

(From secretary's notebook)

CUS 417/119.29

(To H. R. H. Princess Louise)

Jan. 21st, 1915.

Dear Princess:

[Cerebrospinal fever among the Canadians]

I spent three days at Salisbury last week. Cerebro-spinal fever is a disease peculiarly liable to attack soldiers in camps. There were four cases at Valcartier, three on the voyage, and there have been about 25 in the camp of which I saw 11 at present ill. They have opened a special hospital which is very comfortable, a laboratory for the examination of the contact cases, and they have an excellent staff of doctors and nurses, - one doctor in particular, a young Canadian from the Rockefeller Institute, New York, who fortunately is an expert in matters relating to the serum treatment of the disease. I do not think the epidemic will be severe.

I may mention, too, that there have been cases at the Shorncliffe camp near Brighton, which I am going down next week to visit. The conditions on the Plain have been most unfortunate but the disease is one which may break out in the best of barracks and camps.

I have been taking a great deal of interest in the McGill Unit and hope to go over and help them get established somewhere in France. I hear they do not arrive until the end of April.

I have a very happy remembrance of your good husband and of all he did for Canada, particularly in the days when he founded the Royal Society of which I was one of the original members, and on the Committee with him. He had a life full of usefulness and we Canadians must always feel very grateful for what you and he were able to do in shaping the early destinies of the Dominion. * * *

Excuse this typewritten letter, but I thought you would like to have some official report. Please do not mention the slight outbreak at Shorncliffe, as it is not yet known.

Wm. Osler.