

1028/82/28

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83 Wellesley St. Toronto  
Dec. 8th. / 86

My dear Willie

I've been on the point of writing one time after another when something has turned up in the imperative mood to prevent it; last week Father and I were at Dundas, unfortunately it was an intensely cold week and there was no getting out for four days out of the six for me. Father was more courageous and only staid in two days. C had been laid up with a bad cold but we left her and all the others quite well on Monday-- they look to be with us at Xmas the boys of course counting up the days and hours. I believe others must be doing likewise for the home talk is all of Xmas while the out-door world can think and speak of nothing but elections. There is to be no family dinner party this time--Carrie was anxious to have all there but she is not equal to the undertaking and was dissuaded from it. I fancy all are to dine mid-day at their own homes or where they please, then all to gather at Edmund's and entertain the juniors at tea and have some special surprise for them then the elders can have the evening for their own benefit. A late dinner with each other. I dare say things will fall into shape as the time comes, but thus it has been so far thought of. Carrie has been very miserable but for the past few days felt better and I was so surprised just now to see her and Hennie walk in, of course she came to the house in a coupé for she could not walk as far as this. Jennette does not seem well either. I found her here when I came home on Monday evening and felt sorry to see her look so worn and poorly. Mr. Smith called up when we were at Chattie's and got your address, he was off next morning to Philadelphia--his wife had been some weeks there expecting her Mother's death, but she telegraphed that her brother-in-law had died suddenly and begged him to go down at once. I dare say you will see him. It was remiss not to acknowledge the receipt of that interesting Egyptian paper--thanks too for sending it--Nellie got one and so we had one to send to York Mills. Alec seems to like his work at the Bank, at least there are no complaints and since he knew his salary would be over 200 dollars he has been in high feather. Now I must hurry for there are lots of letters to write this week or the English and German will have no Xmas greetings from Canadian friends.

With much love and many prayers for your well being I am dear Willie

Your ever affectionate Mother  
Ellen Osler