

DIREKTOR

Hospital, England,
Oct. 14th, 1918

To Maggie,

My dear wife,

It is with pleasure that I now find time to write you a few lines to let you know I am going on fairly well at present and sincerely hope you and the dear little babes are in the best of health. I wrote you from No. 26 General Hospital, France, but it was not much; as I was feeling pretty blue at the time, but feel much better now. I thank God for his goodness, as I have a lot to be thankful for. My head is very sore as yet and aches all the time, but otherwise I feel very good.

Well, I was wounded on Sept. 30, just to the left of Cambria. I was hit on the left side of the head about 9 o'clock in the morning after five hours fighting but we had the Germans on the run when I left our boys and I guess by all reports they have been running ever since. My wound was dressed by one of my comrades and I walked about five miles to the dressing station, where I was again looked after. Got a good cup of hot tea and cake from the Y. M. C. A. From there I was a stretcher case and drove in a car to the rail head where I was put on the train and landed at No. 26 Gen. Hosp. France. There I had my operation performed by a very fine doctor and two English nurses who were really fine and very kind to me indeed. When I came out of the gas and ether she said to me "Bertrand, you are a fine singer." I said "Quit your kidding, I'm a wheeler Wilson, not a singer," but she told me that I sang "There's a long, long trail a'winding" all the way through for her, and she said it was fine. She said she supposed when I got to England and was feeling well I would sing it for them over there so I asked her if I would make England this time and she said "To be sure."

That's how I found out I was coming to England to Hospital, so on the morning of Oct. 12th I left No. 26, France, for England. I took the Red Cross train for Calais, where we took the hospital ship "Princess Lizzie" and landed at Dover, England, at about 4 o'clock the same day, was put on the train for about 5 hours ride across England to Northampton, where I am now settled for the present, and a beautiful place it is. I am getting the best of care. It is a V. A. D. hospital and the doctor is a fine gentleman and the nurses are also very kind and hard working. In fact it is a better place than I was before, so you see I will be all right, because I could get no better care anywhere, unless I was with you at home which I don't suppose can be yet awhile. But I hope by God's goodness it shall not be long until we can all be home; as things look pretty bright for us now as far as the war is concerned. Fritz is on the run, as you can see by the papers and maybe it will soon be ended. I hope by God's will it is as I am very tired of living underground in France and I am not the only one. Every one seems fed up, but we are winning and why worry, ha ha. The Red Cross lady was in to see me today and left me a shaving kit, so that is pretty good. Eh, what?

I have not heard from Monto yet but sincerely hope he is all right and I am writing to him today. Also to Earl O'Connor to let him know I am here in England.

I will close for this time, hoping to hear from you soon. Give my best respects to all.

I remain yours as ever.

PTE. F. BERTRAND.

7 NOVEMBER 1919

MARMORA HERALD

Buried With Military Honors

Lieut. Frank Bertrand Laid to Rest on Friday Last

The sad death occurred in Deloro Hospital on Tuesday, April 22nd, 1924, of one of our Great War Veterans, Lieut. Frank Bertrand, after a week's illness of pneumonia, in his 39th year.

He was the eldest son of Mr. Stanis Bertrand, and was born in Rawdon Township, coming to Marmora with his parents at an early age, where he spent most of his life. He enlisted and went overseas with the 80th battalion, where he served three years. He was sergeant with the machine gun section, and promoted Lieutenant, was twice wounded and gassed at the battle of Ypres.

The funeral took place on Friday morning April 25th, from the residence of his father-in-law, Mr. Patrick Doyle, Deloro, with full military honors. A large number of veterans attended from outside points, as well as from Deloro and Marmora.

The funeral procession was an imposing one, the veterans marched to the church of the Sacred Heart, where solemn requiem Mass was sung by the pastor, Rev. Father Trayner. After the service at the church, the body was taken to the cemetery where the committal service was read, the Last Post was sounded and three rounds fired by the firing squad. A tribute to one who had bravely served his King and Country.

The funeral moved in the following order:

Lieut.-Col. A. E. Bywater, Officer commanding Hastings and Prince Edward Regt., Trenton.

Hastings and Prince Edward Regt. Band, Picton, under Lieut. Hunter.

Major Green, 2nd in Command, Stirling.

Major Smith, O. C., A. Co., Trenton.

Major McLean, O. C., B. Co., Trenton.

Capt. Yates, Adjutant, Deloro.

Capt. C. A. Blecker, Marmora.

Capt. Matthews, Stirling.

Capt. Adams, Picton.

Lieut. Hunter, Picton.

Lieut. Naylor, Madoc.

Lieut. Gray, Marmora.

The Pall Bearers were:

Lieut. H. R. Pearce, Pres. G. W. V. A., Marmora; Lieut. F. Berry, Deloro; Lieut. R. Coulter, Stirling; Lieut. J. Butler, Stirling; Lieut.

Vanallen, Stirling; Lieut. B. Sutcliffe, Trenton.

The Firing Squad was composed of Great War Veterans and members of the Local Platoon of the Hastings and Prince Edward Regt.

C. S. M. McKenzie, Madoc; Sgts. Bundle, Cronkright, Lloyd, Cpl. Laird, Rose, and F. Leal, M. Feeney, W. Bedore, T. McQuigge, J. O'Neil, R. Neal, G. Neal, J. Clairmont.

The Mourning Party was composed of members of the G. W. V. A. and No. 8 Platoon of the Hastings and Prince Edward Regt.

The Floral Contributions were:—

Wreath, Deloro and Marmora Branch G. W. V. A.

Wreath, B. Co. Hastings and Prince Edward Regt.

Wreath, Hastings and Prince Edward Regt.

Wreath, Fellow Workers at Deloro.

Mass offerings were received from the following:—

The Catholic Order Foresters, Catholic Women's League, Alter Society Mr. and Mrs. F. Paquet, Mr. and Mrs. James Murphy, Mr. and Mrs. E. D. O'Connor, Mr. and Mrs. S. Bertrand, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. McNally, Mr. and Mrs. P. Doyle, Mr. and Mrs. P. Brawly, Mr. and Mrs. Will Doyle, Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Simmons, Mr. F. Shell, Mr. F. McKinnon, Mr. and Mrs. W. Reynolds, Miss Frances Doyle, Kathleen and Leo Doyle.

The sympathy of the whole community goes out to his widow, formerly Margaret Doyle, Deloro, and four little children. He is also survived by his father and step-mother, one brother Monto, of Ottawa; two sisters, Miss Mary Bertrand, Toronto and Mrs. H. A. McNally, Deloro, and one half-sister, Miss Madeline Bertrand, nurse-in-training at St. Vincent de Paul Hospital, Brockville.

1 MAY, 1924

MARMORA

HERALD