

1st January 1914 (probably meant 1915)

Letter from Brenchley to Russell

15 Dagmar Road
Camberwell

Dear Dr Russell

Many thanks for your note. I have been very busy with lab work - & have put in about five days at the British Museum already. It may not be possible for me to do much more for few days as my father has been unwell all the week. When the doctor came today he was not satisfied, & called in a specialist who diagnosed appendicitis. He operated tonight in a private ward at Guy's Hospital. My Mother & I have just been up, & they say that matters were in a very bad way, but that the operation seems to have been satisfactory. If all goes well I hope to return on th date fixed, Tuesday week, but may have to crave some indulgence to come up to town as there is no one but myself to be with my Mother. If matters turn out wrong – I will write to you again.

Yours sincerely
Winifred E. Brenchley

2nd January 1915

Draft of reply by Dunkley to W Buddin

Proofs going through

Not got NZ Journal - has been found as I see Miller sent Vols 7 & 8 to be bound a few days ago

Vogel's paper

Better social conditions at Cornell – holiday there

Not Russell's opinion at all

Reprints – 6 copies each of your two papers by this post

What shall I do with the next (sent to your home)

Miss Bates here a day or two ago on holiday

Keen married a few days ago – we are getting present for him

2nd January 1915

Letter from W Buddin to Dunkley

Cornell Cosmopolitan Club
Ithaca, N.Y., U.S.A.

My Dear Dunkley

Glad the proofs are gradually getting through all the necessary stages. I have not got the New Zealand Journal of Agriculture Vol 8 No. 4 It used to be kept with the other colonial publications on the shelves between the Library door & the windows – backing on to the Botany Lab. the N.Z. J. were mostly unbound & were in great disorder in the small shelves in the middle a little above an ordinary individual's reach. I had noticed the abstract to which I refer when the Journal first

came in & it took me several days to find the number again when I wanted it a few months later. If you have hunted diligently & worried yourself as much as I used to worry you you have probably found it by this time. It is possible that I left it in the Soil Lab. as I could not get to the shelves in the Sample House to replace it but I distinctly remember making some of an effort to get it put back.

I have just noticed a reference to a paper by J. Vogel -
..... Pp 60 – 83 - on the “Action of Sulphur on the Bacterial Activities of the Soil”. It is reported as giving expts which indicate quite positively a decided effect of sulphur in promoting various bacterial activities in the soil e.g. “ammonification, nitrification and nitrogen fixation. If have not had an opportunity of reading the German yet – it would probably a month to read 23 pages – but possibly Dr Russell might think due reference to it was necessary in that paper

I certainly did not come here because of the better social conditions. It was them which made me hesitate so long before deciding to come. I was getting no more good from Guelph than I had been getting during the last six months of the wasted time at Rothamsted and if I am bound to live outside my income during the year I thought it as well to come to a place where there is the possibility of getting some return. There is a great deal of difference between coming to America as Dr Edward John Russell as a hero & with all expenses paid 7 coming as Mr Walter Buddin. I hope it is not Russell’s opinion that I am simply trying to have a ‘good time’. Possibly I should fare better on my return if I did not set that up as my ideal. The last three months have been the most miserable I have spent in my life. The knowledge that one’s efforts are so well appreciated at home adds appreciably to one’s happiness.

Best wishes

Yours sincerely

Walter Buddin

No date. Probably early 1915

Post card Lawrence to Dunkley

Dear Sir

Just a card to you to let you no I have travelled nearer the coast. It is very nice here not far from Sheringham which is the seaside it is very healthy here and lovely scenery. I am quite well and hope all is the same your way. Believe me to be yours truly.

George

5th January 1915

Postcard from Lawrence to Dunkley

G Company, 1st Herts
Ipswich

Dear Sir. Just a card to you hoping alls well as I am present. As you will see I keep traveling I have got 9 men on guard at the Vire Docks. It's a bit airy at nights we have just relieved the north Hants they were there 8 weeks so I cant get home on this job so I wish all a happy new year.

I remain yours truly G Lawrence

6th January 1915

Draft letter from Dunkley concerning Dr Thaysen

Informed the Harpⁿ Police (on telephone) that the above (a Dane) had come to work here & asked if it was necessary for him to be registered. They took his name down & said they would let me know if anything further was to be done in the matter. I said he was lodging at Mrs Dorman's(?)

G.J.D.

6th January 1915

Letter from Brenchley to Russell

15 Dagmar Road

Camberwell, S. E.

Dear Dr Russell

Thank you very much for your letter and kind message. My father is making very satisfactory progress, and we are beginning to feel that the time of great crisis is passing, though of course it will mean a long illness yet.

If things go on as they are doing I shall return to Harpenden on Tuesday evening but shall try to so arrange the work as to be able to run up to town for a short time most days, & also to come home each weekend so that my mother is not left alone quite so long. I can see my way to doing this especially if I use part of the time in doing some of the reading for organic Plant Poisons.

With kind regards

Yours truly

Winifred E. Brenchley

7th January 1915

Letter from Brenchley to Dunkley

15 Dagmar Road

Camberwell, S.E.

Dear Mr Dunkley

Many thanks for your sympathetic note. I am very glad to be able to say that my father is progressing very favourably. We see him every day. I usually go in the morning & my mother in the afternoon. All being well I expect to return to Harpenden on Tuesday.

Yours sincerely

Winifred E. Brenchley

8th January 1915

Letter from Bruce (Board of Ag) to Russell

Dear Russell

I write to inform you that an arrangement may possibly be made with the War Office which in certain cases, will obviate the need for applying to the Local Tribunal in order to secure the exemption from military service of those members of your staff whom you wish to be regarded as indispensable.

In order that we may be in a position to state exactly the number of persons that will be affected by the arrangement (if made) will you be good enough to fill up the enclosed forms and return them to me as early as possible?

Please note that only those members of the staff who have attested should be entered

Yours faithfully

A B Bruce

Letter from K R Lewin to Dr Russell

13th January 1915

7th D.C.L.I.

Pirbright Camp

Woking

Dear Dr Russell

This is merely a brief note of self-invitation

Such is the blunting effect of a few months of military existence that, after due cogitation, I can find no other way of expression than a bluff statement of fact. I find I shall be able to get leave this week-end, & should like very much to spend it in Harpenden.

If it is in the slightest degree inconvenient to you & Mrs Russell to put me up, please do not hesitate to say so, as I feel sure I could make other arrangements. Of course, I should have to return on Sunday night.

Did you & Mrs Russell & the children manage to achieve a normally festive Christmas? I trust that you did --- but alas! No one else of my acquaintance was able to raise the proper spirit of merriment. It was very kind of you to send me a card.

Please do not scruple to let me know if it would be at all a trouble to put me up on Saturday night

I am

Yours sincerely

K. R. Lewin

14th January 1915

Letter from Keen to Dunkley

5th Suffolks

Mile End

Colchester

Dear Dunkley

Many thanks for your letter, we are still at the above address or rather 7 coys out of the battn are. The remaining one which happens to be mine is out at Rowledge doing a shooting course, but I have put the old address on this letter as we have nearly finished here, & shall shortly push off back to Mile End to make way for another company. Rumours are now rife about the intention of the authorities with regard to that magnificent piece of fighting machinery known as the 5th Suffolks. My own private opinion is given in a letter to Davis which I wrote yesterday, but I hope I'm wrong.

Your rainfall statistics have interested me much. You see, the Asylum at Mile End, where we are quartered, is built on heavy clay soil, & the daily passage of about 3000 troops to & fro has hopelessly 'puddled' it. For the last two months we have lived in a morass; trenches would be dry in comparison.

About the copies of my paper. Are the 25 my own personal property, or must some of them be kept for the laby stores? If they all belong to me, please distribute copies to those of the staff who would like them & send the remainder to my Southend Address. If however the lab copies are to come out of this 25, you had better let me know how many I shall have for myself before you give any away to anybody. Davis will tell you the news with regard to myself. A piece of the cake is for you.

Kindest regards

B A Keen

18th January 1915

Letter from Keen to Russell

Hermia Cottage

Rowledge

Near Wivenhoe

Dear Dr Russell

Dunkley tells me that he has sent 22 copies of my paper to Southend & has given four away. L.J.Briggs asked for one when it was published. Would you mind letting me know if you will have any further copies for official lab "use", or shall I send him one from my store? The same also applies to copies that you may wish to send to other people.

I have just come back from Rowledge after finishing a course of firing with my Coy. & now I have to return to do butt(?) duty for another coy. I'm off this morning so I have put the Rowledge address on this letter.

I have enclosed a photo which I had taken here, if you would care to accept it.

There are all sorts of exciting rumours lying about our battn & there is now definitely "something in the air"

Yours sincerely

B A Keen

18th January 1915

Letter from Russell to Dean Davenport

Dean E Davenport
University of Illinois
College of Agriculture
Urbana, Ill., U.S.A.

Dear Dean Davenport

This is to introduce to you Mr W. Buddin, one of our post-graduate workers who is now taking advanced studies in the United States, and would like to put in some time at the University of Illinois if that is possible. I would be grateful for any help you can give him, and I am sure you would find that he would appreciate your kind assistance.

Yours very truly

18th January 1915

Letter from Russell to W Buddin

W. Buddin Esq
Cornell Cosmopolitan Club
Ithaca, N.Y., U.S. America

My dear Buddin

I was very interested in getting your letter and shall be pleased to hear from you at any time you can write. If you can anyhow manage it you ought to put in some time in the Middle-west States seeing the conditions that obtain there, and I strongly recommend you go to the University of Illinois for the purpose. I enclose letters of introduction to Dean Davenport of that University, to Professor Cyril Hopkins in case he is back from the South, and to Prof. Mosier.

If by any fortunate chance you still have time & money to spare and can go out still further to the University of Nebraska you should do so, and I will send you the necessary letters.

In regard to seeing some actual farming both Prof Warren and Prof Livermore had farms of their own which greatly interested me when I saw them, and in any case could certainly put you in touch with a good farmer in New York State.

Yours very truly

I will keep an eye open for any likely post when your scholarship is up. Hope you are getting a good time.

19th January 1915

Letter from A.J. Daish's wife to Dunkley

St Michaels

Harpenden

Dear Mr Dunkley

Please accept the enclosed cheque towards Mr Keen's wedding present from my husband.

I want to ask your advice, some time ago I received the new Insurance card for this year & as my husband cannot put his stamps on it, in his present situation!!, I should very much like to know what you advise me to do. Do not trouble to write to me. If you will ring me up any morning I am sure to be at home

Yours sincerely

A. Cicily Daish

19th January 1915

Letter from Russell to Keen

Lieut B A Keen

Hermia Cottage

Rowhedge

Near Wivenhoe

My dear Keen

We have sent a copy to L J Briggs and also to Caseron, and we will look after any official copies that have to go out. Keep your own supply for your own private needs now and in the future.

Many thanks for sending the photograph which I am glad to have. I want to have a collection of all of our warriors.

I hope that you are continuing to have a good time, and that if you do go abroad you will get back safe and sound at least in time for your new laboratory which will soon begin to appear.

Yours very truly

20th January 1915

Letter from Keen to Russell

Dear Dr Russell

Many thanks for your letter.

I have just noticed a slight printer's error which it may be worthwhile rectifying.

[p. 466; 6 lines from bottom:- 5% should be 0.5%]

I must have missed it when I read the proofs.

We have had bitter experience of the effect of heavy rain, combined with the daily stamping of 3000 pairs of heavy boots, upon heavy clay soil.

Our orderlies long ago gave up trying to polish our boots & content themselves with washing the mess off every evening.

Our latest scare has fizzled out. Last Sunday in response to a War Office letter to Brigade H.Q.'s our battn was warned to be ready to move off. The order was cancelled last evening!

Another "raid" is coming, I expect, what a life!

Yours sincerely

B A Keen

23rd January 1915

Letter from Russell to Keen

Lieut B A Keen

5th Btn Suffolk Regiment

Mile End

Nr Colchester

Dear Keen

I have noted the misprint; it is too late to do anything now but the alteration can be made when we bind up for Vol. IX.

Lewin was here recently and gave quite a good account of himself. Kind regards and best wishes for a good time.

Yours very truly

26th January 1915

Letter from Clara Lawrence to Rothamsted

Codicote

Monday

Dear Sir

I am writing this short note to ask you if you would kindly send my money to Kimpton as I am returning home this week. Thanking Dr Russell for his kindness in allowing me it

Yours faithfully

C Lawrence

My address:-

Church Lane

Kimpton

Nr Welwyn

Herts

Letter from K. MacLennan to Dunkley

26th January 1915

O.C. no 13 Section

Attached 1st Division

B.E. Force

France

Dear Mr Dunkley

I have just had your letter as my mail for some reason is considerably delayed. I have very Great pleasure in contributing a share in Mr Keen's wedding present & enclose cheque on & Co for 10/- which carries with it my very best wishes for a long and happy married life. We are having a very lively time here now so please excuse shortness of this note. I hope to be able to write you a long letter one of these days. I had Grace's parcel by the same post as your letter. It had evidently followed me over a considerable part of France.

Best wishes to all & everyone at the Lab

Sincerely yours

K. MacLennan

27th January 1915

Letter from W Buddin to Dunkley

Cornell Cosmopolitan Club

Ithaca, N.Y., U.S.A.

Dear Mr Dunkley

Your letter has just reached me after its journey into Canada. I was in the Library last night & noticed that the Journal had been published and received here. I should be very glad if you would send a copy of each paper across to 5 Crabtree Lane where most of the writing was done, ½ dozen copies of each on to me and the

remaining 18 of each to 87 Reighton Road, Upper Clapton, NE. That should result in the desired saving of postage.

I am practising strict economy but even though they do charge 7½^d to wash an ordinary limp shirt it is impossible to shake it & turn it inside out more than once if you are to be allowed to live in the same house as others, and even Dr Miller could not make a 1/- hair cut last more than his record of 4 mths. Everything else is in the same proportion. It is possible to go to bed hungry nightly but it is not possible to do much good work on less than three meals a day.

I did not think you had quite so much as 8" in Dec – although I knew you were getting plenty of rain. We have had quite mild weather and it has not been below 10°F since the beginning of the month, although it was 40 below zero out west yesterday.

How is it Miss Bates is coming back? Isn't there any more for her to do at Cambridge.

I expect Hanley has managed to get a temporary post or is he still with you. I saw the advertisement of an £150 temporary job at Leeds which I should think he might have been able to get unless he was too good to apply.

I have not received my quarter's cheque yet & possibly when it arrives they will want to send it back to England in present circumstances, before they credit me with the cash, so I am appreciating the advantages of a Father.

Dr Lyons; Dept here is just moving into a new building so things are a bit upset here at present. I am getting used to removals. How is the Soil Lab?
Hall sends his kind regards
Best wishes to all.

Yours sincerely
Walter Buddin

Letter from Dr Russell to K R Lewin

27th January 1915

Lieut. K.R.Lewin
7th Btn D.C.L.I.
Pirbright Camp
Woking

Dear Lewin

Herewith I am sending proofs of Cunningham's paper as promised. When you have read through it you might return it. There is however no hurry as I have another set

With kind regards, I am yours truly

28th January 1915

Letter from Rothamsted to Clara Lawrence

Mrs G Lawrence
Church Lane
Kimpton

Dear Madam

I duly received your letter of 25th, and note you are returning to Kimpton this week. I will do what I can to have the £1 sent on so as to reach you at the end of the the end of the previous week.

Yours truly

28th January 1915

Letter from Rothamsted to Lady Hampden

To the Right Honourable , Lady Viscountess Hampden
The Hoo,
Welwyn, HERTS

Dear Lady Hampden

I understand that Mrs Clara Lawrence, of whom I wrote to you in September last respecting An allowance of 5/- per week we are making to her, is this week returning to Church Lane, Kimpton, and asks that her allowance should be sent to her there instead of Codicote as previously. I suppose she is now outside Mrs Martin Smith's district: may I send the cheque through you or will you kindly suggest some other name?

I have heard from Lord Hampden saying that he is writing to Lady Wernher: it is very kind of him to do so, and I am much obliged to you for sending on the message. I hope you continue to have good news of him.

Yours faithfully

Letter from Dr Russell to K R Lewin

29th January 1915

Lieut. K R Lewin
7th Btn. D.C.L.I.
Pirbright Camp
Woking

Dear Lewin

Herewith proofs of your plates. Will you please write descriptions if you can find time. Miss Brenchley will have told you that we have not yet succeeded in getting the sizes put into

However we may still manage it

Yours very truly

31st January 1915

Letter from Lady Hampden to Russell

The Hoo, Welwyn, Herts

Dear Dr Russell

I will certainly gladly receive the cheque for Mrs Lawrence & distribute the 5/- to her weekly if she has returned to live in Kimpton but I had not heard so but I expect this is the case

Yours faithfully

Katharine Hampden

Draft letter from Dunkley to J A Prescott

J.A.P.

Dear Mr Prescott

Please accept the enclose cheque as a wedding present from the Director and members of the Rothamsted laboratory Staff.

One & all wish you much happiness in the future.

Yours sincerely

G.T.D.

Draft Letter, Dunkley to A J Daish's wife, presumably January 1915

Dear Mrs Daish

Many thanks for yours with cheque as a donation to Mr Keen's Wedding Present Fund. I hope by the end of the week to have quite a respectable sum to send to him.

As to the Health Insurance. I have the old card with 9 stamps on covering the period up to the week ending Aug 6th when Mr Daish went on active service. When he came in some few weeks later I told him I had ceased to put any more stamps on & he agreed that it was quite the right thing under the circumstances to do I enclose the card herewith.

Sooner or later either Mr Daish or we will I expect receive a communication respecting this partly filled card from the Commissioners & then I think will be the time to tell them that Mr Daish is on active service.

Strictly speaking we have not paid him any salary for work done since the end of July last & during the whole of that time he has been an officer in H.M. Army

We are not stamping the cards of the two privates – Bowden and Lawrence – who are also on active service they were handed over to them as soon as they left us, & if it is not necessary to pay in their cases I should say it is not necessary in the case of an officer.

My advice is therefore expend no money on Insurance stamps & just wait until the commissioners move in the matter. Ring me up in the evening if you like today & let me know what you think

With kindest regards
I am yours faithfully
G J Dunkley

2nd February 1915

Letter from Russell to Lady Hampden

Rt Hon Lady Viscountess Hampden
The Hoo, Welwyn
HERTS

Dear Lady Hampden

Many thanks for your letter. It is very kind of you to pay out the 5/- per week to Mrs Lawrence, and I enclose cheque for £1 for the four weeks ended on Saturday last, and will send the same amount at the end of each four weeks

Yours faithfully

Letter from K R Lewin to Dunkley

3rd February 1915

Pirbright Camp
Woking

Dear Dunkley

Enclosed cheque for 10/- towards Keen's present. I should have sent it off on Sunday but had 'flu. If it comes too late let me know Keen's address.

Yours in haste

K R Lewin

P.S.

I am sorry I missed you both times

4th February 1915

Letter from Brenchley to Russell

“Grasmere”

Douglas Road

Dear Dr Russell

I am sorry to say I am down with Influenza and Dr Fraser says “bed” till further orders. I hope it won't be long before I get back, but in any case there are plenty of water culture calculations that may amuse me in a day or two.

Yours sincerely

W. E. Brenchley

4th February 1915

Letter from W Buddin to Dunkley

Cornell Cosmopolitan Club

Ithaca, NY., U.S.A.

Dear Dunkley

Thanks very much for the ½ doz copies of my papers which came to hand this week. I also received safely the letters of introduction to Illinois which Dr Russell kindly sent. Thanks very much. I will write to him later on.

I was rather surprised that Keen should get married just before he is going out to France. I should have thought the girl would probably be happier otherwise, but I am glad to see that he has given up the idea that it is necessary to have £3..... a year before marriage.

Has Miss Bates gone back to Cambridge?

I was glad to hear from Randall that Hanley got the post at Leeds. It should make a useful starting point.

I suppose Prescott is not married yet. Is Weir still with you? We are still having comparatively mild weather with some lovely bright days.

I had dinner on Tuesday at the University Club with Dr & Mrs Lyon & spent a very enjoyable & varied evening

Best wishes to all

Yours

Walter Buddin

I have just received my 1st quarter's cheque but shall not be credited with it till March. Fortunately they sent part of it as a Money order at my request & charged 2/9 poundage to me.

5th February 1915

Letter from Russell to Brenchley

Dear Miss Brenchley

I am sorry to hear that you are laid up and hope it won't be long before you are back again. Don't worry too much about the calculations, they can probably wait until you are all right again.

Yours truly

10th February 1915

Draft letter Dunkley to W Buddin

Sent 1 copy each of pamphlets to E Abbott

“ 6 copies “ to Mr Buddin

“ 13 copies “ J Buddin

20

6

26 Total

Miss Bates pd. us a visit abt 3 weeks ago, she had tea in the soil lab.

Probably that was what she meant by saying she wld soon come back here

Daish came agn from the front a fortnight today and retnd agn last wed (Feb 3rd). He is looking well

Keen is expected here on a visit next Monday. We have raised £6 – 11 – 0 as a wedding gift to him.

10th February 1915

Letter from Dunkley to Keen

Lieut B A Keen

5th Service Battalion

Suffolk regiment

Mile End

Nr Colchester

Dear Mr Keen

Herewith I have pleasure in enclosing cheque value £6 – 11 – 0 subscribed by the members of the Laboratory Staff as a present to you on the occasion of your wedding. A list of the donors is enclosed, and shows that several members, who like yourself are serving in His Majesty's Forces are represented in addition to those of us who are still here.

With all good wishes and trusting we shall at no very distant date have you again as a co-worker in the Laboratory.

I am yours sincerely

P.S. I hear you are likely to pay us a flying visit within the next fortnight is that so?
Daish was here last Sunday week, but has now returned again to the front.

10th February 1915

Letter from Keen to Dunkley

1/5th Suffolk Regt
Mile End
Colchester

Dear Dunkley

Many thanks indeed for the cheque you sent on behalf of the laboratory staff. Would you be good enough to convey to those accessible the best thanks of Mrs Keen & myself. It is, as the Americans say, 'some' present & I – or rather we, hardly know what to do with it yet.

When I have time I intend writing to those of us who are away from Harpenden. I'm afraid time will not allow me to do more, but I hope to see all of you personally next Monday. I have put down for leave for Sunday & Monday next & expect it will be signed in a day or so.

