



France
Sept 12/18.

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Dear Folk at Home.

This is afternoon, I am in
camp today as I was on gas
guard last night so am going to
write a few letters. I was on guard
from 3 to 6 this morning and that
composed my days' work. The time
passed quickly too, I had to light the
cook house fires and wake the cooks
and also a few other to wake so that
helped to pass the time. I had no gas
to bother me, there very seldom is, one
night last week we got the warning but
it was not strong enough to compel us
to wear our masks. All the fire over
now is by shells and unless they land
very close and are not very dangerous.
We were all very much surprised
and grieved to hear of Dick's death.

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It was certainly a hard shock on Lewie and he was very much upset by it. He didn't get the mail telling about him being seriously ill till after the word came that he was dead. Lewie came in from work and got the mail, started reading down the letter thought it was his grandfather who was dead. The way it started off but it turned out different. Dick will certainly be very much missed in that locality no matter what they go to do, but worst of all will be his home; how they will get along is more than we can figure out. Lewie sent a cable to Mr. Donald to try and obtain furlough for him, whether it will be possible or not I don't know.

Lewie got a letter from home last night written when Dick was not feeling well and there were a few snags



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enclosed, one of Dick in his baseball uniform. It was real good too. just as like him and his b.b. pose ¹⁹¹ as could be.

Received the two dollars which you sent, we missed one day and ^{we} were not paid for a month however the money you sent lided me over quite nicely and now with two days I feel quite rich. We get 40¢ a month, amount to about 7.25. The sometimes can buy corn syrup. I remember when we used to get a 5 lb. frail for 25¢ at home and over here it is 2 francs for 1 lb.

I will be looking for the snaps along any time which Geo. said he was going to send.

I heard that Aliek Stewart was so badly wounded they did not expect him to live. That is hard. Poor little Aliek.

worked hard to get his education and was a very slight fellow to stand the infantry, but I guess he did not have many days in the line. Oliver Christie was killed too in this last show, another old school mate of mine. I remember over a year ago going to Guildford with Oliver to meet Jack Giddes the last time I saw him and now to think they are both dead.

I had a bit of a scare the night before last I guess I held my breath for a time or took a few short ones I don't know which. Tom, Lucie & I were sitting here in the dugout, just dug into the side of the bank with an open front and a shell came over landing about four feet to the side of our shack. It knocked earth down on us and gave us a big surprise otherwise no harm done. No body was hit by it at all and it was the only

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may be put within good reach of us. I think he just threw it over for luck.

Still the rainy season seems ^{to} have set in and it is not at all pleasant. This last while it has rained three or four showers everyday. It makes it very unpleasant for everybody. This damp weather, hard travelling for the horses and transport general.

I would like if you would buy a good razor strap and send it to me sometime when you are sending a box. The razor you sent me was a dandy but I always have to depend on my neighbors for a strap. I bought one in Eng. last year but it was no good so since I have just been using any I can borrow.

Has grandma got all better of that bad spell which she had. You did not mention her any more so I took it for granted that she did.

Had a letter from Lida & she said Bill was at Frensham Pond and she said she never heard of that place from any of the 160th. I know that locality real well, it was about seven mile from Ditly Camp a very nice place. He often used to sit there when we were playing war in England.

There are a few going on pass these times so I guess my turn will come about next spring. If nobody was going a ferson would scarcely think of a pass but when you see a fellow all fixed out with new clothes and a beaming face beating it down the line with a vision of 14 days from France it makes one impatient.

Well I think I will close, the boys will soon be in, they are repairing a road today.

Love to all
Russell

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