

George Alfred Jones    **John Jones**    Selina Jones    Sarah Jones    Miscellaneous

<p>Envelope postmark 3<sup>rd</sup> July 1895</p>	<p>1<sup>st</sup>. Bedfordshire Regiment Chitral Relief Force</p>	<p>Dear Loo, Received your letter alright, glad to hear that you &amp; Bill are alright. The reason why I haven't wrote to Bill is because I have lost his a(d)dress, &amp; he said when he wrote that he should write again before I did. I am glad to hear that he is getting on alright, and that he likes it, - everybody to their fancy, of course. I never did fancy a sailor's life &amp; when I came out here I thought less of it, - well, for an able seaman it is alright. If he gets promotion, and gets up to Warrant Officer there is more chance of promotion. I should think in the Navy there is so many Warrant Officers, - well, I think there was nearly a dozen on the ship I came out in, &amp; I don't suppose the able seamen mustered a hundred., whereas we have only two warrant officers in a Regiment of 800 men, Bandmaster &amp; Sergt. Major, so there is more chance of getting promoted, - but for all that, it isn't nice for a man to be married and have to leave his wife for perhaps, 3 years at a time, - it wouldn't do for me. I have been 4 months away from Molly now on this gaff, come the 28<sup>th</sup> of the month - I left her on the 28<sup>th</sup> March, the next day being our wedding day - 3 years married (<b>so Geo. &amp; Molly married 29<sup>th</sup> March 1892</b>). I did think we were going back this month, but we have to stay here till September now, so it will be over 5 months, - the longest sepperation(sic) we have ever had, &amp; I hope it will be the last, for I don't want to come on any more of these gaffs - they can keep their decerations(sic). Of course, if was a single man it would be different - I shouldn't care, in fact it would just suit me, but Molly has to shift for herself. It isn't very nice yo have to live in a tent by herself for 6 months on the Hills. Of course, she isn't the only one &amp; she has one of our nabours (neighbours') little girls to sleep with her. I get a letter every day from her, &amp; have to write every day or she would be uneasy.</p> <p>We have had a lot of sickness on this Hill - have lost 16 men since we have been out here - had only one man killed in action. The Devon Regiment lost a Sergeant the other day, - he had only just been up to Chirat from Peshawar to see his wife, whent(sic) back and died. He leaves a wife and 7 children. Poor woman - she must be off her head. I should think that's the worst of it out here, - if you are not careful you are soon taken off.</p> <p>The fighting has been over some time. We are only longing to get back again, but they keep us up here. I think it is on account of the heat on the plaines(sic). You must know that we are on Hills which are as cold as being at home in England. We have to wear our serge clothing at night, and you can do with as many blankets as you can get on you at night. When we get a thunder storm, which is pretty often, we are up in it all. Most, it is a continuation of lightning &amp; a rumbling of thunder. Hailstones fall, as big as marbles, - in fact bigger - it is dreadful out here in a thunder storm. Still it's grand - it lights up the whole place, &amp; when the moon is up you can see to read a paper almost like day. Many a time have I slept with nothing but the sky over head and the moon shining, since I have been out here. I never thought I should sleep out in the opening(sic) when I was at home, but, of course, we have had our tents now sometime, - but men think nothing of sleeping outside when in Barracks, but of course they have a bed there - now we have two blankets and (a) water proof sheets. I can tell you, our hips are regular black (with) laying on the ground</p> <p>Yes, young Tich Read is out here, but he goes home this trooping season. He isn't the only one up here that comes from round Bletchley, - there is one by the name of Shepard &amp; Purier &amp; Sawkester from Fenny. The chap by the name of Howe, some relation of Howes in the Station Row, but young Tarbox is not out here with us - wasn't past(sic) by the doctor.</p> <p>You ask me if we get the honor(sic) on our Colors - well it depends if the Country is <b>mixed(?)</b> that is - Clamed(sic) by the Government. We</p>
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		<p>may get it, but if not we shan't. <b>You see, some of these tribes that they fight with, - their Country doesn't pay to trouble about it. That's the cause of so many little affairs out here, - one tribe goes and steales(sic) the other's corn &amp; cattle, then they fight between themselves, - then the party that has lost their corn, which are generally the weaker party claim the government's protection. They send a Brigade up, - perhaps have one day's fighting, - lasts about a month or so, - come back, and get the medal. The Rifles were on a draft, 6 weeks only came back, got the medal and two bars. Prince Christian was on the same thing – he belongs to the 60<sup>th</sup>, but this affair(sic) is a much bigger affair(sic) than any that has been for some time, - that is why they are trying to get a different medal for it. I don't care what they give, so long as I can get back to my own little wife.</b></p> <p>No more now, from your own loving brother        George.</p> <p>Give my love to Bill &amp; also Jim &amp; Mary &amp; the children. I don't know what Molly will think when she gets my letter to say we are not going back till Sept. She was expecting me back this month. Give my love to all at home when you write.</p> <p>Enclosing envelope addressed to</p> <p>Miss Jones 100, St. Georges Square Portsea Portsmouth England                    G.A.J.</p> <p>And postmarked "F.P.O.T. INDIA 13 JL 95"</p>

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Feb 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1895	Well House Bletchley	<p>Dear Louie,</p> <p>We received your letter quite safe and you may guess how delighted we was to get a line from you, especially when we knew you had left the Boorers' and had got into a good place. Will told us you had got a place of work, so we did not know whether a regular place, or only as a chair(char) woman. We are very pleased to hear you are picking up your flesh again, for your other letters rather upset us, and being away from home, you cannot get the good treatment. I suppose you have had enough of Jim &amp; Mary. If you have good health you will not be beholding (beholden) to anyone. We was glad to hear you liked the pudding.</p> <p>I suppose you went to see H.M.S. Majestic launched on Tuesday, thousands of people to see her – no doubt. You don't say anything about your Aunt Sarah, - have you seen her lately?. If you go to see her, please give our kind love to her, - also to Aunt Em(I)ley Ruston. Mother has not the slightest idea of you getting married yet. I say what is to be will be. When Mr. Wright(sic) comes along – he will coller you off. Perhaps you think a good place of service is better than a marrage(sic) life. I don't know what to say about Sarah &amp; Wallis. He seems quite struck. He often talks about being better married than single. He is head clerk now. His wages are £2 a week now.</p> <p>I suppose you heard about the German Lloyd steamer being run down and great loss of lfe. We had a letter from Will on Friday last. I have wrote to him this afternoon. I have not heard from George since the 2<sup>nd</sup>. of Jany.</p> <p>We are having some very hard weather lately – frost &amp; snow. I suppose it is about the same at Portsmouth.</p> <p>I think I have said all for this time, so I must close with fond love. Hoping this will find you well as it leaves us all at present – thank God. We remain your loving Father &amp; Mother J &amp; E.A. Jones</p> <p>F xxxx M xxxx S xxxx</p>
Letter with postmark stamp "Bletchley Station Mar 24 1895"	Well House	<p>Dear Louie,</p> <p>I now take my pen with pleasure to acknowledge receipt of your welcom(e) letter, received on Thursday. We was glad to hear you was well – as this leaves me at present. Mother &amp; Sarah has been very poorly with a bad cold. Sarah is much better today, but Mother is about the same as yesterday. Still poorly – Sarah has to do the work. Ann Sear wanted Mother to have the Doctor, but you know Mother – does not like Doctors. We are in hopes she will soon get round again. We had a letter from Bill on Friday evening. It was very short – did not say he was one of the Brig's working party, nor did he say anything about coming home. You know I told you about Wallis (Sarah's young man) had got a rise of 5/- per week which amounted to £2 a week (month?). Since that his old Master wrote to him and offered him £2-5-0, so he sent in his resignation(sic) to Rowland and told him that he should leave on the 13<sup>th</sup> of April when his 12 month was up, which he engaged for, so Rowland has raised him an oyjer 5/- to stop on. Wallis was pleased to hear of the offer, for he did not want to go to leave Sarah behind, for fear she might not think any more of him. He has took her to the Co-op dance a few times. He was quite struck with her dancing the first night. He is not much of a dancer, but Sarah is pilling him through very well. He told Sarah she was the Belle of the Ball. Sarah says he talks very much of getting married, and wants to know how much it would cost to get married by licence. I told her to tell him that Mr. Bennitt granted a licence to anyone in the county of Bucks. And it would cost about £3-3-0. I don't know whether it will come off, or not. He seems very fond of</p>

