

Saturday May 20 1916
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My dearest

I have received the photographs to day and shall send them to you. I will mark the two that I had 6 each of for sending to your friends. Your Mother and Father prefer the smiling one, I don't. But I think I shall put a letter in with them about them, because you will probably get this letter before you get the parcel.

This is so far a blank letterless day but I manage to get great pleasure from reading again old ones.

It is very hot again today. We have been down to the Birkenhead shops this morning and bought two or three little things for baby. Your Mother has been buying flowers for the church. People are funny about public money. They say they are very much in debt and yet they buy flower without

very much regard to the price to decorate
the church with. People seem to think
that although private debt should be
avoided, public debt does not matter.
I have arranged to go and see Nancy
Watt next Tuesday, she has a baby
boy of 16 months. I went to see her
last time I was here just before she
was born.

I have looked out some seeds that I
think might do for you, and will
send for them. I chose red flax and corn flower,
white mallow, opium poppy, clumped marigolds
and cichorium. I think I shall
look out some vegetable seed, you might
do very well with lettuces, they grow
quickly.

George dear, if only there could be some
time when one knew the war would be
over it would make it so infinitely
better. Do tell me if you have any
more idea about it now you are
out there.

Do you feel frightened when you dodge

shells. I cant help feeling rather frightened about you.

Since lunch I have been playing with baby on the lawn. She is getting strong she can roll over either way and can turn herself a good deal, and can move backwards a little. I hope she will crawl soon. I hear that Bobby has caused terrible consternation in his nursery by saying that he likes Clare better than his own baby. I dont suppose he will still think so when he has had her to stay and has seen that she can cry as much as his Mary.

Henrietta Livingstone is away at Malvern so I shant see her.

Since baby went out for a walk I have been helping your Mother with Church flowers. I made them look rather nice. They were white narcissus and yellow globe flowers.

Oh darling darling I do feel so homesick for you, I do want you so badly and its no use you cant come & I cant go to you you are so far

away. I hate sleeping in a proper bed
and living in a proper house & eating
proper meals while you are away doing
such different things. This is a difficult
house to live in. I seem to find quite a
little time for doing my own things
and yet there is nothing much else
to do. Still next week I am going
to Arie, and Violet is going away
to stay with her Aunt & Uncle so I
shall be fairly busy. I am glad she
is going I shall like to have baby
to myself again.

I want to know if your forward observation
posts are in the trenches any of them,
if you may tell me. I wish encroaching
wasnt so strict its a nuisance, but I
dont want you to tell me any thing
you ought not to.

Dearest I do ache with unhappiness that
you are away and with fear for you. You
dont mind me telling do you? do think
it cowardly?

I've got your beautiful face looking at
me now, but it wont move its

stayed always the same. Photographs
are not much real good I'm afraid,
not when you know a person very
very well.

Bather! there's the tea bell. I want
to go on talking to you. After tea
I ought to write for the seeds, and
back of the photograph to sent to
you. I hope you will like some
of those at me.

Well good bye for now dear. I am
usually much more cheerful than
this letter but the unhappy
mood must come sometimes, and
it's had it all to itself this
afternoon

Be happy, be happy the war will
end some day.

Kiss very very lovingly

Ruth.

