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France

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Dear Dad.

I was very pleased to have your letter, and to hear that all is well at home, I received Aunt Winnie's parcel just previous to your letter, and have written back to her acknowledging same.

We moved up to the firing line yesterday, after having 6 days rest, and are now in the reserve trenches, where we will no doubt remain for a day or two, before going into the front line. I am in good health, and am as well as can be expected, the weather is not as cold as it has been lately,

but it is raining, which is not very pleasant in these parts.

I have not heard from Jack or Tom yet, I expect Tom thinks too much of himself, now that he has got into the army, I hope he won't find the life too hard, he is not very strong I know, and I hope that it will have a beneficial effect on him. He will no doubt manage to obtain leave some time, at least I hope so, if its only for the sake of your leaving one of us home. I only wish I could come home myself, but it dont ^{look} like it, as leave has not commenced in our company yet, I hope it wont be long, as it is the one thing above all others, that I am looking forward to.

I have not much news to relate, judging by your letter, all the happenings seem to be at home now,

I am satisfied that you gave my
vote in favour of Stanton. Looking
at the figures, I don't think he
had much difficulty to contend with,
as every body seemed to be up against
the other fellow. I did not take much
interest in the election until I heard some
of the boys talking about it, they
were all in favour of Stanton, and
hoped he would get in.

Fancy having the recruiting
sergeants round the office, did they
go round our offices as well. It was
very lucky of Harford Goulson to
offer himself, and I am surprised
that they only got him, out of all
that crowd, they may as well come now,
and join what they like, as being com-
pelled to in a few days time, they will
have no option then, and will have to
go where the authorities direct them.