

Letter from Patt McHugh to his parents and siblings believed April/May 1918.

7<sup>th</sup> CAC  
Fort Preble  
Portland, Main

My Dear, Father Mother Brother & Sisters

Well I suppose you are fully aware by this time, that I am a U S Soldier and I hope you wont feel bad about it, I like the training fine, There is not a young man in this country now, but what is in training, Foye was not taken yet but I dont know for how long he will escape it, as they are sending them away to training camps every day,

Dear Ones, I had a letter from Katie also Delia and they forwarded, me Nellie's letter which she sent to Sister

2. Katie and it touched me for moment, I understand, there are pretty hard times in Ireland by this time, and in order to help you out a little I am sending you the small sum of 10 pounds ~~to~~ just as a little reminder of your affectionate Son & Brother Patt,

I hope you received the pictures which, I sent you about two weeks ago, also Sister Mary I sent her a picture of myself, similar to those I sent you. Now dear ones dont worry about me, I will be alright with God's help, as I have placed my whole trust in Him for my safe return and God, himself, knows best, and rules to perfection and always does what is right,

Dear Ones I will ask you once again, not to worry about me, especially you dear Mother & Father as I am well taken care of here, and we have some fine officers training us

3. and if you had only a headache they would send you to hospital, So for my sake, Mother dear, please look at the bright side of things, as I will see you all yet, and when I come home to you, you will feel proud, that you had a Son to represent you, in this horrid fight for the worlds freedom, may God grant that it will soon end.

Now Father if you dont need Sister Honnie's, help, leave her in Tuam, & try & make something out of her, You know best but I assure you, I will try to help you out and for heavens sake dont need for anything because while I have a dollar, you Father and

[4] my good Mother, can have half of it, and if needed, you shall have it, all, I was very lonely leaving Chicago, all on account of Delia & Kate as they are the best Sisters any Brother could have, Everyone in Chicago are fine as I have la letter from there every day, I had ~~more~~ made more friends in Chicago than I ever had in Ireland, It is a fine City John Alie & family are fine, I had a letter from John yesterday, he is getting along fine, and has a very nice family – two boys & a girl, How is Sister Maggie also Joe & Baby.

& not forgetting all my other Sisters & Brother, tell them I will write to them soon & I will send them my Soldier picture, & Father & Mother I want to thank you once again for how you raised us and I want to tell you that, Father & Mother are my first word, and will be my last, so God Bless you, Good Bye Good luck and say a little prayer to the Blessed Virgin for my return as I still remain your, affectionate Son & Brother Patt  
xxxxxxxxx to all & a big X one to Mama

Transcribed by Margaret Marlow with punctuation, grammar and spelling as in the original.

14 April 2023