

Oct 8

My own dearest George

I do wish you were here with me, I miss you to talk to so much. I wonder what you are thinking about Germany's peace note. Of course its quite obvious the sort of answer they will get but it will be interesting to see just how it is given. If we have to wait upon pushing the Germans right back to the Rhine we shall lose an awful lot of men. The casualties are being decided fully heavy now. I wish I knew just how you were getting on. I have been down to Mr Raworth & we are investing £200 in your name in a short War Loan, that is £100 from each of our accounts. This still leaves you with quite a good balance of about £40. Mr Raworth thought that it would run us too fine to invest £300 but about Christmas time or rather sooner we ought to be able to invest another £100. We shall have income tax to pay soon on our War Loans. I hope you will think I have done what is right. It seems to me on the

whole but to take Mr Ranwoothy's advice. Of course I know that he keeps an eye on the interest of the bank, but on the other hand he is very kind about helping us in any way he can & he gives nice safe advice, which you know I like.

That tooth ache I had got bad yesterday evening for a little while & it ached this morning.

I went to Mr Pilcher at 9.30 and he could see nothing but I knew which tooth it was because it was very tender to touch. So he drilled out the stopping already there are when we got to the bottom he found that the nerve was dead, he has left it open for all the bad stuff to come out and I am going down this evening to have it filled with a dressing. It has stopped hurting now. I wish my nerves did it die so easily. Mr Pilcher did not know why it died as it had not gone on decaying under the stopping.

Mr Ranwoothy was in Scotland for his holiday and it rained nearly all the time. In the last four days they had four & a half inches.

Do you think that getting onto new ground in France will make it possible for us

so fight through more bad weather in the winter than we have been able to before, or will the old battle-fields black us?

Clare is in a dreadfully weepy mood today. She is frightfully difficult to stop when she is like that, but I doubt if Violet is quite gentle enough with her, still I could not find out how to quiet her down. It always goes with being very excitable between the crying fits. She will grow out of it so I don't think its a fault to worry much about. What I do wish is that <sup>she</sup> seemed to have more idea of truth. She really has almost none at present. But she's a very bright attractive little person. We shall learn a lot about Berry in this second year of her life, but I fancy she will be harder to understand and get at than Clare, I think there is less on the surface, and a stronger willed character underneath.

We are all going to London tomorrow. I shall not do much shopping myself, a hat & possibly a blouse & dressing-gowns for the children. That's about all.

I don't like living without you, my dear. I don't mean that I'm being miserable, but I do want you and miss you lot. You make such

a different atmosphere to anyone else and its such a nice one. The Holt shall be so nice and happy when we go back there again. I must soon try and do some work up there in that garden, we must have the flower garden jolly for next summer in case you are back. People are getting more and more keen on completely beating the Germans as they see the possibility coming into sight so I don't myself think that we shall get to peace till next summer, but on the other hand I don't think we should be willing to fight through another winter after this. Aren't the casualties appallingly heavy? They are horrible to think of.

I am now reading about the army during the French Revolution and it is most interesting coming across Napoleon and learning about his first successes.

I am enclosing you a cheque and another form to sign for the War Saving Bond. Please send them back at once. Pencil X have been put to show you were to sign. I can see you being quite cross with me for pointing out anything so obvious.

Farewell my own darling

Your very loving  
Ruth