[Lady Osler to Mrs. Chapin]

Letter here

[Oxford] Thursday P M 15th[Oct, 1914]

Dearest Sue

Willie has ordered me to bed but I had arranged to begin my letter to you before going to bed. He has just come from near Folkestone - the Canadian Hospital - a house given & furnished by Lady Markham. The wounded are coming there now. No letter from you yet about money but perhaps one will come tomorrow as some American letters have come tonight. This week has been as busy as the last. Revere got easily settled in College. He has the nicest rooms in Peck - but only temporary as the man is at the front - but I have no idea that there will be any "next Term" - Fancy not 70 men at Christ Church. Sunday in Cathedral was too sad - so few undergraduates, many soldiers and when they sang God Save the King it was too much - The Yoemanry quartered in Meadows Building come to church. Revere was at home for luncheon yesterday. He has joined the Officers Training Corps and is hard at it - Drill & march every day with lectures in the evening. I am almost ashamed to write about the many things I have been doing. Mr Sherman came for Sunday - He has tried to get into some Regiment as Chaplain - but Kitchener won't have them. Willie thought he could get him into the Colonial Horse & we were writing & wiring all Saturday but failed. He expected to sail yesterday on the Scotian for home but it has been taken over - so I do not know what he will do. He is going to Trinity Church St John as curate - doesnt like the idea at all of being in a fashionable church. Lady Strathcona came up to settle Arthur and brought good news of Donald at the front. Bobbie was here Sunday. Marion & Mrs V.B are in Leamington & will come to Oxford for Sunday We are dreadfully anxious about Josephine Phelps. I think I told you she had gone to Antwerp in August to help a friend at a Hospital in the Zoo - started by some ladies. All has gone well and she has been very well & busy as the friend left & she was made Head although not trained. Last week they had a letter saying she was staying by the patients but we hear they have moved out - No word has come since the Fall of Antwerp. Today I have been telegraphing American consuls & Ministers & hope for some news from The Hague in the morning. It is terrible for her people. Needless to say the anxiety is intense now. The Fall of Antwerp and our men being interned in Holland is terrible. Poor Margaret Pearce is frantic as she has no word from her husband & he may have been in Antwerp. I have had the blues today like sin and wonder what will become of us all. I could never go back to live in Canton.

[The Canadian Hospital]

The Refugees are pouring into England - Willie was at Folkestone today and said the streets were packed solid. Lights are reduced here now at night and only one lamp allowed on a motor. In London they say it is awful at night - rows of lights are put in Hyde Park on the grass - to divert the attention of airships from Westminster Abbey & other Treasures. I want Willie to send his books to America but he laughs and wont believe it. Our work room has been delving for a week over bed jackets for the Hospital and childrens clothes & shirts. We are tremendously busy over the Louvain Professors - They are coming with a rush now. Some people have taken them in and we have taken rooms & houses for others. We have taken none except for the night - It is too trying for Willie - and he must be protected in every way - all the horrors & talk nearly kill him and he looks ill & worried often.

Friday 6 PM Your letter came this morning with the splendid news about money and I am filled with gratitude You say $9.80 but I suppose you have "pinted" in the wrong place. You have been an angel and I hope I havent bothered too much. I am hurrying this off to catch the post. It was a pity about Dr Welchs letter but you see we are short of deliveries & collections and mine didnt get in in time & then there are so few fast boats -

Affly

Grace