

over eggs were
rather scarce
yesterday, but
I know in
them.

Dear Sister,

Seaford Camp.

April 1st 1918.

This is my night for a little home so will have to get busy. Got your two letters yesterday one from Papa today but I guess every one else has forgotten me. My letter was a big mail. The weather keeps very good here but not quite so fine as it was a week ago.

How the time is flying, here it is the first of April, be busy at the mud now if there is to be any hauling. That Edward must be foolish, I can just hear him talking, would only take about a shovel full at a load anyway. I hope there is some good hauling this spring for it always seems to get the work so much farther ahead. Lew may have a fine early spring after the winter being so cold and rough.

So far as we know now this will be our last night here before we leave for France. We were warned to get ready for overseas ~~next~~ Thurs, and they took a draft that night of twenty five from old A & B companies of the 104th. They had been outfitted with clothes that day so were ready. Ray went in the draft. wish I could have got away

with him but we may be able to get together over there. We are all going to the 26th, must expect them to be in some big scrap soon for they have sent over every A1 man in the reserve. They claim it came out on orders in France that the Fifth division drafts were the best drilled that ever went over there. All we had today was half an hour P.T. in the morning and inspection this afternoon in heavy marching order. We are to be inspected at Bugabo tomorrow morning and I guess we are ready. I wish I could get weighed with our whole equipment to see how much it would weigh. I will give you a list of the stuff we take. We have on, one suit underwear, top shirt sweater, Lurie, ditchman's boots, one pair socks, pants, cap, jacket, knife, pay book, identification discs, first aid dressing. We have equipment consisting of pack, haversack, entrenching tool and handle bayonet butt, two ball pouches hold 150 rounds of ammunition, water bottle some other small straps. In haversack, hold all containing razor, brush, tooth brush, paste, soap, also ration bag, soap and towel, knife fork and spoon. In the pack, blanket, suit of underwear, shirt, socks (I have

four pair) towel, balaclava cap, horse wig, muso tin and cover, handkerchiefs, sweaters rolled handkerchiefs around the park ~~muso tin~~ stub hat and rubber shoe on outside and anything else you care to take. They gave us all kinds of clothes here, so we well outfitted leaving. We may be quite a while before we get up the line as they have so many men over there.

Bill Will must be had of for something to do to go and get married. He can't keep himself let alone a wig. That seems to be the one great ambition of this life up there to get married.

Must have been a nice present you gave Pitts. Jim wouldn't make much at the hauling. How does nettie shine these times? Must have almost given up hope of getting Jack Ray. I saw a picture Jim got of Grace McNaughton tonight. Didn't know her at first. Suppose she is quite a young lady now. Is J.W. going to build a dredge? I odd I would be pretty mean if he is working against him. Poor Annie McKenzies couldn't have had much enjoyment in this life, enough to drive any one crazy living up there with Alex

Katie must be getting on fine at school, wasn't it nice of Miss Murphy to make that offer, I sent Katie a little money, she may need some little things for herself. Wish I had some to send you, I sent five pounds of Rays home to Kate, We had ~~between~~ been saving up for a pass. I had over twenty pounds last week my own and what I was keeping for other fellows. They were all saving up for a pass but the draft cancelled them all.

Well I guess there isn't much to write about here, You mustn't worry about me for I have a feeling I am coming back, am ready anyway what ever way it goes. Twenty one months next Friday since we landed here, I think we have been here longer than other battalions that ever came across and didn't go to France as a unit. I may not be able to write to regular from France so don't worry if my letters don't come so often. I will write as soon as we get to France but I guess the old address will ~~follow~~ find us till we get settled. We will go to the base at ~~etaps~~ that is the way it is pronounced I don't know how it spells first don't know how long we shall stay there.

Lots of love to all

Arthur.

P.S. Maj. Pringle ^(of the Yukon) spoke in the congregational
church in Seagard last night. Wish I had known
would have gone down to hear him.