, June 28<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***179-186)***

Nothing particular doing today owing to rain.  
Went to the pictures with Jack and Jim.

Wrote to ?.

“ “ A. Clipsham.

“ “ Alice. Field-card

Received parcel from Alice.



***FRIDAY, June 29<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***St. Peter***

***(180-185***

Review at 2-0 p.m. of 14<sup>th</sup> Brigade General Birdwood and Mr Holman (Premier N.S.W) inspected.

General Birdwood made a speech also Mr Holman.

About 40 fellows were presented with their medals and ribbons by the General.

General Birdwood took the salute.

Wrote to Alice.29.

“ “ Mona – 3 post-cards.

***SATURDAY, June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***181-184)***

First reasonable Pay-Day.

40 Francs.

Made application for Australian Flying Corps but was not accepted.

***SUNDAY, July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1917.***

***Dominion Day (1867)  
4<sup>th</sup> after Trinity***

***(182-183***

Church parade at 11-0 a.m. in an old barn.

Went to Aveluy to see Percy and Ray.

Had tea in Percy's tent. We three went for a walk into Aveluy in the evening. Walked back to Bouzincourt with Percy and Ray. Then I went home to Warloy-Baillon. I was with them about six hours.

On the way to Aveluy, I passed through Senlis and Bouzincourt.

***MONDAY, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1917.***

***183-182)***

Route march in the morning

Innoculated in the afternoon and given 48 hours off.

Jack and Jim went into Amiens.

Sent silk-card to Alice and field-card.

“ “ “ Florrie Jones.

“ “ “ Joy Jones.

Sent packet of post-cards to Alice.

***TUESDAY, July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1917.***

***(184-181***

Feeling crook owing to inoculation. Laid under a pear tree all day.

Sent field-card to      W. ?  
"      "      "      "      ? . ?

Wrote to Alice. 30.

***WEDNESDAY, July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***185-180) Independence D., U.S.A., 1776.  
O 9.40 pm.***

Nothing doing. Gentleman's life.

Brigade sports in the afternoon.

Wrote to Major Buchanan and field-card

Somewhere about this time we heard that Mr Holman, Gen.  
Birdwood and Brig: Gen. Holmes went up to the line.  
Brig: Gen. Holmes got killed and Mr Holman shell shock.

***THURSDAY, July 5<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***186-179)***

Gun drill. First I have done since I first put my foot on French soil.

Addressed by Chaplin-Captain Ward. (Archdeacon Ward of Victoria)

George Burgess came to see me. Spent about three hours together.

Had orders to get ready to move the next day.

***FRIDAY, July 6<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***187-178)      George V. married, 1893***

Arrived at Mailly Woods

Left Warloy-Baillon about 9-0 a.m. for Mailly Woods. Passed through Hedauville.

Arrived at Mailly Woods at about 12-0 noon.

Feeling out of sorts.

Wrote to Alice (31) 9 post cards

“      “      Mrs Buchanan.

“      “      A. Clipsham.



***SATURDAY, July 7<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***Oxford Trinity Term ends (188-177***

Paid an official visit to the “ Quack“.

Complaint, “Pryexia” whatever that is I don’t know. I suppose it’s another war dodge. Any rate it stopped me from chasing around with a machine gun, so I was satisfied.

Jack and Jim and myself went into Mailly-Maillet. It must have been a fairly large place before the war but of course it’s down to the ground now.

What-O “ the ? trees and bushes.”

Wrote to mother.

Editor’s Notes

Pryexia is spelt Pyrexia. It is Trench Fever.

***SUNDAY, July 8<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***189-176)***

***5<sup>th</sup> after Trinity***

I got put into the 55<sup>th</sup> Batt. Rest Hut for a few days. They have started to look after us well.

We had a fearful storm just at dinner-time.

They look after us real well in here. I wouldn't mind boarding at this establishment.

I was informed that I had a slight touch of trench fever.

Twelve months today since I enlisted, according to dates.

***MONDAY, July 9<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***Fire Insurance expires (190-175***

In bed again. Why worry? You have all your meals brought to you.

Wrote to Percy and Ray.

“ “ A. Clipsham.

***TUESDAY, July 10<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***191-174)***

Same as yesterday, in bed.  
Got up towards evening.

Sent letter to Alice via England.

Wrote to Mona 22

“ “ ? ?. card

“ “ Emily.

“ “ Grace.

“ “ Mr Jones Field-card

“ “ Esther “ “

**WEDNESDAY, July 11<sup>th</sup>, 1917.**

**(( 0.12 pm.**

**(192-173**

Got up at 10-30 a.m. Went for a stroll around the camp and got talking to some Fritzzy prisoners. One I was talking to was a Prussian Guard. He said that he would rather be a prisoner than fighting in the line.

Wrote to Alice. 32

Wrote to Mrs ?                      Field -card

Wrote to Major Buchanan.

"        "        Mrs Meadows.    Field-card.

"        "        "        Cooke        "        "

"        "        Mr    ?        "        "

"        "        Alice        "        "

"        "        V. ?        "        "

"        "        V. Bowman        "        "

"        "        J. Atkinson        "        "

"        "        Lucy        "        "

***THURSDAY, July 12<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***193-172)***

Review at Louvencourt, The King attending. I did not go because I was still in the rest hut. I missed a treat (I don't think) The boys had to stand from 12-0 to 4-0 pm waiting for King George to arrive. Everyone was dead beat when they arrived home about 7-0 p.m.

Sent ?? to Alice

" 2 pks of P.C. to Alice

Wrote to Gordon ?

***FRIDAY, July 13<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(194-171***

Nothing doing today so far.

14<sup>th</sup> Brigade went out on a night stunt, capturing villages and one thing and another.

I did not go, owing to being in the rest hut still.

(Wrote to Daisy.)

A German ? told us that the war would last ? month from now ? ? ? ?

30/8/17

This proved to be wrong.

***SATURDAY, July 14<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***195-170)***

Sent back to our company from Rest Hut, during the morning.

Jim, Jack and myself strolled into Mailly for the pictures, but only officers were allowed in, so we went to get some eteries.

Jim and another fellow ? ? the two when the old "Fritz" came out and chased them.

Have been in the garden ? ? today.



***SUNDAY, July 15<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***6<sup>th</sup> after Trinity  
St. Swithun***

***(196-169***

Nothing doing again today.

Wrote letter to Alice to go via England.

Wrote to	Alice	Field-card
"	"	"
"	"	"
"	"	"

***MONDAY, July 16<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***197-186)***

Arrived at Contay

Moved from Mailly Woods at 7-0 a.m for Contay.

Passed through Hedauville, Warloy-Baillon, and Vadencourt.

Arrived at Contay about 10-20 a.m.

Just as we were about to enter Warloy we were held up for a company of Indian Cavalry to pass.

They made one of the smartest cavalry regiments I have seen.

We had a bath parade in the afternoon and it was not before it was wanted.

***TUESDAY, July 17<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(198-167***

Out on the range to test the guns.

Paid during the afternoon.

Went for a walk around Contay. Don't think much of the place.

***WEDNESDAY, July 18<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***199-166)***

Went out to do "barrage fire", but was unable to do it because it was raining.

Went to Boulizicourt, met Alick Orth, Frank Cooney, Frank Pennington and several other mates.

Marched on to Beaucourt for a lecture on machine gun fire.

Went into Warloy during the afternoon and had our photograph taken.

***THURSDAY, July 19<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***O 3.0 am.***

***(200-165***

Got up early and walked to Heilly and then caught the train for Amiens. Arrived in Amiens about 9-0 a-m had breakfast. Then went into the cathedral. The cathedral is a wonderful building and marvellously pretty. The alter is especially fine. As a town, to my opinion it is not much. It has some fine buildings etc. A chap cannot get a proper feed under 8 francs. One thing I noticed was the enormous amount of canals that there are passing under the town. The "Somme" also passes through Amiens. We returned home again about 7-45 p.m by motor lorry and motor bus, arriving in Contay about 9-20 p.m.

Sent book of views and handkerchief pouch to Alice.

***FRIDAY, July 20<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***201-164)***

Nothing doing until 10-30 am then we went and had a bath.  
After dinner, belt filling.

