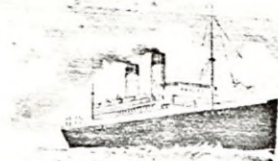


a mile & a half apart
(width) & each ship
following one another
in each of the three lines
at a distance of only
sea hundred yards. At
night only a stem light &
the red & green side lights
were shown.

All port holes were
darkened, & lights in
hallways put out.



On Board the
CUNARD
S.S. "ALBATROSS"

Oct 12th 1914

Dear Father.

I am sending you
under separate cover a
tracing of our fleet of
troop ships together with
the war ship convoy. It
has been a great sight to
see the three lines about

3

We got on board at Quebec on Sept 20th to land in France or England no one will say.

After hanging around at anchor we are in much straits at Quebec making for the English Channel for Gaspe Basin Channel.

We left Gaspe on Oct 12th & so far have been 11 days. We now from one of the transports near we are to get in day after tomorrow but as to whether we are The ship behind had a boat in the water in two minutes & picked

6
former fast Atlantic
liner converted into
a supply ship with
coals & provisions for
the German Warships
that are afloat on the
North Atlantic.

For two days we only
had the 4 small cruisers
then one battleship



On Board the
CUNARD
S.S. "ALAUINIA"

5
him up.

The next day a
strange boat was in sight
from the North, off the
East Coast of Newfoundland.
One of our cruisers
gave chase but she
got away. She was
supposed to be a

I turned up on the
South & then another
on the North:

There has been very
little excitement or
news on board. The
voyage has been a
good one & few men
sea sick. I have
taken the occasion to

get over the two
inoculations against
typhoid fever. I did

not seem to have time
in Cuba.

By the way I took
the first inoculation
I fancy I would have
been a fit subject for
typhoid. However the
second was not so

16
have Caution up
him or have to
move down.

By the way I
of I Oxford took
top Square him
his son out of
poor lot from No
Scotia. I got the
Bay transferred
the Engineers Per

blanc
cin



On Board the

CUNARD

S.S. "ALAUZIA"

the land.
of the
got
that
va
s
to
chaps.

d.
pad.

Our present Cal.
is a rank failure.
We however expect Col
Cautley to join us in
England & if he does we
hope to bring pressure
enough to bear to

11.9
He has mentioned
the matter to you.

CK is very fit. His
wife stayed on in
Seabee till the last.

As soon as we land
I shall write again,
after we go to the
front I shall only be
able to send post.

12
Cards. as all letters
are subject to the
Censor.

Yours affectionately
E. C. Horsworthy

to avoid a German
submarine that was
loose around Southampton.
It was a great feat of
England to get all those
boats over without any
trouble. I could not
help thinking that you
had left Devonport
many years ago.

Southampton

~~301 Stanley Street~~

West Down House
Salisbury Place
Oct 21/17

Dear Father

Well by this time
I hope you have received
the letter I mailed you
the boat. We have been
here four days. We
had to put into
Devonport (Plymouth)

to go to Canada & now
I am coming back to
fight for England. With
hope we do our share
when we are called on. We
hear we will be here for
2 months to complete our
training before being
sent to France unless
there is some serious
wound when men will
be rushed into France

Regardless of training
I hope to go with
Stanley when I
get things in order here
I am going up to London
to see the Dow see
people there for a few
days but I can't leave
now. I hear Brazil
paid its regular
dividends for which I
am grateful.

Yours affectionately
E. C. Snowdon

2

moving into huts &
are now at Lark Hill
about five miles
away from West
Down South. The
huts are comfortable
enough but the mud
is terrible up over
rubber top boots in some
places. However I
suppose it is a good
thing to get used to as
that it is very bad.

①

Salisbury Plain Camp...
For C. S. 13th Canadian Battalion,
The Royal Highlanders of Canada.

3rd Brigade

North Lark Hill.

England

Dec 21/14

Dear Father

Your letter of 30th
reached me two days ago
enclosing those of
Stanley. I think I have
received all your letters
but sometimes there is
a delay in the mails.
We have been busy

the front. I don't know
when we are to be
sent forward. Some
day end of January or
beginning of March.

Just now we are
interested in Xmas.
leave in ten days. I am
going up to London
for Xmas.

I have seen nothing
of other days or other men
you mention in last

one I seldom see any
one except in our
own Brigade. unless
you happen to meet them
in London or in some of
the towns round here.

