

26 Jan. 1933

Dr. Norman Gwyn,
109 Madison Ave.,
Toronto, Ont.

My dear Norman:

Mr. Ellis was just in and handed me the brick from Bond Head. I am very glad to have it for the Library, both as a memento and as a paper weight. Some day I hope to get one of those wooden gavels out of you for the Osler Society.

The last letter from you sounded desperately depressed, but I hope the domestic staff tangle has been straightened out.

Last August Cushing sent to the Library all the manuscript material on which he based his biography. With it were two wonderful coloured sketch books, chiefly botanical, of Father Johnson's. These had been given to him by Jukes Johnson, who at the time had showed him a whole packing case full of similar sketch books. Cushing asked me if I knew what had become of these. I wrote to Miss Poole last summer but she did not know where they were. They are certainly worth rescuing, or wresting, if possible, from the family.

Love to you and any of my family or your family whom you see.

Yours ever,

RET

1 November, 1939

Dr. N. B. Gwyn,
109 Madison Ave.,
Toronto, Ont.

My dear Norman,

I have been looking over the file of Cushing's letters to me with a view to sending them to John Fulton for the biography which has been wished upon him. When H.C. sent me the MS. and material of the Life of W.O., which fills four large files here, he wrote on 13 July, 1932, "Perhaps the most valuable things for you are the two colored sketch books of Father Johnson's which Arthur Johnson gave to me. There was a large packing-case full of them, I suppose a hundred or so, in the old house in Toronto. What has become of them I can't imagine unless Norman Gwyn may have them. I have always felt that Father Johnson's biography ought to have been written by someone and I hope it may be some day." I wrote to you a few months later about this and you answered that your material in the Library came from J. B. Johnson, "All sorts of sketches and water colours ... there are a few separate note-books like a diary in many parts ...". If there was any further correspondence between you and me about it I can't find it, but it would seem as though Harvey must have been dreaming or else the contents of that alleged packing-case have not reached the Academy.

I enclose an off-print of my obituary of Harvey in the current C.M.A.J. I stole most of it from Fulton.

Love to you both.

Yours ever,

Bill

DR. NORMAN B. GWYN
109 MADISON AVE.
TORONTO

CONSULTATION BY APPOINTMENT
2 TO 5 P.M.

Nov. 3, 1939.

Dear William,

I think your appreciation of Harvey Cushing is delightfully put. Such a tragedy to see all our old friends, Thayer, McCrae, Fitcher, Emerson, and Cushing passing on at their comparatively young age. One wonders what it all means. I have most of the Johnsoniana and I procured it from Harvey. It took me eight months of steady work with poor old Arthur Jukes Johnson, ill, dying and off his head.

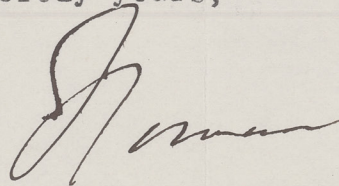
There are all sorts of coloured sketches, a diary of sorts, the books with which Johnson and W. O. worked and a couple of old notebooks of W. A. Johnson's father with some fair coloured drawings. Later on I got a great deal more from J. B. Johnson, a separate cabinet of microscopic slides with letters and things. All these things have been placed at the Academy long ago and in the Osler case you will see the various things relating to uncle's teachers, Johnson and Bovell.

One thing has been worrying me of late and that is that I have a recollection of seeing a detail of the old Divinity School of Cobourg, with Johnson's name in it as a student. I cannot for the life of me remember where I saw it and the note I made about it seems to have disappeared.

With all best wishes to you.

Very sincerely yours,

NG*mm



22 March, 1939

Dr. W. B. Gwyn,
108 Madison Ave.,
Toronto, Ont.

Dear Norman,

Many thanks for the charred remains which arrived this morning. Your suggestion of making the head of the gavel in two pieces is a good practical one. I am disappointed to find that the Bromsgrove Guild which did the woodwork for this library has gone out of business, as I must find a good workman to do the job. The boys will be delighted to have the gavel and it will go to them from you and me.

I shall also follow your suggestion about writing Jopson for a copy of his etching and will suggest that this would be a good place to deposit the plate (if he doesn't want too much for it).

Dear old Maudie brought me most enthusiastic accounts of you both, especially of Violet.

Archie Malloch wrote me that he was to be in Baltimore yesterday to talk to the Osler Society of the Medical & Chirurgical Society. We are trying to make plans here for a sort of annual Osler celebration about March 28th, the anniversary of his graduation, to begin next year. For this year they are arranging an Osler hour in connection with the C. M. A. meeting in June, which I hope you will be attending.

