

Oct 3

My dearest George

I've had a busy day and I am only just beginning your letter at a quarter to seven. Violet is out for the afternoon & evening that's why I'm so late beginning it. I went down and did the milking with Marby again this morning I was rather more successful this time but my left hand got so tired that I soon could hardly milk at all. I will strengthen after a bit I suppose.

Doing the cows makes me late for breakfast so that there is no time after breakfast to do any thing before I go to the children. Between ten & eleven I went to the chickens to help Marjorie put rings on the legs of the pullets and old hens. Clara came along & played round. I think I am being distinctly more strict with her than I was before I went away. I am trying to be, also I think having been away makes me notice her faults more which is a good thing. She is not so whiny as she was though she has not

altogether got out of speaking in a whining voice. I am going to try hard not to let her get whining with me again, so I am much more brisk with her than I was & I try to take less notice of her. I find my mind so full of thoughts of the Halt and of how very nice it will be to go back there when the war is over and settle myself in and get every thing ready for you when you come back. Just think how lovely our first evening together again there will be. I am afraid I rush to an extreme of hopefulness when I ~~now~~ once begin to be hopeful. There is an awful lot of stiff fighting to be done I fear before the war is over. From all accounts the Germans are now fighting for all they are worth especially in the extreme North & South. Still its very satisfactory that inspite of that we still manage slowly to push them back all the time & sometimes they go quite fast.

I went to the town at the end of the morning after I had sat with Father for a bit and I went to the bank. Mr Rawworth is away on a holiday and wont be back till the beginning of next week so I shall go then to

settle our investments. You have £150 in the bank & I £187 so I think we could invest £300. Marjorie says we may find that we have to fork out a good lump for income tax in that case we shall only be able to invest £200 & the next £100 must wait till we can afford it. I think its less trouble to invest in hundreds & easier to keep account of afterwards.

Its been a lovely mild day here & I have enjoyed being out. The garden is damp and autumny but there are still quite a lot of flowers.

I wonder if you have been finding it cold in France. I hope it will keep mild for a bit now it will make your move so much less unpleasant for you. I expect you are having a pretty busy time now. Do tell me where you sleep when you are on the move, whether you do it by night or by day or both. Do you have an engine & special engine driver belonging to you ~~or~~ or does one of men of the battery drive the engine? Do you go very very slowly. Has anyone got out of the train because they were bored and got left behind? What an awful lot of

questions but I'd like to know as much as possible how you live.

Bob told Mill in a letter that he woke in the night or rather became conscious of a great noise & thought it must be an air raid but when he woke right up he found it was his own snoring.

Dearst one I think I must end this letter now now because I have two more things I must write tonight & there's not much time left before I must dress for dinner. That coral necklace I bought does look so nice with my black evening dress. Father thinks it was well worth buying.

Your very very loving  
Ruth

