

Walling Camp - Surrey
Feb. 26/18

Dear People at Home;

Well I am still here thought we would get away last week end but did not manage it we will go this week end for sure I think as they are starting to move out tonight.

There was quite a sudden shift last Saturday when the 2nd Battⁿ minus the draft had to pull out and go to Bramshott to the 4th Reserve.

I bid them good bye instead of them bidding the drafts good bye.

There are 330 going now, another draft of 100 was picked out Sat. for another Labor Battⁿ.

After the remainder of the Battⁿ left the lines we moved out also to another part of the camp and then had to clean up our lines and they have been at that ever since fatigue parties at least.

Such a mess of stuff I never saw, fellows discarded stuff they did not need and we left a good deal of stuff because hand full we have no kit bag so it was some mess to clean up.

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It is nice now for George Martin,
he is in the same Battⁿ as the rest
of the 160^t. George went on pass
today, 8 days to Scotland.

There is a good deal of Artillery
coming across from Canada, they
fitted our old birds this morning.
New arrivals from Canada. I was
over there this forenoon, thought I
might see Alice again but I don't
think he came, it was chiefly Western
batteries.

These new fellows are a curiosity
for we naturalized Englishmen now,
they ask all kinds of funny questions
about circumstances here and all
that kind of thing.

Major Dijoffat is going to the
American army now that the 160^t
is deceased. He expects to go to France
shortly and no doubt will get a good
job right away because he is well
known in military circles of the U. S.

I sent that medal I was
presented with some time ago for
my track work and my cap badge

in a little parcel a few days ago.
 If you got some silver which & a
 little clean dry brush you can make
 that badge shine up nice, it will no
 doubt be pretty dull when it gets over
 there.

Tell Les. to fire ahead and wear
 that blue suit if it is any use to
 him. He must have grown considerable
 I think of that fits him. It would be
 too small for me to wear again
 anyhow.

I am having quite a time breaking
 in my big kitchener boots. It is nearly
 nearly as bad as when I started wearing
 the Canadian boots, but they are slippers
 to these. I have wore them for three days
 straight ahead now. I guess after another
 week they will be more comfortable. The
 toes are pretty nearly square and the
 common complaint is that they hurt the
 big toe. I know they do mine. They
 were meant for Dutchmen I think.

I never hear from Uncle Tom's now
 at all, I don't know whose fault it is
 maybe my neglect, I guess they are
 too busy making money to think
 much of us over here, but money matters
 little in this game.

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I suppose you read articles on the impending push that is expected, we ought to be there just about in time, the trouble is being a pioneer gang we will not be able to get back at Seine.

There had to be 3 every 6 & 7 Corporals go with each 100 men on draft so I have to stripe up again.

I think after you get this letter you better address my mail to,

Canadian Pioneers

France F. Army P. Q.

London.

Coip - - -

No. 652113.

That is where we are billed for likely that is where we will go.

Hope you can make out this scrawl, it is rather dim light I am writing by.

Loving regards to all

Russel