

LONDON SE

2.15 PM

12 JUN 18



Capt. O.R. Cormack
30/4/18

Mrs J. G. A. Lockley,
~~To Messrs Sargood Bros,~~
~~11 Bunhill Row,~~
~~London E.C.6.~~

RECEIVED
JUN 13 1918
COUNTING HOUSE

Sydney

Please forward.

C 13 Ward.
3rd London Gen. Hosp.
Wandsworth.
30/4/18.

Dear Mrs Pockley.

I am writing to offer you my deepest sympathy in your sad loss.

I am sorry I could not write to you earlier as I was not in charge of my Company when your husband was killed & then I was only back about four days when I with every other officer in my Company & practically all the men ~~in the Company~~ were gassed. Jack was in charge of the Company on the 30th of March, when they had to go out & find out the enemy's position.

They were advancing over very open country going up a gradual rise & were getting a bad time from machine gun & rifle fire, it was during a halt in the advance as he was writing a message that Jack got wounded in the back. A Sergeant next to him was also wounded at the same time

& when Norris his batman wanted to get him stretched bearers he told him not to worry. Still Norris went off & when he came back your husband made them take the leg out first. It was just dark when they came back for him & it was then they found he was dead.

I am not quite positive whether he was hit again but I think he got hit twice again before they found him.

It is rather difficult to get any exact information as there were so few men with the Company when I got back to it.

The boys buried him that night in a quiet little space ~~near Lancer~~ on the northern edge of Lancer Wood which is very close to Hangard & is now in the enemy hands. A small cross was put above his grave with his name on it.

All his personal effects were collected & have been forwarded to you. I hope they arrive safely!

I have often thought of you & the Frog as Jack always called his little son since I heard

the bad news, as I can realise how terrible the shock must have been.

He often told me of you both & often showed me the letters written by the baby. How he loved that child!

We were great pals & he was absolutely my best officer & when I knew that it was he that would take them ^{over} into action I felt perfectly confident that they would be in good hands.

All the men were very cut up when they heard he had died as he was very popular with every man.

Now I must close this note

Kindly accept my deepest & sincerest sympathy in this terrible loss.

Yours very sincerely,

O. H. Cormack, Capt.

I wish you would convey my sympathy to D^r & Mrs Pockley also.

In case you don't know the position of Lancerwood it is about 3000 yards S.E. of Miller's Bretennouse.