The gales on the plains
at W. D. South were
pretty bad and while
we had a good many
big stores & mess tents
blown down our own
small tents did not
suffer.

This has been rather hard on our
big tents in fact on Friday they
all blew down.

The mud is pretty bad. Up
to ones ankle tops. However we
expect to get into huts by
Xmas.

I don't think there is
much chance of our going
to the front till March at least
they may send us to Egypt
first if things get bad there.

They have landed the Australian
and New Zealand troops in
Egypt.

GERHARD 454

SAVOY HOTEL,
LONDON.

Sunday Dec 10th 1914

Dear Father.

Your letter of the 15th
I only reached me a couple
days ago. The delivery of mail at
Camp is very slow. I fancy
too the mail steamers across are
none too good.

I am up here over Sunday on
leave. It does one good to get away
occasionally as we have been
having nothing but rain & wind.

39
Luncheon along the St. Lawrence river
are more or less in the shape
of a holding game. Officers
& men are being given 4
days leave & come over here
for the holiday.

I was very glad to get the
home news & to have Fred's
& John's letters. I am glad you
saw Stanley. I am sure
they will not ask him to
stay there much more than
a year more. I am sure
they might if things don't

4
Clear up as it would be
hard for another to take hold.
Our men here are steady
down while the weather is
interfering with the training
badly we are making fair
progress.

The Canadian Boots that
the Govt have given the men
are like paper. no good at all.
I am very glad you had
the visit to Montreal & New
York. I am sure it did you
good, to have the change &
Mary must have been

to the Canadians but I
expect you will have
trouble with the Govt. Red.
Tape.

I am quite fit & all tho
I must say that life is
not all it might be with
the rain & this weather. I really
am enjoying the life.

Lots of work & while there
are worries they are as nothing
beside business troubles.

If we all get back it
will be hard to settle down.

GERHARD 4343

SAVOY HOTEL,
LONDON.

glad to see you. Well as
matters so slow I will
wish you all a very Merry
Xmas. We shall probably
have pretty liberal leave
then. Have a couple invitations
but I don't know whether I
shall not be the one to stay
in camp.

It is very nice of you to
think of sending the apples

7.
again to business. Brazil
is paying its dividend ok.
but Barcelona Bonds of
which I have \$20,000 have
defaulted.

I hear Aunt. Puff can
continue its Puff dividend ok.
& while results from the Common
may be delayed it must
be ok. in the end.

I have had a recent letter
from Joe & between he & Mr
Harrow of Toronto they seem
to be managing my affairs

ok.

My pony is standing the
bad weather well but I
have had trouble with the
black. However he is
a bit better now.

Best wishes to all &
most of all to yourself.
I am
Yours affectionately
E. C. Horsworth

North Lark Hill
Salisbury Plain

England
Sunday 4/15

Dear Father

^{15th}
Your letter of the 6th Dec. your
telegram of first and last of all
your Xmas greeting of cigarettes
were waiting for me here when I
got back on the 2nd. I got yours
of 6th just as I was leaving
for Xmas in London. I hope you
got my cable of Xmas Greetings.
I sent it off from London.

We were given six days
leave & were also given to understand
that this would be our last.

leave
Rumour had it we would
go out to France some time between
the 15th & 30th of Aug. Now Crebrak
Speck Meningitis has broken
out among the Canadians. 26
cases and ten deaths so far.

Today we had our first case
They dont seem to know how to
stop it. Fast isolate any who
have been with a case & try &
localize the effect. The treatment
is very difficult as well. Now
it is hardly likely any of us
will be mixed up with British
Troops till this trouble thoroughly
develops. However. The delay
may not be very great.
As near as I can make

out the war is not going any
 too well for the allies. Russia
 is I hear doing badly with
 Germany altho' giving Austria
 a bad time. The Germans in
 France have retired to the present
 entrenched position & the allies
 have been unable to move them.

However the spring may show a
 change. It is going to be a long
 war at least two years. The
 end is by no means certain.

However I think the odds are
 in favor of the allies. The
 papers are not giving the
 true stories

from what I heard in
 London there is a good deal.

4 of uneasiness that in high
war office circles

I was very glad to hear
Stanley had got through to
Mexico O.K. Things are not
any too good there either.

