Birkenhead
Sept 23

My dearest George

I am glad I came here, they welcomed me very much & it was nice after the gloom of parting with you. The gloom & sadness was a little relieved by seeing York Minster as you no doubt thought it would be.

I did part from you cheerfully in true British fashion, didn't I. I am getting stronger at those times than I used to be. I suppose the adversity of war hardens ones fibre.

In a way I was a little disapointed in the interior of York Minster. Its proportions are very good I have no fault to find except that it struck me as just a little dull & more lifeless than it ought to be. I expect it has been a good bit scraped and pulled about. The evening was too dark to see very well. Did you know they had a tremendous lot of old glass there. A good deal of it the verger told me has been taken out and put away because they had a bomb quite near the cathedral, but there is a lot still left. The verger let me go into the choir by myself but presently came round with me and showed me the crypt which I thought the most interesting part of all. There are splendid

Norman pillars down there with most lovely carved capitals. The verger told me that it is said that a man came over from Constantinople to carve them & they certainly looked to me to be influenced by Bysantine work. I should have liked to have had time to draw the patterns.

The streets of York itself seem most fascinating though I did not see much of them. There were a lot of old curiosity shops in the one I did see. That you may know my body did not starve I will tell you that I had a very nice poached eggs for my tea. Your parents both seem well & cheerful & send affectionate greeting. Your Father says your Mother is much better since she has done so much house work. Still I think its a bit too much. She has a temporary cook coming in tomorrow

I have been thinking of you often my dear as you may be sure. I was afraid last night that you would be wondering how I was getting on & I wished you could see my tucked comfortably into bed. I wonder what sort of a night you had & what sort of crossing today I dare say you are across by now. But there

conjectures will be dull to you when you read this because the voyage will be past and its interest over.

The news of Avie does not seem very good, she is allowed to walk now but she cannot even walk round the garden. I dont know that that is really very surprising because I think if one once loses muscle when carrying a child one would not get it back again. The strain is very great even when one has it all. John has been more of an anxiety & has had worse and more frequent attacks. Mary & Ralph have been Yorkshire staying with the Nunburnholmes and Ralph has been having very good pheasant shooting there. I can say this to you though not to other people, but I feel that the friendships Mary has with the Nunburnholmes is just just because they are a Lord & Lady & something can be got out of them. Its reasonable all right & people have a better time if they do make friends on those lines but in a way I hate it.

I must end this letter or I shall not have time to write home before the post goes & I must do that. Dearest I send

you ever so much love. And I hope more than I can say that you will come home soon to a world at peace.

Your very loving
Ruth.

Brigadier General Aldworth Clark

The world answer the children's letters to the little and funny