

Tuesday July 9  
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My darling

It's half past two and I am just sitting down to write to you. We have been picking raspberries for half an hour part of the morning. All in fact that was not occupied with Clara. She has a little bit of a cough with her cold and it's a nuisance it is rather apt to wake her just as she has gone off to sleep. She has just gone to her room and is very sleepy I think. She is crying a little now but in a sleepy way so I shall leave her a bit. We had great fun with her and Jean this morning, we bathed them together in the big bath. I leaned Clara on to her stomach to try and make her sleep but I think it only succeeded in making her swallow rather a lot of water. She is very much thinner than Jean but not much sicker. I am writing in pencil because I have had to go out to baby. Father went and talked to her and that set her off in good earnest. I hope she will go to sleep soon rocking makes me write so badly. By the papers I gather that you

part of the front is not getting on  
very well yet. Its a nuisance still  
things are looking very nice on the whole  
the Russian communique are so good.  
Look at the prisoners they take. Its  
simply colossal the number it must make  
a difference to the Germans presently.  
I hope your capture will do well. How  
will you am it. Will there be profits  
and who will sell? Dont you think you  
would like me to come and be lady captain  
kitchen for you and do a little work for  
make weight. I do believe baby has gone  
to sleep.

I had rather a nice afternoon on Saturday I  
did not think it would be. I had to travel  
on to Guildford to Millmead College to see  
a doctor that the hospital wants thin out  
I very charming old lady came to see me  
I was charmed with the house which I had  
never seen before and she showed me all  
over it. It is nice. many of the rooms  
have rounded ends and there is such  
an old world feel about it. The front  
door is half way up stairs between the  
dining room and drawing room, there is the  
way running so close by that you can

here the sound of the water. The garden  
is grassy and much might be made of  
it though its not very big. There is  
a tennis lawn and a nice bit of  
kitchen garden. A very pretty view ~~to~~  
view up the river valley. I think it is  
just the house for Mill. I wonder if its  
possible that she and Bob could live in  
it. Its about the size of The Holt rather  
more rooms and smaller I think.

Its always rather fun making forecasts with  
new people like that. The old lady had  
~~two very nice grand children with her a girl~~  
and little boy. She was Scotch. I think  
perhaps Scotch people grow old more  
gracefully than most English people.

Buby has gone to sleep but I am still  
writing in pencil here because of her cough.  
If when she coughs I rock the cradle she is  
much less likely to wake and I do  
want her to get a sleep she did not  
have much this morning. She is not  
going to have a bath at all at tea  
time today but only a drink of water  
and a rusk. I want to see if ~~that~~

a rest will make her take her  
battles better.

Darling I wonder many things about you.  
Are you going to be changed at all by this  
war, not. I hope if it ends soon. I don't  
want you to be made sad and old before  
your time. I suppose it will make some  
difference to both of us. I think perhaps  
I am really grown up now. There dear I  
want to know how much you are happy  
You say you look upon England as a haven  
of bliss. Are you as happy as you would  
be during an ordinary term as Charterhouse.  
I suppose that means is the job good  
enough to compensate for this misery is  
you must bear to endure.

I want to send off a cake to you today  
so I'm afraid this letter must stop. I'm  
sorry it's short & scabby but I can't let  
baby cry because he cough won't let her  
sleep peacefully. I have just had to wheel  
her round the garden.

Your very very loving  
Ruth.