

Dec. 21. 1918

My dearest Ruth, I've just received two letters from you dated 17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> & a Xmas parcel - for all of which many thanks. By the way the last cake was on the verge of disintegration, though it was just possible to cut it, and it struck me that it might well have waited another day after cooking before posting. With regard to demobilisation it seems to be a general impression that the labour folk are making a mess of things - hence no doubt Geddes' appointment. I see the paper yesterday says that demobilisation of all teachers - students is already ordered, well perhaps there is some cause for hope after all - it may not be more than two or three months. Anyway I can do nothing & I shall just wait with what patience I can. Many thanks for your energetic enquiries - they may have some result; anyway we might get to know where we are. My chief employment at present is the writing of a song for Xmas Day - after a number of false starts I have hit off a happy device - a parody of Widdicombe Fair. It is to be called "Lumber-Gummer Joe his Nightmare" & the chorus will be no 2's gun stores. It is a simple tale of how Joe, being drowsy thought he would like to do a little good work all on his own with his hands & feet etc & loaded two rounds into the bore & two cartridges in the chamber & then — I shan't say a word about it beforehand - I have merely said I will scribble at the snows

concert on Xmas Day.

I am now reading Studies in Christianity ; I like the chapter on Christian love very much . What a big subject it is ; I should like to talk to you about all that . I wonder what other people think about the book ; have you heard any opinions . I feel it is all too much what I think (only more closely worked out) for me to have any idea of how it strikes other people .

This is only a hasty letter written at lunch-time . You shall have a longer one before long .

Much love to you,

Your loving George.

