

[Lady Osler to Mrs. Chapin]

[Oxford] May 3rd [1916]

Dear Sister

I was delighted to have your letter just now telling about your trip. I wish you had stayed longer when you were off but I am sure you were in a rush to get back - Nursing Sister Gallop, a Canadian, who was here for a change had been telling me so much about Maisie Byrds place - she was with her for months before the second child was born - having known the B's at the Convalescent Home at Murray Bay - Your splendid parcels with socks - head bandages Etc arrived just before the letter. Bandages went in half an hour to the Hospital and some of the socks in a box I was sending to the Oxford & Buck Light Infantry in France - those things are always useful - some of the socks have too short feet for the Tommies if you dont mind my saying so - I suppose those were the things Katherine McLennan was to bring - I saw her in London Sunday - She is still at Browns - waiting for her papers. Every day it is more difficult to cross, even for nursing purposes, unless a certified nurse. Revere's Gazette was published yesterday in the Times list, 2nd Lieut Royal Field Artillery - he will be off very soon - somewhere - We feel that he has been very lucky that the delays have not been worse - at least he does, I think it has been interminable but a joy having him here these days. Saturday afternoon Joan heard that her fiancé Capt Fiskin was in Hospital in London - She knew he had been two weeks in the Duchess of Westminster's Hospital, played out. I said I would go up with her - so we dashed up - went to Browns, & then to see him - Found him in a nursing home - looking horribly seedy & forlorn. Monday we moved him here with permission of Canadian Board - I couldnt stay in town and Joan couldnt stay alone - He has a months leave - This ruins my plans as I fully intended making W.O go away with me for ten days. I must get the house cleaned - it is simply filthy. Of course it is very nice for the lovers. I saw Katherine McLennan at Browns - The first time I have stayed in town since the night before you sailed. What can I write of events - nothing because I am afraid the letter might be stopped. Ireland was idiocy - Mrs Page was going home but has given it up - She told me Adèle might go with her - but I really didnt see how she could - and leave her Hospital - I am convinced she regrets her undertaking - Margaret Pierce is very well and wonderfully courageous. Jim is well - looks splendid - was on leave not long ago. All her men have gone - Margaret drives her own car the wee one. You would see an immense difference everywhere. Maids in Browns dining room - except the old men & all the porters gone - Bear Mrs Maxm - is very ill - has had fainting attacks, & her heart nearly stops. The children & Wanda have been here for the holidays - go back tomorrow.

Johnnie was asking for Sister Susie the other day I have sent a card to Ned by Mrs Fred Sturgis which will interest you all I am sure. Mabel Fitzgerald brought it from Edinburgh.

Good night - much-much love -

from

Grace.

Did I tell you that Mr Green of the Rockefeller came to see Wanda & me - also his secretary Reginald Foster?