Corydon Orcutt, World War I soldier

Section 1, Pages 1 - 30

Around 1919, the Kansas State Historical Society and the American Legion solicited biographical information from returning veterans (primarily members of the 35th and 89th infantry divisions) and the families of those who died in service, notably from the Gold Star Mothers. Each veteran or family member was asked to provide letters, photographs, a biography, and military records. This file contains information on Corydon A. Orcutt, Company F, 110th Ammunition Train, 35th Division. Orcutt died January 29, 1919, from wounds he received while serving in France.

Creator: Orcutt, Corydon

Date: 1918-1920

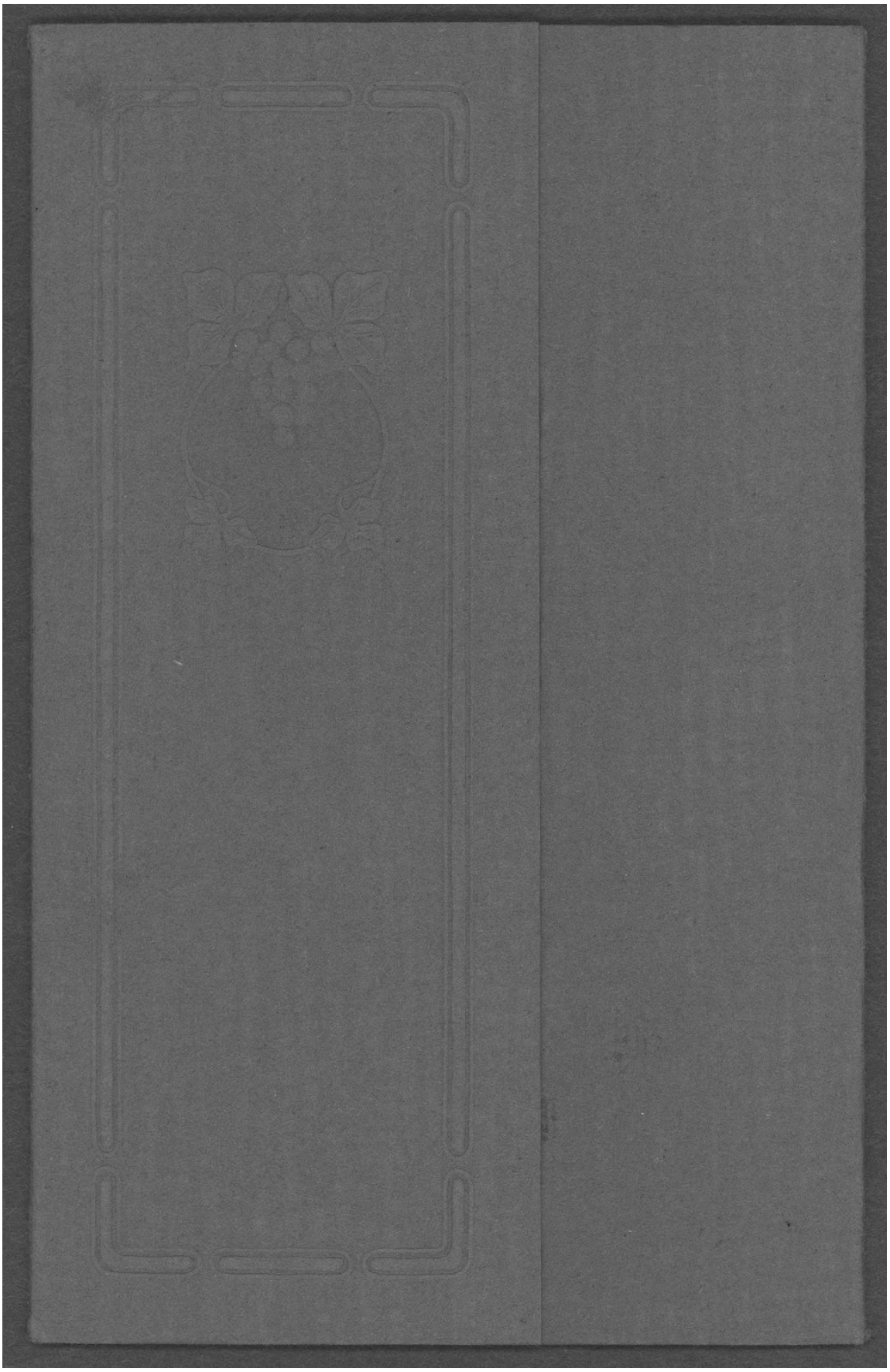
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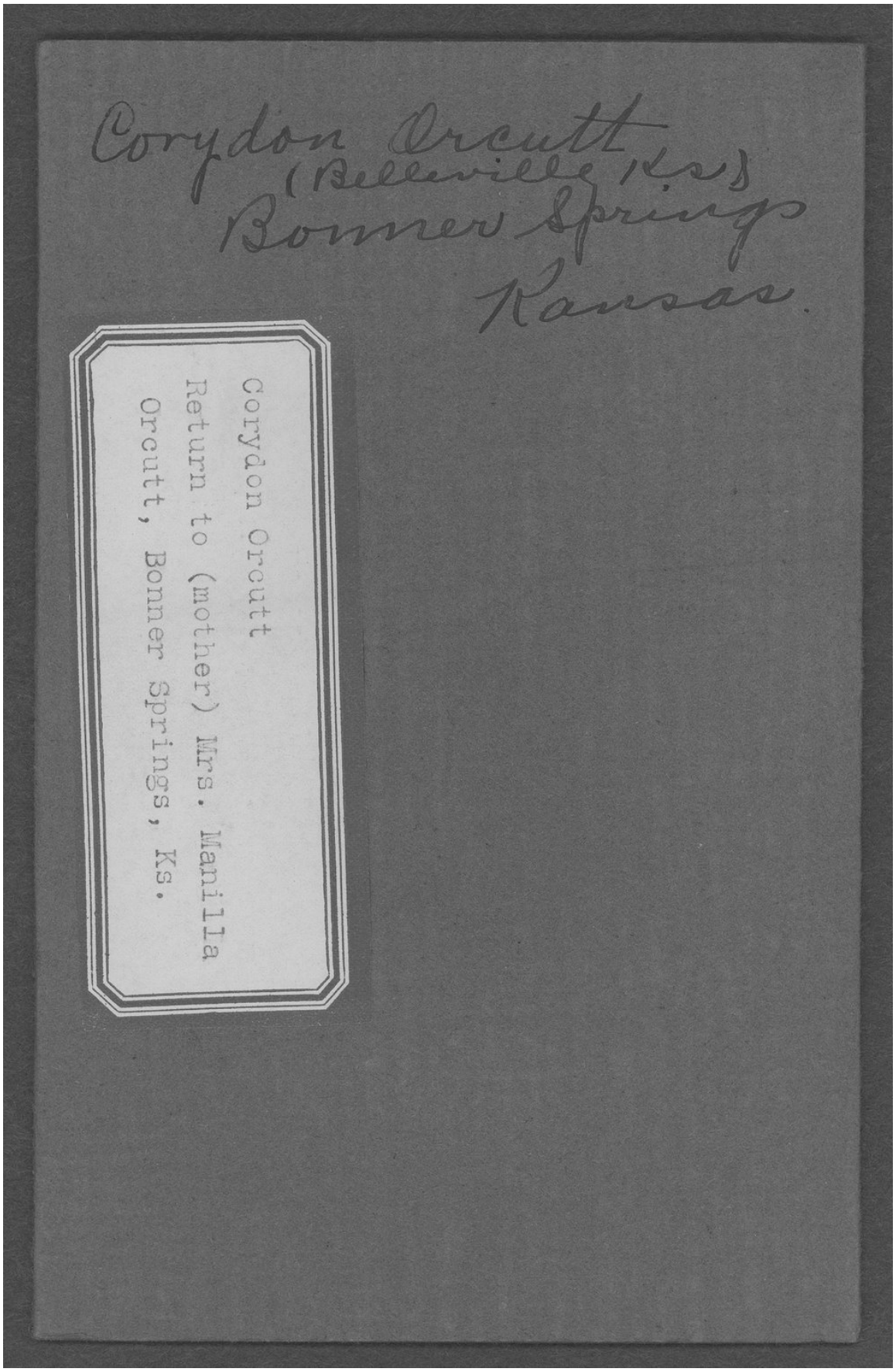
Corydon Orcutt, World War I soldier

