

Feb 14

My dearest George

Glorious sunshine in the winter garden. Its very cold in the wind even walking, but very pleasant here where one can see the coacuses pushing up through the ground. How late the year is usually at this time. This garden is full of flowers.

I have been reading Mr Baitling with thrilled interest. Its awfully clever isnt it? Dont you think he is rather like Mr Brock in the way he talks. You know you simply cant stop Mr Clutton Brock when once he is off he just like Mr Baitling does not take any notice of what you say. The poor little German Heinrich is rather sweet isnt he

I have just got to where Mr Baitling has got his motor back after the accident and has been over the see the lady he's in love with and has quarrelled with

her and come away. He is not happy and has the feeling that a cloud is hanging over him but the way has not yet broken out.

I was very interesting in the past about him and his second wife Edith and the way she could not open out and let him get to know her and quite unconsciously repelled his advances.

I believe that must be ~~usefully~~ ~~one~~ of the ~~failure~~ of ~~in~~ the cause of the failure of many marriages to reach any height of happiness though they may learn to live in comradeship as Mr Britling & Edith.

I was thinking a lot last night after I had finished reading while I was going to sleep about that opening of oneself. To very many people I am sure it's very difficult and I think it's because their bringing up is justly ~~was~~ wrong. Though it can only be an atmosphere that can teach that

sort of thing, not any lesson in words.  
I believe dearest that you have found me  
hard to get at some times. How much  
and how often I dont think I know  
You see I had almost all to learn  
about friendship and all about love when  
you spoke to me first of your love.  
My darling that was a wonderful time.  
I have learned how to be friends and  
how to open myself largely from you  
You had learned how to be friends  
long before you knew me. I suppose  
you learned chiefly at Cambridge I  
dont think your home can have  
taught you much.

I suppose its impossible that any one  
can always be open. Even you some-  
times have shut periods. Usually  
when you are busy and have many  
things to think of. For that its  
nicer having you a soldier than a  
school master. You are too busy when  
you are at Charter house.

sleeping in the afternoon is a bother  
it gives one so little day. When  
this sick time is over I shall try  
to cut it down to only a short  
rest with a book for month or  
two until I really need a long  
rest again but just at present  
I'd better do as I'm told I think.  
I'm feeling very well a lot at  
the time, much better than I was  
a fortnight ago.

Father also is better today his  
temperature was lower this morning  
than it has been since Nurse  
came.

I must end this letter though I  
feel in a writing mood because I  
am with Father for a bit & I  
expect he would like to be read  
to.

Darling I do love you so. I hope the  
war will be over soon I can't think what  
we shall feel like when it is.  
your very loving Ruth.