Lyndal

Yours ever,

W. B. Gwyn

P.S. I am having some copies made of that typewritten article you lent Maudie entitled, "St. John's, Weston". It was apparently written about 1902. Do you know who wrote it?

DR. NORMAN B. GWYN

109 MADISON AVENUE

TORONTO

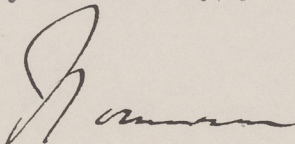
March 21, 1939.

Dear William,

I have your letter of the 16th and I mailed you yesterday by parcel post all that I have left of the wood from the old Osler homestead. It might be necessary in making a gavel to have the head made in two pieces but the line of union could be easily concealed by a silver band. One could make a narrow gavel head, of course, and have it weighted but I think the suggestion of two half heads joined and covered with a silver band would be the better.

All goes well with both of us. I was interested to hear of your going down to New Haven. I had no idea that Harvey Cushing had reached his seventies.

Very sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'N. B. Gwyn', written in a cursive style.

NG*mm

DR. NORMAN B. GWYN

109 MADISON AVENUE

TORONTO

March 17, 1939.

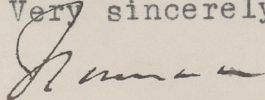
Dear Bill,

A few weeks ago I asked the old artist Jopling who lives at 207 Cottingham St. to make me another etching of the old Osler Homestead at Bond Head. I understand he has made two and I am wondering if the Osler Library might not like to buy the second or give him an order for another in case he sells the extra copy at an exhibition up in Hamilton. I think his charge is \$10.00 and I think we sent you a Christmas card which was a small reproduction of the larger etching.

This etching was made from an old pencil sketch which belonged to uncle Fen. The sketch which was made by a daughter of the Rev. Mr. Hill, who was grandfather's assistant at the time, is dated 1846.

I have wondered whether perhaps you might not want to get in touch with the old man and procure the plate itself for he is well on in years and it will only disappear after his death.

Very sincerely yours,



NG*mm

8888
197

OR. NORMAN B. GWYN

103 MADISON AVENUE

TORONTO

247:189

988:945

March 17, 1933

Dear Bill,

A few weeks ago I asked the old artist Jopling who lives at 207 Cottingham St. to make me another etching of the old Oaler Homestead at Bond Head. I understand he has made two and I am wondering if the Oaler Library might not like to buy the second or give me an order for another in case he sells the extra copy at an exhibition up in Hamilton. I think his charge is \$10.00 and I think we sent you a Christmas card which was a small reproduction of the larger etching.

This etching was made from an old general sketch which belonged to uncle Tom. The sketch which was made by a daughter of the Rev. Mr. Hill, who was grandfather's assistant at the time, is dated 1848.

I have wondered whether perhaps you might not want to get in touch with the old man and procure the plate itself for he is well on in years and it will only disappear after his death.

Very sincerely yours,



NG:101

16 March, 1939

Dr. N. B. Gwyn,
109 Madison Ave.,
Toronto, Ont.

My dear Norman,

On the programme of Archie Malloch's coming talk in Baltimore on the 21st I see that their Osler Historical Club is to have a gavel from the Tecumseh wood, which drives me back to our correspondence in January and it looks as though I had left the matter open. I wrote you on January 12th that I wanted the gavel very much for our Osler Society but I didn't feel like putting you to the expense of having it made. However, I see that in your answer of the 16th you leave it open and are waiting until I am "ready". If it is convenient for you to have the gavel made, probably that would be the simplest as you have already had some done and of course we should be glad to have it as a gift but on the other hand I don't like to impose on you and I should be perfectly willing to pay for it, or to have it made here if it will save you trouble merely to send the wood.

I hope all goes well with you and Violet and that you have avoided the flu.

I am going to New Haven at Easter for Harvey Cushing's 70th birthday celebration.

Love to you both.

Yours ever,

Bill

12 January, 1939

Dr. N. B. Gwyn,
109 Madison Avenue,
Toronto, Ont.