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		<p>her, and would rather marry her than a half bred lady with a 100 or two that did not know how to coo a meal or wash a shirt and too lasy(sic) to stick a button on his shirt collar, but would rather be “tumming” away on an old piano. You may guess we had a goog laugh when Sarah told us what he said.</p> <p>Dear Louie, excuse me for not writing before, for I have been down on my dumps lately – not doing any, trade scarce. <b>The country is in a bad state. No money to be got.</b> Me not doing any posting. I gave it up, for I</p> <p><b>The rest of this letter is written on a Post Office Telegraphs Form stamped Bletchley Station March 24<sup>th</sup> 1895) addressed to</b></p> <p><b>Miss Jones, 100 St. George’s Square Portsea Portsmouth Hants.</b></p> <p>Thought I could do without it. I was glad last night, when the T.M. boy came up to ask me if I would do the Shenley Substitute today, and also be Watchman at the Post Office up till 8 p.m. tonight, so I shall knock up 4/6d for both jobs. You can see I am at the office by the stamp. Last week I only got 7/6d so hope to do better this week. I haven’t earned more than 10/- a week all winter.</p> <p>Perhaps Will will tell you about Percy Gaskin coming home, and Jerry Silkston going away. So I have took Jerry’s place</p> <p>I wrote Will a long letter this afternoon.</p> <p>I also want to write a few lines to Leany, so I must close yours, with fondest love from all, and remain your Loving Father John Jones.</p> <p>Excuse blunders.</p>
Mar. 26 <sup>th</sup> 1895	Well House Bletchley	<p>Dear Louie,</p> <p>We have just got your letter. I hope you won’t trouble yourself much, for Mother is a little better today, although she is not right yet. Mr. Bennitt called to see her this afternoon &amp; young G called to see her just now. Miss G. has had a bad cough, but she tried to cheer Mother up. I have been out all day to get a shilling or two. I went to the Rectory at Shenley yesterday and did 9 clocks, - knocked out 5/-, so I have made a start this week, thinking to make £1 some way or other. Sarah is got alright, and hope Mother will be by the end of the week.</p> <p>I did not tell you that they had measles on board so that Bill could not get ashore. Perhaps he might have written to you to tell you. I have not much to say this time, as I am first class myself, but I must not boast. Please excuse my pencil, as my pens are so very bad,</p> <p>Sarah is just going out to post, and to see Mr.W. so I must wish you good night, with fondest love – the same as if you was at home.</p> <p>We remain your loving Father &amp; Mother J &amp; E.A. Jones</p> <p>(P.S.) Sarah will send Mr. W’s Photo in the course of a day or two. Will you send it on to Leany?. JJ</p>
Apr. 21 <sup>st</sup> 1895	Well House Bletchley	<p>Dear Louie,</p> <p>Just a line or two to say I got your watch quite safe and have cleaned it up for you, but it does not go to my satisfaction, so I will keep it a few days to try it. We are all quite well and was glad to hear you was well. We expected Will home last Sunday, but it appears he could not get away. We had a letter from him, Good Friday, to say he did not know whether he should come or not. I sent him 6/-, his last month’s half pay. He said he should hand it over to you to keep for him, if he did not come home. I expect he (h)as spent it by this time. I have not answered his letter yet, but must do as soon as I can.</p> <p><b>Dear Louie, did you read in the paper about the Chitral expedition?. George’s Regiment is in the 1<sup>st</sup>. Brigade and they have been fighting with the Tribesmen. Slaughtered a lot of them. I think they are quieter now. They did not kill many of ours.</b></p>

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		<p>Mother &amp; Sarah is getting ready for church and I must do so also. Your watch (is) going better today. I must close, with fond love from all. From your Father &amp; Mother J &amp; E.A. Jones</p> <p>Nothing from Leany, as yet.</p> <p>Enclosed : Envelope addressed to</p> <p>Miss Jones 100 St. George's Square, Portsea, Portsmouth, Hants</p> <p>And postmarked "Bletchley Station Ap. 21<sup>st</sup> 1895"</p>
Undated	No address	<p>Newspaper cutting relating to Chitral and marked in J.J.'s handwriting "Where I have put the * George".</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>REVERSE IN CHITRAL</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>BRITISH DETACHMENT CUT UP</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">OFFICER AND 46 MEN KILLED</p> <p>News has reached Reuter of a serious reverse to a British detachment. Capt. Ross went with 60 Sikhs to reinforce Lieuts Fowler and Edwards, who were in command of a party at Reshun. Near Karagh, their advance was opposed, and they were attacked by a body of natives, who fired from behind a breastwork. Finding it, at length, necessary to retreat, the Sikhs began to fall back, when they found themselves hemmed in by 1,000 of the enemy. With the greatest determination, the British force set itself to fight its way through, but was exposed to a murderous fire on all sides. Eventually only a remnant fought its way through the overwhelming masses of the enemy, leaving on the field Capt. Ross, 46 of the Sikhs, and eight followers all killed. In consequence of the grave nature of this news everything is being done to expedite the preparations for the despatch of a relief column.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ANOTHER ACCOUNT OF THE FIGHT</p> <p>From a letter of Capt. Bretherton, received on the 21<sup>st</sup>. at Gilgit from Mastuj, and dated the 18<sup>th</sup>. Inst. It seems, says the "Times" correspondent Lieut. Moberly, commanding at Mastuj, left that place on the 16<sup>th</sup>. With 150 Kashmir troops and 53 Punjab levies, and went down the river to Boni, where he joined Lieut Jones*, of the 14<sup>th</sup> Sikhs who, with Capt. Ross, of the same regiment had left Mastuj for Chitral some days earlier with 94 men of the 14<sup>th</sup>. Sikhs, as, it is believed, on a requisition from Mr. Robertson. It is supposed that Lieut. Fowler R.E. and about 20 Bengal sappers and miners went with them. Apparently, Capt. Ross and Lieut Jones* with 60 Sikhs advanced from Boni on the 8<sup>th</sup> to assist Lieut. Fowler and Lieut Edwards at Reshun, a place two marches above Chitral.</p> <p>It is not known how or why Lieut. Fowler and Lieut. Edwards got to Reshun. The latter was supposed to be at Chitral Fort with Mr. Robertson. At a defile on the river below Karagh Capt. Ross was attacked by a large body of tribesmen, who fired from behind stone breastworks on the hills, and was obliged to fall back on Boni. He found the road closed behind him and was</p> <p style="text-align: center;">HEMMED IN BY THE ENEMY</p> <p>Who were estimated at 1,000 strong. He said his party sheltered themselves and held their ground during the 9<sup>th</sup>. Early next morning they resolved to fight their way back to Boni. Many were killed by rocks hurled down from the heights above them. It is reported that Capt. Ross, 46 fighting men, and eight followers were killed. Lieut. Jones * reached Boni wounded, with only 14 men. Lieut Moberly and Lieut Jones* then gave up the idea of advancing to Reshun, or of holding Boni, and retired to Mastuj. According to Lieut Jones's* report, a large force is collected in Drasan, which flanks the route, and some of Umra Khan's men are with them. Col. Kelly, commanding the 32<sup>nd</sup>. Pioneers at Bunji, has been put in command of the military operations in the Gilgit quarter. It will not be possible to send reinforcements in that direction before June. The preparation in the Peshawur(sic) district are being pushed on owing to the grave nature of the news. It is reported that the people of Swat have expressed their readiness to attack Umra Khan if the Government of India gives them arms and support.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NEWS OFFICIALLY CONFIRMED</p> <p>We are informed that the India Office has received official confirmation of the news sent from Calcutta, but not of the news from Lahore. The official account is substantially the same as that given by the "Times". The loss of the greater portion of Capt. Ross's</p>

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		<p>detachment of the 14<sup>th</sup> Sikhs is fully confirmed. Capt. Ross was killed, and his second in command, Lieut. Jones*, was severely wounded. The authorities in India are taking every measure to push forward reinforcements from Gilgit, and the arrangements for sending forward the expeditionary force will at once be proceeded with. The reverse is not considered serious of itself, but its importance lies in the fact that it will probably induce many tribes, who have hitherto remained passive, to take up arms and join in the fray. A supplementary message states that Lieuts. Fowler and Edwards left Mastuj with 20 sappers in advance of Capt. Ross's party, and that Lieut. Edwards was wrongly reported as being in Chitral. India Office authorities entertain no doubt that the report of Capt. Ross's death is correct.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ORIGIN OF THE TROUBLE</p> <p>The trouble in Chitral arises out of the murder in January last of the Mehtar Nizam-ul-Mulk (who had been placed on the throne with the approval of the British authorities) by his younger brother Amir-ul-Mulk. Amir, who usurped the sovereignty of Chitral, is unfriendly to the British, and Dr. Robertson, the resident at Gilgit, was ordered to proceed to the town of Chitral. His chief object was, with the assistance of a large force, which was to be sent to his aid, to repel an attack on the territory of Chitral by Umra Khan, of Jandol, a noted border chieftain, who has had a very successful career. The force, which has met with the reverse chronicled above, has not, however, been in conflict with Umra Khan's followers, but with the Chitralis themselves, who have exhibited much hostility to the advance of the British force. Meantime, another aspirant for the throne of Chitral has appeared in the person of Sher Afzul Khan, who made a bold bid for power in November 1892, and after a brief reign of a few weeks he was driven out by the late Mehtar, Nizam-ul-Mulk. One report states that Sher Afzul has actually entered the town of Chitral and usurped the Mehtarship, and that Dr. Robertson is retiring on Gilgit, but the statement lacks confirmation.</p>
May 26 <sup>th</sup> 1895	Well House Bletchley	<p>Dear Louie,</p> <p>No doubt you think we have forgotten you, but as we have but very little news to tell you I thought it not much use writing, only just to tell you we are about as usual. Mother and Sarah is quite well. I have been very poorly, but better now. We had a letter from George, a fortnight ago. He is quite well and sends his love to all. He is still on the Chitral Relief Force, and don't expect to come away before the end of the summer. If you would like to see his letter, I will send it to you or Will, but hope one of you will send it back, as we would like to keep it by us.</p> <p>We had a letter from Leany last week. She has give(n) a month's notice to leave her place. Perhaps she may have wrote to you and told you all about it. The old lady is rather crabby with her. Lean won't stand that sort of fun. How do you get on at your place – is it all smooth water there?, or is it a little rough sometimes?.</p> <p>I suppose you know Lizzie Carter. She is going to be married on Tuesday next, May 28<sup>th</sup>. Nell Sedgewick was married a fortnight ago tomorrow. Mary Jane Flucknell, Mrs. Birch's youngest sister, is to be married on Whit Monday.</p> <p>Mother and Sarah was down at Poll's at Fenny. They always ask us how you and Will is getting on, and wishes to be remembered to you both when we write. I called in to see Mrs. Jordan a few weeks ago – she was very poorly. She asked me after you and wished to be remembered to you.</p> <p>I think I have told you all the news for the present, so I must close, with fond love from all at home – hoping this will find you quite well.</p> <p>Kind love to Jim, Mary, Henry and the little Boorers. From your Father &amp; Mother J &amp; E.A. Jones</p> <p>Enclosing envelope attached postmarked "Bletchley Station MY 26 1895" with good quality Queen Victoria (Young Head) stamp.</p> <p>Addressed to :</p> <p>Miss Jones, 100 St. George's Square, Portsea, Portsmouth, Hants.</p>