Till then cheerho!

Yours sincerely

B A Keen

11th February 1915

Letter from Brenchley to Russell

"Grasmere"
Douglas Road
Harpenden

Dear Dr Russell

I am very sorry to be still away, but needs must. The fever has left me, but I have a bad cough, and Dr Fraser will not let me get out of bed till that has yielded to treatment.

However. I have my hand on the work of the Department. I am in touch with Grace, and she knows exactly what to do in preparation for the water cultures, so that there will be no delay when once I do return. It is a great nuisance – it is my first experience of influenza.

Yours truly

Winifred E. Brenchley

Letter from Dr Russell to K. R. Lewin

11th February 1915

Lieut. K R Lewin
7th Btn. D.C.L.I.
Pirbright Camp
Woking

Dear Lewin

Herewith your proofs. Would you please read them and let me have them back as early as possible. You might also return Cunningham's at the same time. Hoping everything is going on well with you

Yours very truly

12th February 1915

Letter from A Bowden to Dunkley

Pte. A H Bowden
c/o Mrs Easton
18D Port Vale
Hertford

Dear Mr Dunkley

Just a few lines to let you know how things are progressing here. You will see by the above address that I have changed my billet. We had to return to our billets last Monday afternoon & pack everything up. My word! I've got into a lovely show now, it's just like those houses beside Skew Bridge, 1 room downstairs etc. It does seem a shame because I came out of a very clean comfortable place. It was indeed a home from home; but we've just got room to turn around in the bedroom here. Plenty of squealing hide. It's up a sort of alley. I think that will be enough re billet, so I will change the subject now. I came home on a weekend pass last week, & I planned to come over to the Lab on Monday morning but they altered my pass to 9 am on account of some of them shifting to Bury St Edmunds. When I returned we didn't have to go on Parade until 2 pm, so I felt rather annoyed. I've had a jolly rotten cold, but I'm pleased to say its much better now. We commence at 7 am every day. It was very foggy here yesterday & we went for a night march at 6 pm. We had to send out some scouts in advance to warn motorists etc of moving troops. It's very dangerous for the rear guard on night marches, of course anything might run into them. Night operations are very interesting. I wouldn't have believed it but you can send out a party & they can return within a few yards of your sentry without you noticing them, although you are on the alert. Gives you some idea of actual warfare re the sentry's job. We went trenching this morning. Had to work by plan sent from France of the actual trenches now in use. That also is very interesting. I don't know

whether you happen to have seen any of the plans. Thro. trenches & communication trenches etc. Got a good chance for soil-sampling here if Mr Grey want's a few more to his valuable collection. The dug-outs, where the men are under cover when resting puts one in mind of the cave-dwellers? I have my cycle here, so I shall risk anything to get home on Sunday's after Church Parade, if only to have a decent meal in quietness, providing of course, I don't get 'copped' by the Regimental Police. Please excuse this scrawl, but I'm in rather a hurry. Kindly remember me to them at Lab. Oh! I went to a C.E.M.S. social last night & saw some rather grim relics. A chap had a German helmet bayonet & bullets taken from a dead German. The helmet has a spike & seems to be made of leather having no peaks (back & front) with a chin-strap. There was a cover for it, & the man's name & number was inserted inside. It was Krokle(?) 1120. The bayonet was slightly larger than ours. They are very strict here & mean to have discipline. You will be pleased to hear that I have a clean sheet so far & hope to keep it so but there are some rough chaps here. The defaulters have to parade with a 52lb pack. Major Scott- Gatty has taken over command of this battalion now. I heard from Ma that Lieut A J Daish was home recently. Of course it's an understood thing for the N.C.O. to swear well. I happen to be squad- leader & I made one mistake out of say a dozen. The Sergt.-Major called me a b..... fool & everything else he could think of. The Major after inspecting one day addressed us similar to this. "If you won't learn discipline by God we'll shove it into you". We spend most of our time in drilling exercises, route marches trenching.

I think I will conclude now, I shall be pleased to hear from you anytime. May shift at very short notice now.

I remain

Yours sincerely

Athel H Bowden

I had a chance to go in for promotion class – but I had too much responsibility

(When I return I may forget & salute you for wages)

12th February 1915

Letter from Helen Adam to Dr Russell

Grasmere
Douglas Road
Harpenden

Dear Dr Russell

I should like to suggest that for the next month or two I should stay at the laboratory again as an entirely voluntary worker. Owing to the fact that I knocked myself up in London I have been told either to drop the work altogether or to do rather a limited amount.

I find on reckoning up the time I have been working that it amounts to barely half the usual time.

As the money I believe is for a special piece of work, I should prefer to forego it unless I am putting in a reasonable amount of time at the work.

I expect I shall be allowed to go back to full work in a few weeks

Yours sincerely

Helen Adam

12th February 1915

Letter from J Buddin to Dunkley

87 Reighton Road

Up Clapton, NE.

Dear Sir.

Thanks for parcel safely to hand this morning

Yours truly

J Buddin

13th February 1915. Draft in pencil of reply to Bowden's letter by Dunkley

Comments on change of billets, activities, shaking off cold, not seen trench plans. N & S Staffs in Harpenden. Officers billeted on Russell. Daish here last week, back to France. Lewin staying with Dr R. Comments on crudity of NCO's language. Encourages men to do so and is "silly & worse than useless". Encourages him to go for promotion

15th February 1915

Postcard from Bowden to Dunkley

Dear Mr Dunkley

Many thanks for letter recd this morning. Excuse awful scrawl, blame the pen. Re G Lawrence he was only acting Sergt. Yes! Pte Greenham turned up today. He is a bugler, but he has been absent for some time. Went trenching this afternoon & had a narrow escape, the 2nd chap behind me was buried up to his armpits by a fall of loose earth. We were down 6ft in the trenches. It took about 20 minutes to dig him out. He seemed to be unconscious. They took him to the hospital * I don't know what injuries he recd. I cycled home after Church Parade yesterday. I believe? I saw Arthur (*Ogglesby*) had to start at 5.30am to be on 7 am Parade, but it was worth it. Home! Sweet Home!

I remain

Yours sincerely

AHB

Letter from G Lawrence 15th February 1915

Dear Mr Dunkley

I was glad to receive your letter on the 6th inst. It was a pleasure to have a line from dear old Blighty. As you say about standing this amount of frost I think I never was so cold in my Life. But you must stand it but your poor feet are like broom sticks. You cannot walk when you try to. I am sure you will be left quite alone soon, if this ghastly game keeps on. The thing is I put on two pairs of Socks at a time but I don't know where to get any more that's for buying any there is nothing for that only 5 francs in 9 weeks an you must get a few cakes to keep yourself together or a piece of chocolate. I have written Mr Grey again I am so glad he is better. Tell him to drop me a line. I was sorry to hear about Dr Miller I trust I may get back again very soon but I can assure you there is something to be done. I am glad the children off Dr Russells are going strong I guess the garden misses them very much. I am also glad both your boys are doing well I trust they may both be returned in safety to you again in a Very short time as we all have had a good feeding off this game. You will note I am attached to a Rifle Regt. So don't forget the address. I trust you will drop a line when you have time. My best regards to all the Labb staff. I am Believe me to remain your Obedient and sincere Friend

G Lawrence

18th February 1915

Letter from Dr Russell to Helen Adam

Miss H Adam
Grasmere
Douglas Road
Harpenden

Dear Miss Adam

Just as you like about the arrangement of the pay, so long as the work gets done I really don't mind whether you put in full time or not: there is no point in trying to hurry matters, and you certainly must not work full time until you feel fit. For the present I am afraid the grant is limited to the £50 and it is for you to decide whether you shall consume it in a year or take a little longer over it. On the whole I think you may as well take a little longer. Perhaps when you are back again we could over things

Yours very truly

18th February 1915

Letter from Dunkley to Brenchley

Dear Miss Brenchley

Have you a few reprints to spare of your paper on "The development of the Grain of Barley (Annals of Botany, Vol 26, pp 903 – 938). We are wanting to bind another batch of copies of Vol VIII of the Rothamsted Memoirs and we have only 34 copies of your paper. If you have even 10 copies to spare we should be glad of them, as we have only 44 copies of two of Mr Hall's papers which limit us again at that point.

I hope you are recovering from the "flu". Grey has also been down with it for the last 10 days and the doctor won't allow him to return to work yet. He says it has left his heart weak, and he must not starting work again until he has seen him again on Monday next.

Yours sincerely

Letter from Dunkley to K R Lewin

18th February 1915

Lieut. K.R. Lewin
7th Btn. D.C.L.I.
Pirbright Camp
Woking

Dear Mr Lewin

Your goods and chattels have arrived at the Laboratory from "Inez" Cowper Road, this afternoon and have been stored in the Sample House. I understand there is a possibility of Mr Keen coming to pay a visit at the Lab. On Monday next. The wedding we raised for him reached £6 – 11 – 0

Yours faithfully

19th February 1915

Letter from Keen to Dunkley

Mile End

Dear Dunkley

Sad are the ways of the wicked & the military. I have just received the pleasing intelligence that my leave has been stopped because I am to proceed to Walton on Sunday afternoon for a fortnight, to look after the safety of England there. Beastly nuisance & all that, but there it is.

I hope to see you in a fortnight or three weeks unless I get leave stopped again!

What a life!

Yours ever

B A Keen

25th February 1915

Letter from W Buddin to Dunkley

Cornell Cosmopolitan Club

Ithaca, NY., U.S.A.

Dear Dunkley

Thanks very much for the second half doz copies of my paper. At the time I wrote I had not received the first half doz and you had written saying you were not sending any till you heard from me.

I am sorry you are having bladder trouble and hope you will soon be free from it. The specialist would be an expense but I expect you are quite wealthy now George & Harry are both settled.

I expect that Percy (*Wilson?*) would be leaving as soon as he thought he had a good opportunity with a photographer. Possibly he may repent when the war is over & photography goes back to its normal condition. I hope Fred (*Seabrook?*) will be given an opportunity to show his abilities other than at the sink. I do not think Percy will be great loss when a new boy is trained as he tended to be a source of discontent & laziness. It is rather bad luck for H.B. Glad that Daish is keeping well. The young Maths Don at Sidney in the OTC was invalided home with severe ear trouble & has just had an operation. One of the Tutor's brothers is ...? To Jellicoe.

Du Buisson arrived here Tuesday evening so we meet here instead of Göttingen. I am doubtful whether I shall be able to get anyone to allow me to live on a farm as even here unless one has a certain amount of skill as a labourer they seem to prefer the room to the company – especially at this end of the season. I have been attempting via several people but the usual answer is the “Will let you know later” Which means “No”. I expect the village is quite alive again now with the Terriers. We have been having some very warm weather with rain and the winter has been

quite mild even for the Eastern States. The roads are now ankle deep in mud so it is not possible to get much exercise walking yet.

Best wishes

Yours sincerely

Walter Buddin

27th February 1915

Letter from Dunkley to Gertrude Bates

Miss G Bates
Addenbrooke's Hospital
Cambridge

Dear Miss Bates

Herewith the usual monthly. I suppose by this time you have got settled again at your work in the hospital, and I daresay there are as many poor fellows to attend to as ever, and I expect as soon as the weather improves the number of our son(s) put into the firing line will be enormously increased and the wounded will also be much larger.

Harold Macdonald is home just now from the front and Mr Appleyard has had a talk with him. He is looking wonderfully fit, but has some gruesome stories to relate. He starts back to France tomorrow I believe. He says he met Mr MacLennan over there.

Percy Wilson has left us, but not to enlist. He asked for an increase of wages a short time ago, but as he had not been doing quite satisfactorily recently Dr Russell deferred the consideration of his salary for a month. In the meantime he obtained a situation as assistant to a photographer at Luton and only gave us 10 minutes notice.

I nearly had a breakdown about a month ago and have been under Dr Blake, but I am now much better. About three weeks ago he talked of sending me up to London to consult a specialist, I however called on him as I came up to the Laboratory this evening and he says as the symptoms have greatly improved by the treatment he prescribed I may defer my visit to the specialist for the present at all events. I am to break off his treatment gradually and see what happens.

The walls of the new Laboratory are now nearing full height, but the weather is hindering the work very much just now.

We have nearly completed the new edition of the Annual Report and I hope we shall have the copies within the next fortnight.

Our treasurer (Dr Hugo Muller) has resigned and Dr Horace Brown has succeeded him

Miss Brenchley and Grey have been away for more than a fortnight lately with influenza, but both are now back again, Miss Adam is away on sick leave. I think she knocked herself up in the autumn preparing for her examination.

We have recently heard from Serg Major Cobban who is now on sick leave in England, particulars of the death and burial of Serg Major Miller. He was shot in the head during a charge and apparently died instantly. He was buried in a farm orchard and a wooden cross bearing his name marks the spot. We are of course glad that all anxiety as to his fate is now over, but his parents feel his loss very keenly, as you may be sure being the only son.

With all good wishes, I am

Yours sincerely

No date but probably February 1915

Pencil notes by Dunkley

Harpenden now again full of soldiers. This time N & S Stafford Reserves. We have 6 billeted on us at Jenn(?) Road. I Sgt Major; 3 Sgts; 1 orderly & 1 boy.

Grey and Miss B ill with Influenza

I have been under the Dr for the past fortnight for bladder trouble & may have to go to see a specialist

1 each to C Abbott Esq.
5 Crabtree Lane
Harpenden

Dear Sir

At the request of Mr Buddin in a letter I received from him a few days ago, I enclose herewith a copy of two pamphlets which have just been published on some of the work he did in the Laboratory here.

Yours faithfully

G.T.D.

7th March 1915

Letter from Daish to Dunkley

1st Herts Regiment
British Expeditionary Force
France

Dear Dunkley

Just a few lines to let you know that I am still getting along well and still enjoying life over here. I am sorry it is such a long time since I wrote to you last

please don't think that I have forgotten you all at the lab, because I haven't. At the present moment we are enjoying a bit of a rest, & I can tell you it is pretty welcome too, as we have been at it steadily since just before Xmas. I'm afraid I can't tell you much about our, but must leave that for a future date when I get home again on leave. I have seen quite a bit of Clayton during the last week as he is only about 1 ½ miles away from me here. We have been out riding together some afternoons, we have also had one or two "cheery does" just to help things along a bit! He is very fit & I don't think I have ever seen him look quite as well as he does at present. I hear that mac has got measles & is in hospital. I think he ought to be ashamed of himself at his age! I'm glad to say I am very fit now. I had a touch of flue about three weeks ago which laid me up for a couple of days, but I've quite got over that now.

..... all round seems to be awfully good now & it really looks as if we are beginning to make some headway. The blockade business doesn't appear to have had much success, & the only sufferers at present are apparently the Germans. The Russians are doing great things now & surely we must be getting on towards the end.

Please excuse such a hurried note but it suddenly occurred to me that I must write you a few lines. I should very much like to hear from you one day as to the lab doings.

Please remember me to all at the lab.

Yours sincerely

A J Daish

Letter from Dr Russell to K R Lewin

13th March 1915

Lieut. K R Lewin
7th Btn. D.C.L.I.
Pirbright camp
Woking

Dear Lewin

In reading through the final page proofs of the Journal I find that the introduction of the new reference to Cunningham is immediately in front of the criticism of the dilution method, and the wording seems to imply that you consider Cunningham's paper has "a specious appearance of accuracy etc ...". I have therefore inserted a footnote saying that this does not apply to Cunningham's paper where it is recognised that precise figures cannot be given

Yours very truly

16th March 1915

Post card from Bowden to Dunkley

c/o Mrs Roberts
92 Harris Street
Millfield
Peterborough

Dear Mr Dunkley

Just a PC to let you know we have arrived here safely. Its very flat country you can see around for miles no hills in sight. A fine city

.....

Many regards.....

From Athel

The reverse of the Post card was a picture of Peterborough Cathedral

18th March 1915

Harpenden Urban District Council

Public Hall
Harpenden

Dear Sir or Madam

HARPENDEN SEWERAGE

I am directed to inform you that the Council have resolved not to again grant the loan of the Cesspool Apparatus at *The Laboratory Cottages In the Garden Fields* except to empty the Cesspool (if required) at the time the drains are being connected to the Public Sewer.

I am,

Yours faithfully

John H Leverton

To Dr E J Russell
Lawes Agricultural Trust
Harpenden

P.O.Telegram from K R Lewin to Dr Russell

19th March 1915

“Can get leave for weekend is coming convenient”

Answer

“Come with pleasure”

Letter from Dr Russell to (Charles Lewin) K.R.Lewin's Father 24th March 1915

C Lewin Esq.
Church School
Radstock
Somerset

Dear Sir

In the "Times" of Monday I notice 2nd Lieut. B.A.S. Lewin of the D.C.L.I. is reported to be wounded, and I am writing to ask if by any chance this is 2nd Lieut. K.R. Lewin of these laboratories, and if so whether you can give me any information I trust this is neither him nor any of his brothers

Yours very truly

Letter from C Lewin (K R Lewin's Father)

26th March 1915

Radstock
Somerset

Dear Sir

I thank you for your enquiry, and I am glad to say neither of my soldier sons has been wounded but all three are present in England. The eldest C.H.Lewin is in Liverpool, the second Lieut. K R Lewin whom you know is at Witley Camp, Godalming, and the third, Lieut. Rex Lewin has rejoined his regiment – Royal Sussex - at Dover, after having seen service in the trenches and been invalided home. I have just given consent for my fourth son to enlist as soon as he has got through certain examinations due in June. You will, I am sure, understand how glad my wife & I will be when Peace is declared.

I am, dear Sir,

Yours sincerely

Charles Lewin

27th March 1915

**Letter from The Institute of Chemistry of
Great Britain and Ireland to Russell**

The Institute of Chemistry of Great Britain and Ireland
30, Russell Square, London, W.C.

Dr E J Russell
Lawes Agricultural Trust
Rothamsted Experimental Station
Harpenden

Dear Sir

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 28th inst., and in reply I would inform you that I shall be very pleased to obtain from our Contractors full information as to where they have obtained taps and other fittings for our new laboratories here. In the meantime, I would mention that gas taps are being obtained from John Russell & Co. Ltd., 43-49, Newington Butts, London, S.E.; water taps from John Bolding & Co., Ltd., Grosvenor Works, Davies Street, London, W. and Brown & Son, 25, Charlotte Street, London, N.; tiles from Messrs. Doulton of Lambeth, and Messrs Brown & Son of Paisley; metallurgical apparatus from the Morgan Crucible Co., and locks and door fittings from James Gibbons, St John's Works, Wolverhampton.

Should you be coming to London and could spare the time to call, I shall be glad to show you our laboratories

Yours faithfully
Richard Adam
Registrar & Secretary

3rd April 1915

Letter from A J Daish to Dunkley

1st Herts Regiment
British Expeditionary Force
France

My Dear Dunkley

Very many thanks for your letter which reached me about a fortnight ago *rest of letter is very difficult to read. He met Clayton again and had a "ripping ride" with him*

7th April 1915

Letter from Bowden to Dunkley

Pte. A H Bowden (4107)
3rd Batt., Herts Regt. B. Coy
Peterborough

Dear Mr Dunkley

Many thanks for letter received last Saturday, also your kindness in sending Annual Report. Kindly convey to your son, George, my best wishes and good-luck. I spent a very happy Easter under the circumstances. I was on duty until 1 pm on Good Friday but I managed to get to the remaining 2 hours of the Three Hours' Service. Easter Sunday evening I went into St Paul's Church Choir. We had a splendid service including an anthem taken from Mozart's Twelfth Mass – Glorious is thy name O Lord! I don't know whether you happen to know it. It's a splendid composition. We also had J H Maunder's Mag: & Nunc Dimittis. Of the music was all new to me, but I managed fairly well considering I had no time for a practice. It's very nice to be able to take your thoughts right away from the surroundings for a while if you can understand me.

I must ask you to please excuse this awful writing. I was inoculated yesterday afternoon. Oh dear, my poor arm. It does make you feel queer. Its such a rotten sensation. We had one chap faint. The second dose has got to come in about 10 day's time. I've got two day's holiday. A military doctor from the RAMC done it. They painted it with iodine first & then shove the injector in & then dry it with ether. So you can imagine I don't feel up to much. I can hardly lift my arm up to take my coat off.

Many thanks for your kindness re the allowance. The number of my bank book is 3886. If of course you should require it, it is in my room at home. Mother would forward it.

Hoping you are quite well

I remain

Yours sincerely

Athel H Bowden

9th April 1915 Scrap of paper with letter from Gertrude Bates

With apologies for not having sent this before. How is everyone & what are they all doing? I hope you are all right again, & that you had a happy Easter. I saw Mr Clayton the other day. Wasn't he looking well?

Please excuse this scrap of paper. In haste

Yrs sincerely

Gertrude Bates

On the reverse is a draft reply in pencil by Dunkley dated 10th April 1915

Mr Keen }
Mr Lewin } All here recently and look well
Mr Clayton }

Letter last Tuesday from A J D (Daish)

Ditto from Bowden

G W D (Dunkleys son?) Commission in Roy Artillery

I have joined volunteers (Home Guard?)

Cyril is now using Miss B's typewriter

19th April 1915

Letter from Dunkley to Russell

Hotel Metropole
Leeds

Dear Dr R

I enclose letter from Sir John Thorold approving the balustrades. I have not acknowledged it. He returned the sketch plan at the same time. I suppose the latter with a covering letter shd be sent to Freeman & Hodgson pretty soon now.

Yrs etc

G T D

20th April 1915

Draft letter from Dunkley to Russell

Mr Geoghegan here today

Book from Lowdermilk & Dr M is preparing the books these complete for sending to be bound

Dear Dr R

I enclose herewith the typed copy of the paper in "Soil Protozoa & Soil Bacteria". We have a carbon copy of it.

