

[See 141 Oct 1916]

Day before yesterday:  
London [Thursday]

My own darling

Baby is quite well again, but I am not quite yet. After I had finished my letter to you yesterday I took my temperature again because I felt as if I must have one and it was 102 so I went to bed and slept most of the day it had gone down to 101.6 by the evening and I had a pretty good night. It was only 100 before breakfast this morning and it feels still lower now so I expect to get up before lunch of this afternoon.

Olive Smedley wrote to say she had had an attack just like this when she got home and hoped she had not left a germ here. So I expect that both baby & I have had it and suppose others in the house will get it too soon. It doesn't last long that's one thing. I've no cold or any thing. Yesterday I kept thinking how awful it would be if it were the day you were

coming home on leave. I would be absolutely miserable if I could not meet you.

Oh darling I do want the leave to come so much I am longing for you so.

Do you really think it possible that war may end this spring. I wish I could think so, only I am so hard of hoping and expecting it to end and then it does not.

I hoped so confidently that it would this autumn at one time.

I am wearing a dear little soft grey chit land woolly of yemas so that I can have my arms out of bed. They are comfy things for bed. You wear your new one in bed for writing & reading don't you

I have just been down stairs and if I went in to see baby because I Violet has had this attack too so its no use worrying about ~~an~~ infection. I do feel a heart to have gone to bed while she stayed up to look after baby. But I did ask her if she was all right because she did not look well yesterday and she said it was because she had banged



her head badly yesterday. However she says she is quite normal now and I think I shall find I am as soon as I take my temp. All fever feelings have quite gone.

I don't think baby is quite right yet she still has a little cough that is quite loose and as long as we are careful she will be all right.

I'm afraid if you are as well off as we are you don't ~~wish~~ at all easily be really generous.

It's really generous to give away your last sixpence if you are poor but then in a weeks time you could probably get yourself back into the same state as you were before you gave it away, sooner very likely whereas if we were to give away all our money we could never live the same again. I would like to be very generous and give what inconvenienced me; but now that I have a child I would have to be more that it would not inconvenience it too much.

When we arrived at Waterloo going to the exhibition yesterday on Thursday there was

a band playing on the next platform for  
soldiers to go off by, to France I expect.  
A military band use to seem splendid and  
inspiring to me but now it seems only  
inexpressably sad, all the sadder for the  
kind of glory there is in it. I think  
when they are going away to France they  
must play their sadness into the music.  
Dearest there is one remark of Johnsons  
that took my fancy. Quite a good dinner  
but not one to make a friend of.

I dont like Johnson much but but  
I cant help rather liking Boswell.  
My darling I cant say anything to you to  
day except that I love & love you and  
want you very much. Its the only thing that  
matters.

I hope this letter is'nt gloomy but I do feel  
rather good for nothing as <sup>my</sup> period has come on  
top of this feverish attack. However the attack  
is passing off nicely.

your very very loving  
Ruth