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May 27 <sup>th</sup> 1895	Well House Bletchley	<p>Dear Louie, Yours to hand this evening. All very glad to hear that you and Bill is hearty and well as this leaves us at present, except that I have a bit of a little tiggling cough. Mr. B &amp; me have done the trick for Liz Carter to day. Am not got an invite to the wedding, so I am, on the quiet. We are glad to hear the sailor boys enjoyed themselves on Friday, - also yourself. Sarah don't begrugh (begrudge) you your pleasure, but she would like to be down at Pompe(sic). She may have a chance to come if things turn out as is expected. Don't make too sure, as there is many a slip between the cup and the lip. I forgot to tell you that Will Sedgewick &amp; Polly Walduck is married, - all the old school chumbs(sic) are off. No more news at present. I have sent george's letter and hope you and Will will enjoy the reading of it. I close with fond love from all at Well House, and remain Your Father &amp; Mother J &amp; E.A. Jones</p>
June 10 <sup>th</sup> 1895	Well House Bletchley	<p>Dear Louie, I now take my pen with pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your kind &amp; welcome letter which we received last night. The postman met Leany at Water Eaton turn and gave it to her. He was ashamed to call and leave it in the morning becaws(sic) he owes me 2/-. He though(t) I was about (at) home, but I was up on the land at 3-30. Mother is very pleased with the apron. She had forgotten it was her birthday (.....??), although <b>she remarked on Saturday that George had been gone away (.....??) years come Monday.</b> We are all well, and glad to hear you &amp; Uncle &amp; Aunt are the same, - give our kind love to them. Leany hasn't got the place, the character(sic) was not good enough. That old Maid told Leany she would not let her Mother give her a character(sic) if Leany wrote for one, so Mrs. Ash has got Leany to stop on with her, so Leany is going to stop. They all seem fond of Leany, and don't want a stranger as they are used to her.  <b>The rest of this letter appears to be missing , and is in extremely poor condition due to silver-fish nibblings. Most important information has been obscured, so it may be in quite the wrong year. Could possibly fit in to 1892.</b></p>
5 o/c a.m. 3/9/95	Well House Bletchley	<p>Dear Louie Yours to hand by evening post yesterday. Glad to hear you arrived safe, and also glad they was all well at Portsmouth. Give our love to all, hope you will soon hear about Will. Mother was very poorly Sunday night – much better now. I am posting again this week – shall be for 4 more after this. Mrs. Walsgrove was churched yesterday afternoon, Baby baptised. Jack Walsgrove Tiped(sic) me 3 bob, Poor old Pat(I)ence Morry died at 4pm yesterday. Got to ring out the bell this morning. You did not say anything about Will's shoes &amp; socks. Write soon and tell all the news you have. We all join in love to you and the Boorers. I must now close as I want to be at Office at 5-30, Tuesday is a heavy morning. I remain your loving Father John Jones.  Hope you will get this this evening J.J</p>
Nov. 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1895	Well House Bletchley	<p>Dear Louie, We received your letter quite safe, was sorry you was so bad off for money. Will wrote to me and asked me to send him 5/- to help get the Photos, - so I sent him 5/- on Friday. He wants money from Lean as well, because he wants one from all of us. He told me he wrote to you twice but had no reply. I suppose he sent his address, so you no doubt (you) have wrote before now. The address he sent to me was</p>

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		<p>2385 W.H. Jones, 1<sup>st</sup> Class Boy, 134 Mess, H.M.S. Agincourt Chatham Depot.</p> <p>Lean has gone back to Watford again. We saw her on the station last Tuesday, coming back from Shifnal. She had dinner with Mr. &amp; Mrs. Bowler at Wolverhampton. Perhaps she has wrote to you and told you all the news. We had a letter from George this morning, in answer to the one George sent when she was at home. We had one from Alf to Lean, so I shall send Alf's and George's on to her together. Also a few lines to tell her to send George's on to you, and hope you send it back to us when you have read it. No doubt the Boorers would like to know how George s getting on.</p> <p>We are all quite well and hope you are the same. I suppose you saw the wedding of Mr. James Cook, also the wife of Mr. G. Cook (delivered?) of a daughter.</p> <p><b>(I think the Cooks of Fenny were John's Mother's side)</b></p> <p>I will send the Fenny paper. You will see the death of Mrs. Knight of Duncombe Street. She died in her confinement, in a few hours. Please give our kind love to Jim, Mary, Henry &amp; all the little Boorers and except(sic) the same yourself.</p> <p>From all at Well House. We remain Your Loving Father &amp; Mother J &amp; E.A. Jones.</p> <p>(P.S.) Kind regards from Sarah's Young Man.</p>
Dec. 30 <sup>th</sup>	Well House Bletchley	<p>Dear Louie,</p> <p>Just a few lines to say we are all quite well, except Mother. She is rather poorly with a cold, but Mother &amp; Sarah is washing today because Will has to be on board at 9a.m. Friday. Will has enjoyed himself pretty well since he has been at home with Harry Sear. Harry went back to London this morning. Will got his Photos Saturday night last, from Chatham. So he has sent one to you per the same post.</p> <p>I have enclosed a letter from Portsmouth to you at Well House. Sarah opened it in a hurry, - I told her she had not right to do so as it was addressed to you, but she thought it was for herself at first. There was nothing in it except the Xmas card, From an old friend, - perhaps you can recognise the hand writing. We don't know anything about it.</p> <p>Will &amp; Harry Sear went to Luton last Saturday. Frank &amp; Jane &amp; Sahah Horn was very pleased to see them. They made a great fuss of them – wanted them to stop over Sunday.</p> <p>The ringers supper was Friday night last, had a dance at the school.</p> <p>I must close with fond love from all.</p> <p>From your Father &amp; Mother J. &amp; E.A. Jones.</p>

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<p>Undated <b>But must be February as Lou's birthday is on 18<sup>th</sup> February – see bold text)</b></p>	<p>Watford Vicarage Herts</p>	<p>My Dear Lou, Thanks very much for your letter. I am pleased to hear you are better., also to hear you have got a good place this time. It is nice to have your evenings to yourself. Have you gone as cook?, - you never said. I hope you will get on alright, and then you will be able to stay a year or two. We are dreadfull(y) hard worked, but I shall put in twelve months if possible. I have been here getting on for four months – it does not seem possible. <b>Do you know what the eighteenth of this month is?. How old are you? – I quite forget.</b> Dear Lou, ae you in want of that four shillings I owe you ? – I will send it if you are, but I am rather short. If you could do without it I should be glad, - let me know. I heard from home a week ago. They told me they had heard from you. I am glad you enjoyed your Xmas. I had a very good one – plenty of hard work. I did enjoy myself at Colchester, they made me so very comfortable and they all took to me. I have heard from Alf('s) Mother and she told me all the boys took a fancy to me. I am pleased they like me. Alf sailed on the 24<sup>th</sup> Jan. Will called to see(n) me on his way back – he is a bonny boy. I am getting on middling, but there is plenty of ups and downs where ever you are. I don't know if I told you Sarah still walks out with Hang-On. Have you heard about Sedgewick dying so sudden ?, only ill a few days. I think I have said all this time, with love to the Boorers and yourself I remain your loving Sis   Lena.</p> <p>Would you mind asking Jim for any foreign stamps and send them to me? xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx</p>
<p>Undated</p>	<p>Watford Vicarage Herts</p>	<p>My Dearest Lou, I am glad you liked the book. Jim must be getting very mean, I am glad you said nothing about the stamps for I can't afford to buy to give away again to our young gent. I am glad to hear you are getting on so well. I am getting on alright, only I have such a lot of work to do and we have always got company. We have begun out spring cleaning already, but Mrs. J. (h)as got a woman in to help. Young Jennie Brown gone as cook, I hope she will get on alright. I forget whereabouts Lockwood is. You shall have that money in about 3 weeks time if that will do. I did not know Bill was going home again at Easter, - what a nice lot of holidays he (h)as. I am going to try to run home about Easter time. <b>I shall have been here about 6 months come Easter</b>, I shall stick it twelve if possible, then I think I shall come down to Portsmouth with you. – should you be wanting a HPM you might let me know. We have had some bitter cold weather, and influenza is about here very bad and small pox (h)as broken out. Such a lot of people ar dying. I have got a slight touch of influenza, for I ache all over. Alf was looking very well indeed. He didn't mind going to India a bit. Por boy, (h)is Mother was upset about him going. He came back as far as London with me. He didn't like leaving me. I felt sorry for him, for if a fellow loves a girl – Alf loves me. I do not care much about him, but I hope shall learn to love him, for he is a good lad.. You ought to read his letters he sent to me before he went to India. I had 5 in a week. I have enclosed the letter received from him when he was going out – please send it back. I don't know what to think about Sadie and Hangon. Now, about this young man dear Lou, I don't know what to think, - I</p>