Mr J C Geoghegan of Belcamp Raheny, Co. Dublin visited the Lbty this morning he said he attended your lecture in Dublin last year. He wd. Like to have seen you here. Some months ago he sent £1 towards the L & G Cent Fund and he laughingly said he had come to see what use was being made of it. Mr Weir showed him over the lab and fields. [The Washington bulletins arrived from Lowdermilk & This morning & Dr Miller is busy preparing the volumes these were to complete for the binder. Mr R Lydekker was buried today

21st April 1915

Draft card from Dunkley to Russell

Dear Dr Russell

Herewith a letter from Dr H Brown received by 1st post, which I thought you might wish to reply to direct. There are no other letters to send on. I am taking the Hammond Typewriter to London this afternoon. Prof Bottomley has promised to send a bag of bacterized peat this week

Yours faithfully

G T D

22nd April 1915

Postcard from Gertrude Bates to Dunkley

Thank you so much for your letter. Will send you one back when I have anything to say. Would you mind sending me Mr Clayton's address, if possible by return. Should be so grateful

Yrs G. Bates

23rd April 1915

Draft letter from Dunkley to Mrs Bowden

Dear Mrs Bowden

I yesterday handed over to the Harpenden Postmaster the sum of £5 being the allowance of 5/- per week made to Athelstan for the 20 weeks ended last Saturday while he has been on military service. Athelstan in a recent letter told me you had his bank book. Mr Reeve (the Postmaster) will be glad if you will take it up to him tomorrow morning (Saturday) about 11 o'clock so that he can enter the £5 and I trust this arrangement will be convenient to you. I am glad to say Athelstan's letter are quite cheerful ones. I understand he is likely to shift again soon & shall write to his new address.

Yours faithfully

G.J.D.

23rd April 1915

Letter from Bowden to Dunkley

Stamford Military Club

3rd Batt. B. Coy
Herts Regt
Bedford Cottages
2 Doughty Street
Stamford
Lincolnshire

Dear Mr Dunkley

Just a few lines to let you know that we arrived here to-day. We marched from Peterboro' at 9. am. arriving here just after dinner. I don't think we are staying here for long. Our 1st Reserve battalion from Norwich was due to arrive at Peterboro' to-day so I suppose Serg^t G Lawrence will be there. Any rate Capt E C Bates was on the Parade ground when we marched off this morning. It was roughly a 14 mile march. Of course I haven't had time to explore Stamford yet, but it is rather an old place, containing many old churches. Please excuse this awful scrawl because I have several other letters to write but I thought I would write & let you know of my move.

You might let Mr B Weston read this also, it will save me writing the same thing twice, because I promised to write him a few lines & of course I'm rather busy for a time.

I've got a nice billet I'm pleased to say with 2 Harpenden fellows.

Kind regards to all

I remain

Yours sincerely

Athel H Bowden

P.S. Shall always be pleased to have a line or two from you any time. Oh! One of our chaps died from 'spotted fever' (*Typhoid/Meningitis?*) at Peterboro'. Pleased to say my arm is better but probably have got to be re-vaccinated (any rate if not done within the last 2 years)

Letter from Kenneth MacLennan to Dunkley

26th April 1915

Rootfield
Muir of Ord, N.B.

Dear Dunkley

I will be returning from leave D.V. sometime towards the end of the week and may have an hour or two to run down to Harpenden perhaps on Friday to see you all again

Yours sincerely
Kenneth MacLennan

28th April 1915

Post Card to Dunkley from W Wilson (Clerk)

Dear George

Would you be good enough to let Cyril take this note to the Doctors as I have been very queer & have sent for him

Yours sincerely
W Wilson

5th letter to Russell in Ireland May/June 1915

Dear Dr Russell

The George Hotel Proprietor will do nothing for us. He says he is too busy with soldiers etc to undertake any outside catering.

I have therefore this morning been in to Mavor & he will provide sandwiches etc tomorrow for the Reading Students at 1/- per head (drinks extra).

He is also willing to provide a plain dinner of hot and cold joints etc etc for the Lea Valley people on the 10th – at 3/1 per head in the large room at the Hotel. This of course is 6^d more per head than we have been used to but he says he cannot do it for less owing to the increased cost of foodstuffs.

For the Biochemical on Saturday 12th he is willing to provide sandwiches etc at the farm at 1/- per head (drinks extra), tea at the Laboratory for 1/- per head, & dinner at the Rly Hotel as for the Lea Valley people at 3/- per head.

I have written to Dr Plimmer & Mr Lister in the matter & asked them to reply by Monday next whether they accept the terms offered.

I enclose herewith a letter from Mr Lewin saying he may turn up here on Saturday next. Mr Horton also had a letter from him by the same post & he is

replying today. He will mention that you are away & are not expected back till Saturday afternoon or evening. He apparently had not heard of Mr Martin's death.

Wishing you a safe voyage across the channel

I am, yours faithfully

G T D

6th May 1915

Letter from Gertrude Bates to Dr Russell

Addenbrooke's Hospital

Cambridge

Dear Dr Russell

I will certainly come back. I showed your letter to Matron as soon as I got it yesterday & she & I both think it is the only right thing for me to do. I think it has been most awfully good of you to have let me stay so long & both Matron & I have appreciated it. Now I know you would like me to come as soon as possible & we decided yesterday that I ought to leave here on Saturday ready for work on Monday, but last night there came some telegrams in from War Office which will mean rather a rush of work for the next few days & Matron wondered if you could possibly spare me another week which would then help her over this bit & also give her time to look round for someone else? I would then come home on the 15th ready for work in the 17th. I am awfully sorry you have been so rushed with work but I will try & make amends when I come back & shall be ready for any amount.

With kind regards & with(?) so many thanks for your kindness in letting me stay here so long

Yrs very truly

Gertrude Bates

7th May 1915

Letter from A Freeman to Dr Russell

4 West Common
Harpenden

Dear Dr Russell

I am sorry to write you under the conditions I am now found in having been ill 12 weeks and am now only able to get up for a little while each day ---- I need hardly say Sir that our expenses during the illness have been very heavy and as my only source of income is from my Clubs which is 2/- per week but will soon be reduced to half pay we find it very difficult to get along and pay our way

I beg to ask you Sir if you could kindly allow me some financial aid to help me through this very trying time. House rent 4/- per week and is soon to be 5/-

Sir having worked on the Exp. Station a large number of years I make this plea trusting you will give it your kindest consideration

I remain

Your humble servant

Alfred Freeman

7th May 1915

Letter from Dr Russell to Gertrude Bates

Miss G Bates
Addenbrooke's Hospital
CAMBRIDGE

Dear Miss Bates

It will be a great relief all round to have you back. Monday week will do quite well, do not trouble to come earlier

Yours very truly

16th May 1915

Letter from W Buddin to Dunkley

c/o H Whitney-Smith
St. Williams
Norfolk, Ont.,
Canada

My Dear Dunkley

I have not had much time for writing lately and should be glad if you would apologise to Mr Prescott for me & tell him any news. After considerable waste of time I managed to get in touch with a who would let me live on a farm and get some practical experience but it was impossible in New York State & I had to come to Canada. The States will benefit to the extent of 16/- border(?) Tax when I

recross the border. On my way here I saw the Falls for the third time & am getting a bit tired of that part of the journey. At the first farm I I discovered that the man was a bachelor & looked after himself until the very busy season when he has a woman in for a couple of hours a day. He almost starves himself & I had difficulty in my “little money” & moved on here after 3 weeks. In addition to the lack of grub he has developed other little qualities after his solitary life in comparative poverty which make it impossible for anybody else to live with him. Several have tried and failed. His reputation is spreading & within ½ hour after introduction most people would tell me I was a d----- fool to stay with him. I have just heard that I have been elected a member of the Canada Chapter of the Society of Sigma Xi. It is a mild form of Fraternity & its object is the encouragement of Research. The American students count it rather an honour to be elected a member of this honorary scientific society & I suppose I ought to be pleased with myself. I was very much surprised as I did very little while I was at Cornell & I had been away over a month. They must be rather hard up for members. You might let Dr Russell know of my election. He will probably know more about it than I do. I find that I am required to pay 10/- when I accept membership but I expect it is worth it & a necessary waste of money.

I discovered another Board’s scholar the day before I left Ithaca. He was Murphy of my year & in the Plant Pathology Dept. He has also been elected to Sigma Xi but he is still at Cornell & has put in two full semesters.

Am still hard up but hope to get out to W An Englishman who has been keeping his brother and sister-in-law company on a farm out here for their first summer & winter in Canada went back home by the Lusitania & is lost. I met him several times. Hall tells me that a South African girl I met at Ithaca, who graduated in February, was also on her way home & was drowned.

How is your bladder trouble? I hope you are much better by now. Congratulate H.B. for me. The news has reached here. We have had some very hot days – the hottest weather in April for 75 years – somewhere in the 80’s F, but it has been mixed up with some very cold wet days such as today.

Love to all.

Yours
Walter Buddin

17th May 1915

Letter from Bowden to Dunkley
Stamford Military Club

3rd Batt. A. Coy Herts Regt
Stamford
Lincs

Dear Mr Dunkley

Just a few lines to let you know how things are progressing here. I must first of all ask you to please excuse this awful scrawl & also the rather dirty piece of paper but its only piece I could obtain.

I received a very nice letter from the Rev W M Colley a few days ago. They are sending some of the 1st Battalion chaps back to the front again, who has recovered from their wounds & they wont even let them have a pass to go home with I think it is brutal treatment for those who have already fought for your country don't you? It seems a long time since I was at home it's nearly 10 weeks. I think the chap who leases the 'Leathen Bottle' an Harpenden is a Colour-Serg^t in this battalion. I hear we are shifting from here on Friday next, if of course it doesn't get postponed which seems to be quite a usual thing. We had 2 Inspections a short time ago. One by Gen. Sir Reginald Pole-Carew (who a few days ago fell off his horse & received concussion of the brain) & the 2nd one by Col. Longmore, Commanding the 2nd Battalion at Peterboro'. We had a lot of wet weather last week. I've had to change my billet on account of the landlady joining her husband who works in Sheerness Dockyard. I'm very comfortable in new billet. We have the electric light filled up. Simply lay in bed with the switch overhead. I received permission last week to visit Blackstone's Engineering works here. It was a very interesting visit. They are makers of agricultural implements gas engines etc I believe some of their machines are on the farm at Rothamsted. Once more, please excuse awful scrawl, blame the cheap paper. Went for a march to Thornhaugh last week & passed by some experimental plots, seemed to be similar to our wheat & fallow plots.

I remain

Yours sincerely

A H Bowden

17th May 1915

Letter from Tom Goodey to Dunkley

The University
Edmund Street
Birmingham

Dear Dunkley

Could you let me have MacLennan's address at the front. I want to write to him. Hope you & yours are well. Was very sorry to see C.H.Martin's death announced in the "Times"

Kind regards

Yours

T. Goodey

18th May 1915

Letter from Lawrence to Dunkley

2243 1st Herts Res
Melton Constable
Norfolk

Dear Mr Dunkley

Just a line in answer to your welcome letter I am glad to say I am keeping well and also pleased to hear you have joined the army a little drill will be good for you. I am sorry to hear about Mr Wilson again being ill I hope he is better now and I am very pleased to hear about your eldest son I am sure I congratulate him on it and wish him the best off luck. Well I have got Mrs Lawrence down here she as been here a fortnight and she says it is very cold here which it is the breeze from the sea off Sheringham. Well sir she told me to ask you if you would be kind enough to send her pay Codicote way next time as she is returning home to her mothers place next Thursday so she would be much obliged if you would do that favour for her. Well sir I think things look a little brighter now and we have got Capt Bates down here and he told me his sister was returning back and that Mr Daish was analysing gas fumes in France so I suppose he does not find that quite so bad as the trench I suppose they will move quickly now there has been 8 troop trains through here today so that looks like business. Well sir my kindest regards to all my mates and tell them I am well. I must close with my kindest regards to you and family and believe me to remain your Obedient Servant

Sergt G. Lawrence

21st May 1915

James MacDonald
Nurseryman

Receipt for Floral wreath £1

(Presumably for T Wilson)

22nd May 1915

Letter from Rothamsted to Mrs Martin Smith

Mrs E martin Smith
Codicote Lodge
Welwyn
Herts

Dear Madam

I understand that Mrs Clara Lawrence, the wife of George Lawrence, has now returned to her mother's address at Codicote. I should be much obliged therefore if you would hand her the value of the cheque herewith (£1) to cover the allowance at the rate of 5/- per week for the four weeks ending today. A receipt form is enclosed which I shall be glad if Mrs Lawrence will sign and return to me in the addressed envelope herewith.

Yours faithfully

25th May 1915

YMCA postcard from Bowden to Dunkley

Dear Mr Dunkley

Just a Post Card to let you know that we returned to Hertford last Friday from Stamford for firing. I have 3 day's leave to come so I hope to pay you a visit shortly. Kind regards hoping you are quite well

I remain

Yours sincerely

A H Bowden

26th May 1915

Postcard from Bowden to Dunkley

3rd Batt Herts Regt A. Coy
c/o Mrs Lee

77 Wellington Street
Hertford

28th May 1915

Draft of letter from Dunkley to Russell

Post Office
Leenane
Co. Galway
Ireland

Dear Dr R

I enclose herewith 2 printed letters from the Ry Soc re your paper on Soil Protozoa which is to be read on Thursday next June 3rd. My note to Mr Harrison is also attached

Dr H E Durham who last year sent a donation of £2 – 2 – 0 to the Society has sent one of £2 this morning. I have acknowledged it.

Mr Conrad H Thies called to see you today. I enclose his card.

Flatters & Garnett have today sent eight more slides as under

- 1) Beneficial effect of Histione(?) in culture solution of different compositions (Schiener & Skinner)
- 2) Cucumbers grown in water culture (O.F.S. & U)
- 3) Decomposition of Residues quicker & slower than accumulation
- 4) Productiveness of Soils stored dry (Oats: Gedrone 1908)
- 5) Decomposition of Protein
- 6) Growth of Maize in Water Culture
- 7) Constituents of Plant Residues
- 8) Plant Residues

These I expect are all for the Master's lecture, but if you wish any on them sent on to Dublin I could forward them in time to reach you before Friday next week.

A Freeman I am sorry to say died between 6 & 7 am today. I don't know yet when he is to be buried but I am collecting some 10/- or 12/- for a wreath & will write an inscription similar to the one on Mr T Wilson's or "With deepest sympathy from the Director & Staff of the Rothamsted Laboratories". Some of us I have no doubt will attend the funeral

Yours faithfully
G T Dunkley

29th May 1915

Draft Letter from Dunkley to Russell

Dear Dr Russell

Herewith proof of the article on Protozoa to be read at the Royal Society on June 3rd & letter relating to reprints thereof also a letter from G H Pethybridge Esq. all of which arrived too late to send to Leenane

Yours faithfully
G T D

.only one letter (with enclosures) was forwarded to Leenane & this is the first ti
Clifden

Post Office
Clifden
Co. Galway
Ireland

31st May 1915

Postcard with request to send mail to W Brenchley

LATC, Rothamsted Postcard

Please address to:-
Y. W. C. A.
42 Shakespeare St
Nottingham

Or send me a list of people on the Society for extending Rothamsted Expts.

Yours W B

Dr Russell to Dunkley

31st May 1915

Ausleigh
Leenane (*Connemara*)

Dear Dunkley

We reached here safely & I am much obliged to you for sending on Mr Harrison's letter to which I have replied in the same way as you did.

I enclose one from the Lea Valley. Will you please see if the George could take them & write to Mr Lister. I think 12.30 lunch would be best as we could then spend the morning at the Laboratory & the afternoon at the fields.

Fortunately the weather has held & we have had glorious days so far: today it is a little threatening but nothing very serious.

We are carrying out our programme as arranged & the addresses I gave hold good. The Dublin address will be

Hotel Metropole
Dublin

Yours

E. J. Russell

Would you please send the slide

“Decomposition of residues Etc”

I was very sorry to hear of Freeman’s death. Please put me down for a subscription to the wreath

No Date

Letter from B. A. Keen to Dunkley

The Planes
Thetford

Dear Dunkley

‘Spouse you have heard of the Zepp raid on Southend (*possibly/probably May 1915*). 5 Bombs round my peoples house!! No one was hit. They thoughtfully sent me a telegram to say so.

The whole division is to concentrate at St Albans soon, so expect me any time. Have you heard anything of it?

Yrs B A Keen

1st June 1915

Draft letter from Dunkley to Russell

Dear Dr Russell

This is the 3rd letter I have addressed to you since you left home – the first to Leenane on the 28th and the 2nd to Clifden on the 29th

The copies of the Journal of the Society of Cheml Industry have come from Mr Ross and I have thanked him for them. They are not quite as complete in every case as the letter stated, but they have enabled Dr Miller to send several more of the volumes to the binder & for a comparatively small sum severak more volumes can be completed.

Prof Larsen has sent the volume of Landbruks to replace the defective copy you wrote to him about.

Freeman was buried this afternoon. Quite a lot of people attended the funeral including those from the Chapel in the Bowling Alley he used to attend, members of the Foresters Club, members of the Laboratory Staff as under, Dr Miller, Dr Hutchinson, Mr Appleyard, Grey, Arthur, Weston, Grace and myself. Mr Eames and several of the farm men also attended

Yours faithfully

G T D

1st June 1915

James MacDonald

Nurseryman

**St Anne's
Harpenden**

G T Dunkley Esq.,

To:- 1 Floral Wreath

£ - 15 -

Received Bill on 4th June 1915

Letter from K R Lewin to Dr Russell

1st June 1915

Rollestone Camp

Salisbury Plain

7th (Service) Battn.

Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry

Dear Dr Russell

I feel very guilty for not having written before, but we have continually felt we were on the eve of something's happening, which is a state of mind which acts as a deterrent to the correspondent

I hope that the epidemic of measles has left no trace, & that you & Mrs Russell are quite well

With any luck I shall get leave from Friday night till Monday night, &, having to go to town to see a dentist, may be able to make a flying visit to Harpenden. Please do not alter any arrangements you have made, or may make; this letter is rather of the nature of a menace than of a contract.

We are getting rather tired of living in a state of expectancy & am in an uncomfortable mess, so they (the Authorities) have taken to giving us long week-ends as a palliative. Hence my chance to see a dentist & to look in at Harpenden.

Yours very sincerely

K.R.Lewin

2nd June 1915

Draft letter from Dunkley to Russell

Dear Dr Russell

I was glad to get your note this morning & pleased that you are all having an enjoyable time. The lantern slide you refer to I am enclosing herewith & trust it will reach you safely.

I made a preliminary enquiry of the proprietor of the George Hotel about supplying sandwiches & lunches for our parties & he said he did not undertake any outside catering. After some discussion however he decided to consider the matter and I am calling in later today to see whether he is prepared to do anything. Failing him I see no alternative but going back to Mavor(?) again. Slaters did the Biochemical in 1911 but I see they charges 3/6 per head

Yours etc

G T D

Hotel Metropole
Dublin

3rd June 1915

Letter from Brenchley to Dunkley

42 Shakespeare Road
Nottingham

Dear Mr Dunkley

Very many thanks for letter & enclosures. Will you do another commission for me? Please send me Stiles paper on Food Concentrations or **summat** – the reprint is an Annals of Botany one in a self-binding case on the second shelf of my bookcase in the sitting room!!!! Clear?

Also – if you can beg borrow or steal a reprint of Camerons Classic on the Soil Solution (ask Mr Prescott or anyone which it is) – join it to its Stiles brother & send it along. The wretched Biochemical is a regular black dog to me here, & those two may help to whitewash it a bit.

All goes well. The people I have visited today are friends of Mrs Frank Salisbury. Did you know anyone of the name of Brett at St Albans? They have left now, & are relatives of my todays host.

Has the new “Private Secretary” turned up yet?

Yours sincerely

W.E. Brenchley

Please tell Po.... To hold the matter in abeyance for a time. Mr Chambers will eventually call in to see them, but he is out of town for a few weeks

WEB

7th June 1915

Draft letter from Dunkley to Brenchley

Dear Miss Brenchley

I received your letter this evening & I enclose herewith the two publications you ask for. The copy of Cameron belongs to Mr Horton so will you please return it to him when done with. I am enclosing a packet Grace asked you to have.

I am writing to put Portis(?) off for a time

No I do not think I knew the Brett's at St Albans although I may probably have seen them over here. It is rather nice for you to run up against people who relatives you know.

The new "private Secretary" has not yet turned up nor do I know if anything is definitely settled as yet. Miss Bates is not wanted for a fortnight at Camb so she ran across here early this week and said she was off to the seaside for a few days before taking up her duties again.

Dr Russell returns from Ireland tomorrow evening.

Yours sincerely

G. T. D.

10th June 1915

Draft of letter from Dunkley to H Walkerly about Bowden

Athelstan H Bowden has been employed in the Rothamsted Laboratory since May 1910.

From January 1913 up to the time he joined H.M. Forces at the beginning of December 1914, he received £1 per week as wages

Receiving from us an allowance of 5/- weekly

Whilst he is with the forces his is kept open for him and he is

10th June 1915

Postcard from W Buddin to Dunkley

St. Williams

Norfolk, Ont.

Dear Dunkley

Should be glad if you would send me a copy of the last Annual Report & anything else of interest. Address c/o Chicago P.O. Very sorry to hear of Freeman's death

Yours

Walter Buddin

13th June 1915

Letter from Bowden to Dunkley

Pte A H Bowden (4107)
2nd Batt. A. Coy Herts Regt
Bedford House
Newmarket
Cambridgeshire

Dear Mr Dunkley

Just a few lines as promised to let you know how things are progressing. I didn't expect I should get shifted so soon, but about 240 of A. Company Foreign Service shifted to Newmarket yesterday. We were cinematographed last Tuesday. I must ask you to please excuse mistakes & this awful scrawl but under the circumstances I'm sure you will forgive me. It took us about 4 hours to get here yesterday afternoon on the Great Eastern Railway we were shunting about all the time. Then we were 'billeted'. I'm shoved into a hay-loft, over some racing stable. There are 6 of us and we have 3 blankets & sleep on the boards. Some of the others are down below on stone floors of the stables. We had army rations. For tea last night we had bread and margarine; for breakfast this morning a lump of fat pork & a hunk of bread, for dinner stew & rice & treacle. We have no supper so you can guess that I shall spend nearly all my money in food. They make the tea in the pots they make the stew in so you can guess it is a bit greasy & we have meals down below in the stables so you can guess I relish it. We are more or less like pigs, have to 'grab' for food or you don't get any. Please put my Regimental Number when you write, There is a rumour about that we are moving to St Albans. We had an open-air Church Parade this morning with the Cambridgeshires. You can guess that I didn't have much sleep last night as I am what you say generally roughing it a bit. Please remember me to Ted, Arthur, Bert etc & tell them I'm still alive & kicking but very much kicking, & had it a bit rough. Please write a few lines to cheer me up as I certainly feel a bit downhearted for I feel my position keenly still I am doing my duty & I shall D.V. value a good home when I return. I suppose I shall be seeing some horse racing here this week. Tell Bertie etc I shall be pleased to hear from them any time, & it will be nice to have a bed & sit down to a decent meal. Tell Bertie we are the Herts Sigs(?) now:- 'There is a happy land, far far away, where we have bread & jam three times a day Oh! you see it spread, when we have it on our bread, Someday you'll find us dead, far far away'

I remain

Yours sincerely

Athel H B

Matters requiring the Architect's attention when they visit the
laboratory on June 16th 1915

Position of the 3 boilers in cellar

Drain to take away water from the boiler in case of a burst, or when they require cleaning out

Could such a drain go under the main lab direct into the Council's Sewer?

