

# The Western Scot

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No. 39.

## A REMARKABLE LETTER.

The British press has published the following letter. It was written to his father by a Cambridge scholar, who when he left for the front was only twenty-one:—

"I estimate my chance of getting wounded 1 in 4, of getting killed or totally disabled at 1 in 10. These are pretty heavy averages, and I should be foolish not to go out prepared for the worst. In a sense, therefore, I count myself already dead.

\* \* \* \* \*

"Wear no mourning for me if I am killed; if I die, I die gladly. I have lived longer than many, and life has been very good. Pleasures innumerable, sweet and high and pure, have surrounded me all my days. I have learnt to take delight in the greatest works of man, in music and literature and art. I have had strength to follow the hard road of learning, in its austere track, to that deep valley of humiliation where all the mighty scroll of human knowledge dwindles down to an ill-formed question mark, and whence coming no one ever again thinks that he knows anything in the whole wide world.

\* \* \* \* \*

"All that I have asked of life I have had; I am well content to die whenever it is demanded. And if not death but something worse should fall—well, I am prepared. The only thing I fear at all is the loss of both hands or total blindness. Both of these are improbable contingencies.

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"Well, that risk had to be faced before I enlisted. Was I or was I not prepared to enter on life as a blind man? You know how I answered that question. The cause is worth even that sacrifice. And I have had so pleasant a life heretofore that even if the rest of it is to be passed in darkness the balance will be on the side of pleasure."

\* \* \* \* \*

We are not told what has been the fate of this noble fellow, but what a wealth of meaning there is in what he wrote. It is a terrible thing that war should demand such a sacrifice, but what a great thing it is that men as gifted as he should be ready to give up everything for the cause of human liberty. How paltry such a letter makes the small issues which disturb us here seem.

—Victoria Colonist.

## DAILY NEWS CABLE.

OTTAWA, JUNE 27, 1916.

Col. C. C. Ballantyne, of Montreal, is raising the 245th Battalion.

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Inspector French, with three constables of the Royal North-West Mounted Police, are leaving for the Arctic Circle, in order to continue the search for the Esquimaux murderers. It will be remembered that Ridford and Street were murdered two years ago.

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A statement from the bank shows that the Canadian Savings Deposits have increased 73,000,000 dollars since May last.

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His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught leaves for inspection of troops. His first visit will be at Petawawa Camp.

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The gross earnings for all the Canadian railways for the first week of June show an increase of 44.6 per cent., as compared with the corresponding week of 1915.

## Personal News in the Orders.

Transfers:—The following men have been transferred to the 51st Battn. C.E.F.:—

102582—Pte. A. McNaught.  
 102667—Pte. D. Scales.  
 102991—Pte. R. Boardley.  
 102842—Pte. A. Wallach.  
 102550—Pte. L. McMillan.  
 102881—Pte. A. L. Bryan.  
 102830—Pte. W. Lucas.  
 102373—Pte. W. Corkish.  
 102393—Pte. J. Nelson.  
 102435—Pte. J. Dineen.  
 102346—Pte. F. T. Kirby.  
 103354—Pte. W. W. Fisher.  
 103409—Sergt. A. Peacock.  
 102651—Pte. F. J. Parks.

The following man has been granted permission by the Officer Commanding to marry at date 5/7/16:—

102376—Lce.-Corpl. A. Ronald, Stretcher Bearer Section.

To be Acting Sergeant at date 3/7/16:—

102334—Acting Corpl. O. Massey, "B" Co.

To be Acting Corporal at date 3/7/16:—

103182—Pte. F. S. Feddern, "B" Co.

The following is the result of the Bombing Course held at Bramshott from 3/5/16 to 11/5/16:—

Major Meredith-Jones ... .. 95

Major S. D. Armour ... .. 95

102061—Cpl. W. J. McLaughlin, "A" Co. ... 85

102334—Sgt. O. Massey, "B" ... 86

103135—Pte. L. L. Dorais, "C" ... 69

103015—Pte. W. R. Foster, "D" ... 98

The following man is confirmed in the rank of Sergeant:—

102409—Acting B.S.M. A. E. Haines.

The undermentioned Officer, N.C.O.'s and men who attended the Divisional Signalling Course from June 5-24, 1916, qualified as under:—

First Class:— Lieut. F. J. Gary.

Distinguished:—102178—Sergt. E. E. Kendall, Sig. Sec.

First Class:— 102080—Cpl. J. Boyd " "

103420—Lce.-Cpl. J. D. Sloan " "

103244—Cpl. S. G. Moore " "

103270—Pte. B. H. Swiler " "

Second Class:—103378—Pte. S. G. Lawrence " "

102652—Lce.-Cpl. A. C. Haynes, " "

## ADVENTURES OF OUR PADDY.

HALIFAX, N.S., June 1/16.

"I went to the steamship office, and was informed that it is absolutely necessary for you to secure from the health authorities in England a permit for the dog, as no dogs will be accepted by the steamship office without a permit from the proper authorities. After you get this send it to me and I will arrange shipment. The fare by C.P.R. boats is five pounds to Liverpool, but I will probably be able to get him through for less by sending him in care of a steward or some minor official. It will be unnecessary to cable; just drop me a line and I will send him on.

"I lost him in Halifax for a week: had all the cops and all officers of different regiments on the lookout, and found him at the citadel minus his collar. I bought another one for him just as good." (Signed) F. A. GRAHAM.

Re "Paddy," part of letter written by F. A. Graham, Halifax, N.S., to J. E. Graham, 67th Pioneers.