

Oct. 1. 1916.

My dearest Ruth Two letters from you -  
dated 25 & 28<sup>th</sup> & the woolly waistcoat  
by parcel post. This is an excellent  
purchase my dear exactly what I want  
I am wearing it now as I sit up in bed  
writing to you & it is as warm & cozy as  
possible. After your first letter about it  
I was afraid you weren't going to get a warm  
enough one - but I'll never again doubt  
your aptitude for choosing woolsies.  
I've been busy all day - we fired about  
1000 rounds on the 'Flers line' & at  
3.15 the infantry went over & took it  
- a great success evidently the operation  
quite an important one. This is the  
highly organized old German 3<sup>rd</sup> line  
of which we already hold a great part.  
I suppose we must have captured another  
2000 yds. to say. I can't help thinking  
we're setting a faster pace now than  
the enemy likes - he is no doubt a  
bit demoralised here - how much

What amounts to impossible to say. The weather has come fine again too, so things are looking brighter altogether. I wish we had some more good news from the East.

I had a very good letter from David today - all about his chums in the Lakes where he seems fairly to have 'spend himself' - he must be ever so much stronger inside now as he could have done so much.

You remarked in a recent letter that I never mention the other officers. That is partly because from the nature of things we do very little together, but anyway it's a large subject & I'll attempt to deal with it in a letter before long - it is also a subject for humours. I hope you find my letters a trifle amusing sometimes; they are meant to be. It's really an act of great faith & courage to attempt to induce a smile



which one cannot see - and I don't even  
learn that you have smiled.

I am in rather an excitable state of  
being just now - very high spirits raised  
by a tendency to depression; but I can  
deal with that & I like my brain to  
throw a my imagination to team.

Please give my love to Ursula if she  
is still with you when you get this.

There is no reason why I should not  
tell you what the ground looks like  
where the fighting is taking place.  
The hill I mentioned is between High  
Wood & Martinpuich & you will  
see its contour marked on a good  
map such as the papers reproduce  
from time to time - 155 which means  
something over 500 ft. One can't see  
Bapaume from there because the ground  
slopes up from about Long Tilloy  
& the country is well wooded just there.

The lower ward slope - a very gentle undulation (Eaucaourt L'Abbaye is almost at the bottom of it) was not ploughed up at all as for instance the ground near Fopieres or Thiéval - but we have cut it up a foot & half these last days. It looks as though it was under cultivation last year & being fallow this. Better slopes of a yellowish green than well wooded parts & here & there a foot high village such as Pys with its conspicuous church. Le Samon, a few days ago was looking quite pretty - I fancy it's been done in to-day. I believe we have captured part of it already; as soon as one side stops shelling a village the other begins, so one literally doesn't expect to see one break upon another. In La Nouaille the houses were so knocked in the ground that I believe the gardens are actually higher than them.

Monday morning  
Time for more

And don't you not going to have  
All my love to you dear Ruth  
Your loving George