Pump & cistern for supply of soft water to steam boiler?

Adequate gas & water supply from the companies mains

Vane - add points of compass?

Telephone box in outer office

Yale lock on front door? (with 2 doz keys to fit)

Electric light in lavatory passage?

Electric light at front door (outside) one or two brackets - one on either side of the door?

Electric light in library - plugs in columns or pendants?

12 required - same costs whether plugs or pendants

22nd June 1915

Letter from Russell to H Salisbury

Messrs H Salisbury & Son
Harpenden

Sirs Laboratory House

I beg to draw your attention to the following points:-

1. The yellow distemper used in the back hall is not washable, and appears to be inferior to the green.

2. The distemper used for retouching the new bedroom is different in colour from the original, and also is not washable.
3. You have not yet retouched the paint in this bedroom as promised.
4. The woodwork on one of the sills in the upstairs passage is cracking.

Your early attention to these matters would oblige

Yours faithfully

E. J. Russell

23rd June 1915

Letter from Brenchley to Dunkley

39 Potter Street
Worksop

Dear Mr Dunkley

Enclosed is the paying-in slip for my cheque. Please let me have the the counterfoil on my return - & please be sure to pay in to time as I shall be post dating a cheque to June 30th & don't want trouble

Am very comfortably settled here & work goes well.

Yours sincerely

W. E. Brenchley

Note from Dunkley. Chq Pd in 30/6/15 to Harp. Branch L& C.W. Bank. Counterfoil of paying in slip forwarded to Miss Brenchley on same day

24th June 1915

The Editor of "Nature" presents his compliments to the Registrar, and would be glad if the Registrar could fill in the enclosed form referring to members of the scientific staff of the College, (omitting Medical Schools), who are on Active Service with H.M. Forces, or have been killed while so engaged. The Editor desires to obtain, if possible, such a list of members of scientific staffs of Colleges of University standing and Technical Institutions in the United Kingdom, and he hopes that the Registrar will be able to provide the information desired referring to scientific members of the staff of his college.

29th June 1915

Letter from Dunkley to Clara Lawrence

Mrs G Lawrence
c/o Mrs Brown
The Barracks
Codicote
Welwyn

Dear Mrs Lawrence

The receipt for the £1 sent to you through Mrs Martin Smith rather more than a week ago has not yet reached us. Will you kindly let me know by return of post whether you received the £1, and whether the receipt was posted to us in the blue envelope, and on what day? I wrote to Mr Lawrence a few days ago. I trust you are having good news from him.

Yours faithfully

G.T.D.

Secretary

30th June 1915

Letter from C Lawrence to Dunkley

Codicote

Dear Sir

In answer to your letter received this morning another lady Miss Colingwood brought the money to me after I received your letter so I expect she will send the receipt on I am sorry you had the trouble to write to me but it is not my fault my husband has moved to Newmarket and he was well when I last heard from him

Yours faithfully

C. Lawrence

June 1915

Draft letter from Dunkley to Portis(?)

Messrs H Portis & Co
26 & 27 Farringdon Street
London E.C.

Dear Sirs

Referring to your letter of May 29th we shall be glad if you will hold the smaller of the specimen jars over for a time

Yours faithfully

G.T.D.

Secty.

1st July 1915

Letter from Bowden to Dunkley

2/1st Herts Regt. A. Coy

Bedford House

Newmarket

Cambs

Dear Mr Dunkley

Many thanks for letter received a few days ago. I had a surprise on Sunday afternoon when G. Lawrence paid me a visit. He came up from Melton Constable on Saturday evening. I 'm about 13 miles from Cambridge & he informed me Miss G Bates was there. They have transferred all the Home Service chaps into the 2/5th Beds & n they are stationed at Sheringham. I must ask you to please excuse this awful scrawl & pencil, but I'm writing this upon a tin lid on my knee & there is ink available here. I'm still in my palace which is nicknamed 'The Tower of London'. We have had several ½ day's off on account of the horse-racing here & we have one to-day. I went & saw the 'Derby' race the other week. We have had several aeroplanes over here lately. We had a very impressive open air Church Service here last Sunday. There were 4 Battalions present:- Herts, Bedfords, Cambridgeshires & Northamptonshires. Yesterday the whole Brigade was inspected. I was orderly for the day so I didn't have to attend & I was glad after all for the others came home like drowned rats. It simply teemed. I have received the news that the Rev W W Colley is engaged & is going to be married in September. Remember me to Arthur & Bert etc. We have got the Japanese rifles & they have rather long bayonets. There are 270 from here going to France next Wednesday. There are 2 Harpenden Officers in this battalion, Lieut Down who was wounded shortly after the arrival of the 1st Herts in France & 2nd Lieut Gimingham Mrs Christmas's son from Luton Rd. I have got a photograph of the late lieut Martin from one of the weekly magazines. I don't think I have much more to say this time. We do not have very long parades here, generally 6.30 am – 7.30 am. 9.15 to 12.15 pm & 2 pm – 4 pm about 6 hours daily but a lot of time is spent in odds & ends like cleaning equipment etc, I might also add, doing my own washing. I don't say I'm an expert at that job, but I shall be quite an independent old bachelor when I return home. It is surprising how you can get used to nearly anything nowadays

Well I will conclude now

Yours sincerely

Athel H Bowden

Letter from K R Lewin to Dr Russell

2nd July 1915

The White Hart Hotel
Salisbury

Dear Dr Russell

This is just a line to say that we are crossing to France to-morrow
night

I received the copies of the paper safely; thank you for having them
sent

I hope you & Mrs Russell & the children are well

Yours sincerely

K R Lewin

4th July 1915

Letter from Gertrude Bates to Russell

Addenbrooke's Hospital
Cambridge

My dear Dr Russell

I have been meaning to write to you for ages, but somehow the time has slipped by. But first of all I want to thank you most awfully for continuing my "screw". I don't really think I deserve it for I am not a bit proud of myself over the way I feel I have treated you. I do hope it has not been frightfully inconvenient & that Miss Double(?) is managing all right. If she isn't & you would like to get rid of her I should suggest that you try Miss Johnson who has been a secretary at some Society in London for two or three years & who I hear now wants to give it up & get some work in Harpenden. She is by no means young, but most thoroughly conscientious and has her head quite screwed on the right way, only don't for goodness sake let Miss Double know I have suggested her, but I feel sure she would be the right sort. I wish I hadn't got a conscience, for it has been pricking quite busily when I think about you, but Matron was honestly most awfully up a tree. I have spent quite a few hours since I came back undoing what her Secretary had done. Of course it is easier for me for I have been here almost since the work started, & it is now certainly shows no sign of diminishing. Matron is also most awfully over worked & is having absolutely no holiday. All the same my conscience is pricking & I am most awfully grateful to you for being so good about it all, & I do thank you very very much.

I hope you art enjoying this hot weather, it is like an oven here.

With kind regards

Yrs very sincerely

Gertrude Bates

4th July 1915

Post card from Brenchley to Dunkley

Please address-Y.W.C.A.. Green Lane, Derby until midday post on Wednesday-then c/o Mrs Price, The Manse, Melbourne till Friday night. I expect to return on sat, night but am not quite certain.

All goes well

Yours -----

W.E.B.

6th July 1915

Draft letter from Dunkley to Russell

Dear Dr Russell

A notice has come from the Chem. Soc. Today which I thought you might wish to have but I am not sending the letter itself in case this does not reach you. It is as follows - "that a Meeting of the Council(as Consultative Body) will be held at Burlington House on Thursday next (8th) at 4 pm., when your attendance is requested.

Tea at 3.45 pm

1. Minutes
2. Consideration of replies to circular letter (about 400 replies received to date)
3. Other business

A letter came from Mr Fryer this morning saying he wd. Like to bring Prof Lefroy down on Wednesday (tomorrow) or Thursday to discuss points of mutual interest with Dr Eltringham and he added that Prof Lefroy wd. Very much like to meet you. I replied at once that you were away till Thursday evening but that Friday would suit you quite well if equally convenient to them.

G T D

8th July 1915

Letter from Keen to Dunkley

1/5 Suffolk Regt

Hazeldean

Cassio Rd

Watford

My dear Dunkley

This evening's battn orders inform us that all leave is stopped, as the battalion is under orders for the Dardenelles.

It remains to be seen if the scare will bear fruit to mix the metaphor.

I have written off for the negative of Freeman & will let you have it as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

B A Keen

9th July 1915

Letter from Gertrude Bates to Dunkley

Addenbrooke's Hospital

Cambridge

Dear Mr Dunkley

What will you think of me for not having answered your letter or acknowledged the cheque sooner. It wasn't that I was not glad to get them, but I put off acknowledging the cheque until I could write a letter with it but I have been awfully busy lately, so that when I had a few minutes to spare I just felt I must go out & do nothing. It is now just after 9.30, with luck I may get this written, tho. this is usually the time that if anyone who is off duty wants to see me they come & see me now. I am truly awfully glad to get the cheque. I have written to Dr Russell but I don't think I expected it. My conscience is stirring in its sleep a bit over the way I left him, but it is rather late now to think of that. There seems to be very little news. The Base Hospital has been increased to 1550 beds, the new wards were opened the other day & we have 50 wounded soldiers at Addenbrooke's. They make a great difference in the place for a lot of them are convalescent & spend a lot of their time in the garden in front of the hospital playing croquet or bowls. Do you see much of Mr Daish, I see he is at home? We had two or three pretty bad thunderstorms last week & a few nights ago the rain fell in torrents. I never heard it rain like that before in my life. When the poor laundry maids went to the laundry next morning, as soon as they opened the door they were met with an avalanche of water, it was more than a foot deep in the laundry & all the clothes (mostly sheets) were floating about on the top. Rotten for them wasn't it? Now I must shut up. Please write again sometime & tell me all the news

Give my love to everybody please

Yrs sincerely

Gertrude Bates

10th July 1915

Letter from Keen to Dunkley
Watford
Saturday

Dear Dunkley

Enclosed is photo of Freeman. You will be able to see what it looks like when enlarged. When it is finished please send negative to Mrs Keen, Llanberis, Bournemouth Park Road, Southend – on – Sea

We are very busy fitting out for the Dardenelles & a man is coming down to measure the officers for khaki drill uniforms & pith helmets. So things seem to be humming in earnest

Yours sincerely
B A Keen

12th July 1915

Letter from Keen to Russell
1/5 Suff: Regt
Hazeldean
Cassio Road
Watford

Dear Dr Russell

I expect you have heard from Dunkley that we are under orders for the Dardenelles. I was over at Harpenden last Thursday & heard the news directly & got back to Watford. We are naturally elated at going, after our long time in England.

I am anxious to leave my financial affairs as smooth as possible & wish to ask your advice on the following:-

Would it be possible to transfer my half-salary from myself to Mrs Keen at the Southend branch of Barclays? At present it is of course transmitted to the Harpenden branch & the cheques are marked "account of B A Keen" thus obviating the necessity of my signing them.

I have no idea if the course I suggest would be possible or not; but if so, I suppose you would require a letter from me authorizing the change from "acc. Of B A Keen, Harpenden" to acc of E J Keen, Southend?

If you could help me in this matter I should be grateful, because the simplification is obvious

Yours sincerely
B.A.Keen

13th July 1915

Letter from Russell to Keen

Lieu B A Keen
1/5 Suff. Reg.

Hazeldean
Cassio road
Watford

Dear Keen

I hope you will have a good time in the Dardenelles and come back safely. Probably the next time you see us your laboratory will be nearly finished. We have arranged to carry gas, water and current to the centre bench.

There will be no difficulty at all about the transfer of your half salary to Mrs Keen; and from next payment onwards this shall be done. It will perhaps be well for you to give a standing order to Messrs Barclay of Harpenden to transfer any moneys that may be paid into your account here to Mrs Keen's account.

Whilst you are away if any matters arise in which I can be of any help to Mrs Keen I hope she will write to me and I shall be very pleased to do whatever I can.

With kind regards

Yours very truly

15th July 1915

Letter from Appleyard to Dunkley

328 High Street

Bangor

Dear Dunkley

I did not manage to get time to see Baird's about that capacity flash. I am sending you the letter as I do not know their address. Would you kindly send it off. If they quote for it would you please show it to Dr Russell & if it can go thro' I should be glad if it could do so as soon as possible. I don't want to wait for it when I return. At the same time would you please order for me about 6 metres of glass tubing of 4mm bore and of a good weight that means I don't want thin walled tubing.

I was over the straits at Beaumaris yesterday & spent a nice day. It is very quiet here but good for a change. The London Welsh are billeted in the town. They are no class however. They are very strict here abt lights at night. Mine sweeper & a destroyer were in the bay at Llandudno on Saturday. They appeared to come in for orders. They only stayed about ½ hour. Things are going well in the Dardenelles.

Well Dunkley I shall be much obliged if you manage to put thro' this bit of business before I return, and if you are a good lad perhaps I shall bring you a bit of rock

Yours sincerely

A. A.

15th July 1915

Letter from Russell to Freeman & Hodgson

Messrs Freeman & Hodgson
8 Gray's Inn Square
London, W.C.

Sirs

Laboratory House, New Wing

I have just received an account from Messrs Salisbury for 7/10 for redistemping a part of the wall of a bedroom which was stained by the wet coming through. I understood from you that you would make this defect good without charge to me. Will you kindly raise the matter with them.

Yours truly

16th July 1915

Letter from Freeman & Hodgson to Russell

8 Gray's Inn Square
W.C.

Dear Sir

Laboratory House

We have your letter of yesterday's date, and will see that the cost of distemping the bedroom wall is not made chargeable to you.

Yours faithfully

Freeman & Hodgson

Dr E J Russell

19th July 1915

Letter from A Bowden to Dunkley

2/1st Herts Regt A. Coy
Bedford House
Newmarket
Cambs

Dear Mr Dunkley

Many thanks for your letter which I received this morning. We have ½ day off to-day on account of an inspection by Lieut -Col. Page Croft this morning who is home on leave from the 1st Battalion so I thought I would answer now at leisure. We have had several very severe thunderstorms here lately. This afternoon G Lawrence has to go before ... medical board with the rejected chaps etc from the 1st Battalion. Mother sends on the St Albans Times each week, so you see I get all the news from Harpenden & the surrounding district. I see the battalion from London regiments that were recently "billeted" at St Albans made a gallant charge but lost very heavily. I suppose you have heard that the Rev M M Colley is engaged

to be married in September to a young lady from Ireland. No doubt that is old news. There seems to be quite a lot of forthcoming marriages in Harpenden. One of my cousins is shortly to be married to one of Arthur Ogglesby's sisters. Mother informs me that she saw Lieut. Daish the other evening & he was very much bandaged up. As soon as the Brigade that Lieut Keen is in at Watford, St Albans etc moves out, we are, according to rumours supposed to move in & take its place. I hear either next Friday or Tuesday. Of course in the army it is so uncertain. One moves so quickly. I have received another letter from Miss M Elwin-Coles, she is still very poorly in health, & still at Llandudno. I must ask you to please excuse this awful scrawl but I am writing this upon a mess-tin lid on my knees, certainly not a very comfortable position. Mother also informed that Miss Popplewell told her that Corporal F. Popplewell at the fronts was that evening going to sing at a concert in the presence of H R H the Prince of Wales, I'm spending the week-end alone in the stable this week as the other 3 fellows have all gone home on pass. The V.T.C. down here seems to be going rather strong they have their own band but have not all received uniforms yet. The place was well alive last week with horse racing. We have been busy lately trenching. On Monday last (a week ago today) just after 'lights out' had sounded the alarm was blown all over Newmarket for the whole Brigade. We turned out, of course not knowing what was up (& of course large crowds of the civilian populations as well). We were told to pack up & were given 45 rounds of ammunition each. I really began to wonder if anything serious was the matter. Of course, people said, the Germans had landed, a Zeppelin raid was on, & some even said, Goodbye to us, as they thought we were off to France. Any rate we moved off, about 12 am, Herts, Bedfords, Northamptons & Cambridgeshires (of course not knowing where we were off to: 2.30 am in the morning found us still marching & then we realized we were out for night operations & a sham fight. At 3.30 am Tuesday morning after Setting out sentries We were told we could go to sleep for a while. So just about 3.45 am Tuesday morning we tried to snatch a few minutes sleep, out of sight under a hedge. But although I put my great-coat on, it was bitter cold & just about dawn we started back, arriving home about 5 am. We had been to Cheverley. Well of course I felt jolly tired & went to bed & never woke until 9 am & then I had some breakfast. We have to go on parade again at 11 am to 1 pm & then were given ½ day. Please don't laugh but after dinner I went to sleep again & quite lost all count of time for when I woke about 5 pm Tuesday afternoon I thought it was Wednesday morning & went round for my breakfast. Well I think that ends my rather lengthy letter & I hope I haven't bored you. Oh: I generally sleep with cotton-wool in my ears on account of earwigs. Have had turns at picquet & orderly so you see I'm gaining experience.

Tata. Kind regards

Athel H Bowden

20th July 1915 Letter from Miss C C Crookenden, Hospital Matron to Russell

Miss Crookenden
Hospital Matron

Territorial Force Nursing Service
Addenbrooke's Hospital
Cambridge

Dear Sir

I have been meaning to write to you for some weeks to thank you very much indeed for allowing Miss Bates to come back & help me. I really do not know what I should do without her. Her work, as you know, is excellent but beyond that, she fits in so well with the Hospital life and gets on with the nurses. I do hope you will be able to let me keep Miss Bates until the War is over

I can promise you she is not getting lazy. With 1550 beds at the 1st Eastern, besides the unit here at Addenbrooke's, there is a considerable amount to do, especially as all the letters to the authorities in connection with the 1st Eastern have to be sent in triplicate! & my poor secretary is kept hard at it!

I have not told her I have written to you

Yrs

C.C. Crookenden

22nd July 1915

Draft letter from Dunkley to Mrs Keen

Dear Mr Keen

Many thanks for your letter re photograph of yourself which we shall be very pleased to possess if it can be found.

We were wondering if you had already started on your voyage. Some of the Staffords left Harpn today to take the place in St Albans of some of your division (the Essex Regmt I believe) who are said to have already left. We hear nothing of Lewin. With all good wishes & trust you will come back to us safe & sound.

I am yours

G. T. D.

22nd July 1915

Letter from Keen to Dunkley

1/5 Suff. Regt.
64 Marlborough Road
Watford

Dear Dunkley

My people inform me that they have a spare copy of my photo which they will forward to you if they can find it.

We are now completely equipped & expect to go at any moment. I have Mrs Keen up in Watford with me & have rooms at the above address.

Yours sincerely

B A Keen

27th July 1915

Postcard from Bowden to Dunkley

2/1st Herts Regt. A. Coy
Billericay
Essex

Dear Mr Dunkley

Just a Post Card to let you know that I arrived here from Newmarket this morning. I understand we have come here for 3 weeks trenching. I'm about 18 miles from Southend. We came up on the G.E.R. early this morning. It will be quite a welcome change to have a bed to lie on & have a meal decently after spending 6 weeks in a stable. Have not had much time to do any exploring round this way yet, but shall do so as soon as possible. I think G Lawrence is at Wickford a little further on with another company.

Kindest regards to all

Yours sincerely

A. H. Bowden

28th July 1915

Letter from Keen to Russell

1/5 Suffolk Regiment
Watford

Dear Dr Russell

We leave here tomorrow morning for some sea port – Liverpool?. I understand my future address is:-

Lt. B.A. Keen
1/5 Suffolk Regiment
163rd Infantry Brigade
Mediterranean Expeditionary Force

I forget if I made myself clear about the question of paying my cheque to Mrs Keen. Will you please arrange to have them paid direct to her account with Barclays Bank, High Street, Southend.

I naturally feel very excited at the prospect of getting to the real thing at last, but the past nine months have made me vividly realise how congenial my work was at the laboratory.

I must thank you for your many kindnesses to me, & I hope to be back with you soon.

Yours very sincerely

B.A.Keen

29th July 1915

Letter from Russell to Keen

Lieu B.A.Keen
1/5 Suffolk Regt
163rd Infantry Brigade
Medit. Exped. Force.

Dear Keen

I hope you will have a good time in the Dardenelles and come back quite alright. Lewin sailed a few days ago for France so that you have almost gone out together. In case you did not get my last letter I will say again that we have made full arrangements for your money to be paid into Mrs Keen's account at Southend, and, if there is anything in which I can be of any help to Mrs Keen I hope she will not hesitate to write.

