

Nov. 8. 1916.

My own dearest Ruth, Littlejohn has gone home on leave - departed yesterday afternoon. It is special leave & not much to build on really I suppose - but I'm full of hope. It's rather nice to be without 'James' as Bell & I call him entire hours. Bell of course is in command & I 2nd which means that we do things together. A blow however has already fallen upon us - the case is out of action for a fortnight. To-day is beautifully fine & the wind has got round to a more favourable quarter, so there's a hope that we may be relieved of the usual deluge for a day or two.

My dug-out leaked the day before yesterday; the wind was driving the rain in through the earth on one side of the roof & it just dripped down me of my walls: but I think I can take measures to prevent that. It is quite difficult to construct a dug-out to be quite impervious to these conditions & we've had a good deal of trouble altogether.

I had his good letters from ya yesterday & also

a very nice one from Mrs Fletcher. The H.M.
hopes to be back at C'house early in September.
She talked of Robert & particularly about an
unfortunate incident in his relations with Johnstone
- it appears that the boy's Mother discovered some letters
from Robert &, judging them, I gather to be in too
affectionate a strain, refused to allow him to see
Robert any more - that perhaps may complicate
the situation for you. I enclose Mrs F.'s letter.

You sent an enclosure from Mrs Greig's solicitors
which states that they enclose 'a draft on London
for £131'00; what has happened to it? I suppose
it will require my signature?

As to your proposal about a second table cloth, I'll
think it over before I answer. Thank you for
thinking of it. Earl came round this morning
& stopped to lunch; we were in hearty agreement
about the war. I feel personally that I should
like to cut the German communications with
Turkey before we stop - but I'm not sure we
ought to wait even for that before making the
utmost efforts to obtain possible terms. The

politicians will probably go on hoping - waiting
for a miracle which never arrives till Europe
is ~~now~~ completely & irreversibly ruined.

The only interesting & significant sign in our
favour lately is the Hun move in Poland - no
doubt as the critics say simply another way of
driving men. It must be a very dangerous exped-
ient considering how the Poles must hate
Germany. I'm inclined to think that the
French success was due to a Hun mistake
rather than an inevitable weakening of the
line - still it must be considered in conjunc-
tion with Italy's advance & it certainly looks
as though Germany is paying in the West
for her efforts in the east. If only the atrocious
weather hadn't stopped us here - it might
have made all the difference to have a fine
October.

Please cuddle with Violet
for me. I hate toothache. I'm glad she got

better so quickly.

Great love to you dearest.

Your loving George.

If you've got your copies of my letters you might send along any that bear upon the life of the battery - our positions etc. as I have to make a War Diary - a tiresome job.

