

11<sup>th</sup> Sept '17

Dear Rosalie

Exactly 24 hours after I was with you I stood beside your boys grave. I took over a very pretty cross made of some flower (violet) which looked something like sweet williams with 4 white aster in the middle, all on a ground work of a fern leaf. The grave was very tidy (although most of them were not), and most of the flowers alive. I was determined to find out who was taking it so I found the caretaker who was an Irishman in the Dublin. I asked him who was taking Capt. Armstrong's grave and he said "Is that I do you mean". I asked him if he had heard him and he said he had not, but that sometimes ago a Staff Sergeant had asked him to look after it and he said that he & his pal, being Irishmen, generally looked more

after the graves of William & Ann & Mrs. I  
picked the enclosed volume off the press. Now  
that I know no one in the 29<sup>th</sup> is in Avoca  
I have a good mind, if you agree, and  
I can do so, to have those paintings framed  
brown. If you don't like it done without leave  
from 29<sup>th</sup> Div I will write and ask Dr. Lish.  
I think they framed them while before  
pulling them up, however thinking the  
cross was of oak. What do you say about  
it? The whole cemetery is being taken  
in hand and tidied up all through.  
I can account for your receiving the photo  
before the ones I sent. I've noticed that  
whenever I have asked to have graves  
photographed the graves commission  
always send a copy to the hotel

of him whose address they have.

I do think you ought to leave Folkestone if only for the girls sake. I can quite imagine you wanting to hide like a hare and that you don't want to go visiting but I should have thought you would leave like the girl of Senasham. Any way I can't see the good of you being at Folkestone. I expect you would really find more relief to work than in resting really, but not necessarily at Folkestone. You have told me about Tommy being knocked down your child.

I quite understand all you wanted to say the other day and I cannot see the right messages to Dorcas. As far as I can make out that place is quite quiet now, at any rate round the cemetery district. About myself - you see having once admitted

I am not wd to my word its my hand to turn  
wound and say I had not meant it. for  
say "let them go round for you" but it is  
not a comfortable arrangement to sit behind  
and not take any risks. It would be  
impossible to go round to every Officer &  
man and explain the reason!! and if  
one did the obvious answer would be  
"I'm clear the way for someone who can".

No, I feel I must either get well or clear  
out. Whether I get something at home or not  
is a side issue. As we are now out resting  
I am going to propose to Army Com<sup>d</sup> today  
that I go away and take a months  
bath in some place or other to see if that  
will cure me. I don't know what he will say.

I should have thought that you would find most  
rest by sending the girls to Lincolnton a cloud  
and for you to nurse in a hospital but you know best.

Yours always  
T. D. S.