

13 Norham Gardens, Oxford

(6th Dec. 1916)

Dear Jacobs;

Xmas greetings to you both. This should reach you in time, but boats are few these days & submarines plentiful. We plod on much the same, only with the added anxiety of Revere on the Ancre, but he writes so cheerily and seems wonderfully happy. 'Tis a dirty business though for a laddie of his type, but I suppose he will get used to it & return to the stone age with the rest of them. I must send you one of his letters. He seems with very nice fellows. They pound away day and night at spots indicated to them by the airmen.

We have been in the thick of this Sam Hughes business - an awful boulder, so glad he has gone, but he left a nice row in the C.A.Med. Corps. I expect the first batch of 68 young Americans next week for the London Army Hospital. I shall meet them and help Blenkinsop to settle them. There will be many more needed as new divisions are formed.

Have the library all rearranged & shelf for shelf marked and the catalogue up to date. My secretary is still away, but ^{Hill} ~~Hill~~ from Bodley comes every evening & a ^{vital} veslet who has been helping me with my incunabula study has come to work permanently on the catalogue, with a view to printing (ultimately).

Sue Chapin is with us. Norman Gwyn has had trench fever. Rolleston is much better with the grand fleet. We had the three Maggs brothers here for a day - to see the Shakespeare exhibition and such nice men. You will have from me ~~Sayles~~ Ages of Man for Xmas - interesting.

Love to Mrs. Jacobs.

Yours sincerely,

Wm. Osler.