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83 Wellesley St. Toronto
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My very dear Willie

I feel very culpable in not sending you a scrap to tell you how all are since you left; it has been very flat and dull after all the Xmas rushing in and out while the boys were down. Chattie left with her six on Saturday last in the afternoon and Frank and Belle the same evening. Edmd. went to Montreal the previous day meeting them at some point and they got to Winnipeg all right on Tuesday morning, but Edmd. has not returned yet, he was going on to the Rockies and if the snow is as it is here the train will be blocked.

I have not seen such a depth of snow for many winters and there has been so much wind and no sunshine for days together, not pleasant for moving about but Father manages to prowl out a little nearly every day. Ruth was here yesterday and Percy came to look her up, he told me to give his love to you when I told him I was writing, and more than that he bade me tell you to be sure and keep sober--Marian took May up to Hel-muth College and had a good week of holiday with friends in London. She returned just in time to escape the snow-blocks so did BB who was up there for some days--poor Carrie does not improve I saw her for a few minutes the day before yesterday it distresses me to see her and in all that large house, there does not seem a cozy corner or comfortable sofa for an in-valid. Jennette ploughed up through the snow last evening she looks thin and poorly and still feels that irritation of the skin, she promises to come and stay a few days in the middle of Feby. but there is no moving her from those children and her duties at All Saints. She needs a change and perfect rest, but what the family would do without her is hard to say for in common parlance she runs the house yet is content to be in the back ground.

You would probably see by the paper that our old friend Mr Leith is gone--it was quite a shock, not having heard of his being ill--the attack was similar to poor Marions--he was delirious nearly all the time, recognized no one and was very violent.

Mrs. J. Wright fortunately was with them and I fancy with Alec and his wife will remain with Mrs. Leith. Chattie writes that her fortnights rest from home cares did her much good and gave her good heart for work again, it is a mercy her health is good with all those small people on her hands.

Dr. Mewburn called for his papers, but that tin-case is still here I understood you that it was to be called for but if you wish it sent to any one let me know and Alec will take it; when you can find a scrap of time send the lad a few lines, now and then I fancy he tires of his bank work--it would be difficult to find anything he would not tire of after a while, so I do hope he will be encouraged to keep to this.

We all unite in love

Ever your loving Mother
Ellen Osler

Death of Ancestor