Had a letter from John also
one from Fred.

I don't know when I shall
get other sundry times letters
from various friends answered
but then I suppose they know
we are busy

Yours affectionately

E. L. Horsworth

Thanks again for the
Cigarettes

North Lark Hill

Jan 8/14

Dear Father

I got the cigarettes
also your registered letter
but I must have mislaid it as
I can't find it now I want
to answer it.

I am sending you three
unmounted groups. If I don't
come back you may like to
keep them. If I do I would
like you to keep a couple for
me if the rest you like.

flight

No definite news of a move yet but lots of rumours. We may go towards the end of the month.

Conditions are not good. It rains every day or night. The spirit of the men is hard to control. However they have got to learn that they must wait for orders.

What annoys me is that many of the men is a good many of the officers don't realize the serious nature

of the business we all in
for.

I am glad you got my
Cable o.k..

Yours in haste
E. C. Norwold



ALLIED WITH
THE BLACK WATCH (ROYAL HIGHLANDERS)

North Lark Hill

Dear Father

1 Aug 16/15

Well another week has passed - lots of work but one gets sick of. Well, more drill. However we were informed on Thursday that we would either be in France by Friday 9th or under orders to go.

I really believe I am glad we are going. I have never been in any hurry to be food for bullets but we came over here to do our duty & camp life has really got on our nerves. Every one is irritable.

When we get across I am afraid
I wont be able to write much but
you all at home are not forgotten
It is I believe what one thinks that
the people at home wish think that
makes brave men X The casualties
amongst the officers continue heavy
but of course some are wounded.

The chances of coming through
untouched are very slight in fact
the best one can hope for is to be
wounded. Many of the British
Regular regiments which have
been out from the first have not
one of their original officers left X



ALLIED WITH
THE BLACK WATCH (ROYAL HIGHLANDERS)

all killed, wounded or captured.
With every one hopes for the best &
perhaps the worst of the fighting is
over. at any rate it is hope that
keeps us all alive. I think I
realize the serious nature of the
business a little more than most
of the others.

The Princess Pato had one officer
killed and one wounded in their
first action.

We have had one death this week
by Spinah Mewenghis one by
pneumonia. There is another
Spinah case in the hospital which
is doubtful. A good many of

the officers have colds. in fact 9
out of 41 were laid up at one
time this week. Nothing serious
The weather continues wet but
warmer than a month ago. It
rains every day or night so that
we are quite used to rain by now.

Love to all.

Dear

yours affectionately

E. C. Horsworth

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Jan 30 / 15

SAVOY HOTEL,
LONDON.

6

I will simply be recommended
not transferred and if anything
happens to the Col. I get the
Regiment as C.O. and the
officers except the Colonel
say they are sorry to see me
go. Mr. I think wants me to
take the post as there has been
some friction at times

However nothing so that
if the dear folks there
cannot stay on as I need
em in the Regiment.

Yours affectionately
E. C. Horsworth

Will write if I get a chance
as to what happens. Good
luck to all.

GIFPAID 4343

SAVOY HOTEL,
LONDON.

Saturday, Jan 30, '15

Dear Sater.

Have delayed writing
you as I thought I would have
some news for you. However there
is a little hitch which may or may
not be overcome.

Slipped
through

Sir Max Arthur my old
friend has been appointed
official Eye Witness of the

Canadian Forces. He offered
me a position as his staff officer.
As this was a place where one
would see the whole of the
Canadian operations instead of
the little part in which we
might be engaged I accepted.
provided I could carry the
judgment of our Col. and our
Brigadier Col Turner. This I
succeeded in doing but

now there is a hitch with
regards to the composition of
his staff.

As we go to the point on
Monday week, not later
than Thursday, it is rather
important and the whole
thing may slip through in which
case I simply go as before.

I have been up here and hope
to know something. Monday

However I may not know
 that I am a great to go hope
 to Paris but I really
 don't care as I have a good
 post as second in
 command any way of
 my own Regiment. I
 have had no more trouble
 with my Rheumatism but
 like every one else have had
 a cold in my throat. This
 however is better now.

13th Batta ~ R.A.C. 3rd Brigade
Canadian Expeditionary Force

CORPORAL,

W.M.N.

North Lark Hill

July 6, 1915

Dear Stanley

on the eve of going to France
just a line I wrote you before but
don't suppose you ever got it as
Mexican mails are irregular.

