

after return
from travel Post O. A. S. J. Address

Feb. 26/19.



Mrs. John Dagnelie,
Dobbinton,
Ontario
Canada.



DOBBS
MAY 1
1871
C.

Anhee, Feb. 26/19.

Dear Folk at Home:

Have arrived back with the
Batt., got back on the 22nd, was
away exactly four weeks.

I had a good trip up from
Calais. Left the morning after
I wrote that letter and was
up to Namur the next day before
dinner. We had a box car with
a stove in it and had plenty
of eats so it wasn't too bad a
trip, not quite so good as the
two days going down.

This place is 20 Kilometres from
Namur a rather picturesque little
place. Came up here from Namur
on Monday last Sat. when coming back,
I was lucky, got in early evening.

2.

I had a great stack of letters waiting here, just nineteen besides ~~James~~ James' parcel. I had quite a good evening reading the lot when I got back.

I was put on Batt's guard this morning but 'got the stick'. May be you do not understand that, well the man who is cleaned etc on the turnout is left off the guard, has nothing to do for two days, that's me now.

Nearly all the fellows are away on jobs now, Lewitt Tom went away with a bunch of 25 this morning to Janes. I think they are going to handle a bunch of Henry prisoners down there,

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They thought that was the job anyhow.
We have a nice bazaar, the people
are very good to us. The girl
is sewing here on the table with
what she has left of a 'Singer'
sewing machine. Henry smashed
it all but the head so she is
sewing by turning that wheel
which you use for starting the
foot pedal. The river Mewar
runs about fifty yards from the
back door and falls along the
river and the road the whole
way to Yanur there is a
high wall of rock, just similar
to the road into O. P., but worse
I believe.

You should see the rows of
Glyman guns which are stacked

up on the other side⁴ of the river,
there is a host of them and
about four whole trains of warfare
cargo are sitting over there on the
ridge too. I think with all this
stuff handed over and put that
fleets in the Atlantic it is a pretty
complete victory.

Thomas must have been quiet
this year all alone, rest one
ought to be better anyhow.
I wonder who started the report
A. Grond was being married to
a Canadian nurse, you will likely
have heard before this that it
is false.

Well Les. I guess that bray
mounted harness will look
pretty spiffy, shall I hang onto
all my shining gear for that

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grass; I'm fond of shining after
three years; I don't think;
I think I got all the papers which
you send, I know there is quite a
stack of them quite a number
which I haven't looked over yet.
We have a library here and all
kinds of 'Dailies' from England now.

Yes I will need some dentistry
done when I get back, although
my teeth have stayed pretty good
never any tooth ache anyhow.

Do grandma as well as she
was before she had that bad turn?

I was surprised to hear of Wat
Barber's death. That is pretty hard
alright, it is not long since you
died.

I will send you a little snap
which Lewie & I had taken

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in Sheffield. Aubrey Johnson sent
them to us since we came
back.

You need not send any more
socks, I got a parcel of socks
from Mrs. P.L. Wolfe with about
six pairs in it, and anyhow
I late the quartermaster has
plenty of good new issue
socks. I gave three pair away
with have plenty of changes left.

I guess we will not be
home as soon as you thought
at one time, when we were
leaving Germany. I don't
know whether I told you or not
but after this put your name
and address on the back of
the envelopes and then of a

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letter doesn't reach me it
will be returned.

So you want me to
telegraph when I am coming. Well
I think that is done for us, before
we leave Eng. I think every
man's name is cabled ahead
and from Ottawa you will be
informed. Not likely many of
us will arrive together, Louise & I
should be together and perhaps
Ed. Martin but of the others I am
doubtful.

So the rink of hockey is in
full swing again. I guess
Poor Hepenstall will never play
with Paisley again, I hear he
got a bullet up the spine &
is paralysed pretty badly,

is in a hospital in London.
 George Gertley is sure charging
 enough at his bank a few thousand
 will nearly own his bank by
 spring.

About 3 miles from here is the
 town of Dinant where the
 Germans committed some of the
 worst atrocities in '14. The
 town is smashed pretty badly
 and the wall is standing
 there for everybody to see where
 the civilians were lined up and
 shot in cold blood. Awful!

I never was in northern
 Belgium till I went on less, went
 thru' Charleroi, Armentières & Baillifel
 and that country is certainly in
 an awful mess.
 They have the prisoners.

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cookies and soldiers all working
at along the lines now, fixing
bridges, railway etc. I think I
could do a few of those prisoners
pretty good for awhile if I had a
chance.

I guess Jim George is in
Bleakly on Pass now, he didn't
get away for quite after New Y.

I wish I had seen Paris while
over here but I didn't like the
idea of putting in a whole leave
there so went to Eng. We get
another eight days before leaving
for Canada so with that
I think I have did pretty well
on the leave question and on
right seeing.

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I don't know how it was they
didn't hear from you for so long,
about the time I went on leave
he was at Auben St. Vaast near
and expected to go to England
pretty soon so he should be
home before long.

Well I think this is
about all the news for this
time.

Love to all
Russell

P.S. Are you going to make
maple syrup. Lewis & I
promised we would send
Johnson's some, they have

" never tasted the real stuff
& I think it would be a
real treat for them. I think
the season will be gone
quite awhile before I get there,
so maybe Grants & you
could fix some up & send it
to them. This suggestion is
wholly mine I didn't say anything
to Lewis about it, never thought
of it till now. They were good
to us fellows and I feel like
showing my appreciation in some
way (besides words).

Their address is
No. 1 Agden Road
Sheffield Eng.