

## Photocopies of letters from HEA Platt

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### Letter 18<sup>th</sup> March 1916

18/Mar/16

137 BY COLDSTREAM GUARDS,  
BRITISH EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

My Darling girl  
How out of you great big heart try and  
forgive you hub for being worse than a pig  
and not writing.  
It is indeed a crime which merits severe condemnation.  
Men are forgive he.  
We have been practising all sorts of fence  
fire manoeuvres which of course are strange  
to an ex cavalryman, next comes : but I  
think that I've mastered that well enough.  
But in the meantime the effort takes  
it from me to write for a day.  
We are having Spats tomorrow which  
will be pleasant  
That is once told we shall not have  
to speak again for some time : as you  
know I'm a miserable talker but I

Mon 2

which the men will enjoy them.

Saw an ex MFT soldier who came some  
way to see me; he was a reservist  
& transferred soldier volunteer to the infants.  
Always a bad walker he did it fine  
carrying a pack of much advantage  
so they put him in the transport.  
It was kind of him to come up  
appreciate his height; the mechanics  
Borden from ~~the~~ <sup>now</sup> regulations as no  
My own cigarettes first come back  
then say tomorrow evening  
Mrs. S. says she will go to  
whichever wife will go well for her  
~~she~~ <sup>now</sup> in all

There is to be beer at the camp  
mainly at the  
and will help you along now in with  
of us; not now of importance of  
I am getting stronger & at least

1ST BY COLDSTREAM GUARDS,  
BRITISH EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

I see in the ~~news~~ paper there is a bill at Verdun : also talk of peace : I wonder how long it will be.  
I still hold to September 1916. Don't you think so?  
What a mere little time since if the South affair comes off : and I still think it might.

~~W~~elington Chen is from Egypt : it will do him good to be sent into the Sun for a while. great work on River fort : the Germans are wonderful. Apparently Gambetta is having a successful time. It will be interesting for her if she sees Chretien, Thiers, a Senlis.

4.

Glad Eric is being nice about ~~the~~.  
I fear; as you say it will be difficult as I  
haven't got any ~~so~~ set up ~~now~~ ~~any~~  
book.

I know the old Turks or rather young Turks  
are far settling down comfortable like if  
they can't: truly they are big ~~Spaniard~~  
~~less~~ ~~but~~ ~~the~~ ~~Almighty~~ ~~of~~ ~~some~~ ~~very~~ ~~good~~  
reason.

It would ~~would~~ ~~been~~ ~~a~~ ~~wonderful~~ ~~end~~  
~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~celebrate~~ ~~the~~ ~~downfall~~ ~~of~~  
to him the Society Sofia. ~~in~~ ~~of~~ ~~now~~  
But like Bernard Shaw the Almighty  
does not prefer too definite ~~success~~  
but art. ~~not before~~ ~~as~~ ~~part~~ ~~of~~ ~~greatest~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~time~~  
~~which~~ ~~is~~ ~~present~~ ~~with~~

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1ST BATTALION COLDSTREAM GUARDS,  
BRITISH EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

I'm wondering how you liked the  
verses we wrote they made a  
splendid song.  
Laurence you knows D. Hug & he says  
to send a copy of it to him I  
think it's got the merit of  
We are going to write another  
couple songs some day; rather  
amusing to a & author to be  
song.

go & see ~~a film now & then my~~  
own! please enjoy yourself for we  
are I still feel it.

6.

Not many chores are finished yet so I  
about, I miss the birds but used to walk  
creek with MacLane; we still soon  
be into spring & the are will be more &  
able to organize family from warmer.  
It's still too cold for birds  
to hang about. All is here now except widow  
and cat which is a c. friend

January  
and day's end is  
out of things right away & now  
to keep this in

Letter from wife Ella 7<sup>th</sup> May 1916

TELEPHONE  
266 ESHER.

KINGWOOD,  
THAMES DITTON.

May 7<sup>th</sup> 1916.

My darling son,

I am sorry but I  
have missed the post to you to-  
day. The first time since Aug: 17<sup>th</sup>  
1914. I think but it was all  
my fault. Went to church on  
the way back visited Glad-  
Fry who looks very very sick. What  
devil is worse of hers has ruined  
her more than I can say. And a  
the top of it. she has not seen  
a doctor for so month. and is just  
about at the end of her tether.  
Poor little gal. I feel very sorry for her  
because she's been so plucky all  
through - I do hope he will  
get to a few flying Batt. & have to  
come home to it. She need him  
badly. and I know just what she  
is feeling like -  
Well. after leaving Q.E yes. well.

Ad M<sup>2</sup>: Campbell and walked to their  
house with him. Mr C. was in  
front. and sailing along in my Rd.  
green mean took! She said to me -  
"I feel very guilty because I am wear-  
ing a made in watch which does not be-  
long to me! and we each make  
out where it is!!!! Tablau when I  
said I had lost the company.  
Mr C. one day ages ago!! They  
did laugh.

Some here to find Carlos B. and a  
young lady than I hope not go  
to marry. She's a f<sup>t</sup>; blonde  
and from Newfoundland. Pas-  
mal put a bromide. Carlos in  
great health and vis a even  
The bad restored down stayed  
to lunch and only left at 6 P.M.  
So I could not write for the post-  
honey. and a Mrs Christopher brother  
also came - and I expect by now  
you know why he came. Deb has  
come away with the flying man. after  
that and Sue is with her - & as you  
seen you get about it?  
I would write to him just now. because  
the less put on paper the better -

but please tell him to look up on Longwood as a home and tell him I  
would love to have see.