We'll go next Wednesday to France
& after that stay about two weeks in
a concentration camp then up to
the front

Since we came over here there
has been constant friction between

the Cal. S. I. The old cutter out
of his job ^{in the first place} There was an open row
with Thomas & myself. Carson
was brought in to settle & so it takes
two to row. Since that time although
I have had occasion there has been no
trouble.

Carson threatened a Court
of Inquiry & would not accept
my resignation when the row was
on before. Well this is all
to lead up to what I was going to
say.

After my old opposition
has been appointed Eye Witness

at the front for the Canadian's
the same as the commonest leader
Major the
Hon F. E. Smith is for the Indian
troops.

Not being a military man
we required a military aide to
keep him straight. He offered me
the job & as I was none too happy
I took it if I could carry out
Brigadier Gen Turner's judgement
well I got that & Col Cooney's
recommended but to my mind
there was a hitch with either

4
appointment & now I am back
not knowing whether it is going
through or not I could not be
left here when we go to France
I would gladly check it
but Victor Buchanan very
unfortunate junior is so disappointed
that he does not go up that I have
promised that if I can still get
it I will take the better job.
It will enable one to see the whole
battle front & is a nice job but
I only took it as things were
unpleasant now I am sorry
I spoke as it has made bad
feeling with others on not.

GERARD 545

5

SAVOY HOTEL,
LONDON.

going through perhaps.

However ~~that~~ it was over this
I must wait and see.

Saw a British officer last night
on the train home on a deep level
he says he considers the front fire
trunk 50 to 100 yds from the enemy
the safest place as there you have
only rifle bullets & no shells.
Too close to the Germans to shell as
they might kill their own men

The last 27 men were in
reserve from his company.

6
one day last week when two
mules back. They were in Bullets
in houses and before they could
get out in day out the shells got
them.

He says bullets are nothing but
the big "Jack Johnsons" & Sasapnel
All mended

He says the South Americans
have had 2500 men killed or wounded
180 officers since the war started.

The strength of a Battⁿ is 1000
including 32 officers. He

says many are as back-woods
as if a nice soft woman would

2
be the most acceptable. He was
on Brigade duties but had to
return as all the seasons of his
Regt were killed or invalided home.

Let us hope we see put on
the turning movement, not the
trenches.

The allies are just having their
own. It remains to be seen
whether our new troops are
better than the new German ones.

However time alone will
tell. The papers are horribly
censored & I have things are
none to good on the Russian

8.
Side

well if I can I will drop a
Card soon I am sure. I am afraid
letters will be at a Premium.

Good bye for the time Good
luck always.

Yours most affectionately

Ed.

545

St. JOY HOTEL,
LONDON.

North Lambeth

Feb. 6/15

Dear Father

Your of 18th Decy has
just reached me including
Stanley & Uncle George's letters.

I am back here & go to France
next Wednesday as second in
Command. It does not look

as if the staff job would
work out. If it does I will
take it.

We will be at a concentration
camp in France for two or
three weeks. So that there still
will be time.

If it does not I am just
what I was before but I am
sick I can't think of it as
it has put back two who
thought they were going
up.

3

I came down last night from London with a British officer who had been in the trenches the night before. It is hard to realize the fighting is so near.

After they have been over 3 months they give officers 7 days leave. The nervous strain even if you are not hit is so great they have to let them

ill a bit & as they are almost stationary in trenches this can be done.

He says it is murder on both sides, little use. However there may be some open work when Spring opens & by the time we get up.

Stanley is looking well. I have no news except that Sam quite fit.

There is an early decision in the Staff as this winter is not cheerful

Yours very affectionately
E. & J. Sworley

Clark Kennedy has just been in my hut & asks to be remembered. E. & J.

France July 29th 1915

Arrived all well. we go
into trenches soon. Have heard
nothing from Walter yet but
will know definitely in few days

E. L. Horsworth

— Major
13th Buff^{ns} R.H.C.

POST CARD

THE ADDRESS TO BE WRITTEN ON THE



E. L. Horsworth Esq

Ingersoll Ont
Canada



ALLIED WITH
THE BLACK WATCH (ROYAL HIGHLANDERS)

13th Can Battsⁿ

1st Division

France Mar 2/13

Dear Father

Well we have been up at the front. completing our training by going into the trenches with British Regiments. We leave today for another part of the line to hold a bit by ourselves. Well we got off pretty well during our week here two men killed, two wounded. No officers were touched.

