

**Letter of William Sutherland, no. 125976 Gunner, 'C' Battery, 315th Brigade,  
Royal Field Artillery, to his father William Sutherland, 29 & 31 March 1918,  
accepted as his will after his death in action on 4 April 1918.**

National Records of Scotland, Aberdeen Sheriff Court Register of wills.  
SC1/37/139, pp.683-4. Available through ScotlandsPeople.

29th March 18

Dear Father

Just a few lines in a hurry to let you know I am still alive & well. I do wish I got a letter to hear how you all are,

I am sure you have seen by the paper long before now what has happened Isn't it awful. He has driven us back miles Before he managed to break our line he gassed us continually for eight hours, then about 8 am in the morning, during a very thick fog he forced his way through & kept us on the run for four days I believe we have checked him now, at least so our major has just told us, but we have some very hard fighting before us yet. I hope the Lord keeps me safe through it all.

We have it very cold for the past few days especially at night. As we are always in the open we feel it more.

31st I did not manage to get this posted yet & likely wont while this retreat goes on Oh Father I do wish we had him held up. Thomas is quite well. He was nearly captured They just managed to get their gun away by the "Skin of their teeth" so to speak. Did you have any word from Jimmy. I hope he is alright I wish I had a letter to hear how you all are.

Well dear Father I must close I will post this first time a mail goes. If anything should happen me I wish you to get the little money I posses & do with it as you think best. Nellie has got my bank book. How is Sam. In great Haste

fondest love

Yr affect.

(signed) Willie.

It has been very cold for the last two days W.