

1028/67/7

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The Rectory, Dundas
Jany. 18th. 1871

My very dear Lizzie

Just a line or two is all I've time for today you would rather have it than none would you not? Fred has been away since Monday and may not return till tomorrow so there is no chance of his writing. I am so sorry to hear of the fire it will be a great trouble to you is not a great loss--house property is certainly not a profitable investment but a perpetual worry. I was glad to hear of Willie Osler being settled in a curacy and do hope that his experience of working life may be of use to him rubbing off some of those peculiar notions he seemed to hold, he has I believe the root-of-the-matter and the desire to do right.

When I was in Toronto in the Autumn I renewed acquaintance with the Lloydtown Willie Osler I had not seen him for years, he is a nice lad, he was to have left school this Xmas and talked of going into a wholesale hardware business but I hear he is at school still, so I do not know their arrangements. Uncle Henry was to have been at our meetings but could not get a Sunday supply. We expect Mary on Saturday to stay a few weeks. Nellie went down to Toronto last week to see Belle, (down one afternoon back next morning) she says the new Baby is a splendid boy, both are going on well. Nellie's own little baby is very delicate she had it down yesterday for an hour and I think it is decidedly better than when I saw it a week before, but oh, it is so small and thin, requiring the greatest amount of care. Chattie is well and in good spirits, she is or soon will be engaged to a youth that we have known many years Charles, Herbert, Gwyn--I must send you his photo one of these days--and I will send you one of Willies as soon as I get them from Montreal--he is going on there in a very satisfactory manner, a great favourite with every one with the leading medical men especially, so I ought to be thankful, indeed I have been very lovingly dealt by in every way all the past years of my life, and only wish I had a more grateful heart. I hope I shall hear of Emma being better write me a two or three sheet letter and tell me all about yourself and every one else. I must not write more as the afternoon is short and it is imperative that I should go out to see some sick people. So with much love I am ever dear Lizzie

Your attached sister
Ellen Osler

Little Isabel's birthday (3 years) her Aunt Maggie and another little friend are here spending the afternoon.