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I certify on my honour that the contents of this envelope refer to nothing but private and family matters.

Signature}

Name only

A. M. Wagner

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Address:—

Mr. John Wagner

Attn: Dobbinton

Ont. Canada



POSTAL  
DEPARTMENT  
OF JAPAN  
1911

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Received your box today sent  
Sept 23<sup>rd</sup> ~~today~~, came in fine  
style. The boys nearly went  
wild over those tarts, they are  
sure good, and the sugars  
just came in handy too for  
sweetening drinks which we make up.

It has not been cold over here  
yet, most of the time ~~at~~ is fairly  
warm, at times for two or three  
days we have a drizzle of rain or  
fog.

Phil was down to see us yesterday,  
he is still hale & hearty. Tom Nelson  
also came down from the next town  
to see us and before long there  
were about a dozen red hair  
fellows in a crowd.

France Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> /18

Dear Folk at Home.

It is nearly bed time but  
I thought I would write a letter  
home before I go. The evenings are  
very long now and we usually  
roll in pretty early, no kick coming  
on sleep these times, no night  
work of late.

We are having it pretty good  
of late, the best place I think  
we have hit over here, there are  
four of us living in a very large  
room or about half the house  
and the French civilians are  
in the other half. These French  
people who rid of the Hun cannot

do too much for us. It happened to  
 be the school mistress home that we hit and  
 she had studied Eng. at school so that  
 between what French I know & Eng. she knows  
 we can talk fairly good. They invite us  
 in every evening for a hot cup of coffee. They  
 haven't fats to offer us I suppose because they  
 are rationed as we are. They have hard  
 tales to tell of their four years with the Hun,  
 the Boche they all call them and they can  
 scarcely speak the name of them without  
 showing some outward expression of disgust.  
 A German photographer took a picture of her  
 school yard with its occupants one day  
 and just as he was about to snap it  
 she turned her back and so in the picture  
 which she has, everybody is facing the camera  
 but her, the other teacher and all. Wanted  
 it for a souvenir but she had only the one  
 and wanted to keep it. They derived quite  
 a good deal of help from the American  
 Red Cross but the Boche used to take that  
 sometimes and laugh in their faces.  
 They when the infantry entered these  
 towns the people came out of cellars etc.,  
 ran out, threw their arms around the  
 fellows, kissed them and shook hands.  
 They said it was grand. A man now  
 realizes what he is really fighting  
 for and feels that he is reward for  
 coming, what is more.

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The French people have their old flags unfurled again, the tricolor, floating in every shed in the villages, the first time for four years I guess.

I was inoculated today so will be lying off for a day or two, I think I shall go over to where Neil is tomorrow and spend the afternoon with him.

Well I think I will close and go to bed, it didn't take me long to write this I guess you will judge that by the writing, I will soon be as poor a writer as I was before I went to Formal.

Love to all

Russel M Wagner

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talking and asking about this one and that. Howard Howe was wounded the first night up the line, went up at night and out in the morning, that's going some, funny how some fellows are lucky to get a great little wound and get away while others stay here so long and then probably get a no foot.

Received your letter of the 29<sup>th</sup> also, a couple of days ago with Leo's Ames' effetes and snaps as well. I was pleased with the snap of Isabel & Amy, I think that is fine. I can notice a big difference in the two years (by the way, just two years ago tonight we landed in England).

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I was showing the snags to the boys  
and they said "Well the oldest is a  
woman any how". They thought she looked  
very much like me. I think  
that is a compliment all well and good.

I think likely Early Rutherford and  
some of those guys getting the long furloughs  
will have had these presents made  
to them for staying at home. I think  
the authorities must surely figure this  
pretty nearly over or they would be getting  
more men over. He may hear the cease  
fire some of these days but still I  
am dubious of what the Kaiser will  
think of the Armistice which the Allies  
want, and if he doesn't come across it  
will mean trouble which will take  
a while but not so very long because he  
is right up against it. For shells and  
for men that are men to meet men,  
they give up nearly every time when our  
barage comes on them, either come across  
or go the other way.

This is some of the paper which was  
in the box today, it come in handy as  
I was just out, the sheet on the outside  
was a little soiled as you will notice  
but it carries the message just the  
same.