

[? 4 NOV 1918]

My dearest George

Even although one knew that it must happen soon it is very nice to see that Austria has collapsed. They have not given the terms of peace or armistice any where in the paper that I could find so I suppose it is not published yet I don't get long to look at the paper in the mornings because Father always wants it directly his breakfast is taken in. In the few minutes that I did have I saw that Bavaria is meditating upon asking for a separate peace. I don't see that anything more satisfactory could happen than that they should have a separate peace & that Germany should break up. I think we should become friends again more easily like that, because the chief of our hate has gone to Prussia where I am now it is deserved. I dare say many of the other states are nearly as bad, in fact most of Northern Germany but one does imagine that South

Germany is rather better.

Uncle Booby came to tea yesterday & was very nice, he is a fine man. M^r Pillsbury also came after tea bringing with him a nice boy of about thirteen who he is watching for Chaaterhouse. He and Clara played bricks of the floor till her bed time. Clara enjoyed it very much. I believe he really wanted to build a good tower and kept threatening to knock it down & giggling with joy when he tried to defend it and finally she would knock it over. Her laughter was so infectious that he laughed nearly as much as she did. I was surprised at how thoroughly well she played with him and how much she seemed able to captivate him. She will enjoy it when you are back at Chaaterhouse and have boys in to tea she needs other children rather badly now particularly older one that she had to make an effort over. It will stop her being babyish quicker than anything I notice that when other bigger children are there she makes far more effort not to cry if she falls down than when she is with me. I really do think her manners are

very captivating now. When people come she goes straight up to them & says how do you do without any hanging back or shyness or being told so and she jumps up and says good bye in just the same way. I believe she is going to have the gift of charming manners which is such a nice one to have. Only of course we must be very careful that they are kept good because any child will deteriorate at some time or other if it gets the chance.

It's a lovely bright morning but not warm. I am going to take Clara out soon. I have not gone to the babes in the nursery as I usually do because I don't feel quite well. I feel as one would feel with the ghost of an attack of influenza coming on. I suppose I have got a little chilled sometime though I don't remember it. Any way I think it's on the safe side not to see them this morning. If it were going to turn into influenza it would be doing it now & it isn't so I shall know by lunch time that I am safe.

I have got flu and am in bed. I don't feel at all bad or rather achy & stupid. Mill says she thinks I shall find I have to take

Three days in bed.

I dont mind for myself only I am sick
at having brought it into the house
I dont want the children to have it.
Farewell dear I am just spending my
time thinking of a the near peace &
of the fall of Moscow. I have been reading
War & Peace

Your very loving
Ruth

