

Wednesday Aug 9

(87)

My own dearest

I had two letters from you this morning and I am so happy. You are having a very hard time. I wish you could tell me when you changed your halting position. I am glad you are getting a nice day out. What a relief it must be to go to the ^{cashier} ~~shop~~ or any one like that and get behind all the desolation into more decent country. I am not sitting in the garden as is usually the case when I write to you but in the train which is standing in the station at Aldborough. I left Godalming by the 8.31 this morning and travelled to London with Mr & Mrs Langton and Esme. Poor Esme she does get sat on. I caught the 10.15 at Liverpool Street, it was very crowded and got here at 1.9. The train has started so my writing will be very bad. It now 2.40 so I have not been slow

have I. Aunt Patsy had told me of a Mrs Cox
who she had been to once but she did
not know where she now lived. So I went
to the post office and was rather horrified
to find it shut, because it was early closing.
However fortune favored me, I struck it exactly
closed, and just then a post girl went in
so I asked her where Mrs. Cox now lived
giving the name of the house she had
lived in and they told me, so I
went & hunted for her and found
the house. I saw her brother who told
me she was dead and that he and his
sister still kept on the house but
that they could not let us have
rooms. I asked them to recommend me some
where to go. They told me of a Mrs Self
who they thought was not let. I went
to her and she said she had had
someone about the rooms that morning
and she would not know till the evening.
So I felt rather clumped for a moment, then
I said I don't want them till the end
of the month. She said that will be
all right they will leave on the 26th

That is the day Aunt Patty wants to go so I thought it would suit very nicely. So then I asked her where I was to go for rooms for myself + nurse + baby and she showed me a cottage at the end of the road only a minute away. I went there + found a very nice landlady I can have three rooms. Quite a big sitting room a decent sized bedroom over it for Clara + Violet + a smaller one for me. Also there is another bedroom that Margaret could have if she came for a week end. Of course the cottages are both ugly but mine has jasmine growing on it and is called Jasmine Villa. I think both the landlady's are nice, though perhaps mine is the most expansive. She says she knows all about babies and told me a long story about a baby who had been ill while staying with her, before we could come onto the really serious work of rooms and prices. The rooms are 15/- per week per room that will be £4.10 for the fortnight

for me. They were both the same & Aunt Patten said that was about what it ought to be. That includes every thing except of course food. Her rooms are the same. I am now at Saxmundham three junction for Aldeborough waiting for the London train. It is hot. I feel rather busy with travelling. If I can get a corner I may go to sleep on the way back.

Aldeborough certainly was not very empty so far a lodging went though there were a good many furnished houses & inlets. I am very glad I have got the rooms so quickly. They don't face the sea but they are only five minutes away. I shall be able to carry baby down without taking the steam if I want to.

I think the train is very late I don't know what time it gets to London. I want to catch the 6-40 to Godalming. I believe I ought to be able to. It was lovely getting your letters this

morning. I have them in my pocket now. Here's the train so I must stop for now.

Thursday

I could not write in the train as was too jolly. I got corner seat and had quite a comfortable journey. I was pretty tired when I got to London, but I caught the 6.40 and slept like a log to Guildford and that refreshed me a lot and took away a headache that had begun to come.

My dearest I did not know you found the construction of the observation post at Amentice so tiring and hard. I expect it was partly that you were so new to it all. And then you had no one with you help you. Thank God the bullet did not hit. Has only half your battery moved, that Captain Lithgow is not with you? Do you not mean me to know these things or do you merely forget to say them? I don't think the journey up the East coast is any thing like as pretty as the journey to the South coast, down to Dorset & those places. Still it was very nice yesterday. It seemed as though it was fields of golden corn all the

way. I passed the Tiptaw Fair from I
saw heaps of loads a bushes but not
much fruit.

Even the idea that you may apply for
leave is very pleasant dear to me. I am
sorry there is no chance of you getting
it. I myself doubt see how you can before
October and that is such a long time.

The latest rumor I have heard about the
war is that this offensive you are
making is not the real one but it
is only to concentrate the enemy down
South and then we shall suddenly smash
through some where near Ypres. I wonder
if there is any truth in it. There
is no harm in me saying these sort
of things to you is there. Though
of course you may not say them to
me.

The Russians do seem to be getting
on well and the Italians though they
are less important.

What do you think of the Portuguese
coming to fight on the Western front.
I think its rather funny. Apparently we
are to supply them with money and
ammunition. Now I should have thought

we were ~~more~~ shorter at ammunition and money than of men. But I dare say the French are getting very short.

Dearest I will try not to worry about you and to trust in God. Your letters help me a lot. They are just like the day we got married when I felt rather frightened in Church till you took my hand and then all my fear went away at once. I do love you so much. It is very hard being parted for so long.

The war does seem to be going very well so I should be very happy about it if you were not out there. But now I am in such an awful hurry for it to end that it can't go quick enough to please me at all.

The garden here is getting awfully dried up. It's very sad I hate to see it. I hope we shall get some rain soon.

I had two letters from you yesterday morning which just shows they must have travelled round with the first.

Did I tell you that I have heard from Mary Anne that Peosis Talents

is very ill and has be operated on for
ulcers. I hope Bridget will write presently
and tell me how she is. I think I
shall write to her again but I dont
want to bother.

I had another lovely letter from you at
breakfast this morning but I must
leave that till tomorrow to answer.

your very very loving
Ruth.