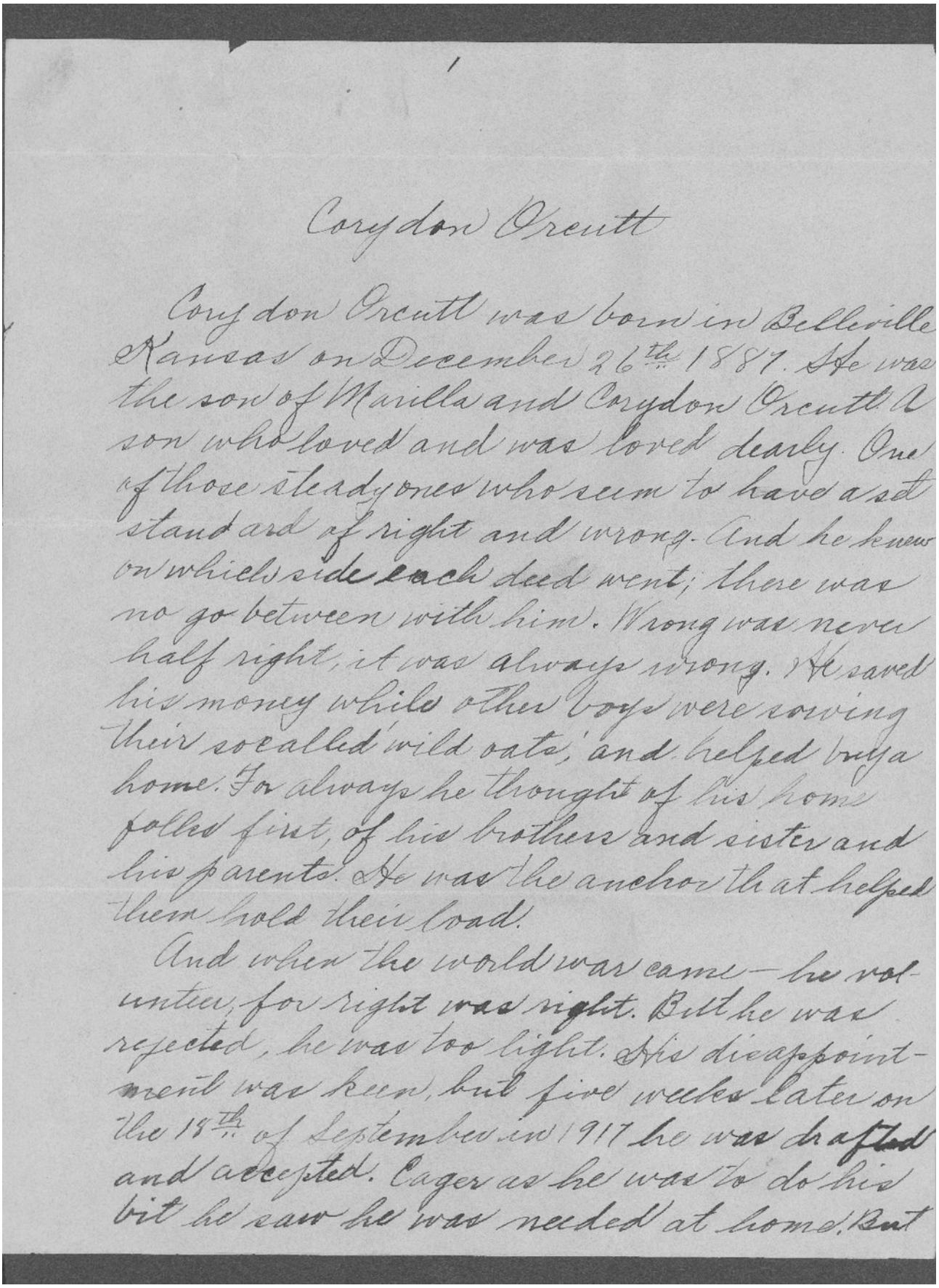


Corydon Orcutt, World War I soldier



Corydon Orcutt, World War I soldier





Corydon Orcutt

Corydon Orcutt was born in Belleville Kansas on December 26th 1887. He was the son of Matilda and Corydon Orcutt a son who loved and was loved dearly. One of those steady ones who seem to have a set standard of right and wrong. And he knew on which side each deed went; there was no go between with him. Wrong was never half right, it was always wrong. He saved his money while other boys were sowing their so called 'wild oats,' and helped buy a home. For always he thought of his home folks first, of his brothers and sister and his parents. He was the anchor that helped them hold their load.

And when the world war came — he volunteer, for right was right. But he was rejected, he was too light. His disappointment was keen, but five weeks later on the 15th of September in 1917 he was drafted and accepted. Eager as he was to do his bit he saw he was needed at home. But

this time his flag was first, for Liberty was Right.

So he was assigned to Company B. 353rd Infantry; then transferred to the 164th Depot Brigade, Camp Funston, Kansas, on October the 15th 1917. Nine days later he was transferred to 35 N.G. Division, Camp Doniphan, Oklahoma, and two days later was assigned to Company F. 110th Ammunition Train.

And always his letters brought with them the spirit of service; of serving not only his flag but his God.

His training was soon finished. In nine months from his enlistment date, he sailed for foreign service. He was gased and transferred to Central Records Office November the 23rd, 1918.

Then his letters told his mother that he was back in America, in New York, and added rather lamely that he wasn't exactly well. Later that he was in the Base Hospital Camp Dodge, Iowa. There followed a month of anxious waiting, and his parents reading between the lines, feared their boy was very sick.

A message came — the proof that their fears were true. And his mother left hurriedly for Camp Dodge where her boy lay at the point of death. She arrived, but the clear tones of the authority rang out, "Corydon Orcutt a Private 1st Class, Company F. 110th Ammunition Train, died January the 29th in 1919, from wounds received in France."

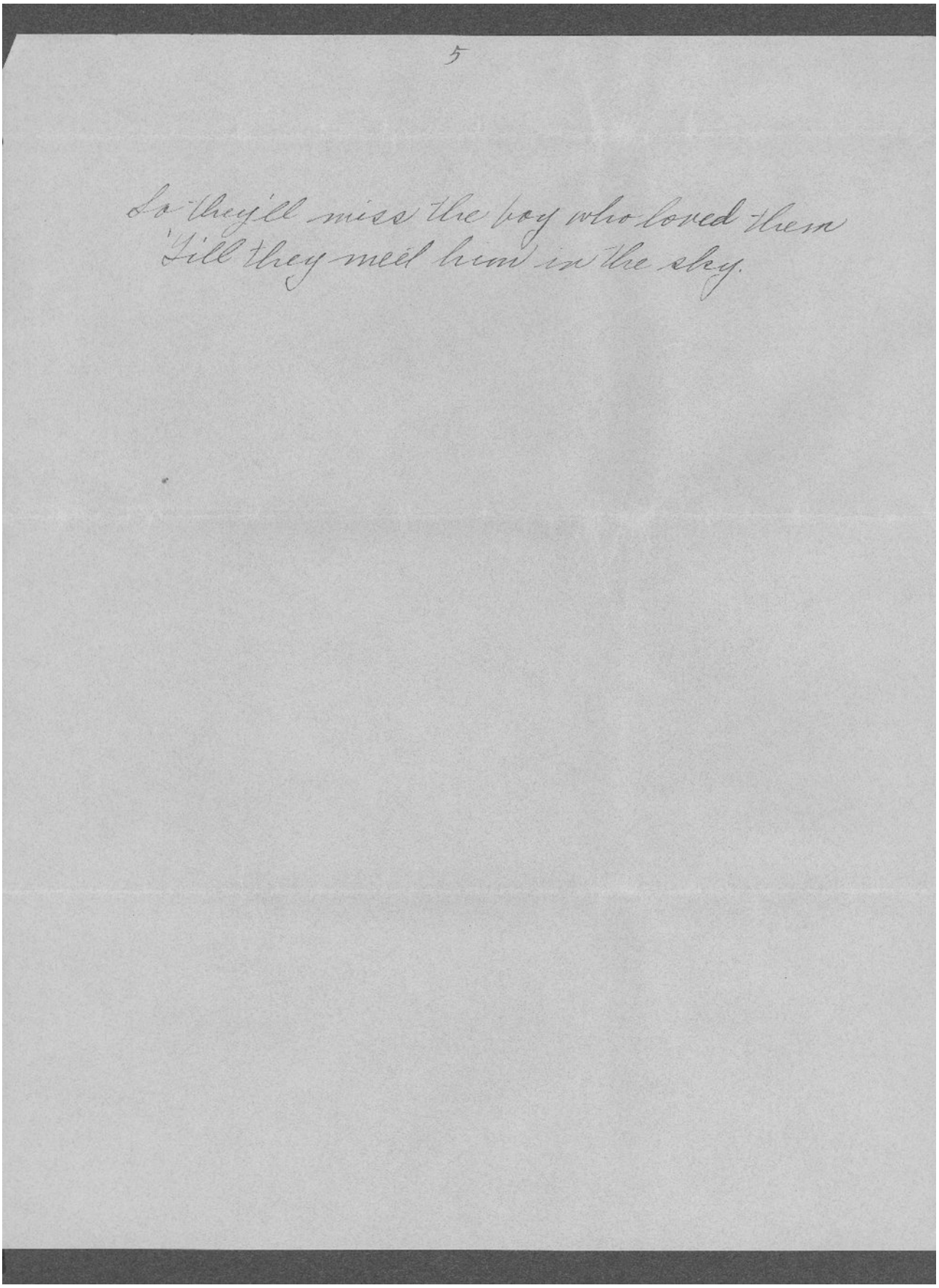
With an aching heart she returned — her boy was dead. Dead — and he had written he would soon be well, that he would soon come home. "Mother," he wrote, "I will be home for your birthday!"

Like a young pine tall and slender
In the ranks of forest trees,
That sways yet keeps its standing,
That anchors every breeze,
But when the wary Wind God loosens
On the forest all his power;
Snaps the young tree, lets it fall low
In its prime, its budding bower —

So he stood in ranks of soldiers,
When the War God loosed his hate,
Cutting down the rows of heroes
With the giant hand of fate.
But he stood the War Gods fury
Stood the awful gas, the shell,
Till the War God spent and weary,
Left the world his wrath had fell.

But the War God took his toll well,
Took his price of life and peace,
Of the boy who stood so bravely —
Ere the fateful War Dogs cease,
Took his youth and strength and left him
Fallen, broken, like the tree,
After he had won the battle
That he fought for Liberty.

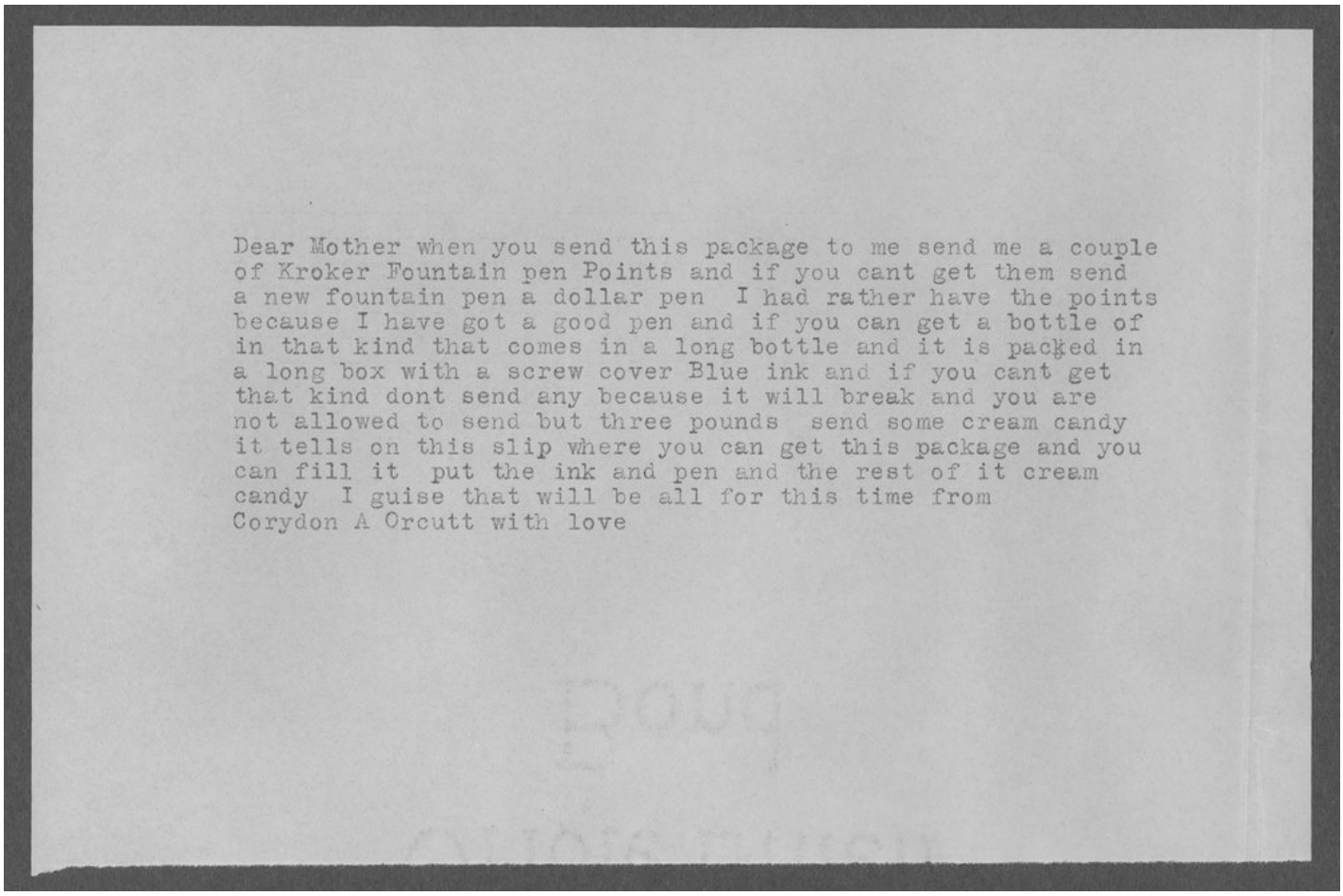
As the dead pines gently covered
With the leaves it fought to save;
So they wrapped him in his own flag,
So they laid him in his grave.
As the tall pine's place is vacant
To the knowing, caring eye;



