

August 2nd Sunday 1941-

Foster Cliff Farm, Silsden Moor, Silsden, Yorkshire.

Dear Susan & Geoff. Thank you for your welcome letter, posted the 30th June & rec^d July 31st. It had to be re-directed from Wycliffe Post Office & Bar & all of us thank you for parcel rec^d the next day. The sugar especially is much appreciated, but we really do not need anything. We are better off here than where we were before - it was difficult in Wales & also at home they say people have to go very early to get anything as there are so many people who have come in from the danger areas & supplies don't get there as soon. We are very glad to be away from it & to have so much space & beauty everywhere - no getting up in middle of night & going under stairs listening to bombs & guns & wondering if the next bomb would fall on our house. The raids have been much fewer & less violent lately, but there have been raids & damage done in your native town Geoffrey & in town where Capt^r Cole lives. They have been cutting the hay here this week & today expect they will cart it - it looks a very good crop. The oats are not

quite ready yet. There will be about 50 men
here for tea - but they bring their own food &
we only have to supply hot water & drink.
Harold took Aunties & one to a drive & we went
past Bolton Abbey - part of which is a ruin & the
other part has been restored, it lies in a valley
a river flowing at the bottom & beautiful
scenery & views all round. The monks of old
chose their dwelling places wisely. We are
having beautiful weather - heavy dews, & bright
sunshine later on. We went to Elkeley yesterday
aftⁿ & I got a pair of shoes. I have been trying for
some time to get them to fit - but they do not stick
my size much. I had to pay 18/6 for a pair but they
are pre-war & very good quality. I had to give
5 coupons for them, & 7 coupons for a dress I
got. Some people in Wales said the husband
had got some shirts & socks he needed & then
he had no more coupons for trousers so she
did not know what he would do!! I expect
she would have to let him have some of

lets (coupons I mean) - as you cannot get per-
sonal things without - but I believe household
goods are free. Materials sold by yard need
2 coupons for each yard. Ilkley has not many
shops, it is a town, but more for people on
holiday as it has extensive grounds all round,
a river, children's boating pool, swimming baths,
boats on the river etc. lovely views everywhere,
but rather more fashionable than the area for
We are very glad to hear of little Leonard's pro-
gress. I am sorry the last parcel I sent was
lost. it contained 2 production books for you Geoff,
Some ^{knit} toys for children & sweets, some wool, & some
outgrown clothes that Dad sent for Tom, some
jelly & two or three books - one 'An old fashioned
girl' a great favourite of mine by authoress of
Little Women. & one or two other things I forget.
I hope you (Susan) now feel strong again, it was a
pity you had to change, helps so soon & at such a
busy time on the land. Aunties are very charmed
with this place, they go back to Ackworth on
Tuesday, tomorrow being Bank Holiday, we
shall miss their help very much - for somehow

there is plenty to be done. Beer has all water,
(drinking) boiled for children - & all the milk
they drink. I made a little butter with cream let
saved, it was hard to form the butter with an
egg whisk, & there it would not form into a lump
it was all in granules - however I strained it
thru' Baby's food sieve & washed it & salted it
& squeezed water out as best I could. I don't know what
was wrong. It tasted all right but not as good as
the first small quantity I made. I made bread
twice this week. about 8 lbs each time - it does not
last long & also I made bunloaves which they all
also appreciate. The Pyrus again with a box of
tomatoes from working & they are well
appreciated. We have a very few raspberries - not
enough for one person - just two or three ripe to
gather. How pleased the girls will be with
Leonard, he is very intelligent to take notice so
soon. Bar had a woman last week to help. She
was very good. used to hard work. she scrubbed
the stone floors on her knees, said she did not care
for the soap bucket way - & of course it really
does the work more thoroughly her way. she black-
leaded the grates & scrubbed out the pantries
with its stone shelves & stone floor. Each time
she will probably do the dairy, wh: we don't much use,

it is ~~even~~ colder than the pantry,
as it is below the house level. it has
stone slabs & shelves & floor. & gives one
quite a chill if one descends into
it. It is very good for keeping
meat - hung up on hooks. & if we
had any quantity of milk it would
be useful. The coal oven takes a
good deal of wood or coal to heat but
there it cooks well & holds a large

amount of food. How are Bob &
Thie? They will miss their
rephew. Brian Turvey worked
in his holidays helping the Ackworth
gardener - he gave blood also for the
hospital, Jack also did the same.
Well you will be tired of this so I will
stop with dear love to all

from your loving Mother.