

German Hospital, Constantinople

Feb 27, 1903

My dear Dr. & Mrs. Dennis,

You have doubtless heard in some way that I have been very dangerously ill, so much so that, for several days, I was doubtful as to the result. I am now slowly, but steadily improving. I hope, after a week, to leave the hospital. I thought it better to come here, as my disease was one which required a kind of care not easily to be realized in a private house, and, furthermore, I was averse to being a care to my friends. Nevertheless I owe it to their hospitality to say that more than one urged me to remove to their homes. I steadily declined their kind offers, and see no reason to regret my decision. This is a very old fashioned institution, far behind our American ideals, but I have had the substantial of care and

treatment, and am pulling through all right. I expect the convalescence to be slow, as I was aware before that my system was overstrained, and that I was in need of rest. I spoke of that matter to you both while in America.

During my voyage, and since my illness I have gone over and over the memories of your ideal hospitality, the making of your troublesome guest really at home. Under the circumstances in which I was placed you made it possible for me to do what I could not otherwise have done, and your wise counsels and heartfelt sympathy contributed very largely to the success of my mission.

We are getting on as fast as could be expected here. The benefits of the great Delegation are felt in the stiffening of our Minister's back, and his comprehension of the fact that he has the great United States Government behind him, and the cause he is pressing.

We have, ~~under~~ his pressure, succeeded in putting the Turkish Government in motion, and I think that we shall attain our ends. It is certainly to their interest, as well as to ours, to remove these irritating questions from our international relations. I do not flatter myself that we shall be very soon through with the affair. But I propose to stick to it until it is settled, and settled right. Whatever loss my services in other directions may be to the College will be far more than offset if this mission is successful.

Much as I regret the weakness under which I must labor, I cannot but recognize that, as it is by mind not by body that this is to be carried, it is a mercy that the part of me which can serve the cause can work, notwithstanding physical weakness. Meantime,

my body can be recruiting for the service in which it must play a prominent part.

I just missed seeing Sam after all. I have only the tidings of his having visited Beirut, but no particulars. I am stranded here without news. ~~My~~ My correspondents on both sides have not as yet placed me, and so I get no letters.

Whatever befalls me in the future, a golden thread, which you spun for me during those precious weeks, will be woven into my life, and hold me fast to the memory of your brotherly and sisterly love. Give my love to Alfred and Mary, and the sweet child.

Ever affectionately your brother George E. Post.