

Monday Oct 16

My dearest

I have had a letter from you this morning in which you sent me a dear little tie. There was much discussion at breakfast as to whether it was embroidered with a needle, by machinery, or woven. I think its woven. It doesnt matter which it is because its very pretty and I like it. It would be a good thing though to have is cleaned.

Its the most absolutely perfect day here, bright sun with a very fresh almost cold breeze I have already taken baby out. It had to be to the town as its the only way to go here, so I took a parcel down to send off to you. A cake and some cristilized ginger and cristilised fruit. I got them last time I was in London. I cant get them down here I put them all in a card board box this time because I could not manage in 1 wooden box to keep the weight light enough.

I am quite well today and baby seems much brighter and better than she did yesterday. I'm going to the Brooks this afternoon to get

plants for my garden. I do hope it will look fairly nice for you when the war is over. I'm afraid you mustn't hope much of the bottom part though I may manage to get some plants into it. You see we have not really planted any perennials yet.

I don't see why you should have to entertain Captain Lithgow; it must be an awful bore I do think he sounds dull. Does he like you better than any of the other skeletons?

Perhaps you had better grow a little dull to him, but if he is so very interested in himself perhaps he wouldn't care. It seems to be the idea in the army that people have to entertain their superior officers. Bob seems often to have to do it and he gets frightfully sick of it. He had one who would never talk of any thing but his own relations.

Poking about the shops at Amiens must have been quite amusing but it's a pity there were not better ones. If only I could have been with you we wouldn't have minded much what the shops were like. John Dixon has

been home on leave. When will you come. I am  
so longing to hear that Lithgow has begun with  
his leave. Do you think that when once your  
battery begins you will go straight ahead  
one after another; because then if that is so  
directly Captains Lithgow gets his we ought  
to know when you will get yours.

Will the men begin to get it too at the  
same time. I do do hope they have it fairly  
in your battery one after another. I am so  
constantly hearing of me who have been in  
France a year without ever getting leave while  
others have had is quite frequently. This  
doesn't seem just.

I am sorry I wrote you that about Violet.  
She wasn't at all nice that morning but  
she has not been like it before or since  
She is not very well now and I expect that  
was making her cross and nasty. She has  
been very good and patient with baby while  
she has been cross & a little peevy. When she  
is ill she isn't really so trying as she has been  
the last few days when she is tolerably good

if you keep her amused all the time, but fractions the moment it leaves off or any thing has to be done she does not care about.

When the war is over Capt. Litchgow can go to Glasgow and leave us to enjoy Winchester and Winchelsea, we won't break our hearts because he's not there.

Oh for those good days. My dearest I just want you more and more the longer you are away.

Would it it have been awful to get married to a man like that or to the soot that can't spend a good day unless they have begun with an enormous breakfast. It's disgusting. I do hate people giving such prominence to food.

I must write a letter to your Mother this morning and then get a go at my china.

I did not get up before breakfast this morning partly because my watch had stopped because I forgot to wind it, and partly because I thought perhaps I'd better not make today too long.

Please tell me how your ankle is you have not mentioned it for ages.

your very loving  
Ruth.