

[Lady Osler to Mrs. Chapin]

(Lady Osler to Mrs. Chapin - Aug. 6, 1915 - 27)

[Oxford] Friday A M [Aug. 6th, 1915]

Dearest Sue

wedding I A hot south rain & wind are much in Evidence and my courage is in my boots this morning. I believe the bottom will soon fall out of Everything. Willie says Courage will be more needed later And one must not worry. I'm a bit Gouty too. I hope you have the French Hospital work - it will make you feel you are really doing what you like. I have just had a letter from Bob Emmons - he is doing tremendously hard work in Paris and so happy - he & his friends will have 2 weeks holiday in Chamonix. It makes me wild to think of those devils rejoicing in Berlin today. The Casualties in the Dardanelles are awful. Benning has reached Cairo. People pretend that Warsaw's fall is not so important but it seems fatal to me. I had a delightful letter from Sue the other day about her work - I hope Every one Encourages her - Margaret better Get some Red + Instruction when the chance comes. When I see how the girls work in Felsted House - I think it is splendid that they have had the V.A.D. training - Monica could do anything - Phoebe works Every day with the Thomsons - she hopes to leave on the 11th. It has been very nice having her - I have really never seen anyone so Improved & she is such a talker And Question asker. She is just as clumsy as ever & turns her toes in but looks really lovely - We have the Son of a Cousin of Willie Staying here - Young Boswell - his brother was killed at Ypres - he has been ill with rheumatism - an uninteresting youth but he is getting better. I am trying to give the servants holidays but it is difficult - Ethel has been Gone a week. Every Sunday the house fills up. We are expecting Norman any moment. I wrote you of his infected arm. His Unit has Gone to the Dardanelles & he left behind poor Soul. He has had a horrid time but is improving. Revere keeps well - The Hospitals Are all quiet now - Heaven knows what it all means. Yesterday the Car fetched 5 nurses from Cliveden for luncheon - Such flighty creatures - three of them - apparently over here for flirtations only. I hope the McGill Nurses leave Revere alone - Of course it is human Nature & how Can one Expect Anything but flirtations with these girls & men thrown together in tents & no outside diversions. W.O made me go to the Page wedding on Wednesday. I loathed going And was so annoyed at their selecting Aug. 4th - It was almost a sacred day - & services Everywhere - but I was glad to have been after all. The Ceremony was in the Chapel Royal, St. James Palace, and perfectly Charming - just the Diplomatic Corps M^r & Mrs Asquith - Sir Edward Grey - We sat in the pew with the Asquiths - Sir Ed. Grey - looking very well - Henry James - & John Sargent - I felt very distinguished. Oh - I forgot Mary Chamberlain. The choir boys were in scarlet velvet - The service was simple And so was the music. Then to the house where about 50 more people came. I saw Adèle & Bob - for a moment. Adèle looking very well - I must confess I have been very worried about her Hospital Scheme. Cochrane will support 100 beds for 1 year - of Course she has asked Willie's help in Every Way - & he took her to the War office. I have urged him to discourage her & he insists that he has told her he can in no way be responsible. Bob is very interested about it. I only hope it will be all right - The W[e]myss (Elcho) have lent Adèle Stanway for 3 weeks so they have gone there - No house has been found yet for the Hospital. The University Extension Course is on here now for teachers & advanced students in Greek. Last week Adèle wired me please Engage 2 rooms & sitting room for Babs to attend Greek lectures during August. Willie said it was criminal to fill Bab's brain - & wrote Adèle this so the rooms were countermanded. At the Wedding she seemed Quite annoyed about it & said She had engaged a special Governess to come with Babs. I have learned however not to mind her ups & downs. Had a chat with Mary Chamberlain looking so Peabodyish and aristocratic - Also saw the Carlie Perkins who go home on the 13th. After the

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wedding I went with Cora to see the King George Hospital by Waterloo Bridge, 1,500 beds. Cora has furnished a Ward And is immensely interested in it all - I missed my train so had tea at Maggie Strathconas. Poor Soul - She is heart-broken about Harry - & anxious all the time about Donald. We have Dr. J. William White of Philadelphia coming for tea - Sunday - also Major Squire the U.S Military Attaché so We hope for much news. Mr Langstaff is in the rooms at Ewelme & loving it - He has his dinner with the Belgians & talks french - so much is accomplished. Good bye

Grace. The Casualties in the Dardanelles are becoming less & less. People pretend that Warsaw's fall is not so important but it seems fatal to us. I had a delightful letter from Sue the other day about her work - I hope Every one Encourages her - Margaret better be sure to get Red + Instruction when the chance comes. When I see how the girls look in Pelated House - I think it is splendid that they have had the V.A.D. training - Monica could do anything - Phoebe works Every day with the Thomsons - she hopes to leave on the 11th. It has been very nice having her - I have really never seen anyone so Improved & she is such a talker And Question asker. She is just as clumsy as ever & turns her toes in but looks really lovely - We have the Son of a Cousin of Willie Staying here - Young Boswell - his brother was killed at Ypres - he has been ill with rheumatism - an uninteresting youth but he is getting better. I am trying to give the servants holidays but it is difficult - Ethel has been Gone a week. Every Sunday the house fills up. We are expecting Norman any moment. I wrote you of his infected arm. His Guit has come to the Dardanelles & he left behind poor Soul. He has had a horrid time but is improving. Revere keeps well - The Hospitals Are all quiet now - Heaven knows what it all means. Yesterday the Car fetched 5 nurses from Cliveden for luncheon - Such flighty creatures - three of them - apparently over here for flirtations only. I hope the McGill Nurses leave Revere alone - Of course it is human Nature & how Can one Expect Anything but flirtations with these girls & men thrown together in tents & no outside diversions. W.O made us go to the Page wedding on Wednesday. I loathed going and was so annoyed at their selecting Aug. 4th - it was almost a suicide day - & services Everywhere - but I was glad to have been after all. The Ceremony was in the Chapel Royal, St. James Palace, and perfectly glorious - just the Diplomatic Corps M^{rs} & Mrs Asquith - Sir Edward Grey - We sat in the pew with the Asquiths - Sir Ed. Grey - looking very well - Henry James - I John Margaret - I felt very distinguished. Oh - I forgot Mary Chamberlain. The altar tape was in scarlet velvet - The service was simple and so was the music. Then to the home where about 50 more people came. I saw Adèle & Sue - for a moment. Adèle looking very well - I must confess I have been very worried about her Hospital Scheme. Cochrane will support 100 beds for 1 year - of Course she has asked Willie's help in Every Way - & he took her to the War office. I have urged him to discourage her & he insists that he has told her he can in no way be responsible. But is very interested about it. I only hope it will be all right - The W[omen's] [League] have lent Adèle Stanway for 5 weeks so they have gone there - No house has been found yet for the Hospital. The University Extension Course is on here now for teachers & advanced students in Greek. Last week Adèle wired me please Engage 2 rooms & sitting room for Kate to attend Greek lectures during August. Willie said it was criminal to fill Kate's brain - & wrote Adèle this so the rooms were counter-manded. At the wedding she seemed quite annoyed about it & said she had engaged a special Governess to come with Sabs. I have learned however not to mind her ups & downs. Had a chat with Mary Chamberlain looking so Peabodyish and aristocratic - Also saw the Charlie Perkins who go home on the 15th. After the