

[Lady Osler to Mrs. Chapin]

[Oxford] Monday Eve 21st [Dec. 1915]

Dearest Sister

I think Saturdays boat went without a letter to you - I have written so much and so many & the mails are so queer. I must have forgotten. I have had several from you and it is such a pleasure to hear so often - I was delighted to hear from Philadelphia - Loulie wrote too - she was so glad to see you - I am very sorry Billy had to go with that Lunatic Peace party. I am hoping he will get over his journalistic craze and go back to law. I am sure he would be clever at it - but he was determined to try this. The Philadelphia parcel came this morning and has been put away for Christmas - Your letter from home with the 10/ for Jean - She came just as I had read the letter and was delighted. The apples are the greatest comfort to the girls - I have had several extra barrels so we are rich as Ralph Sherman writes he is sending 90 barrels. I believe I am turning into a professional beggar. I thought your list was splendid - I want to write to some of the people when I get time!!! You better send the \$125- as I think I can do as well here with clothes and can buy some at the January sales. Two of the Profs wives are having babies which I think very audacious. Such a business it has been getting off boxes - prisoners and friends - I feel it is rather uncertain if Revere gets his but I hope he may. We havent heard for several days. McGill is entirely broken up for the present and some of the younger officers & nurses sent to England. They hope to get into new quarters. They have had a very unfortunate time from the beginning - We begin to think some political influence in Canada has been brought against them - possibly the wretched Minister of War Sam Hughes - for they have been uncomfortably treated Ever since they came. Bill probably comes for Christmas - also Connie Russell his friend - Our poor boy will be no one knows where on Christmas Day - swimming perhaps as France is nearly flooded - Glyn Osler is in England - a Judge Osler son - Privy Council case in London - he may be held over and come here Christmas. I think I told you Archie could not leave England under the Red Cross & War regulations to work in France - so has joined the C.A.M.C. and will be in London doing Board work for the present. He looked very swagger in his uniform when he went away this morning. Willie has been contending with a cold but has gone to town tonight & to Leamington for a consultation early tomorrow. I have Sister Amette here from Ewelme bracing her up after two weeks illness. She will go back for Christmas 0 & then to Brighton for a change. She leads too isolated a life there and gets wobbly. I am trying to go away for a few days - I haven't been to town even for two months And I am growing too mouldy but I hate going away. The work on the dining room is very slow on account of no men. Lord Derbys recruiting scheme is said to have been a great success. Benning has gone back to work. We have our motor back - but not painted yet. I like the Consulting dining room so much. I wish we could keep it so for breakfast, except we cant feed the birds - Good night, heaps of love -

Grace.

Thank Margaret C for her letter.