

Eggleston
Aug. 30th 1914

Dearest Lois, It seems as if it were long since I have written - but I think I did send you a word from Flo's - Clara & I came here last Tuesday & leave tomorrow - Eggleston is the loveliest place - grass so green, Red Rocks & earth - & full of glorious flowers the gardens about the remainder of the old walls are the most beautiful I have seen. This house is so comfortable, the little garden pretty & a big garden just over the way, with 3 patriarchal trees that are a joy. The Cathedral is very fine notwithstanding the injury inflicted by the Commonwealth men - of course the place is swarming with soldiers. Ferrer's, I can't say I am to the front. No doubt we are fighting in the British lines - Everyone kills rocks for the Germans & I'd have been so brutal. Destroying Red Cross motor vans - to carry their wicked old guns - & it only makes one feel worse that now the Russians are desolating Armenia every the way the Eng - Tauris have been treated is shocking - Here we have been treated as reservists but they are well treated, German Sing - songs & cigarettes - however there is a swelling mass to help - no boasting or proud horses taken from carriages - & senters from the stable - & pretty polo - ponies, all led of to suffer & die it seems horrible.

Yesterday I went to see Sybil Wilson she is about $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile from here by rail & the doctor was very dubious about my time the only difference being, sometimes less & sometimes more - she was so glad to see us & asked after you so kindly.

I wanted to know all about the baby! I
wish you wd send her one of the photos of her
& a little note, she was so pleased with the
one you wrote her after you were married
& she wants all the other she can get - I was
so glad to have an hour with her, but
wd have liked a week - Her, being white,
is quite merged at us going - so soon but
we must get on -

London Sept 21

Did I tell you we went far a wonderful
motor drive on the great Dartmoor - It was
wonderful - I wd just like to have sat there for
7 days & 7 nights - & watched the lights & shades
of great expanses of heath with clouds drifting
crimson shadows
light
dawn & mid-
d here & there

shadows rest the deepest crim-
son colours, here & there green patches, scat-
tered rocks & heath "or masses of rock on
the summit of some of the hills. Distances
blue & purple. & roads that gleamed white.
We saw also a whole exhibition of Devon
pictures - rocks of the moors, but though all
indicated its peculiar beauty - none of them
did it justice. There was too much colour.
It was not so much the display of colour
that struck me as the wonderful blinding of
tints. Devonshire was perfect & where hills
are in the road & rush of the great city. & the
whole world is full of soldiers - We saw trains
of wounded coming thro' Exeter - & every where
you see the khaki-clad men guarding bridges
or haarding trains - or waiting at stations
just at the end of this street is a large
Y.M.C.A. building full of territorial, they
are at every window & door

they - we was - are leaving for Malta where they^(?)
will receive a regiment of regulars, who go to
the front. There have been mysterious movements
of troops lately - long trains skimming thro'
the country with all windows limewashed
no word in papers but we hear whispers that
a large mass of Russian soldiers were
landed in Scotland & are now at Salisbury
plains, waiting to embark - if this be true
no doubt they are held in readiness till the
Germans advance nearer Paris - when
they will swing on their rear. Our marines
are holding Astend - The carnage is frightful
& of course one hears is true the Germans are
outdoing savages - in their cruelty to the un-
offending villagers - We must all pray & pray
that this dreadful outbreak of evil may
soon be put down. Thank God Eng. is now
rallying to his flag - all her Colonies
justified in her doing - We went to Westminster
Abbey today - Wonderful place - Ever since
Will the Conqueror was crowned there every
sovereign has been there crowned - We went to
White's later hoping to do a little shopping
but - Winter goods are not in - nothing
comes from France & Germany - & numbers
of employees go - Everything is slack & de-
pressing - I don't get a kiln - & I have little heart
to it either I had to get a new putticoat
some stockings - Alice, Luther & Mrs S. got back
Monday - they had to bring 3 days food - & lean
all left - had to bring 3 days food - & lean
corridor of the car - Alice & I slept in the
of the channel boat - they reached it at 7 p.m.
& had to wait to start till the next morning
they washed at a tap in the open station - they
had to go round by Lyons - & were enthusiastically
welcomed by the citizens - also met many trains
of wounded - Alice looks well - Eva & I are to
lunch with Mrs Molson tomorrow -

We have taken our passage for Oct 3rd from
Glasgow the terrible crash sh^d be over by
then - but one never knows what may happen

I hope your ideas in your letter just received
are too gloomy - how that children & Canada
try to seize the German trade, it sh^d make
barriers manufactures more busy, if you
find things too short; why you will just
come up to us & we will go along together

No news of Muriel - surely we must
have come off by now - perhaps cables are
not-permitted - I am anxious to hear that
all has gone well - I believe little Alice
will walk before we get home

all love my dearest child -
I hope it will not be long now before an
meet-again -

Mother -