

Oct 23

My own Dearest

I have been very short of time today and have not done nearly all I meant to because Mr Raxworthy came up this afternoon to shoot and I went & beat through the wood for him, so did Marby and Nurse. It was a very long job and took all the afternoon and my legs and hands are very scratched but I quite enjoyed it. He got one pheasant and some rabbits. He only wounded the pheasant and it came towards me swimming through a pond in the swamp & chased it and caught it but I let him kill it.

I had to go to the town this morning to the bank. Our treasury note has fallen due & Mr Raxworthy has taken another for us to last six months. When I got back I worked at your curtains till lunch time. I am going to try to get off to you the window curtains by the end of the week but I don't think there is any hope of getting the

velvet one done till the week after. I haven't got the stuff yet and unless some patterns that have come from Heals today I good I shall have to wait to get the stuff till I go to London next week.

I had quite a nice visit to the Bracks yesterday. We didn't do any very interesting talking, one never does get so settled when the children are there. He said one thing that will interest you. It is that he thinks the Headmaster & Mrs Fletcher have had a conversion. He says they seem to be so much more liberal minded and human than they were, not that one would accuse Mrs Fletcher of being inhuman but he was.

I have had another letter from you this morning my dear, with a lot about the war in it that I find very interesting. I should like Foch to manage some real crushing blow, but more because I want the war to end quickly than for any reason of humiliating the enemy. I expect when you see casualties coming back its partly bad but I don't think it can be much more pathetic than visiting the widows. I went to one down our lane yesterday. Mr Clutton Brock was here to tea today and he said he thought we could get a virtual surrender if only we would help the Germans

to it. I do so wish that more people could have the sense to see that the Daily Mail + Times bluster is harmful.

You now suggest velvetreen for all the curtains but I have got the cotton half made so you'll have to have them. I do hope you'll like them when they come. I shall put rings because it curtains does so much better on rings than on a hem. What have you done with the red + black check + the blue check. I suppose the other half of the battery has them. I will get stuff for two more in London and do them as soon as I can. I don't think it is much use sending back chocolate for a cake because even with sweetened chocolate one still has to use a lot of sugar and unless you have the right sort of chocolate powder the cake is not nice. Our cakes were so good in the old days because we used Suchard's chocolate powder. I shall send you a good cake from London next week + a home made the week after. I have bought some macaroni + ginger + I shall send them + some more flour <sup>at the end of</sup> next week when they come up from the town. I couldn't bring it all

I was on my bicycle & it was too heavy.  
I will never send you less than  $3\frac{1}{2}$  lbs of flour  
a week & sometimes I may send more. You  
could always give some to the men for a pudding  
if you have too much. If you are rich enough  
to spend £5 on curtains you are rich enough for  
that I think. I am keeping an account of  
those things I buy for you & will send it  
soon when I have got the velvet and new  
table cloth stuff

The doctors came to see Father's legs yesterday &  
were very pleased they say they are mended and  
he is slowly to get them hanging down & bending  
more but if he goes to fast they swell & don't get  
on.

I would like to write you a longer letter but I so  
much want to get time to go on reading Sir Douglas  
Haig's dispatch that I think I want.

Margaret & Father has bought a parrot, its come  
today!

Farewell dearest I will try & write you a nicer  
letter tomorrow, there have been so many little  
things to say to day

Your very very loving  
Ruth