

*December 23, 1916.*—The President's note—not in full apparently, but in résumé—is presented in the local papers today. It is like all his documents, a clever, noble one, and should bring peace perceptibly nearer if there is any wisdom left in governments on this side of the Atlantic. The difficulty is that European statesmen think in other sequences, and inhabit another and inferior element.

Among today's dispatches is one from London, evidently from Hoover, asking Nell and me to go to London after Christmas. I do not see how I can go. I haven't the energy or the interest and it would complicate matters very much for me to leave just now. In truth, we don't want to go.