East Ridgeway
Cuffley
Potters Bar

September 3rd 1916

Dear Daddy,

I hope you are not alarmed, you should not be, unless you know where one of the Zepps went. I have heard that it raided London (up the Strand) and caused heavy casualties. But this I know because I saw, and so did everyone else in the house.

This is my story:-

I heard the clock strike 11 o'clock. I was in bed and just going to sleep. Between 2 o'clock and 2.30 o'clock, Lily (the servant) woke Miss Willy and told her she could hear the guns. Miss Willy woke Poolman, and told him to wake me, he did so.

Miss Willy helped Mrs Willy downstairs. We were all awake by now, we had a Miss Blair staying with us for the weekend. We saw flashes and then heard "Bangs" and "Pops".

Suddenly a bright yellow light appeared and died down again. "Oh! It's alright" said Poolman. "It's only a star shell". That light appeared again and we Miss Blair, Poolman and I rushed to the window, and looked out, and … there, right above us was the Zepp! It had broken in half and was like this …,

it was in flames roaring and crackling. It went slightly to the right, and crashed down into a field!! It was about a 100 yds away from the house and directly opposite us!!! It nearly burnt itself out, when it was finished by the Cheshunt Fire Brigade. I would rather not describe the condition of the crew, of course they were dead, - burnt to death. They were roasted, there is absolutely no other word for it. They were brown like the outside of Roast Beef. One had his legs off at the knees, and you could see the joint! The Zepp was bombed from an aeroplane above, with an incendiary bomb by a Lieutenant Robertson (Johnson?) We have some relics some wire and wood

framework. The weather is beastly, but Mrs and Miss Willy are jolly people, hoping you are all well, love to all,

Your loving son

Patrick

Please don't be

alarmed, all is

well that ends well

(and this did for us)

We are all quite safe.