

Yating

April - 2. 1924

My dearest Ruth,

It seems I ought to get off a letter to you to-morrow morning in order to be certain of catching the mail. I don't know what I have a very great deal to tell you. The great thing is that I have had your second letter & those from Clare & Bessy. Desert me I think it wonderful of you to settle down & be cheerful & enterprising and sociable. It must be difficult I know to start in with Cambridge life & yourself. You evidently managed to let Frances see something of life & she must have enjoyed herself; she kindly wrote me a note of this mail too. I am glad also to hear that Mr Blunt has not deserted as I rather feared he had done. It was good of him self to stay away when he felt that he couldn't do much in the garden. I am sorry you have had such a cold March. I expect you will be very glad to enjoy some spring weather away from Cambridge.

All goes well with me. The march from Seongchen to Gnathong was glorious, Kanchenjunga & his neighbours appearing magnificently; I haven't seen any distant mountain view before from this part & we counted ourselves very lucky. Gnathong (12,500 ft) was not so cold this time though the ground was bunged up with snow & from there we made too easy

stages here, stopping the night in a little rest house an hour down this side of the Delapla. Norton & I walked up to the pass (1450 ft) together & were pleased to think that we felt fitter than last year. I certainly am feeling very fit now. I sleep long & well & can walk as fast as anyone.

We have had a few good signs of spring - on the Sikkim side a most lovely little primula flowering from 9000 to 11000, with the habit of our English primrose only somewhat smaller & neater & and of a delicious crimson colour; and *Rhododendron Dalmeieri* a ~~big~~ big bright red fellow was flowering freely - but know. On this side we have another primula, *denticulata*, paler in colour & of the polyanthus type, very freely scattered over the meadows; & we have our old friend *Daphne*, I know not what species. The conifers too in this valley are all showing green.

It has been a wonderfully pleasant journey so far, with bright sun & pleasant conditions altogether. And it has been a very jolly company. We found the first contingent here no less happy than ourselves. The general (entrepreneur) has not been quite well & has stayed here to-day while Norton takes on the first party. The sleek day here has been very pleasant. I have had a long ramble with Irvine.

I shall wish you Good Night & send this off brief as it is. Remember me to all my friends - but I forget you won't be seeing them at present. I wonder where this letter will find you. It should reach you near about the 1st of May.

Perhaps you have forgotten the significance of that date -
will you think of me very specially on May 1? or may it
be as good a day as it was in 1914.

Please thank Clare & Berry very much for their letters
which I much enjoyed; or I liked the card with flower-
pictures. It will be some time yet before John can write
me letters!

Now farewell dearest love. I want you many kisses
or see you smiling or happy or resolved so to be even during
the month of May. Ever your loving
George!

I address this to Westbrook as I should like it to find you there & if you are with them will ya please give my love to Father Huxl & Marjorie; & in case ya meet them remember me to Allen & Scott & the Hetchers.

I shall be writing to Welchs I hope. I am sorry for what you say about Alan, but a very young man's view is generally exaggerated. I wish myself that A would look tidier; I don't know that it matters about his working provided he uses his mind somehow as he clearly does. My love to him when you see him.