

Letter #1.

Bramshot Mar. 26/19

Dear Father:

Your welcome letter with
mothers of Feb. 18th received yesterday
"Sunday" afternoon & read with interest.
I think I have received all your
letters & papers up to the present,
Have received all O.K. & once a
week since we landed & I dare
say that I have mailed you a
letter weekly & sometimes twice.
I presume you have received
several of them by this time, I
really do not know what to
say but shall make a stab at it
anyway. ~~But~~ all the Batt^{ies} in
camp were mobilized on Sat.
afternoon to prepare to go to
France. Willie is warned but
up to present does not know
whether they will be going. They
should know definitely by this
evening if they are going & should

they go I will drop you a line
 to that effect, I was put in
 quarantine last Thursday with
 scabbies & just how long I will
 be in I cannot say. My body
 was covered with pimples & felt
 very itchy having had very little
 rest for couple nights. I take
 a bath daily & then am rubbed
 well with sulphur ointment,
 I am feeling fine to-day & do
 not think I will be in very
 much longer. Harry Ellis & two
 other boys & myself have it
 & are kept in a hut by ourselves.
 We go to bed between 9 & 10 P.M.
 & this morning I did not get up
 until 8³⁰. It is giving me a good
 chance to rest up. Sat. night
 the whole Battⁿ were up until
 1 a.m. in full marching order
 awaiting orders to go to
 France but as yet they have

not got & I believe now that they are not going, but one cannot tell. Yesterday they were around getting names of parties desiring to get into motor transport & I had my name put down. I hope that I shall be able to get on as a driver as I will feel more at home. This is Spring but does not look like it. It was very damp & cool yesterday & a steady drizzle while to day it is much cooler & have had a few scattered snow showers. The snow here is very damp & one would be better off in a rain storm than a snow storm as the snow is very wet. Yesterday was wash day for me. I washed by hand two suits of underwear, five pr. socks

three towels, four handkerchiefs,
 pillow slip & few other things.
 My hands were nearly raw
 when I finished up but I should
 worry, I can do them as well
 as anyone else. I also have
 taken in laundry from
 other boys. Do it more for
 pass time than anything
 else. I made two shilling
 & sixpence one afternoon.
 How about my bank acc.
 ask of Gladys my last
^{monthly} check received & what my
 balance is as I would like
 to know. I have only had one
 pay since we left Canada
 & that was for a £ which
 is $\$4.80$ I have been broke
 for last three weeks & often
 wish I had money to buy
 extra rats as food here
 is becoming quite scarce.

The troops are complaining daily of not receiving sufficient to eat. I never felt so starved in all my career. I feel like eating at all times. If you desire you can make up a parcel for me as I would certainly appreciate it.

I received a letter from Walter dated Mar 1st & shall answer it as soon as I finish yours.

What do you think of the war now. The allies certainly are chasing old Fritz now & I believe that all will be over this summer. That is the general opinion of all. We certainly do hope it will all finish. I do not know what else to say so shall pull down curtain for present. Am starting numbering

my mail with this letter so that
 you can tell whether you have
 received them all. Kindly remember
 me to all the boys & Mr. Bletcher.
 One more - Grand Harper got
 the mumps & his head is now
 in quarantine for twenty
 eight days. About half of
 our men are now in
 quarantine with same. Well
 I will close hoping to hear
 from you again. I remain
 your loving son.

Wm Sheldon M.

25th Co. Reserve.

751,361

Bramshot Heights

Eng.

P.S. Tell mother that she had better
 write Aunt Allie Shivers & Della
 for us as we are not allowed
 to send any mail to the States.