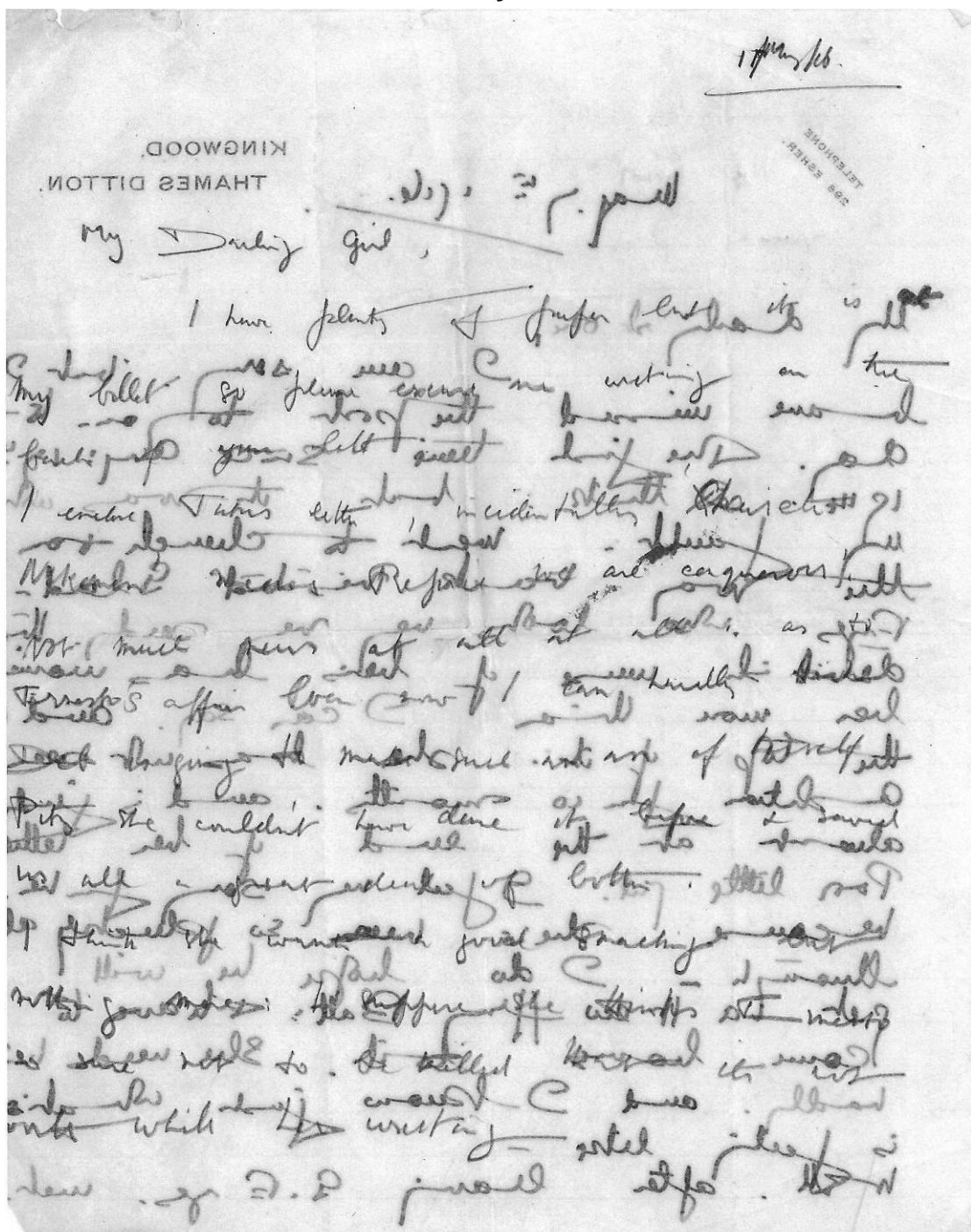
Somehow I thought Deb would be in  
less the last time I saw her - but as  
she had said that she would  
not do anything till after the war, I  
thought that all would be well -  
well enough of that.

I just a very tired silly to bed to-  
night - we just a little bit only  
sort, as it was very rainy &  
damp since our return and it a  
very change after the long day of  
little hunting! We fell down too late  
all to the many & cut one deer &  
both hands pretty badly. It was a  
job to the novel sort of both. & he  
cried rather which made him very  
tired. He was just Nummy's baby again  
rested his head on my shoulder  
when I undressed him. & he was  
asleep in 5 minutes.

It has a day off tomorrow so I  
shall have him all to myself. Wind  
will be a great joy.

I was over so glad to see you full  
ps. of the 1st to day. It had gone.

Last Letter from HEA Platt 11<sup>th</sup> May 1916





and so get about and get enough <sup>8.</sup>  
I'm so sorry the only is out of sorts but hope  
you will soon be back & know &  
will I soon be back & you all & weathers &  
Duty Washington is such he is full of  
trouble & heat but I purrse have the  
officer, men, Sanctioning <sup>D</sup> action well  
the men who took them for carrying with  
in the tank <sup>and</sup> with green fields  
in green as red <sup>and</sup> to do, do &  
be fully well no more need  
Bless <sup>it</sup> up my attitude at first to the  
ridiculous so I must go my way to the  
water line by Hopkinstown get the big  
the says down the last respectful being  
good enough to say <sup>and</sup> best  
Hi the real turning point <sup>is</sup> a good  
It is later about not ~~now~~ that you work  
high <sup>as</sup> far as the sit would stand  
Next <sup>as</sup> far as the sit would stand  
All the rest <sup>is</sup> of days & we think  
of but <sup>as</sup> when <sup>it</sup> is at p. 28

## References

1. Box held at Imperial War Museum Archives, London relating to Captain H.E.A. Platt  
71/28/3 Letters to wife, inc Letter 18<sup>th</sup> March 1916, Last letter 11<sup>th</sup> May 1916