

France, 19.8.17

Dear Miss Fox

Bell Telephone ^{Director} _{columns}

(Please forward) It is with feelings of
deepest sorrow I am writing you
from trenches to-night. We
learned of Charlie's death & a
feeling of gloom has spread
among his comrades in
arms even here amidst the
heat & excitement of these
straining times when we are
living in state of actual
fighting every hour. All particulars
will have been sent to your
people but I want to add
that he died as he lived
ever since he enlisted with
us in Port Hope in Jan 1915 - a
soldier devoted to duty & doing
his part with every quality
of a man & soldier. To say
he was well liked here but
all is not expressing what
we all felt personally & looked

as a friend of many many
 talks we had of getting
 Port Hope of our early days
 in 39/40. I might say that if
 it is I know it will be at
 least some little comfort to you
 for these hours that are being
 dark to you all that Charles
 death was painful & that
 he was on a post of duty during
 winter attack of enemies & that
 his body was carried out by
 his comrades & if you had
 the circumstances would
 show how he was loved &
 respected by the men & officers
 of this platoon he was with
 now in conclusion I am for
 believe me you & your people
 have the most sincere sympathy
 myself in this sad thing
 yet it is with pride I
 write that Charlie fell
 in one of the most brilliant

fights of the whole companies
 & that it is successful &
 that it is the death that
 every soldier comes to die in
 a fight with his face to the
 foe. I might say that in
 the same fight for the same
 front I lost 22 men out of 36 in
 my platoon & with 16 reimprisonment
 I lost 9 more, no less than two
 hours, but also the satisfaction
 of knowing that we were quite
 successful in repelling a force
 larger a week. This seems a
 comfort ~~to me~~ I often think of
 your kindness to me in the days
 when you were in B. Tele office & as
 Charles's sister I do sympathize with
 you & feel very very keenly the
 loss. In fact the I can't write it
 I feel ^{very} ~~blinded~~ sorry & will do
 any thing I can for you
 & we get out alive.

will write you more fully
 later if it is of any
 use to you. I should I
 write from people but as
 you are the only one I know
 I am dropping lines here
 to you while we have
 a few seconds quiet. I know
 this is roughly expressed but
 kindly take the words;
 the deed of a gain expressing
 to you all that I cannot write
 in way of regrets at our loss
 of brother your brother in
 Christ I bid all right of felt
 through a ally I remain
 yours most sincerely
 Gilbert Edwards