Sent card to     Percy Jones  
"     "     "     A. Clipsham  
"     book of postcards to Alice  
"     "     "     "     "     Mona  
"     large photo of cathedral to Alice.

***SATURDAY July 21<sup>st</sup>, 1917.***

***(202-163***

Route march to Esbart with “ ? ” packs.

I think these packs are introduced so as to do away with the limbers.

Jack and I went into Warloy in the afternoon to get our photographs.

I got word that it was rumoured in Camiers and Grantham that I had been wounded in 15 places and also had my hell shot away.

No such luck.

Editor's Notes

A Limber is a two wheeled cart designed to support the trail of an artillery piece.

***SUNDAY, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1917.***

***203-162)***

***7<sup>th</sup> after Trinity***

No parade for church during the morning.

Ceremonial Parade at Herissart . General Birdwood presented medal and ribbons to about 50.

Went on guard at 6-0 p.m.

Wrote to Alice. 33 (camel back)

“ “ George ?



***MONDAY, July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1917.***

***(204-161***

On guard until 6-0 p.m.

Wrote to	Major Buchanan	
"	"	Alice (33) photo
"	"	Mrs Wellbourne photo
"	"	Mona "
"	"	Mother "

***TUESDAY, July 24<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***205-160)***

Fatigue duty for two hours.

Bath parade during the afternoon.

Played cricket in the evening. M. G's V Transport

Result M. G's won.

Editor's notes

M. G's – Machine Gunners

***WEDNESDAY, July 25<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***Last Day Lodger Old Claims (206-159)***

Route march to Behencourt passing through Esbart and Boulizicourt .

Lecture on "Range Finding".

Went to a concert in the evening. It was given by the 15<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance. It was one of the best concerts I have been to since I have been in the military.

Wrote to Grace.

***THURSDAY, July 26<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***207-158)***

Not much doing today, only a route march to Behencourt and a little drill with guns.

Wrote to	Alice.	Field-card
"	"	"
"	Mona.	"
"	"	"
"	Mother.	"
"	"	"
"	Mrs Jones	"
"	"	"
"	Mrs Bradley	"
"	"	"
"	Mrs Mills.	"

***FRIDAY, July 27<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***) 6.40 a.m***

***(208-157***

Parade with full marching order. Had an argument with the officer over packing our packs.

***SATURDAY, July 28<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***209-156)***

Lecture on "prismatic compass" by Lieut. ? at 9-0 a.m.

In the afternoon we had to pack our limbers ready to proceed up north.

Weather terribly hot.

Editor's Notes

A Limber is a two wheeled cart designed to support the trail of an artillery piece.

***SUNDAY, July 29<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***8<sup>th</sup> after Trinity***

***(210-155***

Got orders to stand by and get packs ready.

Left Contay at 3-50 p.m. arrived at Puchevillers at 6-0 p.m.

We passed through Toutencourt.

Major ? seems to have a way of his own, because he always goes the longest way round.

I think he took us through all the mud he could find.

We got aboard the train about 6-30 p.m and left about 8-0 p.m.

We all stripped off and made our beds clean thinking we were alright until about 6-0 a.m

But no :-

***MONDAY, July 30<sup>th</sup>***

***211-154)***

Arrived at Ebblinghem

At 3-40 a.m. we were rudely awakened by the officers. Oh what a scramble. We got out some how or other. Had a cup of cocoa at the Y. M. C. A hut. We then had a nice march in front of us, 16 kilos. The station we alighted at was Arques. We started our march half asleep and half awake. When we got to Renescure we halted for breakfast, such as it was. We all sat down on the side of the road and it was pouring of rain, and then we waited for the cook to make us a cup of tea. We finished our journey somehow without another slip. Everyone was dead beat. We are billeted in a ? farm-houses that we are not allowed any drinking water from the pump. What-O the fowls and ducks. I think some will be missing.



***TUESDAY, July 31<sup>st</sup>, 1917.***

***Trinity Law Sitzings end                      (212-153***  
***Game Certificates expire***

Spud-barbering for two hours. Done for the rest of the day.

Norman Lloyd and I went for a stroll around Ebblinghem.  
There must have been a heavy artillery duel during the night  
because we could hear the guns every second and the  
ground was shaky very heavily.

Wrote to Alice (34)  
“        “        Mr Ball .

Editor's Notes

A “Spud-barber” is a man on cookhouse fatigue, especially  
potato peeling.

***WEDNESDAY, Aug 1<sup>st</sup>, 1917.***

***213-152)      Scottish Qr Day.      Lammas***

Nothing doing all day owing to rain.

***THURSDAY, Aug 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1917.***

***214-151)***

Only “pay parade” in morning, owing to rain.

Sent cable to Alice.

Received parcel from Alice.

***FRIDAY, Aug 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1917.***

***215-150)***

***O 5.11 am.***

Inspection by Major Marsden, 5<sup>th</sup> Divisional Machine Gun  
Commander.

Rain all day.

Jack and went into Etaples during the evening.

Wrote to Mother

“ “ Percy

“ “ Sid

“ “ Lucy Field-card.

“ “ Alice “ “

***SATURDAY, Aug 4<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(216-149***

Gun drill in the morning. Still raining.

Wrote to Alice, 8 post cards  
(35)

***SUNDAY, Aug 5<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***217-148)***

***9<sup>th</sup> after Trinity***

Aug 4<sup>th</sup>

(Third anniversary of the declaration of war on Germany)

Church parade in the morning. It was a most awful affair.  
Packed limbers during the afternoon ready for stunt out at  
Bayenghem-Les-Seninghem.

***MONDAY, Aug 6<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***Bank Hol, Eng. Scot & Ire.***

***(218-147***

**Bayenghem-Les-Seningham**

Up at 4-0 am. Parade at 5-0 a.m.

Moved off at 5-30 a.m. Marched to Ebblinghem and then court motor buses. Left Ebblinghem at 6-30 am. Had a very pleasant ride through the French country passing through Renescure, Arques, Wizernes, Gondardennes, Hallines, Setques and Lumbres arriving at Bayenghem-Les-Seninghem about 9-0 am.

We took off our packs and were then allowed to go into the village until 1.30 p.m. Rather a dirty village.

Parade at 1-30 p.m. Put into our billets, an old French Chateau.

Joe Brough and I went into Lumbres and Affringues, during the afternoon.

***TUESDAY, Aug 7<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***219-146)***

Parade at 9-30 a.m. Lecture on the same old subject  
"Saluting of Officers" etc.

Major Buchanan called on me about 11-30 a.m.

Joe Brough and I went into Affringues to see the shrine.

Wrote to Daisy

" " Emily

" " A.Clipsham F. card.



***Wednesday, Aug 8<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(220-145***

Up at 4-30 a.m. Parade at 5-30 a.m. Went on to range to do air firing.

The range was situated on a ploughed field, on the main Arques to Boulogne road.

Parade at 3-30 a.m., then went out to illustrate and demonstrate "indirect" and "overhead" firing to the infantry. This had to be cancelled owing to the infantry being in the wood directly behind our targets.

***THURSDAY, Aug 9<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***221-144)***

***(( 7.56 pm.***

Up at 5-45 a.m. Parade at 7-45.

Brigade stunt out at a place a little farther on than "Laraiderie". The infantry did plenty of work, but all we did was sit down and smoke, from 9-20 till 1-30 pm. We then packed our limbers and went home.

We were very lucky because just as we arrived at our billets it poured of rain.

Editor's Notes

A Limber is a two wheeled cart designed to support the trail of an artillery piece.

***FRIDAY, Aug 10<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(222-143***

Ebblinghem

Up at 5-45am. Parade at 8-0 am.

We had to pack up our gear and get ready to go back to our old billets. We marched to Lumbres and then waited for motor lorry. We rode from Lumbres to Arques and then we had to walk the rest of the journey to Ebblinghem. We arrived there about 12-0 noon

Nothing doing the rest of the day.

Wrote to Mrs Jones.

***SATURDAY, Aug 11<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***223-142)***

***Half Qr. Day***

Parade at 9-0 a.m. Had to march to the transport, and clean gun etc.

