

Nov 29

My dearest George

I have had a letter from you this morning written on the 24<sup>th</sup> + 25<sup>th</sup> telling me chiefly about your reading of Tess of the d'Urbervilles. I think you are quite right about the best tragedies, they do lift one up in some kind of way that a comedy cannot. I suppose its partly because they stir all ones imatious so much that one gets to a higher imatiousal plane than usual and so one is able to see every thing with clearer more sensitive vision. Although it is so harrowing to read tragedies I do want to read the best ones & I do not wish that they ended well but I do not want to read anything but the best tragedies, second class ones must without giving the compensating uplift to the spirit. I wish I had ever really felt Shakespeare but I know I have not with



the exception of Romeo & Juliette which I saw acted once a long time ago. To me the way we did Shakespeare at school seemed to rob it of its romance & joy. I never liked those literature lessons & consequently was bad at them. But once when we read Moore's Utopia I was the best in the class the whole term and I did enjoy it. There was so much interesting practical detail that was to me quite easy to remember & there were so many fascinating problems to think about.

I had a very happy afternoon with my babies yesterday. I was busy the first <sup>part</sup> ~~half~~ of the afternoon cutting out letters in sand paper to make an alphabet for Clare & I let the children play alone. It was too wet to go out. Later on I got the glue pot and mended Clare's doll who's head had come off. I don't think there is any use in trying the Montessori on her at present. I must wait till I have got all the apparatus. In the evening Alison



Steel rang up to say that she was coming here today. I am very pleased it will be nice having her

I am going down to the Baby Welfare <sup>show</sup> this afternoon and Mrs Irvine is going to help me where every thing is so that I may be able to do it next week when she will be away.

I had a letter from Mrs Read this morning saying that she has been down at Ipsden for the last month missing influenza in the village. They have had it very badly there. Don't you think its very kind and good of her to it. She also says that Hilton Young is on his way back from Russia for the election and that he is not going back again.

Mr Kenway has just come to see Father and left his brother in law outside in the car. The brother in law is very delicate and shy but intelligent & I like him quite a lot and I think you would. He said he



had read Lytton Stacey's book and enjoyed it  
very much. I took Clare out to see him. That  
was done partly because of my awful Mother  
pride and but mostly because I had been  
talking to him but I was standing in the  
clump with inches shoes on so I could not  
stop long & I wanted an opportunity or rather  
a reason for going out again to talk to  
him and Clare made that very nicely.

I shall be sending this letter to Paris. You  
have forgotten to say how long you will be  
there but I think the leave is only six  
days so I shall only send two or at the  
utmost three letters there.

You are going today. I do hope you will enjoy  
yourself.

I must end now as I shall have no more  
time today & the lunch bell has rung.

Your very very loving

Ruth.

