



THIS IS THE LAST LETTER WRITTEN BY JAMES E. COFFEY FROM FRANCE TO HIS FRIEND PEARL McDERMOTT. THE HENRY MENTIONED WAS HENRY BARBER, WHO LATER MARRIED PEARL. HUGHIE WAS HUGHIE BIRCHELL, (ALSO IN FRANCE WITH COFFEY AND BARBER) WHO MARRIED IRENE McDERMOTT, PEARL'S SISTER.

NOTE THE 1ST LT'S OK IN THE LETTER AND ON THE ENVELOPE..... THIS IS A CENSOR MARK.

THIS LETTER WAS GIVEN TO COFFEY POST 3 BY ROBERT PAINE WHO RECEIVED IT FROM HENRY BARBER.

AMERICAN

YMCA

ON ACTIVE SERVICE

WITH THE

AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

April 17<sup>th</sup> 1918

Dear Friend Pearl,

Someburg by Chagnac  
in France

Well old pal here is a few lines to let you know that I have not forgotten you and your sister. I am well and happy hoping you both are the same. I have often wondered if you ever thought of us poor devils that left the old town to fight for Uncle Sam across the ocean. Well we are here for the time being and will never be sorry for what we have done in the past.

Well old girl it's been a long time since that night that Henry and I came down from Concord and had a good time up to your house. And I am in hopes of getting back before you get married so that Henry and I can come down to see you and that sister nurse. Henry gave me your best regards one night while we were in the trenches, but I didn't have much time to myself then as I was very busy.

SOWEN

We have seen a whole lot of Brane since we landed here and I think we will see a whole lot more before we leave this country. I have had some experience of travelling and what it is to see the world by foot. It is a whole lot different than walking through the roll dept. and riding down the elevator to the office four or five times a day.

Well I guess our good times are over for a while to come but I hope that the day will come when we will all meet back on the hill at number 14. do you get me. Well how is Irene these days? has she signed up yet in the red cross. I was hoping that I would meet her somewhere in this country before this war comes to an end.

Give Irene my best regards and also Henry's. Henry says he will drop you and Irene a line later on as he is very busy these days with his horse and wagon. He says if you and Irene were here he would give you both a ride in his Sunday-go-to-meeting over.

AMERICAN

ON ACTIVE SERVICE

WITH THE

AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

YMCA

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wagon that has no rubber tires.

Will Pearl Bill sends you his best regards and I will send mine to Irene and Hughie. As I can't think of any more to write I think I will close with all my love. Good night nurse. I still remain as ever your old faithful standby, Jim.

My address is Priv. Jas. E. Coffey  
Co. D, 103 U. S. Inf.  
American Expeditionary  
Forces.

P. S. Please excuse all mistakes and bad writing for I am in an awful position at the present time.

off  
Wm. Coffey  
103 U. S. Inf.

Jim

PRINTED COPY OF JAMES E. COFFEY'S LAST LETTER

April 14th 1918

Some burg by chance in France

Dear Friend Pearl!-

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- 3 -

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Co. D. 103 U.S. Inf.  
American Expeditionary Forces.

P.S. Please excuse all mistakes and bad writing for I am in an awful position at the present time.  
Jim.

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This is the last letter written by James E. Coffey from France to his friend Pearl McDermott. The Henry mentioned was Henry Barber, who later married Pearl. Hughie was Hughie Birchell, (also in France with Coffey and Barber) who married Irene McDermott, Pearl's sister. This letter was given to Coffey Post 3 by Robert Paine who received it from Henry Barber. James E. Coffey was killed May 10, 1918.

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POST 3 BY ROBERT PAINE WHO RECEIVED IT FROM HENRY BARBER.