With kind regards and best wishes for a good time and safe return

Yours very truly

31st July 1915

Letter from Lawrence to Dunkley

2243 Sgt. G. Lawrence
2/1st Herts Reg
D Comp.

The Bungalow
Church Hill
Wickford
Essex

Dear Mr Dunkley

Just a few lines at last to you hoping you are in the best off health as I am at present. I have had another trip to a fresh place as you will see. We are very near Southend about 11 miles for about 3 weeks doing some trenching I suppose that is the first line off defence. There are a tremendous lot off them and barbed wire entanglements in them. Athell we left about 6 miles farther back on the same job so we are parted again we don't keep together long but I suppose I shall go and see him to cheer him up. Well Mr Dunkley I suppose you heard I payed a visit there but my time was so short I could not get round so I hope you will excuse me for not coming to see you I only called as I was traveling back from St Albans wich I went to see the Colnel Chaplain wich I was servant to once he wished to see me I only had 48 hours so you can see I was tied for time. I hope you are still doing your bit in the army as I think every one will have to sooner or later don't you as you no those brutes have probably got Warsaw but I think it is a trap we must wait and see. I also hope your

son is keeping well and all the others at home I should like to see them all again as it is 12 months now since I started the game two August holidays I should think we should finish before the third. I saw they were getting on splendid with the Lab it will be a nice building when finished. Well I have not much more news only should like a line when you have time as I no you are very busy with Wilson away. My regards to him and all the others and my best to you I still remain

Yours truly
George

31st July 1915

Letter from Dunkley to Barclays Bank Southend

The Manager
Messrs Barclay & Co's Bank
High Street
Southend-on-Sea

Dear Sir

At the request of Lieut B A Keen, a member of the staff of this Laboratory, but now with the 1/5th Battalion of the Suffolk Regiment on its way to the Dardenelles, I am sending herewith a cheque value £8 – 6 – 8 payable to "Messrs Barclay & Co – A/c Mrs E J Keen". Will you please endorse the cheque and credit the amount to Mrs Keen.

On hearing from you that the matter is quite in order I propose sending similar cheques to this account each month until further notice.

Yours faithfully
Secretary

31st July 1915

Letter from Dunkley to Mrs E J Keen

Mrs E J Keen
"Llanberis"
Bournemouth Park Road
Southend-on-Sea

Dear Madam

In accordance with Lieut Keen's instructions I have this morning sent his usual cheque for £6 – 8 – 6 to Barclay & Co's Bank, High Street, Southend-on-Sea. The cheque is made payable to Barclay & Co – A/c Mrs E J Keen, and I have asked them to endorse it and credit your account with the amount. It is proposed to send a

similar cheque each month until further. Should any difficulties arise in the matter please let me know.

Trusting that your husband will be preserved, and will return safely to you and to us in the course of time.

I am, yours very truly
Secretary

31st July 1915

Letter from Andrew Cunningham to Dunkley

Dear Mr Dunkley

I have just received a telegram from home asking me to come at once as my mother is very seriously ill. Would you be good enough to forward my letters to

Newtonport
Haddington
Scotland

I am sorry to have to leave in such a hurry and at present cannot say whether I may be able to return to finish my work. I have not had an opportunity of saying good bye to anyone. If anyone enquires why I have disappeared so suddenly would you mind telling them. Meanwhile goodbye and many thanks for the help you have given me while I have been here

Yours sincerely
Andrew Cunningham

1st August 1915

Letter from W Buddin to Russell

Manhatton

.....

Dear Dr Russell

I left the farm I was living on in Ontario on July 5th and on balancing up I found that I had expended just three quarters Scholarship in three quarters by living very economically. One hears a good deal about the ease of making money by work out here in the summer but no such opportunity, which would include useful experience, came my way although diligently sought. Many people seem to have suffered from an "unknown Englishman" before and avoid the second sting.

Nevertheless I have started on a short tour and hope to arrive home about Sept 15th, in rags and ready to start on my period of unemployment on Oct. 1st. I hope to be able to put in the last two weeks with Prof Farmer as you suggested. Will it be necessary for me to write indefinitely to him or shall I wait until I actually return and use your good offices?

I came through Lansing, Michigan & met Dr Boryoncos at the College. He wished to be remembered kindly to you and the others. I was able to put in two weeks at Urbana, Ill & so carry out my original intentions as well as the Board's suggestion. I spent some time with a soil survey party & also was able to see a few of the outlying experimental fields. I intended to keep a little further north but found that it would be difficult to get railway connections across country the other end (except on the Pacific coast, which of course was out of the question) & I found ultimately that it would be much cheaper & more satisfactory to keep a little south & buy a Denver excursion ticket. I shall thus be able to combine a little sightseeing with business. I went off the main line to visit Columbia, Missouri last week & arrived here yesterday afternoon but by the time I had found the College practically all had gone home as it was Saturday. The Missouri valley was flooded twice this year & for 200 miles I came through flooded country, which should be the "bottom lands" producing 100 bushel crops of corn. They have had 12 ½ inches of rain here in July & it is raining hard today to celebrate the first of August. If conditions are the same further west the semi-arid country I shall see will be hardly normal. The deep muddy condition of the roads after this rain, as well as the rain itself prevent my being able to walk round & see the country. It is bad enough on the Harpenden footpaths in winter but these roads are worse and the summer temperature here does not allow of many degrees increase in body temperature due to exercise before life is unbearable.

A letter from you addressed to General Delivery, New York, written a few days after you receive this would probably reach me before I sail & would be very welcome. I hope you are having a good holiday.

As Dunkley will probably read this during your absence may I through it thank him for the copy of the Annual Report he was good enough to send me last week.

Very best wishes to Mrs Russell & yourself

Yours sincerely

Walter Buddin

2nd August 1915

Letter from Barclay's Bank, Southend to Dunkley

The Bank

Southend on Sea

The Secretary
Lawes Agricultural Trust
Rothamsted Experimental Station
Harpenden

Dear Sir

We have duly received yours of 31st July; and have placed cheque £8 . 6 . 8 to the credit of Mrs E J Keen

Yours faithfully

3rd August 1915

Letter from Appleyard to Dunkley

Dear Dunkley

Many thanks for kindly thinking to send on the cheque. It has relieved me because I didn't bring my cheque book away with me and I was getting a bit short, and on the point of subing here at home.

I came home last Wednesday and after a few more days I hope to be with you. I am glad the troops have shifted from Harpenden and hope no more will come. It has not been the same place since the war started, and it will be a real treat to have a "quiet village".

We have a very large internment camp here quite near home and my first night I was frequently wakened by "No 12 All's Well!!" It sounds so very plain late at night. They are a very rough lot of soldiers who are guarding the place. I was told by one of them the other day that he thought the two prisoners who had escaped had tipped a good many people. Discipline is however very strict. There are all sorts and conditions here, from the millionaire count down to the poor dock labourer. Some of the prisoners are very rich and have had their bungalows nicely furnished and tennis courts have been made. There is also a theatre and they have plays and altogether they have a tolerably good time. There are about 500 German seamen here and a lot from the Cameroons. Different classes are kept separate.

Before those two men escaped I understand a ridiculous state of affairs existed. Prisoners used to be allowed to go up to Leeds without escorts and men were frequently allowed to come out and buy things as late as 8 p.m. Now I am told that discipline is very much more strict and that if a man wants to go to relieve himself he has got an escort.

I had a very good time in Wales and thro' Prof White of Bangor Univ I got introductions to several stock farms, where I learnt a good deal about Welsh cattle & sheep. I enclose receipt for cheque. When are you going for a holiday? Tell Sammy I shall soon be back (Saty I think)

Kind regards

Yours sincerely

A Appleyard

Draft letter by Dunkley concerning K R Lewin

5th August 1915

So far as I know Mr K R Lewin's rank is that of 2nd Lieut in the 7th btn. Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry. Until July 22nd his address was Australian Camp, Salisbury Plain but he stated in a letter of that date that he was crossing over to France on the night of July 23rd

7th August 1915

Letter from Dr Russell to Hutchinson

My dear Hutchinson

Immediately war broke out I wrote to the Board asking if there was any scheme on foot for promoting food production in which the Rothamsted staff could take part. I have not yet had a reply but expect one in a day or so. Meanwhile if any of the staff wish to serve in any other capacity they will certainly not be prejudiced by so doing. The arrangement I am proposing to the Committee (and think will be accepted) is:-

1. All posts to be kept open, and time spent on service not necessarily to be counted where engagement at Rothamsted is only for a limited period.
2. Such proportion of the salaries to be paid as our funds allow

I can't give exact information as to this latter because I don't know how our grants will be affected. But I hope (and indeed I believe) that it will be possible to keep each man's total income at its present level, i.e.. to supplement any government pay or allowance so that he shall receive what he gets now. This also applies to women, naturally. On this financial point I can't be certain till October because I don't know till then what our income will be.

But you can rest assured that I shall to the very best I possible can in the matter

Yours truly
(signed) E.J. Russell

7th August 1915

Letter from Keen to Dunkley

Aquitania
In harbour

Dear Dunkley

Just a line to you all from a hotter place than the ashing room in the hottest English summer. Our transition was very rapid & very comfortable except for the heat, which I am now however quite used to. We are now in a lovely natural harbour crowded with ships & man o' war of all sorts & nationalities. The island is used by

us as a base for operations on the Gallipoli peninsula & is hence not far away. If you read the Daily Telegraph you will know at once from Ashmead-Bartlett's dispatches where and what it is. The censor however forbids us to mention it for some reason or other. Boats are constantly coming and going & the restriction forbidding us to land is not a bit irksome as there is so much to see.

I have seen some large boats before now but the Aquitania is colossal. We had the double record of the largest number of troops aboard & the most valuable munitions cargo of the present war.

If rumour as to our coming work is true I shall have something exciting to write about next time. Give my kindest regards to all at the laboratory.

Yours sincerely

B A Keen

17th August 1915

Letter from Russell to W Buddin

W Buddin Esq,
General Delivery
New York, U.S.A.

Dear Buddin

I was very glad to get your letter, and to hear that you are going on well. You seem to have made good use of your time. I am particularly pleased you got out as far as Illinois; you may not get the opportunity again, and you did wisely to take it while you had it.

You need not worry about writing to Professor Farmer; let me know directly you are in this country, and I will send off to him.

At the moment there is very little doing here, excepting the War, but something will turn up, and you can drop into it, if only temporarily.

Lewin and Keen have both gone, Lwewin to France, and Keen to the Dardenelles; Bowden and Lawrence may go at any time. Daish, however is likely to remain in England for some weeks, as his wound doesn't heal vey quickly, although it is going on quite right. However you will get all the news when you come.

I shall be away throughout September in the Isle of Wight my address will be

You might let me know if there is anything I can do for you immediately after you arrive, I shall be very pleased to do it.

With kind regards

Yours very truly

20th August 1915

Letter from Brenchley to Dunkley

Chesham

Dear Mr Dunkley

Will you please send here till Sat. night, then any letters arriving on Sunday and Monday to

c/o Mr F Greggs

“Bathurst”

Douglas Rd.

Harpenden

After that send to

c/o Mrs W.B. Damant

Bocking Hall

Helmingham

Near Stowmarket

Suffolk

Till further notice.

Am having a real good time here – lovely country & splendid weather

Yours sincerely

Winifred E. Brenchley

20th August 1915

Letter from Keen to Dunkley

1/5 Suff Regt

Dear Dunkley

Just a short note from an unshorn, filthy object, sitting half in, half out, of the dusty shale that does duty as soil here. Three weeks ago I was in Watford, &, I hope & believe, clean. I haven't had a decent appearance since we left the Aquitania. We have not been long in this hell but we are already veterans. We were very soon pushed into an attack action & got into a tight corner through the excuse of too much dash. I was in the firing line with my platoon & I never want anything like it again. Enfilade fire from both flanks and shrapnel more than held us up & we had to give way a bit. Eventually we held a sort of “road” (so called) for the following 60 hours before relief came. That was an experience. We had fortunately two wells behind us where we got muddy water in spite of the snipers who gave us no peace day or night. Food, we had none except the one days emergency ration of bully beef & biscuits.

But very few wanted anything to eat. I had nothing at all beyond a piece of beef about the size of a bull's eye during the time we were in the trench & little more until two days afterwards. Then they pushed me off to the base to rest for a day or so & feed & sleep. (I had none of that either in the trench). I rejoined our regt yesterday afternoon & feel much better although my physical state is best compared to a bit of chewed string. Our regt is 'resting' on the side of a scrubby hill which slopes at 45° & this does not improve matters much. Still I am thankful to be alive & unwounded. I was one of the lucky ones. Of news I can tell you nothing you know much more in England than we do here. Since we left England we have received no mails at all.

The country here is horrid. It is rock & dust and prickly bushes all set at any angle other than the horizontal. There are roads along which a mule raises a cloud of dust far exceeding that caused by a traction engine in England. The heat in the middle of the day is an infernal nuisance & the more water one drinks to relieve thirst the worse it naturally is. Altogether however the lads are cheery & very philosophical & after all that is the best way of looking at things.

Going into action is a mere nothing compared with the reaction that follows when one is safely back. I don't know whether I am supersensitive in that respect but I have heard others say the same. It certainly is my experience. In the actual action one can even admire the bursting shrapnel & feel a sort of professional approval when the shells which have been expended on one's own firing line are fired with lengthened fuses just at the time ones supports are approaching to reinforce. I remember watching that myself from a prickly scrub in which I had taken cover. I was far more interested in that than in the bullets whizzing around & the patch of blazing bush we had to cross in our retreat! Curious isn't it?

Well I will ring off now as I want to see that my cohort dig themselves in properly. They have to be forced to dig deeply & would really prefer no trenches at all!

Remember me most kindly to all at the laboratory (I should love to be there now!) If this letter is grubby blame the dust that is flying from the picks & shovels wielded by my little army.

Cheeryho!

Yours sincerely

Bernard A Keen

28th August 1915

Letter from G C Sawyer to Dunkley

Bedford

My Dear Dunkley

Thanks for letter & inclosure received this morning – am sending receipt with this. Am sorry to hear I have missed Mr MacLennan a second time, but I am pleased to hear that he is looking better. We had a card from my brother the other

day saying that he would be getting another leave very shortly, but I expect that will not be before my return and hope to be in the lab. on Tuesday morning; so hoping to see you then.

Believe me

Yours sincerely

G C Sawyer

30th August 1915

Letter from Miss Johnson to Russell

Dr Russell
Lane End
Bembridge
Isle of Wight

Dear Dr Russell

It is really too bad to bother you with business, but I thought that one of the enclosed letters ought to be attended to without delay, viz. the one about the Botanical Questions, so I have sent it to you under registered cover, and Have written to Dr Salmon, telling him what I have done, and that you will write direct to him.

2. There is an income tax paper

3. What am I to do about the "Article in the Standard", you left no instructions and I did not know if you wanted it typed, or if I was to acknowledge it to the sender. At present I have done nothing.

The "Chalking Paper" has gone off this morning, and so has the plan to Lucy with the covering letter which you dictated on Saturday. I don't think there is anything else to report.

I hope you have had a safe and pleasant journey.

Kind regards to Mrs Russell

Yours very truly

31st August 1915

Letter from Miss Johnson to Russell

Dr Russell
Lane End
Bembridge
Isle of Wight

Dear Dr Russell

I am afraid you will think me rather a troublesome person for sending you another letter before the regulation two days, but I thought the enclosed re the Electric Fittings rather important, and felt that you might like to have it at once. Lucys are evidently rather anxious to see you, as there was a letter from them this morning (crossing mine of yesterday), asking if you were in a position to place the order for the Book-Shelves, they have since rung up for your address, and I am afraid are going to give you no rest during your holiday.

Mr Thies, with Mr and Mrs Campbell from Winnipeg came yesterday and Mr Prescott took them round, and said they were very much interested, and that Mr Thies wished to be remembered to you.

There is a letter from W T Cunningham re "Qua-Sul" as a dressing, I have sent him one of the regulation P.Cs.

One or two Bulletins etc. have come in, but I have consulted Dr Miller and we have dealt with these.

I don't think there is anything more to report.

I hope you all had a comfortable journey, and are already beginning to enjoy the sea air.

Yours very truly

Charlotte F S Johnson

2nd September 1915

Letter from Charlotte Johnson to Russell

Dr Russell
Lane End
Bembridge
Isle of Wight

Dear Dr Russell

I enclose a few things which you may like to see.

- 1) A private letter from Mrs Atkinson
 - 2) A cheque from Macmillan
 - 3) An enquiry about pupils. Have acknowledged this and said that it had been sent on to you
-
- a) The soil sampler has been returned, and Mr Prescott is dealing with the matter
 - b) There is an acknowledgement from the Board of Agriculture of the paper which was sent off on Saturday night. Mr Long says it is "most interesting and topical", and that he hopes it "will find a place in the September Journal"

- c) Mr Turner sends a R.C. to say that the date of your Lecture at Manchester is October 26th.
- d) Several more publications have come, which I have given to Dr Miller. One from Moscow had a covering letter in French and as I thought it would be more courteous to reply in the same language, I drafted a letter and took it to a friend who was educated in French, and together we drew up a letter, she correcting grammatical errors, etc. I showed it to Dr Miller and he said it was all right.

I don't think there is anything more to report

Yours very truly

Charlotte F S Johnson

3rd September 1915

Letter from Miss Johnson to Russell

Dr Russell
Lane End
Bembridge
Isle of Wight

Dear Dr Russell

Many thanks for your letter, I have attended to the various items in it. The Questions have gone to Mr Hartog by registered post, I have told Prof. Salmon of the alteration you have made in them and have sent on Prof. salmon's letter to Mr Hector, asking him to return it.

I am sending on to you two letters which seem to need immediate attention:-

- 1 from the Editor of "Nature" asking for an obituary notice of Mr Carrington-Smith
- 2 from Mr Long, asking you to read the proof of a leaflet

You may like to know about the following:-

- (a) A letter has come from W T Cunningham asking about "Qua Sul" as a Dressing. I have sent a formal acknowledgement
- (b) There is a packet of photographs sent by Swain of Methwold, by order of Dr Edwards; lantern slides are to follow; have acknowledged the photos
- (c) There is a letter from Mr Stewart of Univ. Coll. S. Wales asking for information about hay etc. I showed it to Mr Prescott, and he said it would require a good deal of looking up, and that it did not seem to him to be urgent. Dunkley came in afterwards to have a look round before starting for his

holiday this afternoon, and he said the letter could quite well wait until your return, so I just sent one of the P.C.s

- (d) A set of Tables has come from Mr Oldershaw re the Saxmundham plots. He also has received a P.C.
 - (e) The Ontario Bulletins have turned up, and Dr Miller has given me a fresh “wants” list, which will go off to-morrow morning
 - (f) I have also sent a long List of Wants to North Carolina.
- I think this completes the business.

We are all very sorry to hear that Lieut. Keen has been wounded. No further information has been received, even by His wife.

I am so glad you are having such a good holiday, and expect that both you and Mrs Russell need the change and rest badly, I trust I am not bothering you with unnecessary business. I hope the weather will be kind to you, so that you may all get the full benefit of the change.

I am going up to Oxford to morrow by the 2 12pm, and shall be back on Monday about 1. 30 p.m. I will go straight to the laboratory so that I shall be able to attend to correspondence both days.

With kind regards to Mrs Russell and yourself

Yours very truly

Charlotte F S Johnson

4th September 1915

Letter from Miss Johnson to Russell

Dr Russell
Lane End
Bembridge
Isle of Wight

Dear Dr Russell

With great reluctance I send on the enclosed, but I thought it might be urgent. I have told Mr Oldershaw that you are away, but that I have sent it in to you.

Yours very truly

4th September 1915

letter from Russell to Miss Johnson

Dear Miss Johnson

Many thanks for sending on the envelopes & for the other envelopes which I was pleased to have. You have dealt satisfactorily with everything. I am glad you replied to Moscow in French.

Will you please

- a) Book Oct 26th in my diary for the Manchester lecture & mark the day before & the day after to be kept clear
- b) Ask Sir John Thorold if Monday or Tuesday Oct 18 or 19(?) will be convenient for Committee meeting of the Lawes Agricultural Trust: if he says either will suit ask Dr H T Brown if either will suit him, then write Mr Harrison, Royal Soc, Burlington House asking if we may have use of a Committee room on the date selected (See if the days are clear in my diary. I may have marked them as possible days for the L.A.T. Committee. Take Monday if there is a choice.
- c) Send enclosed letter from Dr Brown to Mr Dunkley & ask if he can tell you where he put particulars he made out on the matter, also name of Insurance Agent or Company. Then write asking the Company to quote. Send the quotation on to Dr Brown if it is at the 2/- rate, send it to me otherwise. Don't request anything higher than 2/- to the Company
- d) Return enclose proofs to Mr Oldershaw
- e) Let me have some more writing paper & envelopes. I am run out. About 20 sheets should see me through
- f) See when the letter went to Mt Hartog re London D.Sc. theses at Rothamsted. (This was one I drafted soon after you came) If no reply comes by about 10th send a polite reminder asking if the letter reached safely as you don't seem to have had a reply, & you believe I want to deal with the matter directly I return.

We are still all having a very good time

Yours truly

E J Russell

7th September 1915

Letter from Charlotte F S Johnson to Dunkley

G.T.Dunkley Esq.
Keston
23/25 Bedford Square
Brighton

Dear Mr Dunkley

It is too bad to bother you about business while you are away on your holidays, but Dr Russell has asked me to send on the accompanying letter to you. Dr Brown seems worried about the air-craft and wishes the place to be insured at once, so I am to ask you where you put the particulars which you made out on the matter, also the name of the Insurance Agent or Company. Then I am to write to the Co. to quote, and send the quotation to Dr Brown, if it is all at the 2/- rate, otherwise I am to send it to Dr Russell.

I don't think I really need have troubled you about this probably Cyril or Wilson could have given me the papers, but I must act on orders, and also I fancy Dr Russell wishes you to see Dr Brown's letter.

I hope you will have a very nice holiday, undisturbed by Zeppelins or Submarines, and that you will, with good weather, and the fresh sea breeze, benefit by the rest and change

With kind regards
Yours very truly
Charlotte F S Johnson

7th September 1915

Letter from Russell to Miss Johnson

Lane End
Bembridge

Dear Miss Johnson

Will you please

- 1) Get Wilson to correct enclosed Proof sheet & send it within a few hours to Mr W C Long Bd of Agric. Whitehall
- 2) Tell Suttons I am away then but should be glad of an opportunity of seeing the expts shortly after my return.

I have direct to Miss Crump

Yours very truly

E J Russell

8th September 1915

Letter from Dunkley to Russell

“Keston”
23/25 Bedford Square
Brighton

Dear Dr Russell

Miss Johnson has sent on Dr Brown's letter of Sept 3rd re Insurance against damage by aircraft. I don't think it was decided whether we should ask the Norwich Union (Skillman agent, Harpenden) or whether we should ask the Atlas Co. with whom the general fire insurance of the Labs etc is entrusted, to undertake this new insurance.

