

Oberlin Ohio
Thurs. May 16, 07

My dear Mother :-

Here I am at home again and in my own lovely wide bed, in my pleasant bed room. Home never looked so pleasant and attractive. Evieia went up to Cleveland for me yesterday morning and we came home on the afternoon train. It was raining but everything was so dark (for the sun stopped in its way to Oberlin, & the sun came out) we didn't get wet a bit. Coz. Will. Hudson saw us on the train. Wasn't it queer? He happened to be in Cleveland on business & got a letter there from his wife that I was at Lakewood. He came right around to call on me, and brought great bunches of flowers & a magazine. I had just gone out in a wheeled chair on the big piazza, when I saw him & was looking at the lake, when he appeared at the door. I was so surprised & pleased, & we had a very pleasant call. Then he wheeled me in & I showed him my room

and the ⁴sun parlor quite near it. There are ^{several} ~~one~~ parlors + piazzas for there are ~~500~~ ¹⁰⁰ or more patients, but this belongs to Ward 5. I wanted to have gone into the children's ward, and some of the others before I came home, but left that for some visit when I am well. There is a building on the ground called the Nurses Home where over a hundred nurses live - parlors, dining room, kitchen, bed rooms, piazzas, everything for a nice home. They only have 8 hours duty in the 24, while many hospitals have 12, but during the 8 they are on the go every minute - never sit down. Of course the special nurses have different rules. The last few days I got quite acquainted with very nice people, + found a lady on our ward from Bristol Conn. who used to go to our church, but now lives in Cleveland with her brother who is a doctor in a fine business. Her Aunt from Bristol called on me also. Her name is Smith, Miss Smith sent me a beautiful bouquet of red roses, + I sent her some hyacinths + tulips from our Oberlin yard which Selden brought me. She had spoken of longing to get out doors and die in flower beds.

(3)

She left the same day I did, but is
to go back ~~to~~ forth (from her brother's home)
for X rays. It seemed to me perfectly
marvelous to see the cures that ~~was~~ ^{are}
on the hospital (under my own eyes)
in the first half weeks I saw at Lakeview.
People so much worse off than I, cured.
Of course the doctors never talk about one
patient to another, nor the nurses either, unless
it is a slip of the tongue. There are about
30 doctors at the Hospital, & they have
a separate "Home", then there is the proba-
tioner's Home. I believe all the nurses have
been in probation for six months. I am
going to send you a picture of Lakeview.
It was the only view I could get, & does
not show my room, which was way off
at the other end. It shows the front &
it is the back that is on the lake & where
the piazzas & sun rooms are. Of course
the surgeons don't live at the Hospital, only the
House doctors. I got so interested in some
people, I wish I could write you about them.
But this much I can say, that the honor &
The danger of any operation seems to me.

much less than before I went, because of the perfectly endless appliances, and the amazing skill that surgeons have in these days. It isn't what it was, even a few years ago. And oh, how thankful I found it is all through for me. Dr. Allen told me not to go up & down stairs for a couple of weeks & then only once a day for awhile. It takes longer for a heavy person. Also I was several years running down, & so take longer. But it is wonderful how quiet & restful I feel after this terrible nervous suffering that endured for some years.

When I came home yesterday, I stayed down & had supper with the family & then came up to my room. Mary will be interested to know that the rug made from old Bonnets carpet (that the Douglass had) is in my room now. It alters the whole look of the room & harmonizes everything. My door was open & as I came up I saw the mantel-piece & front covered with pink blossoms on a stool by my window, and on my table a great bunch of fresh peas. The neighbors had sent them in to greet me. On my bureau were lilies of the valley in one vase, & narcissus in another. My room is so clean & so tidy.

& my pretty quilt is over me. There is no one in the house but me - as the folks are at classes - & if the door bell rings, it will have to ring. I am just lying here as composed & comfortable as I can be. There is nothing like sitting or hand-knitting of some kind. You are not appreciated what we have got, is there? Erelina looks some quite thin & not so well as she ought to look. This has been a pretty hard strain on her. Then she hasn't had me to make appetizing dishes! I guess she needs nutritious food, fructose. Miss Juppy (the new com.) knows nothing about cooking. You should have tasted the bacon she cooked yesterday while Erelina was at Church & that we had for supper! I like her very much however, she is very pleasant & kindly, quite pretty & lively too, & she treats me so sweetly, like a daughter. I suppose Erelina has written you about the circumstances of my coming here.

I have your picture & my children's on my bureau, to look at and Jenny's. I think the picture in the Fork Worth paper of her is beautiful - the prettiest of the ladies here.

Return this to Obedia,
please.

6

After you have read this, please send
it the rounds of my sisters, & if it isn't
too long getting to any of them
to my Mother & Whitcomb's. I am
as it isn't so really easy to write in bed,
& so I must repeat my name.

Of course this is all about myself,
but you won't mind that just now, maybe.
Some I saw you who read this. I often
don't include I see in my letters because the
letters not because I had been less, but
I am afraid he might be a good write,
my long description. "Remember to say
say" just give me the gist of it.
I am always,
Love,
Obedia

I want to know how you all were. The lovely
panniers came in fairly good condition, & I put
them in a flat dish in the sun parlor house.
I was when they came, so all the invalids could see
them, & four of us had our trays brought there for
supper & we had the panniers for a center
piece on our table, which was large & round
& took all four trays on it. It was quite pleasant
every way & a sweet reminder of you all.

Relates this to Obedience,
please.

6

After you have read this, please send
it the rounds of my sisters, & if it is not
too long getting to many sisters, send it
to my Mary & Whitworth. I am
as it is not so fully easy to write indeed,
& so I want repeat my name.

Of course this is all about myself,
but you won't mind that just now, maybe.
Some to see you who read this. I often
don't include I.e. in my letters because the
letters not because I don't know how long, but
I am afraid to write to good words
my long description. Remember sometimes
say "just give me the gist of it."
Love
Love
Love

I want to know how you are. The lady
pansies came in fairly good condition, & I put
them in a flat dish in the sun parlor house.
I was when they came, so all the invalids could see
them, & four of us had our trays boot there for
supper & we had the pansies for a center
piece on our table, which was large & round
& took all four trays on it. It was quite pleasant
every way & a sweet reminder of you all.