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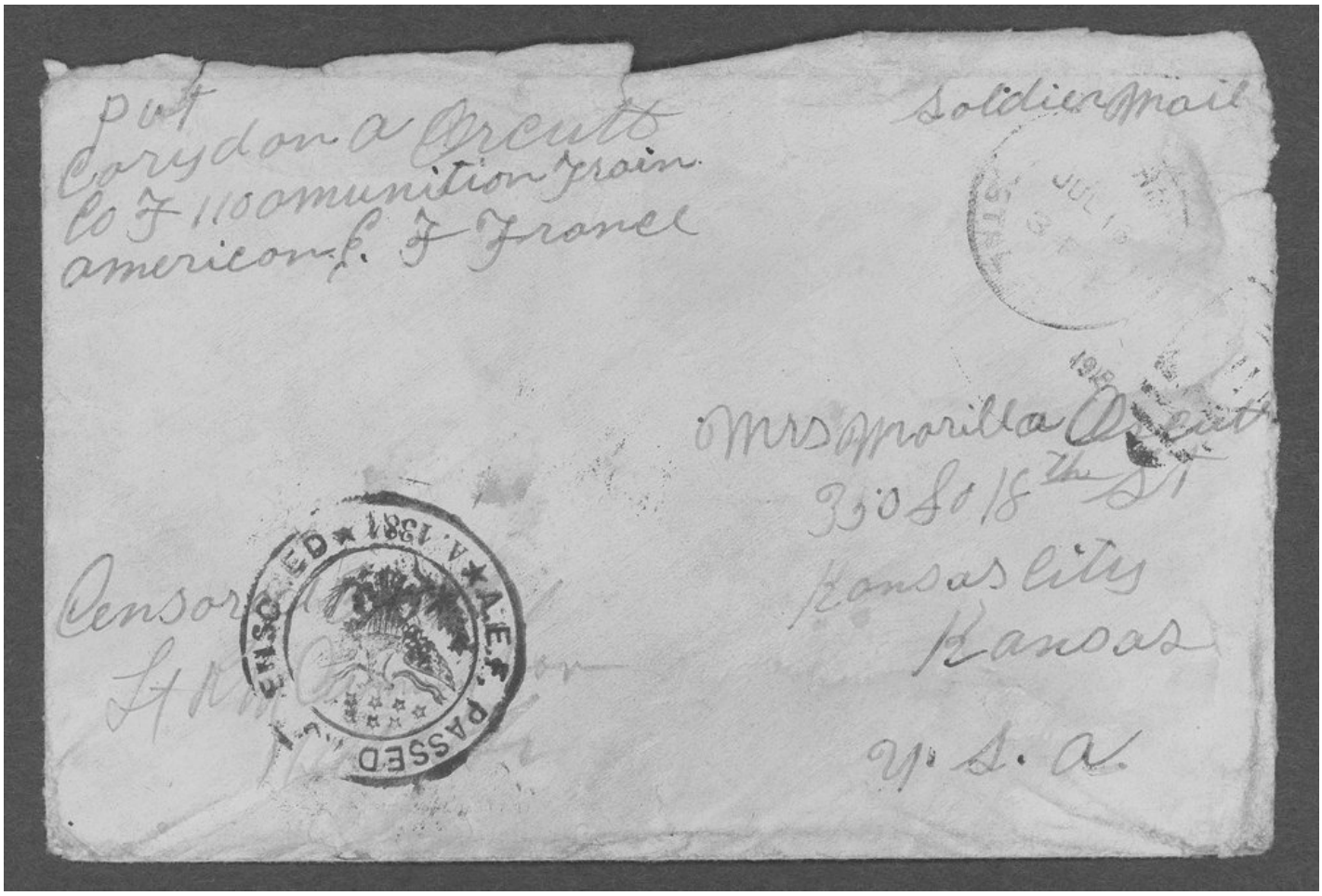
So they'll miss the boy who loved them
'Till they meet him in the sky.

Corydon Orcutt, World War I soldier

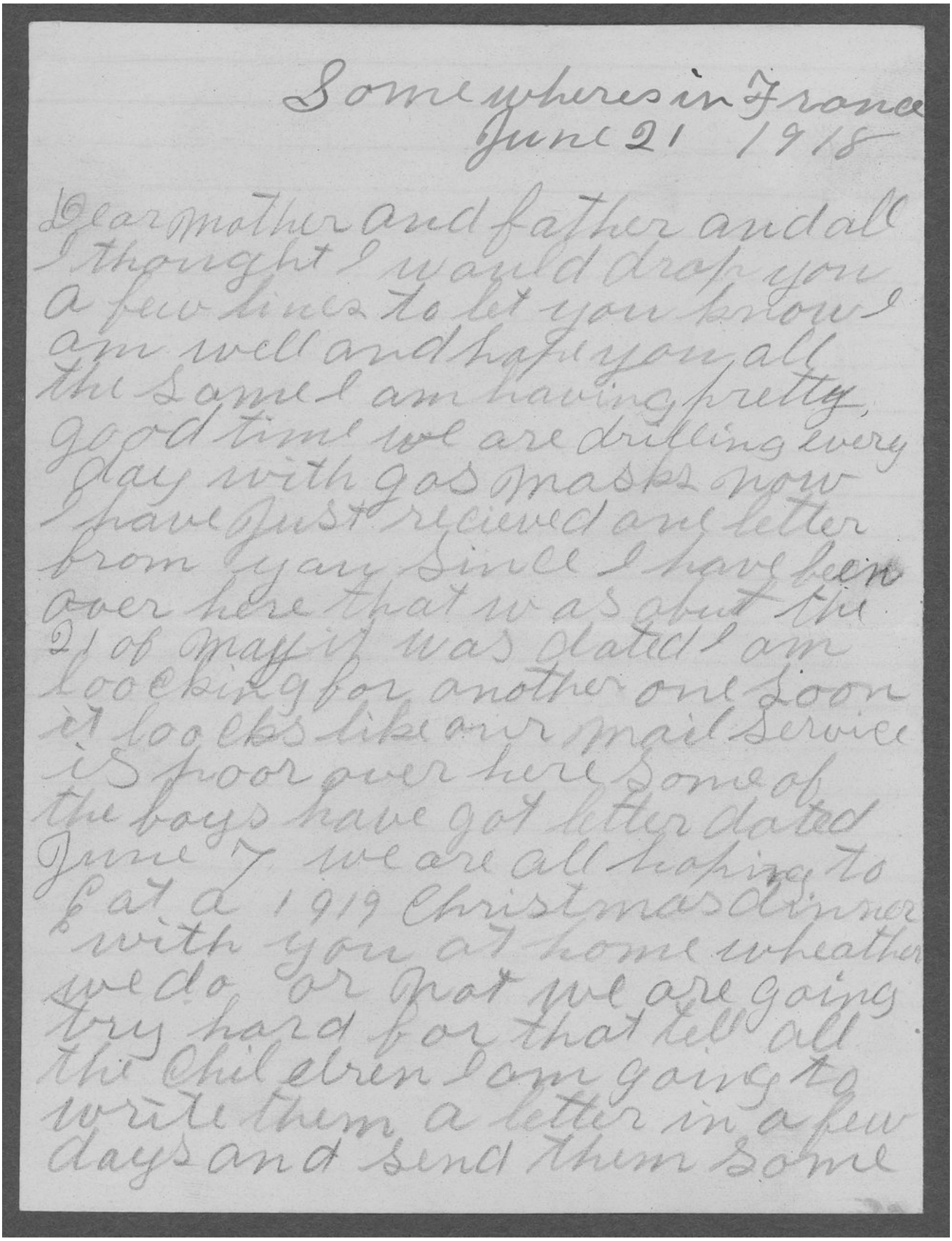


Dear Mother when you send this package to me send me a couple of Kroker Fountain pen Points and if you cant get them send a new fountain pen a dollar pen I had rather have the points because I have got a good pen and if you can get a bottle of in that kind that comes in a long bottle and it is packed in a long box with a screw cover Blue ink and if you cant get that kind dont send any because it will break and you are not allowed to send but three pounds send some cream candy it tells on this slip where you can get this package and you can fill it put the ink and pen and the rest of it cream candy I guise that will be all for this time from
Corydon A Orcutt with love

