

The Gardens  
Stibo Castle  
Dornoch

23-12-14

My Dear Sister

Just a few lines hoping you are quite well as this leaves us all well at home. Things are very quiet about here at present, but with the New Year coming on there should be a little more stir. There are quite a few of the chaps volunteering from about here after the New Year. There are six of us going out of the Booby on the 1<sup>st</sup> of Jan. only leaving the inside foreman & the outside apprentice. We all go to Golspie first to get equipped & then we are to be sent to Bedford. We don't know how long we will be left in Golspie but the shorter the better as we all want away. It is Home Defence we are joining for but we have the chance of joining Imperial Service. We expect Dannie & Willie home by the end of the week but as they have to ballot for furlough it is a chance if they will be home or not. The Boys that were home are all looking well. They are as fat as they can hold. They will never settle down in Dornoch again it will be too quiet for them after seeing some life.

It ather had a loss when he lost Maggie the cow.  
He was awful sorry for her & tried almost every  
cure he could think on but she was too far gone  
The calf is a right lively wee thing. I think he  
gets milk once a day from Uncle Robbie. For it. ~~Uncle~~  
Robbie's dog got killed with a car yesterday. He was  
right wild about it. It had you word from  
Robert. He hasn't written to me for over a year now.  
They get a letter sometimes at home. but they are so lazy  
that they won't bother to write. Well Joe. I suppose  
that this is all my news at present. Hoping this  
finds you well & to hear from you soon

I remain

your loving Brother  
Thos. McCulloch.