

1028/59/6

1920 W.D.
C05417/59.6

No 1.
The letter which
H.C. number 2
is date 8 Apr. -
this acknowledges
one of 10 Apr.

216 Charles St.

Bebbville, Ont

Dear Mr Cushing -

Your letter of 10th
April reached me in due
time and I have waited
thus long before answer-
ing that I might make
a thorough search for the
missing letters. To my
lasting sorrow I can
find no trace of them.
Every possible place has
been searched by both my
wife and myself, but
in vain. I have a distinct

recollection of putting
them in one of those boxes
in which envelopes come
and of setting them aside.

there were fifty three in all -

we think the board must
have removed them not know-
ing their importance -

I shall mail to you ^{the}
next Wednesday the few
still remaining (fortunately
they were locked up in
my desk of various dates
and from different places,
and as they are quite personal
I fear they will not be
of much service to you

All the incidents you ask
about took place in Barrie
a town of some 3000 or
4000, The Capital of County
of Simcoe. It had been quite
noted for its Grammar School
of which the Rev. W. F. Checkley
was the Principal. In our
time its glory had some-
what departed.

I think we were between
fourteen and fifteen at that
time - I was four months
older than Willie - Charlie
^{Pt. W. O. along with.} Locke was another 'Bad Boy'
big-hearted, a lovable disposition
He was at Mc Gill with Willie

4. He became one of the leading
medical men of Hamilton
and died there of pneumonia.
We were all very fond
of athletics and were big
boys for our age. My
sister tells me she is sure
I have not grown two inches
since those days. Nothing
could tire us - we were all
bored with steel bands for
muscles - On one occasion
we three essayed to swim
across Kempenfelt Bay, there,
I fancy about a mile and
a half wide - accompanied
by a boat we started
on the trip. I managed to

5-
to cover about a mile
when my fingers began
to cramp and I climbed
into the boat - O and Locke
kept on and accomplished
the feat, a very difficult
one due to the mercury cold
springs in the Bay.

Willie - was also good
at cricket - On one occasion
I saw him throw a cricket
ball 115 yards - a throw
never beaten, I think, at
least by an amateur
Now, alas, about 70% of
my old-time vitality
has gone - feel that I

6
could wish with Wordsworth
that - From over fair and
shining youth,
Age might but take the
things youth need not -
vanitas vanitatum -

You will no doubt
have noticed in his addresses
constant references to the
Bible - and even when
at Barrie he was profane and
in that greatest of books
and generally ranked
first of the whole school.
His memory was remarkably
retentive the result of his
habit of concentration

I do hope you will be
able to glean a point or
two from the letters I
shall send - they are
I repeat purely personal;
but one can see the
spirit that animates
them - If you think of
anything further I can
do, please let me know.

I can't get those missing
letters out of my mind, among
them the last he wrote to me!
25th Nov. 1919 with kind
regards

Believe me,
Yours truly,
E. F. Wilburn