Corydon Orcutt, World War I soldier



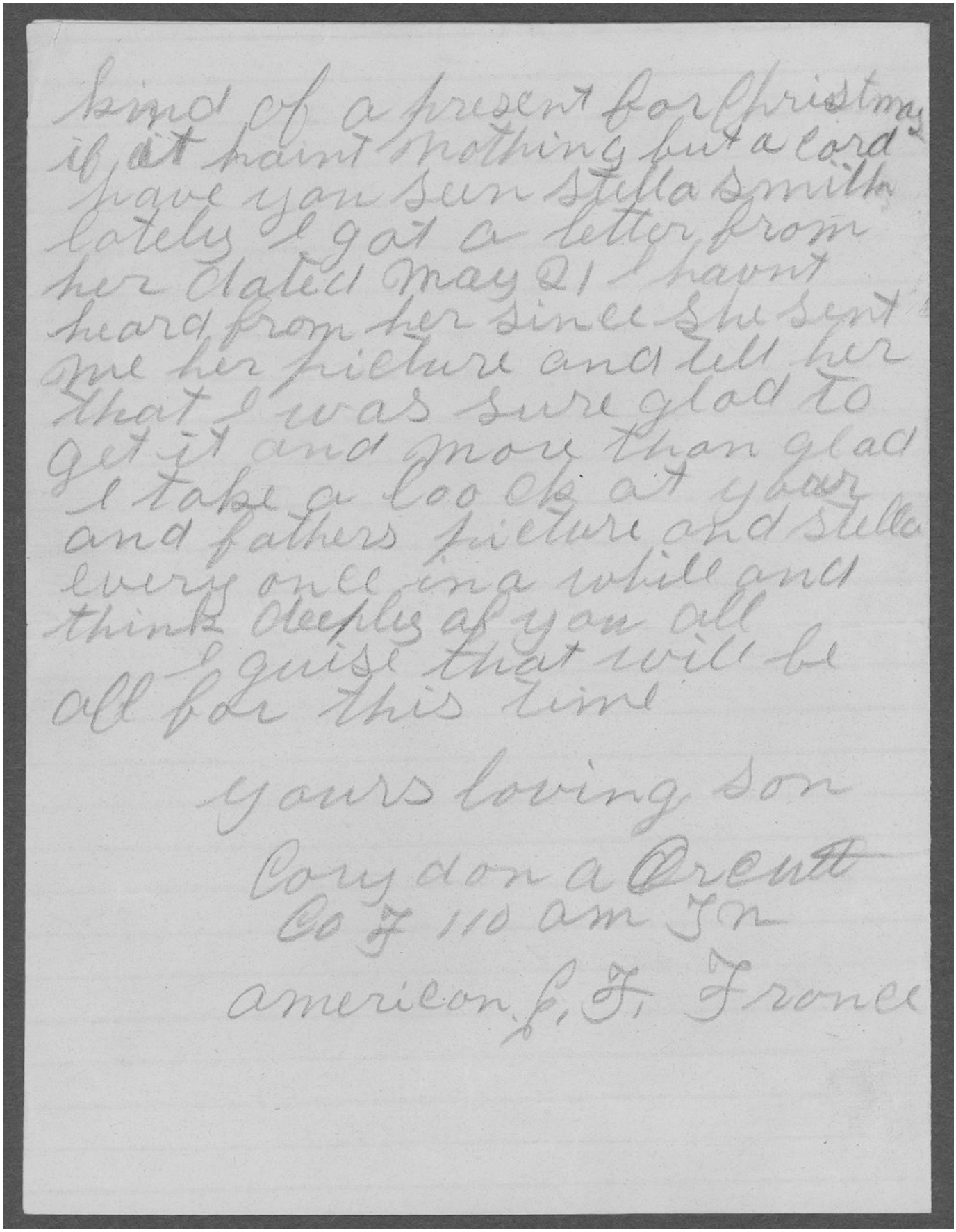
Corydon Orcutt, World War I soldier



Somewhere in France
June 21 1918

Dear mother and father and all
I thought I would drop you
a few lines to let you know I
am well and hope you all
the same I am having pretty
good time we are drilling every
day with gas masks now
have just recieved one letter
from you since I have been
over here that was abut the
2 of may it was dated I am
looking for another one soon
it looks like our mail service
is poor over here some of
the boys have got letter dated
June 7 we are all hoping to
eat a 1919 Christmas dinner
with you at home whether
we do or not we are going
try hard for that tell all
the Children I am going to
write them a letter in a few
days and send them some

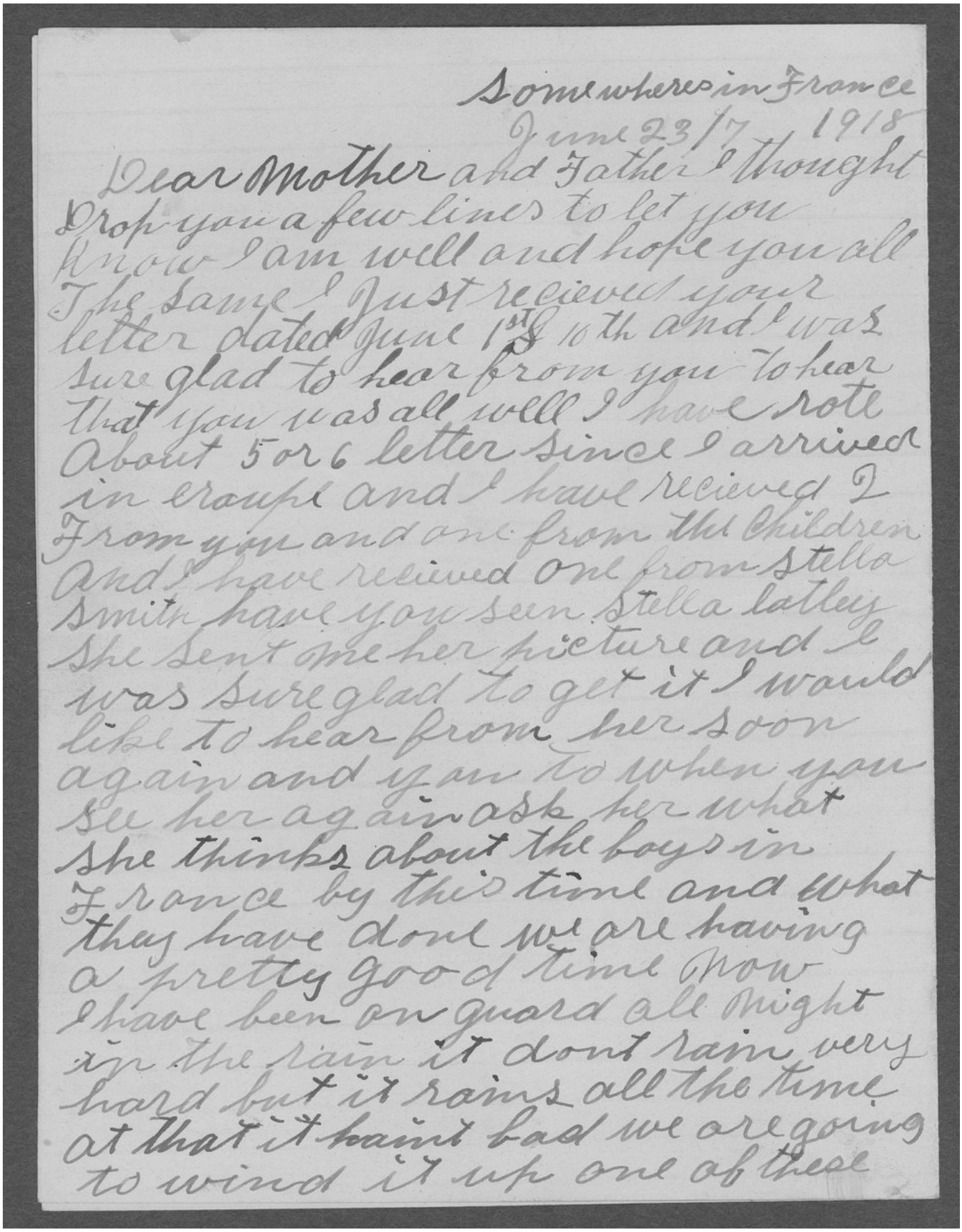
Corydon Orcutt, World War I soldier



kind of a present for Christmas if it haint nothing but a card I gave you Sun Stella Smith lately I got a letter from her dated May 21 I havnt heard from her since She sent me her picture and tell her that I was sure glad to get it and more than glad I take a looks at your and fathers picture and Stella every onell ina while and think deeply as you all I guise that will be all for this time

yours loving son

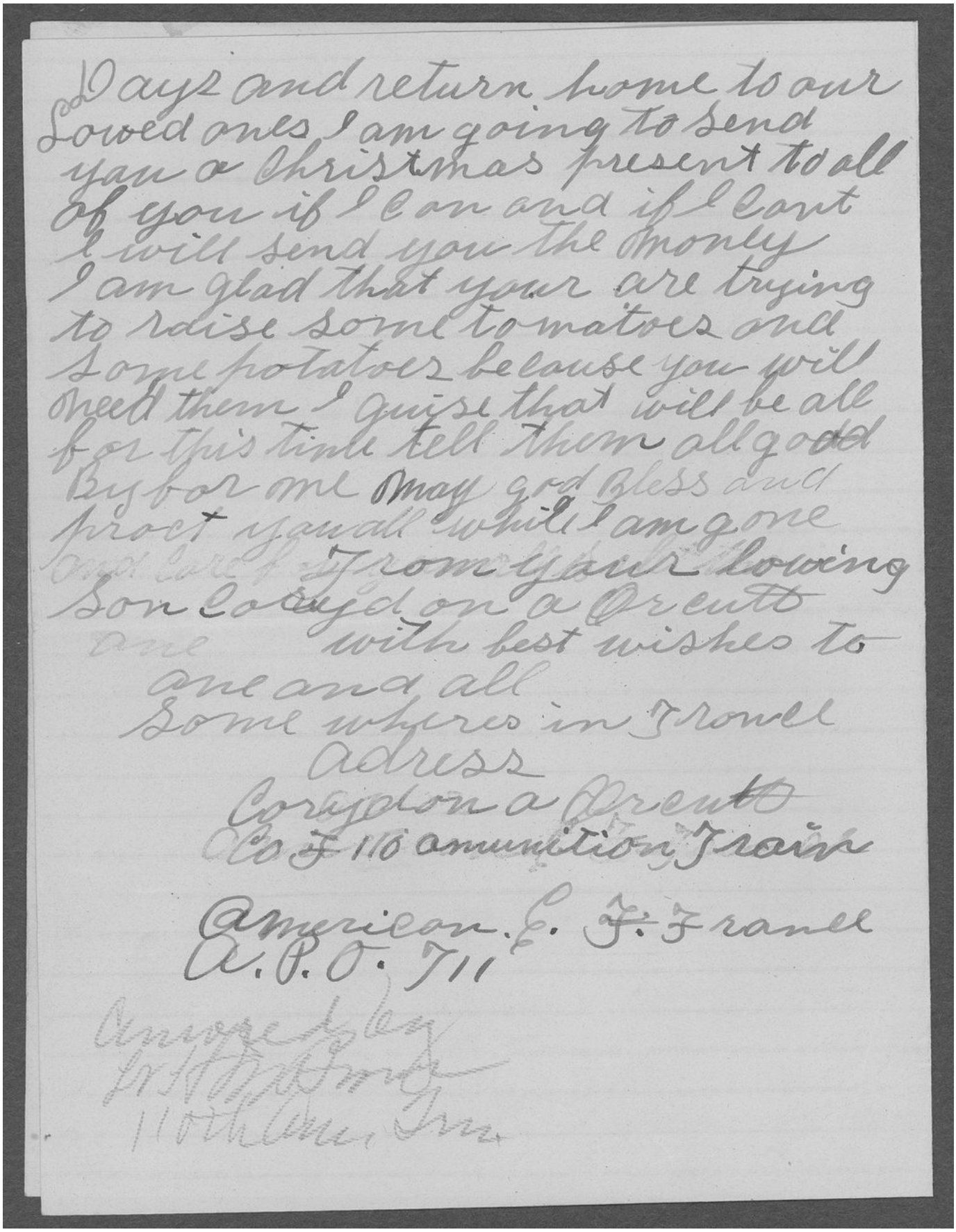
Corydon a Orcutt
Co F 110 am In
american E. F. France



Somewhere in France
June 23/17 1918

Dear Mother and Father I thought I drop you a few lines to let you know I am well and hope you all The same I just recieved your letter dated June 1st & 10th and I was sure glad to hear from you to hear that you was all well I have rote about 5 or 6 letter since I arrived in Graupe and I have recieved 2 From you and one from the Children And I have recieved one from Stella Smith have you seen Stella lately She sent me her picture and I was sure glad to get it I would like to hear from her soon again and you to when you see her again ask her what she thinks about the boys in France by this time and what they have done we are having a pretty good time now I have been on guard all night in the rain it dont rain very hard but it rains all the time at that it haint bad we are going to wind it up one of these

