

P.S. one night while
having a nap in the trench
I dreamt I was having tea with
you at home. But suddenly woke
up to find sand splashed all over
me with some shrapnel.
D.D.

Kasr-el-Ainy Hospital
Cairo.

May 4th 1915

Dear Mother & Father,

Just a short letter
trusting you both are in good health, also
my brothers and sisters. How is Bill? He
say I was asking for him also all the friends
at home. I am in hospital at present
as I got a bullet wound in the ankle.

I am feeling in the best of form, and expect
to be back in the firing line very soon.

I was wounded on the morning of April 2.
The bullet went through at one side of my
ankle and out at the other side and neither
broke a bone or tendon. I reckon I was

lucky that time.

I will give an account of what happened since I wrote last. We marched from our camp on Sunday April 11th and took train for Alexandria, arriving there on Monday morning. We embarked during the day and sailed at noon on Tuesday on A.M.S. "Ascot". We passed through the group of Aegean Islands, and arrived at Port of Lemnos Island near the entrance to the Bosphorus on April 17th. This is a large bay surrounded by hills but of course it has no wharves only a small wooden Pier built by the Admiralty. The place was full of transports warships and men as it was here they concentrated before ~~making~~ attacking the Turks. The inhabitants of the island are Greeks and they sold us bread, fruit, fish and lots of other

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things. I was rowing almost every day, as I was one of the crew of a boat which the officers used whenever there were dispatches for another ship. So I had good exercise and enjoyed it as I am very fond of rowing).

We sailed again on the 24th and landed on the Gallipoli Peninsula at Saritair^{in the Gulf of Saros} on Sunday morning April 25th at an early hour and under terrific fire from the enemy.

The ships had to stay outside the danger zone so we were transferred to destroyers which took us in near the beach. As the water began to get shallow we were transferred to rowing boats which completed the journey. All this time we were under fire and there were some casualties amongst us. As for the enemy they were strongly entrenched on the side of the hill which rose abruptly almost from

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the waters edge to a height of about 200^{covered} feet, and the sides of which were with a thick scrub something like holly that afforded excellent cover. As soon as we were near the beach we jumped into the water which was up to our waists and charged with the bayonet. We gave them such a shock by the sudden onslaught that they turned and ran and in a short time we drove them over the hill and captured the trenches and a couple of machine guns. Of course we suffered heavily but we had captured a good position. We can get our artillery ashore now also ammunition stores and the like. ~~Today~~ ~~monday~~

On monday the Turks had retreated still further but the fighting was going on fiercely. The battleships in the bay did great

work especially the Queen Elizabeth whose shells must have done awful damage among the Turks. At first the noise and screaming of the shells over our heads both from the warships and the enemy, was terrible. On Tuesday it was quieter and some of us indulged in sniping. I got shot four Turks during the day, and my mate got six. We had a pair of field glasses and were able to pick them out pretty well from amongst the bushes. I didn't ^{see} much more of the fighting as I was wounded very early on Wednesday morning and had to wait at the dressing station to get attended to.

At noon on Wednesday we embarked on SS Berofflinger a fine ship captured from the Germans and sailed on Thursday morning April 29th for Alexandria

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with a load of wounded men.

We arrived at Alexandria on Saturday morning May 1st and were sent to Cairo in a special hospital train.

We have got very good treatment we get cigarettes, books, daily papers, wrote paper, and other things. I am afraid that when I get back again to the firing line I will be wish to get wounded again.

Well dear Mother & Father I haven't any more to write about at present so I will conclude.

From your loving son
Tom.

Address

Private J. Noonan

No 204

B. Company

13th Battalion

1st Brigade

A. I. C. S.

On Active Service