

(Handwriting)

(To Mrs. Charles Gwyn)

13, Norham Gardens,
Oxford.
14. IV. 17.

Dearest Sister

Vinny ridge

This will be a hard blow for you to bear - the first of your children to be taken. Few Mothers have had an unbroken family of such size for so long; but to give up a dear fellow like Campbell is heartbreaking. We became very much attached to him and he got to feel quite at home with us. We had been dreading the past few days & opened every telegram with anxiety. Only a few days ago we had been hearing of him from one of his men who is in the Hospital here; & who spoke of the affection they had for him & what a splendid officer he was. He was a born soldier & Knew his job thoroughly. It will be very sad for the girls who had really seen more of him than the others. I have not had the heart to write to Nona about poor Collis Give her my love, She Knows how I feel for her.

We are steeling our hearts against the possible blow to us, as Reveres Battery is in the thick of this fight. The anxiety is very wearing Grace Keeps up splendidly, but she feels the loss of Collis & now of dear old Campbell. Poor Charlie will be hard hit as he must have felt a special pride in him Keep up your heart dear - he has died in a good cause. Much love to you all

Your loving bro.

Willie