Wrote to	A. Clipsham	
"	"	Mrs Bradley F.C
"	"	? ? " "
"	"	Alice " "

***SUNDAY, Aug 12<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***10<sup>th</sup> after Trinity*** ***(224-141***  
***Grouse Shooting begins***

Jack and I got leave to go into Arques.

We called on August Buchanan. We went into his billet and had a talk about everything we could think of. At lunch time we had our meal in the same house as the Officers Mess. We went into St.Omer in the afternoon by car. I got a pleasant surprise, because St.Omer is a far better town than I thought it was. We went into the cathedral. This is a fine old building, with some very nice carvings. The gardens in this town are also very fine. I thoroughly enjoyed the walk through. Went back to Arques and had a swim, rather cold but very refreshing. Had dinner at the same place as we had lunch. Left August Buchanan about 7-45 after having spent a very enjoyable day. Arrived back at our billets about 9-30 pm.

***MONDAY, Aug 13<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***225-140)***

Parade at 9-30 a.m.

Brigade route march. We passed through Wallon-Cappel, Sercus and Lynde. The country looked real well. Arrived home about 1-30 p.m.

Wrote to Alice No 36.

“ “ Mother

“ “ Mona 2 p.c's.

***TUESDAY, Aug 14<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(226-139***

Twelve months in the army.

Parade at 9-0 a.m. Marched into Ebblinghem village for a lecture on the new German gas.

Dismissed at 11-0 a.m. for the rest of the day.

Wrote to Alice (6 p.c's)

“ “ Mrs Quine

“ “ Jim Chambers.

***WEDNESDAY, Aug 15<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***227-138)***

Parade at 8-15 a.m.

Brigade Rank march. We passed through the outskirts of Renescure, Wardrecques and Lynde arriving back at our billet about 12-10 p.m.

Heavy shelling by Fritz nearby.

Wrote to Mrs Buchanan

(This entry should have been made over leaf.)



***THURSDAY, Aug 16<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(228-137***

Parade at 9-0.  
Gun drill only.

(This entry should have been made, yesterday)

***FRIDAY, Aug 17<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

**229-136)**

***O 6.21pm.***

Parade at 9-0 am.

Practicing in barrage work.

Went to the pictures in the evening, with Jack.

Air-duel between "Ours" and Fitz air-craft.

The Germans are trying to bomb Hazebrouck, but have failed so far. He has hit it with his artillery.

Wrote to Alice. Post cards.

" " Grace

***SATURDAY, Aug 18<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(230-135***

Went to St.Omer. Had a good look around the town. Went into the gardens after dinner. About 3-0 I made my way back to Arques called on my mates in the 5<sup>th</sup> M. G. C also Major Buchanan and found everybody out.  
Met George Burgess in St.Omer.

Towards night Fritz started firing on our air-craft again near Hazebrouck, 5 Kilo's from our billet.

Wrote to	Alice	3PC
"	"	Emily
		??

***SUNDAY, Aug 19<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***231-134)***

***11<sup>th</sup> after Trinity***

Church parade in the morning.

Took at stroll into Le Nieppe in the evening.

Fritz started his game again about 10-0 p.m.

Wrote to Lucy 3 P.C

“ “ A. Clipsham 4 P.C

“ “ Daisy.

***MONDAY, Aug 20<sup>th</sup>, 1917***

***Last Day Lodger New Claims                      (232-133***  
***Blackcock Shooting begins***

Parade at 9-0 a.m.

Limber packing and barrage drill.

Parade at 2-0 p.m.

Physical jerks, first we have had in France.

Went to the pictures in the evening with Jack and Jim.

Received parcel from Esther.

#### Editor's Notes

A Limber is a two wheeled cart designed to support the trail of an artillery piece.

“Physical jerks” refers to exercises people do in order to be healthy.

**TUESDAY, Aug 21<sup>st</sup>, 1917.**

**233-132)**

Parade at 8-15 a.m.

Divisional inspection of machine Gun Companies at  
Blaringhem.

Received parcel from Alice.

Wrote to	Alice	F. C.
"	"	Esther
"	"	Mr Wellbourne

***WEDNESDAY, Aug 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1917.***

***233-132)***

Parade at 9-0 a.m.

P. J's first hour and then "Barrage" and "Combined Sights" drill.

Parade at 1-30 pm.

Walk to Blaringhem (14 k's) to get a bath.

Editor's Notes

"P.J's or Physical jerks" refers to exercises people do in order to be healthy.

***THURSDAY, Aug 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1917.***

***235-130)***

Went and visited the doctor owing to pains in my lower regions.

Light-duty for the day.

Wrote to Alice (37)



***FRIDAY, Aug 24<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***St. Bartholomew.***

***(236-129***

Route march through Renescure, Blaringhem, Lynde and on the outskirts of Wallon-cappel and back through Ebblinghem village.

Fast parade in the afternoon.

***SATURDAY, Aug 25<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***237-128)***

***) 7.8***

Parade at 9-0 a.m.

Company drill for a start then the gas chamber and gun drill to finish up with.

No parade during the afternoon.

Went to the pictures in the evening.

Wrote to Mona 23

“ “ Mrs Bradley

“ “ Will Sleige

“ “ George ?

***SUNDAY, Aug 26<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***12<sup>th</sup> after Trinity***

***(238-127***

Went on Church Parade but there was nothing doing, so we came back.

Went for a stroll into Nieppe in the evening.

Wrote to Esther.

“ “ P. Jones F.C

“ “ Mrs Jones “ “

***MONDAY, Aug 27<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***239-126)***

Route march to Etaples and on the road to Wallon-Cappel  
“about ? “ and home again. Football match in the rain.  
Officers and N. C. O's versus men. Result Officers and  
N. C. O's won.

Raining nearly all day.

Wrote to Edwin Bradley  
“ “ Alice (7 P.C's) 38

Editor's Notes

N. C. O's are Non Commissioned Officers

***TUESDAY, Aug 28<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(240-125***

Nothing doing owing to unfavourable weather.

Wrote to Gen. Mills  
“ “ Mother

***WEDNESDAY, Aug 29<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***241-124)***

Parade at 9-30 a.m.

Marched into Ebblinghem ? Had for a lecture on barrage work.

Lecture Capt Dick 14<sup>th</sup> MGC.

Received three parcels from Alice.

Wrote to Alice 39

***THURSDAY, Aug 30<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(242-123***

Parade at 9-0 a.m.

Route march Wallon-Cappel passing through Etaples

Company drill and physical jerks in the afternoon.

No bread issue today.

The Fritz's" sent in a bill for 317 francs for missing potatoes.

Editors Notes

"Physical jerks" refers to exercises people do in order to be healthy.

***FRIDAY, Aug 31<sup>st</sup>, 1917.***

***243-122)***

Parade at 9-30 am.

Went into Ebblinghem for lecture on "Map reading".

Lecture Major ?

Pay parade during the afternoon.

Went into Etaples during the evening.



***SATURDAY, Sept 1<sup>st</sup>, 1917.***

***Partridge Shooting begins (244-121  
263-) 0.28 pm.***

Route march to Etaples in the morning.

Football match in the afternoon 14<sup>th</sup> M.G. C verses 56<sup>th</sup> Batt.  
Result 56<sup>th</sup> Batt won. 9-7.

Went and visited the church at Etaples. A very pretty little church. It has three very nice alters, which are carved out of oak wood.

Major ? left us this morning.

Our bill of 317 francs was paid by the Major before he left.

***SUNDAY, Sept 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1917.***

***245-120)***

***13<sup>th</sup> after Trinity***

Got leave to visit Arques.

Stayed in Arques until lunch time and then went on to St Omer. We had a walk around the town and in the gardens. Went to Malhove to see Major Buchanan, but could not speak to him, because he was on Church Parade.

Called on several of my mates in the 5<sup>th</sup> M. G. C.  
Walked back to Ebblinghem in the evening.

***MONDAY, Sept 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1917.***

***(246-119***

Barrage work during the morning  
P. J in the afternoon.

Went into Etaples in the evening.

Wrote to Alice (post-cards)  
“ “ Major Buchanan.

Editors Notes

“Physical jerks” refers to exercises people do in order to be healthy.

