

Dear Motherkin

Thanks very much for your letter
this morning. I am sorry that you are
still dull. Of course this is a very sad
time for us all. I haven't much time for
thought of any sort but last night in bed
I felt ~~of~~ very sad.

By the way don't worry about the parcel
it may take a month to arrive but

its arrival is guaranteed. I have no
news but I am writing to the war office
to day to apply for a commission. I wonder
if you would write to Rowley to
ask him to endorse my application.

The reason that I am doing this is that
it takes a long time before one is gazetted.
So that time I should be fairly efficient ^{before then}
one learns rapidly here. I am rather
afraid that it is now too late to get
a commission in a reserve battalion.

We are due to leave about March.
probably to Egypt. I don't want to

both John just now. I would like to
do something for myself. I believe one can
live on one's pay all right. I am feeling
my fit. here and enjoying myself. My
only idea ^{try to} ~~is to~~ get a commission
in that might stick to it as a permanent
career. However one must first catch
one's words!

I had a letter from John today.
He seems cheerful but it is hard lines to
be in bed. I hope it puts him all right.
Eunice sent me Blackwoods, which
was acceptable. Thanks very much for
your parcel. It was very kind of you.
The cheese was very good but cheese
is served out to tea here about every
two days!

I hope you are all well. Much
love to all and to Alice & Ned John
Yours very affectionately

Arthur