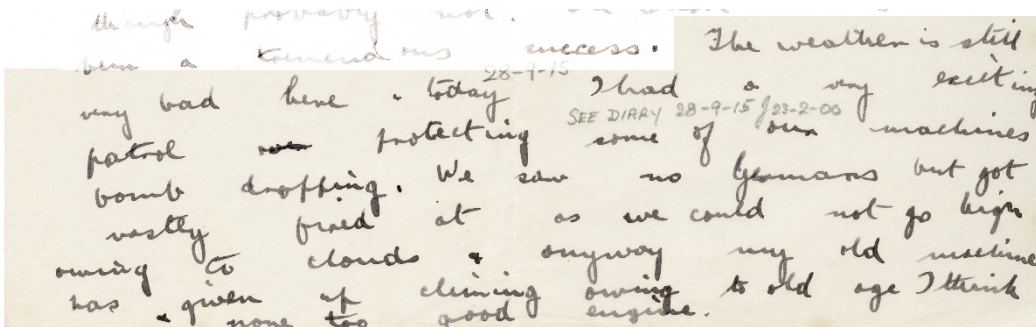


Source 4 (LAP 1/2/8)

Extract from a letter from Sir Lawrence Pattinson to his mother Mary Pattinson in which he writes about his patrol in bad weather, and the possibility of him being given a job as Flight Commander in England. He also remarks on being afraid and asks his mother to pray for him to have courage.

01 Oct 1915

The weather is still very bad here and today I had a very exciting patrol protecting some of our machines bomb dropping. We saw no Germans but got vastly fired at as we could not go high owing to cloud and anyway my old machine has given up climbing owing to old age I think and none to good engine. There is the scent of my possible job in England. Dawes has recommended me to be a Flight Commander i.e. a captain which bucks me up colossally as it really is a great compliment considering how little service I have had in the R.F.C. Of course I might get a flight out home or not at all as it might take a long time to mature but if it comes off it is a tremendous step up and I should love the job. I must say I was quite frightened today and fear is the most beastly thing in the world. I should like to think that you pray for my courage even more than my safety as it is the greatest thing and man can have or luck.



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28-9-15
SEE DIARY 28-9-15/03-2-00

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Key Words

The R.F.C. - The Royal Flying Corps was the air arm of the British Army before and during the First World War, until it merged with the Royal Naval Air Service in April 1918 to form the Royal Air Force