Rifle fire was not so bad. I did not come within shelling of the big guns altho it was round us. The next experience will be to see what a bayonet attack is like. The Germans are no fools & good shots but man for man the British Tom seems to have a contempt for them. However that remains to be seen.

The weather so far is not at all bad. No snow & little rain last week but the country is

water logged. The trenches are very wet. I have heard or seen nothing of either since I came to France. It would look as if I would stay with the Regiment. for which I am not sorry altho I dont care one way or another.

Now our training is over with our ~~happy~~ first experience under fire it remains to be seen what the Canadians will do. Man for man they are of better physique than the "Tommy". If they are well led I am sure they will do as they should.

Outside of the actual work in the trenches trench work is rather heavy as we have none of the training we had in England to occupy us. Got Mellis socks OK.

Alth good wishes
Yours very affectionately
E. C. NorwORTHY

March 10th 1915

All. Ok. Just had our first tour as a unit in the trenches. Wet & muddy pretty bad, in fact I have got to look on mud as clean mud, even dirty mud. We did not have much sleep probably due to our consciousness to do well. I think we will stretch the racket better next time. We expect to have 3 days rest. Love to all

Yours affectionately

E. C. Norworth

POST CARD

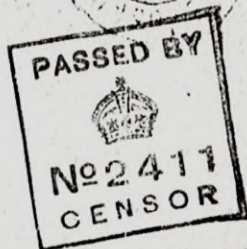
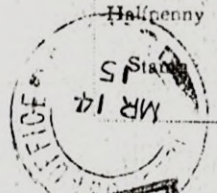
THE ADDRESS TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE

J. C. Norworth Esq
Ingersoll
Ont

E. C. Norworth

Canada

Halfpenny



I ought but I don't understand
the lure of battle. Perhaps
I am writing too early
but I think I shall show
the whole affair differently
than I did.

We shall not have had
two hours' rest since we
left Beller's we are not yet
from the line & would
certainly not all the time
be in the line when I



SALISBURY PLAIN.

France
Mar 17/13

Dear Father

Back again
to Beller's. We have fought
days just this time - I
think. But one never
knows when it is against
person to man in that
game. Really I am
enjoying the whole affair.
I am because I am

3
the nose by a long range
stray bullet this morning
in front of his battery.

Means ~~that~~ ^{battery} ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~vicinity~~ ^{vicinity} ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~road~~ ^{road} ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~whole~~ ^{whole} ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~front~~ ^{front} ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~men~~ ^{men} ~~sleep~~ ^{sleep} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~barracks~~ ^{barracks} ~~on~~ ^{on} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~left~~ ^{left}. The people give
upon or two rooms for
the officers. The most
extraordinary thing is the
way the French go on with
their order of routine

4
within 1000 yds of the firing
line & all the time under
Artillery fire.

The mail leaves now
later, I will close

Best love

Yours affectionately
Edw. M. Wortley

March 25th 1915

Dear Father

We left the trenches again on the 23rd and altho we are to move again tomorrow night we dont know this time where we go or what we will be asked to do.

However now we have had our start we are 100% better than before because our men have been tried out and really they have done well.

Life in the trenches is interesting especially visiting rounds. The latter rather exciting not the least of which is that when the enemy put up a flare + turn on machine guns I can drop to mother earth quicker than any smell boy ever pulled his bumt longer from the fire. These were part of our trenches I could not visit by day at all

76
detached posts. They were
not at all healthy spots. However
we got a good many of them
connected up.

We have not been attacked
or made an attack yet. so I
suppose we are not real
soldiers yet. So far we have
had rather a bad time as
regards casualties amongst the
men but our officers have
been lucky.

I am quite fit and as
I wrote you before thoroughly
enjoying the life

Yours affectionately

Ed. Son worship

Sunday March 28/15

Dear Father

One would hardly know that it was Sunday, in fact one day is just like another & while we don't forget the date of the month, because we have to write messages, I seldom know what day it is.

After we came out of trenches last when I wrote you we were sent back in reserve or as the men term it being fattened for the slaughter! We are going on with additional training while we are here, when we come out of trenches for 3 days we generally let the men loaf & get rested for the next spell in the trenches. There however we train for six hours daily.

