

March 24

My Dearest

Its Saturday morning so directly I was up I took Clara out. Violet always cleans the mussy on Saturday so I take Clara from a quarter to ten or there about till eleven when she goes to sleep.

Its one of those absolutely perfect days sunny with a slight haze and a very light Northwesterly breeze which makes it very fresh. I took Clara out along the back lane and by going along a short piece of ploughed & harrowed field & was able to get onto the foot path and so keep her in the sun. I enjoyed it very much because it was so very pretty.

When ever I enjoy myself very much I wish you were with me dauling. Specially when its the out door sort of enjoyment in beauty that we both love so much.

Clara's golden curls in the sun looked lovely.

She's got such a mop now, there is really too much of a bunch in front we do try to part it and make it lie down a bit but ten minutes later the parting

had disappeared & it's all standing up again. I am now in the winter garden writing; it's far too good a day to go indoors though we are back in the school room now for the first day. I hope to start my china painting again soon.

I had a letter from your mother last night. She seems to be miserably bad, she says she has been having a lot of pain in her face and head and has been to a specialist who says she is not to go to Buxton but to get away and take a good rest as soon as she can. She says she hopes to go to Taqquana Bay in June with Aris and Mary and the children and hopes I will go too. Of course I should love to go and take care but I think such a long journey just for pleasure is quite out of the question. It would be pretty expensive with the high fares and then it would not be good for the nation. If Marionie had gone when Bob comes home on leave I shall be left

alone here and very likely it would be convenient to do house cleaning or give the mounts some holiday. So I think I shall very likely keep to an old plan that pleases Violet very much & go to the isle of Whiti. I've never been and she says its lovely in spring time. She never been since she left when she was about fifteen. Her Father is at Portsmouth now so she could manage to see him quite easily. Altogether I think its a very nice plan and such a short journey.

I went over to enquire after Costance Mussen ~~this morning~~ yesterday evening. She is very well and getting on splendidly and so is the baby. I did not see it because it was in her room and the moon was out, but they say its a very nice one with very diffinite features. This hill always seems to have girls on in I cant think of any boys that have been born here though a few have come to live in cottages. We had a long letter from Aunt Jessie last

night, one that is going round to every one. They must have had a most unusually awful voyage, they seem to have been nearly sunk in gales two or three times. Those letters that go to every one always seem to me too impersonal to be really proper letters. But then I do love the personal details. We heard from Marjorie Waterhouse too. She has German measles. It's the exception not to have them. Still she will get four days off when it's over & will come here we hope so it's rather nice for us.

I want a letter from you my dear, dearest. I want every thing that will bring me close to you but most of all I want you your own self. I love you so dear. I often imagine that you aren't at the war and that you might come any minute. Like the days I was here before Clem was born when you came back from Charterhouse at half past twelve or a quarter to one and would just walk in here to find me. And you would smile at me always. Oh my darling!

I believe soon that the men of air plans

will become practically part of lovely still days, the same as the hum of bees is practically part of hot summer days.

Clara won't be able to remember using her first airplane but I can remember the first motor cars quite well. I hated them as a sort of insult to the dear horses, not seeing how much hard labour & suffering it would save them.

I had a letter from May this morning who says that she will bring Barbara here on Tuesday because at present they expect the battery to go to Lydd on Saturday. I gather she means to stay here a night or two to settle Barbara in.

I wish Ralph could have got over some time, it would have been nice to see him before he goes.

Yours very loving  
Ruth.