



Witley Surrey  
May 27/17.

Dear People at Home:

This is Sunday afternoon in the usual old place. It is quiet today, quite a number of the fellows are away on pass to London. I may go up next week end.

I haven't received any mail since I wrote last week, it is two weeks now since we got any mail.

I have finished the Lewis Gun course now, had two dandy easy weeks, sitting in a hut most of the time but I guess I will be out with the bunch this week again capturing some more of these hills. I think we have captured every hill within a radius of ten miles, trying all the new modes of attack going over in waves etc.

We have a new Colonel now I think Major Moffat moved away today too.





The new Col. has a very poor word of command but the fellows liked him well on the field manoeuvres the other day.

We had quite a successful day on the 24<sup>th</sup> at Godalming, I mean the Division.

There was a good programme of sports lasting all afternoon and the sports were all evenly contested too. There was a fellow by the name of Blade in the 202<sup>nd</sup> had them all beat as an all-round sport. They have a big recreation field down there and had a big circle, it was just like 24<sup>th</sup> last year only more extensive.

Last night I was on picket down in Godalming, we wear white bands on our caps and stay down there to keep order. There is quite a bit of walking to do, I wore a couple of big holes in my stockings and then didn't have any excitement. The night after pay is when the pickets are needed.





The 202<sup>nd</sup> was just pulling out last night when we were coming in off freight about 11 o'clock. Most of the drafts have gone now. The 198<sup>th</sup> pulled out on the night of the 23<sup>rd</sup> and it was a dirty wet night too. One of their officers reverted and went with the boys, the rest all went to the reserve.

The 208<sup>th</sup> & the 198<sup>th</sup> (Buff) both from Toronto landed in here, the 208<sup>th</sup> this morning. The 208<sup>th</sup> fellows were down at a camp near Folkestone when the Hun made that raid. They said it was rough, two or three of their fellows were hit by poisonous gas, they said that no matter where you were there seemed to be directly above you.

I was talking to Hanrahan's boys before they left. They were showing me pictures of Charley's boy and a whole lot of others. I didn't find out which of them was lined up with Olive. They are both nice friendly fellows.



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I am sending some snaps. They are old ones most of them, my pocket was getting too full so I think I will send them home in instalments.

I had heard in that picture taken at Bramshott is a boy, any body he can't take off has to get up before Neville.

He went to school to Frances Otterel & he can tell about her. I think I remember Mabel coming over her speeches "Shut your mouth" "Stop talking" etc. I tell Hunt has them too but he says he broke her off them before she left up there.

Still I think this will be all this time. am hoping to get some mail soon.

Love to All

Russell

P.S. I think my writing is improving. what do you think? Careless guess.