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		<p>should wait and see how he turns out. No more this time, write soon – ever loving Sis Lena.</p>
<p>Undated (but accompanyi ng envelope enclosed, postmarked Watford April 14<sup>th</sup>.)</p>	<p>Watford Vicarage Herts.</p>	<p>My Dearest Lou, I am afraid you will think me a long time answering your kind and welcome letter. I hope this will find you quite well as I am pleased to say this leaves me quite well at present. What lovely weather we are having, only it is rather cold. But I am glad it is fine, for everyone looks forward to a fine Easter. I went to a service at half past six this morning and took Holy Communion. 500 (h)as taken it at the parish church today. I went to church again at eleven, as it is my turn in. I can't go to church Sunday morning very often as their(sic) is too much work to be done, but I manage(d) it this morning.</p> <p>I hope you will think of me when you have your Photo taken in a week or two. The Sailor boy's Photo never came, - send it, Dear Lou, soon.</p> <p>I had a letter from Bill this morning thanking me for the birthday present I sent him. I thought prehaps(sic) he would be home today. He wants me to go home while he is at home. I shall try and go if I can.</p> <p>I think it is very hard when a person('s) Mother is ill, to be sent off in such a way as the housemaid was. Your old Lady did not seem to like her having a holiday, - was she a nice girl?.</p> <p>I have a letter from Alf every week – he is getting on alright. He is at Dagshia, - he says it is very hot.</p> <p>How are all the Boorers getting on? and Aunt Sarah. I suspose(sic) she will never come out again. How is poor Henry?, I expect he is quite a man now.</p> <p>I wonder if anything will be between Sarah and Wallis, do you think their(sic) will? – he seems struck. She said she was going to send his Photo for me to see, - I have not seen it yet.</p> <p>I think this is all this time, so must close. I remain your ever loving Sis Lena.</p> <p>Write as soon as you can awhile.</p> <p>P.S. I am going home a week on Tuesday for the night. Tell Bill, I am so delighted, I don't know how to contain myself. Your(s) Lena.</p> <p>Did you know Mrs. Aspinall was dead? – died after a few hours illness. Not long after her Father &amp; Mother.</p>
<p>Undated (but accompanyi ng envelope postmarked Bedford May 13<sup>th</sup> 1895)</p>	<p>Watford Vicarage Herts</p>	<p>My Dear Lou, I was very pleased to have a letter from you. I was beginning to feel rather anxious about you. ( I thought you might have eloped with some nice young man prehaps(sic)). I was afraid you was ill. I am glad you liked the Photo – every one says how good they are – Cyrus wanted one, so I gave him one. He said they was grand. I will send you more gloves when the ladies throw them away. I went home, a fortnight yesterday, until Monday, I enjoyed myself. I went for a walk with – who do you think?? – Dick Snoxell. Cyrus was very nice. I kissed him on the Sunday night, - I should have loved for you to have seen him blush, he kissed me back.</p> <p>You did not tell me about your boss, but Mother did. I hope you will get on alright with Miss Bilney. I am getting on alright, and am very well at present.</p> <p>Our Cook left last Tuesday, the New one coming in tomorrow – so you can guess I have (had) plenty to do this last week, but fortunatealy(sic) I have only the boss &amp; two young Ladies at home. We have a Gent staying here till tomorrow, so there is extra cooking .</p> <p>We had three Gents in extra to dinner last night (the boy waits). I will tell you what we had – Roast Beef, Horse Radish Cutlets(?), Y. Pudding</p>

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		<p>&amp; two veg., Rhubarb tart &amp; Milk P. Anchovies on toast, Cheese, Desert, Coffee. They said I cooked it well. The boss says he likes my C.s (Cutlets?) better than the last Cook's.</p> <p>I think this is all this time, hoping you are getting on alright. I remain your Ever Loving Lena.</p> <p>P.S. Alf is pretty well, I am expecting a <b>O</b> every week from him, - promised to meet another tonight, can't manage it because I have two Gents to supper.</p>
Undated <b>(but accompanying envelope postmarked Watford July 11<sup>th</sup> 1895)</b>	Watford Vicarage Herts	<p>My Dearest Loo,</p> <p>I am afraid you will think I have completely forgotten you. I have been going to write to you so many times, but I have never done it. Fancy Jenny Brown a cook. I get on pretty fair this hot weather as it is a(n) old house and it is so cool. We have got a gas stove too.</p> <p>Alf is getting on alright, - I still hear from him every week. I had a letter from Dad yesterday. He told me you &amp; Bill would be home in August. Mrs. James told me they are going away at the beginning of August, and that they could not keep me while they are away, so I shall be home when you are, - that is, if you don't go until about the 10<sup>th</sup>. It will be nice if we are home together. <b>It was my birthday yesterday, - never had a single present.</b> But there is one coming for me from India. Nellie Jones is leaving her place, but she is going down to Wales with her people for a month, so she won't be left before September.</p> <p>Mrs. James is sorry they can't afford to keep me. They will let me with the house if they can. But it will be a very good chance for me to get out of here, for it is a hard place.</p> <p>Excuse scribble as I am in a hurry.</p> <p>Don't keep me so long without a letter. I remain your loving Sis Lena.</p>
Undated	Watford Vicarage Herts	<p>My Dear Lou,</p> <p>I was very pleased to hear from you &amp; to know that you are getting on alright. You will be surprised to hear I am leaving. I leave on the 16<sup>th</sup> - that is next Saturday. When I gave notice Mrs. J. said I was very ungrateful. I have been here quite long enough. They never thank me for all I done that week in cooking etc. I am about another place, a little out of Watford, she seems a very nice Lady. £18 a year + all found &amp; beer. I am going there tomorrow to see the place, so I shall finish this letter Monday, then I can tell you how I am getting on about it.</p> <p><b>Later</b> Well, Dear Lou, it was a lovely little place. They give me tea &amp; showed me round their garden. Mrs. Toovey is coming over to see Mrs. James tomorrow. I go on the 21<sup>st</sup>. if I get it, which I hope I do. If I don't hear from you before then, I shall write to you when I get settled.</p> <p>I think your dress must look very nice, you are a swell. And so am I for I have got a nice black alpaca (???) &amp; a large black hat trimmed with old fashioned ribbons. The reason our cook left is because her brother is coming home from India &amp; she felt that she could not wait on him, for she is old.</p> <p>I will go halves for the muslin. I never gave Dad anything for his birthday. I don't know yet what I shall give Mother, - she (h)as got a lamp. I have not got my ring yet - expecting it every day. He is quite well. I remain yours as ever. Lena</p>
Saturday <b>Undated (But text of letter refers to "being 20 next week", so as Lena was born on</b>	Mount Cottage Pinner	<p>My Dearest Lou,</p> <p>Just a few lines in answer to your welcome letter, I was pleased to hear from you. I can not possibly tell whether I shall be able to see you when you come home, but I am afraid not. I am sorry to say this place (h)as not turned out so well as I thought it would. I can't explain in want(what) way, - it isin't(sic) alright. But you seem to keep on working &amp; never get done from the time you get up in the morning untill(sic) you go to bed at night. I suspose(sic) it is the muddling way you have to do your work I</p>



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Undated	Mount Cottage Pinner Middlesex	<p>My Dearest Lou, Do forgive me for not writing before, but I really have been very busy, for we are without a cook. She was sent off at a minute('s) notice for being dishonest, four weeks ago, and Cook(s) are hard to get. Well, Dear Lou, I had a letter from Sadie last Wednesday, also a piece of her dress. I like it immensely. I thought that shot alpaca would look very nice with hers, and a light felt hat trimmed with shot ribbon would look nice. I will get your dress and hat the same time, if you like. Let me know if this meets with your approval. Also, if it does, can you lend me £1 or so?. I am getting on so much better, now that old Cook (h)as gone, but will tell you about it when I see you . Private Clark (h)as quite thrown me over – have not heard from him for three months. But I don't care a bit, I have got such a nice little boy here. Must close. With fondest love. I remain your ever loving Lena.</p>
Undated	Mount Cottage Pinner Middlesex	<p>My Dear Lou, I was pleased to receive your letter this morning &amp; to know that you are getting on better. I thought you had almost forgotten me, it seemed such a long time since had a letter from you. About you leaving, my Dear Old Girl. I should leave if I was you. You certainly must be home for the Wedding. I shall leave here, - it certainly will be a very good excuse to get out of this, for I am sick of it. <b>I thought I would leave about the 12 of December, or somewhere about then.</b> We shall have to see what Sadie('s) dress is going to be before we can get ours, - am going to get mine as soon as I can – shall have it made in Watford. Excuse scribble, in such a hurry . Got an appointment at 6.15, - such a dear little boy. Have not heard from Alf for some weeks – expect (he) has given me the chuck, - don't care a bit. Your own darling little sister Lena</p> <p>I long to see your dear old face.</p>
Undated	Mount Cottage Pinner	<p>My Dear Lou, Just a few lines to let you know that I have got in my new situation. I think I shall like it very much. They seem very nice people. I enjoy(ed) my short stay at home. Mother did not like me coming away so soon. I was, or rather, we was very busy all the time I was at home. George Chappell was asked in church last Sunday, he is going to marry a Miss Dibbs, her Father took Eaton's place. I hope you will soon write to me. I shall be able to tell you better when I wrte, how I am getting on. Give my love to the Boorers &amp; except(sic) the same yourself. Remain your ever loving Sister Lena</p>
Undated	Beckbury Rectory Shifnal Shropshire	<p>My Dear Lou, Just a few lines to let you know that I am getting on alright. You see that I have got here safe. Val Sear sent a note to Bowler last Thursday, so when I got to Wolverhampton, there was Sarah Ann to meet me. I had an hour &amp; a half to wait, so I went and had some dinner with them – it seemed so nice to see someone I knew. From Wm. To Shifnal I came on the G.W.R. They was all pleased to see (me). Beckbury is 4½ miles from Shifnal, so we came, that is Mr. &amp; Mrs. James Cook &amp; I, in a Victoria – and it was a lovely drive – I did enjoy it so. The Cook is so very nice, so nice &amp; clean and we have our meals comfortable – so different to the other cook. It is a very pretty little house. I went to church this morning &amp; stayed to take Holy Communion. Mr. James is doing the work here. It is a pretty little church too. I think this is all this time. Trusting this finds you quite well, as I am glad to say this leaves me quite well at present. Write soon, your loving Sister Lena.</p>

