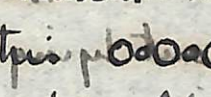


25th Sept

Tuesday Sept 25

Dearest

I feel that I have had quite a lot of you this morning; I have had your letter written at Dover and the two letters you wrote to Godalming that I did not get. I have now got the address of the photograph place & will deal with that. I believe darling that you have had rather a depressing time lately. Oh I do hope you will be happy in France this time. I am glad I came to you in Newcastle, my dear. I think your letter would have made me feel sad that I had not in spite of kind & careful efforts that I had not it splendid and wonderful the way out lying picture about flooding in down. Palestine yesterday Bulgaria today. It will give the Turks & Bulgars something to think of - the Hun too. Always before this year the phos has had outlying villages in the autumn to reduce them through the least cold winter. This year it will be leaner & colder & will bring too confidence in joys to come to wonderful times I do promise. I am writing this directly after breakfast as it seems likely to be the dearest part of the day. I am more wanted for house job etc later on & therefore to be a Mother's meeting this afternoon

It was very nice of you write me from Dover. I did not at all expect it. I love you very much and I do want your life to be very happy & full of splendid work. Things must be arranged after the War so that you can write a month just you want to. I went shopping in Biokenhead yesterday afternoon to buy shoes for Berry. I looked in to the Red Cross shop. Its a shop where people spend what they can't just spare or dont want according to their generosity, to be sold for the Red Cross. I saw a long coral necklace so I went in to ask the price. It was 15/- rather cheap & I bought it. The Red Cross just asked my consent. I really should not have bought it otherwise. They are rather dark corals & are threaded with a big & little one alternately like this: . I also bought a piece of white & gold tambour work, the same type of thing as the cloth we use at tea at Westbrook. Its a long narrow piece & would do for a small dressing table or side board. I expect I shall give it to Mill.

I hope you dont mind me writing on both sides of the paper, it looks horrid. I think its all economy & I am using borrowed

paper. I really think you had much better throw away my letters as soon as <sup>you</sup> have done with them as a rule they certainly aren't worth keeping. You could make an exception if you got one you specially liked.

After all the woman to help never came this morning so I spent a long time cleaning brass in the drawingroom, the brass was not dirty enough to be much fun.

It's horridly wet here and I'm afraid will be very gloomy for you whenever ever you are. I don't for a moment think you will have got Taffy over yet so I think you must be rather at a loss end, but you have the men to see to and of course you may have the gun carriage + ammunition truck.

I am sticking to my plan of going back on Friday I can't stay forever + I fear so much that this maid may leave + then I couldn't go without feeling a perfect beast.

Farewell darling, I must stop to write one or two other letters before I go to the Mother's meeting. This letter has been too much interrupted to have much chance of being any thing but very common place.

Your very loving  
Ruth.