

19 Bedford Rd
New York City
Oct. 16th 1914
Acc. 1211

Dear Lois -

again delayed, our
boat - not having returned for its
sailing - Also the "Canada" we
tried to transfer to, was also taken
off - suddenly - & a tier of the
U. S. Officers - did not do anything
for us - We were determined not
to stay longer - but a little coast
boat - calling at Newfoundland &
staying over 12 hrs, & then landing
us at Halifax - with a 24 hrs train
journey - seemed to me too un-
promising to risk = & on the "Canada"
the 1st class fares were too
much altogether = We were willing
ly have taken 2^d but they, could
only give us 3 places - in separate
cabins, with already 3 passengers
to each - & that was more than
clear as Eva could stand - So here
we are once more waiting, till
the 23rd for the "Hesperian", & they
assure us it - is not likely to
fail us, if it does we will
try a h. y. boat in any place we
can stand in - I think = The
war too looks very black - but
we're fallen - & they say - the going
of our marines were held back
by a high Col. official, in Germany
May - I believe the war is shot - but
the men are furious about being

parted from their guns. They also say that the British marines entering in Holland were led there by the guides given them to lead them to their comrades. But who can tell!

In any case our Canadian contingent has really arrived & were landed at Weymouth last evening - & intracult, with no destination given - but we will hear again in time. The bad weather has flooded the rivers in East-Prussia so that the Russians are much hampered in their advance. It is all terrible. England is full of Belgian refugees. Nearly every town has its share, generally quartered in empty houses. & they are given weekly cash or credit - & food - & furniture clothing & fuel - & veg - are sent - them in liberal measure. At first there here ever a great-trouble did not understand gas, put all sorts of unexcitable things down the W.C. - swept their rooms out into the halls. The men w^d not sleep in an annex, they were not afraid to leave the women & children alone. One child took measles & they w^d not have it go to hospital so mother & child were put in some outbuilding. One woman is expecting

a baby, & was so terrified abt. having her
friends that a special nurse is to go to her.
all spoke Flemish, & no french - but now
they have settled down, they are economical
& quiet, & do what they can to follow our
ways - The wife of the Commandant of
the Army under the King - arrived with 5
children - her grandfather (brother of D & G.) I have
of the preparatory school near her - (that is
where Silvia is teaching) had offered
free board & tuition to 2 better class Repu-
ges - & this poor lady gladly took her one
of her boys. & after a day or two left him
happy in his little. He is wild about footballs
& likes the boys, & specially likes the balls
which he says are "very amusing". Silvia
the smaller boys bath in the evening
bath & have showers & other preparations
really the war does bring out the best in
people. I have often wondered how you
little Elsie looks after her resumer at last
if you really see an evident improvement
I hope so, for such a help even to one life is
a very great thing to accomplish

I just can't every day now. We are
like useless people here & have been too
unsettled, & busy with little preparations
to be of much use. & everyone is busy.
Fortunately the weather has not been very
cold as yet. I scarcely know what the
girls have brought for you - But I gave
them 5 £ to spend & you need not count
on paying it back. I also have a little
coal for Alice - wh. will I think be
warm enough for winter, cuddled up
as she will be in her carriage - being
so late they will not come in so well -
as you will have to bridge over the be-
taken season - of course we have
heard no word of Will, but I hope that
he has been able to make a decision & return
him - I am counting on you to quell
heard if he is troublesome to you. Every
thing is very dull & dead - & so many
are dismissing servants - & retrenching in
various ways - many wealthy people

are at least for the time very
hard up. The cotton people espe-
cially feel this - I heard that
people in Montreal were also
retrenching - of course we
scarcely know how we shall
be - One of the girls' dividends has
been shipped - & Bernard is in
a fix which I shall have to
get him out of somehow, so the
added money from G. M. will
go that way I expect. Also I have
to pay the \$360 taxes - & the coal
bill, as soon as I return. I did
not put in coal as usual this
spring. I feel the future so un-
certain! I wish you wd tel.
to Mrs Mackenzie at 847 Qui-
versity & ask her to tell the jour-
nal man, that I am coming &
counting on him - I wrote
some weeks ago & told her I
wd be home shortly after middle
of Oct - & I shd not like to lose
him - & as I said a good char-
woman wd be of great service
you seem very busy - but
don't do too much & if the weather
is fine see you get plenty of fresh

acc - of course we get no news
from home now, nor will I fear
as you have all stopped writing.

I will enclose a cheque for
\$10.00 - towards Elsie's stipend - I
quite intended to give you that
but did not think it worth
sending -

I heard thro Eva of the
Winslows & their prospects. I am
sorry Naomi has to leave home
again - It is very hard for Mrs
Winslow, when they just had the
enlarged house to go to -

Love to Edward & Will &
the dear little Alice - she will
be returning out to meet us
if we do not hurry - & Grand-
son must be fine - The little new
man - who is said to be like me.
an outsider reported - to be "not
much to look at" - at present -

Muriel must have her hands
full - & poor Bob. I do hope he is
really improving - Jack Lahatt is in
hospital at L'pool - under Dr Jones.
he broke his leg badly last Nov. & after
much suffering was turned out a
cripple. I went first to Montreal, & then
on here - & he is likely to be able to walk
all right, & only have $\frac{1}{2}$ in difference