I expect the particulars I got together for you when Dr Brown was last at Harpenden are locked up in the Roll Top Desk of which I have the key here. The amounts of the ordinary Insurance are however I believe as under –

New Labs	£12000	}	Buildings and contents
Present Labs	8600	}	
Lab. House	2000	}	Buildings only
Lab. Cottages	<u>500</u>	}	
	£		<u>23,100</u>

As I told you in my last Mr Ward enquired whether we were doing anything in the way of Insurance against aircraft & I said I thought the matter was postponed, so he may have done something on the new buildings in the meantime.

If you wish me to do so I will write to the Atlas Co* to ask them to quote. I quite agree with Dr Brown that we ought to take this extra precaution, particularly as the papers this morning tell of another air-raid on the “East-Coast” & for all we know it may mean Harpenden.

I see Dr Brown also refers to Lucy's estimate. I shall be returning to Harpenden next Monday evening & wd run into the Lab on Tuesday & deal with this matter if you will instruct me.

The weather here since Friday is all that could be desired & I hope you are having similar conditions

Yours faithfully

G T Dunkley

9th September 1915

Letter from Miss Johnson to Dr H T Brown

Dr H T Brown
52 Nevern Square
Kensington, SW.

Dear Sir,

As you know Dr Russell is away from home, and during his absence, and that of Mr Dunkley, he has left me to deal with his correspondence.

In a letter from him dated Sept 4th the following paragraph occurs

“Send the enclosed letter from Dr Brown to Mr Dunkley, and ask if he can tell you where he put the particulars he made out on the matter also name of Insurance Agent or Company. Then write, asking the Company to quote. Send the quotation on to Dr Brown if it is all at 2/- rate, send to me otherwise”

Your letter I enclose herewith, and also Mr Dunkley’s reply to my enquiries. I find that the papers referred to are locked up in Mr Dunkley’s desk, and cannot be got at.

As the builder’s foreman is away, and none of the workers seem to know anything about the insurance of the new Buildings, I have wired to the builders at Louth for information, and will enclose their reply in this letter.

In view of the fact that Zeppelins were seen at St Albans last night, and I hear that one passed over Harpenden, this matter seems to be somewhat urgent, and therefore I venture to trouble you. I am sending a copy of this letter to Dr Russell.

I have heard from Sir John Thorold that either Monday or Tuesday, Oct. 18th or 19th will suit him for the Committee Meeting of the Lawes Agricultural Trust; will you kindly let me know which date will suit you, that I may secure the room? Dr Russell would prefer Monday, 18th, if it is equally convenient to you.

Yours truly

Private Secretary

I should be obliged if you would kindly return your letter and that of Mr Dunkley, as soon as you can conveniently do so, as they should be filed

9th September 1915

Letter from Miss Johnson to Russell

Dr Russell
Lane End
Bembridge
Isle of Wight

Dear Dr Russell

Your last letter has been duly attended to: I am sorry however that Dr Long’s paper only went off this morning, - early - Wilson said they could not get it finished before.

I am now enclosing –

- 1) A letter which came from Mr Buddin late yesterday, and which seems to need attention from yourself.
- 2) A letter from the Architects, sending papers re the Book Shelves and Electric Light fittings.

That is all the business of importance, excepting that I have heard from Sir John Thorold, saying that either Oct. 18th or 19th would suit him for the Committee Meeting; I have now written to Dr Brown, asking him which day will suit him, but saying that Mon. would be more convenient for you.

Now for a matter in which I have acted on my own responsibility, I hope you will not think that I have acted wrongly. There was, as doubtless you know by this time, a very bad Air Raid in London last night, and it was said that the Zeppelins were seen at St Albans, while several people positively asserted that they – or at least one went over Harpenden. I at once thought of the question of the insurance of the Laboratory, about which you had had correspondence with Dr Brown. The post brought a letter from Dunkley in answer mine asking where the papers were, and also asking me to get Wilson to find out from the foreman if the new Buildings had been insured against aircraft; he was away, and no one knew anything about the matter, so I wired to Louth to find out from the builders themselves. I then after phoning to Dr Brown to see if I should go up to Town any(d?) tell him about things, but he requested me to write as he was just going away, this I did, and enclose a copy of my letter herewith. I consulted Mr Horton about this, as I understood that he was the senior man, Dr Hutchinson being from home, and he quite approved of my suggestion, so I hope it is all right. I left my letter with Wilson, telling him to enclose the answer to the telegram when it came. I hope this all meets with your approval, but I really did not know quite how to act, as we may have another visit from the Zeppelins any day, or rather night. They have done a tremendous lot of damage in London this time, - just missed St Pauls's and Farringdon St. Station, and hit Liverpool Street Station, and I hear smashed up Wood Street very badly.

I am sorry to trouble you with all this long rigmarole, but I am afraid it cannot be helped.

Trusting you are all deriving heaps of benefit from the sea breezes

Yours very truly

Charlotte F S Johnson

9th September 1915

letter from Russell to Miss Johnson

Dear Miss Johnson

Many thanks for stationery etc.

Will you please

- 1) Direct enclosed letter to R & F Jaques, our Insurance agent
- 2) Direct enclosed letter to Lieut Lewin
- 3) Let me have Mr Vernon Harcourt's address (from Chemical Society list)

In haste

Yours truly

E J Russell

Engagements dont clash with M/C lecture

10th September 1915

Letter from Miss Johnson to Russell

Dr Russell

Lane End

Bembridge

Isle of Wight

Dear Dr Russell

I will begin a letter to you to-day, but, unless something important comes by the mid-day post, I shall not send it off until to-morrow, as there is nothing much to report. This morning's post has brought

- 1) A letter from, Howard of Quetta, evidently in answer to one of yours, and saying that he has sent you two papers, "one on indigo, and the other on erosion and drainage", (these have not yet arrived) and that 2 others will follow. Have sent P.C.
- 2) A communication from Tyler & Freeman, which I enclose, have sent them P.C. and added that I have sent their letter on to you.
- 3) A note of the Architect's fees as forwarded to the builders
- 4) A request from D.T. Chadwick of Madras, for exchange of publications. P.C.in reply
- 5) A letter from Cairo saying that books have been sent, - these also have not yet arrived

I have heard nothing from Dr Hartog, so have written as you requested, and sent a copy of the first letter, as I suggested that possibly he had not received the former one.

Sat. September 11th

There was nothing of importance by the later post yesterday so I held this letter until this morning, and now have very little to add. The post has brought:-

- 1) A letter from Freeman & Hodgson, enclosing plan of Library book shelves, which they omitted to return in their former communications
- 2) One from the Synthetic Products Co. Ltd re the manufacture of acetone for munitions of war from potatoes. This may, or may not, be important, so I sent it on in case you may like to instruct someone here to deal with the matter. Have acknowledged it by P.C. but have not said that it has been forwarded
- 3) From the Virginia Agric. Expt. Station, promising to try to supply some of our gaps, and asking if we can do the same for them. I have thanked them, and asked for their "Wants List"
- 4) A Report from Regina, Sask.

The mid-day post is not yet in, if there is anything about which I need trouble you, I will add it later.

Thank you for your letter of to-day, your enclosures were posted, Jaques' at once, and Irwin's as soon as I could get his address.

Dr Miller is anxious about accompanying slip. He says that the binding is expensive, but the book is very valuable, and wishes to know if it shall be bound.

(Crescentius. The binding will cost 18/- owing to repairs)

I have had no reply from Dr Brown about the Committee, so I have not been able to do anything about the room.

The address for which you ask is:-

A.G. Vernon Harcourt Esq.,
St Clare
Ryde
Isle of Wight

Now, I think that is all the business for the present.

I don't know whether you have heard that Mr Appleyard's brother has been killed in the Dardenelles. I meant to have told you before, but forgot, doubtless, however, you have already heard it. It is very sad.

Miss Bates paid us a visit yesterday, she is having her holidays, and spent a day in Harpenden, en route for Plymouth (I think). She is looking exceedingly well, but wants a rest. We were all very glad to see her, and she was sorry to miss you.

I hope you are having the same lovely weather that we are enjoying here. It is simply glorious, although, I am afraid it is very favourable for Zeppelins

With kind regards

Yours very truly

Charlotte F S Johnson

I have just heard from Thompson, by the 1 o'clock post, that the Architect's certificate is for £1000. I have asked them to look this up in my office.

CFSJ

11th September 1915

Letter from Bowden to Dunkley

Herts Regt.
Bedford House
Newmarket
Cambs

Dear Mr Dunkley

Just a few lines to let you know how things are progressing here. I must first of all ask you to please excuse pencil & this awful scrawl. I've been having a rather busy undergoing a rather stiff training. Monday night I was on 'picket', Tuesday night we had night operations: on Wednesday we had a Brigade field day with the Bedfordshires, Northamptonshires, Cambridgeshires. We marched to Dulham Park & back a distance of about 14 to 16 miles approximately with full pack & rifle & 105 rounds of ammunition. Doubtless it looked a pretty sight roughly about 4000 but it didn't feel very nice. Thursday I was on orderly & yesterday we had bayonet fighting after dark. To-morrow (Sunday) I have go to go on guard at the railway station at 6 pm. Oh joy. Next week I've got the job of officer's servant so that will be a welcome change. To-day they wanted us to sign a form to say that we should be willing to be transferred to another regiment if necessary. I absolutely point blank refused. It roughly means this: of another regiment has to send a draft out they could then come and collar us to make up, suppose their draft was not up to strength. That certainly would not be very nice to be separated from ones friends & go amongst strangers again: so of course I don't know what will become of it. The Zeppelins came pretty close to us the other night. Some of our chaps were called up & were out all night. It was rumoured that Liverpool Street Station G. E. R. was blown up, of course have had no confirmation of the fact, but the daily papers were delayed. I trust you are enjoying your holiday if you are away, we doubt Mr Wilson will forward it. I had a letter from Rev W W Colley in Ireland just before I left home last Thursday week, re my telegram of congratulations on his wedding. Well! I don't think I have any more news this time. Time flies by so quickly one can hardly realize that we shall soon be drawing nigh to Christmas once again.

We have a squadron of the N.A.S. here & aeroplanes here get quite a common sight now. I'm still making the best of things in the stables, one thing there's no furniture to keep clean & no pictures to dust etc. Am getting quite an old bachelor.

Kind regards, hoping your son is quite all right

I remain

Yours sincerely

Athel H Bowden

11th September 1915

Letter from Russell to Miss Johnson

Dear Miss Johnson

I am much obliged to you for your letter & enclosures

Will you please

- 1) Tell Dr Miller that the binding of Crescentius at 18/- can be put in hand at once
- 2) Forward Freeman & Hodgsons plan of library fittings
- 3) In about 3 days ask Mr Harrison of the Royal Society if we can have use of room for Committees on the Monday
- 4) Send on Thompson's certificate for £1000 to Dr Brown next Monday also Freeman & Hodgsons charges in connection with same
- 5) Ask Mr Prescott to look up literature dealing with the use of potatoes for the production of alcohol & give him enclosed letter to read but keep it for filing. Also order the book "The Potato" by Howard Grubb (G & Co.) & after entering it in the library stock book hand it to him. Tell him also he will find a paper on th subject in the Wye College Journal by M J R Dunstan(?) (Confirm Title of Grubbs book: there is a G.... list in "The Essentials of Agriculture on the oak shelves in the Sample House to my right as I it at the desk)
- 6) Directly Mr Dunkley returns give him Thompsons receipt, also F & H's receipt and ask him to make out a claim from the Board
- 7) Address enclosed letters to Coutts the bankers & to Mr Buddin (London address)
- 8) Ascertain from Dr Miller what American & other publications have been promised us, & , if they have not come, send polite reminders (it is possible that Mr Dunkley has all the letters) also send to the International Exchange (Smithsonian). Do your best in politeness the americans make a special feature of courtesy.

The weather remains superb & we are having a great time

With kind regards, Yours truly

E J Russell

12th September 1915

Letter from Keen to Dunkley

No. 17 General Hospital

Alexandria

My dear Dunkley

Loth though I am to be a Jonah let me tell you that I am not wounded even though all of the respectable papers say I am. I am in hospital with dysentery & would have had a wound for preference anyday. Dysentery is beastly. I've had three weeks of it & today I am to sit up for a short time in an armchair. I am as pleased & as happy as ever I have been, over this! It is feeding to be in bed for 3 weeks with dysentery I can tell you. I have further news for you. As soon as I can travel I am to be sent back to England as not physically fit for this climate. You may remember I had a bit of a job to get in through medical reasons. I don't think they will invalid me out altogether. If so I may be with you in a month or two!! They return cases from hospital as all wounded I believe. That's how I have the spurious honour.

Remember me to all at the lab. very kindly please.

Yours sincerely

B A Keen

14th September 1915

Letter from Miss Johnson to Russell

Dr Russell

Lane End

Bembridge

Isle of Wight

Dear Dr Russell

Your letter only reached me this morning, and I have just sent on the Architect's Certificate to Dr Brown, and have asked him to fill in and sign the blank cheque and send it on to you for your signature. Mr Dunkley advises me to keep back Freeman and Hodgson's account, as there is no hurry for it, and there is no cheque made out.

2) The application for the Board of Agriculture's quarterly grant has not yet gone.

3) I enclose Lucy's plans as requested.

4) Two communications from the Board of Agriculture.

(a) re a grant in aid of an investigation into the breeding of house flies

(b) A cheque for the Development Fund. This Mr Dunkley asks me to send to you, with the request that you will sign it, and send it to Coutts & Co, 15 Lombard Street. E.C.

5) Mr Dunkley has also given me a cheques for Jaques, which I have sent to Dr Brown for his signature, asking him to send it on to you, with an addressed envelope which accompanies it, for you to

15th September 1915

Letter from Miss Johnson to Russell

Dr Russell
Lane End
Bembridge
Isle of Wight

Dear Dr Russell

This is my last letter to you, as I am off to Liverpool to-morrow morning. I think I have attended to all your instructions, except the two following:-

1. Securing the room for the Committee Meeting. Mr Dunkley was here yesterday morning, and he said that he would see to that.
2. The American publications. I had not got the papers, and was very busy with other things, and Mr Dunkley thought that they were not urgent and could stand over.

There is nothing of importance to report this morning except that some more photographs have come from Swain.

I hope to get back to Harpenden on Monday evening, Sept 27th and will come to the Laboratory on Tuesday morning, & but should be very grateful if you could let me get off about 1 o'clock, as I have a Meeting of some importance to attend early in the afternoon. I understand from Mr Dunkley that from Oct. 1st you would like me to remain until 3.30 p.m. I enclose my address in case you want to communicate with me about anything.

I trust you have all had a very nice holiday, and will come back much benefitted by the rest and change; you have certainly been favoured by most glorious weather.

With kind regards

Yours very truly

Charlotte F S Johnson

My address will be:-

C/o Miss Ricketts

Woodcroft

Roby

Near Liverpool

15th September 1915

Letter from Russell to Miss Johnson

Dear Miss Johnson

I am much obliged to you for sending the various enclosures, & I am glad to learn that everything is going on well.

Will you please

- 1) Ask Mr Dunkley to send off the application to the Board for the quarter's grant, being the usual amount less £100 as he & I arranged. This can be done when he comes back from his holidays: don't disturb him till then.
- 2) Ask him also to put in as speedily as possible claim for the next instalment of the Capital Grant
- 3) As soon as Tyler & Freeman write to you asking when Mr Freeman could see me & suggesting dates, look up my diary & give him the earliest free date on his list
- 4) Ask Mr Dunkley to fill in and dispatch to Dr Brown & then to the Board, enclosed forms relating to Dr Eltringham's grant on the basis of our application

With kind regards

Yours truly

E J Russell

17th September 1915

Letter from Russell to Dunkley

My dear Dunkley

Miss Johnson wrote to say that she is off now you are back. I hope you had a good holiday & are feeling very fit again.

You might send a brief report each two days.

- 1) Will you draw Freeman & Hodgson's cheque so that its whole application may go as speedily as possible
- 2) Will you look out a letter that came some time ago asking for a young man to go to India to conduct manurial & other trials for a firm (I forget the name) & ask Mr Buddin if he would like the post. There is a special folder for such letters, if it is not there don't worry.
- 3) Tell Lucy of Oxford that I return on the 27th & could see them any day after that. You might make the appointment enter it up(?)

With kind regards

Yours

E J Russell

20th September 1915

Draft letter from Dunkley to Russell

Dear Dr Russell

In reply to your letter of the 17th I wd. Say

- 1) A cheque for £50 to F & H (*Freeman & Hodgson*) has been sent this evening to Dr H T Brown for signature & with the request that he will send it on to you. I will in the meantime get the application ready for another instalment of the £6000 Grant from the Bd.
- 2) I have written to Lucy & asked them when their representative can come after you return on the 27th.
- 3) I am sorry to say I am unable to find the letter asking for an assistant to go to India to make manorial & other trials

As to the application to the Bd. of Agric. For a special grant for £53 for Dr Eltringham's work, I see we must produce the vouchers for the payments made up to Sept 30th. As we have not paid any salary to Dr Eltringham we have no vouchers to show for the £41 set down nor have we vouchers amounting to £12 for "Other Expenses". Did Dr E. receive his salary direct from the Bd.? & shall I fill in the "other expenses" up to date?

Ward says he has received a letter from Messrs Thompson asking when the cheque for £1000 is likely to reach them. I told him that it was dealt with on Tuesday last, & is probably now in Messrs Thompson's hands.

The International N Co rang up this morning to ask when you returned home. They say they will ring you up again after your return.

Notices have to day been sent to the subscribers to the funds of the Society who have not yet paid their subscriptions for the year ending on the 30th inst.

I have also written to Mr Harrison asking for a room at the Roy Soc on Monday Oct 18th for the L.A.T.C. & to the Hon Rupert Guinness's Secy asking her to send a cheque for £62 – 10 – 0 for the current quarter.

I enclose herewith application to the Bd for the quarterly grant now due less £100. If you approve will you please sign & post it to the Board

Yours faithfully

G.T.D.

P.S. The 2nd exp grass is being carted today G(*Grey*). O(*Oggelsby*). & W(*Weston*) are up there

20th September 1915

Letter from Russell to Dunkley

Lane End
Bembridge
I. of W.

Dear Dunkley

Would you be good enough to arrange for the following:-

- 1) Ask Mr Harrison for room for Committees on Monday Oct 18th to hold 20 people & if he can arrange it call them as follows
 - a) L.A.T.C. 2.30 – 3.45
 - b) Society for Extending R. Expts. 4 – 4.30 (ask Mr Mason if this suits him) Call the Annual Subscribers to this
 - c) Lee Valley Expt Station 4.45 – 6 (Notify A B Lister & he will call this
- 2) Look up Tyler & Freeman's quotation & see if there was an item for fittings
- 3) Note that I have to pay 10/- towards the air-craft insurance on a/c of contents of house

With kind regards

Yours etc

E J Russell

21st September 1915

Draft letter Dunkley to Russell

Dr R

Recvd your letter of 20th

As stated in my letter of last night I had written to Mr Harrison but I have now written him a 2nd note asking for the use of a room from 2.30 to 6pm & one capable of holding 20 people

I will write to Mr Mason and Mr A B Lister(*Secretary Lee Valley Growers Association*) as soon as I hear from Mr Harrison that the room is available.

Electric fittings – In Tyler & Freeman's letter of Apl 29/15 they say the estimates they give complete the entire equipment with the exception of the fittings & lamps. The cost of these they say they could not give, but app.... They wd be from £30 to £36 if plain fittings are used. They add that it is possible that the architect might wish to have some more ornamental fittings in the Entrance hall, Library etc & if so, the item of course would be arranged by them. In our estimate of total cost we have included £36.

If you remember Mr Freeman & Mr Hodgson did discuss these fittings the last time they were down & promised to see what they could do in the matter.

I note that the amount of the August insurance premium includes 10/- for the contents of the Lab. House & that you will refund this.

I enclose cheque for £7 – 0 – 3 to cover the Labty wages in Satdy next. It also includes £5 – 15 – 0 to A Bowden for the 23 weeks to Sept 20th (@ 5/- per week). A cheque for £1 payable to Mrs Martin Smith (for Mrs Lawrence) is also enclosed. The latter was due on the 11th Sept. Will you kindly sign both and return them to me.

The Sergt. Of Police has just been in to ask us to put out all lights at the Lab. at 7pm from tonight or to very effectively shade them. I have told everyone in the labt to try & carry out these instructions & Dr Miller has promised not to write in the Sample House after dark tonight as the light from the skylight is very noticeable at night. To-day is the Annual Statute Fair on the common & they are I understand going to compel the show people to put out their lights an hour after sunset. The local council is also issuing printed instructions as to lighting generally during the coming winter

Yours faithfully

G T D

P.S. Thompson's receipt for £1000 just to hand.

21st September 1915

Draft letter from Dunkley to Russell

Dear Dr Russell

I have just now found the letter of the Chairman of the Sulphate of Amm. Assn. dated June 8th 1915 asking if you have a pupil who has had experience in Agricl. Chemistry for the purpose of supervising & carrying out experiments on various crops in India with Sulphate of Ammonia & Superphosphate. I am sending it on to Mr Buddin by this post

Yours faithfully

G T D

21st September 1915

Letter from Dunkley to Clayton

Capt James Clayton

2nd London Sanitary Company "R.A.M.C."

British Expeditionary Force

France

Dear Mr Clayton

Mr Prescott has decided to take to himself a wife and so we are banding together at the Laboratory to give him a present on the occasion of his wedding,

which takes place I believe on Oct./ 12th . If you care to contribute I should be pleased to receive any donation you may like to send.

We had a visit from Lieut K MacLennan or Captain as we must call him I suppose, a short time ago. He was looking better than on his previous visit when he had only just recovered from Measles.

Buddin returned from America a few days ago, and paid us a visit last week.

Trusting you are quite well

I am, yours sincerely

21st September 1915

Letter from Dunkley to Daish

Lieut A.J.Daish
St. Michaels
Harpenden

Dear Mr Daish

Mr Prescott is following your example and that of Mr Keen and is shortly to be married – as a matter of fact I believe the date is October 12th. Would you care to subscribe to a present? If so I should be very pleased to receive any donation you may like to send.

Trusting you are well on the road to convalescence.

I am, yours sincerely

G T D

23rd September 1915

Draft letter from Dunkley to Russell

Lane End Bembridge
I.of.W.

Dear Dr R

Mr Harrison has replied that so far as their arrangements go at present it will be convenient for them to let us have a room on the 18th Oct. but he has not yet replied to my second note asking for the use of it from 2.30 to 6pm & for one to hold 20 persons. If he does not reply by first post tomorrow morning I will try & reach him on the telephone.