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		<p>I have written this Sunday afternoon, but the post does not go out until tomorrow afternoon.</p> <p>Have enclosed P.O. for 6 shillings. Let me know if you get it safe.</p>
Undated	Beckbury Rectory Shifnal Shropshire	<p>My Dearest Lou, Many thanks for your letter, I was so pleased to hear from you. I had a letter from Sadie and in it was one from Alf, so that was four letters had the same morning. You don't know how they cheered me up, for I was feeling a bit homesick – I never felt it so much before, - only when I first went to London. I felt just as you did – I did not like leaving Mother. She was very poorly for a week or so, but she was better the last two days I was home. You can rest quite assured about the money. I have plenty. I have £1 and their(sic) is nothing to spend it on here, only stamps, and my qua[r]ter will be up before I leave here. Their(sic) is a boy here and he will do anything for us, he puts me in mind of Joe at Crawley, - he is the School Master's son. The cook is still very nice. The Bowlers was all quite well. I did feel a swell I can tell you in the <u>Victoria</u>. You need not be afraid of me getting mopish – <b>it is only for two months and the time will soon pass.</b> Sarah told me Wallis &amp; her are as thick as ever. I really don't know what to think about them – he can't keep away from her. I never see Bredbury to speak to him after you went away. I have returned Bill's letter – thank you very much for sending it, _ should like to see the paper. Do you know, Dear Lou, <b>I am looking forward to going to Watford</b> because I may be able to run up home to see Mother – it is funny, we are both alike, - longing to see her. Mr. Don. And Miss Margy turned up last Friday. She said it was quite refreshing to see me. No more this time. Your(s) loving        Lena</p> <p>Dear Lou, Will you send me by return 2 prs. of busks and I will pay carriage. I will send the money altogether when I write again. Size 13, spoon shape. Your loving Lena</p> <p>It is so hot today, Tuesday</p>
Oct 2 <sup>nd</sup> 1895	Beckbury Rectory Shifnal Salop	<p>My Dearest Lou, Many thanks for sending the busks, you did not say how much they was, so have enclosed a 1s. I see Dear Old Jim directed them. I have read the paper, so am sending (it) back, as I must not collect too many things here. I have sent you a pair of Partridge wings, so if you have a little hat, they will do nicely for it. I have sent Sarah a pair, and have got a pair myself. I am just beginning to get used to this place &amp; we do enjoy ourselves, only it is so wretched, - no shops for anything. If you have any novels I should be pleased with them to send to Alf. I heard from him last week – he is quite well. I had a letter from Bill – he talks of going home next Saturday &amp; taking a chum with him. Sarah sent me a letter from George, - have sent it on to you, return it to them when you have read it. Shall never think Bletchley dull after this place. It is much easier here for me, it is a small house – only four bedrooms &amp; two small dressing rooms upstairs, - our bedrooms is (are) on the ground floor. We have prayers here, every night at nine and we go to bed directly afterwards, so we go to bed early enough. I think we are going back to</p>



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<p>Sept 26<sup>th</sup>.</p>	<p>Well House Bletchley</p>	<p>My Dear Lou, I received your letter this morning, thanks for the lace, I think it will do fine. I dersay(sic) you began to think we had forgotten you, but I was going to write to you today &amp; to Lean. She sayes(sic) that it is a very dull place, - that Bletchley is a town to it, but she sayes(sic) that the time will soon go &amp; she will be back at Watford. Dad is not very well, for he has got a very bad pane(sic) in his back, he s still at the P.O. The feast was not a mucher this year, I went down in the evning(sic) but did not stop long. I &amp; Wallis had a bit of a tiff, is all made up now, - he wishes to be remembered to you. We are sorrie(sic) for poor old Jim. It is that swel girl that you seen at the Primrose ball, she had been at Stoke for 5 years. We had a letter from Bill, he is going to trie(sic) to get home a week next Sunday &amp; a chum. I had a letter from Fred Allen('s) sister the other day. I have sent it to you, so you can send it back when you write, and tell us what you think fo(of) it. I sent and told Lean, so she answered it. We had a letter from George, we will send it to you if you wold(would) like to see it.He sayes(sic) that it is dredful(sic) out ther(sic) he wishes he was at home. Miss Berry is still at Sears, old Jimmy has not come up to sreatch as yet. Dad and Mother send ther(sic) love to you &amp; hope that you are quit(sic) well. Willie King was married on Munday(sic), to a girl from Watereaton(sic) I do not know her at tall(sic). All the Bennets(Bennitts) have been away for a fortnight at the seaside. Dear old gel, I wish you were under that plum tree now, for the white plums are all ripe. We have sold 3 or 4 pecks of them. I think I have told you all this time so must close, from your ever loving Sis                      Sadie</p> <p>D   xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx M   xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx S   xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx</p> <p>I have sent you a few of Wallis's</p>
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10 <sup>th</sup> February, 1895	HMS St. Vincent, Portsmouth Harbour	Dear Lou, I received your letter but sorry to say couldn't come ashore this afternoon as they wouldn't only let local boys come ashore, they said it was too cold or something of that sort so they wouldn't let us come, but you must come and meet me next Thursday if we come ashore. That is two Sundays since I see (sic) you, the next will be three. Am longing to see you. Want to show you my letter I had from home. You must let me see Lena's letter you had from her, I want to know what she says. I have asked Dad to get the Fenny Rag. I thought it would be nice to read about what they was doing at home. You can have it after I have read it, so it will be nice for the two of us. As for marrying Fred, I should please myself. If he was in good enough circumstances to suit you I should please myself. I should like to see you settled down. If ever I was in harbour I could come and see you. Must close now with fondest love from your Ever loving Brother, Bill xxxxxxx
14 <sup>th</sup> February, 1895	HMS St. Vincent, Portsea	Dear Lou, I am sorry to say that I have got my leave stoped (sic), will you come aboard if you can, and I know you can if you like, and bring a plain cake with you. If you won't come aboard come down to the pontoon at the station about seven in the evening and I will try to come there in the office boat, but come aboard if you can. I would sooner you come aboard, I should like you to come I want to see you. I would show you round the ship a bit as well, don't forget I'm longing to see you, but if you don't come aboard I will try to be at the pontoon. Don't forget, I'm longing to see you. I am your truly ever loving brother
14 <sup>th</sup> March, 1895	HMS St. Vincent, Portsmouth	Dear Lou, I'm sorry to say that I was Brig Working Party, so I couldn't put in an appearance, but it would have been just the same as they have all got the leave stoped (sic) – got measles on board. I hope you have not forgot the writing paper because I've got no paper to write home with, so if you've not got it get some & also get me a deadwood out of a shop just round the corner. Their (sic) called Pluck or Union Jack, get both if you can their (sic) only Id the two. I got a paper from home, I will send it if you like. Don't be anxious about me for I'm as well as I can be. No more this time. From your ever loving Brother Bill  Tell me how much them gloves was.
2 <sup>nd</sup> April, 1895	HMS St. Vincent, Portsmouth	Dear Lou, How is it as you never came down to the pontoon? Come down to the Point tomorrow at six o'clock or come down there at four if you can get there. How is it as you haven't wrote? What is up with you? Have I offended you because I asked for a bit of cake? Just you come down or else I won't write to you no more.
28 <sup>th</sup> June, 1895	98 HMS Martin,	Dear Lou, We have been out to sea since last Wensday (sic) just sighting Portland –

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	Portland, Dorset	<p>shall stop there till Monday then go out cruising about, so when you write you can put on the address "Elsewhere". We have been cruising up and down the Channel, got a bit seasick up in the top when it was my watch. We go on watch for an hour, we thought we was sailors enough to stand it but we was not – the old craft rolls so and pitches, you stagger about the deck just like a lot of drunken men.</p> <p>Dear Lou, will you send me a box of writing paper and a few stamps as we cannot get any here. If you could send me a pen and some ink as well you would be obliging me very much, but don't go to a great expence (sic) in sending them for if it does I will try to borrow a pen &amp; ink.</p> <p>Dear Lou, you can bet your boots I'm counting the days of it when I shall be back to Portsmouth Harbour. No more time to write anything. I remain your ever loving Brother</p> <p>B</p> <p>[Note from Lou] Send this back when you write to me Lou</p>
Undated	98 HMS Martin, Portland	<p>Dear Lou,</p> <p>I wrote to you the other day but don't know wether (sic) you got the letter or no as you have not answered it. I asked you to send me some writing paper and ink &amp; a pen if you could possibly do it &amp; also some stamps as they are so deuced short of everything here. Have not got time to do much in here, we got a hour now – first one this week – in fact the first one since we've been on the brig. Haven't had any letter from the folks at home, nor seen a paper. I don't know wether (sic) you have or knot (sic). Am quite well and hope you are the same.</p> <p>I remain your loving Brother</p> <p>Bill xxxxxxxxxx</p>
11 <sup>th</sup> July 1895	98 HMS Martin, Portland or elsewhere	<p>Dear Lou,</p> <p>I received your letter safe and was glad to get an answer from mine. I think we sail for the Isle of White (sic), so perhaps we might come round to Portsmouth &amp; then we go round to Plymouth – expect to at any rate. We are provisioned for sea so I expect we shall go cruising about the Channel a bit or so. That means some night watches so I shall be able to sleep all right if I got any to write (sic). Have wrote home just the same time as I wrote to you before, I told them I was getting on alright. I daresay it is a grand sight to see Italians but I see them around here. They all cleared out of here last Saturday night an early Sunday morning. The harbour seemed full, but when they were gone it was just as if the place was desolate.</p> <p>Got the papers, they will be alright for to read when we are down below. Goodbye and write soon, I remain your ever loving Brother</p> <p>Bill</p>
11 <sup>th</sup> July 1895	98 HMS Martin, Portland	<p>Dear Lou,</p> <p>I received your parcel last post, thanks for your envelopes &amp; paper. I wrote yesterday thinking that you might not have received it as you said you did not when we was under quarantine. Was glad to hear from you as I've been away from you for a fortnight – it seems about two minutes.</p>

