Preface: The original letters are held at the Glenbow Archives in Calgary, Alberta.

We are having good weather here now, and it makes things better for us in the trenches. The last time I was in we were only 25 to 30 yds from the germans.

Sorry cannot write much about it as we are not allowed to do so. I met Summer Martin out here, he is quite well. I think you are very good as regards writing letters,

Your affec Brother

Fred

This is my

14th letter

Today

So

Good

Night

F

117558 Sgt. A. Turner  
CCD

Somerset Barracks

Shorncliffe Kent.

Monday May 8th 1916

Dear Fred,

Just a line in answer to your letter 27 April. So you have had your taste of the firing line now aye? I didn’t think when you joined that you would be there before me. Well watch yourself Fred, and keep your head down. I have an idea of your whereabouts. Have you seen any of the 12th? Some of them are in the 2nd C.M.R. I don’t know where the others are. They are scattered all over. One of the Munson lads, has won the D.C.M. He went out with Major Robinson in the 10th Batt., Did you know Lieut Pue of the 12th CMR. he used to go around Calgary with chaps and Cowboy dress a good deal. Well he has been recommended for the Military Cross. Two other 12th men have been decorated. One the V.C. and the other the D.C.M.

I wrote to Dad, and he answered it but there wasn’t a scrap of news in his letter.

I’m glad you wrote to Florrie, you’ll soon be getting letters from her now, because I sent her your address.

I am giving an exhibition of sword fighting along with eleven other Sgts. in the Pier Theatre next Thursday & Friday, in aid of the Red Cross.

Well be good, & write and let’s know all you can.

Your affec.

Brother, Arthur

If theres anything I can get for you let me know.

**(LETTER RETURNED by Lieut. Oliver Travers. Cause: Died of Wounds)**

(1st page missing but written on April 27th, posted on April 30th)

But he is nearly better now except that he has lost the use of his right forefinger.

I had a letter from Cis. She and hannah are pretty pleased with your badges.

I am going through a riding course now, it is a pretty stiff test alright. It’s a damn sight worse than Bronko Busting.

What gets me is those iron stirrups and thin straps flopping all over the place. We have to ride round at the gallop and then take our feet out of the stirrups and put them back in again. But that’s nothing to what we’ve got to do later on.

Florrie has had to see a specialist about her eyes. She has to wear glasses now but I think they’ll get strong after treatment so that she won’t have to wear glasses all the time.

Have you been in the trenches yet? Write soon and let me know all you are allowed to tell, and don’t neglect to write Florrie.

So hoping this finds you quite well. I remain,

Your affec, Brother,

Arthur

**(LETTER RETURNED. Cause: Died of Wounds)**

No 435833, 10 Platoon  
 49th Batt Canadians  
 c/o Army Post Office  
 May 21 1916

Sgt A. Turner

Dear Sir

Your letter of the 18th received & it is quite true about your brother being hit & dead. He got hit in the abdomen by a shell fragment on May 1st- He died in hospital on the 4th. He could not have suffered any pain for he was unconscious from the very time he got hit.

I have nothing more to say Segt for the last time I spoke to him was on the same morning when he was in his usual state of good health.

Hoping you have been notified by the proper way, I am yours

Very sincerely,  
 Pte G. B. Buckland

Belgium  
 May 23rd 1916

Sergt Turner  
 Shorncliffe

Dear Sir

Received your letter of the 18th inst and in reply, would say that I was talking to your brother Fred after he was wounded and I did not consider it serious as he was conscious even when he was being carried out of the trench which was some time after. After that I lost trace of him but from what I could find out he died at the hospital the next day. I am sorry I can’t give you something more definite but it’s awfully hard to get any information once a man leaves our own dressing stations.

I take this opportunity of extending my deepest sympathy and hope what little information I give will be of some benefit to you.

Sincerely yours  
 Pte H.L. Nelson  
 C. Coy, 49th, 13 Platoon  
 No. 435740