***TUESDAY, Sept 4<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***247-118)***

Barrage work in the morning.

P. J in the afternoon.

Some of Fritz's air-craft came over and cause some excitement.

Wrote to Mona (3 P. C)  
" " Grace (Birthday)  
" " Emily.

Editors Notes

"Physical jerks" refers to exercises people do in order to be healthy.

***WEDNESDAY, Sept 5<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(248-117***

Barrage work in the morning.

Equipment cleaning in the afternoon  
(supposed to have done) but instead of that we sat in our  
billets.

***THURSDAY, Sept 6<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***249-116)***

Route march in Etaples.

? ? : company drill

P. J with gas masks on.

Football match between N. C. O and men

Result: Draw.

A very heavy bombardment all day, starting in the early hours of the morning.

Wrote to Mrs Quine

“ “ Lucy

“ “ A. Clipsham

“ “ Mother.

Editor's Notes

“Physical jerks” refers to exercises people do in order to be healthy.

N. C. O's are Non Commissioned Officers.

***FRIDAY, Sept 7<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(250-115***

Another sick parade today. Exempt from duty.

Washed and cleaned our equipment, ready for a divisional march.

Wrote to Alice (7 P. C's)

“ “ L. Mills

“ “ Mrs Bradley.

***SATURDAY, Sept 8<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***251-114)***

***(( 7.5 pm.***

Short route march in the morning.

Football match in the afternoon.

Went into Etaples for a feed in the evening with Jack and Jim.

Wrote to Alice (21 pages) 40  
(Sunday 9<sup>th</sup>)



***SUNDAY, Sept 9<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***14<sup>th</sup> after Trinity***

***(252-113***

Church parade in the morning at Ebblinghem.

Nothing doing the rest of the day.

Wrote to Mona (F. C.)

***MONDAY, Sept 10<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***253-112)***

Barrage drill in the morning. Football match in the afternoon.

Got orders not to leave the billets, at 5-30 pm. as we were expecting to move off.

Wrote to Mr Danks via Alice.

“ “ Mother.

***TUESDAY, Sept 11<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(254-111***

Up to the Line

Parade at 9-0 with full packs. Short march, and then back to our billets and get our guns and materials ready for packing the limbers.

Dinner at 11-30a.m.

Moved off in motor lorries about 1-15pm for the Ypres Front. Passed through Hazebrouck. Passed over the Belgium Front. Reningelst, Ouderdom, Hollebeke, Dickebuseh, and got out at Belgium Battery Corner. We then had to walk to a farm and drew our ?

We fired them up, had a wash and turned in.

Soon after we turned in Fritz began to put heavy stuff over our way. This was my first taste of shells passing over my head, and as long as they kept passing over everything will be alright.

Plenty doing with the air-craft.

Editor's Notes

A Limber is a two wheeled cart designed to support the trail of an artillery piece.

Dickebuseh is spelt Dikkebus on the map.

***WEDNESDAY, Sept 12<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***255-110)***

Belgium Battery Corner

Got up early but had to wait for breakfast.

About 10-20 a.m. I received orders to go to Poperinge to the 1<sup>st</sup> ? Supply Dump.

I did not know where it was and I don't think anyone else did because I got "don't know" for an answer off everybody. I asked. "seek and ye shall find" I found it at last. On the road I met Ray Williams unexpectedly. Came back by motor lorry. Met several of my mates in the 8<sup>th</sup> M. G. C that were stationed next to us.

Jim and myself went into Reningelst and had to walk nearly all the way back because we could not get aboard a motor lorry.

***THURSDAY, Sept 13<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(256-109***

Ypres

Called at 3-0 am to go ammunition carrying. On our way we passed through Ypres. It's a terrible shame to see such a nice town in utter scum. We had guns firing and stiletto chopping all along the road. We had to halt a few times owing to the enormous amount of traffic on the road. We dumped our ammunition in a shell hole covered it over and made for home. On our way home we had to go across country owing to Fritz shelling the road at "Hell Fire Corner"

We saw a great display of horsemanship at this corner. The transport that passed this corner had a very hot time. One fellow was hit and blown off his horse but managed to get up again. One mule lost his tale. Some of our company had to go into the "supports" and dig gun emplacements. Four came back wounded.

Cont. on 152

Editor's Notes

"152" go back to June 1<sup>st</sup> (152-213) The diary entry for this day continues there.

***FRIDAY, Sept 14<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***257-108)***

***Holy Cross Day***

Nothing doing until evening. We then went into the line again to finish our "possies" and carrying ammunitions. We got orders to clear and out by 2-0 a.m. We arrived home quite safe and feeling dead beat.

I called on Major Buchanan who was station about a hundred yards away.

Wrote to Alice (post-card) Sep 13<sup>th</sup>.

***SATURDAY, Sept 15<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(258-107***

Nothing doing again until night.

We went to the line and completed our work. As luck would have it we finished early and got back home. If we had have come back at our usual time it's ten chances in one that we would have been cut to pieces because Fritz shelled the road which we passed along, for all it was worth. The men, horses, mules and ammunition that were there got blew sky high. Our amm dump was set fire to. As we came passed Hell Fire Corner we saw that Fritz had lobbed a shell in the centre of the road and a motor was stuck fast into it.

Major Buchanan came across to see me.

***SUNDAY, Sept 16<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***259-106)***

***15<sup>th</sup> after Trinity***

***• 10.27 am.***

Not much doing today. I was told off to act as rusher but was crossed off. During the morning we had to get our guns etc ready for some of our boys who were going into the line to take over from the "Louvain's" at ? House (A German strong point at the German ? flat sector)

Jack and I called on Major Buchanan but found that he had been moved to A. D. S Ypres on the Menin Road.

Wrote to Alice (41)

" " Mother Field Card

" " Mona " "

" " Emily " "

Several air fights during the day.



***MONDAY, Sept 17<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***Jewish Year 5678 commences (260-105***

One or two fatigue duties during the day.

In the afternoon I had to take a message up to the line. Fritz was giving them a lively time but was getting one in return. I returned home quite safe about 8-30 pm. I then turned in for a good nights rest.

***TUESDAY, Sept 18<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***261-104)***

Nothing doing during the day. Towards evening a party of us had to take rations up to the line. This is the quietest night we have had fast as we got back into Ypres the British put up a bombardment. A bombardment at night so an extremely pretty sight. Called in at the Y. M. C. A for some bunk-shee, cocoa and biscuits. We arrived home safely about 9-30

Wrote to Mona 24

***WEDNESDAY, Sept 19<sup>th</sup>.***

***(262-103***

Hooge

Nothing doing during the day until well in the afternoon. I was then told to pack my gear and prepare to go up to the line. We moved off about 5-30 pm, and arrived there quite safe.

Things were rather unpleasant during the evening while we were preparing our positions, because it rained and the ground became very slippery. One of our boys got wounded in the thigh. After getting everything alright we went filling ammunition belts.

***THURSDAY, Sept 20<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***263-102)***

Glencourse Woods

At 4-30 am. we were told to take our positions at the guns.

At 5-43 am we opened fire. What a bombardment it was.

One of the biggest that has ever been put up. Fritz retaliated but nothing like we gave him. We swept the ground with shells. Just as it was breaking day we saw the prisoners coming over the ridge carrying wounded men. This was my first taste of war-fare. In plain words it was absolute "Hell". We kept firing until 10-0 a.m. and then went and had a well earned meal and sleep. Not one casualty in our company.

Firing continued all day.

About six o'clock Fritz counter attacked but got more than he asked for. We gave it up as a bad job after two hours.

Several of us were sitting outside of our dug out having our tea and two shells dropped about 12 yards away and smothered us.

A shell landed on the road-

Cont. 153

Editor's Note

Glencourse is spelt Glencorse on the map.

"153" go back to June 2<sup>nd</sup> (153-212) The diary entry for this day continues there.

***FRIDAY, Sept 21<sup>st</sup>, 1917.***

***St. Matthew***

***(264-101***

At 3-30 am. the artillery opened up. We prepared but were not wanted. Fritz had been driven quite a considerable distance to the rear, where he going to stop unless he goes farther back still.

