

## Another Letter from Robinson

The following are extracts from a letter from Henry Robinson to his folks in Canada. Henry is a member of the 19th Reserve Battalion, and has been in England since early in the summer.

Bramshott Camp, Hants, England,  
July 3rd, 1917

The first day after I arrived we visited the Tower of London in the morning and St. Paul's Cathedral in the afternoon. In the tower we saw places where they used to behead their kings and queens, and also the block on which they would lay their heads, and also the axe with which they did the job. You could see places on the block where the axe had made cuts in it when they would miss the neck or something. In St. Paul's Cathedral we saw the tombs of many noted men like Nelson and Wellington. An interesting place we saw was the King's stables, and some place it was, too. Just as clean as a house and a lot more so than an lot that I have seen. The stalls were all ornamented with brass and they had this all shining. The horses were the prettiest that I have ever seen. They would have them in teams of six or eight and they would be exactly alike; some were black some a bay color and some a cream color. These are the ones they use on the Royal coach. We all visited the harness rooms. The harnesses were all covered with brass and kept as bright as could be. They have a different set of harness for different occasions; a set of harness for one horse would weigh nearly 400 pounds. We also saw the carriages and the Royal coach. This coach is just used on special occasions like

the opening of Parliament or a coronation of a king or queen.

On Saturday we went through the Parliament buildings, and a grand sight it was too. When we went in we went up the Grand Stairway, the one on which the king and queen use when they go in. They told us we were to pretend we were the king and queen, and we were to walk up the stairs like they did. It was just a very slow walk. The inside of the building was gorgeously finished; the walls were all of hand-carved oak of a beautiful pattern. There was a number of spots marked in there by a brass plate in the floor where on that exact spot some wonderful thing had happened, but as I don't know much about English history I don't remember much about that.

Another interesting place we saw was called "Madame Trussad's." It was a place in which there was a great number of wax figures of people, which this lady had made. Right near the door were the images of all the different countries in uniform. They looked so real that I thought they were. The Lieutenant who was taking us around got in ahead of us and went over and stood by some of the figures, and when the boys came in they didn't know whether he was of wax or not. One place there was a girl sitting at a desk on which she had guide books to sell. Some of the boys went up and spoke to her and tried to buy a book from her. They thought she was real. I was just going to try to get one when I caught on to what the joke was. They had figures of nearly every person of much importance. They had one of Mr. Balfour, he is the Foreign Secretary of England. He came across on the same boat as we did, and it was exactly like him. One place in there was called the "Chamber of Horrors." In there were people who had been murdered. There was also a bunch of heads cut off of people. There were little rooms along the sides of the room and in here were scenes of some great mur-

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ders; you could see where a person had been stabbed. He was lying on a bed, the knife was on the floor and the man that did it was standing at the door. It also showed how they used to behead people. They had a wax man tied down to the scaffold, and another ready to let the axe

drop on his neck. They showed how they used to burn men alive; they were fastened to an iron chair and a fire was built under them. Another place it showed where a couple of Chinamen had been killed by opium.

HENRY H. ROBINSON