

Monday July 24<sup>1</sup> (73)

Dearest

Twenty past seven before I begin to write to you. I don't think I have ever been so bad before. I did not wake up in time to write before breakfast, the little time I might have had got taken up by baby. I heard her crying and went to her and found that she and Violet had both waken late & Violet was just going to warm baby's bottle. So I stopped & talked to her till the bottle was ready, but when Violet put it into the hot water it broke and as that was the last sterilized bottle, she had to buy some for her. So I stopped on till it was ready. After breakfast I played with Clara and the children a bit and then came in and pointed till one, and then went on after lunch finishing different things up

because we were going to pack and send them off as soon as they were done.

We did pack them and got it finished by half past three. <sup>Six</sup> Four things of mine. The four I did at New Romney the little test plate that I did soon after you left and then this little oval bowl that I have done for Nancy Warr's tea set. Marjorie sent off the whole of the very pretty tea set she has just done. Father sent a jug and a little bowl and one of his big ones to have some lustre put on. I do hope Marjorie's set will turn out well.

After the things were packed Marjorie and I took Mr Cacknell and the children up the river. I ~~do~~ do want you so specially much when I go to any picking place. I love to see you climb the trees there. I tried the difficult tree with my shoes at last

I did not succeed. I think it is just <sup>3</sup>  
possible I might in rubber shoes. I can  
the yatches out of my class swinging down  
off one the. It is a pity you are not here  
now I am well and strong. When  
you come back I expect I shall get  
another baby soon. I hope so, still it  
is trying not to be active with you.  
We had great fun with the Boats  
boys on Sunday afternoon. I do like them  
so much. I do want a boy of my own.  
Clare is going to be gloriously active and  
strong and she does not show much  
sign yet of being tired. I am sure  
that is largely of being in. Mr Cookhead  
for instance is always saying 'take care'  
and I think he has made both his  
two rather silly and nervous, though they  
are very nice, specially the boy.  
The Boats children areit means the  
fussing after that they have had has  
simply bored them. I think it has  
been at a more healthy cost, though

it's hard to describe the difference  
I pulled Mr Boacks leg a bit on Sunday.  
She did not mind. I said I think you  
ought to have the doctor to John he  
~~walks~~ <sup>takes</sup> with a longer step with his right leg  
than he does with his left. She began  
to get quite agitated about it.

We are horribly anxious about the war  
we see that a big attack must be being  
made on the third line. Will it succeed  
or fail. It makes me feel quite shivery  
and heartily to think of it.

Mr Pilobury is here to dinner and I  
must get down. Good night & I shall  
say good morning early tomorrow. Oh if only  
you were here & might walk into the room  
any minute. I'm always glad when you  
come into the room.

Tuesday

Good morning my dear dear one. Guess  
dear you do seem to have been away so  
long. I wonder when you will come  
back. And I am wondering very  
much what you are doing. I may at

9  
course get a letter by this morning's  
post, but even then I gather you  
will not be able to tell me anything.  
Father seems to be afraid that the  
war will be stopped on our side by  
want of money soon. I wonder if it  
is possible that we shall be unable to  
pay our way, we have to pay for our  
allies too haven't we and that makes  
it all the more expensive.

I wonder so much whether Mr. Luther Bauck  
is right and whether the moral, intellectual  
and aesthetic side of human nature are  
all of the same importance. I don't  
think I should doubt it if it were not  
that they have never of before been put  
on the same level, as far as I know.  
Surely you would not say Jesus Christ's  
teaching seems to put them so. It seems  
to me that moral and intellectual  
both come before ~~each other~~ <sup>Him</sup> with <sup>him</sup> must  
read some of the gospels with the  
desire to find this out clearly in

my mind. I am so very, very glad  
I have read the book. Most of all I  
think because it so insists all the  
time on the absolute necessity of doing  
& thinking things purely for their own  
sake and with no ulterior motive.

I think I often have a secondary motive  
in what I do which comes in and  
spoils the doing or the thinking. I ~~was~~  
~~think~~ think I shall find it very hard  
some times to get rid of extra motives  
and to become pure. But now that I  
shall have it in mind I shall have  
a much better chance.

Now isn't writing very hard in that way  
doesn't it constantly make a kind of  
secondary idea come into your experiences  
The thought, This ought to come in useful  
some time, I must remember and make the  
most of this. It would not be 'happening'  
with Mr Clutton Boscawen but thoughts. If he  
were rich enough only to write when he wanted  
to it might be possible to prevent it  
happening. But he has to write an  
article every week, poor man.  
Sometimes when I look at old china I

4  
do not look at it merely to get aesthetic  
pleasure out of it, but I look at it with  
the idea of making its design useful to  
me some day. I don't believe this is  
wrong. It's not ~~copy~~ copying in any sense  
because the design sinks into me and if  
it ever comes out it comes out totally  
different. This business of mind and  
new motives is evidently going to be  
difficult.

Maajorie is going away to her farming  
today. I wonder how long she will stick  
to it. I shall miss her quite a lot. Mill  
is still rather soft and useless to the  
general run of people. Father does not seem  
to find this so it may be my fault or  
it may be that he wants a quiet  
listener & Mill does that quite well.  
She imitates me rather sometimes she  
seems so much that she is right.

2.45

I've picked radishes from 11 to 1 and  
after lunch till now, and now  
we are going to Highlan's Ball, I am

going to drive Mr Cockwell & the  
children in the pony cart.

I would rather design a new bowl I  
think still it will be lovely up  
there.

The news does not seem to me good  
It looks as though we have attacked  
furiously & gained very little. I have  
not read the paper thoroughly yet.

I must stop now & do up your  
papers. I could just as well send  
one every day if you would prefer  
it.

your very very loving  
Ruth

