

Dec. 19. 1918.

My dearest Ruth, I have just had your letter from London dated the 16th. I'm sorry you are cold with the Talents, but then you will be obliged to wear your fur-coat & that is a good result. I have often wondered whether you have been wearing it & how it is advised or rather how much adoration it does to you more than you would have without it. I wish I were in London with you to have the pleasure of observing all that. [At this point a fearful bump, which has broken more than enough crockery & shattered all our nerves - we have had the gun pulled out this morning as it was breaking the sleepers & this was the engine come to push us back to our proper position.] With regard to what you say about getting a room in Calais I may tell you that I have already arranged for a room not in Calais but here only 300 yds from the pier; I spent a large part of the morning searching for such a private corner & the prospect of being able to retire to solitude is a wonderful alleviation. I am going to move in this afternoon & I will tell you more of that to-morrow. I wonder whether the posts to England will be regular at Xmas & how many

deal of head ache these last two days & yesterday had to read it all, which was very depressing, but seems to have saved my eyes for today.

days they are taking now & which day's letter if any you will get on Xmas Day. You mustn't think of me as being depressed; we shall have a very merry day in the battery I don't doubt & I don't intend that any personal regrets shall prevent me from enjoying that being gay with the rest.

I quite hope to see Robert before long if I can find him in Dunkirk - there was some talk of the Major going there today, but the car he expected has not come to fetch him, or I should probably have accompanied him.

I'm afraid he won't be at all pleased at leaving Rouen - at least I know I should be quite disgusted if I were him.

I'm sorry you didn't see Robert the other day & still more that you didn't find Nancy more forthcoming. I'm afraid you're probably right about them having the idea of being interesting. R. is a very good person in many ways, but it is his great fault to value applause more than merit - perhaps that is too hard; at all events he likes publicity far too much.

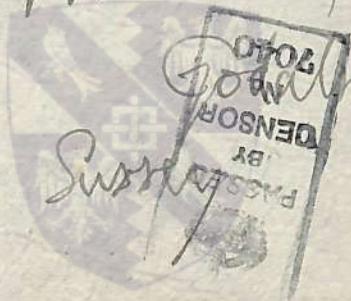
I'm sorry this isn't a better letter; I had to go to see to the unloading of our ammunition this morning & that also took some time. I shall probably start the habit of writing to you before going to bed - or rather resume it. You'll be glad to hear I have ordered a pair of spectacles; I have had a good

Dear loving George



Mr G. Leigh Mallory
Westbrook

Mallory



Goldman