

CVS417/56.27

[Lady Osler to Mrs. Chapin]
[Lady Osler to Mrs. Chapin, June 11, 1916] - 2)

[Oxford] Sunday - Whitsunday
[June 11, 1916]

Dear Sister

[P. S.] We are having no Whitsuntide Holiday this year. Norton from Henrys & her friends are spending the week end at Helens - I was there on Thursday. No letter went to you the last week I think but one to Ned of which he will report I hope. It has been a horrible week - although a big Naval Victory - but with such sacrifice of life how can one rejoice at all? then the Canadian losses are too horrible and so many friends tortured. I am wondering if you are able to see Mrs Wright and the chicks - I am quite sure the children will not appear to advantage - and Muriel not look pretty if she has been seasick. We have had such infernally cold weather here with west winds that I fear they have suffered at sea. We miss the Wrights so much. W.O is quite pathetic about Muriel - Nora, Hilda & Marion with Nora's baby have been really homesick and will I think be glad to get away to Malvern. I have never known so cold a June - and strawberries & roses do not budge. The shoes have all come - thank you so much - Be sure to keep an account of the postage which must have been a lot. Thanks also for the socks & sweets - the latter went at once to Campbell Gwyn in the box with a cake. Officers say they only want cakes & sweets with magazines - although just now I fancy they are not reading much. One is so individually influenced - Just now for instance with so many Canadian friends down we felt the whole business was up - but on the other hand - Gen Joffre is in London - & Kitchener had started for Russia - so one tries to take a fresh cheer up. Our Hospital is full of wounded Canadians - so I have many on my hands. Joan has taken over some to look after. Her fiancé is kept at Shorncliffe at the Training College as Instructor for the present - He is here today - Also the Merediths. House full as usual - and more telephoning to come to lunch - I never thought War could increase the demands on the Open Arms as it has - We had such a nice time last Sunday with Dr. Hugh Cabot and George Shattuck en route to France. Dr Cabot seemed to look like every Cabot I had ever seen but was so neat and tidy. He really amused me immensely & was so delightfully enthusiastic. They dined in Hall Sunday Eve - and he wrote he could never forget it. With the exception of the High table - the other tables are all officers in the Hussars & Aviation School - training here. Christ Church is very sad over the death of the Senior Censor Charles Fisher - He was with Admiral Hood. I have written Mrs H- although I hardly know her I could not help it.

Revere seems quite himself again - having had a bad attack of influenza. He hasn't very congenial companions unfortunately - but is of course very busy. On the 24th I am meeting him in Durham where we can spend the night & motor to Newcastle Sunday afternoon. I think I shall stay two or three days there. W.O has to be in Wales all that week - The new Mrs Merry has been called to France - her son terribly wounded - one leg & the other foot off and 8 shrapnel wounds in his body - I have found a young Canadian at the Base - a Tommy - son of a Judge, with his leg off. We are so proud of Jack Slessor - His mother radiates pride - Do enclose this enclosure to Marjorie or Ottilie. May Osborn has just come over with her Bath daughter - & her son Charlie Bath flew to France the day before she arrived unfortunately. Harry Osborn is a Colonel but not over yet. You might send this to Joe Revere if you think worth while. I should like to write more letters than I do - but do not seem capable - even with daylight until 10.30 pm. I enclose letters from William & Taylor - send them to Joe - Taylor being the Museum boy who brings W O's letters in the morning.

Lots of love -

Grace.

(Lady Osler to Mrs. Chapin, June 11, 1916, - 2)

(Oxford) Sunday - Whitsunday

[P. S.] We are having no Whitsuntide Holiday this year - but Miss Norton from Henrys & her friends are spending the week end at Ewleme - I was there on Thursday went by 'bus to Benson - I have engaged a motor charabanc - to hold 28 - and the moment the weather is warm can take wounded over for tea. I shall use some of your money for this - as they love driving. We hope to have our motor this week - but petrol is only used on allowance - one must hand in a report to the police of how much one needs & uses - I am wondering how Mrs Wright and the children - I am quite sure the children will appear to advantage - and Mariel not look pretty if she has been sea-sick. We have had such infernally cold weather here with west winds that I fear some have suffered at sea. We miss the Wrights so much. W.O. is quite pathetic about Mariel - Nora, Hilda & Mariel with Nora's baby have been really homesick and still I think be glad to get away to Ewleme. I have never known so cold a place - and strawberries & roses do not bud. The chocs have all come - thank you so much - Be sure to keep an account of the postage which must have been a lot. Thanks also for the cakes & sweets - The latter went at once to Campbell who is in the box with a cake. Officers say they only want cakes & sweets with magazines - although just now I fancy they are not reading much. One is so individually influenced - Just now for instance with so many Canadian friends down we felt the whole business was up - but on the other hand - Gen Jeffre is in London - & Kitchener had started for Russia - so one tries to take a fresh cheer up. Our Hospital is full of wounded Canadians - so I have many on my hands. Joan has taken over some to look after. Her fiancé is kept at Snarcliffe at the Training College as instructor for the present - He is here today - Also the Merediths. House full as usual - and more telephoning to come to lunch - I never thought War could increase the demands on the Open Arms as it has - We had such a nice time last Sunday with Dr. Hugh Cabot and George Spence on route to France. Dr Cabot seemed to look like every Cabot I had ever seen but was so neat and tidy. He really amused us immensely & was so delightfully enthusiastic. They dined in Hall Sunday Eve - and he wrote he could never forget it. With the exception of the High table - the other tables are all officers in the Hussars & Aviation School - training here. Christ Church is very sad over the death of the Senior Canon Charles Fisher - He was with Admiral Hood. I have written Mrs H- although I hardly know her I could not help it.

Revere seems quite himself again - having had a bad attack of influenza. He hasn't very congenial companions unfortunately - but is of course very busy. On the 24th I am meeting him in Paris where we can spend the night & motor to Newcastle Sunday afternoon. I think I shall stay two or three days there. W.O. has to be in Wales all that week - The new Mrs Merry has been called to France - her son terribly wounded - one leg & the other foot off and 8 shrapnel wounds in his body - I have found a young Canadian at the Base - a Tommy - son of a Judge, with his leg off. We are so proud of Jack Slessor - His mother radiates pride - Do enclose this enclosure to Marjorie or Otilie. May Osborn has just come over with her Bath daughter - & her son Charlie Bath flew to France the day before she arrived unfortunately. Harry Osborn is a Colonel but not yet. You might send this to Joe Revere if you think worth while. I should like to write more letters than I do - but do not seem capable - even with daylight until 10.30 pm. I enclose letters from William & Taylor - send them to Joe - Taylor being the Museum boy who brings W.O.'s letters in the morning.

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