

Navy Saturday

My dearest darling

It poured with rain all yesterday afternoon & evening so that I could not go up to the Hall as I had meant to to meet Beagly.

Some thing has got to be done about the ivy there it is murthering the study windows too much. Father suggested taking it all off the house but Beagly says he thinks it helps a lot to keep the rain from coming through the wall at it does in our bedroom. I think that is sound so I expect we shall only cut back. I expect I shall go up today some time.

We went out to tea yesterday where there was a six months old boy & two dogs. Violet had Clare in the nursery for tea and she said that she was quite very interested in the baby.

They measured Clare's feet against that babies & the babies were longest, do you wonder that Clare does not show much sign of standing yet. Still I am sure that baby must had had extra large toes feet.

Clare is begining to use her feet. She gets onto

them while her hands are on the ground, and if you put her down when she does not want to go she will stay and stand. When she came down stairs there she was so thrilled by the two dogs that she took no notice of the baby.

Violet's tooth ache is much better she is having the nerve killed. She had rather a nasty time at the dentist while he was hunting about for it. I think she is much better than she was a little while ago, though this tooth ache has made her look rather tired.

Another great blessing is that Father is so much better and happier than he was and things here seem to be going well altogether. He lives so much in every day life & in the present moment that he get awfully depressed if the little things go wrong.

There is a wave of war depression going over England now. No one talks of the end of the war as a thing even remotely in site. Next Autumn is spoken of tentitarily by the optimists and the pessimists hardly put it in

this life time. It really is depressing. I suppose by
after Christmas we shall have begun talking
enthusiastically of our 'spring offensive'

I had a letter from Maay yesterday. She
says that they are going to Cambridge and
Winchester to hunt for a cottage for her to
live in when Ralph goes out so they really
must at last think it is coming near.

I suppose he will go out with very big
guns and be pretty safe. It seems as though
it must be better that he should go sometime
than spend the whole war in England. But
how lucky that Woolwich appointment has been
for Maay.

I must write and ask them to come and spend
a night here one way. It would be nice if
they could.

I went last night after that girl I told you of
and I found the woman she lodges with who
seems awfully nice, and to be looking after the
girl so I should think every thing is all right.
With great determination I have got out of going
to any meal to meet the Bishop. Lots of other

people will really enjoy it I expect. I might enjoy a talk with him possibly but I certainly should not get that, but should merely be expected to look at the great man. I can do that all right in church.

I met Mrs Radcliffe in the town yesterday morning & I told her I would like to see her, it's a long time since I have. She is full up next week but the week after I am going to tea one day.

I have asked her to collect all the th'house news she can for you, & I will faithfully detail it.

That will be from the masters point of view.

Then I may be able to get the boys view from Johnstone when he comes. And I will get that school list now I forgot it yesterday when I went into Luton for the books on the Jutland battle. They don't know of any thing but will hunt round.

Instead of going to the Hall, I ground washed all the cups and saucers of the new set I had not time to do the plates too but I shall this afternoon.

I have got the school list for you, I went down to the town this morning

with class and went into Lindsay and asked him for one.

Cyeffrey Young said in his letter to Mrs Reade that they were tucked up for the winter & apparently did not expect this new advance. I don't know where he is so I don't know how much it will affect him. But I suppose it's possible that they made the advance so as to because they found the front weakened. If so I think its jolly good.

Dealing you must be having a simply filthy time I am sorry for you.

I can't help thinking of leave sometimes you know really very often, when will it come?

I wish I could sit in your dugout with you it would be lovely. I hope you have the store going by now and you will soon have the green curtain.

Your very loving

Ruth.

