

CUST 11/55.29

G.R.O.

(Lady Osler to Mrs. Chapin)

[Oxford] Dec. 1st [1914] very late.

Dear Sue

I am afraid this may not catch the boat tomorrow even if there is one - I think they do not publish sailings much now - I can never find out exactly - and I have been delayed until very late - Today our drawing room has been transformed into a Sewing room for Belgian Professors wives to come to sew under the supervision of Wanda M.M and her maid. The room looks too funny - all the wonderful clothes you sent and Miss Danielson's also are about for them to take what they like. Mrs M.M Senior has had another wonderful hamper of mens things from Phila with splendid overcoats. Your two trunks had many useful things - some to be put away until spring - (You angel) - Then Miss D's coats & dresses are wonderful & will be in great demand at once. All the Christmas presents are fascinating - I shall send the biscuits about and give some to houses where friends are having Belgian boarding houses. Mrs Boyce from New Bedford sent a box of childrens clothes which will come in - although these people dress so differently underneath that it involves much conversation.

I was so glad to hear by your last letter about Margaret's arrangements of clothes and what the girls are doing socially - I feel that I write only of our doings but want to know every detail about you, so be sure the girls tell me everything. I am waiting for news about beaux. I wish I could see your baby - he must be a darling. I had a nice letter from Elsie and she spoke as she always does, with so much affection for John. I hope she is better. I had the most wonderful letter from M<sup>r</sup> Henry Higginson with a \$1,000 cheque. The people here are aghast with our fund, but every penny will be needed. Two more Prof have turned up - & we have 2 in Cambridge who must get Rockefeller money. I had your card from New York. I am sure Sallie rejoiced in having you there; I am glad she is so well - I fancy she will soon go home for the Holidays. I shall send no Christmas presents - I think you kept back some things out of what I brought over in July. The Income Tax has increased enormously & I shall have to pay here. Consultations are nil. In London they say doctors have almost nothing to do - people have forgotten themselves. Last week I went to Mary Cabots & got some of Mrs Gardiners things - which are a boon - for they are nice for Elderly Ladies. I have not been since as Benning has been ill a week with influenza.

W.O has had two days in bed with a cold but all right again. Got it at Paignton where he went to inspect American Ladies Hospital. Of course he is preaching at all these places about Medical Hispry of the War - and has started records etc - Has got the War Department at it - These shrapnel wounds are unlike any former kinds - I shall send you Archie Mallocks first letter from the Hospital he has gone to with Amy Guest & Howard & Jay Phipps - He left Friday and Mr Reynell came Saturday. Is in an Australian Hospital at Boulogne - Came home for appendix operation & is recruiting here - At our work room we took an order to put warm sleeves into 1000 sleeveless waistcoats for the Territorial Companies here Just now - It is a job. I was in town Thursday buying material & saw Julia - looking well & expecting Louis the next day I have heard nothing since, but fear the worst for them as I am sure Adele would have written had he brought good news about business. What luck he has!



Cush/55.27 G.R.O.  
(Lady Osler to Mrs. Chapin, Dec. 1, 1914 - 2)

Revere's drill is not good enough for advance yet & the Major says "Too young & inexperienced." His heart is not in it. Goodness knows what will happen about him - I can't write Ned tonight as I intended please tell him & this will do for Canton. Mild weather again.

Jim Pearce was at home 3 days last week - looking very well but weary - such a blessing for her but doubly hard to let him go back. Many officers & men had leave. The British are kept in the Trenches much longer than the French.

Protection on the East Coast goes on - and Transports remain here but one really knows nothing authentic. When Wanda M.M comes from town she generally brings news that means something - as he Mr M is in the Foreign Office and hears truths - Lies are the most popular things - everywhere and one can believe little one hears or reads. W.O calls out "Go to bed" - so good night

Love to all

I was so glad to hear by your letter about Margaret's arrangements of clothes and what the girls are doing socially - I feel that I write only of our doings but want to know every detail of yours, so be sure the girls tell me everything. I am waiting for news about Beauz. I wish I could see your baby - he must be a darling.

Grace.

I have such a nice time sending things to Campbell Gwyn and the 8 men in his tent. Two roasts of meat - Cakes - potted ham etc. books galore & papers - so that they keep cheered up while here.

Two more Prof have turned up - I have 2 in Cambridge who must get Rockefeller money. I had your card from Mrs. W.O. I am sure Nellie rejoiced in having you there; I am glad she is so well - I trust she will soon go home for the Holidays. I shall send you some things - I think you kept back some things out of what I brought over to you. The Income Tax has increased enormously & I shall have to pay more. The doctors are ill. In London they say doctors have almost nothing to do - they have forgotten themselves. Last week I went to Mary Cabot's & got some of her gardeners things - which are a boon - for they are nice for dressing. I have not been since as Benning has been ill a week with influenza.

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