

(script)

1028/69/10

From his mother.

CUS417/69.10

The Rectory,
Jany 16th 73

My dear old Willie (not Canal)

Your letter from Witton reached us on Monday (the Mails are so late now, the weather stormy it seems every where). I'm afraid yr. cold would interfere with your comfort and travelling in raw damp weather would not improve it however by the

(piece torn off.)

was in the Mail and Globe and was duly forwarded on to Montreal - pity we had not Dr Osler's neat speech.

You did not say how long it was your intention to remain at the Proctors. Charlie hopes you will have a chance while there of driving over to see his people who are but seven miles from the Proctors. Chattie writes you pretty often and gives you all the chit chat of the day and would tell you of Charlie's throat, he has been down to Dr Hodder who treats

(piece torn off.)

expecting him to follow with his Nurse by the end of the week instead of which she had a Telegram on Monday to say he had a slight attack of Bronchitis so she posted off again to him on Tuesday morning and we have not heard since so hope he is better; their house is fearfully draughty and there has been such cold weather this winter as the 'Oldest inhabitant' does not remember. Now we have torrents of rain with icy roads everywhere. Papa with quadruped Nelly is away all the week and how he'll manage to scrape along is hard to say if this rain lasts, the weather has kept me prisoner for days or rather the hill being so icy. I have not dared venture down with no friendly arm to help me. You may have heard that Annie Stuart went out to the Hubbards about a month ago, it was a failure intirely. Mr H. brought her back as a useless burden and she is here till she has word from England. I am truly sorry for her and for John who with his Farm seems to be going to the wrong, - the Redcliffes are boarding at the Keivells - Robertson for John and Bique for them are to try and settle the matter I believe this morning - his Father has offered to advance him the money to pay them back for all but nine months of the time but I believe he is doggedly persistent - fancy him buying another Cow just as Winter began (not paid for) that he might send milk into Hamilton - then there was cart and pails, and a boy to drive, then he allowed his best horse to eat Buckwheat to the full and that becoming useless he bought another for \$80 - (not paid for) now he has a man (20) and his wife (17) at \$12 a month and his milk boy - all these to keep and nothing off his farm to feed them with, of course he is becoming deep in debt. I must hurry now to finish, for Wm. has to go down for the Mail, hoping I may hear from Nellie - the different branches of the Osler tree are all I believe in full vigour -

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about 4
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off

Hal is to go on to school - the little girls are all at home and have a daily governess - Ernest has not returned to Dundas but has gone to Port Hope. . I wrote to Jennette yesterday and to Fergus - the chief grievance is a want of servants - I have only one of the Copley girls, Carrie has no cook, Marion has no girl at all, Chattie is going to lose Bridget with no other in view.

I meant to write to Mrs Proctor by this Mail but must postpone till next for I must write to Aunt Lizzie.

God bless you my own dear Willie and "keep you from evil that it may not grieve you".

Ever your loving Mother,

ELLEN OSLER