

KING GEORGE & QUEEN MARY VICTORIA LEAGUE CLUB,
RAMSAY LODGE, THE MOUND,
EDINBURGH.

Edinburgh, Oct 13/17

Dear People at Home

I'd leave at last & am in
"Bonnie Scotland"

A big bunch of the fellows (low grade
shots) had to go to Bangs this week and no
chances were good for the rest of us for
passes.

I got mine for Friday morning (5 days)
and we managed to get away Thursday
night.

Linen Hall Park are along, the only
three I own City but there must be about
twelve from the Batt'n.

Well we thought we were out of luck
on the passes for Thursday night but about
eight o'clock the passes came down from
the Brigade. They had to go clear their
Lines of Headquarters in order that we
get free transportation. The railway fare

KING GEORGE & QUEEN MARY AIRPORT FAVOURITE CLUB

GRANADA 1900 THE MONSIEUR

EDINBURGH

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costs us nothing this type is that
is a big saving on the cash.
Well we managed to catch the 9 P.M.
train & thought we could catch the flying
Scotchman at \$11.30 but also our train
was twenty minutes late getting into
London so that we missed it. We
rushed for the underground to go to Euston
but it was late & we had to wait awhile
& then it seemed to go slow with the
result that when we rushed out on the
platform and asked the porter he says "
She is just gone one minute"

So we took a slow train then for
Carlisle where we changed. It was crowded
so that we had to stand till about 4 a.m.
We went to Glasgow yesterday, didn't
get there till 2 P.M. but we had a good
look at the north of Eng. & Scotland.

Then we got to Glasgow we went
straight to Walkers. We had tea there
in fact two teas as we had another

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before we left. We took the nine
o'clock train for Edin.³

We had a splendid while at Walkers.
It was a terrible job to get away, I think
they would have stayed over there.

We landed into Edin. and it was like
coming home.

Sunday 14th Well I will resume this letter now

I don't think I will go to church
or out tonight and write a couple
of letters. I think I will start in
my letter where I left off last night &
give you a logical account.

When we landed into Edinburgh
we went into a Soldiers' Club into the
station and had another free lunch. The
lady there of course asked us right away
where we were going to put up and sent
us to this "Victoria League Club". It is a
purely "Overseas Club" and only colonials
stay there.

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They have four large building all fitting
out and they are certainly fitted off. Our
reading & writing room where I am now
has a big fire place, easy chairs, writing
tables etc. It is quite reasonable too, we
get board & lodging for ~~5~~ ⁵ 3 d. about £.2s
a day & it is no broken board. I have not
had a meal out of here in the two days.

On Saturday morning we went out to
see the Firth of Forth bridge. I guess you
have often heard of it at least I had before
I came across, and it is certainly well
worth seeing. The colonials are privileged
in getting put on it for a close exam,
others people cannot. It is ^{1/3} mile long,
365 ft. high, took 3 yrs to build etc. From
there we had a view of the Firth, saw
three submarines and quite a bit more
that it is as well not to say anything
about ^{1/2} of censoring.

KING GEORGE & QUEEN MARY A VICTORIAL PARADE
GARDEN FRODS, THE WOODS,
HORNSEY

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Then yesterday afternoon we went thro' Edinburgh Castle. It is of course the first place in Edin. as it was the old fortress. It is very high, from the top there a view of the whole city & far beyond. The cage is still sitting on the wall where the old beacon light used to burn to warn the tribes of an invasion. It is mounted with the old guns still, the deep well (160 ft. I think), a little old chapel (the oldest in Scot) built in 1053 and many other interesting points are there to be seen. There is still quite a number of soldiers quartered there and not so those they put German prisoners who are brought in here and they are kept there till sent to the prison camps.

Then yesterday afternoon we went to the museum. It is good also, but scarcely as good as the London museums. This morning we slept in but were in time to go to church. Dave McDonald

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and I went together to St. Giles.
I said we were the only three from our
Co. y but there were four other Cheshire fellows
of us ahead of us and are still here!

This St. Giles is the oldest church in
Edin. It is decorated with a number of old
flags carried in diff. wars and the dinge
is still there where ~~Polly~~ Peggy's chair
ht when she threw it at the priest (Hist Ref.)

This afternoon we were down seeing
Holy Rood Chapel & Palace. It was built
by James IV.

I have read about so many of
these places in Hist. & fiction that it is
certainly interesting for me. I would like
to go to Stirling tomorrow if I can
make the grade, it is an hour & two
ride on the train. The old field of the battle
of Bannockburn is close by it.

Tell that up so much for the sights.
Half the time here is listening to the Scotch,
everybody you speak to is as broad

King George's Queen Mary ASTRAL LEAVES GRAY
RAMBLES & COOKIES, THE MOUND
EDINBURGH.

as the table,

The people here are altogether diff. from Eng. There is as much diff. as between Eng & Eng. This is the only place I have struck yet that I would care to live in.

The girls here are some rare bonnie lassies' not much like Eng.

Our pass is up P.M. morning if we don't get an extension. We telegraphed yesterday at noon for two days extension and have not received an answer yet. All the other got it so I think we ought to get it too.

I will write again when I get back to camp and tell you the rest of the news.

Love to all

Russel

Oct 13 1917
W.M. Edinburgh