

For God. For King & For Country.



Y.M.C.A.



H.M. DEPT. OF ACTIVITY

PATRON
Y.M.C.A. NATIONAL COUNCIL
H.M. THE KING

PATRON
MILITARY CAMP DEPT
H.M. DEPT. OF ACTIVITY

Reply to _____ Company _____ Bar _____ Regt _____ 24-2-1917

Stationed at _____

Dear Jack,

It is about time that I wrote to you. Things are pretty much the same here & there is not much to write about.

The camp is pretty full now about 1000 new troops arrived during the past week. They are beginning to find their way about now but for the first few days they were always getting lost & falling over hedges & barbed wire fences.

I forgot to mention in my last letter that ^{about a fortnight ago} a Sgt. & three other fellows and I went to Andover (about 50 miles away) and brought 2 prisoners back. We started early

2
in the morning & walked to Helton
(the nearest railway station) about
five miles away, or rather we
walked half way and had the
luck to get a lift for the rest
of the journey in a motor car.
When we arrived at Andover
the Supt. went off on his own
account after girls. The four of
us had a good look round the
town & ~~unwisely~~ went too near to
about 50 school kids who were
having a snow fight. They gave
us a lively time so we formed
ourselves into fours & retreated with
much haste. The town is full
of English troops & they are all
billeted on the inhabitants.
The troops belonged to the
Durham Light Infantry. We spent
a good part of the day
in their canteen reading ^{magazines}
& sitting near a fire drinking
coffee & eating cakes.

For God. For King & For Country.



Y.M.C.A.



H.N. 1015 ON ACTIVE SERVICE

PATRON
Y.M.C.A. NATIONAL COUNCIL
REV. THE KING

PATRON
MILITARY CAMP DEPT.
REV. THE KING OF CONNAUGHT

Reply to _____ Company (37) Bat _____ Regt _____ 191
Stationed at _____

When we were stoney broke we started out to look for the Sergt. & make him shout ^{for} us, we found ^{him} abright but before we could get a word in he wanted to borrow half a crown. About five o'clock we went to the police Station & got the prisoners, (two coves who tried to duck into London without passes but were dugged at Andover) they were very awrath at being kept in the cells for two days & didn't seem to be too pleased when we told them what a good day we had had. Andover is a character of a town

The streets are ⁴ very narrow only room
for two dogs to pass & the
doorsteps come right out into
the footpath. I don't know
how a man would get on if
he was torised & tried to walk
along the footpath, I suppose he
would drop anchor at the
first step & continued the passage
in the morning.

One two storeyed house we
passed had a permanent
ghost stationed near the wall.
The bathroom must have been
upstairs & the ^{waste water} gutter pipe was
about fourteen foot from
the ground & a giant
icicle had formed from
the ground to the pipe.
The icicle was about 14 foot
high & 4 foot wide &
two foot thick. The occupants
must have been very hot
tempered people & kept the

For God, For King & For Country.



Y.M.C.A.



HANDS ON ACTIVE SERVICE

PATRON
Y.M.C.A. NATIONAL COUNCIL
DR. THE KING

PATRON
MILITARY CAMP DEPT
U.S. BUREAU OF CORRECTION

Reply to _____ Company _____ Bat _____ Regt _____ /9/

Stationed at _____

iceberg near top keep their
heads cool in times of trouble.
The villages here amaze me
(they call them villages if there
is a church, two houses, and
an inn. The smaller the
village is the more flash the
name is such as "Button Mandarilly
& Barford St. Martin". The pubs
are not really pubs here they
are all inns & there is the "Ship
Inn", Dragon Inn, King's Elm inn, &
Six bells inn & they are all little
tumble down foul houses of pleasure.
The houses about here all have
thatched roofs green with moss
& mice & birds nest in the roofs.

The villages are ⁶scattered all over
Salisbury plains & they are usually
two and three miles apart.
We have had two or three
rainy days lately and it
has warmed the weather up
a bit. We go for a route
march twice a week now
with full pack up and though
we are marching all the
afternoon we all look forward
to the route marches as we
have the band in front and
see a bit of the country.
For the first three weeks the
route marches used to
play "Old Harry" with our
feet and we used to get
back in camp with feet
as ^{tender} soft as butter. I think
it must have been the hard
frozen ground & us not being
used to walking much. My feet
are tip-top now & I could march

For God For King & For Country.



Y.M.C.A.



PATRON
Y.M.C.A. NATIONAL COUNCIL
H.M. THE KING

HANDS ON ACTIVE SERVICE

PATRON
MILITARY CAMP DEPT
H.R.H. DUKE OF CONNAUGHT

Reply to _____ Company _____ Bar _____ Regt _____ 1917
Stationed at _____

all day & feel as fresh at the
end of the day as when I
started. The scenery here is
pretty much the same as
you see in pictures of England
a few trees scattered about
with no leaves on and
rooks (birds like crows) perched
on the top branches. It
ought to be a pretty place
here ^{in the summer} when all the trees break
out into leaf. I never saw
such a place for ~~so~~ creeks
or brooks as they call them
here, they are everywhere &
usually there are two or three
creeks of about two feet deep
of clear water & about 5 yards
wide.

& they wind in & out among the
houses. The roads here look just
as though they were made out
of a cattle pad as they wind
all over the place and are
very narrow with hedges on
each side. No more news at
present but I will write again
soon.

I remain

Yours etc.

Frank.