Dear Norman,

You ex-Philadelphians are a formal lot! Eight years ago, in his International Clinics, Cattell described me as "the venerable custodian of the Osler Library", and now ~~you~~ begins your letter "Dear Dr. Francis". Apart from that, however, the letter is more than welcome. You long ago promised me a gavel from the wood of the old rectory, and I had told our Osler Society that they might expect it but when I spoke to you later you had run out of the material, though you hoped to get some more. A gavel would be a delightful thing to have and I should be glad to be allowed to pay for the making of it.

It is good to hear that you have been in New York talking to the Osler Society. Save your remarks and use them here some time. Perhaps we could get you next year. The annual banquet of our Osler Society comes off on Saturday night the 21st and Stengel is to be the guest speaker. Of late years the speaker has been chosen rather more by the A.O.A. than by our Osler Society and usually has to give two addresses, on successive nights. It is far the best dinner of the year here. It is arranged by the forty undergraduate members but there are always more than that number of graduates. If you are looking for an excuse for a visit to Montreal next week come and join us.

Perhaps Stengel will be able to identify some of the odd looking students in that Blockley picture. I was surprised just now in looking it up to find that we have not got Croskey's history of Blockley. I must get it. It appeared in 1929, when the Library had no money to buy books.

Love to you both and many thanks to Violet for reminding you to remind me about that gavel.

Happy New Year.

Yours ever,

Bill (Wm, n. if you see.
disapproves, make it
William)

The book you
have in
decorates my
desk & table
to keep us,
papers tidy

DR. NORMAN B. GWYN

109 MADISON AVENUE

TORONTO

W.W.F. 11 Jan. 10, 1939.

Dear Dr. Francis,

Thank you and your missus for the Christmas card. It was nice to be in touch with you again.

I was in New York last week addressing the Osler Society there, saw Archie, who seemed to be in the best of spirits. Violet wants me to remind you that we got a large chunk of wood from the Osler house at Bond Head. She thinks that she remembers your saying that you would like to have a piece of it for a gavel or paper knife. Will you let me know your wishes in this direction.

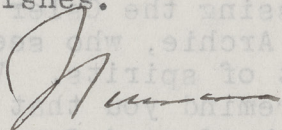
We have an occasional visit from Percy and I see the rest of your family from time to time, all of them apparently being in good shape. Best love to yourself and your missus. *R*

" I am glad you like the interesting old photograph of uncle taken in the old Philadelphia General Hospital Autopsy room. I had never seen it before. It came out in a publication

a few years ago describing the old hospital from its beginning and the reproduction was said to be from a photograph in the possession of a Miss Roberta West.

Miss West was one of two or three English women brought out to institute a system of nursing in the old hospital and it is interesting to realize that uncle's early clinical work must have been in a hospital where nursing was at a pretty low ebb only a matter of three or four years before his arrival at Philadelphia.

With all best wishes.



28 December, 1937

Dr. Norman B. Gwyn,
102 Madison Avenue,
TORONTO, Ont.

Dear Norman:

Yes, that is a first edition of the "Vulgar Errors", as the work is usually called in preference to its grand Greek name. Uncle Willie paid only 10/- for his copy, in a good old binding, in 1907, but he started so many people collecting Browne that the prices went up rapidly and the last record I have of the price of a copy is £8.10/- in 1930. Prices have dropped a good deal since then owing to the slump and I imagine that a copy with one of the covers off would not be likely to bring more than \$10 or \$15 now in this country or the U.S. Also a point of importance to collectors is that it should have the "imprimatur" leaf facing the title page, a leaf beginning "March the 14th. 1645. I have perused these learned animadversions ... signed, John Downname".

Marian is enjoying her first independent fling, a week in the Laurentians at a sort of youth hostel for skiers which has been opened by a friend of ours, a 26-year old retired dietitian. Bunks and all the discomforts for them as likes them.

If you have any valuable ideas about bringing up a pup let me have them. Our fourth disastrous attempt died on Christmas day, in convulsions. Otherwise all goes well.

Bill Howell has retired and gone to live in England. We miss him very much. Some out of town doctor was asking after you affectionately the other day. I am blessed if I can remember who it was.

Ever yours,

W.H.

P.S. *Letter 2.7.*

P.S. *Is Xtra varying the Taxable?*

Dec. 27, 1937.

DR. NORMAN B. GWYN

109 MADISON AVENUE

TORONTO

Dear William,

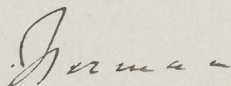
Thank you for the card suggesting to me that you, Hilda and Marian are all flourishing. It is nice indeed to hear from you.

