

Oct 31 Tuesday

My dearest George

I had a letter from you yesterday evening. It was a very nice one and you sound happy. I do wish I could be with you. I am sorry about Mr Earl being a little ill. I suppose if he gets bad they will send him home and perhaps he won't mind that very much. Who is Williams who lives in Mr Earls battery?

I finished two things yesterday. A smocked frock for Clara, a little blue cotton smocked in white, I think it will be very pretty. Also my bowl, so now I shall have to begin on my breakfast set for Nancy. I do hope the bowl will fire well if it does I think it ought to be quite the nicest thing I have yet done.

We had a very nice evening yesterday talking over folk songs, we sang Robert some that he did not know, that pretty French one Les trois pains also Go to bed sweet muse and Cold blows this wind. He sang us one or two too but he said that since his wound he cannot keep in time.

I have enjoyed his visit here so much, and as I told you we have become friends, for ourselves

not only for you.

There is a boy at Charterhouse known as 'Peter' though that is not his real name Robert has written that down for me he belongs to Sannecroft. He is a lot younger than Robert & Raymond but they liked him and were friends with him. He knows you and Robert says he would like to know me and thinks I had better ask him to tea. I should like to, I feel flattered that he should want to come, of course he only wants to because of you and the other two but still Robert might have told him it was not worth while, and it will be nice knowing him and talking about them and you. Darling you are a wonderful person and more wonderful to me than to any one else. You have taught me such a lot of things and the best of them is to value friendship above every thing else.

I really made a new friend yesterday though it has been growing a bit for some time. She is a Mrs Mercer and she came to my cottage movies. She is quite young and just going to have a baby, well not just but it is expected at

the same time that Doris is, the beginning of
January. She was a bit worried because her husband
has been called up he has asked for exemption
untill the child is born and it has not be
granted so he is going to appeal. He works a Saunders
and Mr Langton will help him. You see the separation
allowance for a woman without a child is 12/6 a
week, thats all right if she can work which she
probably can, but Mrs Mevor cant, her cottage is
7/- a week and it simply would not leave her
enough to live on, and plenty of good food is necessary
I have told her that I would like to go on
coming to see her and if he does not get off
I will help her till the baby comes when she will
get 5/- more, and she says she will be able to
manage with that.

You will answer me about that boy wont you
at once. I dont want to leave it too long
and it take ten days or a fortnight to get
an answer even if you answer at once.

I have had another letter from you this morning
dated the 24th + the one I had last night was
the 26th. so that one was quick but this very

slow.

I will try and get you a song book. Worsela will be coming here the week end after next. I think I will write to her and ask her to try and get one.

I will try and get you something for a cushion though at this moment I don't see what. I am going to send a cake today.

I think I agree with you about the ordinary story, only I don't know that it makes me feel especially empty headed when I have stopped reading it and I do often enjoy them quite a lot. I have not read The Woman in White. Robert Graves mentioned some novel of Butlers that he was surprised I had not read and he seemed to think it so nice that I would like to. It was not the Erinans. You ought not to tell me that most people read too much, though you may tell me they think too little.

Darling I am afraid you have got to face the fact that the Clutton Books are not a prominance in Faoucombe. She told me they would go to a larger house and nicer locality when they

have more money which I suppose means when Mr Brook's
Father dies. It will make a great difference to us
but you know dear you need not stay at Charterhouse
if you dont want to, though it would be sad to
leave the Hall. Still when I have you back I shall
mind nothing.

Has you back got any further than the chapter
you sent me. I gather it has gone further in your
mind a lot, but I mean on paper.

I wish you could have seen Robert Graves and baby
together he was very sweet with her. I am sure
he really enjoyed her and there is no doubt
that she enjoyed him. She is a dear little girl.

I acquiesce about the idea down but still think
you might have the hot water bottle even if
you dont use it in bed you could use it to
dry and air your bed, and to dry other things.

I really think you would be wise to have one.

My darling think of the time when I can kiss
you a proper good night. It so unsettles me to
think constantly of leave that I must try not to.

your very loving

Ruth.