Plenty doing up above. Two of our planes were brought down by our own artillery, accidently of course.

So far we have passed right through this stint without any casualties.

We came out of the line about 4-30 p.m and went back to our quarters.

There was great doing in the air later in the day. One of our observation balloons was set on fire by a Fritz. The three observers escaped by parachute.

***SATURDAY, Sept 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1917.***

***265-100)***

We stayed in bed nearly all day and made up for lost time. Fritz tried to get another of our observation balloons but failed being brought down himself. August enquired after my welfare so I went over to him. I met Norman Hock. Got news that ? ? had been wounded.

Wrote to Alice (42)

***SUNDAY, Sept 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1917.***

***16<sup>th</sup> after Trinity  
Autumn commences***

***(266-99***

Bath parade in the morning.  
No's 1-2 section went into the line.

***MONDAY, Sept 24<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***267-98)***

***) 5.41 am.***

Very little doing today owing to waiting for orders to forward to the front line.



***TUESDAY, Sept 25<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***Lacknow Day (1857)***

***(268-97)***

Nothing doing today until 4-0 pm. Then we had to get our guns etc. ready for the line. Moved away about 7-0 pm. We had a good deal farther to go this time and we had rather a hot trip. We took cover at some cross roads and Fritz put a shell amongst us. Four of the boys got wounded. Going along the road to our positions one of our boys had his head blown off. He was carrying the gun and that was blown to pieces. We got orders to dig in for the night. Fritz was shelling very heavily. We passed quite a number of dead men on the road. Everything went alright until the next morning. We dug ourselves in and there we stopped until -

***WEDNESDAY, Sept 26<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

**269-96)**

Glencourse Woods

5-45 a.m when the bombardment started. Our "possie" stopped a few big shells, but all of a sudden one lobbed on the top and buried us. As luck would have it, I had just stood up to get a cigarette, so caught the dirt on my back. If I had been sitting down I should be ? yet. I had my head jammed between the earth and some wood and could not move. Snowy ? and 3 more of the fellows that were with me got out alright and then released me after 1/2 an hours good work. One thing I regret and that is I lost the silver cigarette case that Alice gave me before I left Sydney. We then went into the concrete dug out for a few hours. 7 our boys of No.4 section were killed and six wounded also three of No.3 section were wounded. About 2-0 pm we made our way toward the line, but had to hold up, because we could not go into line until

Pg 154.

Editor's Note

Glencourse is spelt Glencorse on the map.

"154" Go to June 3<sup>rd</sup> (154-211) The diary entry for this day continues there.

***THURSDAY, Sept 27<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(270-95***

We did very little today. Hung about in a German Strong Point. These strong points are made of great concrete blocks. They will stand any shell ? ? It must have taken ? a long time to build this.

***FRIDAY, Sept 28<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***271-94)***

In the strong hold all day long. Towards evening Fritz used this strong point as a target. He must have had some awful rotten shots on the ? because he missed it every time, although he kept close enough to make us keep our heads down.

Some of us were pulled out for ration carrying at 10-30 p.m.

***SATURDAY, Sept 29<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***St. Micheal. Michaelmas Day***                      ***(272-93***

Fritz has been shelling our house for hours, but has not done any material damage so far.

Our guns are quite. I expect they are getting a few souvenirs ready for Fritz.

I stayed in the dug out until evening and then took rations up to the boys at the "Batt". We arrived back safely, and then turned in for the night.

Fritz blew down the dug out on our right.

Got news of Capt, ?'s death.

***SUNDAY, Sept 30<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***273-92)***

***17<sup>th</sup> after Trinity***

***O 8.31 pm.***

We stayed in our strong point until about dinner-time, we then started to pack up our guns etc. About 6-0 pm we took our gear back to reserves. About 8-0 pm we moved off and made our way home. Called in at the Y. M. C. A. for a cup of tea, biscuits and cigarettes. Fritz let us have a good trip home. We arrived quite safely about 12-15 am and turned in for the night and very thankful we were to get out of the line.

***MONDAY, Oct 1<sup>st</sup>, 1917.***

***Pheasant Shooting begins. (274-91***  
***Cambridge Mich. Term begins***

Woke up about 10-0 am had a wash. The first I had had for a week. Nothing doing during the day.

Fritz payed us a visit by air every evening and drops a few iron rations (bomb) He's making himself quite a home.

Received 23 letters and 1 parcel from Australia.

Wrote to Mrs Buchanan  
" " Alice (43)

***TUESDAY, Oct 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1917.***

***275-90)***

During the morning we had to clean our guns and things in general.

Muster Parade in the afternoon

Gas guard at 9-0 p.m.

Wrote to Alice 44

“ “ Mr Buchanan

“ “ Emily

“ “ Mother

“ “ Grace F. C

Sent cable to Alice.



***WEDNESDAY, Oct 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1917.***

***(276-89***

Nothing doing all day excepting a bath parade.

Very unpleasant weather prevailing.

Wrote to Mona 24

“ “ ??

***THURSDAY, Oct 4<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***277-88)***

Paid during the morning  
? 95 francs.

3<sup>rd</sup> ? had a “? Over” and passed their objectives.

Miserable weather.

We have a big ? gun over this way and by all accounts Fritz does not like it at all.

All day long he is sending shells over (but he’s an awful rotten shot) and every night he came in his aero-plane and tried to drop bombs on it. He must have a few more lives because he has not located it up to the present.

Wrote to Jim Chambers.

“ “ Mrs Jones.

***FRIDAY, Oct 5<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(278-87***

Very little doing today.

Weather rather rotten.

Big bombardment at night, but we were alright because we were in bed.

We went to the canteen and bought all manner of funny things.

***SATURDAY, Oct 6<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

**279-86)**

Weather still miserable so I stayed in bed all day, and ate all the funny things we had bought the day before.  
Some of the items.

Biscuit			and	honey
Biscuit			"	condense milk
Bread and butter			"	" "
"	"	"	"	salmon
"	"	"	"	?
"	"	"	"	sausages
"	"	"	"	?

Chocolates, cigars and cigarettes.

***SUNDAY, Oct 7<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***18<sup>th</sup> after Trinity.  
(10.14 pm.***

***(280-85***

Still raining and mud up to our eyebrows.

Buck-shee parade by the ? during the morning.  
Everybody suffering from cold feet. Swim in bed for the rest of the day.

I wish Fritz would take a tumble to himself and clear off home.

Editor's Notes

Buck-shee is a term used by the army meaning spare or extra rational portions.

***MONDAY, Oct 8<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***281-84)***

Belt filling during the morning.

Nothing during the day.

Raining nearly all the time.

***TUESDAY, Oct 9<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(282-83***

Making horse lines for our transport.

Raining nearly all day.

Wrote to Mother.

“ “ A. Clipsham.

***WEDNESDAY, Oct 10<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***283-82) Oxford Mich. Term begins***

Nothing doing all day.

Still raining.

Wrote to Mona (25)

“ “ Mrs Quine

“ “ ?



***THURSDAY, Oct 11<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(284-81***

Another "buck-shee" parade.  
Rifle inspection and fixing up of gun ?.

Weather improving somewhat.

Fritz started his old game again, shelling a road about two hundred yards away.

Wrote to Mrs Buchanan.

Editor's Notes

Buck-shee is a term used by the army meaning spare or extra rational portions.

***FRIDAY, Oct 12<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***285-80) Michaelmas Law Sitts. Begin***

Alice's Birthday.

Still raining.

Nothing doing all day.

Sent ? to Alice

" Xmas card to Alice

" " " " Mr and Mrs B

" " " " Misses Mills

" " " " Mr and Mrs Jones

" " " " Mona.

***SATURDAY, Oct 13<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***Fire Insurance expires***

***(286-79***

Still raining and nothing doing.

Received parcel from Emily.

***SUNDAY, Oct 14<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

**287-78)**

***19<sup>th</sup> after Trinity***

Glencourse Wood

S. O. S line

Got orders to get ready to move off up the lines.

We marched off about 1-30pm. Had a good trip in.

We relieved the 15<sup>th</sup> M. G. C.

Our gun train relieved Bert Wyllis' team Fritz must have noticed this change over, because he started to send over shrapnel and whiz-bangs. We are supposed to be holding the positions which stops Fritz from observing but as usual he gets just what he wants.

