Letter No 11.

July 21st 1915:
The Duchess of Connaught.
Can. Red Cross Hospital
Taplow. Bucks. Eng.
(Use this address)

Dear Mother.

So much seems to have happened since I wrote you last Friday p.m. that I don't quite know where to begin. As you see we are @ Cliveden; rather to our surprise as the Matron-in-Chief had told us we would go to France, but found it at the last impossible to arrange. Of course I have hardly spoken to Her Highness but she has been awfully decent to Mildred, & even said that when the opportunity offers, we will be sent off.

In the meantime, especially @ this season of the year, we couldn't come to a nicer spot than Clevedon. However I mustn't skip ahead so quickly, but go back to Sat.

In the a.m. reported c̄ Mildred, or rather per usual waited out-side while she did so. Then hearing we were to go on Monday went with Mildred to see about one or two things, going to the Hotel for lunch. The afternoon was wet & cold, so only went to see the big Woman's Procession. Expect you read all about it in the paper. I believe it was considered a splendid turn-out, certainly there were plenty of them, but they were far from attractive. In spite of the wind & the rain many had on white dresses, & hose etc. So you can imagine the be-draggled effect! and on the whole they appeared decidedly

beneath what is known in
England as the middle-class.

Well in the p.m. we went to
the London Opera House to ~~see~~
hear "Madam Butterfly" - It
was most beautifully put
on - the scenes were perfect,
& Tamaki Miura a real
Jap. who was Butterfly, had
in some ways a beautiful
voice, but somehow different
from the ordinary European.
Lafitte the tenor Emil and
thinks was in Montreal once -
Queen Alexandra was there
in the distance looks
wonderfully young & attractive,
her manner seemed so
bright & interested; but I
saw her at close quarters
to-day & the shock was great.

She visited the Hospital
to-day, & I was very close
for several minutes - some

has she struck me as being pathetic. Her complexion is wonderful, but even through a heavy veil one can see her eyes are those of an old woman, & her mouth the same. Her voice sounds very weak & quavering, she has the actions & smile that so many deaf people have, she is quite lame, & walks like an old woman — all this with fair hair & pink & white complexion seems pathetic. It seems a pity she didn't at some time adopt the old-lady, & with gray hair etc. she would have gained rather than lost. However I must say her manner was most gracious, & if it hadn't been for Mrs Astor who kept hurrying her along, she

Would have shaken hands
with every patient in the
place. She motored up from
London with the Princess
Victoria (who looks half witted)
& the Princess Royal who
appears very delicate, thin &
old. Well I mustn't rush
ahead so quickly. Sunday
being a gorgeous day, &
Mildred anxious for me to
see the country around
"Jordans" we took the train
to Chalfont Rd. from where we
walked to Chalfont St. Giles,
had lunch @ a funny
little Inn called the Pheasant,
through a quaint little
village & on up to Jordans,
an old Meeting House of
the Quakers where Penn
used to hold service, he
afterward found the State of

Have cabled from Alexandria, but thought no use in mentioning we were going further - will try & cable from Lemnos but am doubtful whether it comes

worth while, & judging by reports we are badly needed. Imagine Alexandria being practically the nearest hospital, over 2 days journey! I believe there are two hospitals @ Lemnos, for those who are only slightly wounded, who will probably return shortly to the front, but there are no nurses-

We have had no natives coming up trying to sell us things, but a number of small boats, manned by most picturesque men in the full collar trousers, shirt & fez, looking for passengers. Of course I never saw such insolence or greater self possession than they possess.

Well dear it is time for
dinner. If I have a chance
to post this will do to write
again in a day or so.
I sent you a letter from
Malta (No. 15) but as I went
into detail, it is just
possible it wouldn't pass the
Censor, but I thought I'd take
a chance. That means the
letter from ~~South~~ London was
No. 13. & one from Folkestone
No. 14.
Heaps of love dear, & don't
worry about me — so far haven't
minded the heat much, so
live in hopes it won't be too
bad - once left. [illegible]
anyway it starts to get cooler.
If I get a chance to-morrow
will send a cable. Still
address letters to London.
Yours lovingly
Lollie.
P.S. Keep any p.c.'s or pictures I
send.