

(Mrs. Robt. Brewster)

August 6th (1914)

Declaration of war
COLONSAY HOUSE
ISLAND OF COLONSAY

Dear Mabel

Here is a nice mess! Goodness knows when you will get this, but you will have had a cable. I cannot leave as I have to help in organizing the medical dept. of the Territorial force. Grace & Revere sailed on the 31st. She will be furious to have the ocean between us, and she has been on the committee of the nursing dept. If a steamer is available they will return at once. I am so sorry for the poor souls stranded on the continent. I have neice & her daughter at Aix. I hope they have got to Switzerland. It all seems very unnecessary, but the natives are still in the nursery stage, squabbling & fighting like children.

I do hope you will see Revere if they sail from New York Grace is sure to telephone you, but it is very uncertain, and they may decide to stay until it is perfectly safe to cross. I am stranded in this far away island about forty miles from the coast. with the Strathconas We have been trying to get away, but the trains from Oban south have been too crowded. We leave tonight I am so disappointed not to see you all. The new baby must be a fine bairn by this time, and I hate to miss a good stay with Silvia But it is a small matter in comparison with the tragedies that are inevitable in the families of friends.

Much love to you all

Affectionately yours

WM OSLER