I got rid of the lice I had & am feeling quite comfortable again. I got after them quickly

78
They did not yet a
start. My sleeping quarters
near the trenches were not
exactly. Sufficient. However
one prayer to life. The
sense of responsibility worries
me most, but I pray I shall
get over that. In the trenches
Command directly the firing
line. The Co. is some 600 or
800 yds behind with the reserves.
We have a switch board & telephones
& make quite a business of it.

However once shelling starts
the telephone line generally goes
out as it is only laid on the
ground. Then we have to trust
the messengers which is slower.

Exceedingly they are preparing
for something & it would look
as if the landmines were to be
used.

I hope & pray we do well. But
men well I am sure I only hope
we officers do our share well.

I am quite sure in some ways
 one would never think we
 were at war. We get English
 papers the day after & small parcels
 come through the post from London
 splendidly. Eggs & butter abound.
 The French use eggs up to within
 1000 yards of the line are often
 under shell fire but don't
 seem to care! Go on ploughing
 & pulling in their crops as
 if nothing were happening.
 Of course everything is held at
 dear price. eggs 6 cents each and
 butter 50¢ a pound.

Most of the French are
 grafters only old men & women
 left of course! but the women
 know how to charge for everything.
 They are all dirty & sloppy but
 have fine barns & good animals.
 Good deal of pesting that we
 can hear while I write about
 a couple miles away.

Good to talk

Yours affectionately
 E. C. Horsworthy

Easter Sunday
Apr 4th 1915

Dear Father.

Another week has passed. There is really very little to say. We have had no more fighting since I last wrote. The weather still continues to improve and in one way our trip has become more and more of a big holiday. We have had no real hardships but the "lie" still we headed in France. Of course we may expect any time days of fighting & advancing which will be very difficult.

To date however I think I might describe our trip as a pleasant little shooting trip with interesting incidents from day to day.

I had my share of sleep the last time we were in the trenches but got after them hard with the result that I am a few men again. These boys are all formidable

71
Settlements

I am how or other have
got into a bad cold. It is
mostly in my throat & is
more annoying as I can't
smoke. However I fancy
it will be ok in a day or so.

The way things have been
going over here with those
big events which have had an
effect to carry out would
almost indicate that someone
who goes into action is sure of
a cross. Is a wooden one or
a Victoria cross. The Germans
are with let and of themselves
stubborn fighters. I do not
consider that the allies on the
Western Front have any superiority
as yet.

However why England's new
army get on the more weight of
the matter will be on our side
soon to all.

Yours affectionately
E. C. Horsworth
Capt. J. J. Hunter
Lieut.

LETTER TO FATHER FROM LATE MAJOR NORSWORTHY

The following letter was received Monday evening by Mr. J. C. Norsworthy from his son, the late Major Edward Cathbert Norsworthy, after official word had arrived of his being killed in action at Langemark, France.

France, April 9th, 1915

Dear Father.—We have shifted from where we were and are now farther from the firing line than we have been since we finally arrived in France. However, I hear we leave reserve in a few days and go back to the trenches in a new place.

"All this "slush" that is being published in the Canadian papers is very annoying to us here. When we do something we will be pleased to have it recorded, but it is a pity our papers went "amuck" before their time.

I have had a bed in my billet here with sheets, the first I have had since we landed in France. The floor with a blanket has been our usual fare. This present comfort is of course, too good to last. So far our experience has been just like a nice shooting or hunting trip, but our real work is yet to come. The Germans are good fighting men and the generals high up in the German army have the reputation of being of the very best. Good men, well led, are a foe worthy of anyone's steel.

Our men consider themselves quite the Germans' equal, but they don't despise them as some of the papers would lead them to believe.

The weather is tricky—warm one day and cold the next—good pneumonia weather, but it is getting better all the time.

Our food is excellent, and the men have really no hardships as yet; not what I call war hardship. When in reserve they mostly sleep in barns and lofts on straw for their beds, which is much superior to Salisbury Plain, either in huts or tents.

Of course in the trenches they sleep on the ground, but we only stay three or four days, then retire to our billets for the same time, then back again, and so on.

This relief of seventeen days we are having now in reserve is unusual, but we were being moved from one place to another from time to time. If we have an advance we may be days with short rations or days on duty on end.

