

[Lady Osler to Mrs. Chapin]

[Oxford,] [Jan.] 17th, [1916]

Dearest Sister

No letter went to you last Saturday I wrote to Canton - I have had an attack of not being able to write - I think I have had the gout - and it has given me the dumps - Then there has not been much to write - There has been the usual routine of work - Willie has been away several times for consultation & is in Liverpool tonight - Not much news from Revere - letters have been slow in coming over - I feel sometimes that things will never be satisfactory for him while the War lasts - he is so differently constituted. The Emmons situation I can never understand, or why Bob has developed this tremendous American spirit. Marion & M. Jr. spent Sunday at the Randolph - lunched & dined here - M- seemed rather poorly & anxious about her face. Cousin Etta & Martin are very happy at Bournemouth in the house with Mrs. Sandford Wills & a good maid. Marion wants me to join her there on Feb 1st for the 84th Birthday. I have just had your letter by the St Louis - Philip Osler came on here and is here waiting to go back to school. He says he has grip - but doesn't seem to me to have anything but appetite - One day last week I had a visit from Adèle - She stopped on her way from Broadway - where she had been with Lady Wynne - Bobs there for two weeks & then on to the Turners.

Adèle came to consult Willie about publishing Babs poems - It is hard for W.O. for if he gives advice contrary to her opinion she never stops talking about it - as he opposed Babs taking the Greek course here last summer - W.O. was away until dinner time & then chaffed her - She went hom at 9.25 - I took her to the Hospital which astonished her I think. She has an idea that her Hospital is too luxurious & that it should be used for serious cases - I really think she doesn't find it as exciting as she expected.

Campbell & Ottilie got off on Friday - C. with 40 disabled men under his care to be taken to Quebec - The children are adorable Palmer had Chicken pox before they left & baby has it now but they do not mind and are as jolly as ever. Ramsay Wright has got an appointment in Munitions in New Castle and has gone - she is preparing the house to let and will follow - One of our Belgian Prof [s] has gone to Montpellier in France to assist in Chemistry & we have his family on our hands until the end of June - I am helping with some of your money - How good you were to Maud Abbott - She was enchanted - She is such a loyal soul - Poor Archie Howe - what a sad ending. I think Cousin James did the same I had a letter from Barbara yesterday & she said her father was dreadfully worried about Archie. The paper goes on the dining room tomorrow - I am having a bookcase. 14 ft long under where King Arthur was. Last Sunday - the Emmons & Wrights lunched here & we had 2 round tables in the dining room with paint pots pushed aside & a bright fire - rugs & furniture seem superfluous. We were 14 - Archie comes always Saturday and generally 2 Canadian officers - Nancy Aston has retired for No 4. - She professes to be terribly annoyed with the Peerage and says it will ruin Waldorfs career.

Much-much love Dear Sister --

Affly

Grace