

[Lady Osler to Mrs. Chapin]
(Lady Osler to Mrs. Chapin, May 17, 1916 - 2)

[Oxford] May 17th [1916]

Dear Sister

I am starting this in time for it seems to take forever to get the letters off - The American letters are nearly always censored now. I was delighted to hear you were going off on a jaunt with the girls - I hope you didn't rush madly - Marjorie wrote she was going to Mt Vernon with you and I am sure she was delighted to be playing with you. Life has been quite strenuous lately - and I am feeling strangely let down now that Revere is really in his new job and his military life has really begun. He went off to Newcastle on Tyne in good spirits and seems quite content. His address I enclose. I dare say all the delays and complications have seemed strange to you all and they have seemed strange & very worrying to me. Ronnie Brooke told me that the Head Man at the War Office - Artillery Dep - wrote at first "It is the Devil to get the transfer through from the Canadians" and it has proved so - Twice they made mistakes in filling in the forms and they had to go back - They (Canadians) think of course that the regulations of the W.O are unnecessarily severe - & poo-poo at it all. However we mean to forget all that worry and only exist in peace now for the time he is in training. We hoped he was going to Exeter but the order came for Newcastle - It is rather an exciting place as the Zeps always go there - The Ramsay Wrights are there and Mrs Somerville's sister so he will have some friends to go to. We had a delightful letter from Bob - he is working under the American-French Red + Ambulance people - and is at Chalons sur Marne - living in a tent with an American from New College named Hurst. They took a Ford chassis & had an ambulance body put on in Paris. Shells whizz about them but he seems quite happy. Marion seems blue - by her letters. They will be happier when Martin gets safely over - I believe he is coming back for the summer. One reason I want you to get this on time is to tell you about Mrs Wright. She is sailing on the Ryndam (Holland Line) on June 2nd taking the children. Last week she heard that her brother in law Mr Avery had died suddenly & she wants to see her sister & arrange about her house & some business - & I think most of all see Billy - who has gone into the Training Corps and will be at Niagara - isn't it awful? 3 boys in this business. Otilie was to sail on June 10th but now she will not. W.O is quite miserable at having the children go. At least Muriel, he simply adores her - & she him - calls him "darling Docci Wocci." You might write Otilie & find out. No 8 Bloomington St Iowa City. Mrs Wright says she would adore seeing you in New York. Perhaps there might be some reason for you to go. Harry W. is here on leave now and Nora & her baby are spending the month. When Mrs W- goes Nora will stay on until June 15th when she with the baby and Marion are going to W. Malvern - to work at a gardening school and to help in the garden - That will give the servants a month to clean the house for Mrs C - Hilda will go to Folkestone, Jean will probably spend part of her holiday here. Joan & her Captain are having a wonderful time. He is much better and able to be out all the time. They ride every afternoon. I fancy she will go home with Mrs Wright. Nellie Osler is going on that ship - She had no objection to going alone - This gardening business is becoming a great job. The Astors have all women now and Blenheim as well - The conductors on the London buses are very smart. I was in town yesterday - never have I been so unhappy about it. The town is full of armless & legless men O now in mufti - I saw a dozen in Bond St. Archie has gone to McGill and seems happy. Says Bill as Registrar is the only really busy man in the place.

Monday W.O dashed up to town to help Marry & give away a cousin - Kathleen Osler from Coburg - who came over to meet her fiance - he came unexpectedly from France. I could not go - she was able to get a special license. Today we

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see her brother Stratton Osler is wounded - Have you got one of the Osler books? W.O said he was sending you one but I never heard if he did and he is not here to ask. There is a family tree in it - with all the Bath and Osler & Francis connection there are 50 men serving. Isn't it wonderful?

Hugh & Jacks wives are on their way back to be in London when the men came on leave - It is a mercy they have plenty of money -

We are have(ing) an Exhibition of our Red Cross work at the Arts & Crafts Exhibition here on Friday - so I am particularly busy with work this week, - making good samples. I am working the servants on things for Mrs Balfours French Red + - I feel so sorry for the French & they are so wonderful. Katherine McLeeman went last week - Hardly a man servant left at Browns.

Good night -

What a letter!

Heaps of love -

G -

Cable if you want Mrs Wright to bring gloves or anything

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