Corydon Orcutt, World War I soldier

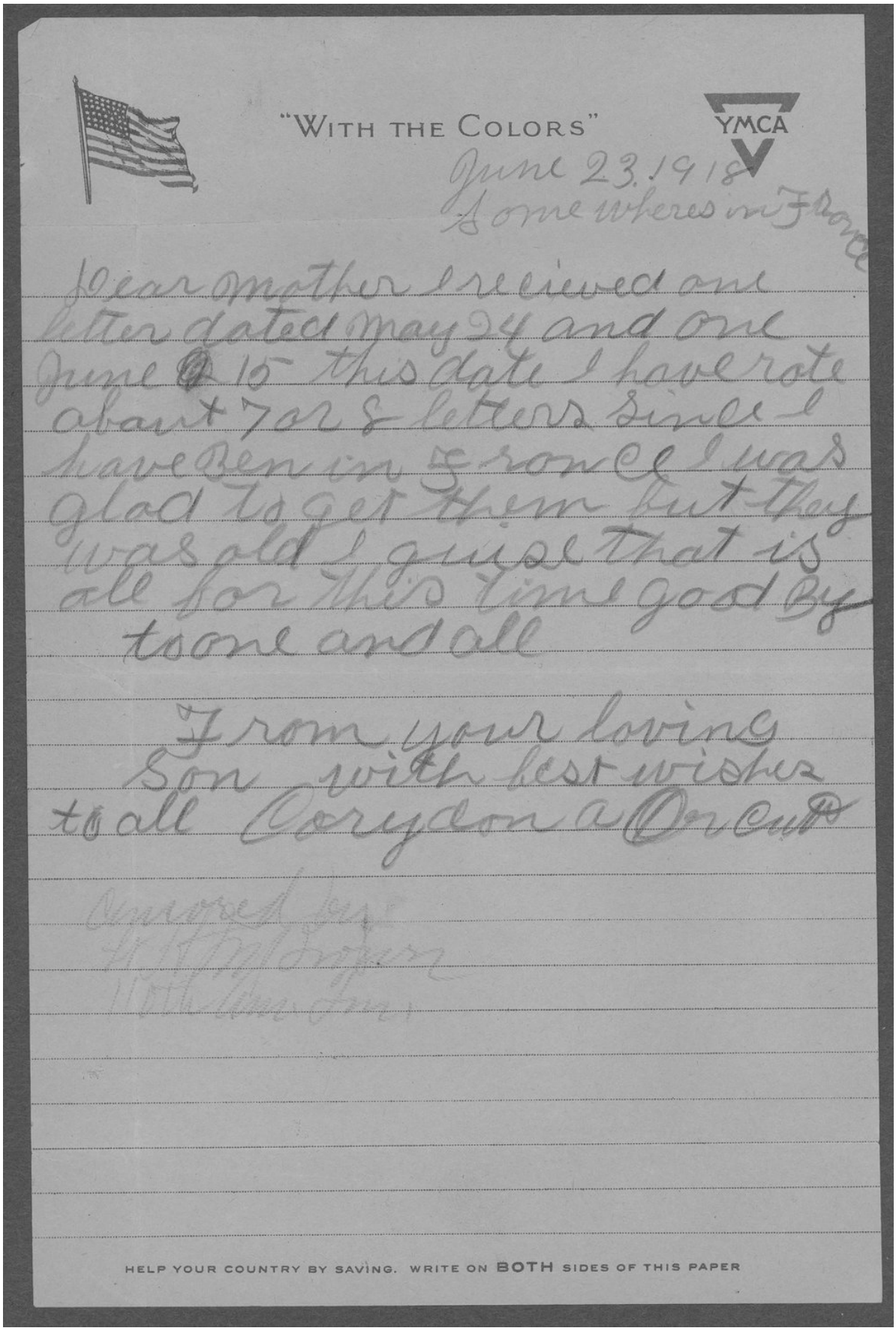


Days and return home to our
Loved ones I am going to send
you a Christmas present to all
of you if I can and if I cant
I will send you the money
I am glad that your are trying
to raise some tomatoes and
some potatoes because you will
need them I guise that will be all
for this time tell them all good
By for one May god Bless and
protect you all while I am gone
From your loving
Son Corydon a Orcutt
with best wishes to
one and all
Some where in France
adress
Corydon a Orcutt
Co F 110 ammunition Train
American E. F. France
A. P. O. 711

Corydon Orcutt, World War I soldier



Corydon Orcutt, World War I soldier



"WITH THE COLORS" YMCA

June 23. 1918
Somewheres in France

Dear mother I received one letter dated May 24 and one June 15 this date I have rote about 7 or 8 letters since I have ben in France I was glad to get them but they was old I guess that is all for this time good By to one and all

From your loving Son with best wishes to all Corydon A Orcutt

Answered by
Pvt. Corydon A. Orcutt
Co. M. 10th Machine Gun Bn.

HELP YOUR COUNTRY BY SAVING. WRITE ON BOTH SIDES OF THIS PAPER

" WITH THE COLORS"

June 23, 1918

Somewhere in France

Dear Mother I recieved one letter dated May 24 and one June 15 this date I have rote about 7 or 8 letters since I have ben in France I was glad to get them but they was old I guise that is all for this time good By to one and all

From your loving
Son with best wishes to all
Corydon A Orcutt

Censored by
Lt H M Brown
110th Am Tr

Saturday July 13/7 1918

Some wheres in France.
Dear Mother and father and all
I will now take pleasure in droping you a few lines to let you know I am well and hope this finds you the same I am sending you some of my pictures taken in anger France and a souvineer de france and I will send you all a Christmas card or some present it cost a lot of money to send muitch of a present across and it would half to be paid at that end of the line I cannot pay the extra charge over here if I could I would send you a present to every one of you. tell all the children I said hello wishing them all a happy new year and a merry Christmas. I just moved from angers and I am knot alowed to tell where I am at now
say mother how many letters have you recieved from me since I lef camp to come over I have just recieved one From you and have you seen Stella and what does she half to say for her self I have just recieved one letter from her and she sent me her picture when you write to me again tell me how they all are and tell me what Stella has got to say for me
I guise I will close for this time good By to all
with many kisses

Yours Loving Son

Corydon A Orcutt
Co F 110 Ammunition Train
American E F. France

A. P. O. 711

Censored by
Lt R M Cunningham
110 Am Tr

Somewhere in France
August 3/8 1918

Dearest Mother and Father and all I thought I would drop you a few lines to let you know that I am well and hope that your the same I am having a pretty good time and hope that you are to I have recieved five letters from you since I left the states and the latest was June the 15 1918 It rains nearly all the time over here now I think that I will eat a Christmas dinner with you 1919 at least I hope so I am going to send every one of you a Christmas present of some kind they may not be the best but you can remember me by them presents are hard to to get over here any way and I am sending you some French money I am sending you a 25 centime piece from ville de angers it is equal to 5 cents in our money and I am sending a 50 centime de commercede Rennes it equal to 10 cents and one Franc it is equal to 20 cents in our money one in French is an well I guise I will close for this time hoping to hear From you real soon

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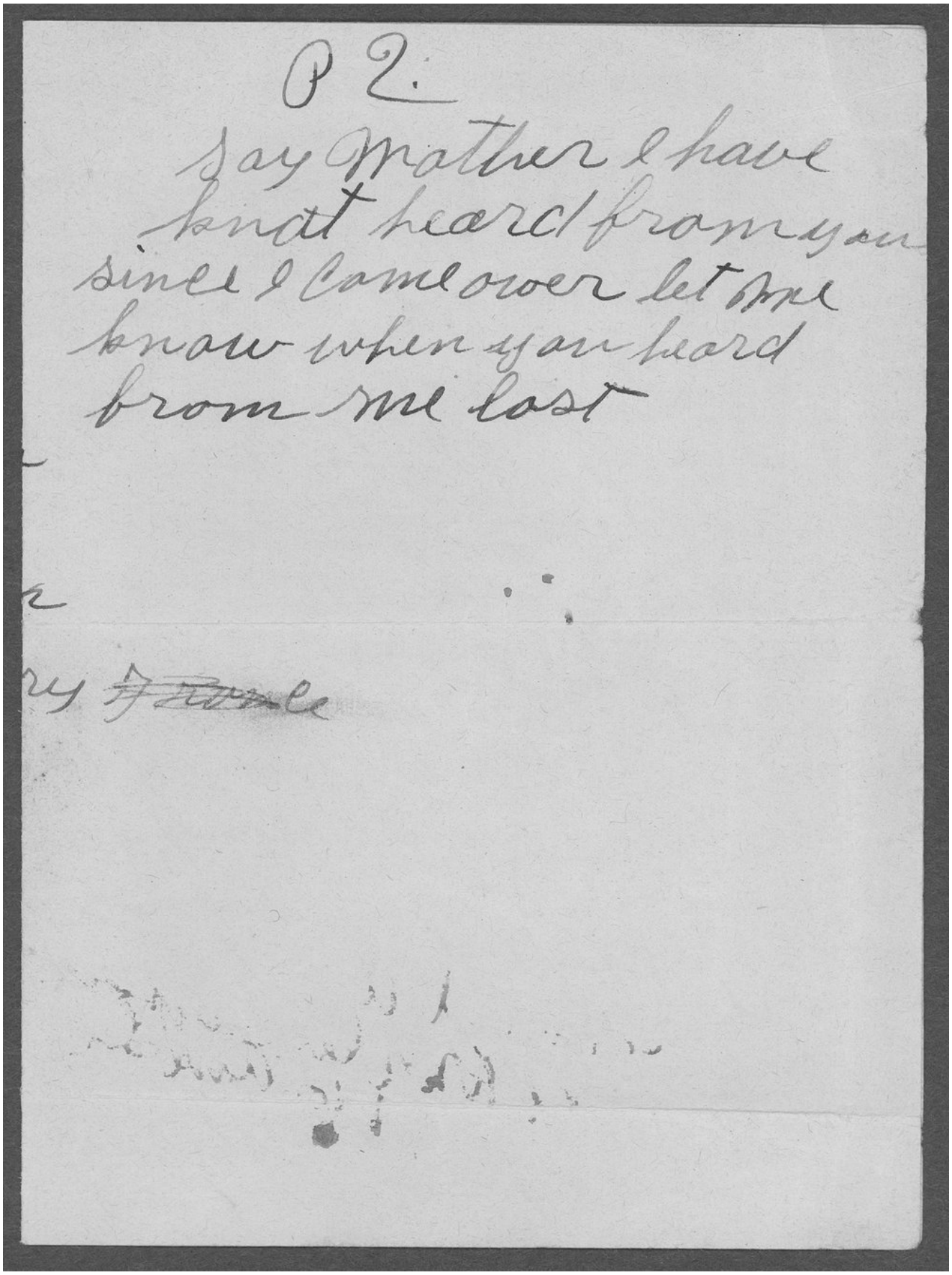
Some wheres in France
Oct. 2 1918

Dear mother and Father and all I recieved your letters of august 5th and 14th and was sure glad to hear From you all it found me well and feeling fine and hope this finds you all the Same I have ben so buisy that I could not write any sooner I have been working night and day I have been to buisy to write am in hope that those Dirty huns will get enough pretty soon they sure are handing them a good buinch know days I dont think it will take a loat more of it to do them I hope not anyway I got sisters picture and was sure glad to get it tell them all I said hello and I am hoping a quick return home I guise that will be all for this time good by to one and all with best regards from your loving son Corydon A Orcutt

