

Sept. 19. 1916

My dearest Ruth, I am adopting your plan this morning - of writing before breakfast. I am not up however & have no intention of getting up before the last moment - and as I have no job detailed to me for this morning I have half a mind to remain in bed until orders are sent to me - & eat breakfast. The reason of this mood is merely that it is raining. It rained solidly all yesterday & one day's rain under these conditions is quite sufficient.

It is extraordinarily quiet here now - hardly a gun firing. I'm afraid the bad weather has stopped our work. All the land where we've established our selves now must be no better than a bog by this time & a very slippery one. It has been far worse ploughed up than the Hun lines were found to be on July 1 - It is hardly an exaggeration to say that there isn't a square inch for 2000 yds. unaffected by shell fire & not a blade of grass to be seen. I was up there the day before

Yesterday - it was really quite exciting  
at last to see the land sloping down  
in full view - you see we've now  
taken a sort of subsidiary crest between  
Mootinpoint - High Wood which previous  
blocked out our view. I was successful  
in ranging the guns, which is always  
pleasing.

No letter from you yesterday - the last  
I had gave an account of your journey  
- very agitating for you my dear,  
but you seem to have managed very  
successfully. I'm glad you saw the  
Howes Throsses; no doubt your visit  
delighted them. The Trinidadese sound  
charming. What a very good plan for  
those two to have that interest!

We had a guest here to dinner  
last night - a thing that never  
happens - the major of a g. 2 battery  
and my dear I was altogether  
thrilled to hear that it was Earl's  
battery. With any luck I shall see



him to-day.

I must scally write to my tailor to-day  
- get a new pair of breeches; I can't  
always expect to keep my<sup>s</sup> anyway this  
pair shows signs of wear. I'm  
also going to order a new tunic -  
very spacious, so as to take a seal  
thick woollen waistcoat underneath  
- a sleeved one which you shall choose  
for me; keep that in mind dear for  
a favourable opportunity, there's no  
hurry, but I must have one before  
the winter.

I have got up after all in reasonable  
time & the sky has cleared so perhaps  
the muddy mess will do a bit.

I'm aware dearest one that this is not  
a very interesting letter - the fact is  
I'm feeling more energetic than  
reflective and also somewhat  
unsettled. We still have the use of  
our comfortable quarters here; and  
yet we are not as we were. I speak

like one of Macbeth's witches - but  
as you know I can't tell you what  
happens to our guns.

Dear one I very much want your  
companionship; you'd understand  
so much. I kiss you in spirit  
Forever

Yours loving George

He found two letters from you this  
morning in the Anti-room - Sept 13-14  
or the photos of Chase. I like them very  
much - it's obvious now when she  
resembles - though I can't imagine  
your date was ever backward! More  
of this another time.

