

Wednesday July 12

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Dearest

Such a long letter from you this morning and so full of the things I want to know. Really your letters are most awfully interesting. You are having tremendously hard work, but it sounds as though things are going well, and I think you must be happy really or you would not be thinking of plots for a book. I know doing that makes you happy and I know at any rate in part how happy it makes you. Do go on doing it if you can, and tell me about it when its possible. I think for the sake of the book it would be a good thing to write down your ideas to send them to me, it will consolodate them I wonder if you will be able to get a holiday when the war is over to

write.

I hope the furious shooting you had  
to do ~~to~~ was for a successful offensive  
action. Things do seem to me to be  
going well though not quickly. Well  
we are all learning patience, but I haven't  
much and I do want you back again.  
And then it may only be for ten days.  
All you tell me about the shooting is  
very thrilling and interesting. I love the  
way your letters get stopped and then  
new things happen.

We had another meeting of the National  
Mission last night. I did not speak  
though I wanted to because I thought  
it would be presumptuous, is that a word?  
Some one said that the poor were apt to  
think church the rich seasons show  
quite unjustifiably. Well I wanted to  
say that I was not quite sure that it  
was unjustifiable. Ladies all go to  
church in the morning in smart Sunday  
dresses and after in startling hats and

they make of it somewhat of a dress  
show, so naturally people who cant dress well  
prefer not to go in morning at any rate.  
And I do somehow think that if people  
went quietly and ordinarily dressed it  
would look more as though they meant to  
pray and also be less distracting ~~set~~ to  
the other females of the congregation.

I dont suppose men would be so affected by  
wonderful & extraordinary cloths.

I though people might think it a foolish  
suggestion and I did not want to  
be foolish.

Now my own dear to go back to your  
letter, you go for me, quite kindly and  
without anger I think, for saying you  
are not a Christian. I dont think you  
quite took it as I meant it. You do  
deny the divinity of Christ, at any rate  
you dont believe in it, so I should  
have thought that correctly speaking  
you were not a Christian. If I am  
wrong I am glad. I'd rather call you

a christian and in future I always will.  
But whatever you are you are very very  
good, kind, and because I love you so, it  
why I want to know just what you  
do believe, and I want to be more like  
you. Only I want to be like you if I  
just try to be, but only by trying  
to think the truth out for myself  
because that is what you always do.

Only don't don't don't think darling that  
I could want to tear you even in name  
out of the religion I have, or that I  
want to make it narrow

That meeting last night was not as  
successful as the last I went to because  
the chairman could not tear up &  
Mr Fanshawe makes a rotten one.  
He ended by saying that as holidays was  
beginning there would be no more  
meetings till September what he meant  
was his holiday I suppose I don't think  
many people are having them this  
year. Father wants to get them up

without him and go on with them.  
Baby's cold is unmy but it did not  
disturb her night at all and she is  
sleeping very well this morning.

I am alternating her times to day and  
giving her only five bottles in the  
day instead of six and at four  
hour intervals instead of three.

She has not been taking her food well  
& I think the longer gas will  
probably make her hungrier. I know  
Violet is against it but I can't help  
that. I must do what I think best for  
baby. If it does not work we can  
always go back to the other.

Instead of having her bottle at ten &  
then being played with and going to  
her room and at 10.45 she has her  
bottle at 11.0 and goes to her room  
about 11.15 and she will stay there  
till she wakes of her self instead of  
being waken at one, then at 1.30 or  
later according to when she wakes I

she should take her up and play with  
her and give her her bottle about 2.30.  
That is not of course but I shant wait  
till 3.0 I should ~~not~~ be so late getting  
her ~~out~~ in the afternoon. She is sleeping  
very well so far this morning and she  
has already had  $1\frac{3}{4}$  lbs.

Its quite a shock to me sometimes in the  
evening to see Clara when I wake her for  
her last bottle. She is so sleepy that  
her consciousness does not come into her  
face. And it is not imprinted in it yet  
as it is with older people. She does look  
a little animal then. Then when she is  
awake and bright she looks so very  
human and sweet.

Father and I went to tea with Mrs Green  
yesterday. She was much nicer than I  
thought she was. I ought not to think  
people nasty on so little evidence. I will  
stop myself. She has taken a lot of  
photographs of the loggia & garden. I  
will send them to you when she gives  
them to me. I dont really think that

the garden ones give a very true idea they  
make it look far too big. But the  
loggia and view are nice.

I suppose Pally will be having her piano  
soon, that will be a blow for them.

I want to put aside £50 from the money  
I get for taxes on the common to buy a  
piano for you and Clara and me. I don't  
know if that would be enough. I should  
think it would nearly. We could buy it  
when the war is over and you come home.  
You would like me to would it you.

To days news of 14,000 yds of front  
defences won is pretty good isn't it,  
and in only ten days. After all, the  
whole country to Germany is not  
trenched like that and although they  
may make new ones as we get  
the old they can't have time to  
make them so strong. I do hope  
we smash & smash & smash them.  
After struggling for half an hour

I have made baby take all her bottles  
S. I feel triumphant  
Will good bye dearest.

Your very very loving  
Ruth.

P.S. I dated my last letter to you the  
9<sup>th</sup> instead of the 11<sup>th</sup> I think.

A cake was sent yesterday

