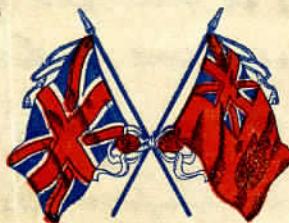


No 441507



Pte J Hutchinson
A boy - 53rd Battalion

C. E. F.

Wed May 10th

Stationed at Bramshott Camp.

My dear wife

I received yours & Ray's letters today, and am very sorry to see that baby is not thriving, poor little fellow, I hope by this time that he is better. I am also sorry to see that you are taking our separation so badly, I think that has probably something to do with baby's illness. Of course I don't want to be forgotten, but I really wish you could take it a bit better, try dear and look on the bright side, and look forward to the time when we will meet again. God knows I miss you too, but I always try to keep smiling. Yours of course is the hardest part, as the life we lead in the army is a cheery one. Try dear for the children's sake and mine, to buck up a little. I am also sorry to see about my little Nettie, and hope she is better again. I consider if you did the best thing in getting Pringle to quit at the S. P. when it was hurting her health and if you ~~can~~ manage to give her a respite at the

Burnes College, it will be a fine thing, she deserves
it, as she has been a good daughter to us, but you will
have a struggle this summer. I am wearying to see
Jenin photo; in his uniform, he will make a good
soldier. Glad that Effie is getting on at school
and will be able to take her entrance this summer,
I will have to save up the \$5 that I promised, I
must be getting behind a bit, I still owe Jim \$1, and
I have not sent the children's dollar, for a while,
but I don't know how they pay us here, as all I have
got to date is £4, and I had £14-10 coming when I
left Canada. We have all got pay books here, but it
is an awkward business counting it up, as our pay is
\$1-10 a day and of course we are paid sterling. I
borrowed 3 of when I went to Scotland, and I paid
Bella £1 of our old a/c. and I still have about \$5 left
so, didn't spend so much on my trip. I promised to send
£1 occasionally to Merlethen. You have no idea how
kind everyone was up there. I saw Old Mr Johnstone
going to the station one night, and went down with
him, I was to go to Walkerburn and see her besides,
but did not manage it. Now dear don't worry about me
as I am perfectly safe yet, and after all there are
other ways of dying than ~~the~~ besides being killed in battle
anyway we have a just cause, and it is worth any