Letter No. 103.

Jan. 20th 1917.
19 Portman St.
London. W.

Dear Uncle.

Letter No 108 dated Dec. 29th turned up to-day, I got some days ago. How uncertain the mails are! I wrote you last on the 13th but haven't the slightest recollection as what I told you. The past week has been such a rush I haven't stopped to think for days. I must tell you of our celebrating morning of eight duly. It is terribly great to be

living a more or less normal life again. Well I got out to the Cousin Maude last Saturday afternoon - arrived fairly early & had a good talk, but didn't like Maude as well as when I saw her before. Only the youngest boy is at home, a nice little chap - Cedric I imagine is the favorite, & from his photograph is a very attractive youth & seems to be doing splendidly at the Banning school. Mr Hardy is splendid he says a commission for Jane since they have been making both ends meet. She doesn't know what to think about the eldest boy - of course she says the most awful things about his old love affair, but she wouldn't go into much detail to me - though I suppose the whole affair was upsetting. Cousin Archie came in just before I left - to me he is so like Cousin Wagles & curiously enough though he looks deep broodin'. I suppose it is the Hardy look. Sunday afternoon I had lunch at the Childs & I took the baby out to feeding in the Fields one of the girls who was work

us at Lemnos & Salonica, Whom we both like. She is at a ~~in~~ convalescent hospital for Tommies & Busby Park. Such an attractive place – very fully furnished, finely surrounded by bois & within a few minutes walk of that gorgeous avenue of chestnut trees. We were big tale when we got back to go to the hospital to lord for a meal & dropped into Lyons for a sandwich – one never goes out but they send enough & yet it is difficult to avoid it.

Ernie thanked me as

Saturday he was in town again, having been given three weeks leave as being discharged from hospital. I didn't want him to go to the expense & taking me up to dinner yet kind he would want to do something – so invited him to dine with us. We went to the Cobelins again, as it is the same price as here & much nicer. They really give a splendid meal for 3/6. Then Bruce invited me to go to the Pantomime on Wed. night. He wanted to see it & as I had never been to a pantomime before

I was delighted. Oh! I forgot to mention I ran in to see Aunt Clemmie for a minute in the afternoon. Her cold is much better & they really got off on the Wed. to Newmarket. Lucy! but she must be trying to live with these days, she does get so worked up about everything from the War to the lack of coals on the fire! She really is I think far from well. Tuesday I rested in my bed. Then Wednesday was my last chance to see Nora, so invited her & Ethel Bogash to come to the club for tea, or milk. Nora spent the week end with Aunt Nora, & since coming back to London stayed at the same place as Ethel is living. & had a great old time apparently trying to get her shopping done. I-finds everything has gone up in price. That reminds me I didn't tell you Tues. but went looking for a silk sweater for you, but anything in black & white or grey & white costs 4 3/4 or 4 guineas so needless to say I didn't buy one.

Nora has promised to write you for me Oh!

John as soon as he will arrive in Montreal, so I think you would like to see her. Well I ~~had~~ after tea turned to 79 Portland St. & found Ernie waiting for me. The train went in @ 7.30 p.m. & we sat up until 11.45 p.m.!!! Nearly too long, but it ~~was~~ was wonderful. Ernie took Guildford to the station as "Puss in Boots" to call till you more than I can.
Ernie leaves this end of this week to spend the remainder of his leave with Mr Powell & Mink. London he finds runs away with his money too quickly for a prolonged

stay. Treddles to day at
Thos. Saws a wreck &
tested it in my hand B.
The previous day I only
got off duly at a quarter
to five & it was a perfect
rush. Yesterday Friday
had my p.m. & built and
Smith dam to the
Bridal Path & the pickers
there - We had planned as
the place being open until
4.30, but to our disgust it
closed @ 4 p.m. & only had
a few minutes to look
round. Will try again
another day. From there
we did a little shopping,
then to the Club for tea, then
met Cobble another girl

back from Salonica (who goes to Shorncliffe on Monday) & took her to the Gobelins for dinner. So we have had a big week, & hope next week who are the Kaiser will burn up.

Unfortunately Mrs Lus came home & to a great success – I may never wear it, but it is a comfort to know it's there for any necessary occasion, & as I hope to get home or leave Somewhere during the coming year, it will be nice to have it there. It has been raining a little every day recently, & very dull & damp. However in another month or two it ought to improve. We are quite busy at the hospital but always manage to get an hour off. All the larger hospitals are very quiet – expect it's the peace before the storm. Am afraid there are some really bad times ahead. By the way had a line from Aunt Phoebe enclosing 10 shillings as a present, & she asks me not to thank her in the letter I write except it is on a separate slip, so think it wiser to do so though you. Expect the dolefull weather Uncle H.

to know. I do wish the Lendick dance is – but it can't be helped now. So please think kind for me & say I wish mentical is when writing. Haven't quite decided yet what I shall present myself with. I'll tell Bill I have never looked him over. Let Kenny up, but ~~with~~ Lewink really had a minnie. Will try & do so next week, but no doubt by now the bus left. It's late & I must turn. Haven't time to read yr letters so will answer them later. Always love to you & love to Uncle from Lilie.