

Cossie

[ARRAN]
[1917]

Wednesday,

My dearest Ruth, Yesterday was so full
in the latter end that I failed to write
to you - but I wouldn't be surprised if the
arrives as soon as one from Skipton would
have done. A great expedition was made
yesterday to a rather distant place which
was famous for an unclimbed pitch. The
climbing of him was a long - ingenious exploit,
it had one smooth overhanging wall & one
smooth perpendicular one - no hold on either
& a deep pool at the head of which was
an easy chimney; we began by heaving large
stones into the shallow part of the pool &
eventually I was able to carry my body
across on a more or less horizontal perch
- but that way didn't do for the others &
Mary Anne then invented the wonderfully

Bright thought of draining the pool, by
this means & by throwing in many more stones
we did the trick.

This morning Frances & I set out at 5.0
am to in the pony trap to catch the 8.30
steamer from Casselant, 16 miles way. A
wonderful expedition over an old pack horse
track converted into a road. I proved
a veritable Jehu & got me there in the
end with five minutes to spare! I suppose
she has taken the rest of the day getting back.

I had a most lovely walk over two
of the best mountains & saw quite a bit.
They are real mountains with rocky tops
& the ridges everywhere are splendid; yester-
day when it was beautifully clear they
looked simply lovely from Skipton. There
are any number of small steep rock faces.
I had a very good climb up one - it took
about an hour & a half, - these were some

quite sensational bits. The mule behaved
excellently & I felt very safe. It is fun to
get out granite again. Will - David
were to meet me on top of Cir Mhor but
I didn't find them there (I hadn't told
you that W. made an 11th hour plan to join
us did I?). I went down to the extremely
attractive 'Saddle' which is the col between
Glen Rosa, up from Brodick & Glen Sannox
up from Sannox; but as I saw no sign of
them & heard no answer to my shouts I had
quite given them up & was picking out my
path down through my glass when suddenly
I heard someone calling from I couldn't tell
where. Eventually I saw them on the summit
of one of the mountains above Corsie - they
were far above me & I didn't attempt
to join them, but made my way down the
glen & after a lovely bathe in a granite
pool got in for tea about 5 miles before

them. I found them greatly pleased with
Arsam and with the hotel which is very
nice. Two letters from you were awaiting
me, one with the enclosure from Jelli I am
glad they are so pleased. And I should like
to wring Mr G's neck. What a woman!
I shall write to her.

I'm glad your weather has picked up.
With us it is very threatening - a good deal
of cloud on the hills is steadily falling
barometer. Don't afraid it looks as though
you'll be alone for a bit; which makes me
feel a beast. Oh my dear its just too hard
that you can't be here. I hope you won't
feel lonely. I'm sorry Wanda has decided
to come just at the time when I shall be
coming back & Mary will be coming. Has
she found Jerry? Mary Ann is practi-
cally certain that another baby is coming.
I shall never tell you half the things I have
to say till I get back & see you

George
Great love to your dearest always.