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December 1st 1915

Dear Mother,

Probably you will find that my last letter was a long time reaching you, that was because it was kept back here because I did not put in my full name and number. I did not know that had to be done in letters that are censored.

As I must put no military news in this letter all I will say is that I have been about 200 yards or 300 perhaps off the nearest shells. I am now practically free from vermin. I changed my things and borrowed some Keating's to put on my new things. By the next change I should be absolutely free. I get my clothes washed by French people. They have been driven out of their homes further up the line.

I believe if it's possible and the Germans don't upset it we are to have a bit of a bust up on Xmas day. It will cost us 2 ½ Francs each.

I have been told that parcels will be stopped early in December so don't be too late. Let me have the paper regularly and also let me know what happens with regard to this.

I told you we get part of our pay. I hear we are getting 50 francs for this month. Someone told me that French money can be changed at Post Offices in England now. I shall not be able to spend 50 francs so I'll send some home that's if we get 50.

Saturday Dec 4th 1915

Things are going on much the same I'm on night police tonight. Night duty is coming fairly frequently now. I'm still continuing in good health. The weather out here is very changeable though. Last weekend there was a very hard frost. This weekend there is rain and it's very mild. I have not heard from Grange yet I sent them a card not long ago. We have had another vest issued out to us. I have also had a new pair of boots in exchange for my others which had worn a little. The mackintosh issued out to us is very useful. I think they are very good ones too. They cost 30/- each so they ought to be of some use.

There is a great deal of mud out here and boots puttees and trousers get covered with it. Could you let me know what division the Ox and bucks Territorials are in. I've seen no one I know yet.

Your affectionate son
Lewis.