

National Records of Scotland, SC70/8/136/15

Letter from Private 11254 James Tracey, 13th Hussars, to his mother, 29 May 1915

In hurry	Pte J Tracey
	11254 13th Hussars
Write soon	2nd Indian Cavalry Division
	France. Front
Jim	29th May 1915

My Dear Mother

I received your most kind and welcome present and papers and also the papers you sent in the separate parcel. I am very sorry for sending you a letter like I did. It was temper more than anything. I hope you will excuse me for what I said. I am very sorry. I can't send my allotments from the line as I can't get a chance. If I get killed you will have all my belongings to come. It will be a good bit. There will be my medal, blood money £5, and all my credit to come. I think I am all right for coming home safe as I have been lucky up 'till now. POOR Old Leith, it is unlucky. There will soon be no body left in Leith at all. This wicked war has taken them all away, and leaving the women and children to starve. Thank God there is someone left to assist you mother. Dear Mother, you have no idea how sorry I feel for those poor helpless young fellows who died, pinned beneath the wreckage.

Dear Mother, Mother you would hardly believe how I felt as I looked at [the] paper. I burst into tears when I seen the casualties. There were dozens of chaps among them I went to school with. I am sending back to you one of my old college chum photo[s] I got out of the paper. His sister was once my school teacher. I will have to close now. Giving my deepest sympathy to all the survivors at home.

Good night and God Bless you all, from your ever loving son, James

Love to all at home from Jim Write soon

I am sending a little keep sake ... It is only the number of my shoulder

Remind me to all at home especially Peter Father Ellie Jack Grandfather

X x X x X x x X

I am still alive a[nd] kicking and hope I always will be.

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