I yesterday forwarded to you a sealed & confidential official letter from the Univ. of London, & today I have sent another from them but not marked confidential.

Lucy & Co's representative will call here on Wednesday Sep 29 at 2.30pm & have noted the appointment in your diary.

Four of the outstanding annual subs have already come in for the Society. The cheques are sent herewith will you please endorse them and send them to Coutts & Co in the enclosed envelope. There are still several others to come amounting in all to £38 – 7 – 0.

I enclose herewith letter & statement relating to application to the Bd of Agr for £532 – 19 - 3 as 8th instalment of the £6000 – 0 – 0 Grant. Freeman & H's voucher has not yet come to hand but if you will sign the statement & letter & return them to me I will attach the three vouchers & the applic. To the Bd.

I also enclose a statement showing that the LATC cash a/c today is overdrawn to the extent of £432 – 5 – 2 & also an estimate of what it is likely to be on the 30th inst. by £229 – 1 – 9 . This does not include £350 required on 1 Oct to replenish our Laboratory a/c. This is perhaps an exaggerated a/c as Barclay No 2 a/c may be increased before the 30th by proceeds from farm sales. Mr Eames said this afternoon he might bring in £50 but he was not sure. Then again I hope our Labty a/c on the 30th will show some balance & if so that will be paid in to the No. 2 a/c also. Of course I have counted on the receipt of the £612 – 10 – 0 from the Bd. & £62 – 10 from Mr Guinness.

Anyhow we are likely to incur a small charge as interest on overdraft, but on the other hand if we had transferred from deposit a/c a larger sum than the £300 you asked Coutts & Co. to do on the 11th inst. we shd have lost the interest on it.

I had a letter from Mr Keen this morning dated 13th Sept. He had then been 3 weeks in hospital at Alexandria suffering from dysentery. That was the first day he had been able to sit up. He has been certified as physically unfit for service in that climate & hopes soon to be transferred to England

Yours faithfully

G.T.Dunkley

23rd September 1915

Letter from Russell to Dunkley

Dear Dunkley

- 1) Herewith I return cheques. I have altered wages cheque to your name as there is some risk in sending a fully endorsed cheque through the post
- 2) Please do not send any letters after the last post on Friday. We leave here on Monday before the post comes in 7 arrive at Harpenden 3.35. I will come into the lab after tea.

We are having a very good time here, but the wind is ominously

moving to the S.W/ & the glass is slowly falling so I doubt whether the fine weather will last much longer.

With kind regards

Yours etc.

E J Russell

24th September 1915

Draft letter from Dunkley to Russell

Dear Dr Russell

I received your letter of the 23rd by midday post today. I note that I am not to forward anything to you by post after this evening, and also note that you will be in at the Lab. on monday evening.

Mr Harrison has replied that he can let us have a room for 20 persons on Monday Oct 18th from 2.30 to 6pm. I have accordingly sent out the notices to the members of the L.A.T.C. for the meeting at 2.30 pm but I am holding back all notices announcing(?) the meeting of the Society until I hear that Mr Mason can be present. They are all ready and can be sent out at a moment's notice. I have also written to ask Mr A B Lister to call his committee together at 4.45 pm.

This morning I forwarded to you another official letter from the University of London marked confidential.

I am glad you have had such nice weather during your stay in the I. of W.. A break occurred here last night when we registered $\frac{1}{4}$ ", & this afternoon from 4 pm onwards it has been raining quite hard. Trusting you will have a safe journey home,

I am, yours faithfully, G T D

24th September 1915

Letter from Dunkley to Mrs Martin Smith

Mrs E Martin Smith
Codicote Lodge
Welwyn

Dear Madam

Will you be good enough to hand over the sum of £1, as per cheque herewith, to Mrs Clara Lawrence and obtain her receipt for the same. I regret that owing to Dr Russell's and my absence from the Laboratory the cheque is a fortnight overdue.

Yours faithfully

Secretary

26th September 1915

Letter from Russell to Dunkley

Dear Dunkley

Herewith the application duly filled in. Please send off as soon as vouchers are ready

- 1) We have to pay Dr Eltringham. You might collect vouchers to the proper amounts
- 2) Could you analyse out the cash a/c & show how the L.A.T.C. & the Capital a/cs stand respectively
- 3) Remind me that we transfer all Society's money to L.A.T.C.
- 4) Bring up enclosed from Mr Hunt .. on Tuesday(?)
- 5) Call T H riches, M R Pryn(?) Mr T Hodgson, Hon Rupert Guinness, S V Pickering*, my, M..... & one or two other subscribers who are likely to come to the Society

The weather is changing: we shall apparently return just in time

With kind regards, yours etc

E J Russell

*Already notified as member of LATC

27th September 1915

Letter from Mrs Bowden to Dunkley

Coleswood Road
Harpenden

Dear Mr Dunkley

Many thanks for your great kindness in reference to Athelstan. I called at the Post Office on Saturday afternoon. Received letter from him on Friday still at Newmarket

Yours sincerely

A. Bowden

28th September 1915

Letter from Daish to Dunkley

Zaleski
Kirkley Cliff Road
Lowestoft

Dear Dunkley

I am enclosing cheque for 5/- for Prescott's present. I am also sending him a little something on my own, which please know nothing about. I expect you will see it when it arrives!!

We've been down here two days now & expect to be staying for some while. I was up before a Board on Tuesday last & have been given another month

sick leave. I'm still having trouble with my face & jaw, but I suppose it will get better in time.

I was awfully glad to see in the papers some while back that Keen was reported "not wounded". Have you any news of him?

Please remember me to all at the lab.

Yours sincerely

A J Daish

29th September 1915

Letter from Bowden to Dunkley

2nd/1st Hertfordshire Regiment A. Coy

Bedford House

Newmarket

Cambs:

Dear Mr Dunkley

Just a few lines to let you know how things are progressing here. I'm still very busy having been appointed officers servant now, & we're going through a pretty stiff training now. I must ask you to please excuse pencil & this awful scrawl, but I'm in a hurry. I have to be up at 5.30 am daily now & sometimes not finished until about 9.30 pm so you can see that I'm kept fairly busy. This place is all alive here with horse-racing lately. I believe I shall be going on a big recruiting march through Hertfordshire shortly. Any rate I reckon I shall either be at Cambridge, Hertford or St Albans on Saturday next. I been feeling rather rotten lately having neuralgia. We are having a lot of changeable weather lately. We have been having some rather exciting times here, during the recent Zeppelin raids. They visited Cambridge & killed one person. We hardly take any notice of aeroplanes here now, they are getting so common. I general go to St Mary's Church here when not on duty. It is a very nice Church here. I hear it is the harvest Festival at St John's tonight & Sunday. I should love to be present, but that is I suppose impossible. I see by this week's St Albans Times that Lieut. Keen is reported not wounded. I hope that is correct. We had the Brass Band down her for a few weeks from the 3rd Battalion but it returned on Sunday to Windsor. It certainly cheered things up a bit. Mother wrote & told me re the addition to my Banking Account for which I tender my sincerest thanks. Kindly thank Dr Russell for me. I shall be glad when this terrible war is all over. We have had some splendid news in the papers the last few days. I don't think I have any more news this time of any importance. I suppose they are getting on steadily with the new laboratories. We went trenching yesterday on Kenett Common about 5 miles away. Also just recently we had a route march through Kentford, Gazeley & Moulton. The longest march I had without a stop (with full pack & rifle) was just over 5 ¾ miles & I can assure it was plenty far enough. I hope your son George is quite alright & well. Time seems to fly by very quickly, I hardly

realize that we shall soon be starting October. I found a book & over 10/- the other Saturday. It belonged to someone at Chevely a small village close to Newmarket. I discovered that Bedford House Stables are in Suffolk boundary not Cambs:

I remain

Yours sincerely

A H Bowden

Undated letter, probably September 1915 Dunkley to Miss Johnson

“Keston”

23/25 Bedford Square

Brighton

Dear Miss Johnson

I have your's with Dr Brown's letter of Sept 3rd enclosed & I return the latter herewith.

I have written to Dr Russell & he may either write to me or to you in the matter. I have given him particulars so far as I remember them. The figures he refers to are I expect locked up in the Roll-top Desk, but those I have given him ought to suffice I think.

The question is whether the Norwich Union, of which Skillman, late postmaster Harpenden is the agent, or whether Messers R & J Jaques our insurance brokers should be asked to quote, & Dr Russell should settle this point before anything further is done. I shall return to Harpenden on Monday evening next & can come up to the Lab. on Tuesday morning. In the meantime will you get Wilson to ask the builder's foreman (Ward) if he has insured the new building against damage by aircraft, as Dr Russell is considering the matter.

We are having delightful weather & are enjoying ourselves. Trusting matters are going smoothly with you

I am yours faithfully

G.J. Dunkley

Letter from K R Lewin from France to Dunkley

4th October 1915

Dear Dunkley

So Prescott is about to depart this single life --- please convey to him my congratulations. I enclose a cheque for 10/- as a contribution to the Lab present.

I'm afraid it is somewhat belated, but I got your letter when we were having a damp time in the trenches, & have only just routed it out again now we are billeted. We go in again to-morrow for a spell.

I suppose everything goes on much as usual in Harpenden.

There hasn't been much doing here, as we did not attack at this part of the line --- we merely shelled & were shelled --- the latter without any particular damage being done.

I hope your son has good luck out here

I am

Yours sincerely

K.R. Lewin

6th October 1915

Letter from Mrs Keen to Dunkley

Llanberis

Bournemouth Park Road

Southend-on-Sea

Dear Mr Dunkley

Bernard has written to Harpenden, according to my last letter, but whether that means to you I am not quite sure. Anyhow in case you have not already heard it I know you will be interested he is progressing very favourably & is to be sent to England as soon as he is fit to travel. He has had a horrid time, but now that he is safely through I feel rather glad he has had "a taste of the real thing" because men seem so impatient & dissatisfied if they cannot go to the real scene of action, don't they? As Bernard says his time in the Dardenelles was "short but concentrated".

Have you had good news from your son lately? I am so afraid he may have been in this recent great movement, because when you wrote to me you told me he was near Ypres, - wasn't it? In a dug-out.

We saw, in the lists, the name of Mr Appleyard's brother; at least we are afraid it is his brother, but perhaps it was a mistake. Mistakes are occasionally made in these matters as I know only too well.

Trusting your son will come back to you safely & all the Laboratory staff

I am

Yours sincerely

Elsie J Keen

7th October 1915

List of members of the Rothamsted Laboratory who have subscribed to a cheque for £6 – 5 – 0 as a wedding present to Mr J A Prescott

Miss H Adam

E Horton

A Appleyard

H B Hutchinson

Miss G Bassil
Miss G Bates
Miss W E Brenchley
A Cunningham
A J Daish
W A Davis
G T Dunkley
S J K Eames
W Game
E Grey

K R Lewin
A Ogglesby
C Pearce
W Pearce
E H Richards
E J Russell
G C Sawyer
W Weir
B Weston

9th October 1915

Letter from Keen to Dunkley

No. 17 General Hospital
Alexandria

My dear Dunkley

Many thanks for your letter. It is a treat to get mails from England as my peregrinations from peninsula via clearing hospitals & hospital ships to Alex, seem to have effectively covered up my tracks. Thus, of all the letters that my dotting relations have sent me I have received back two, & one of those was registered & thus taken more care of! Nary a parcel or a newspaper has found me yet – some bird is sitting in a dug out puffing my cigarettes, wearing my socks, eating my sweets & reading my papers , I'm sure!

So you see that the time you have spent on writing little cheery chits to me, has earned you much merit in heaven. I am now at a convalescent home, a marble palace belonging to a German Jew who is safely behind barbed wire, while British & Australian officers sprawl about his divans, & use his palatial bathrooms – this Jew seemed not to keep his coals in the bath, a custom, I have heard to which his English co-religionists are sometimes addicted. But I have carefully kept the old address on this letter as I don't want any epistles to have an extra redirecting before they reach me. I've had enough experience of that already.

Please give my best wishes to Prescott when he returns from his honeymoon. I am telegraphing you today about the sub. I intend to give, and as the telegram will be very condensed I had better explain it!

Will you be good enough to pay for me a sub. Towards the lab. gift & like the good Samaritan , “ when I return I shall repay thee”. The Treasurer (you I am sure) will have to be responsible for deciding what my share is to be. If you're in doubt take the average of the soil lab!!

I've been solidly writing up arrears of correspondence since 9 am & its now 12.30 & I have still to write to the Organic Chemist & the Botanist!

You must have been delighted to see your son, even for that brief visit.
 Please give him my wishes for the best of luck; may he put a shell bang into a Zepp!
 My kind regards to all the lab. staff

Yours sincerely
 B A Keen

10th October 1915

Letter from Keen to Russell

Sambrooke Ward
 4th Lond. Gen. Hosp.
 Denmark Hill
 S. E.

Dear Dr Russell

I propose running down to Harpenden some day next week, with the possible exception of Thursday. Would you be good enough to let me know if any of the days are unsuitable?

Yours sincerely
 B A Keen

10th October 1915

Telegram Keen to Dunkley

Dunkley	Laboratory	Harpenden	England
Congratulations	Prescott	Please Pay	My
Subscription	Till I	Return	England

KEEN

**Donations for Wedding Present to Mr J Prescott
 Sept- October 1915**

1915	Promised			Paid
Sept 21	Mr W A Davis	£ - 10 - 0	Oct 7	£ - 10 - 0
	Mr E Horton	£ - 10 - 6	Oct 1	£ - 10 - 6
	Dr W E Brenchley	£ - 5 - 0	Sept 24	£ - 5 - 0
	G.T.D.	£ - 5 - 0	Oct 1	£ - 5 - 0
Sept 22	Mr W Weir	£ - 5 - 0	Sept 23	£ - 5 - 0
	Mr G C Sawyer	£ - 5 - 0	Sept 22	£ - 5 - 0
	G Bassil	£ - 1 - 0	Oct 2	£ - 1 - 0
	Dr Hutchinson	£ - 5 - 0	Oct 6	£ - 5 - 0
	Miss Adam	£ - 2 - 6	Sept 23	£ - 2 - 6
	A Ogglesby	£ - 1 - 0	Sept 25	£ - 1 - 0
Sept 27	E J Russell	£1- 1 - 0	Oct 7	£1- 1 - 0
Sept 28	A J Daish	£ - 5 - 0	Sept 28	£ - 5 - 0
	S J K Eames	£ - 10 - 0	Sept 28	£ - 10 - 0

	E H Richards	£ - 10 - 0	Sept 30	£ - 10 - 0
	A Appleyard	£ - 5 - 0	Oct 7	£ - 5 - 0
Sept 29	Miss G Bates	£ - 5 - 0	Sept 29	£ - 5 - 0
Sept 30	A Cunningham	£ - 5 - 0	Sept 30	£ - 5 - 0
Oct 1	B Weston	£ - 0 - 6	Oct 1	£ - 0 - 6
Oct 2	W Game	£ - 0 - 6	Oct 2	£ - 0 - 6
	E Grey	£ - 1 - 6		£ - 1 - 6
	C Pearce	£ - 0 - 6		£ - 0 - 6
	W Pearce	£ - 1 - 0		£ - 1 - 0
Oct 7	K R Lewin	£ - 10 - 0		£ - 10 - 0
		£ 6 - 5 - 0		£ 6 - 5 - 0
Oct 11	Lt B A Keen	£ - 5 - 0		£ - 5 - 0
	W Buddin	£ - 5 - 0		£ - 5 - 0
		<u>£ 6 - 15 - 0</u>		<u>£ 6 - 15 - 0</u>
Handed to Mr Prescott in cash				

Letter from J Clayton to Dunkley

13th October 1915

Headquarters 2nd Division
France

p.s. A man named Andrew Cunningham has just written me. Used to be at the Lab. I have completely forgotten him. Who was he please

Dear Dunkley

I am very sorry to have missed writing to you before, but I have been so desperately busy for the last month that your letter & its request went clean out of my mind until I received a note from Daish. In any case however no harm has been done because I did not intend to contribute to Prescott because as I believe he is not doing his duty to his country and for a man not doing that is no time for getting married. If I am wrong in my estimate of Prescott please tell me for I have no wish to be unjust, and I will take back all the foregoing lines & apologise for my misconception. But anybody out here and people at home ought to realise that the need for men is far too pressing to be put aside. You would have no doubt of it whatsoever if you had seen, as I have seen and dealt with, the thousands upon thousands of wounded who have poured in from the line during the last three weeks (*battle of Loos*)

The French and we gave the Huns a terrific knock on the 8th of this month when they put up a great counter attack to try to recover their ground lost last month. It was a great pleasure to us to be the attacked instead of the attacking force. I believe they were simply mown down in thousands. But this is still a very long way

from the finish of the war. We shall perhaps begin to see the “start of the finish” when from 10 to 20 of such desperate attacks and counter attacks have taken place. Not before, in my estimation.

Today we had a moderate sized attack on, along part of the same line. This seems to have annoyed them for they turned on a big 12 inch gun they have lately got up here, on to our old town (where Daish & I used to meet). They sent in 4 or 5 real big crumps (12 inch) right into the town about 4 pm. A deafening noise they made too. After the third arrival we all took to the cellars, there being too much bricks & glass & pieces of shell flying about. A few days ago they used this same gun on the station but missed it by some few yards. There were enormous craters in a field nearby. If you see Daish will you tell him. I am sure he would be interested. Am too busy to write more now. Please give my kind regards to all at the Lab. Tell HB he will be next on the list for me to write to when I get time.

Yours sincerely

J Clayton

NOTICE PAPER to be sent to each man who has been attested and transferred to the Army Reserve under the provisions of the Royal Warrant of the 20th October, 1915

<u>Surname</u>	Ogglesby
<u>Christian name</u>	David Arthur
<u>Address</u>	Bellside Luton Road Harpenden

You are hereby warned that you will be required to rejoin for service with the Colours on the 5 June 1916

You should present yourself at 62 Queen’s Road Watford on the above date not later than 8.30 am

20 May 1916

29th October 1915

Letter from Keen to Dunkley

4th London General Hospital
Denmark Hill, S.E.

Dear Dunkley

I’ve rolled up here now & have every prospect of being here at least 3 weeks. Ugh! There is some new order that all dysentery patients have to be certified free of the disease before they can be let loose to their loving relations. Everybody is growsing:- the patients themselves all of whom are certified free before leaving Egyptian hospitals, & the doctors here, who say the hospital will be choked by men

obviously fit to go home. As it is the tests give negative results in over 99% of the cases! It's an unnecessary & tedious affair, conceived by some master brain at the W.O. I expect.

Will you please hold all letters etc. for me & send them ... You might let me know will you, if Miss Brenchley has relations living in Denmark Hill Road? There are people living close by the house I am in, of that name.

Regards to all. I'll come down as soon as I possibly can

Yrs

B A Keen

3rd November 1915

Letter from Gertrude Bates to Dunkley

Dear Mr Dunkley

Very many thanks for the many cheques. I wonder if you would mind not crossing them, the bank here is beginning to make bones about changing them for me so long as they are crossed. I said I would write & ask you before but I forgot to do so. I hope you are all flourishing. We are awfully busy here. The Matron of the 1st Eastern with 19 of the staff have all been sent abroad at a week's notice.

Goodbye I must do some work.

"Kind remembrances" to everybody

Yrs sincerely

G Bates

Address Label

date probably November 1915

(4107) Pte A. H. Bowden
Bed No. 14 B.1 Ward
Military Hospital
County Council Schools
Aylesbury
Bucks

3rd November 1915

Letter from Mrs Lawrence to Dunkley

Church Lane

Kimpton

Wednesday

Dear Sir

I write this note to say I have returned to Kimpton for a time hoping it will not inconvenience you to send the money to Lady Hampden

Yours sincerely

C Lawrence

5th November 1915

Letter from Gertrude Bates to Russell

Addenbrooke's Hospital
Cambridge

My dear Dr Russell

Thank you very much for your exceedingly kind letter & the kind thought which prompted it. Of course my people leaving Harpenden has made a tremendous difference to me but at the same time, whatever the circumstances, after having received a salary from you for over 3 years I do consider myself in honour bound to come back to you when the war is over, that is to say if you still want me to? I think it was most awfully nice of you to have written as you did & you have no idea how grateful I feel to you for doing so. I think the kindness you have shown me all along has been just splendid, & when I come back I will do my best to show you I have appreciated it. Then again there is another question. When you "loaned" me to war work you of course did not expect, like everyone else, that the war would last so long & I know I cannot possibly expect you to go on paying me half my salary ad lib, so therefore, if now you stop paying me anymore I shall perfectly understand & shall only feel intensely grateful for what I have received. In fact for some time past I have not felt it is quite fair to receive this money without having earned it, & as last month's instalment has not come I thought it most probable you had considered dropping it & I perfectly understand. This war seems such a hopeless affair & may go on for years & although you stop paying me any more I shall still consider I belong to you when the war is over. There is also another idea which has just struck me. If you come across someone else whom you would like to engage permanently as your Secretary please don't hesitate to do it for I don't see how anyone can expect to have their place kept for them forever. I would have answered your letter yesterday if I had a moment to do it in but now my time is so full I never seem to get any time to myself. I am no longer Matron's secretary only but have become a V.A.D. & though I still work at Addenbrooke's from 9 -12.45 the rest of my time from 1 pm to either 5 pm or 8.30 is spent at 1st Eastern. I am also now in rooms at Selwyn College so all the V.A.Ds. are lodged there but I still have my letters sent to Addenbrooke's as I get them by 9 instead of late evening. It is now 10 pm & this is the first chance I have had of writing today. We had a great disappointment on Wednesday. We heard Capt. Clayton was coming over & the day he was expected we got a line instead saying he was on his way back. Now I must really stop. Thank you again for your letter & I really do want to come back when the war is over if you still want me but if you feel you are not justified in keeping my place open any longer I shall perfectly understand & in any case I don't feel I ought to be receiving any more money greatly though I have appreciated it in the past.

With my kind regards

Yrs very sincerely

Gertrude Bates

5th November 1915

Letter from Russell to Keen

Lieut. Keen
4th London General Hospital
Denmark Hill, S.E.

