

Sunday Oct 1

My own dearest George

To day we have changed the time back and the extra hour of sleep has made me feel delightfully wide awake.

I had a nice day yesterday things seemed to happen happily. In the morning I wrote to you and we collected flowers in the garden for church decorations & went down and did them. Then when we came back I went on with my china painting till lunch time. After lunch Wanda went to Priors Field to fetch a friend of hers to tea and we went to meet Manjorie. It was very nice bringing her back and showing her the latest china, and then baby finished her dinner and she came in, and Manjorie thinks she looks quite a little girl now and no longer a baby. She was very amused by her crawling. Father came and asked us to pick apples so I put Clare in her pram and she sat and watched. I climbed the trees and Manjorie held out her skirt for me to throw the apples into. Father picked from the steps and M^{rs} Woolton came out and took them from him. We have a very bad crop except on these three trees of early cookers and they are magnificent, big apples and a very heavy crop. After a bit baby got bored so I took her in to Michael who minded her while she played on the floor. We has a great game going in. ~~she~~ I knocked her gently

on to her back and ^{she} wiggled her self up laughing with the fun and with triumph when she had got up. Then I would push her over again & there was more laughter while she struggled up again.

The little girls who Nosula brought was quite jelly and she came out and picked apples after tea. Nosula & I walked back with her about six o'clock and Mildred put Clare to bed.

I have been looking at my pass book it has lately come in from the bank & I think Mr Raswoathy must have told me wrong because I thought he said that I was square before the £60 for the tax came but it seems I'm only just straight now & I shall have to be very careful for a little while not to get over drawn because I have been spending some on cloths. So my account cant ~~now~~ pay £50 for a book just yet it must wait a bit.

About the National Mission I do agree very much that the assumption that we are trying to please an angry God is most trying. I felt that it could not be meant so, but then I dont quite know how it is meant. Perhaps its like this, that people believe in right & goodness conquering and we want to make sure we are right and good. but then comes the trouble, right & good so that we may conquer and that of course is not the right reason for

being good. Yes it does seem somehow not the highest. And that is why you call the Church unchristian.

I think you are right about taking on Parish work. I should feel fettered and troubled now by feeling that I was doing it under the Church, my own feeling of how to help people would clash with what the Church expected me to do and as time goes on I think I may feel that more.

If I said to someone. Well if coming to Church bothers you and is a stumbling block dont come. I'm sure it cannot matter so long as you do your best to ~~to~~ lead a good Christian life. I dont think the Church would be satisfied.

There is a little person who Father has told us of who goes to the Guildford hospital committee meetings. And he said to Father I ought to be at a conference at Farnham today but I did not want to go so I didnt. Why should I go if I dont want to. Why should any one go when they dont want to. Why should they go to church if they dont want to.

Dearest in the services I am taking I say ^{almost} absolutely nothing about the national mission it doesnt come in with me though it may do so with some people. I am quite ready to own though that that is not having nothing to do with the national mission. But I'm afraid I have not yet got critical enough and when I hear of something that I am told wants doing I am apt to take and do it. So I'm doing these services and I must finish them. There are four more.

Clare has been behaving terribly. She has got into the state when she makes a fuss about being put on the floor and left there and she howls to be taken up poor mite. But if we give way & take her up there will be trouble & she will always cry for what she wants. As soon as she really was quiet Violet brought her in here and she seemed as though she would howl again if I put her down so I kept her in my arms for about a quarter of an hour or twenty minutes then she got tired of it and now she is crawling about the floor quite happily holding a large piece of india rubber in her mouth.

I saw Mrs Buxton-Brown yesterday and she asked me to thank you very much for having recommended Mr Bayant's house to her for her boys she seems extremely pleased with it. So that's a good thing isn't it. She said that if you were at Boulogne as Bob it or any where I gather but at the front she would write to you but she seems to think you are too busy to receive letters or else that you should not be worried by mundane affairs. I don't quite know which was so I understand her point of view entirely.

I must stop this letter and do some china painting

You have not said anything of your ankle lately.

Darling I do love you and long for you to come back

Your very loving

Ruth.