

Jan 9 + 10

My own dearest

I am writing this in bed in ink. I don't like my letters being half ink and half pencil it does not look nice. I was rather amused at Godalming station coming back from Guildford today. I was going up the Flemings way which means as you know that one goes out of the station at the end by those little gates. The train had gone out and the signal man opened the big gates shutting off the line but opening the road & he did not open my little gate so I was shut into the station. I banged for a minute or two to attract his attention and then as he did not open it I felt sure he was doing it on purpose to annoy. I did not want to climb which is quite easy but means a jump to do it neatly, so I squeezed between the big gates & to my joy that fetched the signal man & he came out of the

the signal box to tell me that I ought to know that was not the right way. I said I did know that the right way was through ~~the~~ the little gate but it was not open. It was a score for me. I wonder how he will try to be disagreeable next. Of course its all the station master really.

I had a letter from Aunt Rosamond today asking me to go and stay there next week to help cheer Frances up.

She has a bad heart after measles, only its very bad, valvula disease. At first I believe they thought she would never get well enough to lead a normal life but now they think I believe that the rest has cured the disease & that a compensating muscle will do the <sup>work</sup> rest. I expect I shall go from Tuesday to Friday or Saturday.

I am feeling so well still. I almost hope I shant feel quit so well as

this all the time or I dont know how  
I shall ever be careful enough. Of course  
it may be that I need not be very  
careful but I dont want to run risks.  
Violet is going to Portsmouth this week  
end to see her Father and Mother who  
are both there now.

I suppose you are having simply awful  
weather now. We are. Very cold and  
windy & a little snow sometimes.

I cant think what is going happen to  
the war, the Germans keep going on  
and on in Rumania. It is heartily.

This attack of ours into their lines  
and finding no one in either is queer.  
I wonder what will happen this spring.

I believe if early in the year we could  
have a big victory on the Western  
front we should get peace. Otherwise

I dont dare think. You see their  
harvest may be good this year.

Good night dear its getting rather late  
I would like to give you a beautiful kiss.

This morning I have had two letters from you one dated the 4<sup>th</sup> & the other the 6<sup>th</sup>. The second letter told me that you had heard that I expect the baby and have missed the period. I think it must be all right otherwise there is no reason for me to have missed it and its a thing I never do. I dont suppose, you know, dear, that I shall be nearly as sick this time as I was last time. But I do expect to be a little presently. I dont suppose one does feel the first part as much with a second baby there is so much less adjustment for the body I expect after all the organs have been used and fairly recently.

Will you often ride with the colonel do you think, it would be rather jolly for you if you could. I am glad you like him.

The construction of a new really good group O.P. sounds a splendid thing to do and really interesting. I hope it will turn out well.

I would like our babies to learn to ride, specially if they could do it in a field in

a rough & tumble sort of way with a fairly quiet poney to begin with. I should like it better for a beginning than riding school ways where you are not allowed to tumble off if it can be helped. Only they ought to have a taste of a good horse now and then. That is what we never had and so we never got very keen. Besides the riding skirts we had were so abominably made, at home, that they were never comfortable to ride in.

I should think it will be a great advantage to know the other batteries of the group it will give you a wider circle of friends. I hope you will manage to see Trafford it would be very nice.

Don't you really think its much nicer to sit in your shirt sleeves in a warm room than wrapped up in a cold one. My sympathies are with the colonel. I will own there is a limit though even for me. Perhaps it got that far.

I am sorry Bell is going away to a new battery will it be in your group? What did Lithgow

get his M.C. for. Conspicuous gallantry or  
just general excellence. I should prefer  
conspicuous gallantry for my self if I would  
choose.

I suppose you wont be where you are now  
if a push begins with you. I mean it.  
wont be likely to begin in five weeks.

Things wont be likely to be day enough to  
March at the earliest, more likely April. Oh  
I do hope we shall do well when it does  
begin.

I am now going to try and get on with some  
china painting. I dont think I have any letters  
owing I did a lot last night.

Your very very loving  
Ruth.