Went on sentry duty during the night.

Nothing of importance happened.

Editor's Notes

"Sentry duty" is standing on the fire step of the trench and observing the enemy.

Glencourse is spelt Glencorse on the map.

***MONDAY, Oct 15<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(288-77***

Glencourse Wood

After going back into the possie from sentry duty I took my boots off. Later on I went to put them on again but found I as unable to do so. My feet had swollen. Later on ? came and was told I had trench foot. I was told to go out I met our pack horses and the Sergeant was kind enough to let me ride one. Fritz was shelling the road fairly heavily. So of course the horse started to rear up and me being a new chum on horseback we did not hit it very well together. I lost my steel helmet it falling off in about 3ft of mud. At last I gave him but went home on skankey's pony. I came along with one boot, one pretty on one leg and on the other I had sand bags. When reporting to the doctor, he put- 157

Editor's Notes

This entry continues on (157) June 6<sup>th</sup>, 1917.

Glencourse is spelt Glencorse on the map.

***TUESDAY, Oct 16<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***289-76)***

***O 2.41 am.***

I stayed in bed until the afternoon resting my foot.

I got up towards evening for a clean up.

Charlie Harmen came out of the line suffering from a bad back. It had been his first time in the line and it was real funny to listen to his story of Fritz chasing him (as he thought) with a machine gun.

Weather, not too pleasant.

***WEDNESDAY, Oct 17<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(290-75***

Nothing doing all day.

Fritz aero-plane brought down fast at the back of the  
Chateau. Fritz came first, and the machine a good 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Wrote to Emily.

***THURSDAY, Oct 18<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***291-74)***

***St.Luke***

Belt filling during the morning also taping up my lost equipment.

Some of the boys returned from the line.



***FRIDAY, Oct 19<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(292-73***

Not much doing.

Put up a bell tent for one of the officers.

Thunderstorm in the afternoon.

Wrote to Alice (44 or 45)

“ “ Mrs Wellbourne.

***SATURDAY, Oct 20<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

**293-72)**

Cooks fatigue during the morning.  
Got news of Les Quine death.

Les was a thorough white ? man. He was made a L/nt just before going into the line, and he felt quite proud of his stripe. I can picture him now, sewing the stripe to his tunic, often I had fixed it for him into position.

Weather very expectable

First frost we have seen.

***SUNDAY, Oct 21<sup>st</sup>, 1917.***

***20<sup>th</sup> after Trinity  
Trafalgar Day. 1805***

***(294-71***

Washing limbers all day.

Rather a poor way of spending Sunday but it is not respected in the war zone.

***MONDAY, Oct 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1917.***

***295-70)***

Squaring the tents for the boys when they come out of the line.

Boys arrived home out of the line about 8-30 p.m.

Got new of William's death.

Three W's casualties

William K.

White. W.

Wakureham. W.

***TUESDAY, Oct 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1917.***

***) 2.38pm.***

***(296-69***

Cleaning guns in the morning.

Bath parade at Ypres in the afternoon, when we were issued with winter under clothing.

***WEDNESDAY, Oct 24<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

**297-68)**

Cook's fatigue in the morning.

Sarg. Higgins and I came to logger-heads over the bath parade and things in general.

Wrote to Alice 46

" " Mona

" " Mother.

" " Esther.

***THURSDAY, Oct 25<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(298-67***

Devrington Camp

Got orders to pack up, ready for moving off.

Marched off at 9-30 am. for Devrington Camp, passing through Dickebusch, Ouderdom and Reningelst.

When we arrived at Reningelst the Y. M. C. A supplied us with tea and biscuits.

Arrived at the camp about 3-0 p.m.

Several of us boys went into Poperinge for a feed etc.

Poperinge is a fair size town and clean taking things into consideration.

Editor's Notes

Dickebusch is spelt Dikkebus on the map.

***FRIDAY, Oct 26<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***299-66)***

On fatigue during the morning.

Went on guard at 4-30 pm without any ammo!



***SATURDAY, Oct 27<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(300-65***

On guard.

Took prisoners for a walk into Poperinge.

Came off guard at 4-30 pm.

Went and had a feed in the evening.

Sent Alice a silk wrapper.

***SUNDAY, Oct 28<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***301-64)***

***21<sup>st</sup> after Trinity  
St. Simon and St. Jude***

Received Rgd, Lt from August.

Went into Poperinge at 1-0 p.m. and had a look around the town arrived back home about 6-30 pm.

***MONDAY, Oct 29<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(302-63***

Rearrangement of gun items and stock taking.

Sent letter to Mrs Buchanan

“ 10p.c's to Alice. 47

Wrote to August

“ “ Mother.

***TUESDAY, Oct 30<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***303-62)***

***O 6.19 am.***

Cook's fatigue in the morning.

Bath and pay parade in the afternoon.

***WEDNESDAY, Oct 31<sup>st</sup>, 1917.***

***All Hallows Eve***

***(304-61***

Route march in the morning to the outskirts of Boeschepe.  
Went into Abeele and then into Poperinge  
Came back about 6-20pm.

Wrote to Emily  
“ “ P. Jones

Visited Abeele and Poperinge churches.

***THURSDAY, Nove 1<sup>st</sup>, 1917.***

***305-60)***

***All Saints  
Stock Exchange Holiday***

Gun Drill and messing about generally.  
Gas helmet parade in the afternoon.

***FRIDAY, Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1917.***

***(305-59***

Route march around the neighbourhood at record pace.

Squad drill in the afternoon.

Sent Card to  
Mrs Buchanan.

***SATURDAY, Nov 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1917.***

***307-58)      Order your Diary for 1918***

P. T in the morning and then polishing up our equipment.  
We looked like “toffee” soldiers once again.

Sent packet to Mrs Quine  
“      “      Mrs ?



***SUNDAY, Nov 4<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(308-57***

Strazeele Station

Moved into new billets.

Left Devrington Camp at 8-45 am and marched 13 miles to Strazeele passing through Godewaersvelde and Fletre

Billeted in a farmers house and used the loft as our bed room.

This brought us on the Armentieres Front.

***MONDAY, Nov 5<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***309-56)***

***Gay Fawkes Day***

Cook's fatigue in the morning.

Wrote to Alice 48

***TUESDAY, Nov 6<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***)) 5.3 pm.***

***(310-55***

Went for a race (supposed to be a route march) to Strazeele and Merris. On the way back we walked into the ? lines to ? guns etc.

Nothing doing in the afternoon.

Sent 14<sup>th</sup> MGC greeting to Alice

"	"	"	"	Mona
"	"	"	"	Mrs Jones
"	"	"	"	Mother
"	"	"	"	Emily

**WEDNESDAY, Nov 7<sup>th</sup>, 1917.**

**311-54)**

Bath parade first and then a route march to kill time.  
The officer took us out blind lost us and got us ? up in A ? a  
lot of traffic.

Wrote to Mother  
“ “ Emily F. C.  
“ “ Mona “ ”  
“ “ L. Mills“ “

***THURSDAY, Nov 8<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(312-53***

P. T. and lecture on ? and ? in the morning.

Football match in the afternoon.

M G's V ?M

Result ?M won.

***FRIDAY, Nov 9<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***313-52)***

***Lord Mayor's Day***

P. T. and ? until 11-30 am then gun cleaning.

Full dress parade at 2-0 pm. and cleaning of billets.

***SATURDAY, Nov 10<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(314-51***

Messines Front

Locre

Up at 5-30 am. had to pack our gear and get ready to march off.

Left Strazeele about 9-30 am. Raining heavily.

We passed through Outtersteene, Bailleul and arrived at Locre about 12-15 p.m. We were put into billets for the day. These were our first billets on the Messines Front.

Editor's Notes

Locre is spelt Loches on the map.

***SUNDAY, Nov 11<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***315-50)***

***23<sup>rd</sup> after Trinity  
Half-Qr. Dav. Scottish Qr. Day  
St. Martin***

Donegal Camp  
(near) Kemmel

Moved into new billets.

Marched off at 2-0 a.m passing through Dranoutie arriving at about 10-30a.m. Rested in a paddock until our billets were available.

