

(Lady Osler to Mrs. Chapin)

(Oxford)

at Burley - the Guest's place.

Thursday P M Alone [Aug. 17, 1915]

Dearest Sue

W.O is in town tonight - Norman gone to the Bowens and I am having a glorious time doing the things in my room that should have been done long ago. Miss Foote & Miss Strabell were to sail Saturday on the St Louis and first spend two days in town to rest. Just as they were leaving yesterday word came that the St Louis was not sailing & nothing until the 25th - the St Paul. They have gone to Town and are at Claridges. Miss S. is far from well and I hope gets home alive. That means that you will be a long time without a letter - although I wrote Sue by last Wednesday's boat. Norman has improved wonderfully - his hand has healed - he had four enormous slashes across the back. He is much more cheerful than he was before when here but still hums vigorously. I wonder why humming affects me as it does. I think Aunt Nans humming used to annoy Mother. Campbell was here over Sunday with a friend - looking such a beauty. We had such a nice luncheon party except I didn't have enough food - Dr & Mrs Simmons, Dr Richardson & Dr ?. I never got his name. We heard from someone that Dr Nichols was sailing or in London. W.O got home from Paignton Sat a m and we telephoned but Dr Simmons had gone to the steamer. I then telephoned the others & they came. Eleana S. was as nice as she could be. The men left Monday and she has gone to stay at Marions for the present & then probably to Paris. I am dreadfully worried about the whole Harvard business - when Bob came back Willie did not hear from him at all & knew nothing about the arrangements he had made with Mr Lowell - in fact we did not know he had come & Martha, until Dr White wrote from Paris - Then I wrote you about Dr Nichols. Today W.O has a letter from Dr Porter - still over there & evidently furious at everything particularly at not being allowed to go to the Front. Of course I ~~feel that I~~ am such a darned Jackass that I feel it is all my fault. I don't like the British War Office to be abused - so where am I? Goodness - here is William come to say goodbye. He is off to Woolwich for gun training. Poor dear he must loathe it. He looks quite splendid. I pray he comes back safe & well. Edna - the new maid is very nice and when she gets her teeth arranged she will be quite attractive. I love the little Chauffeur. I am so afraid he may have to go to make munitions as he can't march on account of his knee. Benning is in Cairo. Hot - I do not doubt. I have not been hot once this summer which is a blessing for me. The garden is lovely - masses of flowers & I send every day to the Hospital. Monica's Hospital goes along smoothly - some of the ladies are having a holiday & others turn in to help. Mrs Symonds is doing the Tea - & cleaning pantry every day for Mrs Cannan!!

Friday A M ^{Aug 19th} Heavens - now the Arabic! It has taken the strength [out] of my knees this morning. I think I shall post this just on the chance. Willie has come from town and dined with Sir Alfred Keogh (Surgeon Gen.) He says he had no idea the American Hospital[s] were dissatisfied - They must take the chances of War - There are 37,000 empty beds in France.

If Americans are lost on the Arabic U.S must come in. What shall we do. Everyone is worried about the loss of the troop ships - no official list is published yet. Willie and I are leaving in the morning to spend Sunday with Archie

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at Burley - the Guest's place. Willie is to see cases there.

Good night

Grace.