

Dec. 28. 1918.

My dearest Ruth, I have had two letters from you this morning including your account of Xmas Day. It is very nice to think of all that; I only wish I had been there to see the dear infants open their presents; I love a Xmas tree. I have a feeling now that it may be any day - which makes it rather difficult to write you a good letter because I have always the feeling that I may get there before it. And for that reason I won't embark on all that I think about Studies in Christianity. Suffice it to say that I'm highly delighted by the book especially as it so often makes me feel what a good Christian I must be after all; I'm not quite sure, whether it's Christian or not, that I altogether believe his doctrine of passive experience - it was with reference to all that (which) he didn't reach at that time) that I made a remark which you found obscure about the relation between thought & action. What is the relation between 'passive experience' and action? I should be delighted of course to believe that it is all that he says; it is just because the belief would suit me so well that I have never quite accepted it even in the less exact forms which it has taken in my mind. Moreover I'm inclined to believe also in an

active experience of God as well - but that's rather a long story & we shall have time to talk of it.

Thank you for sending Stephen Tallents letter. There is nothing further to be done now but wait in patience. I wrote yesterday for the first time since Xmas Day & have been writing again this morning. It goes well enough. I'm glad to find the idea expanding & taking shape as I go on - but just for that reason I go slowly. How do you like this as a definition of the highest aim of education; - "to stimulate consciousness of unconscious values." I haven't really thought about it yet but I believe it's pretty good.

My companions in the right section, bar Pemberton, spend their days & nights in conviviality or pursuit of Fanny - four of them were brought in here to supper last night. Luckily the other mess is a refuge on such occasions & in any case I'm now quite happy with my room which is fresh enough, but not too cold in this winter weather. If I were to go long enough with that arrangement I believe I should come to prefer sitting in a room without a fire - awful threat to you.

Adieu  
Avec votre loyauté

George.