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the opportunity of improving my
bad French by some lessons with
the schoolmaster in this little
village. I have not seen Wood
for a month as the artillery
did not come up with us but
we expect them soon now. I
miss little visits with him very
much.

I am so glad you liked London
when there last summer and
hope the next time you come Sarah
and I will have a room in our
own little house for you.

I suppose you will be
disappointed like Sarah to see Mr
Wilson elected again, but the
American people as a whole seem
satisfied with the way he has
handled things and perhaps it is
best after all. Please remember
me to Percy who I hear is in the
west with you. Very much, love
Jbb



In the Field
12 Nov 1916

Dearest Mother

I have your letter of Aug 20th
before me which reached me via
Sarah last September. I am fairly
sure I have written you since
then, or else just before it arrived.
but after all that does not matter
as I particularly want to
congratulate you on your 80th
birthday and express the hope that
you will live to see many more
and that Sarah and I may be
with you for one ere long. I
fear that my congratulations
will be rather late but I want

as I suppose Sarah has told you we had a pretty hard time on the Somme and my own regiment had nearly one hundred casualties while we were there but now we are on a very quiet part of the line comparatively speaking while our own bullets are particularly comfortable. My own room is in a very nice Chateau surrounded by trees with a very imposing gate way. I have a grate fire and electric light and all bed to sleep in for the 2nd time only since I have been in France. All our horses are under cover and except for the working party of about 150 up in front they are most comfortable too. Things are bettered in mining houses. We are near some of the important French coal fields. We expect and hope to be here for some months and I am taking

you to know that you are very often in my thoughts as I feel that your separation from my (your) Princess (Sarah is Hebrew for princess as I suppose you know) is as hard sometimes for you to bear as it is for me. We had a wonderful week together; each seems to be more to us than the previous one and this last seemed the best of all. The separation again is the only hard part and I must say that I have never missed her as much as I wanted her near me more than the last three weeks since my return. We do indeed seem to be so well suited for each other in every way and I do not think you could find a more congenial couple anywhere even if I do take it upon myself to say so.