

Feb 21

My dearest George

Still no letter it is disgusting. Mildred hasn't any either so I suppose for some reason they are keeping them all back. It cant be that they are going to do anything big yet it must nearly still be too early in the year. I dont care why it is. I want another letter from you and its horrid not getting it.

I rang Mrs Boack up this morning and got her. She is coming here to lunch on Friday. I am going to walk down to meet her and bring her back across the bridge way. Mr Boack may come here to tea on Thursday to see Father I hope he will because I always like seeing him and visitors are good for Father.

Something is mulling or raw onion in a most delicious way I cant think what. Perhaps some garlicky plant is coming up through the ground.

Its a mild misty day and the birds are

chipping softly and every thing is so calm and so far away from war. And yet you my love and half my life are away from me out there with the noise of guns and with constant danger all round you. I wonder if the war ever will end.

I am going to the town presently with Mildred. Marjorie has gone over to Robe to fetch Aunt Rosamond here to lunch. Clara is getting on with walking so fast ~~the~~ Violet said she walked nearly the whole way across the meadow alone yesterday. I have not seen her go nearly as far as that but she constantly takes a few steps now.

Father is much more cheerful and like himself than he was. He smoked a pipe yesterday evening with enjoyment. It must be nearly a month since he smoked last. It made him very cheerful and he said he was sure now he could smoke that he would get well faster.

Marjorie had a letter from Aunt Patten

today and she says that Doris has got a job at the War Office at £2 a week. That is better pay than the Gas Coal & Cook Co. I am glad she has left that. But Aunt Patty says the hours at the War Office are very long. Doris has been quite ill since she left the G. C. & C. Co with laengitis the doctor thought it was probably brought on by the horrid gas smells that that place always reeked with. I do think it's rather bad luck for a girl to have to earn her living with no better health than Doris has. It's true in the very best conditions she is all right but then it's so very hard to get them, particularly if you want to do writing clerical or secretarial work such as Doris wants to do. Teaching would be easier. There are so many teaching jobs in healthy country places.

I have written to tell your Mother she can't come here I do hope she won't be

offended. I meant her to understand by a letter I wrote some time ago that we could not have her until Father was well. But you know she never will understand what she does not want to.

My letter must stop.

It's now after lunch, in fact it's three o'clock and I must lie down.

I had such a lovely large dinner I was so hungry. I do think when one is very hungry eating is a great pleasure don't you. I should think even lumpy beef might be if you were hungry enough.

Do the French eat lumpy beef too or do they have nicely cooked food?

I think I like eating a lot when I'm hungry more than eating very wonderful things when I'm not. But that's not very artistic of me is it. I don't mind the word artistic when it measly applies to food.

Darling I love you so much.

Your very loving
Ruth.