

Ottawa. Dec. 4. 98

Dear Rankine,

I am glad to
hear by latest advices Stone
recovered, that you are recovering
from your illness & that glo. to
is better. You are curing.
Loving a pretty hard time of it
& at a season when it is a
misfortune to be ill. Everything
here runs along much as usual,
but with the removal amount of
official worries of one kind or
other. at present I am trying to
get ready for the printer a report of

the work done in the year
— now & then I get half an
hour or so at it.

There was an amusing adaptation
of the expression in one of Keats's
last utterances in one of the
papers here the other day — that
in which he describes Russia
as the "Bear that walks like a man".

The U.S. was described as the
"Eagle that looks like a hen" to
the spokesmen in G. B. at the
present time, although she acts very
like a hawk when any chickens
are about.

One can understand Chamberlain
playing off the transcendental
'Anglo-Saxon' alliance against

Europe at the present time,
 from necessity, but knowing
 that there is nothing in it. The
 serious part to Canada is the
 low-fool Communion or
 relations now sitting in
 Washington, which, unless
 all sieges fail, is very likely
 to give away the few things
 we have left here, to the U.S.,
 under excuse of this blessed
 amity & friendliness, for
 nothing but words in return.
 Nothing at all of advantage
 in the way of a treaty can
 ever get through the U.S. Congress

a Senate, but men have
 voluntarily entered into a
 discussion from which they must
 retract a treaty or be discredited,
 while nothing depends upon the
 discussion on the other side. We
 are very little back now from the
 U.S. & are doing very well, but they
 hope to reach us out of several
 steps we should never give up
 as we have put our head into
 the hole.

Yours very truly

Stacy

