

Dec 4 Monday

My dearest dear George

I think we have got to put aside the disappointment about your leave. I know you are very disappointed, & I am so sorry dear, and you know that I am. There is not much use in keeping on about it so I shall try not to

I know you remember in James' Psychology the advice ~~he~~ gives about making your voice and m^{outh} cheerful when you are feeling cross or unhappy and the effect that has upon your whole mind. It is most extraordinarily true but when I read the advice first I had no idea how difficult it was to carry it out.

When I am unhappy I am so dreadfully apt to be cross too and that only makes worse of it and when I have once got cross even by that cheerful method it's awfully hard to become serene again.

Do you think it possible that I could teach class how unwise it is to be cross and ill tempered. I have spoiled so many hours for myself in that way & not only for myself but for other I should like to be

able to prevent her but I fear it is not possible. I'm not constantly being cross to you am I? But that is just because I have learned how horrid it is so I never will begin.

But I still can't altogether get out of the old habit of being cross to Marjorie & Mildred.

I am sorry that your Major's dug out has fallen in it must be very uncomfortable for him.

I don't see how you will mend it or will you dig a whole new one. I don't think it can be

very nice for him having it used as a map room, it can't feel very private ^{or} ~~at~~ his own.

Your musical evening sounds great fun and when you have the big room going it will be better still.

I do hope you will have a cheerful winter & not too bad weather

We have seen in the paper this morning that Bridget has another daughter. I'm afraid she will be disappointed now, but I expect she won't be in the end when she grows up. And I know Stephen doesn't mind. She's a lucky woman to have another child anyway boy or

girl. I hope she got through the birth easily
I expect so.

Dearest we are all most dreadfully depressed and
miserable about the war, things did seem to be
going well and now we are further than
ever from the end I fear. Can we any more
hope for peace next year, the thought of
still being without you through another winter
is too unbearable surely it can't come to
that. And yet I believe it will. Will it
going being nine months between your leaves.
Oh its all too detestable & awfull. Is life
like this really? Thats what I want to know
because if it is I've got an altogether wrong
conception of it. I still believe the war will
end and you will come back and I shall
be happy again, and you will be happy. But
doubts will come as to whether that is life
and whether I have not already had ~~so~~ all the
happiness to which I am entitled. I have had
a lot and the most of it is you. Nothing
can really take you away. I wish we could
together have that absolutely certain uplifting

faith in a splendid & happy life to come that
Father has. I think his religion is very beautiful
and sane. He was talking about it to
Will & yesterday & he took the absolute
'don't know' position but in many ways it
seemed to me that Father had the best of
the talk. I think he goes too far with
future life, I mean he had very definite
ideas of it in his own mind, which is quite
harmless and unobjectionable because I don't
think he would ask other people to
follow him in those ideas.

Will took the position that to go on living
in your works & children is sufficient
future life.

I took Clara out for a walk yesterday &
encountered the Fancham children and to Mary
Fancham's great delight I let her push the
pram all the way home. I do like letting
children enjoy themselves like that. It seems
to me that grown people so seldom try
to enter into what the children really want
and to leave them to enjoy it peacefully

without nagging. I mean its no use allowing her to wheel the pram if I walk beside with my hand on it distracting her all the time. I think women are wiser than men about spoiling a good ^{time} with petty interferences. Your men's Christmas food sounds very nice. I would have liked to send them out some cakes for their Christmas tea but I don't know if you would like it & I'm afraid there is not time now for you to answer because the post office says that all parcels must have been posted by the 11th.

I am going to London on Wednesday & I am there going to try to get some nice things to send you.

I shall send some mince pies & some mince meat separate. Mrs Wooten thinks the pies will keep all right.

I wonder now that the weather has turned so bright though cold if you will try to push forward again. Its very likely & that may again delay leave, never mind the war must be won first if it ever is won.

I will get your book now & read it & then the
tour in the Highlands as you advise.
There are so many personal things I want to
do and the time for them each day seems
short. I let Clara take up a lot of it, I
expect that's the right thing.

I must write to Bridget & Mary Anne. I hear
from Hannah that Owen has been ill.

They might like to come here for a little.
I would like them to come very much.

your very loving
Ruth.



Whisky 2 x
Water (Doris) x

Flour.
Eggs
Butter

~~Butter~~
Savories with + hi

Knife Prater x
Anchovy Sauce

Grandmother's
Marmalade ✓

Cin
Candy Prater ✓

Biscuits Ball ✓
Matches

Asparagus ✓
Sauces ✓

De Risle Chut ✓
Sally Turkey ✓

Sponges ✓
Loofah

Sugar →
Coffee
Thimbles

→ now good soap top line
→ as advertised with in next
→ no money present on one side

→ the same for them with the

→ I let class take up a job

→ that's the right thing.

→ I want more to Bridgeport +

→ from Worcester that over two years
→ they would like to come here to work
→ I would like them to come

→ please send - leaving

oxford
Sims
Cahill

R. W. B.

Infantry - the most glorious
lot; their moral - natural
cheerfulness etc.

Scenes - Behind the lines - differ-
ence between German lines - our
South Sea - bare space - well
- dug-outs - huts
dumps - roads - their traffic
railways - Guns

Dugout
Parried Infantry
Lines - communications - mud
Villages - M. p. 12
the front

M. de la M. de

Parade Re

Eng. (Ch. de la)

Indiments of G. de la

Greeny London

Carte de la France par Y. de la R.
Eastern River

