

Oct 4

My own dearest George

I wonder how you are getting on. I think you may be nearly at your destination by this time. If its in the Lillie region I wonder if this retirement of the enemy there will make much difference to you.

I dont know if anyone has any idea how far they are going to retire on there. They are evidently getting very uncomfortable.

I am very interested in their internal troubles. Of course the Times calles it an insidious peace trap or something to the same effect. It may be I suppose but if they once let the majority Socialists into power they may find it very hard either to compromise them or get them out again. I find time to read the paper thoroughly till towards the evening but of course I glean the war news during breakfast time I was much more satisfied with my milking this morning though its still far from good & very slow. I do very much like going out for a job like that before breakfast. I

think breakfast isn't the right thing directly one gets up. I believe I should always like to have it a nine and to be up at half past seven or eight.

Beagley is making four frames for me so that I can make them into button & ribbon tying frames for Clara. I wonder whether she will take to them. I shall soon have to sit to work to make my Alphabet for her, that will I think be difficult.

There is an awful lot to do here but its very enjoyable after spending so long at Newcastle with hardly enough to do. After breakfast this morning Clara & I picked lots of flowers & red leaves and wild clematis to too for Uncle Laurence. He wanted them for harvest decorations at his church. After Clara had gone to bed

I took them to the station & sent them off

Then I went into the town & bought two pairs of outdoor shoes for myself. Now I shall be safe not to be landed with no thick shoes to wear.

Father came out of bed for the first time today. He was lifted onto a chair with a

board in front of it for his legs so that his bed could be made. The doctor says that he is to have the legs in plaster next week. It will be done in a case made in two halves so that it can come off every day for the legs to be massaged. Nurse Wilmot is going to massage them herself which is a good thing, real masseuse are so awfully expensive.

I got doctor Michel to look at Berry yesterday because she is so slow over eating that Vi & I were afraid she might have enlarged tonsils or something wrong with her throat from her cold. He said her tonsils were just a little bit enlarged but nothing to worry about but I might have them seen again when she is about three years old and if they had got worse by then they could be removed. But I should think probably they will have got better.

At last it has been sufficiently sunny after lunch for Manjorie to photograph the children. First we did some of Clare then one of me & Clare together then another one of me. ~~Then~~ By that time Berry had finished her

dinner and we had her down and took her. Marby did one of us all three together. Baby on my lap and Clave standing just behind me. I hope some of them will turn out good. We have sent them away to be developed so as to run no risk.

I wonder if you have got those proofs yet that I sent to you when I thought you were still at Calais. I rather think that I addressed them to the Head Quarters; I am sure it was not to the officer's club.

I wonder so much what sort of a time you are having and whether you are happy. I hope you will continue to find the other officers quite nice. I am glad you like Knibbs rather better than you thought you did at first.

I hope you are having some jolly bright days as we are it makes so much difference.

Dont forget to tell me what the country is like in the place you stop. I hope you will get nice country with woods & hills.

I believe that <sup>part of the</sup> one line only goes about as far as St Quentin, do you know if that is right? Now I am going to read some French Revolution and the paper.

Your very loving  
Ruth.