

Nov 22

My own Dearest

I have had your letter written on the 18th when you were staying with Trafford this morning. You have had Mr Fletcher's letter saying that he has applied for you. You don't seem so very secure that you will get back, but he evidently thinks you will, I can't see why they should not let you. I do hope it will be soon.

I think this semi peace time in France will be very boring and tiresome.

I am very interested in what you say about Trafford and I think it will be very interesting watching his development after the war. I certainly hope that he will be able to drop the automatic manner as it would be very tiresome in ordinary life, though probably useful in war time in the army. I should say that he is a person who does not want sympathy very much himself.

It twelve o'clock now & I have just got up. I have got to spend today entirely in my room but tomorrow I may go down stairs.

after that I shall resume the normal life as soon as possible but not so quickly as I should be able to if we could have fires about the house.

I am sorry there was such a long gap without any parcel. It was owing to my influenza. You ought to have received another lot of four by now.

Two table cloths were sent off yesterday addressed to the O.C. of your battery in case for any reason you were not there. They are not exactly the sizes you said but I got as near as I could with the greatest economy of stuff.

I have been busy & interested reading the more advanced Montessori all the morning till I got up, except when the children came in for about twenty minutes. It seems that most people have found it very difficult to begin a class of such children who have always had heaps of toys.

I very much fear that I am going to try something beyond my capacity in this Montessori class. But if I could do it I do believe that it would be the thing. So I must try.

It has been annoying being ill like this but really I have been so thankful that I was not worse

and so glad to get well so quickly that I have not felt a annoyed as I might.

I wish correspondence did not take so long between us. I have never felt is quite so slow before as I do now. Things are changing and altering so quickly.

Clare has just gone off to bed. She has been playing at being ill and going to bed in my bed and then I have been the doctor for her. One needs a good deal of energy to play properly. When I get back to the Hall I have somehow got to teach Clare to play alone when she is told to so that we can have people to tea in moderate peace. I don't want Clare & Baby to go altogether without being played with but when we have people to tea they can't have our entire attention from five to six. Even the most obliging visitor won't want to play with them for an hour although they may enjoy to for a little while. I should

like ours to be specially well behaved pleasant children. I wonder if there is any chance that I shall accomplish it. If they could only get interested in their Montessori work I think it would be accomplished.

Dearest I'm afraid my letters are dull while I am shut up up here. It is difficult for them to be any thing else because although I feel well enough I don't feel bright & strong yet. I don't think that can come till I have been down stairs & out for a day or two

My dear won't it be thrilling when you come back. We shall be very busy after christmas collecting every thing ready for going back to the Hall I don't know quite when I ought to begin trying to get servants. Not quite yet I think. They would not be looking out for places as far ahead as the middle of January.

I send you all my love dear and there is a lot of it.

Your very loving
Ruth.