

OSLER LIBRARY,
16 Feb., 1948.

Mr. Thomas F. Gardner,
Assistant Librarian,
Kent State University,
Kent, O., U. S. A.

Dear Mr. Gardner,

I enclose two prints (spare book-illustrations) of Osler. A print from the original plate of the 1909 one can be obtained from the address I've written on the back (for, I think, \$5). The old, sad, and gray one, which you enquire for, but which I detest, can be obtained (if at all) only from Elliott & Fry, London - if their records escaped the bombing.

I shall have the negative photostats made for you from the 1862 Religio, but it may take some time. Our present arrangements are far from satisfactory. The book was rebound (for Osler) in red morocco, with title only (and tooling) on the spine.

Yours sincerely,

W. W. F.

WWF:d
Encls.:

KENT STATE UNIVERSITY
KENT, OHIO

12 February 1948

Dr. W.W. Francis, Librarian
Osler Library
McGill University
Montreal, Canada

Dear Dr. Francis:

I am very grateful to you for the information you have provided. I shall write at once to Mr. Cerny, as you have suggested.

I am so pleased that Dr. Osler's favourite copy of the RELIGIO MEDICI still exists. May I press still another time on your patience and request photographs, photostats, or microfilm strip of front cover, spine, title-page, his last inscription in it that you have drawn to my attention; and any other noteworthy pages with inscriptions, up to, say, a total of eight. I put a limit because of necessity (librarians' purses are as slim as ever!) Of the three forms noted above I should prefer photostating, if possible, and negative prints will suffice.

Is it possible to purchase a photograph of Dr. Osler? If so, I should very much like to have one and if there is a choice, I'd appreciate having the one that was used as a frontispiece for INCUNABULA MEDICA.

Come next August it will be a pleasure to meet you and thank you in person for the help you have given me.

Yours very sincerely,

Thomas F. Gardner
Thomas F. Gardner
Assistant Librarian

TFG/mc

OSLER LIBRARY,
10 Feb., 1948.

Mr. T. F. Gardner,
Assistant Librarian,
Kent State University,
Kent,
O., U. S. A.

Dear Mr. Gardner,

I am sending you (as an inter-library loan, a pamphlet giving an excellent account of Sir Thomas Browne's influence on Osler. It is "The impress of books upon life" by Elmer A. Smith, a Chicago lawyer who died last year. Write to his former secretary, Mr. Frank S. Cerny, Illinois Central System, 135 East Eleventh Place, Chicago 5, and see if he can't let you have a copy of Smith's "Two papers on Sir Wm. Osler," which includes the above and his earlier "Sir W. O. as seen by a layman." I don't seem to have a spare copy of the latter to lend you.

1. The title is that of an English classic and should, of course, be pronounced (as Osler always pronounced it) as though English, Re-LID-gee-o MEDD-a-sigh.
2. The favourite copy (Boston, 1862) is here.
3. It was always by his bedside, living and dying, the first book he ever bought, that he managed to keep. "Some Son of Belial", he said, stole his Shakespeare. He read this R. M. himself during his last illness and scribbled in the margin in one place only, a week or two before his death: "Wonderful page; always impressed me as one of the great ones in B. 16 Dec. 1919." The page has the great passage (of the Urn Burial), "But the iniquity of oblivion ...". The same copy was on his coffin during the funeral, but was NOT (as the perverse persist in believing) "burned with him."
4. His next favorite was Burton's Anatomy of Melancholy, which he said was the greatest medical textbook ever written by a layman.

Yes, the library will be open in August to "anyone interested" (in W. O.'s phrase), and I hope to see you and show you the treasures.

Sincerely yours,

WWF:d

W. W. F.

KENT STATE UNIVERSITY
KENT, OHIO

4 February 1948

Dr. W.W. Francis, Librarian
Osler Library
McGill University
Montreal, Canada

Dear Dr. Francis:

I hope to be able to undertake a paper on the influence of the RELIGIO MEDICI on Sir William Osler. Do you have at hand pertinent information that can be sent me without too much trouble? I shall greatly appreciate anything you may be able to send me, believe me.

Will you kindly answer the following questions?:

1. Do you recall how Sir William Osler pronounced RELIGIO MEDICI? (Was it as though it were spelled reLIDG_{eo} MEDisi?)
2. Was Dr. Osler's favorite copy of the RELIGIO placed in your library, or does it no longer exist? I have heard conflicting reports about it.
3. Was this book with him at his death? Was it the one that was read to him during his final illness? Was it (in/on) his coffin during his funeral services?
4. Was there any book that he loved as well, or nearly as well as the Religio?

I hope that these questions do not seem impertinent to you, Dr. Francis. I dearly love and esteem the memory of this great physician and man and wish that I might have known him. His abiding interest in my own profession, Librarianship, is a great joy to me.

One final question: I hope to have some free time this coming August. Will the Osler Library be open to me and may I have the pleasure of examining some of your treasures?

Cordially and sincerely,

Thomas F. Gardner
Thomas F. Gardner
Assistant Librarian

TFG/mc

OSLER LIBRARY,
25 Sept., 1947.

Mr. Thomas F. Gardner,
Assistant Librarian,
Kent State University,
Kent, Ohio, U. S. A.

*Osler's share.
Thompson's address.
We have 1525.
3 percent*

Dear Mr. Gardner,

I am sending you, under separate cover, a couple of reprints which should give you most of the information you ask for. The catalogue, "Bibliotheca Osleriana", 1927, lists Osler's 8000 books, according to his own peculiar and unprofessional classification. We have added some 3000 since, largely current books on history and biography. We do not use any special notation.

