

Foster Cliffe Farm, Sildon Moor, Sildon;
Thursday, August 27th 1941 - Yorkshire -

Dear Susan & Geoff. Thank you for 3 welcome letters wh: came on Monday just after writing to you & also for the parcel wh: came last week. We had not been tasted the bacon, it is beautiful bacon. Harold says the best he has ever had, & we all think likewise - also the chocolate there were 4 bars of it (1/4 lb) & some more welcome sugar. We are using the sugar wh: should have made jam but we could not get any fruit. We were glad to have the two lots of photos in letters posted July 21nd & 29th. The last letter was posted Aug: 3rd.

We all think Baby Leonard looks a darling. I wonder what color his eyes are, are Tom's eyes blue or brown? I am very glad the garden has been so successful & that the crops were in good shape. We keep busy, & we don't feel at all dull tho' we never see any one unless they are coming there as we are so far from the road (3 big fields away). It has been very wet & showery since St. Swithun's day - disappointing for people's holidays. for they are really needed this year. You did get a lot of bones - we tried to save them in meals but as they were mostly small chop bones they did not amount to anything! Yes, all the ground floor.

rooms have ^{the} stone slabs flooring, except the
small room off the living room wh. has wooden
floor, + bedrooms all wood - mostly more or
less covered with linoleum considerably worn
& peeled. Harold bought a second hand carpet
for their bedroom - a pretty green - it is a very
large room - the carpet cost £3. It is getting
extra money for having to leave home + get ac-
commodation here - they also paid his expenses
for the first month while he lived at a hotel +
boarding house - here it is quite a moderate
charge £3-3-0 per week for 1 person board
& lodging + at such places it is considerably
more. Of course food is expensive + often trouble-
some to get. We don't find the stone floors hard
to keep clean as we mop them over with very
hot water, but our 'help' scrubs them on hands
& knees as she said she preferred to do so -
the stones are not worn or cracked. It is
pleased you much to have the cellar so stocked
with canned vegetables + fruit. Some of
the hay was spoilt with continuous wet, +
it went mouldy but much is gathered in - they
fear the rain will also have been down the
corn so that it will be difficult to cut. Our
landlord + his brother are very good + they see
we don't want for anything - they bring us up our
meat + eggs + we get groceries brought up

by Grocer. just our rations one week & the rest
the general supply ^{as well} such as soap, candles, soda
pudding grains, matches. we are allowed 4 bread
per fortnight! it is plenty for us, but smokers have
to use Spills or other economizers. We find the Labor
perfection oil stove a great boon. it cooks breakfast
always. There is an oven but we have not yet used
it. We had stores of coal in before we came. it cost £3 a
ton. of course it costs more because it has to be carted
so far. They are using many loads of lime on the
ground in the winter & having it brought down as men
are being called up & it will be difficult to move it
later on. I should think 11 of Mr. Raes horses would do
a great deal of damage to the crops. Our Lettuces have
been a great help. Our had an old friend of hers &
her friend here yesterday. They are sleeping a
week a few miles away. ^{Winnie Engle} One has had a boy
-ing time she is on A. R. P. work & has been sleep-
ing (or not) in a shelter ready for all emergencies.
She has seen much sorrow & destruction. - then on
the daytime she has been at the bank. so she
does deserve a holiday - they were charmed with
this place. the friend had had all windows blown
out & doors off hinges in their house, but they
were still staying on. Mr. Walker (landlord) or his
brother after bring us a few mushrooms. we dont
get them because there is a young bull in the field
where the mushrooms grow & it bellows if our
goes to the fence by it. There's another heavy

Shower like thunder rain. They say there is
much rain here. There are several reservoirs.
Bluebell looks a nice little cow. she is the Alderney
one is she not? Tom is holding the cuddly puppy
carefully. Do you think Samaret has acidosis?
The symptoms seem similar. generally the
breath has a fruity odour + they are hot + fever-
ish with no appetite. Geoffrey is liable to it + he
then has to have no fat - no cream + low diet +
soon recovers - he had jaundice soon after he was
born. Geoff + Elizabeth enjoy playing pic-nic in
the barn adjoining the house. They have jam
sandwiches packed in a basket + two oranges +
water + pretend they have gone a picnic. Eliza-
beth calls the sandwiches jamwiches, she
will take off her shoes + socks over so many times
a day. She can put them on again + she can push
her coat on + almost all her things but not fasten
them - she is into everything, upsetting things + being
afterwards to drop up with long handled mop.
I am glad Paddy's baby is well again. Barbara will
be much pleased to go to school. I wish I could
teach Geoff the modern way but I cannot get well
to the new pronunciation of the alphabet. Geoff
knows most of the letters. He finds plenty of wood
+ brings it in his little cart. Yesterday the visitors said
how good Elizabeth was at one time feeding herself.
Geoff said (with truth) 'She is not always like that'
With dear love to all from your loving Mother -
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