

Tuesday, June 13.

France

My beautiful & good and my own true dear one,
I have had a bundle of letters from you this morning;
I have read them all through once & I write now (they
11.30
have a little hope of catching the 2.0'clock post at Hvers)
to say something of what it means to me to have you
talking to me so beautifully. [Interval:— the rain
became so violent that I had to go out & see to the
various working parties & send away some men from
other batteries who are helping us. Eventually I fetched
up in a chalk pit covered by a great sheet of canvas where
my favourite detachment are busy with cupolas & there
found Littlejohn & made fun till the rain abated.] I like
your letters from Westbook better than those you write
from Birkenhead — taking them as a whole — no doubt
because you have had more undisturbed time for to write
& a better atmosphere. Anyway they are like great shafts
of light which come pouring in upon me. I want you
in my arms so that I can kiss you; no other way
expresses my feelings. I won't attempt to
answer what you say till I have read it again — I may
have time this afternoon — except about the naval
battle. Evidently that event as it first appeared spread
consternation in England — as it did with us only we
had probably less time to think of it. The losses are
indeed very awful, but not more so after all than

a few weeks' hard fighting on land. I am very sorry about George Morgan please tell Mil - I've never met him yet.

I have some hope after all of getting them off this afternoon from Hqs. So I shall send in an installment. Life here is very uncomfortable - the chief cause being rain & cold. What a month of June! Here the conditions resemble those of last March. I have always to be here yet have hints enough to keep me fully occupied at present - general supervision doesn't really go very far, & the works go on quite well.

I must be off now to see what's going on as the weather has cleared & even made an effort to show us the sun - not for long I fear.

My love to you & dearest Ruth

I love George.