Co.F , 110.Am. Train
Americon Ex. Forces
France

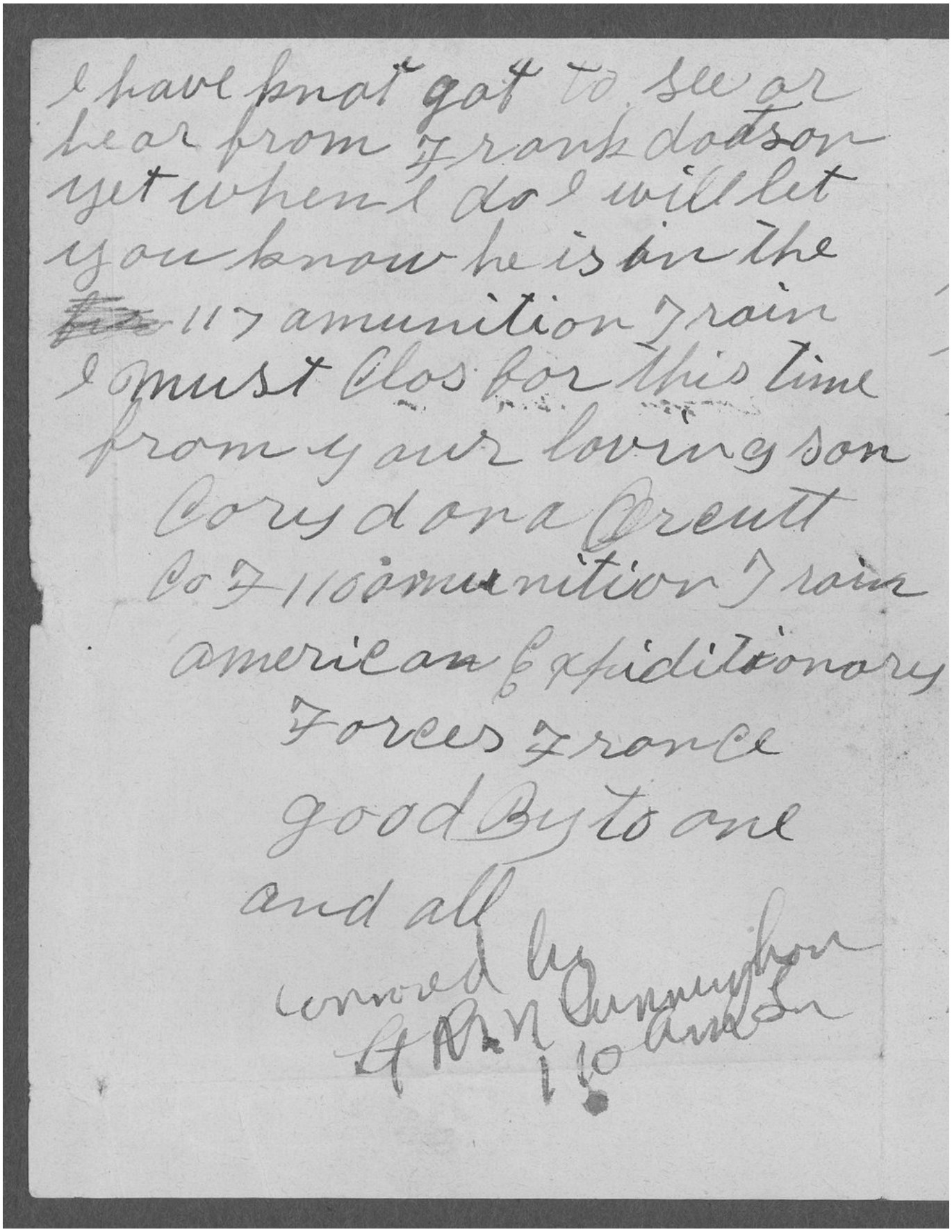
Some where in France
June 28/6. 1918.

Dear Mother and Father
and Brothers and Sister I
thought I would drop you
a few lines to let you know
I am well and hope you all
The same I am having a fine
Time over here there is a
Lot of pretty girls over
here but I Cant talk to them
we are all pretty well satisfied
over here I am sending you
a Souviner in a envelope
and I am going to get some
more as soon as I can have
you seen Stella Smith lately
and tell me what she has
got to say for her self



P 2.

Say Mother I have
hadn't heard from you
since I came over let me
know when you heard
from me last

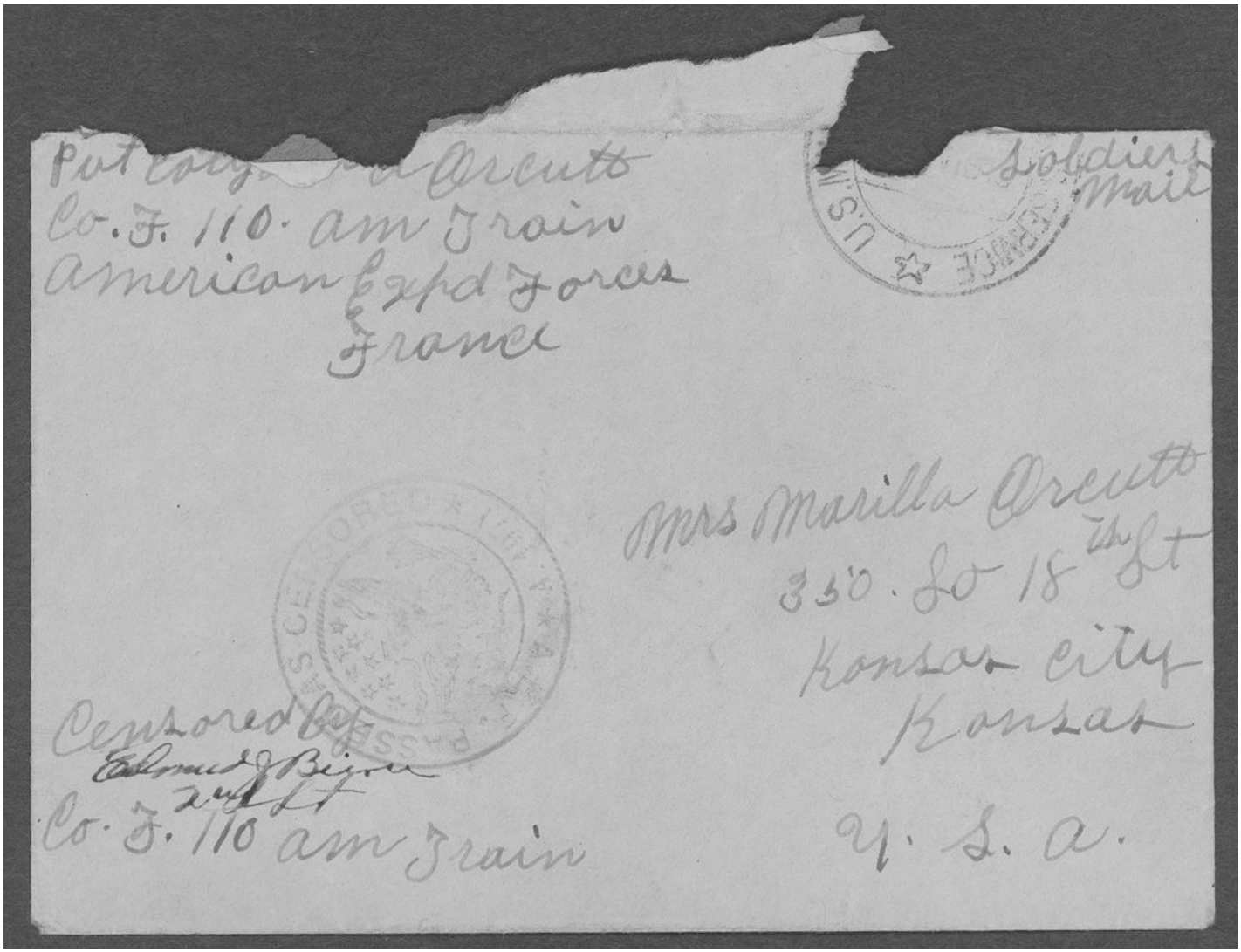


I have not got to hear or hear from Frank Dodson yet when I do I will let you know he is in the 117 ammunition Train I must Clos for this time from your loving son

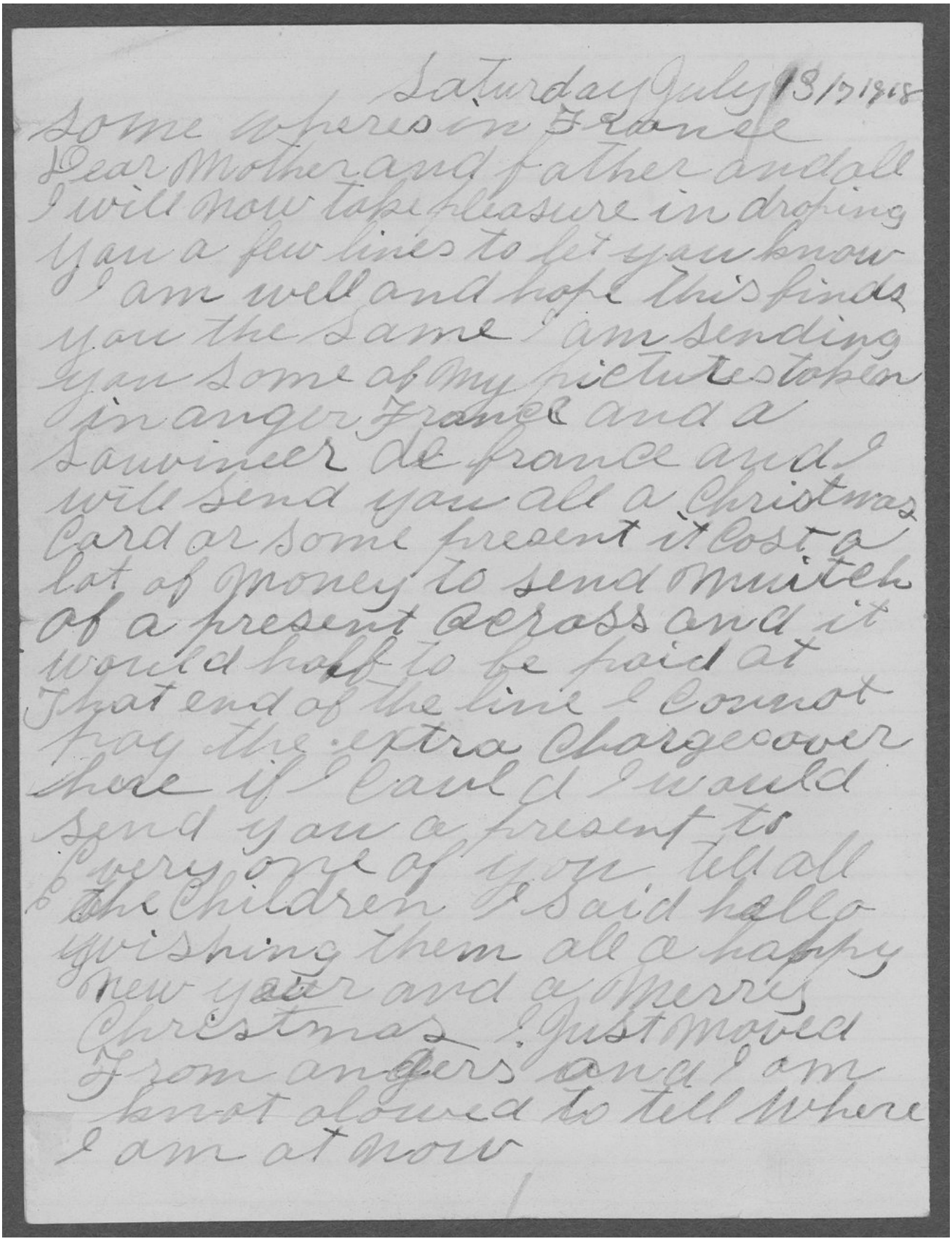
Corydon Orcutt
Co F 110 ammunition Train
american Expiditionary
Forces France
good By to one
and all

