

D. James 657

12 Platoon No 4 Coy.

1st Batt. Welsh Guards.

M. E. F.

France

Dec 21st 1915

Dear Mother,

I am pleased to say that I received your parcel last night, and to hear that you are all well at home. The mine pies were very nice, and I want you to thank Mrs. Evans for contributing the sweets. I also had a letter with a Postal order from Aunt Winnie by the same post, and am writing to her to-day.

I expect that you have had my letter and the Piddie's their post-cards by now, I wrote them a few days ago, when we were back for a 6 days rest, we have come up to the line since, and are at present in reserve. I am also sending a few Xmas cards off, I managed to buy a few English ones at the last town we were in, I don't

Know whether you will get them by Christmas day,
but I suppose that it will be just the same
as long as you get them.

A Chap by the name of W. J. Probert
called to see me a few days ago, I expect you
know who I mean, from Merthyr, he belongs to
the R.A.M.C. and happened to be billeted in
the same vicinity as myself. I was not in at
the time, but he left his name and particulars,
so I went to see him the following day. He
wishes to be remembered to you.

I have not seen Jack yet, he is not
far away, and I am sure that we will meet
sooner or later. I am making enquiries as to the
whereabouts of his Company every day, and
although I know where he is, I am unable to
get to him until we come closer together, as
we cannot leave our units. A number of the
R. W. F. are billeted in the room below us, but
they belong to the 14th Battalion, they came from
the front line last night. We are in reserve

for a couple of days, and in pretty comfortable
bellets about a mile behind the front line. It is
a stylish little town, and the majority of the in-
habitants still live here, despite the fact that
the place is occasionally shelled by the Germans.
I hear that a civilian was killed yesterday.

We will be out of the trenches Christmas
day, and in the place where we are at present,
and it has been arranged, that we have our Christ-
mas dinner, when next we go down the line for a
rest, which I think will be ~~at~~ New Year day. It
is a Battalion affair, and was arranged by the men
as to whether we would have it here, in reserve, or wait
until we came out. We choose the latter, as it will be
much more convenient for everybody.

I hope you will enjoy your Christmas,
although Jack and I won't be present, I expect
you will manage to obtain leave. I had a
letter from Tim a couple of days ago, and will
write to him to day, he says that he wrote to
me a long time ago. I did not, however get it, due

no doubt, to the fact that he did not address
it sufficiently, the last one I had from him
only bore my number and regiment, but more was
needed to make certain of reaching me. I heard
from Letty about a week ago, and have sent her
and Aunt Olive, & man cards.

Remember me to all the people, and Miss
Betsy for me, I wish I could send them some
presents from France, but parcels are difficult
things to send home. I am looking forward
to sampling your cake and pudding, I trust that
it will reach me alright.

I am in pretty good health and spirits
and getting along alright. I hope you are well
and everyone else at home. I shall write to dad
next time.

Your Loving Son
David