34 men in a hut.

Wood fatigue in the afternoon.

Wrote to Alice 49

“ “ Grace



***MONDAY, Nov 12<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(316-49***

Had to clean our gear prior to going into the line.

Had to walk around Kemmal in the evening.

Wrote to Mrs Henley.

***TUESDAY, Nov 13<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***317-48)***

Verne Rd

Messines Left

Packed our gear ready for the line. Moved off at 2-30 pm.  
had a quite run in but had to go through a terrible lot of mud.

Relieved the 89<sup>th</sup> M. G. C.

For the first time we got a real good "possie". One of the  
Fritz's pill-box, with about 8' of concrete on the top.

We had to protect ??? Jack, David Farms and many other  
billets places.

Verne Left post

After relieving and getting settled down we made ourselves  
some tea and started our watches.

Editor's Notes

"Pill box" is a concrete dug-in guard posts, normally  
equipped with loopholes through which to fire weapons.

***WEDNESDAY, Nov 14<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***O 6.28 pm.***

***(318-47***

In our "possie" no need for action during the night.

Cooked the breakfast and messed about generally.

Henry made us a "bully beef" stew.

I tried to give one of my mates a shock by throwing a "mills" bomb at the back of him, but it was a dud.

Went out getting firewood. A Fritz's sword bayonet does not make a bad saw just the thing for sawing up G. S. wagons.

Went down to the dump for rations about 5-0 p.m.

***THURSDAY, Nov 15<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***319-46)***

This morning we witnessed an air fight. Fritz was doing his hardest to get the top of our boys, but he did not succeed. It finished up by Fritz giving it up as a bad job. Later we saw a Fritz machine brought down just near the front line. Weather real heavy for the time of the year.

***FRIDAY, Nov 16<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(320-45***

Nothing of interest to note.

We tried to make a few rissoles for dinner, but they proved a terrible failure.

***SATURDAY, Nov 17<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***321-44)***

Same as yesterday, without rissoles.

***SUNDAY, Nov 18<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***24<sup>th</sup> after Trinity***

***(322-43***

Witnessed Fritz set light to our observation balloons.  
Came out about 11-0am to have teeth extracted.

Stayed at the camp (Bully Beef Farm) for the night.

***MONDAY, Nov 19<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***323-42)***

Waited in camp during the morning for orders to return to the line, which never came.



***TUESDAY, Nov 20<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(324-41***

Went along to the transport on a fatigue.

Wrote to	Mother		
"	"	P. Jones	
"	"	Alice	F. C
"	"	Mona	" "
"	"	Esther	" "
"	"	Mrs Bradley	" "
"	"	Mrs Jones	" "

***WEDNESDAY, Nov 21<sup>st</sup>, 1917.***

***325-40)***

***) 10.29 pm.***

Got orders to return to the line. Arrived there about midday.  
We did a bit of dumping at Fritz for the first time.

Wrote to Major Buchanan.

***THURSDAY, Nov 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1917.***

***(326-39***

Wall Farm (Messines)

Got orders to pack up and gear and get ready to take up a new position.

About 5-0 pm we moved off.

We had to go through a terrible long ? and we got a jolly good sweat going.

Just as we arrived at our new posy we were called to "stand to." Excitement reigned about 30 mins. It proved to be a raiding party on our lines.

Fritz came over and got four of our infantry, prisoners killed one.

Nothing else happened.

***FRIDAY, Nov 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1917.***

***327-38)***

Went back to Mayhew Farm and waited there all day so as to get the rations at night.  
Everything much quieter tonight.

Wrote to A. Clipsham.

***SATURDAY, Nov 24<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(328-37)***

Early morning we got orders to “stand to” because one of our sentries sighted a number of Germans. We thought they were raiding our pill-box but found it was a ration party that had got lost. We captured one and the others got away. Later in the day we learned that two of them had been killed and another captured.

They gave us the information that our quarters were to be raided that night.

We prepared for it, but nothing happened.

***SUNDAY, Nov 25<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***329-36)***

***25<sup>th</sup> after Trinity***

Nothing particular doing today.

We took our watch at night and Oh! What a cold job.

Received a parcel from Alice

Mrs Buchanan and Mrs Henley.

Sent gunner F. C to Alice

“ “ “ “ Mona

***MONDAY, Nov 26<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(330-35***

Left early in the morning to go down to Mayhew Farm, so as to draw rations in the evening.

In the evening we had orders to “stand to” because they thought we were to be raided by the Germans; but same as before nothing came of it.

***TUESDAY, Nov 27<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***331-34)***

Nothing of any importance happened today.

Wrote to Alice 50

“ “ Daisy

“ “ Mrs Henley

“ “



***WEDNESDAY, Nov 29<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***Scottish Removal Term***  
***O 6.41 pm.***

***(332-33***

Nothing particular doing today, until night and then the Fritz bombarded us with whiz-bangs etc, owing to the trench mortars giving him something to get on with.

#### Editor's Notes

“Mortar” is an indirect fire weapon that fires explosive projectiles known as mortar bombs at low velocities, short ranges and high-arching ballistic trajectories.

***THURSDAY, Nov 29<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

**333-32)**

La Polka Camp

Kemmel Chateau

Packed up my gear and went to Mayhew Farm. Stayed there until evening and then acted as guide to the 15<sup>th</sup> Aus. M. G. C. who was to relieve us.

On our way home we called into the Aus. I. F and hut and had a cup of cocoa, but got into trouble over it from the sergeant. Needless to say we did not lose any sleep.

Arrived at our billets Kemmel Chateau about 8-30pm. (a fine large building)

***FRIDAY, Nov 30<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***St. Andrew***

***(334-31***

After spending 16 days in the line we did not feel like rising early so we stayed in bed as long as possible.

Muster parade during the morning.

Pay parade in the afternoon.

Went to the 5<sup>th</sup> Div concert party in the evening (very good turn out).

Wrote to Alice (post cards)

***SATURDAY, Dec 1<sup>st</sup>, 1917.***

***335-30) Queen Alexandra born, 1844***

Bath parade in the morning, and filling a shell hole.  
Had leave to Locre but only got as far as Dranoutre, in the  
afternoon.  
Got drenched through coming home.

Editor's Note

Locre is spelt Loches on the map.

***SUNDAY, Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1917.***

***1<sup>st</sup> in Advent***

***(336-29***

Went to the transport to take the horses out for a feed.  
Writing letters in the Y. M. C. A. during the afternoon and evening.

Wrote to Alice 51  
“ “ Percy. J  
“ “ Mother  
“ “ Emily  
“ “ Esther

Attended the service at the Y. M. C. A.

***MONDAY, Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1917.***

***337-28)***

Full pack parade and kit inspection mingled with P. T.

Writing letters at the YMCA during the afternoon and evening.

Weather bitterly cold.

Wrote to	Mrs Jones	F. C.	
"	"	Mona	27/28 letter
"	"	Mrs Bradley	"
"	"	Colin Pearson	"
"	"	Misses Mills	"

***Tuesday, Dec 4<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(338-27***

Ordinary parades.

Went to concert at the Y. M. C. A. in the evening.

***WEDNESDAY, Dec 5<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***339-26)***

Ordinary Parades.



***THURSDAY, Dec 6<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(( 2.14 pm.***

***(340-25***

Cook's and wood fatigue in the morning.

Went on guard at 5-0 p.m.

***FRIDAY, Dec 7<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***341-24)***

On guard all day, until 5-0 p.m.

***SATURDAY, Dec 8<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(342-23***

Full dress parade  
Inspection by O. C  
Dismissed owing to a little rain.

Wrote to Mrs Buchanan  
“ “ Colin Pearson  
“ “ A. Clipsham  
Sent a card to Mother  
“ “ Emily  
“ “ Grace

***SUNDAY, Dec 9<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***343-22)***

***2<sup>nd</sup> in Advent***

Church Parade in the morning.

Met Reg: ?

Y. M. C. A. service in the evening.

Called on George Burgess in the afternoon.

***MONDAY, Dec 10<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***Grouse and Blackcock Shoot ends*** ***(344-21***

Went down to the transport to take horses out.

Alick Orth came to see me.

