HIS IDEALS AND TRAINING

instant, in all the year and a half we were together, did he depart from his home taught Christian principles, and thus became even a stronger man for mastering the many temptations to which all soldiers are subjected.

Out of the Oxford home where he and others had received untold kindness, came this message:-Your letter with the few lines about the Maclennans moves me to send you a note about them. Their losing Ward is such a terrible tragedy. An only son, and such a son. From the first minute he came to the house he was just like one of ourselves, interested in everything we were doing, considerate, thoughtful, friendly, cheerful, everything that could make one glad to see him come and sorry to see him go, and so capable and keen and plucky. We miss him badly ourselves, and from the way he talked about his home. I can guess dimly what it means for them all. Healthy, happy, and made to be the source of happiness for others, the waste seems unbearable. I can't write all this to his mother, but if you have a chance of making her or his sister understand how much we valued, and admired him. I hope you will. I can't bear to hear the aeroplanes overhead, nor to think of any other friend going into the air service. But that isn't a feeling I shall give way to longer than I can help.

From a London home, where he called but once shortly before he left for France, his hostess, a lady of some eighty years, wrote:—Oh you know how truly grieved and shocked we feel at the terrible news just come to-day. It is almost impossible to believe that that strong looking, bright young creature has left this world, when so lately, so lately it seems, he was here so happy and full of life and energy. He told me to tell you how he had grown, so tall and broad shouldered, that he hardly thought you would know him again. We spoke of all the wonders of the Universe that have been discovered since I was born, of the number even since he was born, and I said I thought it was proof of how our Heavenly Father was educating us for a Higher life than this when we shall learn even more and more of science and beauty and love and truth; and how God might have told man all at once, but he gave him