Youngsters are not usually interested in history. I lecture to the 2nd year on old medicine and try to lure the students into the library. We had 2,345 readers last year, 1,241 of them undergraduates.

We have Osleriana, personal relics, &c.; besides Osler's books.

I should be only too delighted to give you any further information I can.

Yours sincerely,

L. V. F.

WTF:CD

WTF
L. V. F.

OP

Reprint from McGill News.

Shrine

3 postcards

KENT STATE UNIVERSITY

KENT, OHIO

18 September 1947

Librarian
McGill University
Montreal
Quebec
Canada

Dear Sir:

I am greatly interested in the late Sir William Osler and would like to know as much about the Bibliotheca Osleriana as you have available; how it is housed and how it is arranged.

I have seen the catalogue printed by Oxford University Press (1926?) but I should like to know what notation, if any, you use. Are the books greatly consulted, and are there any memorabilia of Dr. Osler, other than his books?

Please believe that I shall greatly appreciate whatever information you are able to provide.

Yours very sincerely,

Thomas F. Gardner

Thomas F. Gardner
Assistant Librarian

TFG/mc

HUGH W. GAROL, M.D.
384 POST STREET
SAN FRANCISCO 8
CALIF. 94102

16 October
OSLER LIBRARY,
3 Dec., 1957.

Dr. Hugh W. Garol,
384 Post Street,
San Francisco, 8,
Cal., U. S. A.

Dear Garol,
Dear Dr. Garol,
Dear Dr. Garol,

It is good to hear from past Osler Society boys, and I was waiting for a line from Dr. Seletz, but he hasn't written yet.

As one of your graduates - and former member of the Osler Society - I feel I must be old-fashioned and not inclined to encourage modern sculptors. But perhaps a good neurosurgeon can be relied on to have some respect for anatomy and physiognomy, and not to "abstract" a horror from his "Freud and Junk subconscious"!

There is a good collection of Osleriana made by the late Dr. Esther Rosencrantz and now in the San Francisco library of the U. of Calif. Medical School. It probably contains a lot of pictures of Osler, either as separate photos or in the various biographies. Perhaps Dr. S. would care to look them over and get some copied.

I enclose some "pulls" of which we have many, from Maudie Abbott's book. They are good likenesses of Osler, especially the Vernon medallion of 1903.

With best regards,

This man has done some outstanding work of Lincoln (president in 1861-64) yes. ago, seen W. W. Francis, M.D., and Librarian.

Yours sincerely,

W. W. F.

W. W. Francis, M.D.,
Librarian.

WWF:cd
Encls:-

HUGH W. GAROL, M.D.
NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY
384 POST STREET
SAN FRANCISCO 8
YUKON 2-3838

16 October 1957

Dr. W. W. Francis
Osler Library
McGill Univ.
Montreal, P.Q.

Dear Doctor Francis:

As one of your graduates - and former member of the Osler Society, I feel I must tell you about a bust of Sir William.

Dr. Emil Seletz, neurosurgeon and sculptor of no mean merit, wishes to make a bust of Sir William. I told him you had quite a collection of photographs which might help. Whether you could send him copies or not, I leave with you.

This man has done some outstanding busts of Lincoln (frontispiece in Science several yrs. ago), of Einstein, Ben-Gurion, etc. I've seen some - and consider them of exceptional caliber.

Dr. Seletz will write you.

Dr. Emil Seletz
Cedars of Lebanon Hosp.
LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

Best regards,
Hugh Garol

OSLER LIBRARY,
15 Nov., 1956.

Dr. C. L. Gass,
Tatamagouche,
N. S.

Dear Dr. Gass,

I hear from my son-in-law in Stalkerville (alias Ormstown) that you are president of the College of General Practice and that you know the Latin translation, as it appears on the seal, to be wrong. Can't you please use your influence to have the offensive CANADENSAE corrected to CANADENSE? And meanwhile couldn't it be omitted from the otherwise respectable C. M. A. Journal, which I formerly helped to edit? It appears twice - twice too often - on the same page in recent issues, e.g. Nov. 1st, p. 771. I've protested twice to the present editor who knows enough Latin to be distressed by the seal and would be glad to omit it, but apparently a Dr. Johnson is the lion in the path, claiming that the spelling was approved by the Latin Dept. of the University of Toronto!! If you and the editor can't persuade him, my next move will be *to write* to the professor of Latin at Toronto.

Hopefully and with kind regards.

Yours sincerely,

W. W. Francis

W. W. Francis, M.D.,
Librarian.

WWF:cd

Amman Cottage
Catamagouche, N. S.

Nov 19th 56.

Dr W. Francis.

Osler Library, Montreal.

Dear Doctor Francis -

Your letter of Nov 15th just came to me today. The same mail brought to me a supply of College Stationery which bears the offending seal. I shall spare your feelings and not use it to answer your letter.

- After calling on you in June I took ship for Europe and just returned in October. On the boat we sat at Table with Sir Richard and Lady Loringstone who as you know spent his life in Classics at Oxford. He was interested in hearing about you and your beautiful library. I found that he had a warm spot in his heart for Osler, which made us kin. He agreed with your opinion regarding the Latin inscription on the College seal of course. I then wrote Dr Phouston, quoting my double authority and asked to have the inscription corrected.

On my return last month I again took
up the matter with Dr Johnston and am
assured that the connection will be
made, a new seal will be made.

Thank you for your interest and help.
With kindest regards.

Yours sincerely.

C. Gass.