Our men are splendid and simply improve every day. I don't think if I am spared, I would ever be satisfied with the militia again; the real article of trained men is so different. I will have done my duty and out I go the moment I get back. If there was another war, I don't say I would not be in it, as there is something that holds a man fast.

You get used to men being hit and forget all about the danger. Then again, I don't know why it is, but everyone thinks he will be the lucky one to escape. War is not what I thought it would be at all.

My friend Donald Cameron, who as you know, was a Lieutenant in the Princess Pats, was instantly killed. Most of the wounds in the trenches mean death as a man is generally hit in the head. The men are all keen and eager and the casualties we have had have only made them careful. The way things have been going over here with those regiments which have had an attack to carry out would almost indicate that everyone who goes into action is sure of a cross—that is, a wooden cross or a Victoria Cross.

I do not consider that the allies on the western front have any superiority as yet. However, when England's new army gets on the move, weight of men will be on our side.

All good wishes and affectionate love.

Your dutiful son,

E. C. Norsworthy.

France April 9th 1915

Dear Father

We have shifted from where we were & are now further from the firing line than we have been since we finally arrived in France. However I hear we leave reserves in a few days & go back to the trenches in a new place.

All the "Slush" that is being published in Canadian papers is very annoying to us here. When they do something we will be pleased to have it recorded but it is a petty sort of papers. went "cunuck" before this time.

I have had a bad cold but am over it again. I have had a bed in my billet with sheets. The first I have had since I have been in France. The floor with a blanket has been our usual fare. However of course this is too good to last.

X So far our experience has been just like a nice little shooting trip. but our real work is yet to be done. Not so soon as the papers make out with the trouble. however. The Germans are good men & the generals like up in the German army have the reputation of being of the very best. Good men well led are a force worthy of any ones steel. Our own conduct themselves quite the Germans equal but they dont despise them as some of the papers would lead one to believe.

The weather is tucky - Warm one day cold the next. Good pneumonia weather but it is getting better yet the time. Our food is excellent & the men have really had no hardships as yet. Not what I call war hardships. They mostly sleep in barns in straw which is better than salisbury plains in either huts or tents.

Of course, in the trenches they sleep on the ground but not only stay there 3 or 4 days then get the same time in bellies. Then back again & so on.

This relief of 17 days we are having in reserve is indeed at best we were being moved from one place to another. If we have any advance we may be days with short rations & days on duty on our own.

Our men are splendid & simply improve every day. I don't think if I see Spauld I would ever be satisfied with the situation again. The rest activity of trench men is so different I will have done my share any way & not do the minute I get back. If there were another war I don't say I would not be right as there is something that holds on.

You get used to men being hit & forget all about the danger. Then again I don't

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hit in the head. The men are
all keen & eager & the casualties
we have had have only made
them careful.

I got yours today with
John's & Stanley's letters. also
got one direct from Fred a
day or so ago.

all good wishes

Yours affectionately
E. C. Norwotley

by Germany. I doubt
very much if anything
comes of it. The U.S. are
making too much money
selling to both sides to
allow anything like that
to interfere with their
dollar diplomacy.

However the Home
Guard is a good thing if
they are as fit however
as those I hear that are
enlisting in Montreal. I
don't think they will be

5
Everything has been very
damp & I have had a
few twinges of rheumatism
in arms & legs otherwise
I am O.K. It rains here
every day. Sometimes a
lot & sometimes very
little.

Mexico certainly
seems to be pulling much
upset. I hope another
year will see the end
of Stanley's work there.
As regards the
invasion of Canada

of any use. However
 the idea is good. The
 Canadians over all are
 not very popular there
 has been a great deal of
 criticism about our
 discipline & about
 drunkenness. Now our
 men have not been
 sought but they have
 been badly treated as
 regards quarters in
 comparison with

P.S. When the ^{Comes} comes
 I think we can show the deuce English what we
 are etc.

what has been given
 Territorials & they have
 not in my opinion been
 as bad as Territorials.
 The noisy remarks
 make one think that
 the English have never
 understood us & never
 will. I don't refer to the
 refined & educated ones
 but to the mass. &
 finally Canada is foolish
 to send any more if we
 are not welcome as it is

I suppose I don't know of the
 Bank of Montreal
 El. Harcourt