

Cecil Chambers,
86 Strand, W.C.

J. George Adami to W.O.
November 25th 1915.

(typewritten)

My dear Sir William,

Yes, I know all about No. 3: I had a long letter from Birkett describing the misery of the situation and the hopelessness of the Jesuit College. This was in answer to one of mine, in which at last I opened my heart to him, telling him what I told you at Oxford, that I thought No. 3 would be far better could they be established in England at some place like Cliveden. They had done their duty abroad, and if they could come over here they could show how a model Military Hospital, manned by experts, should be run, and I offered if he would think of coming over to set the ball rolling, and I may say that I have done so, finding natural opportunities to urge both the General and Drum to bring them back. While both the General and Drum agree with me that it would be splendid to have them over here - and only over here could the strength of the combination be properly shewn - nevertheless there were difficulties in the way.

The two natural positions are Cliveden and Moore Barracks Hospital at Shorncliffe; the former, of course, is much the more attractive place. I spent an evening with Gorrell last Thursday and incidentally brought up the subject, only to find that he regards Cliveden as his own creation. As he put it to me, "I will only leave Cliveden to return to Canada" - and in this snag No. 1.

Snag No. 2 is that that astute individual, Colonel Wallace Scott, recognized from the very onset that there would be far better opportunities for good work, specially for surgical work, here in England, than at the Base in France, and forthwith used his influence with his uncle Sir Sam to obtain the Moore Barracks appointment. There, while O.C., he describes himself as Chief Surgeon, and takes more interest in his surgery than in his organizing duties as O.C.

Snag No. 3 is that if we remove the personnel of a thousand bed Hospital from France we would have to replace it with another unit, and the difficulty is whence and how to make up that unit. As it is, we are not finding it too easy this week to get together the personnel of an extra Field Ambulance for which we have been asked by the War Office.

However, I will do my best. The General fully recognizes that it is shameful that so good a unit should be housed so miserably.

Yours sincerely,

No. 3 Canadian Genl. Hosp. to which Revere was attached had worked well during the summer at Étapes and had an uncomfortable wait before they were transferred to Boulogne, to the old Jesuit's College.