

[Lady Osler to Mrs. Chapin]

(Lady Osler to Mrs. Chapin, May 21st, 1916 - 2)
[Oxford] May 21st [1916]

Dearest Sister

I think you are an angel to send that cheque - a perfect angel - I hardly know what to say - it is splendid. £20 went at once to the Librarian of Louvain - who is boarded in Merton College & a Balliol man who knows him very well had just told me the poor things hadn't a penny to buy summer clothes with. He is too delicate to fight, and can only teach the Belgian boys. I have sent Miss Watt £5. We haven't had the Infirmary Bazaar either year and she misses the money which came from it for things extra needed for the comfort of patients (not soldiers). They always have 60 wounded at the Infirmary and Miss Watt is simply wonderful. She never asks for extras - and manages all on the Government allowance. She is a treasure. It is splendid that you can pay off that note - I was saving something for it - but it seems to have disappeared lately, owing to some stupid oversight of mine - or Willie's love of the Waste paper basket (don't tell) - I had to pay an extra years income Tax here. I have only had to do this here for two years I think - Fortunately our personal needs are small.

Mrs Wright really sails on the Ryndam (Holland Line) on the 2nd June. I asked Muriel what she thought I should do when she left & she said "Go died I think". Willie is really quite grieved about their going. I forgot to say that W.O took £25 for an instrument much wanted at the Heart Hospital and I have bought a Bath Chair to bring officers over here from the Ward at Somerville.

It is simply boiling hot - I have never felt such heat in May. Henry says there may be a frost on the 24th so holding back many plants going out. It is as well to keep them out of the sun. Revere writes cheerfully. I had yesterday a letter from Mr Minot from Berlin which I sent at once to the boys sister and send her answer, also wrote Minot - do tell his mother how grateful I am - The sister is the wife of a doctor from Leeds who is in lodgings here with a cripple boy - who is at St Edwards School - and she has to live with him - so courageously leaves her home to be with the boy. She works with us in the morning and sews most beautifully. I keep her busy with pneumonia jackets mostly. Nora Wright with her baby - and Marion are going June 14th to West Malvern - where they have taken rooms and to work at a gardening school - and in a garden. Nora thinks she will take a gardeners job when she learns enough. Women are doing every kind of thing now. Phoebe has been here for several days leave - looking perfectly lovely -

We have the house full -

1 Navy Surgeon (U.S) Preparedness!!
3 Army Surgeons (U.S)

just arrived in England. W.O & Mrs Whitelaw Reid's suggestion to Mr Wilson - to see Everything.

Sir Alfred Keogh and W.O dine with (them) in town on Wednesday - with all the big Hospital men to meet them. Excuse this letter which started as a line only.

Yours

Grace.

(cont.)

CUS47/56.25 G.R.O

(Lady Osler to Mrs. Chapin, May 21st, 1916 - 2)
(Warford) May 21st [1916]

Revere

Rides from 7 to 8.

Breakfast -

Gun instruction -

Lectures

Entraining gun practice.

Says he was out with a heavy gun - and riding one horse, holding another & very thankful he was not thrown off - seems to like it all. Has a room, real bed and good servant. Mess is good. It seems strange to have a sense of thankfulness for this - but I have, for the last six months have been so worrying and unsettled. Mrs Wright really calls on the Ryndam (Holland Line) on the 2nd June. I asked Maribel what she thought I should do when she left & she said "go ahead I think". Willie is really quite grieved about their going. I forgot to say that F.O took £25 for an instrument much wanted at the Heart Hospital and I have bought a Bath Chair to bring officers over here from the Ward at Somerville.

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