

**Hannaford Boy in France Writes  
Dear Friend:**

A year ago Philip Thoreson was the only one from Hannaford' who had entered the army and to-day we are at least 6 or 8 over in France. I had a letter from my brother Olaf. He is somewhere over here doing guard duty. I was in the front line trenches last week and found out what war' is, and what we are over here for. The roaring of the cannon and bursting of big shells is enough to make a man crazy, it is sure hell, but I hope it won't last very long, and when we do get out it will be a valuable experience that we will never forget. I had never expected to see so many sights in my life. I have been here for nearly two months and like it all right. We get plenty to eat (that is about the main thing with us) plenty of fresh air and sleep. When at the trenches we slept in dugouts and it was pretty good at that. We had another aeroplane battle near here this morning. It is very exciting to watch them. They do not fly like a flyer at a fair; it takes skill to fight in the air.

At present I am working in a hospital. I am supposed to be a stretcher-bearer, but am in here to get more experience.

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A. E. F. via New York