

Oxford, England,
January 22nd, 1915.

Dear Mac:-

Norman arrived the day before yesterday in very good form. As he cannot register, there is no possibility of his getting into the Regular Army, but Jones in charge of the medical department will utilize him at once, and has cabled to Ottawa for a commission and will probably send him to the camp at Salisbury, where, unfortunately, they have got an outbreak of cerebro-spinal fever. I spent three days there last week at Bulford. I did not see Jack, as he was billeted over in Devizes. Campbell is in good form. The men have had a devil of a time there with the mud and the rain. It has been an appalling winter. There have been about 25 cases of meningitis; there were 3 on the voyage and 4 at Valcartier. The War Office is rather stirred up about it.

We are rather amused at this newspaper rumour of my going to the front. It all comes from a harmless statement I made to Birkett that if they had any typhoid fever I would go over to France and help them.

We are having a deuce of a time here with the anti-vaccination people.

I have been looking for first-hand evidence of atrocities, but they do not exist in England. The Belgian professors tell of them, but I think they are terribly exaggerated.

I have just got back from the American Hospital at Paignton. They have had 700 wounded with only 1 death, which is a pretty good record.

I have been greatly interested in the frost-bites, many of which are nothing but necrosis from protracted stasis of the blood following standing in the cold mud.

I think it would be better for the Nova Scotian graduate you mention to apply directly to the Red Cross, Pall Mall, London. A letter from you would be helpful.

Glad to hear that Volume IV is settled.

Love to Amy,

Sincerely yours,

Wm. Osler.