

SERGEANT J. R. KEITH, formerly of Herbert branch, wrote in part as follows on 2nd January, 1915. Sergeant Keith was with the Princess Patricia's and has since died of meningitis:

"We have been in France about a couple of weeks, but have not yet gone into the firing line. On 30th December two officers and two sergeants were sent up to see how the reliefs, etc., were carried out. I was one of the sergeants chosen and therefore we four were the only representatives of Colonial corps at the front in 1914. It was, as you know, my first experience of active service. I rather enjoyed it, but the wet and cold were pretty tough. The regiment may go into action any day. I will let you know from time to time how things are going with us. We have quite a few Commerce men in our Battalion."

PRIVATE J. E. LOCKERBY writes on 14th March, 1915, as follows, (Private Lockerby has since appeared in the casualty list as having been wounded):

"At present I am in a barn about a mile from the firing line. We are here for a few days' rest, but it is just about as safe in the trenches, as they shell places like this quite frequently. We have had a little excitement, but there has only been one man wounded in our section."

PRIVATE I. F. MACTAVISH, of the Vancouver staff, writes under date of 15th March, 1915:

"We came out of the trenches the day before yesterday after a spell of four days, and we are back in the reserve for a few days rest before going into the firing line again. I am sorry to say we have lost a few men already, but so far our casualties have been comparatively light. When the general advance comes I expect we shall pay dearly for it as I can tell you the German soldier is by no means to be despised. Their shooting is accurate and their wire entanglements are thoroughly constructed. However, there is no doubt of the ultimate result, and no matter how great the cost we shall beat the Huns in the end. We had rather a hot time of it yesterday afternoon, as the enemy got our range and started dropping shrapnel all round us. They blew up some buildings all to blazes only about thirty yards from us and we had to move along and take cover. It is wonderful to watch the shells crumple up stone and brick buildings as if they were paper; but one doesn't wish for a very close acquaintance with shrapnel."

PRIVATE E. C. W. MOCKLAR writes as follows undated, (Private Mocklar has since died of wounds received in the battle of Langemark):

"Excuse my writing, as I am writing this in a pretty dirty trench. We have been out two or three weeks now as you will perhaps see by the papers. You