

Harry Baker Jacobs,
CUS 417/118.167

Oxford, 15 December, 1914.

Dear Jacobs:-

Happy Christmas to you and Mrs. Jacobs! I hope this will catch you just on Christmas morning by the "Lusitania." It will be rather a triste Christmas over here for so many people, but, on the whole, there is much to be thankful for. Things are a great deal better than anyone could have hoped - well on in the fifth month of the war, and Belgium not yet finished with. Things here are really going very well. The recruiting has been active; there are fully 1,000,000 men in training, and the spirit of the country is A.-1.

I do not know what we should do without the help from America. It is splendid, and greatly appreciated. One hears of it in every direction. The poor Belgians need it badly. It is really an appalling situation for them. We have our group of professors very comfortably settled, and, with the money Grace has raised and the Rockefeller Foundation, we can hold out for a year at least. I wish you could come in this house one morning and see the Gallerie Lafayette in our drawing room, with a dozen or more of the Belgian professors' wives doing over American clothing.

I am hoping on Friday to secure at auction for the Hopkins Library the Hutchinson collection of original drawing and plates, etc. Marburg and Welch have cabled a bid up to £160. I think we shall get it, unless Wellcome is bidding for his Historical Museum.

My Library continues to grow, as that kind brother, E.B., left me another cheque this summer.

Love to Mrs. Jacobs,

Ever yours,

W.O.

cf. Archer June Dec. 24