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**Note : Letters are not in any particular dated order**

		<p>Hope the other will pass away as quickly, shall be glad when I come back to Portsmouth, for Portland is a Rotten Place – I thought Pompy (sic) was bad enough but this place takes the buiscuit (sic), you can't get anything here unless it's a lot of loose as mother calls it. – as soon as you get ashore, just the same everywhere you go I suppose. You can get me two more of them lanyards if you gets the stick for a shilling – can buy a brooche (sic) for Lean if you like. You keep your spirits up – for four weeks time shall be with you then I hope shall be half way on my journey by this time, 2 o'clock. There is a rumour of our going to Plymouth but don't think much of it. Shall write home now but shall have to have a hunt after some stamps.</p> <p>I remain your ever loving Brother Bill</p> <p>Got no time to do much writing, started about half a dozen times but could not finish</p>
29 <sup>th</sup> July, 1895	98 HMS Martin, Plymouth Harbour, Devon	<p>Dear Lou,</p> <p>I received your letter yesterday but have not had time to write before as we have been working hard for the inspecting Captain. We was out at sea for about five days, it was terrible rough so she rolled about just like one of the swing boats at the feast – shall be round at Portsmouth about this day week, I hope, if we have good luck. We have had the last two Sundays at sea – expect to have another one, shall be glad when I get back, it is up all day and half the night when we are out at sea. We are having miserable weather round hear (sic) – how are you getting it round where you are? Ain't much news round hear (sic) – we haven't been ashore so can't tell you what sort of a place it is. Am quite well, hope you are the same.</p> <p>I remain your ever loving Brother Bill</p> <p>Short &amp; sweet xxxxxxx</p>
13 <sup>th</sup> October, 1895		<p>Dear Lou,</p> <p>I received the paper but not the letter, that is if you sent one. I went home last Sunday, I got 12 hours extra leave.</p> <p>Dear Lou, would you help me to get a dozen of my Phises took, half a dozen of cabinet and half a dozen c.d.v. in a drill frock &amp; white hat. How are they getting on down at Pompy? I expect they shall soon be doing my edge from here, if I don't before Christmas I shall soon after, so you see I should like some Phizhog took before I go out. I will write and ask Lean what she says &amp; they want it at home. Write soon.</p> <p>I remain your ever loving Brother Bill</p>
Undated	HMS Audacious, Chatham Depot. 134 Mess	<p>Dear Lou,</p> <p>I arrived safe and sound here as you see. Have wrote home and told them where I was – told them where to write to. This place is like being on the Duke but instead of three there's about half a dozen all joined – one for Marines, one for boys, two for stokers and two for Seamen. So you see there's plenty of us knocking about – just about four thousand men and boys altogether. So you see there is a few come from all different parts of the country. Haven't been ashore here yet – shall go</p>

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		<p>Saturday, see what the place is like, but shall go on the saving system if I can. You have plenty of time to yourself so can wash your clothes when you like. Shall try and go home next month – I'll see what sort of pay down I get first. If it don't come to much shan't go, but if it comes to anything at all shall go. No more this time. Write soon.</p> <p>I remain your ever loving Brother Bill</p> <p>PS Don't forget to put the no. of mess in the corner down where the x is.</p>
Undated	HMS Audacious, Chatham Depot, 132 Mess	<p>Dear Lou,</p> <p>I received your letter. I understood you in your other letter that you sent me some handkerchiefs, but it does not matter as I shall by (sic) some in Chatham. It isn't such a bad place after all, but it is a summer place, it is all hills, cliffs and etc. But I should sooner be round at Pompy.</p> <p>Dear Lou, I might be home and out on a commission in about ten minutes notice for what I know. I received the paper, so shall send you best part of my pay down if there's anything like one, but I'm afraid it will not amount to much.</p> <p>Dear Lou, if I could find means to get them shoes down here I would, for that's just what I want &amp; I wore my shoes out and have those other pair of socks – will you send them home and I may slip home for Saturday till Monday morning. Shall try and take a chum. I picked up with a good one at last, he is something after myself – he don't drink, quiet chap. He likes me &amp; in fact I like him so I'm going to take him home Saturday, then come up the smoke for Sunday night, then go down to Chatham in the morning.</p> <p>I remain your ever loving Brother Bill</p>
Undated	2385 HMS Audacious, Chatham Depot	<p>Dear Lou,</p> <p>I received your letter but received no handkerchiefs as yet, it is no good sending anything but money, and that ain't safe unless you register it. I thought the Saint was bad enough, but this place takes the biscuit for stealing other people's gear and belongings, you can't even go and hang your clothes up to dry without being afraid you won't see them when you go for them. The best part of them are a lot of cockneys and they are all prigs – the whole box and dose of them, so if you send money instead I can get me a couple of towles (sic) as well. Shall pick up a pay down presently – shall send it all to you if you wish to keep it for me, don't know whether I shall go home next month – I think I shall save the money instead for Christmas. Have had no answer from home yet.</p> <p>I remain your ever loving Brother Bill</p> <p>[Footnote from Lou] <b>Poor old Bill, I hope he will take care of himself.</b></p>
Undated, but probably October 1895	2385, HMS Audacious, Chatham Depot, 132 Mess	<p>Dear Lou,</p> <p>I received your letter &amp; also the paper but I understood you in your letter that you thought that we went home before but we haven't been home as yet, but am going home next Sunday as I could not go on the line without money &amp; next Sunday we have our pay down so shall see how much. I shall be able to send you some money to keep for me for Christmas leave or else any other leave because I might be</p>

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		<p>[indecipherable text] next Christmas, for what I know &amp; it isn't very long to Christmas &amp; the time flies by so quick it's Sunday before you know where you are. Besides, you see, perhaps I might be able to send some as well, perhaps, every fortnight – shall try. The quicker I go away from this place the better as I should like to get on a commission as soon as I could because I should come back a young man about nineteen – should change for Portsmouth then if I could, as I don't like this Depot as yet. And about my half pay, I can still leave it to Dad, but when I get rated a C.d. he won't be able to draw it. Shall put it by for when I come back off a commission, that's if I go on one, because it might help the old folks at home on a bit if they happen to run short at all. As Mother said, it seemed like a God send last winter, so can let them have it as long as I don't get into debt, that is all I trouble about so you needn't be frightened about that. We pick up our monkey jackets next month, 1<sup>st</sup> November, so you see if I go on a commission I shall just miss it so that will be alright.</p> <p>Dear Lou, I'm sorry you miss me so much but perhaps I might be able to come around to Pompy, perhaps. At all events, we don't know what may turn up any time so must be prepared for leave or else I shall look shitty (1) if I have to go home without any money. No more this time from your ever loving Brother</p> <p>Bill</p> <p>Don't forget 132 and not 134</p>
Undated, but probably November 1895	2385 HMS Agincourt, Chatham Depot, 134 Mess	<p>Dear Lou,</p> <p>I received your letter, I wrote you one letter before I went home on leave &amp; then one after I went. While I was away they shifted the old Audacious farther down the dock and put the Agincourt in her place, so afterwards we shifted to her. Still, we are in the depot &amp; if you look at my last letter I think you will see Agincourt.</p> <p>Dear Lou, I received a letter from Dad – he sent me a M.C.C. for 5/- but I think instead of buying Photos I ought to have my boots mended. To have a half a dozen cabinet &amp; half a dozen c.d.v. would cost about 10/- altogether to send them home and to you and Lean. Shall write to Lean this afternoon so can't tell you what she says, but dad told me that she seems agreeable. I'm quite well &amp; in good health &amp; hope you are the same.</p> <p>I remain your ever loving Brother</p> <p>Bill</p>
Undated	2385 HMS Agincourt, Chatham Depot, 134 Mess	<p>Dear Lou,</p> <p>I received your letter and Papers – the oldest one I read when I was at home. I went ashore last Saturday &amp; went to the shop to see how much they would be but I think they have too much trade to do them any good – they don't know whether they are on their head or heels, so shall try another place. Instead, had a smoke and a small lemon &amp; picked up a couple of girls, but this place is a jolly sight worse for women than Portsmouth. This is the worst place of the three, I heard seamen say so. You can tell how this is, by Portsmouth, by what I see of them myself – this is the worst.</p> <p>Dear Lou, I will tell you how much I require when I have a letter from Lean.</p> <p>Dear Lou, you ask me about my chum. After I got to know him better I found he was always trying to be disagreeable, so I told him if he would not do without grumbling he could stop away from me, so we parted &amp; I've not spoke to him much since. No more this time.</p>

