

Sunday June 18

43

My own dear

I have said many happy returns of the day to you photograph, that is the best I can do. Of course it being Sunday and London I have no letter. I have begun to be tired of being in London, and I shall be quite glad to get my visit to Mary over and go home again. My darling I do so want to know if you think I ought to make an effort to do some war work that would take pretty well all my time. I can't think that I ought to leave baby altogether. I must have some time left for her. Manjini is thinking of going to a farming place for two or three months to see if she would like it. If she does that I think I ought to stay at home, and I could take her place at the hospital if I were needed. V.A.D. nursing are getting very scarce, there were so many at the beginning, you know, that they were treated like dirt, and now many have gone to nurse abroad. 1000 were sent out

last month, and many more have got other jobs such a munitions, or they have gone on to the land. So I might really be wanted at Helden's Hospital. There are heaps of hospitals that would be very glad to have me, only I can't leave baby all the time. If I lived in London I might go to one and do night work always. I could then see baby in my up times in the day. Only I don't know if they would let me go when you come home ^{on leave}, and it would mean baby living in London, and she is so well at Godalming.

Dearest I am so glad we are friends as well as lovers. I don't think Stephen and Bridget are yet. They don't seem to me to have hit off a way of life together yet. I do think it is quite a lot Stephen's fault. I don't think he is as considerate of Bridget as he might be. He seems to expect her to do just as much as if a baby was not coming. I wish he could know what it feels like for two or three days. Bridget talks things over with me that apparently she does not with Stephen. I am sure it's a mistake for people not

to talk all their difficulties over together.
Darling you were very sweet to me when
baby was coming and I expect because you
helped me to be careful, was a great deal
the reason why I got well & strong so
quickly afterwards. I'm sure that sentence
is not grammatical, but I got half way
through before I saw the end, & then I
could not accomplish it.

I think you will love baby when you live with
her again. Of course you will like seeing
her when you come home on leave but seeing
a baby or little child is not at all the
same as living with it. It so nice to know
their ways and to have them know you.
You will feel flattered when she kicks for
joy at the sight of you and holds out
her arms to come to you. She almost
always waves her hand now when we say
tata to her, but she will only wave it
once, there is no use saying it a second
time, she evidently thinks that once is
quite enough and she has ~~not~~ intention
of showing off on any more.
I wander with you tremendously if we are

going to make an offensive. I rather feel
we ought to try, although I can't have the
thought of the lives that must go. And I
don't at all want us to make an unsuccessful
one. You see we find the Germans unsuccessful
efforts rather cheering. Still I do think
we might batter them a bit, they can't
want us to do very much I should think.
Stephen seems to think it quite possible that
we might get them on the run. He says
if you can once start them there is
no telling where it might stop. Would it
it be glorious if we could.

I am not managing to read any thing serious
while I am here. All my spare time goes
in writing to you. I do read Vanity Fair
in bed. But can't read Psychology in bed, I
go to sleep over it. I am enjoying Vanity
Fair. I'm afraid that I am getting very
near to the end of it.

Good bye dear for today. I hope I shall get
a letter from you tomorrow. Perhaps we
shall get a decent space at some time in
which to correspond comfortably.

Your very loving
Ruth.