Corrected by
Lt A.R. Cunningham
110 Ammo Tr

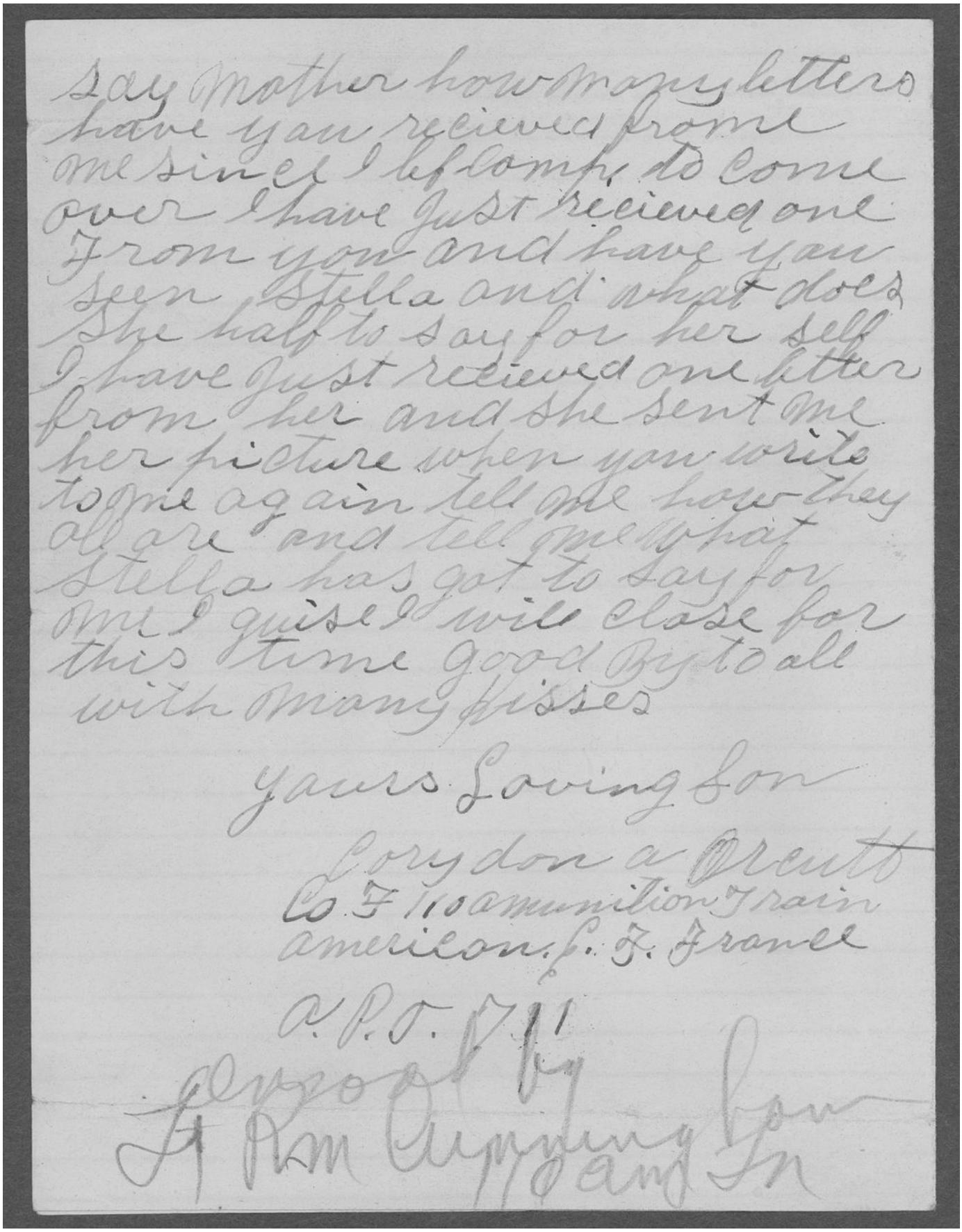
Corydon Orcutt, World War I soldier



Corydon Orcutt, World War I soldier



Saturday July 13/1918
Some where in France
Dear Mother and father and all
I will now take pleasure in droping
you a few lines to let you know
I am well and hope this finds
you the same I am sending
you some of my pictures taken
in anger France and a
Lavinier de france and I
will send you all a Christmas
Card or some present it cost a
lot of money to send much
of a present across and it
would half to be paid at
That end of the line I cannot
pay the extra charge over
there if I could I would
send you a present to
every one of you tell all
the Children I said hallo
wishing them all a happy
new year and a Merry
Christmas I just moved
from anchers camp I am
not alowed to tell where
I am at now



Say Mother how many letters have you recieved from me since I left camp. do come over I have just recieved one from you and have you seen Stella and what does she half to say for her self I have just recieved one letter from her and she sent me her picture when you write to me again tell me how they all are and tell me what Stella has got to say for her I guise I will close for this time good By to all with many kisses

