

CUS417/56.19

G.R.O

[Lady Osler to Mrs. Chapin]

[Oxford] Monday Eve April 10th [1916]

My dear Sue

It seems to me that I am always writing for the midweek steamer and not Saturday - but really the dates are so upset and changed about that one never knows. We get pathetic notes and wires from people who go to Falmouth to sail and are held up there for days or never do sail by the Holland Line. I really do not see how they dare come through the Channel.

It seems a month since I heard from you, and I fear it may grow worse - Tonight it looks very worrying for America. We are going on in the same way - My work is so regular now that life seems much calmer than it did at this time last year. Our Hospital is not at all full - and yet they go on increasing the number of beds - ready for the future I suppose - I have a number of Canadian wounded under my care - The spring demands of the Belgians have begun and one feels loath to help them - they are so self indulgent and take it all so for granted. Revere has been here one & off - from Shorncliffe. We hope his papers may be settled this week and he get off to Exeter. We have not had a Zeppelin "Call up" for a week - After my first night - I have stayed in bed and ready to remain calmly to be bombed.

We did not hear of Dr Cheever or Dr Bremer passing through. They must be glad to get home. Campbell Gwyn is at the Front also Allan Meredith, Ralph Osler - Hugh & Jack - Of course they cant all escape and I fancy we are in for anxious days. We have had such attacks of people coming every day - for luncheon and men for the night - a most wearisome business - Six from Cliveden yesterday.

Nancy Astor has a new son, born in London. Joan is to stay until May - hoping Fiskin comes over again but I doubt it - Saturday Adèle telephoned in a most pathetic tone to know if they might come for tea & dinner. I hadn't room to ask them to sleep. They motored down I made Adèle stay here - the others went to the Mitre - She seemed played out. The administration of that Hospital is too much for her and she seemed a wreck. Babs was calm & enormous. Bob tranquil - They left at noon Sunday morning to lunch en route - They have an excellent motor - said to belong to the Hospital - it transports the V.A.Ds. The new Budget brings us depressing Tax news, and now the Petrol supply is being cut down & motor tax increased. Goodness knows where these things will cease - We have had ten days glorious weather.

Much-much love -

Grace -