

Egypt

11 March

My dear Hazel,

There is a rumour going round that our outward mail has been stopped, but at any rate I will continue writing until we know for certain about it. I don't know of any reason why it should be stopped, so quite likely, the tale is not true.

I told you last week that we had shifted camp. It has not made much difference to our work, except that there are more guards and fatigues at this place, but also more bathing parades. We are still at a short distance from the same town as before. I walked in on leave on Wednesday afternoon, and again

on duty on Thursday. This afternoon
I meant to go and see Bill Simmers
and others of the new arrivals, about
four miles away, but I heard but
it was too dusty and threatening rain.
Parades have been very easy - rather
too easy, as spare time is hard to
fill in. I have still been instructing
our company scouts so far, but am
giving them up shortly, as I have
three stripes now, and am needed
in my platoon. I have left the old
platoon, transferred to Number 12.
You will be able to have your wish
now (do you remember it?), but I
wonder whether you will be
satisfied, or will you expect me
to come home with a commission?
It seems I have missed promotion
twice through going away sick - so

Major Griffiths told me - but all appointments made up till now were temporary, and these latest ones are permanent, so I have not missed much in the long run, and am more than satisfied now. The sergeants live together, apart from the men, and get better food - though we have to pay for it. It is more comfortable, but nothing like such a free and easy life.

There was a paper mail today, and a few parcels, but still no letters. I got the tin of toffee you sent on Jan. 18th. Thank you very much for it - it is delicious stuff.

I sent a field post-card the other day, in case it might be the last chance for some time, but on second thoughts I will

at least write a few lines every
week, and send my love, whether
the letters get through or not,

With lots of love to you, dear,

from

Bessie.

Address

1st Banty, Batt.

in future.