My dear Keen

I was very pleased to get your letter this morning, and to hear that you are beginning to feel restless, which is a sure sign that you are getting on all right. I hope you will continue to make good progress and soon be out from Hospital. Whenever you are able to come here we shall be pleased to see you, and I hope you will give me a choice of days some time beforehand so that I may be sure of being free.

You will find the new laboratories considerably developed since your day, but the Staff has grown smaller owing to enlistments; however, all this and more you will learn when you come. I can only repeat that we shall all be delighted to see you.

Yours very truly

E.J.R.

6th November 1915

Letter from Russell to Lady Hampden

The Rt. Hon Lady Viscountess Hampden
The Hoo,
Welwyn
Herts

Dear Lady Hampden

May I ask if you will again kindly see that the value of the enclosed cheque for £1 reaches Mrs C. Lawrence – the wife of our employee G Lawrence who is on active service.

For some time past she has been living at Codicote and Mrs martin Smith kindly undertook to hand the sums over, but we hear she has now returned to Kimpton.

I enclose a stamped and addressed envelope in which she can return the voucher when she has signed it.

Yours faithfully

E J R

8th November 1915

Draft letter from Dunkley to Mrs Lawrence#

Dear Mrs Lawrence

When sending the cheque for £1 to Lady Hampden on Saturday last I forgot to enclose the receipt for you to sign. If she has not already asked you to sign a receipt will you please sign the enclosed & return it to me after you have received the money

Yours truly

G.T.D.

9th November 1915

Letter from Appleyard to Russell

Dear Dr Russell

Just a line to say that I was operated on yesterday afternoon, quite successfully. I have been very groggy up to noon today, but feel easier tonight. Fortunately I didn't get the sickness wh. so frequently follows ether. I write this flat on my back, so I'm sure you will excuse the brevity.

Kind regards

Yours sincerely

A Appleyard

Ward No. 2 General Infirmary, Leeds

12th November 1915

Letter from Appleyard to Dunkley

Leeds G.I.

Ward 2.

Dear Dunkley

Many thanks for your letter & for posting on those wh. Came for me. You will be glad to know that I am going to be shifted from here on Tuesday next to a bed at Hanley's house the Dr says that he can give permission for me to clear out so long as I remain in bed, but I cannot travel to Harpenden. How long I shall be at Hanley's I don't know. At any rate I think it might be better to get out of this as soon as possible – for reasons wh. If you had ever been an invalid & unable to put your feet on the floor you will readily understand. Kindly post me the enclosed letters there's a good boy!!

I am making the normal progress of patients who have undergone operations of this nature. The most dispiriting feature of the business is that one cannot have a bath, & one feels horribly slimy. I am very interested to hear about Eames and Scotty (*MacLennan?*). I hope they both get fixed up as they would wish. I am sorry I didn't think to go thro' this little lot before. Everybody here is jolly good to me – nurse, Drs and all. If it wasn't for certain features of this institution one

might look upon a rest here as a very decent holiday. Plenty to smoke, plenty to read, & plenty to eat & last but not least plenty of nice girls leave little to be desired.

Well cheer oh.

Yours sincerely

A. Appleyard

12th November 1915

Letter from Russell to Keen

Lieut B A Keen
Sambrooke Ward
4th London General Hospital
Denmark Hill, S.E.

My dear Keen

Any day except Monday and Thursday next week will suit me. Will you bring Mrs Keen, and both of you stay the night?

Yours very truly

14th November 1915

Letter from Keen to Russell

Sambrooke Ward
4th Gen. Hosp.
Denmark Hill
S.E.

Dear Dr Russell

I am apparently doomed to stop here for at least 3 weeks. A new W.O. order has been published forbidding discharge of all dysentery patients in future until 4 tests, extending over at least 3 weeks, show no evidence of the presence of dysentery or typhoid organisms. I hope to pay a visit to Rothamsted shortly as I am allowed to roam about providing I return by 6 pm. I find life here somewhat slow as I am now rapidly recruiting my strength, & getting correspondingly restless.

Dunkley & various members of the staff have kept me as well posted in Laby news as the chronic postal service over there permitted. I am expecting a certain amount of sick leave at the conclusion of the tests, & I hope then to pay a more extended visit to Rothamsted than I can at present

With kind regards

Yours sincerely

B A Keen

15th November 1915

Letter from Appleyard to Dunkley

Ward 2

G.I. Leeds

Dear Dunkley

Many thanks for your letter I am to be moved to Hanley's tomorrow evening. So my address will be

Vesper Mount

Vesper Road

Kirkstall

Nr Leeds

I am top hole today. Got on my feet for a few minutes the first time today. Felt just a bit unsteady but alright you know. Am thankful I can get up a bit. Please give my love to Bertie if he comes down to see you.

Kind regards. Yours sincerely

A. Appleyard

15th November 1915

Letter from Bowden to Dunkley

3/1st Herts Regt A. Coy

N. Lines

North Camp

Hut No. 17

Halton Park

Nr Tring

Herts

Dear Mr Dunkley

Just a few lines to let you know I moved here from Newmarket on Saturday. I must first of all ask you to please excuse this awful scrawl & paper, but this is all that is available at present. I went through my musketry course a few days ago & an order came through on Friday last for a draft of 200 to make up a draft for the 3rd Battalion so I was selected as one. I'm at present staying in a hut as you will see by my rather lengthy address. There are about 33 chaps in the hut. We are about 4 ½ miles from Tring Station & 3 miles from Wendover so you can guess it's not a very lively place. It's a huge camp situated on the hills so we generally have to walk through several inches of mud. We have to be very careful here about the lights, so I'm sending home for some candles. It seems quite like a hermit's life. I came away at such short notice from Newmarket that I left my officer before he could find another servant & I had also obtained a weekend pass having been absent from home for 10 weeks but of course that was cancelled. Mother came down to Newmarket the other weekend & spent a nice time there. I hope you are quite well. Please tell Bert

etc that I have shifted once again. I understand they are making a 4th battalion & the 2nd Battalion which is only about 400 strong is not sending any more drafts to the 1st Herts but will move with the whole Brigade. This 3rd Battalion is over 1,300 strong & this will supply drafts for the 1st. I must ask you once again to excuse this awful scrawl as I am not writing this under the best of conditions

Kindest regards

I remain

Yours sincerely

A H Bowden

15th November 1915

Letter from Keen to Russell

Sambrooke Ward

4th Lond. Gen. Hosp.

Denmark Hill, S.E.

Dear Dr Russell

I propose visiting the Laboratory on Friday next. Unfortunately I am not allowed to accept your kind offer of your last letter, as I am supposed, theoretically, to be in hospital by 6 pm. Practically, one may slip out later, provided the ward-sister is informed.

Mrs Keen is coming with me, & we shall arrive some time in the morning

Yours sincerely

B A Keen

19th November 1915

Letter from Weir to Dunkley

151 Clifton Road

Aberdeen

G T Dunkley Esq.

Rothamsted Experimental Station

Harpenden

Dear Mr Dunkley

Herewith you will find two notebooks which I took away and which I believe you make a point of keeping. Also some tables made up from the figures supplied by Arthur which you might show to Dr Russell.

I was very glad to hear from you about the various members of the Staff & their whereabouts.

If there are any communications the above address still holds good.

Trusting you are quite fit yourself

I am, yours sincerely

William Weir

24th November 1915

**Letter from Keen to Dunkley
Hospital**

Dear Dunkley

Please readdress letters to .. Station House Southend after today as I am leaving for sick-leave sooner than I expected.

I expect if the War Office sanction the medical Board's recommendation, That I shall spend this time in the bosom of my dotting family!

Yrs sincerely

B A Keen

P.S. Enclosed is P.O. for 5/- in discharge of my debt.

28th November 1915

Letter from Bowden to Dunkley

Bed No. 14

B 1. Ward

Military Hospital

Council Schools

Aylesbury

Bucks

Dear Mr Dunkley

Just a few lines to thank you for your letter, which I received a few days ago. You will see by the above address that I've had another 'move', although I'm sorry to say it was not such a pleasant one, as the previous ones have been. Mother has just been over this afternoon to pay me a visit & she informed me that she had gone through rather a trying ideal, through hearing such a lot of rumours about me. She had even heard 'the worst' but I'm pleased to say that I'm still alive & kicking! Before I start to relate my experiences of the last few days I must ask you to please excuse pencil & this awful scrawl, but my hand is a bit shaky. Well! I haven't been feeling very grand for some time past & when Mother paid me a weekend visit at Newmarket a few weeks ago she told me I ought to go & see a doctor. But I didn't want to make a fuss, so I let it 'blow over'. Of course having to live in stables & huts the last few months, they are certainly not ideal conditions, so on Sunday morning last I felt so queer on Church Parade that I had to get leave to go back to my hut. Feeling no better on Monday I reported sick (I might mention if you report sick & the doctor thinks otherwise you get CB). I got a day off duty & Tuesday morning I remember being carried on a stretcher to Tring Hospital where I remained until I was brought here in a motor ambulance on Thursday. I reckon I've got a nervous breakdown & a slight attack of dysentery. Any rate I feel pretty weak. Well! I think that concludes my story. I've been living on milk for the last few days, so I shan't get very fat on that. I reckon I ought to have taken Ma's advice & seen the doctor before. Still I hate making a fuss, but I had to give in on Sunday last. Time seems to

hang rather heavily here, I suppose it's because I've been used to leading an active life. Lights out here at 8 pm, so it seems a long night. I should like to sample some of the Aylesbury ducks here, the place is noted for. I feel rather hungry. I never would have believed that it could make anyone so weak

Well! I don't think I have any more news this time, so I will draw these few lines to a close, hoping you have been able to read them.

I remain
Yours sincerely
Athel H Bowden

29th November 1915

Letter from Andrew Cunningham to Dunkley
5 Brunton Place
Edinburgh

Dear Mr Dunkley

Many thanks for your letter and also for forwarding the book which I received last night

I enclose a P.O. for 5/- towards Mr Prescott's present and also 4^d in stamps in payment of the postage on the book.

As probably you have heard the death of my mother has changed my plans for the future. I do not intend to return to Rothamsted at present. In fact I have now applied for a commission in the Sanitary Service but am not very hopeful of getting it

I am surprised that the letter to Mr Clayton did not reach Rothamsted.

With kind regards
Andrew Cunningham

29th November 1915

Letter from C (Clara) Lawrence to Dunkley
Codicote

Dear Sir

Just a short note to say I was taken ill at Kimpton so had to return to Codicote as I could not stop there alone so if you would kindly forward the money to Codicote I should be much obliged

Yours faithfully
C Lawrence

30th November 1915

Letter from the Board of Agriculture to Russell
Board of Agriculture and Fisheries
Whitehall Place,
London, S.W.

No. A. 21924/1915

Sir,

I am directed by the President of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries to address you on the subject of the position of members of the staff of agricultural Colleges and Institutes, aided by grants from the Board, in relation to existing military situation.

While fully recognising that the matter is ultimately one for individual decision, Lord Selborne has gathered from the number of references that have been addressed to him that some expression of opinion from him would be welcome, and, therefore, he would invite your consideration of the public letter addressed by the President of the Board of Education to members of the teaching profession with the terms of which Lord Selborne is in complete sympathy, and in which the guiding principles which should actuate members of the Education service are indicated. He joins with Mr Henderson in emphasising the fact that the claims of military service relatively to those of education have now increased, and in expressing the hope that the education service of the country will meet the changed situation with no less readiness and devotion than it has shown hitherto. Lord Selborne is aware that the response of members of the staffs of Agricultural Institutions – especially of the younger members – has not fallen behind that of members of the public services generally, but he feels that there are still cases in which an offer to join the Army might be made.

On the other hand, Lord Selborne fully recognises the value of the services which many connected with Agricultural Education and Research have rendered, and may continue to render, in assisting to augment or maintain the food supplies of the country; he feels that the demands for military service on such individuals should in some degree be relaxed, and he considers that the principle which should regulate the consideration of applications for permission to volunteer is the maintenance of a nucleus of the staff in every department in which the absence of indispensable members would render revival difficult after the war. Some descriptions of purely educational work might thus be reduced in volume: while as regards research it may be desirable to suspend certain activities if no permanent injury to the work need be apprehended.

Each individual case should receive careful consideration, and where eligible men can be set free in the manner indicated and provisional measures for carrying on the work can be made, the necessary arrangements should be carried out without delay. It may, however, be desirable, at any rate for the time being, that any member

of staff who wishes to join the Army should not enlist for immediate service with the Colours but be attested and grouped in Section B of the Army Reserve.

The President would also be glad if, in considering how the situation should be dealt with, the need for providing facilities for the education of women in agricultural pursuits were borne in mind. If it is possible to give material aid in this direction, it might be a justification for retaining members of staff who, otherwise, should be encouraged to join the Army

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant
Sydney Olivier
Secretary

The Director
Rothamsted Experimental Station
Harpenden
Herts

4th December 1915

Draft letter from Russell to Mrs Martin Smith

Mrs E Martin Smith
Codicote Lodge
Welwyn
Herts

Dear Madam

I understand that Mrs Clara Lawrence has returned to Codicote during the past week & I should be much obliged if you would pay her the £1 due to her for the 4 wks ending today. I enclose cheque for that amount & also a receipt form which Mrs Lawrence should & return.

Yours faithfully
E.J.R.

10th December 1915

Letter from Keen to Dunkley

G.E.Station House
Southend

Dear Dunkley

Yes, please continue forwarding my cheques to Mrs Keen's account at Southend.

Also please send on all letters to Southend.

I'm feeling much fitter now I am getting plenty of exercise.

Kind regards to all

Yours sincerely

B A Keen

10th December 1915

Letter to H Salisbury

Messrs H Salisbury & Son
Builders
Leyton Road
Harpenden

Dear Sirs

Laboratory House

If you will let me have your account for the Drawing Room grate I can get it through this month. I think it would be better to do this rather than wait until the other is finished.

Yours faithfully

18th December 1915

Letter from G C Sawyer to Dr Russell

Y M C A

H.M. Forces on Active Service
A Company 28th Res Bat. R.F. Regt.
12 Crown St, Cowley Road
Oxford

Dear Dr Russell

After a very strenuous week end I have only just found time for any correspondence, so I am taking this opportunity to send the information which I was unable to give when in Harpenden. In the first place, I find my pay amounts to 7/- per week to which an allowance of 1/9 is added for the purpose of providing necessities for cleaning and repairing equipment. We are now in billets in Oxford – variable in quality, I believe, but quite comfortable in my case - & so far as I can hear at present we are likely to be here until the spring, after which we move to Epsom. The life seems very strange to me at present, but I am feeling all the better for the change up to now, & already I have developed what is for me an enormous appetite. The men here seem to be composed of several classes & several of those I have already come into contact with are exceptionally nice fellows. Please excuse this ill worded & hurried scrawl. I am writing in an upstairs room & directly beneath there is a sacred service of some description in full swing, the pen moreover seems to be a mixture of a pin-point & a spider's web

With kind regards, Believe me

Yours sincerely

G C Sawyer

18th December 1915

Letter from H Salisbury to Russell

Dr Russel
“Laboratory House”

Dear Sir,

We received the invoice for tiles Dec: 10th., but they are not yet to hand, we have made enquiries this end, but Railway cannot trace yet, and we have also written to the Firm to hurry forward. We will let you know as soon as they come in.

Yours faithfully

H. SALISBURY & SON, LTD

18th December 1915

Letter from Wells (Clerk of Works) to Dunkley

185 Hainault Road

Leytonstone E.

Dear Mr Dunkley, I was not able to get down to Harpenden Today to wish you a good bye, but if alls well I shall hope to see you one day next week, if I do not please allow me to wish you all the very best wishes and compliments of the season.

Should any letters be addressed to me at the laboratory will you kindly redirect & post them on to me.

Yours faithfully

J. Wells

Clerk of Works

G.T.Dunkley

19th December 1915

Letter from W Buddin to Russell

1st London Sanitary Coy

Wesleyan Schools, Manor Street

Kings Road, Chelsea, SW.

My Dear Dr Russell

My name was sent in to the War Office about 10 days ago together with an application to relieve one of our men in France, but I have heard no more and expect the application is going “through the usual channels”. If it does get through I may be packed off at a minute’s notice but I shall be rather pleased if I get to France.

I have just discovered that a Lt. Davidson who was transferred to us a fortnight ago was a Bd. of Agriculture Scholar in my year and had put in a year at Berlin at insect diseases. He enlisted soon after war was declared and after 3 months as a private obtained a commission with the Royal Irish Rifles. After 12 months with them in Ireland he has now transferred to us. As he enlisted in 1914 I expect he will

be allowed to run the last year of his Schol. after the war if such things as English Boards of Agriculture still exist.

I hope to be able to see you before I go off but opportunities are rather rare. The Laby staff appears to be rather low. Has Prescott gone off to Egypt yet? It may shortly be more exciting there than it is here.

Very best wishes for 1916

Yours sincerely

Walter Buddin

21st December 1915

Letter from Dr Russell to G C Sawyer

Private G C Sawyer
A. Company
28th Reserve Btn
R.F. Regt
12 Crown Street
Cowley Road
Oxford

Dear Sawyer

I am very glad to get your letter and to hear that you are in a comfortable billet, and still more pleased to hear that you already feel the benefit of the change. I am sure it will do you no end of good.

We have been into the question of pay and find we can allow you £1 p[er] week as from January 1st. This will be paid into your account at Barclay's. Up to December 31st you will of course get your usual salary. We shall be glad to hear from you at any time you can write, and I hope you will have good luck both in your billet and in the men with whom you are brought in contact. We shall expect to see you changed out of all recognition when next you come here

Yours very truly

Letter from K R Lewin to Dr Russell

21 December 1915

7 D.C.L.I.

B.E.F.

Dear Dr Russell

It is, I'm afraid, some time since I wrote. For about three months my correspondence has been passing through a trough. The limiting factor, I suspect is comfort; in which case no crest is to be expected for some time yet. However, I may be able to get my leave some time in January; so there is something to look forward to.

When I get it I shall have to spend most of my time at home, but if possible I hope to pay Harpenden a flying visit

Well, we are shortly moving into a water-logged support trench, where we shall probably spend Christmas. With the help of that popular drink “Whisky & trench water” we hope to keep moderately, if damply cheerful.

Best wishes to yourself & Mrs Russell & the children for a merry Christmas

Yours sincerely

K.R.Lewin

22nd December 1915

Letter from A (Anne) Bowden to Dunkley

3 Coleswood Road

Harpenden

Dear Mr Dunkley

Many thanks for the great kindness bestowed upon Athel.

With the compliments of the season

Yours faithfully

A Bowden

23rd December 1915?

Letter from Mrs Lawrence to Dunkley

Codicote

Dear Sir

A card to say I have sent the letter on he has moved to Thetford thanking you for your kindness

C Lawrence

23rd December (by postmark) 1915

Postcard from G C Sawyer to Dunkley

Dear D.

Will you forward any letters that come for me to the lab. Have just ret'd. from 15 mile route march – excellent for the appetite, but not of much use for the feet! Will write later, time fully occupied at present

Kind regards

G.C.S.

26th December 1915

letter from Prescott to Russell

45 Clement Street
Accrington

Dear Dr Russell

I left the phosphate samples entirely with Arthur so I have no ideas what results he obtained, his duplicates seemed to be alright. I believe he simply did the HCl soluble phosphate in each case - the horn meal was Kjeldahled to obtain the total P₂O₅.

I am sorry there seems to be a mistake somewhere but I am afraid I cannot say where.

Yours sincerely

J.A. Prescott

27th December 1915

Letter from Brenchley to Russell

15 Dagmar Road
Camberwell S.E.

Dear Dr Russell

How many copies of reprints of my "Annals" (Stiles) paper are to be ordered? The proofs have come, and the requisite number has to be attached to them before return. 200 is about the usual quantity

Would it be possible to have a door cut through from the sitting room to library? There are several women on the staff and it will not be practicable for us to use the door thro' Dr Miller's room! It is a very long way round, either up or down stairs and a door would be a very great convenience.

With all good wishes

Yours sincerely

Winifred E. Brenchley

Note by Dunkley

200 in sheet

50 in wrapper

In addition to author's free copies

Also a note say GTD will talk about door

28th December 1915

Letter from Appleyard to Dunkley
328 High Street
Bangor

Dear Dunkley

I came here yesterday and I should be glad if you would kindly forward any letters for me to the above address. I hope you have had a pleasant Xmas and that the new Year will bring victory & peace.

I must say that I never spent a sadder time in my life than last week. I am glad to get away again, but sorry to say my father has not been the same man since he got the bad news. I see a change in him and fear it will shorten his days. My young brother was his favourite and he has naturally taken it very badly. At the same time he is anxious for me to serve and I shall be pleased to get fixed up. I hope you continue to receive good news of your boy. I think I can appreciate what parents feel in these days.

Kind regards

Yours sincerely

A. Appleyard

29th December 1915

Letter from Dunkley to Brenchley

Dr W.E.Brenchley
15 dagmar Road
Camberwell S.E.

Dear Dr Brenchley

Dr Russell has asked me to reply to your letter re reprints of your paper appearing in the "Annals". He would like 200 copies in sheet, that is without wrappers (for future binding in Rothamsted memoirs) and 50 in coloured wrappers for distribution as necessary. These numbers are of course additional to authors free copies.

Dr Russell will talk to you about the suggested door between your sitting room and the library. As a matter of fact he does not want to have any doors from the wing to the library on account of risk of fire.

I would mention that your silver still misbehaved itself the same evening you left us. The rubber supply pipe slipped off the glass connecting tube and completely flooded the floor. Grace has since wired the rubber to the glass tube and it is doing alright.

Trusting you are having a happy time

I am, Yours faithfully

31st December 1915

Letter from Russell to W Buddin

Walter Buddin Esq.
1st London Sanitary Corps
Weslyan Schools, Manor Street
King's Road, Chelsea, SW

My dear Buddin,

I was very glad to hear from you, and trust that you will get an opportunity of running up here before you leave for France; we shall be very pleased to see you now or at any time. I am particularly glad that you have the prospect of going, and you ought to do very useful work there. Both Clayton and McLennan like it, and they feel that they are doing something real.

Prescott has not yet gone to Egypt, and I am not sure whether it is all settled; we have not had the notification yet.

With kind regards, and hoping to see you soon

Yours very truly
