

(Lady Osler to Mrs. Chapin)

[Oxford] April 25th [1916]

My Dear Sue

*Wilson letter about Penfield*

I seem to have lost my capacity for writing and have such a strange feeling about letters that are probably to be opened and read by other people. Of course we can talk & think of nothing but what you are all talking & thinking about in America - and the more one thinks the more muddled and upset and uncertain one feels. I suppose we shall know the result in a day or two. My last from you was a P.C. I thought I was going away but I haven't gone and see no chance of it - after all - I am better off at home. Our work room has been closed for ten days and I have felt very idle. We have had Mr Penfield here for a week. He is the Rhodes Scholar Medical Student who was on the Sussex - & his leg fractured. Crocker is in London now - and still very bad - Miss Baldwin is beginning to improve, & they are hopeful of her recovery. Mr Penfield has his leg in a splint & is on crutches - he sits outside in the sun and begins to look better. He has many friends and they all pour in to see him - I hardly knew him before and now like him very much. Revere has not gone yet - probably tomorrow, is very busy working at Mathematics. Today we have had Mr Warwick Green of the Rockefeller Commission & his secretary Mr Reginald Foster - who knows John & Margaret. They came to see about our Belgians, motored up - lunched here & came for tea as well. Wanda has been about with them. Mrs MaxMuller is very feeble, has failed dreadfully the last week.

Yesterday Oxford celebrated the Shakespeare Tercentenary by opening an Exhibition of Treasures - W.O spoke and of course we had the important guests at luncheon before hand. Quite an excitement - It was strange to look about in the crowded hall and only see old faces - hardly a young man except about 4 in uniform, including Archie & Revere. Campbell G- has been in hard fighting - he sends me p.c.s constantly to reassure us - Mrs Wright has grown very uneasy about Otilie coming to fetch the children & sent a week end letter offering to take them over at once. Campbell H. cabled "too unsafe" - The children are simply stunning & so strong - Oxford has thoroughly agreed with them. Jean has been home for a week - very robust - She says grease agrees with her. She hopes to be promoted from the kitchen to Ward Maid soon. Katherine McLennan is still in London. Cannot get to Yvetot yet. I believe there is no crossing to Dieppe - only the Transports from Southampton to Havre.

Joan has been worried for her young man has been two weeks in Hospital with Influenza - at least he calls it so - We hope he will get sick leave and come over, after that she will go home if she can. I hope soon to hear about your trip. Did I ask you to tell Kate how I loved hearing from her? Please impress her with the fact. I hope it will not bother you to get the shoes. I have volumes from Joe, I have difficulty in ever finding the men he asks me to look for. I have such a nice Canadian at the Base to look after - from Victoria B.C.

I have Mr C. F. Adams Autobiography from Mr Ford and love it.

This must do for Canton this week.

Grace.