

MAY, 1916.

Thursday 11

Did my two hour guard this morning. A Frenchman living at the house here tried to commit suicide by hanging himself. I reached the shed just in time to see him cut down. He soon came round. am on C. D. to-day. Had a walk round the town this evening.

Friday 12

We were taken for a bath this morning. plenty of hot water & clean clothes. Musketry & gas drill this afternoon. Fell in at 6:45 p.m. with full packs and marched to Armentières a distance of about 10 miles. Glad to reach our billet between 10 & 11 p.m. Got settled down about midnight.

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Saturday 13

Had a look round the town to-day. It has suffered badly from shot & shell. This town was the scene of heavy street fighting in the early days of the war. There are only about 600 civilians here now. Some buildings are in absolute ruins. Had a look through a splendid Catholic church. It has a few shell holes in it. Auchland & Winton went to the trenches to-day.

Sunday 14

Church parade this morning in our billets. Had a walk round the town again. At 11 p.m. we put up full kits & marched to different billets, only about 10 minutes march away. They are much more comfortable and there is more room.