

Tuesday Nov 7

My own dearest

I do feel miserable about you. It's raining again in deluges with a high wind. I wonder what is happening to you dear. Is your dug out still standing and fairly water tight, and how are the others? Are you ever dry for a minute. I do hope you have not got any rheumatism or other ills as a result of what you are going through. I should not think M<sup>r</sup> East will last well long in this weather.

Yesterday was so lovely here. I went out for a walk with Violet and Clara first thing after breakfast. We went to the town, then along the Peperharow Road and up the river valley as far as those cottages. Of course the floods were right out and it was simply beautiful. The foam just goes underneath those two stiles which is very fortunate.

I got all my sances down on yesterday partly in the morning and partly in the afternoon. I sent you a box of cake. A big plum one and some little ones. I also looked out your climbing boots and chose the pair

that seemed to me most suitable. I did not for instance think that you would want your new ones with ticcouni nails. The pair I chose looked rather squashed and uncomfortable with being put away and not worn, so I took them down to Holdens and told them to toe them out and castor oil them. They are also sewing up the sole where it was coming apart a little in the instep. So I hope when you get them they will be both comfortable and water tight.

Clare has a little cold but she is not feeling ill with it. Her mouth is chapped and uncomfortable. She had some spots round it and I suppose they were uncomfortable so she licked them and now its more chapped than any thing or it looks to me. But I do think that if her teeth would only stop worrying and sending up fresh spots it would get well. She is very dear & I am very happy when I am with her and we are having games together. Its so lovely to see her laugh, and when she is feeling bright and not tired she laughs a lot. Sometimes

when she is very intent and wrapped over what she is doing she reminds me of you, you get so wrapped and intent, don't you darling. I can see you now kind of curling yourself into the work so that no corner may be left for distraction.

Don't I do want the joy of seeing you and of having you with me again. Last day seems such a long way back, and yet all that life we lived together does not seem far off but just natural.

I have ~~just~~ paid into your account £150 pounds from that legacy this morning. The bank told me I might enclose it for you if I was paying it in. Will you tell me if you want it invested.

We went to church last night to hear the third and last of the Bishop's message. The service began at 8.15 & I think it ended at 9.45.

It was the nicest service I have ever been to in my life. He conducted it so charmingly and simply. We began with war thanksgivings and prayers, very nice ones. Then he preached for about an hour. I cannot remember all he

said though I can remember a lot. It was an appeal to every one to be better. To the nation to struggle against and cure its big degenerating sins of intemperance & impurity, and to each person to remember that they have a power in the world for evil or for good and however small or however big that power may be that they will use it for good.

And he said we must not be content with just going to church and being good but we must look for results, for results of this Mission which he says only really begins now.

I think that appeal that we should look for results is a good one. It is so very hard to make results that if we have definitely to try for that we ought to try much harder.

It is only by doing things that things can get done. I do want us to live a very simple & good life taking as little account of money as may be and never being greedy over it at all.

I really don't believe it's at all an easy thing to do especially if one has children. But I don't see how the world is to be raised unless people do live like that, and we ought to do

it quite as much as any one. We are educated, at least you are & I partially, we have enough money not to be ground down by poverty. Well money questions are of the future for us.

After the sermon we had five minutes of silence and then some more prayers and a hymn. When we had finished the hymn the bishop said I should like to have to first & the last two verses of 339 so we sang them too. It makes the service so human and delightful when when the clergyman goes a little out of the usual course like that. We are having a meeting for educated women in this house this afternoon at 3 o'clock.

The evening there is a Jewish conference & the Bishop will speak. I should like to go but I think I ought to let Violet go & stay myself and mind close.

I have been having a lovely game with her this morning on the nursery floor. I wish you did not have to miss so much of her sweet baby hood.

Your very very loving  
Ruth.