

(Handwritten)

Dec. 5th (1917)

(To Mrs. Cushing)
(From Mrs. Chapin)

Brown's Hotel,

London, W. 1.

CVS 417/52.140

Chapin, Mrs. J. H.

Dearest Kate

I must send you a word of Christmas Greeting & a great big hug! Your letter to Grace which I found at Oxford last Sunday - just warmed the heart of both of us - so understanding - so loving - so sympathetic with their suffering - & we so truly understanding of the agony of all this time to you! It is all too devilish & horrible & one just aches over the incomprehensibility of it all! I saw yesterday a Mr. Graft, one of the Red Cross brigade - who had been in France & the night before had dined at No. 13 with Harvey - Of course he was charmed with him & reported him as very well & in good spirits. We voted beds & Blake frames today at the meeting as a result of Harvey's impression on Mr. Graft, to be sent to No. 13 immediately. It is such a comfort to me to be on these committees & in this work that brings me so close to these units that I know about - To almost everyone they are simply numbers - but I feel they are all personal friends, even those I don't really know - because I have heard of so many of the doctors. We are always hoping Harvey will have leave & come - It will be hard for him to see the Oslers - but after the first moment it will be such a comfort to them! Poor darlings! It is simply too sad to see them! They are always making an effort for other people - If only Grace might run away somewhere and just scream - I think it would do her good - but always there is someone there - & when there isn't poor Willy looks as if he couldn't stand it. It is so awful for each to see the other's suffering - & to have me looking on was too much - That was one reason I felt I must get "a job" - Nothing could be more satisfactory than this thing for me - It is rather too big for my antique mind - but I'm making a bluff - & perhaps they won't find out - That summer at the S. D. C. has helped immensely - particularly with dealing with people - Such chippy shouldered people I have never seen - but their feathers are gradually smoothing out & things are booming. Give the blessed Barbara an extra squeeze from Aunt Sue - I think so often of you - picture that homey room with the fire & the children & an ideal mother.

Much, much love,

Affy.

Sue Chapin.

