

idea as to the coolness of our troops. The terrific
fire we had to face. All I can say is the
good old "Chums" whom the Grimsby people
ridiculed, have done their part like heroes
the same as all other fellows. I estimate
about 100,000 took part on the 10 miles
& at least 25% were killed or wounded.
but we are progressing as you know.
As I looked back from a hill near Albert
it was a sight worth seeing altho' terrible
nothing but smoke, green grey black,
yellow & little figures with their steel helmets
shining & clambering up the slopes & over the
ridges, but the slaughter I came across
will never go from my mind & I am

no coward, but like the rest of soldiers
I don't want to see such terrible sights again.
Please excuse awful scribble & paper but
I am writing this in bed, as my back is stiff
but I will write as often as possible as usual
I shall be up for a bit each day soon.

I am enclosing the piece of my
jacket where the bullet entered. It's
the only souvenir I have left as I left
everything on the battle field. The hole where
it came out is 'nt very large.

They do not provide us with razors
here so will you please send me a safety
one, some shaving soap & a pair of
sharp scissors as I'm hard up for a
shave. My health otherwise is perfect.
Best love to all from your loony
brother