

[GM 26 Sep 1916]
My don't have had another letter from you this morning in which you ~~have~~ just tell me you have just heard of the taking of Thiepval. I am glad the German prisoners are moving along with joy. They must have learned by now that they are treated well. And they must be glad to get out of it all and be safe and alive till the end of the war.

I wish you could see baby crawl after Louisa's Jerry. She is so ~~thrilled~~ thrilled by him and she crawls with so much panting and energy, and quite fast now. Jerry does not like her much, he is rather afraid. We dare not let Clara pat or stroke him unless Louisa has him because he growls a little and it would be so awful if he snapped and bit her she might never really get over the fright.

It's Violet and the book who say that Clara is backward but comparing her with other babies it does not seem to me that she is. She is more backward than Constance's baby but then every one says that she is very forward. but ~~she~~ her powers seem to me very much like most other babies and she is more forward than some. When she is bright she is very bright & laughing & great fun at other times she is quiet and placid & content. She does look thoughtful and seems to go into dreams. Yesterday afternoon she was sitting with a far away look on her face sucking the tail of a large gold fish and quite unconscious of what a funny sight she looked. I don't

think she ever looks the least vacant but sometimes she looks a bit stogy. I think that is only when she is tired. But what a blessing that she should be stogy when she is tired instead of getting worked up and weary as so many babies unfortunately seem to do these days.

I think I must read over carefully what you say about distant visiting and answer it in my letter tomorrow.

I have been reading in the paper just a little about the recent massacres in Armenia, and it does make one wonder is there really a loving God. If there is it only makes me much more sure of life everlasting. It must be one way or the other either there is no God or this price of life is so small that it really does hardly matter.

I can get the frame of mind when I can see that death does not matter. But when it is death with cruelty and pain, death with the horror of your little children being killed before your eyes, well I can't understand it any more than I can possibly understand the minds of the people who can do such things. To me it seems impossible. The whole world is so inexplicable. I hope we shall understand it some day.

For now I must stop dear though I feel I could write you such a lot more today.

your very loving
Ruth.