

Source 6 (LAP 1/2/10)

Extract from a letter from Sir Lawrence Pattinson to his mother Mary Pattinson in which he describes dealing with a seemingly broken engine.

17 Nov 1915

I had a most amazing experience today, one of my machines came down near the lines but not under shell fire and they sent in a message that a new magneto was wanted. I went in myself to try and get it in by dark and when I got there neither pilot nor observer were there and they had left a message that they weren't quite certain what was wrong with it. I got in to try the engine and found it running quite alright, so simply brought it home just in time to get a difficult but not impossible light to land in. The other two are now on their way back in the car I went out in I expect. Rather a humorous episode "de guerre" wasn't it. You notice that I am now such a French scholar (sic) that I automatically break into it now and then. I am changing machines tomorrow and hope I shall pick a winner this time.

good spread just to show them that we are the
R.F.C.

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Key Words

"De guerre" - French for "of war"

Sic - Latin for 'so' or 'thus'

Magento - an electrical generator