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		<p>From yours truly, W.H. Jones Wim Wom Waggle or the mystery of the cornflower "over goes the show" [There follows a small sketch of dolls' house falling over]</p>
17 <sup>th</sup> November, 1895	2385 W. Jones, HMS Agincourt, Chatham Depot, 134 Mess	<p>Dear Lou, I had my photo taken last Saturday, are having six small &amp; six cabinet – shall give one each to you girls &amp; one to George, one for home – that is five – one for Cousins Poll and Liz at Woburn, one for a chum, one for Harry Sear &amp; one for "Oh blow the things" otherwise Mrs. Collett. So if you send me 5/- you will doing me a great favour for you may perhaps only do me one more in that line. Dear Lou, just Register the order or else perhaps you might get me into trouble as no one is allowed to have money sent to them unless it is registered, as so much has been lost. I remain your ever loving Brother Bill (otherwise Fillibus). I wish I could get to Portsmouth.</p>
Undated	HMS Agincourt, Chatham Depot	<p>Dear Lou, I received your letter &amp; money safe. You can send me some more down when I want some for train fare. I will make this do as I don't want to come on the cadge every day or else I shall be more trouble than I am worth, so you see I don't want to be that, but still I wish I was round at Pompy – a jolly sight better place than this, but this is the nearest to home, but a worst place for women &amp; a rotten town in the bargain, but I stop in the depot. I reckon going ashore for to have my photo took is a nusiance (sic), but will send you a photo when I'm home. No more this time. I remain your ever loving Brother Bill</p>
17 <sup>th</sup> December, 1985	HMS Agincourt, Chatham Depot	<p>Dear Lou, I received your letter this tea-time, but wrote you one yesterday, but if you have not send the money you need not send it till I get home &amp; then send it home when you send it with the Xmas boxes. Have got my ticket so might only want something to spend when I'm on leave – shall have from the 21<sup>st</sup> till the 3<sup>rd</sup> of January. No more this time. From your loving Brother Bill</p>
Undated, but probably Christmas Day 1895	Well House, Bletchley	<p>Dear Lou, We received your Christmas boxes this morning, thanks for mine. You haven't got mine, but better late than never. You see, when we came home from Chatham they would not let us out of the Dockyard so I couldn't get out of the Dockyard to get my photos, but have wrote to the man to send them by post, so if they come I will send you yours as soon as I can. I dare say you are longing to see that old familiar dial once again. George Atkins &amp; Kate Gaskin has got spliced &amp; also Herbert Collier &amp; some young girl from Wales this morning, the first two on Monday. I remain your ever loving Brother</p>

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		<p>Bill</p> <p>[On same letter, John has appended the following]: December 25<sup>th</sup> 1895</p> <p>Dear Louie,</p> <p>Just a few lines to finish Bill's letter. I have been talking about you for the last 3 weeks &amp; would have sent you a letter before only I have been posting for 3 weeks, Sundays &amp; weekdays. I always felt tired. This afternoon we have Christenings in the service, Bill told you about the weddings. I am not posting this week, so have more time to myself. Mother got her club ticket last week, so she got you &amp; Lean a little Xmas box. Thanks very much for my gloves &amp; tie, Sadie is so delighted with her apron – it is a beauty. We are all going out to Poll's this evening. Mr. Wallace's kind wishes to you. He is gone home to Southampton. Love to all from J. &amp; E.A. Jones</p> <p>PS Mother is very pleased with the flannelette. She will make it up – with thanks JJ</p>
26 <sup>th</sup> December 1895	HMS Agincourt, Chatham Depot	<p>Dear Lou,</p> <p>I shall be home before next Saturday perhaps, but if it ain't before it will be Saturday afternoon, but if you send that 2/- send it before next Saturday. I hope to be home at 6.30 Bletchley, so if you can send it before Saturday, do so at once. I remain your loving Brother Bill</p> <p>PS Don't mind about registering it. Excuse pencil.</p>

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<p>Jan 5<sup>th</sup> 1895 Sunday Night</p>	<p>68 Husbourne Crawley Nr. Bletchley</p>	<p>Dear Lou, Many thanks for the pretty cards, which we received quite safe. Sorry to hear that you had been so poorly, and so much work on hand – hope by this time you are yourself again and a bit settled. We spent a very quiet Christmas, and the weather being so rough there was scarcely anyone moving about in this fair place. I daresay it was lively enough in town. Of course, we went round carol singing, which went off <u>as per usual</u>, but didn't have your favourite (Carol sweetly Carol). I must tell you, the new Cook gets on very well and is the cleanest and quickest one since you left (in my eye). I like her very well, much better than Alice, - she knows your father quite well, - she comes from Drayton Parslow. The Vicar has had more work to do in the way of Weddings, than he has all the time he has been here, for there were three Banns up till last Sunday. Then GB was up, Nurse left last Saturday, and without any alteration, they are to be married on the 15<sup>th</sup>. They had agreed, all of them (Barnwell) to be married here, but she said her Mother and Sisters flared up so about it. I think he will find his mistake out before very long, - fancy only walking with him about 10 months. The new Nurse came in on Sat. night from Rushden. She exceeds the other by far in looks. It is so long since I wrote to you I forgot wether(sic) I told you I had heard from Mary. I have had three letters from her. I wrote to Woodfield House, and she wrote back in a day or two. She is still there and has been there 2 years next month. She said she had often thought she would write to me, but thought when she left off writing to A. she wouldn't write to me. She said she knew no reason why he left off writing to her. She wrote to him saying she was coming to Banbury with her Mistress, - should she come on and see him?. He wrote back saying he was going out, and that was the last she heard of him. She wrote to know why he didn't write and he never answered. She then sent back all his letters. Fancy not saying anything about why he was going to give up writing. She says she isn't at all sorry now. I was so glad I wrote. I heard she had gone to Paris, but that was only so I shouldn't write to her. I received a card and short letter from Jane at Christmas, - she was then at home and said she would come round and see us before she left, but she hasn't been yet. There has been a Subscription made among the Scholars for Miss Morris, for teaching in the School 20 years. It was such a nice Clock and was given her in the Parish Room on Saturday night. The Choir Supper is coming off next Thursday night all together this time in the Parish Room. It is quite a useful place, there was a Public Tea on the last day of the old year, and a very good Concert at night. I must now close, hoping you will write soon. I am Yours sincerely  C. Fuller</p>
	<p>Bletchley</p>	<p>Dear Louie, I was very pleased to get a letter from you for I was wondering how you would get on when they told me you were ill for I know in service it makes you feel in the way if you cannot do your work. I know it ? to me when I was at Luton, so I was very glad to here (sic) you were better. Dear Louie, I almost long for you to come home so that we can have a few more walks together. I wish you were here tonight then we would have a nice walk down to Fenny but we must wait. The time will come perhaps, at least I hope so don't you? I daresay Sarah as (sic) told you that I have been out with G. Silkston, but that was/is nothing – only a bit of flirting, so you see I am quite ready when any old chap yourself</p>

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		<p>comes home for a few more pleasant evenings. I have not had any work to speak of for a long time, at least Mrs. Eardly paid 6 of the girls off and was only going to keep 7, but she found that it would not pay her so we have got work from a nother (sic) firm in Luton, so I think we shall be busy now. Some of the girls cried dreadful when they thought they had not got to come any more because some of them are getting too old to go to service now, if they wanted. Mother as (sic) had a very bad cold the last 3 weeks, she as not been fit for anything, but I am glad to say she is getting on nicely now. We are getting quite smart up our way now. Captain Wright is having 3 nice cottages built next to us, facing G. Tompkin's house. There will be a lot of alterations for you to see some day. Must finish, with best love from your affectionate friend Jenny</p> <p>Hope you will be able to read my scribble. I am going to church now – the bells have just begun.</p> <p>xxxxx</p>
	St. Mary's Gate, Tickhill	<p>My dearest little girls, You see I have arrived here. I had such a rush at Sandy, the train was due out and there was a bridge to cross that took time. It was nearly 9 o'clock when I got to Bautry, then I saw Will's great form like the side of a house, he was alone with a nice little trap and I enjoyed the drive very much, only felt <u>very shy</u>. We thought it was too hot to go to Sheffield. It is a lovely day and you may sure we are making the most of our time. I have not seen the "Hon. Parry" yet, but shall see him after dinner. Will is upstairs donning his white flannels. We are going out for a walk by that stile, so please my darlings excuse me this time, Tuesday morning will soon be here. Goodbye, with fondest love to you both from your loving Edith</p> <p>Bowling out scratching</p> <p>Ora pro nobis</p>
Undated	Derwent Lodge, Keswick	<p>My dearest Lou, You see we have arrived. Oh, what a long journey it was, I was almost too tired and stiff to go to sleep, but we travelled as comfortably as was possible – first class if you please. There was no second class room at Bletchley or Crewe and we were alone most of the way. Baby was wonderfully good, did not cry once. Mrs. Stobart is very much taken with her. It is very pretty here – we are just at the foot of Skiddaw and can see part of Helvellyn and the Lake is charming. Mr. &amp; Mrs. B., baby and I have been out in the boat two hours this afternoon, Charlie in his flannels <u>minus his hat</u>. There were lots of young fellows in canoes, and some bathing with those little <u>three cornered things on you know</u>. I nearly went to sleep. Emma sends her love to you, she looks so well and her eyes are very much better. We have hot cakes for almost every meal, I had fish and chicken for supper on Tuesday night – hot you know – and tonight rissoles and coffee. I like being here very much. Emma and Molly are very kind and good. I think our people are going to Windermere tomorrow if it is fine. Please Lou darling excuse more tonight – I promise you a long letter next time. My eyes are almost shut. With fondest love, ever your loving Edith</p>

