

[Lady Osler to Mrs. Chapin]

Westminster Hotel, West Malvern.  
Sunday Sept 3rd, [1916]

Dear Sister

W.O and I escaped yesterday with much difficulty from telephone & telegraph messages and came here to see the Wrights for the week end. We didnt motor as we are on such short petrol allowance that we only use the car for business & station - This is very good for Benning for although he looks well he puffs & pants like a porpoise with the least effort. Mrs Wright is rejoicing over Billy's arrival, quite unexpectedly on Thursday. He will have a Canadian Commission & probably be at Shorncliffe - this means I fancy that Mrs Wright & Marion will go there or to Folkestone to be near him. Harry probably is coming back to a Hospital in England, so Nora is rejoicing. Phoebe goes to Lapanne on Oct 2<sup>nd</sup> and has signed on for 6 months. I am sure she will find it very hard work. Rumania has been the great excitement of the week and one cannot help thinking Greece will do the same before long.

The last week has been more than strenuous - and to me wearing, for I have had so many heartrending stories poured into my ears. The Sherringtons ewe lamb is in or has been, in the Front Trenches and writes such dreadful tales to his mother which she takes comfort in telling - Then we have had an American - Mr Devine from the Russian Embassy Petrograd - telling wonderful tales of Russias doings and very encouraging. Some nights I feel as though my head was a pin-cushion full of pins of all sizes. It has also been a week of overdone nieces - May Osborne got a heart attack in Devonshire & her frightened hostess wired for Willie - who went down and brought her to town - she fortunately (for me) refused to come to 13 Norham Gardens. - Next - was Nadine, Jack Osler's wife who is over here again & no chance of his leave - and she has gone to pieces - comes to be overhauled tomorrow. Adele & Bob are at Minehead and he is improving. - every day I expect to hear she has collapsed - I think the Infantile paralysis Epidemic is the most dreadful thing. How terrible for the poor Gays. There is no paper here today so we do not know about the strike. You must be glad of your car - Every corner of the world seems upside down. I have been corresponding with Dr Jones & they were all coming to lunch when W.O was called away to Devonshire. We have had such a delightful time with Dr Welch and Mr Hale - the astronomer from California. They are in France now. Goodness - I wish you and I could make a tour of France I am wild to see the Hospitals. Tell Ned please - the Transcript has begun to come again. Excuse this stupid letter. Look at the Illustrated for Sept 2<sup>nd</sup> and think of Revere with one of those big guns. He is working very hard now he writes.

Love to John & Margaret & much for your dear self -

Grace.

We roared over the cutting about the licks.