

468 Hope Street,  
Providence, R.I.

July 3, 1916

Dear Chamberlain:-

Yours of the 2nd is at hand. For a couple of weeks I have been intending to write you and let you know how we were, but with the rush of work at the office and the illness at the house I have kept postponing it until a more favorable opportunity.

Owing to the fact that Massachusetts is the most seriously infected district for the White Pine Blister Rust, all the work on this disease which has been undertaken under the \$20,000 appropriation is now headquartered in my office, with Dr. Perley Spaulding in charge. We now have nine persons with desks in the room. This new line of work together with my own on the diseases of ornamental trees is keeping us all pretty busy, as you can readily believe.

On the 25th of May father had an operation for cataract and later had two hemorrhages in the eye. This kept him in bed considerably longer than would otherwise have been necessary. When he did get up he could not walk, and had to learn it all over again. Edie came in to take care of him but after two weeks she gave out so that the doctor had to take her out home. She is gaining right along now I think. When she gave out we had to get a nurse; she has been here over three weeks now, and it looks as if she would have to stay some time yet. The eye seems to be getting along all right now, but a serious bladder trouble has set in, and this is what is worrying us now. The Dr. says the trouble is one that is characteristic of old age and under the circumstances is not curable. In the midst of father's confinement in the dark room mother was taken ill with the beginning of bronchial pneumonia and was confined to her bed for a week or ten days. You will see by this that we have had very much of a hospital here at the house for the past six weeks.

I have not been in or near N.Y.C. since winter. Yes, I received the book of Mrs. Dunham's and was very much pleased with it, but I have really had not chance to look it over as I would like to. In fact I cannot recall that I have even written and thanked anyone for it, now that I try to recall it. I must do so immediately, even if I did acknowledge, as I think I did not.

If you come up this way I hope you will give us a call, although we are not just now in a position to entertain you over night as usual. Glad to hear from you at any time.

Cordially.



Collins, J. Franklin. 1916. "Collins, James Franklin July 3, 1916 [Collins to Chamberlain]." *Edward Blanchard Chamberlain letters to James Franklin Collins*

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