Went to the pictures with George Burgess.

***TUESDAY, Dec 11<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***345-20)***

Ordinary Parades

Packing our gear prior to going back from the line.

Wrote to Alice 52.

***WEDNESDAY, Dec 12<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(346-19***

Inspection by the O. C.

Full dress parade.

Went to the concert party with ? and ?

***THURSDAY, Dec 13<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***347-18)***

Desvres

Left our billets about 9-20 am and marched to the train. Got aboard the train at 1-20 pm and went to Desvres, arriving there at 10-55pm. A most miserable journey. Put into billets for the night.



***FRIDAY, Dec 14<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***O 9.17 am.***

***(348-17***

Left Desvres about 9-30 and marched to "Somewhere in France" We stayed there for the night.

On the road, some of the boys fell out, because we had very steep hill to climb.

? and I went into Halinghen to get bread but unsuccessful.

***SATURDAY, Dec 15<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***349-16)***

Hubersent

Left "Somewhere in France" and marched to Hubersent. A quiet little French village.

Here we billeted in a house and got comfortable quarters.

Went into Le Turne for bread.

***SUNDAY, Dec 16<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***3<sup>rd</sup> in Advent***

***(350-15***

Nothing doing so ?, Snowy and myself went into a village (name unknown) and had a look at the church.

Snowing

Wrote to Alice 53

***MONDAY, Dec 17<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***351-14) Oxford Mich. Term ends***

No parades owing to the snow.

Snow fight during the morning.

Went to bed at 4-0 pm.

***TUESDAY, Dec 18<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(352-13***

Route march passing through Tingry.

***WEDNESDAY, Dec 19<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***352-12) Cambridge Mich. Term ends***

Route march

Went into Locres in the evening.

Editor's Note

Locres is spelt Loches on the map.

***THURSDAY Dec 20<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(354-11***

Route march

Went into Francq in the evening met George Burgess.

Editor's Notes

Francq is spelt Francay on the map.

***FRIDAY, Dec 21<sup>st</sup>, 1917.***

***355-10) Michaelmas Law Sitts. Ends  
St. Thomas. ) 6.7am.***

Route march into Le Turne.



***SATURDAY, Dec 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1917.***

***Winter commences***

***(356-9***

Route march into Francq.

Went on guard at 5-0 p.m.

Editor's Notes

Francq is spelt Francay on the map.

***SUNDAY, Dec 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1917.***

***357-8)***

***4<sup>th</sup> in Advent***

On guard until 5-0 p.m.

Took prisoner for a walk in the morning.

Went for a stroll in the evening.

***MONDAY, Dec 24<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***(358-7***

No parades today.

Wrote to Alice (54)

“ “ Mother

“ “ Emily

***TUESDAY, Dec 25<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

**359-6)**

***Christmas Day  
Bank Holiday Scotland***

Spent a very good day.

The dinner we had prepared for us was a credit to the A. I. F.

Turkey

Roast Beef

Ham

Potatoes (baked, boiled)

Stuffing

Christmas Pudding and

White Sauce

Tea

Whisky-Bar-?

Mineral Waters.

***WEDNESDAY, Dec 26<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***St. Stephen  
Bank Holiday England Ire.***

***(360-5***

Went into Boulogne for the day. It was snowing very hard but we spent a fairly good time.

Went into Boulogne by motor lorry.

***THURSDAY, Dec 27<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***361-4)***

***St. John***

Parades once again.

***FRIDAY, Dec 28<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***Innocents Day***

***(362-3***

Parade morning and afternoon.

Wrote to August  
“ “ Cable Coup.  
“ “ Mrs Buchanan  
“ “ Mother.

***SATURDAY, Dec 29<sup>th</sup>, 1917.***

***363-2)***

Ordinary Parades in the snow.

Snow very cold to the feet.





## ***CASH ACCOUNT – JANUARY***

### Post-cards sent to Alice

1. Warloy-Baillon
2. “ “
3. “ “
4. “ “
5. Pozieres
6. Fricourt
7. Mailly-Maillet
8. “ “
9. Aveluy
10. Amiens
11. “ “
12. “ “
13. Albert
14. Becourt
15. Contay
16. “ “
17. “ “
18. “ “
19. “ “
20. Amiens
21. “ “
22. Ebblinghem

***CASH ACCOUNT – FEBRUARY***

- 23. Ebblinghem
- 24. Etaple
- 25. “
- 26. “
- 27. Ebblinghem
- 28. “
- 29. Etaple
- 30. Lumbres
- 31. “
- 32. “
- 33. “
- 34. “
- 35. “
- 36. “
- 37. “
- 38. “
- 39. Affringues
- 40. St. Omer
- 41. “
- 42. “
- 43. “
- 44. Arques
- 45. St. Omer
- 46. Arques

### ***CASH ACCOUNT – MARCH***

- 47. Etaples
- 48. St. Omer
- 49. “
- 50. “
- 51. Blaringhem
- 52. “
- 53. Catherdral St. Omer
- 54. “ “
- 55. “ “
- 56. “ “
- 57. “ “
- 58. Blaringhem
- 59. Ebblinghem
- 60. St. Omer
- 61. “
- 62. “
- 63. “
- 64. “
- 65. “
- 66. “
- 67. “
- 68. “
- 69. “
- 70. “

## ***CASH ACCOUNT – APRIL***

- 71. Ebblinghem
- 72. "I'll soon be back"
- 73. St. Omer
- 74. "
- 75. "
- 76. Armentieres
- 77. "
- 78. Ypres
- 79. "
- 80. "
- 81. "
- 82. "
- 83. "
- 84. "
- 85. "
- 86. "
- 87. Reningelst
- 88. "
- 89. "
- 90. French ?
- 91. Boulogne
- 92. Wimereux
- 93. Albert
- 94. My little ? home

## ***CASH ACCOUNT – MAY***

- 95. Poperinge
- 96. “
- 97. “
- 98. “
- 99. “
- 100. “
- 101. “
- 102. “
- 103. “
- 104. Cecile Plage
- 105. Camiers
- 106. Paris Plage
- 107. Camiers
- 108. Paris Plage
- 109. “
- 110. “
- 111. Locre
- 112. “
- 113. “
- 114. “
- 115. Kemmel
- 116. “
- 117. Messines
- 118. “
- 119. “

Editor's Note

Locre is spelt Loches on the map.

## ***CASH ACCOUNT – JUNE***

120. Messines  
121.  
122.  
123.  
124.  
125.  
126.  
127.  
128.  
129.  
130.  
131.  
132.  
133.  
134.  
135.  
136.  
137.  
138.  
139.  
140.  
141.  
142.  
143.

## ***MEMORANDA***

Boulogne*	Mailly-Woods*
Neufchate*	Becourt
Camiers*	Herissart
Etaples*	Puchevillers
Abbeville	Arques
Amiens	St. Omer
Albert	Malhove
Becourt*	Etaples
Fricourt	Renescure
Becordel	Ebblinghem*
Meheucourt	Lynde
?	Blaringhem
Warloy-Baillon*	Wallon-Cappel
Vadencourt	Sercus
Contay*	Nieppe
Esbert	Wizernes
Bavelincourt	Setques
Bethencourt	Lumbres
Beaucourt	Bayenghem-Les-Seninghem*
Franvillers	Affringues
Senlis	Laraiderie
Bouzincourt	Hallines
Aveluy	Gondardennes
Hedauville	C?



## ***MEMORANDA FOR NEXT YEAR***

Hazebrouck	Le Turne
Reningelst	Hubersent
Ouderdom	Francq
Poperinge*	Locres
?	Tingry
Dickebush	?
Ypres	?
?	?
?	Polygon Wood
Hooge	Perone
Godewaersvelde	
Fletre	
Strazeele*	
Merris	
Abeelee	
Locre	
Dranoutre	
Lindhock	
Kemmel*	
Wyschate	
Desvres	
Longfosse	
Bailleul	
Halinghen	

### Editor's Note

Perone is spelt Peronne on the map.

Locres is spelt Loches on the map.

Francq is spelt Francay on the map.

Dickebush is spelt Dikkebus on the map.

Balliul is spelt Bailleul on the map.