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Undated	64, Crawley Lane, Husbourne Crawley, Nr. Bletchley	<p>My dear Louisa, Sorry to say I have not had time to write before. I have told all has (sic) you told me to, except Nurse and she has gone away with the baby for its health, but I don't know where. Pleased to say I are (sic) well and strong again, I have been out 3 weeks to work. I have got a good colour and quite fat now – the influenza is a great deal better now, pleased to say. Mrs. Alley &amp; John &amp; father &amp; mother &amp; Charley wished to be remembered to you. I hope this will find you quite well. I have not heard from Jane, only once since Christmas, I don't know what's up – I'm sure their (sic) must be something up. I think of you a great deal, though you are so far away and I often hear you talking to me, it's just as if I can feel those loving lips kissing me when you said goodbye – I often think about it. I hope we shall see one another some day. Give my love to your mother and father &amp; sisters so now I think I have said all. Forgive this scribble as I have done it in a bussle (sic). Carrie is better now and her mother is a little better, so goodbye and God bless you. Write soon. Unsigned</p> <p>xxxxxxx</p>
Undated	The Vicarage, Husbourne Crawley	<p>My dearest Lou, I want your address very badly, I have got somebody's photo for you. Write to me as soon as you can. With fond love, ever your loving Ditty</p> <p>I have got such a budget of news for you</p>
Undated Friday night	The Vicarage, Crawley	<p>My dearest Louie, Behold me sitting up in bed 10-20 p.m. writing to you. How are you getting on? We have counted the hours (I mean Jenny and I) until you will be back with us. I hope you are enjoying your dear little self. You will, I am sure, think the time passes quickly. I am so glad you found them all well at home. It is miserable without you, we feel lost in the kitchen at night. I have been down ironing tonight – it was such a hot job. Then a thunderstorm came on. They have cleared George Harris's hayfield – it looks so funny now. We can see the corner of Crow Lane, we have had great fun watching the men at work. They have such comical hats and red handkerchiefs to keep their trousers up. I overheard the Honourable Arthur call out that he had lost a <u>button</u>. I went to Aspley this afternoon, it was fearfully hot. I saw Mrs. Sims, she was here yesterday and did not see you and was afraid you were not well. I told her where you were and she hopes you will have a nice time. I see you in the cards in Company with someone playing a violin. You look very bright but there is one little disappointment for you. The big fat King of Hearts keeps close, with a ring. At your head there is money, at your feet that very dark man. What a strange thing he should always turn up. The postman has made inquiries after you. You see how much you are missed. I will say nothing about G.B., his face is very long. Goodbye my hear old chicken. Be quick back. With fondest love, ever your loving friend Edith</p> <p>Au revoir</p>
Undated	The Vicarage, Husbourne Crawley	<p>My dearest Lou, Can you ever forgive me for my negligence? Don't think, dear, that I have ever ceased thinking of you, I never go into the kitchen but what a vision rises up of what used to be. Instead of your bright smiling face and a good joke all is now bustle and grumbling. Happily I don't have</p>

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		<p>my food downstairs or it would be worse than ever. I have not decided yet whether to stay on longer than the year - I hardly know what to do. You will not be surprised to hear it is all off with Will and I. Somehow I could not go on any longer, he wanted so much of his own way and seemed as though he could compel me to marry him, so I thought it best to make an end of it all. I shall settle one of these days as a Monthly Nurse. I think I have told you that has always been my ambition. I wrote to dear Old Jack about my eyes being so bad and he has asked his brother who is a doctor at Guy's hospital to see me. But you see dear one, cannot do anything here without being questioned so, and I suppose it would cause a fuss if I let him examine them, and if I ask to go to London they will think all sorts of things, but my eyes are much better. Now you will be wondering how I got your address. I got it from George Barnwell. He wanted to know why I had not written to you – he looks just the same. Frank gets prettier every day only he suffers so much with his teeth, poor boy. They had great fun carol singing, making fun of Mrs. Paragreen's leggings. What a woman she is. Tommy Meek looks meeker than ever. I expect you have heard of poor Mr. Denton's death – he was frightfully bad at the last, but what a release, poor man how he suffered. Mrs. Denton always asks after you and wishes to be remembered to you. We have had Miss Katy Smith from Hulcote staying here this week and Mr. Caine, the rum gentleman from the Mill was up here to tea or supper every day while she was here, it looks rather suspicious. Did you know that it was all off with Miss Janet Smith and Mr. Elliott. Poor fellow, it almost broke his heart. He rode on horseback all one night in Woburn Park because he was so unhappy, but however it is all made up again and they are to be married early in the summer. This Mr. Caine is a perfect fool, he looks like a bullock driver. He wears one of those horrid mufflers on his neck and looks so untidy and he sits in Mr. Elliott's seat in church and blinks his eyes at us. I always commit myself and indulge in a good laugh. How I wish you were here – how different everything would be. Baby has been very ill with Bronchitis – she has not been out for about six weeks, she is quite better now but is very backward, she can't walk yet but, poor child, she wears things I call "togs". They are Mrs. B's own invention. They are like drawers with long legs and feet to them, made of flannelette. Rose Grace made them and, poor little woman, she cannot stretch her legs. She can't even stand upright in them. It will be a wonder if her legs are not crooked. She wears flannel drawers as well underneath. You would laugh if you saw them. Mrs. B. and I had a flare-up one day about baby. Just fancy, here she was being poulticed back and front and as bad as she could be with bronchitis and Mrs. B. said she must have her bath as usual. Wouldn't you think she would have known better? Well, I flatly refused to bath baby and she flew into such a temper and told me I was obstinate. I did not say anything then, but when Mr. Lucas came the next morning I asked him, in Mrs. B.'s presence, if Baby was to have her bath, and he said if we wanted to kill her we could give her a bath. You should have seen her face then – she was white with rage. I almost gave her notice, but I thought I would at least stay a year. It will be a wonder to me if Baby lives to grow up, she is almost too old-fashioned. She calls out Daddy so prettily. She is a dear little woman. I hope you have got a good place dear. Tell me all about it and do please, dearest Lou, write soon and forgive me. Do you ever see your brother? Give my fondest love to him. This is Saturday night, 11-15 p.m. I want to post it in the morning. The postman wishes to be kindly remembered to you. Goodbye darling Lou. With fondest love from your loving Ditty</p>
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**Note : Letters are not in any particular dated order**

Undated Sunday	Hylton, Kington	<p>My dearest little girls, What an unkind creature you will think I am never to write to you before now, but really I came away without asking either of your names, so I had to ask Mrs. Bickmore. Thank you very much for sending my letters on. I am sure you will think Baby has grown. She is such a pet and all the people in Kington are ready to worship her. The number of people that come to see her is quite astonishing and they all exclaim "what a lovely baby" and what a head of hair – and she laughs and talks to them in her way, which is so amusing. She has got a little bit of cold, but I hope it will pass off. She sleeps very well at nights and is so good, only when she gets a bit tired. I hope you are both quite well and please don't kill yourselves with cleaning. I went to Church to early service this morning. It is so pretty about here – such a lovely view out of the nursery window. Now I think I must end my short epistle. I hope you will write to me when you have time. With fond love to you both, Yours affectionately Edith</p> <p>Can I rub my boots?</p>
	20, Letchford Gardens, College Park, Willsden, London NW	<p>My dearest Louie, Yes, I did receive your kind letters &amp; present which is so very pretty. It as (sic) been most ungrateful of me not to have written &amp; thank you for thinking of me, I shall prize it very much. I expect you must have thought Kit's case had come off before this. Yes, she as a lovely daughter, such pretty blue eyes &amp; dark hair – it is a length. She was born the morning after my birthday, a fine present to have, what say you. She come on Lizzie. Kit had a very bad time &amp; when her milk come she had broken breasts. It was a trying time for us both. For the first fortnight baby did nothing but cry – I never had any sleep, was quite worn out. Hope to pick up now for Kit &amp; baby have gone down home for a change &amp; I trust it will do them both good. She was not up for much before she went &amp; their (sic) is a lot to do – we know only to (sic) well what a difference a baby makes ourselves. They had her christened on Sunday down their (sic). Carrie &amp; his eldest sister stood to her. Her name is Eveline Alice Elizabeth after mother &amp; Liz. You will guess for why I chose the first. I gave it such a lovely robe &amp; Carrie a large white shawl tied with white silk ribbon because, you see, we are Auntie. Oh, when you are, I guess you will be proud. Well now, about that place, I have not taken it for she wanted me before Kit went to bed &amp; of course I could not go then &amp; she has two in. There is too much for one pair of hands to do. This is a little of it – washing all done at home &amp; they sleep in blankets, own bread made, they have come from Yorkshire &amp; we know what they are for work. The one as to do it all, cooking also, with no help &amp; the Lady sent for me to go &amp; see her last week to see if I would go now, but I declined. Fancy your master – but that is just like some men. We shall have to look sharp, what say you, this is the Ladies' year. Dearie, how did you enjoy your little self this Easter? I did fine Sat. evening, I went to the Olympia. It was lovely. The gardens were simply splendid. Then there was cycling matches, with ladies &amp; gents – then come the Derby Day, but the one thing you would have liked to have seen was the Chitral War. Everything looked just as if it was real. Their (sic) was the message for war to the officers, the soldiers were their &amp; Indians saying goodbye to their wives (sic) &amp; then off firing (sic) – went off like snow on the mountains. It give one a good idea of a soldier's life. Have you heard of George lately? I have not heard any Crawley news since I was there. I think I have told you all the news I can think</p>

George Alfred Jones John Jones Selina Jones Sarah Jones Will Jones **Miscellaneous**

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		of. How are your parents & Sally going on? With best love & hope to be forgiven once more I remain your Old one Jenny
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