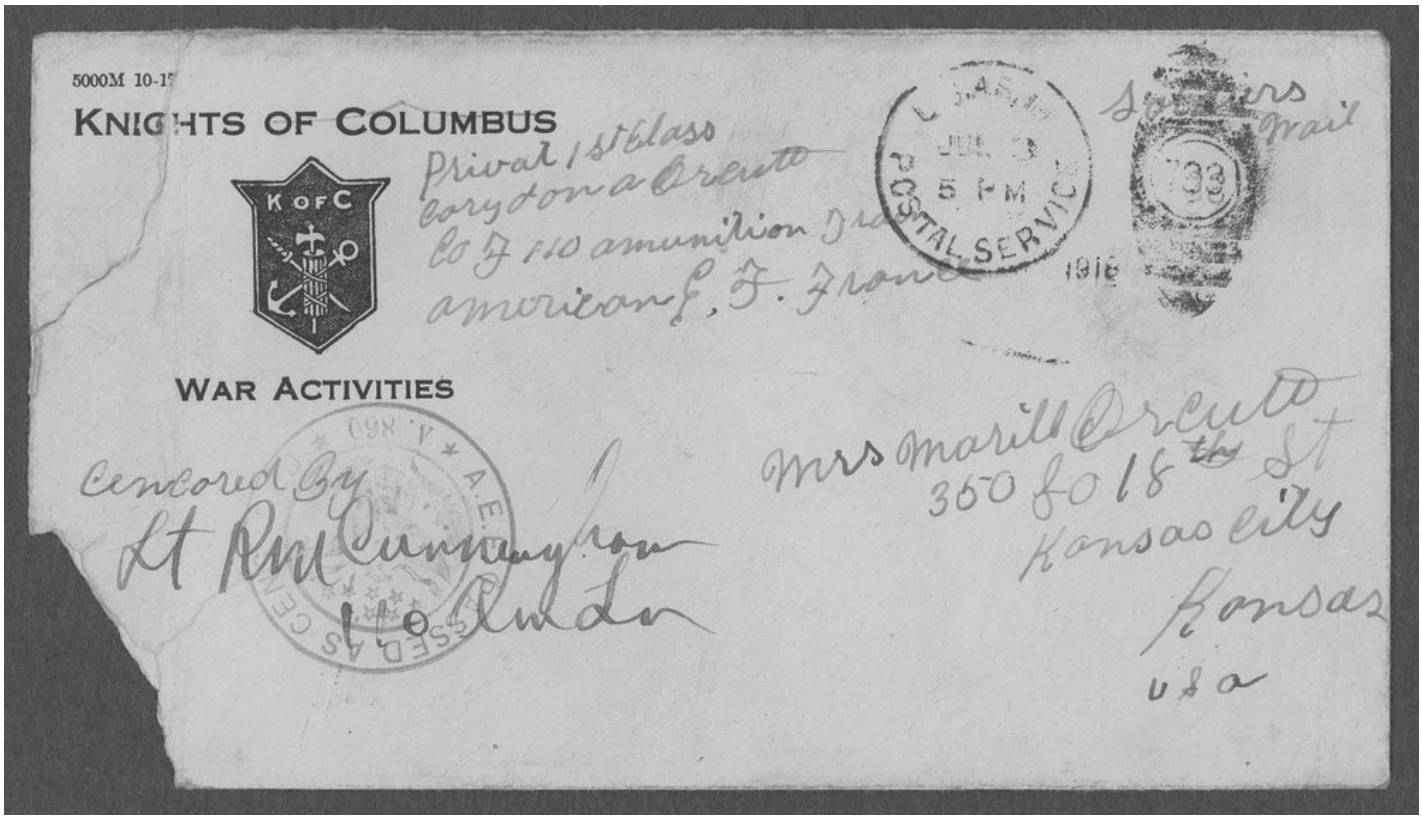
Yours Loving Son

Corydon a Orcutt
Co F 110 ammunition Train
american E. F. France

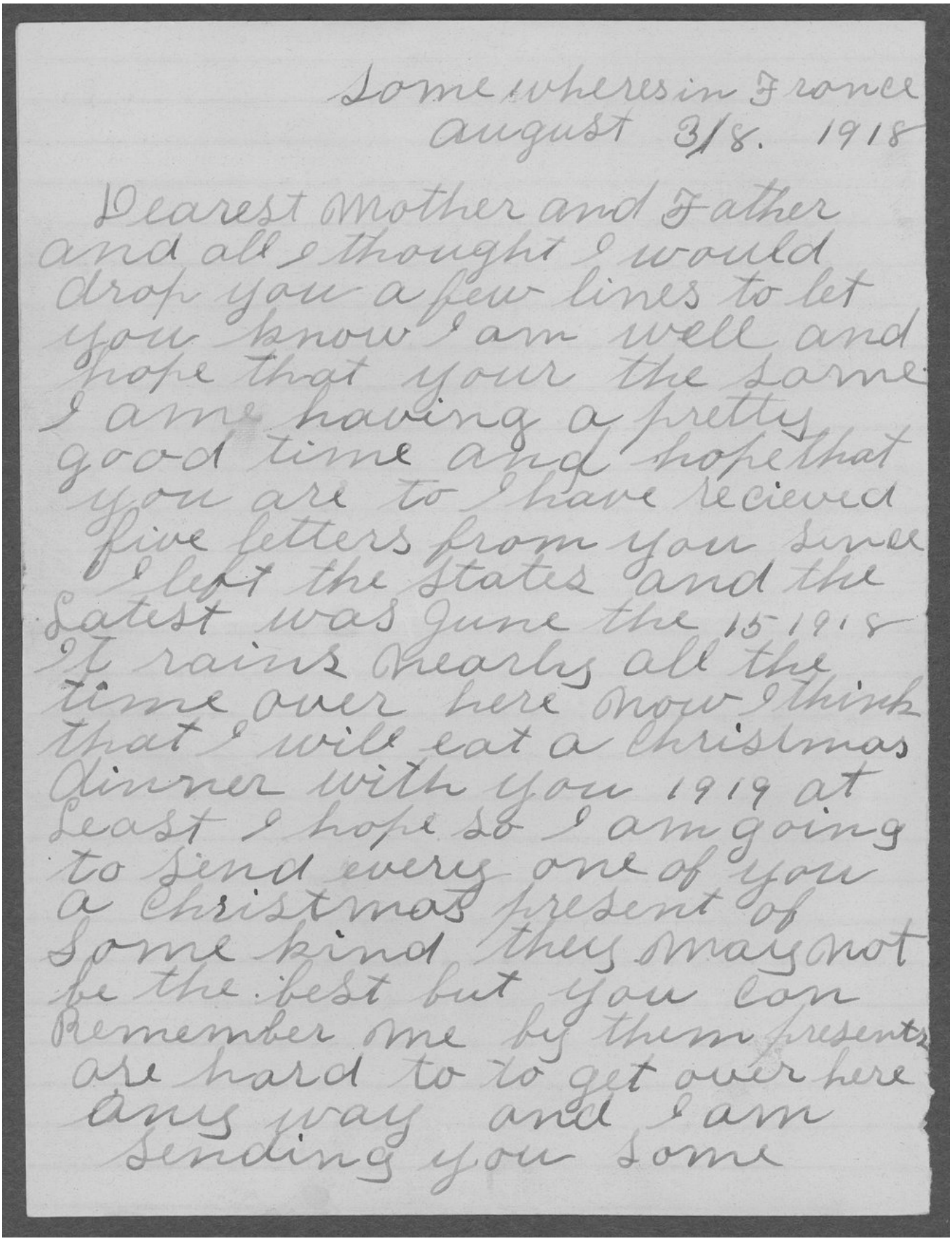
A. P. O. 711

Passed by
A Pass Censor

Corydon Orcutt, World War I soldier



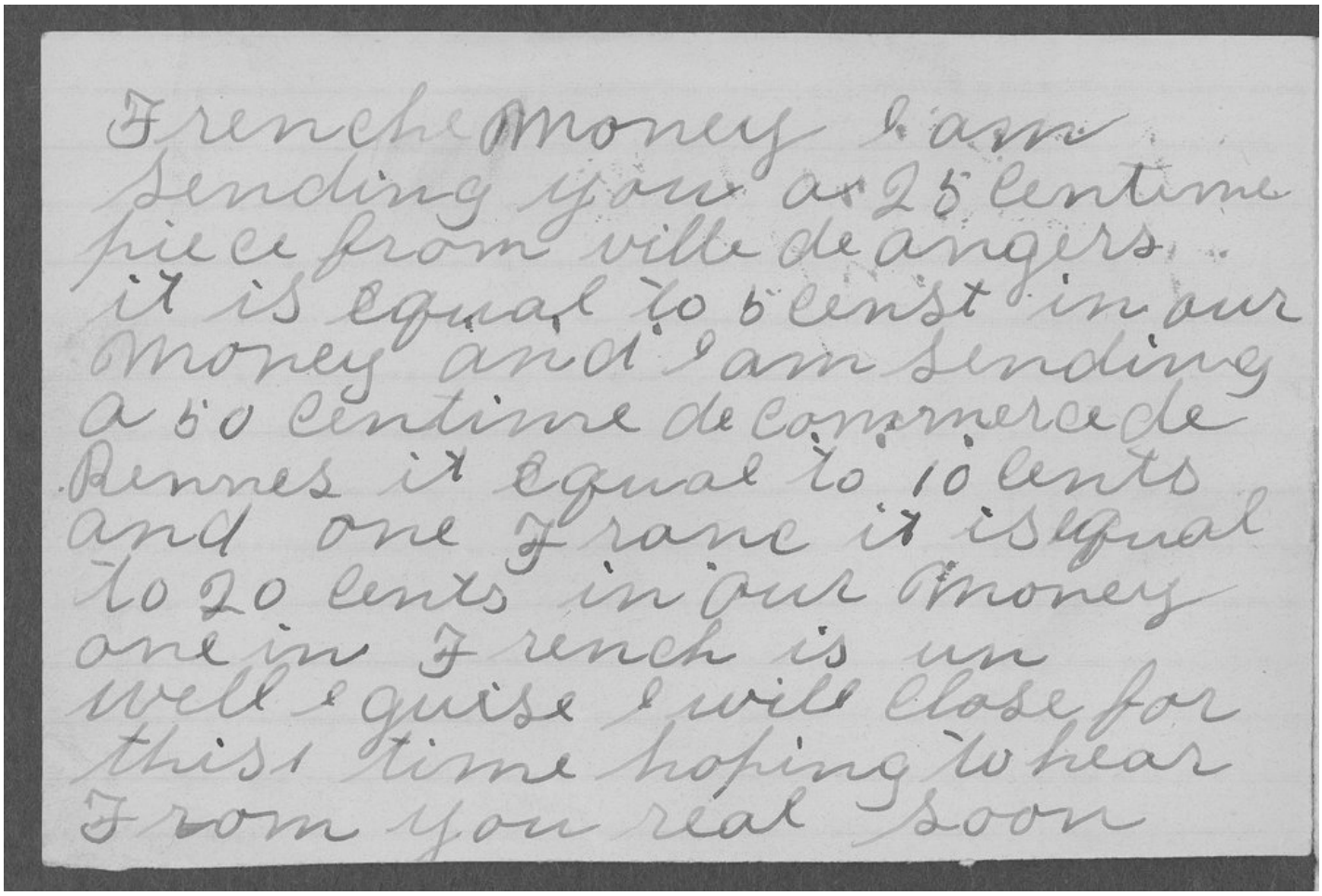
Corydon Orcutt, World War I soldier



Somewheres in France
august 3/8. 1918

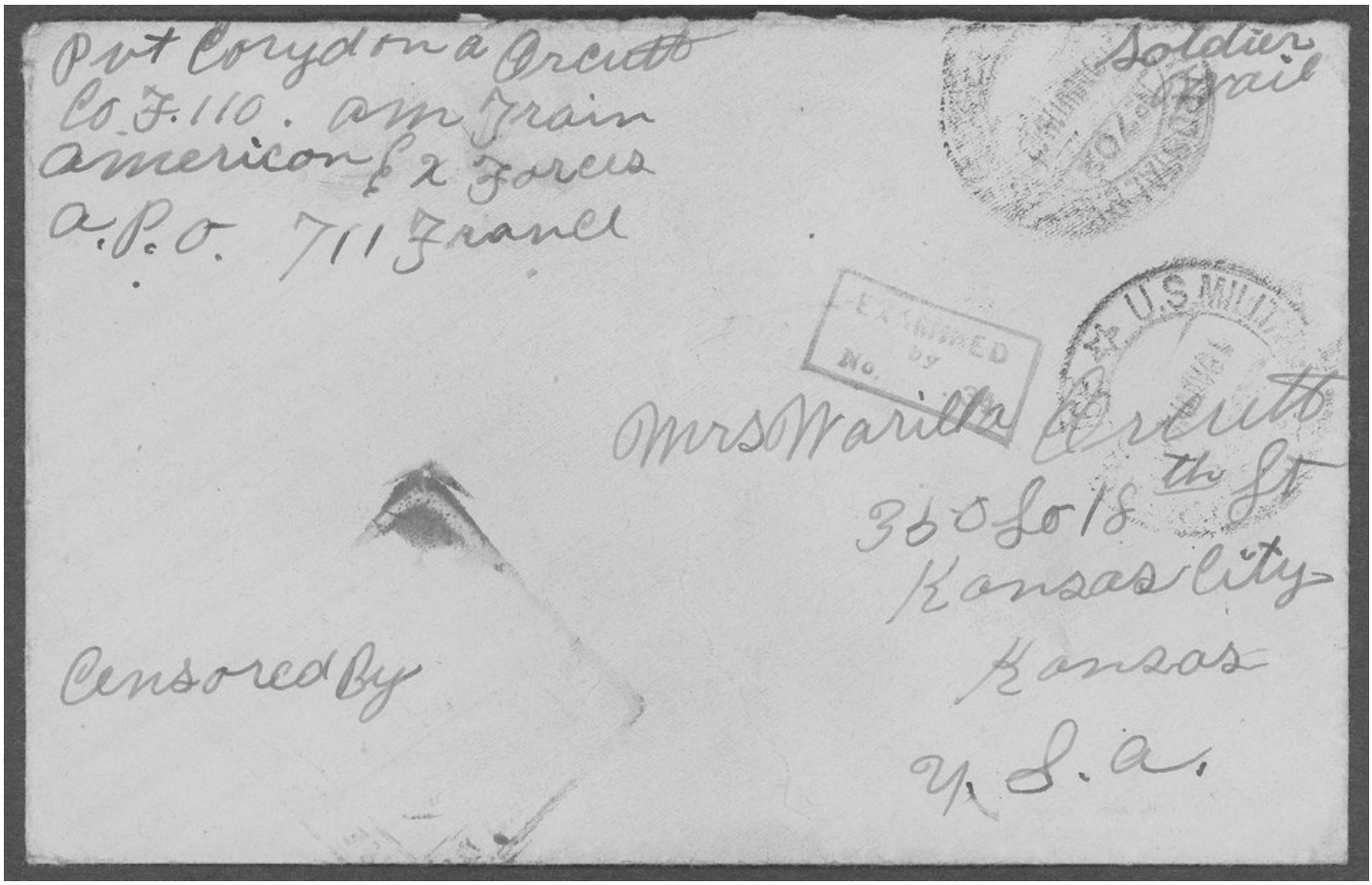
Dearest Mother and Father
and all I thought I would
drop you a few lines to let
you know I am well and
hope that your the same
I am having a pretty
good time and hope that
you are to I have recieved
five letters from you since
I left the States and the
Latest was June the 15 1918
It rains Nearly all the
time over here now I think
that I will eat a Christmas
dinner with you 1919 at
Least I hope So I am going
to Send every one of you
a Christmas present of
Some kind they may not
be the best but you can
Remember me by them presents
are hard to to get over here
any way and I am
Sending you Some

Corydon Orcutt, World War I soldier



French money I am
sending you a 25 centime
piece from ville de angers
it is equal to 5 cent in our
money and I am sending
a 50 centime de Commerce de
Dennes it equal to 10 cents
and one Franc it is equal
to 20 cents in our money
one in French is un
well I guise I will close for
this time hoping to hear
from you real soon

Corydon Orcutt, World War I soldier



Corydon Orcutt, World War I soldier



Corydon Orcutt, World War I soldier

