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Waterdown

A Letter from Belgium

Genval; Belgium, Mar. 26, 1919

Dear Aunt and Uncle,

You see we are still holding forth in Belgium and as we should move before a great while now. I have a few views which I want to dispose of, perhaps you may find them interesting.

We are just ten miles south of Brussels and have been here since Jan. 6th. This little town, which we are billeted in, is very nice and clean. It is noted for its mineral springs, consequently it is somewhat a summer resort.

I have been to Brussels three times, it is quite a fine city too.

There are some wonderful collections of paintings in the different art galleries, also sculpture and tapestry. Many beautiful monuments are to be seen throughout the city.

I was in the Hotel De Ville, and saw the famous ball room, where Wellington gave his dance the night before the Battle of Waterloo.

The Battlefield of Waterloo, is also a fine place to spend a day. I have been there on two different occasions. In a museum there is a panorama of the battle, this is without doubt the most realistic piece of art which you could imagine. The largeness of the painting seems to make it almost bewildering. I might be able to give you a feeble idea of it. The building is round, about sixty feet in diameter, I should judge the painting is on the inside wall all around the interior of the building. You enter the building below ground level, and arriving in the center, you go up a stairway which places you on a raised platform, that places one as though in the centre of the battle. The view of the surrounding country from this platform would be the same as though you were standing at the top of the Lion mound. The sky, woods, buildings, etc. are practically the same in the painting. A canopy overhead prevents one from seeing the dome of the building. On the ground all around the platform is to be seen all kinds of armour, cannon, legs, arms, dead bodies and horses etc., this works in so well with the painting that it is impossible to tell just where the painting and the ground meet at the bottom. This certainly is very cleverly arranged.

As I said before, one is placed as though in the center of the fray. The view nearest, is the famous French Cavalry, attacking British square formations of infantry. The positions of the different regiments are shown quite clearly, also the reserves and lastly where the two great commanders gave their orders.

The museum can be seen in the view of "The three monuments" just at the base of the Lion Mound on the right hand side.

As we are in the Fourth Division we are the last to demobilize, but we expect to be on the move very shortly, so I guess we will probably make Canada in about two months time. I am certainly ready to go any old time.

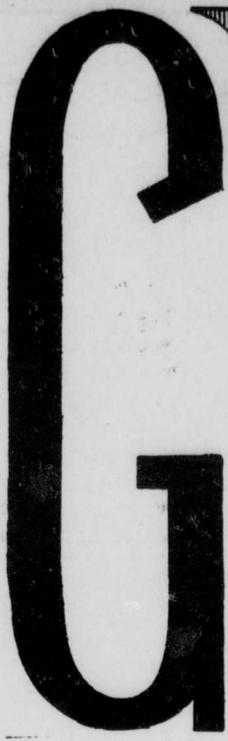
King Albert gave us a visit yesterday. He reviewed the 12th Brigade and must have noticed how well our brass was shining. I had a good look at him when he visited Mons last December.

Florence told me that you had received my last letter and that you were very pleased. I hope this one may be interesting, although I doubt very much, whether I made a very successful description of the painting. It is a thing which anyone has to see to appreciate fully. Anyhow I am just as well doing this as almost anything else. What do you say?

Hoping to see you all soon, I remain your affectionate nephew,
CLIFFORD.

Gas, light and coke company of London, Eng., announced that sufficient raw material had been supplied by the company to manufacture explosives for 160,000,000 18-pounder shells.

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The results of examinations have been published in the Review from time to time to give parents an idea of what their children are doing at school. Any teacher can make an examination so easy that most of the pupils will make from 80 to 100 per cent., or so difficult that scarcely any one can make over 40 per cent. The important thing to notice is the relative standing of the pupil compared with the rest of the class. In this issue we publish the average mark of each pupil in all the examinations held since Christmas. If a pupil was absent for certain examinations the per cent. is taken only on the subjects on which he wrote.

Besides this, every pupil is given a report at the end of the term showing his or her marks in every examination this year. If the parents will make sure that they get these reports (some children are so modest that they would rather not bring their merits before the notice of their parents) if they will examine, sign and return them to the teacher, if they will further see that the children do a fair amount of home study, they will strengthen the hands of the teachers in such a way as to insure their children's progress. Every High school pupil has homework five nights a week, and there is so much necessary to be done to make the next grade at the end of the year that many of the pupils will find it impossible to accomplish.

A. B. COOPER, Prin. H. S.

EASTER STANDING

Form I

A. Crusoe 80.4, L. Roberts 74.6, A. Harris 70.3, O. Garland 69, G. Best 63, G. Maxwell 62.9, R. Allen 62.7, L. Richards 62.6, G. Prudham 62.3, D. Hopcott 59.3, H. Slater 58, T. Shaidle 56.5, G. Rutledge 55.7, J. Sheppard 55.7, C. Attridge 54.5, N. Langton 53.3, E. Langton 50.4, H. Sheppard 47.3, V. Sheppard 37.3.

Form II

D. Cooper 81, G. Eaton 74, D. Freeman 69, F. Smith 69, B. Facey 68, H. Radford 66, R. Spence 65, J. Organ 60, I. Mills 59, H. Slater 58, A. Thompson 57, G. Gamble 54, M. Feilde 53, H. Markle 52, M. Langton 50, H. Jerome 50, E. Robson 49, L. Slater 46, E. Nicholson 43, S. Cairns 43, G. Mitchell 39, G. Davidson 36, M. Fretwell 36, E. Greene 30.

Form III

E. Attridge 83, H. Vance 80, C. Davidson 78, D. McQuarrie 75, F. Pereira 73, P. Slater 69, I. Slater 68, C. Nicholson 60, E. Nicholson 57, F. Barram 55, A. Mullock 50, E. Griffin 48, G. Best 47, M. Baker 45, L. Ireland 42, G. Forth 35, N. Attridge 32.

Form IV

C. Attridge 69, M. Cooper 62, E. Richards 57.

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