

Belgians

We

(Letter to Mrs. Robt. Brewster)
(handwriting)

14th (Dec. '14)

13, NORHAM GARDENS,
OXFORD.

Dear Mabel

This should reach you Xmas Eve by the Lusitania - if she has luck, & takes our greetings. I hope you are all in good form this winter. Please do not do too much on the Primrose Path, which you adorn! I dare say the baby takes all your spare time - I am longing to see her. We are struggling thro the winter in fairly good spirits and everything looks more hopeful. We see too much of the tragedies to make life very happy. I wish you could see our drawing room - turned into a Gallerie Lafayette for the wives of the Belgian Professors, who work at their clothing every morning from 9 - 1. Grace has a dressmaker for them & half a dozen sewing machines. We have nearly 100 in 16 families. Poor things! it is an appalling tragedy for them, and there are such nice women among them. Then G. bosses one of the big laboratories with fifty of the University women working for the soldiers. These N. E. women are full of vitality. Revere has been in the Oxford Training Corps but has not had enough for a commission. His heart is not much set in the military life. Literature, books & art. He and I are so congenial mentally. It is delightful to have him take to these things spontaneously. I could not filch one of his little etchings for you - he says they are not fit to send to any one. . . . You will have an awful picture of me in a Journal called Canada in about 10 days. Throw it in the fire. Uncle Neds book on the war is A.1. He sent six copies & I have passed them on to Asquith, Edward, Grey, Harcourt & Haldane & one to the secretary of the publicity dept.

I am very sad about all my good German friends. I wonder where Truth is? bottom of an Artesian well these times! I wish I was sailing on the Lusitania. Love to R.B. & the darlings.

Yours affectionately

WM OSLER

Greetings to your sisters & to Mrs. Hand.
Do you ever hear of Lois' baby?

I do not know what we should have done without the packing-cases of clothing from America - and the money. G. has raised \$15,000.