References: 471 Park Ave.

 Dec. 22nd 1914

 My dear old Wood

 It seems a long time since I have written you + now the year has

come around again + santé Claus has sent us some of those fine apples

from your country, they seem especially fine this year + a most delicious

flavor. I met Henry Corbett the other day in the top of a bus, he looked

happy + (in) that wonderful time of a man’s life when everything is before

him. How we can recall those days when the dream of the future seemed

so ideal + life seemed to be never ending, but now how quickly things go

by + how hard it is to hustle as one could once. I have no reason to feel

blue except for this terrible war and the suffering it must entail. I got a

$2000 prize the other day + sent some to the families of the French

Painters in Paris who must be not only hard up but demoralized. I hoped it

might arrive about Jany (January) 1st the time they always celebrate +

make happy. Down with the Kaiser. What a senseless war this seems to us

all here. The girls + Mrs. Weir are all working on stockings, scarfs (sic)

etc made of heavy wool in hopes it may do some poor fellow good + help

keep him warm. I have been several times to see Ryder + left my card, but

no response came from it. I have not heard from him or seen him for a

year. I have not decided as yet what I will send to San F. Exposition. I

think as they are chary about paying insurance on only a limited amount I

will send about four. I wish they had done the whole affair on a basis

allowing every one 5 to 8 pictures to be hung in groups + reserve the

separate rooms only for those good painters who had died. It does not

seem right for the Director to specialize in this way, however, it is a big

plot to get together a big show. I have been trying to help him in getting

Twachtman’s canvasses. We all join in love + best wishes to you all for a

Merry Xmas + a Happy New Year.

 Sincerely yours J. Alden Weir