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Dear Leonard

At last I have an opportunity to write and thank you for such an unexpected pleasure.

I certainly admire your spirit, and sincerely hope you succeed in all your ambitions, because if one gets a setback in youth, it's liable to make an awful hash of life, don't be like someone I know quite intimately, who unconsciously threw away four years of youth, and time when knowledge was most important, just to be, what they called then, patriotic. Take advice from me & keep away from the "Services", I know it looks well in pictures & also makes fine reading, stirs the blood in one, & is taken for granted that one will be made a hero, it's all rot, as soon as the incident is forgotten, so are you. That's enough of that lecture, you will think me a bright spark to start in and bully you this way. Now we will talk of brighter things, Enfield, perhaps would be more interesting to you. This small town

in which I live, has a history of its own. Queen Elizabeth, regarded it as a happy hunting ground, in fact, all round our end of the town is called Enfield Chase, of course the name explains itself. One of her palaces was in the centre of the town, which has just been demolished, owing to the building line, & of course, one has to give way to progress, the tunnel being an underground passage from her residence to the, now called Parish Church, has never been filled in.

Another has been found to start from, what is known now as the Grammar school, to Cockfosters, a matter of four miles. What happen in that passage, in those dark days I am unable to vouch for. Other notable & historical personages who resided in this small town were. Earl of Essex - Lord Burleigh - Sir Walter Raleigh - of cloack fame - Charles Lamb, the Poet whose house is still standing within a stone's throw of Heene Rd. We have living ^{in the town} with us a person who has collected all the chief relics of the palace & has converted part of his house into

a museum which is called the Tudor Rooms & is opened to view on certain days. I am that interested that I have never been. Hoping this little episode of our Village holds some interest for you, as it should, being a stranger to our town. Being situated in a position that makes me travel the country, perhaps I can add a few more notabilities to this list, which I have visited, First, Shakespeare's country, Stratford-on-Avon, which is about 100 miles from home.

John Milton's cottage, at Chalfont St Giles William Penn's grave, one of the original Pilgrim Fathers, at Chalfont St Peter's, which is about 25 miles from home.

Something else which slipped my memory, how it happen I can't quite fathom. I married a native of this historical town. Of course she was not connected with Queen Elizabeth although perhaps some of her relations may at sometime done a bit of washing for her. Hold everything here she is!

Well Leonard, now isn't Jim silly getting me to butt in on his

letter just as it was getting interesting, not meaning the last item, I really don't think he is ⁱⁿ much of a mood for serious letter writing. In fact one doesn't find him often so, if he wasn't laughing or passing some joke, I should think he were ill or worrying over something. You have some Uncle I might tell you. Finny often says, isn't daddy funny, not meaning of course the true sense of word.

He was terribly pleased to hear from you, to have a nephew of his very own makes him real proud. You see I am surrounded by relatives, & he is uncle quite a number of times, but it isn't quite same as ones own relation, & he wasn't the only one to get excited I should love to meet someone really belonging him.

Very pleased to hear of your sister

& brother being home with you
 all again & sincerely hope they
 will remain well! Give my love
 to your mother & dad. Now I pass
 this over to James again. All James
 has to say is that the receiver of this letter
 must think himself highly honoured, because
 I cannot recall this happening before, Just
 ask your Mother if both of us have written
 before. Anyway here's wishing you all we
 wish ourselves. Hoping to hear from you soon
 & will answer all questions to the best of
 my ability

I remain
 Your Loving Uncle.
 Jim

P.S. This is the first time I've ever had the Occassion
 to sign myself thus: