



OFFICERS' MESS,  
T LINES,

AVINGTON PARK CAMP,  
WINCHESTER.

Sept. 1. 1917

My dearest Ruth, I've just been looking out trains with the object of finding out how accessible you are - it seems that with a lift to Farnham in the train - which starts conveniently about 8.0 a.m. - I ought to manage very well on my bicycle. However I shan't come to-morrow - for though I suspect there will be little going here I think complete absence for my 2<sup>nd</sup> day might be regarded with

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disfavour. As far as leave goes I shall probably only get one week-end in six - they're cutting off on account of excessive travelling.

I have had no letters to-day & the only indication of any such is, as you may have guessed, a hint that it will be good for me to hire a horse - & in this country what could be better than that? I went into Winton this

morning partly to recover my bag & hitchhike from the station where a G.S. wagon met me for the conveyance here; partly to make certain purchases - a tin basin, soap, a pillow; - those were the most important. I also paid a very important visit to Wells the bookseller's where besides securing a map & several volumes I learnt the news - who was in town etc. I was pleased incidentally to meet Deacon my first headmaster at school & now arch-deacon of W., who kindly gave



an invitation to tea any day.  
After lunch I went into Cathedral  
for a time & copied the following  
inscription: —

A Union of ~~two~~ brothers  
two brothers from Arington.  
The Clerk's family were grandfather,  
father - son successively clerks of  
the King Seal. William the Grand ~~father~~  
father had but two sons both Thomas,  
their wives both Amy, their heirs  
Henry's, & the heirs of Henry both  
Thomas's, both their wives in heretrix-  
es & both had two sons & one daughter,  
& both their daughters isuedes, both  
of Oxford, both of the Temple, both ~~officers~~  
officers to Queen Elizabeth & our  
Noble King James, both Justices of  
Peace, both agree in arms, the one  
a knight, the other a Captain.

Si queras Aringtonium petas cancellum impensis.  
The Clarke & Hide 1622



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How many Officers were there?

I afterwards went to Saint Cross - my favorite short walk in the days. I saw it against a leaden cloud in the sunshine following a heavy storm.

Altogether a very good day, in spite of a wetting this morning. They won't all be like that.

It is now 6.30, time for the post to go out. I hope you'll get this to-morrow morning. You may think of my being

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very comfortable, as I surely  
shall, on my bed of straw.  
Never the less I shan't be  
sossy when my camp bed  
comes back to me.

My best love to you dearest me  
a a portion to the other members  
of the party at W.

Your loving  
George.