Now I want to ask you something along your own line. One of Alfred Hoskin's daughters died a few weeks ago and among her effects was a book of her grandfather's "The Pseudo Doxia Epidemica". I notice the title page corresponds with that of No. 4488 of the Osler Library. It is a folio, London, printed by T. H. for E. Dodd 1646. I am wondering if this can be a first edition and whether it has any value. Save that one of the covers has broken off it seems to be in perfect shape.

Apologizing for troubling you,

Yours as ever,

NG*MM



25. Sept., 1935

Dr. N. B. Gwyn,
109 Madison Ave.,
Toronto.

My dear Norman,

That really obvious explanation occurred to me as soon as I had closed my letter to you. I had never heard of Herbert and Virginia having had a son. What a tragedy his loss must have been to them!

The Cicero, in addition to her inscription on the 3rd page, has the Gwyn arms pasted on the back of the title. It lost its front cover long ago, to judge from the colour of the exposed title-page. It came here in 1931, with other personal relics (Latin grammar, Weston notebooks, hymn book, prayer book "from J. Bovell", &c.), from Sue Chapin and Ned Revere, as aunt Grace's executors. It must have been given by H. or V. to aunt G., or to Sue if the boy died after 1928. Of course I should prefer to keep it here, but if you want it I'm quite willing that it should go to you, though it will be necessary first to unravel some red tape. The book having been officially accessioned (before I noticed Virginia's inscription), I can't withdraw it without the permission of the donors (Ned and Sue) and then of the Curators (trustees) of the Library who meet next in January. They might want Virginia's consent too. Ought she to be asked?

I'm glad to hear that Amy is considering C. P. H. for the job. No one now can know or love the Textbook more than he does. He drills it into the students here early and late, and he told me recently that he had never given a talk or clinic without a reference to Osler or the book.

Let me know if you want me to approach Sue about withdrawing the Cicero. Also, in what year was our Campbell killed? I want the date for the family tree in the Osler "Records", and I'd like to insert a note about him, as a former McGill student, in this Cicero if it remains here.

Tom Brown, of Balto., nearly blind but jovial as ever, was here lately and asking affectionately after you.

Yours ever,

Ruf

F.

he prescribes it
every day &

16 September, 1935

Dr. Norman B. Gwyn,
109 Madison Avenue,
Toronto, Ont.

My dear Norman:

Among some personal relics and school books of W. O. which Sue Chapin handed over to me a few years ago there is a copy of Cicero's Orations, 1836, inscribed "Wm. Osler, Barrie, 1865". I have just noticed in it the following puzzling inscription:

"This book was given to me by Mrs. H. C. Gwyn,
July 6, 1914. It is to be given to Campbell
Gwyn when he is 21 years of age. [signed]
Virginia Percival Gwyn
Dec. 25, 1918".

30 in 1914

Virginia, I know, is Herbert's widow. But as good old Campbell was dead before the inscription was written, what do you make of it? What year was Campbell killed? I see that neither of Trevor's boys was named Campbell.

We had a good summer, with a month in Nova Scotia, where we just missed seeing Amy and Sue Chapin, who enquired at our hotel a day or two after we had left. Do you know if Tom made any provision for carrying on the text-book? Campbell and I would both like to know.

Howard

I hope all goes well with you.

Yours ever,

Ruf

DR. NORMAN B. GWYN
109 MADISON AVE.
TORONTO

CONSULTATION BY APPOINTMENT
2 TO 5 P.M.

January 23, 1951.

Dear Bill:

OSLER LIBRARY,
25 Jan., 1951.

Dr. Norman B. Gwyn,
109 Madison Avenue,
Toronto,
Ont.

Dear Norman,

Glad to hear of Anne Wilkinson and her husband and her interesting plan. I hope she carries it out. Those "big four" OUGHT to be well written up, and I'll of course be delighted to give her any help I can. I hope I may see her here, where there is source material as well as "atmosphere".

Strange that none of uncle Pen's family had any adequate account prepared of him and uncle Brick. I asked Glyn why, and he said they had considered collecting B. B.'s speeches, but had decided they were too topical to be of permanent interest.

Marian produced her 3rd (in 30 months!) yesterday, a 7 lb., 12 oz. Stephen William, both flourishing, in the grand new 60-bed hospital at Ormstown. Does anyone keep up records for the family tree now that Britton and Percy are gone?

Give my love to Anne and tell her not to hesitate to put me to work.

Yours ever,

Bill

WBF:cd

P.S. ~~Ann's~~ 110th b'day!
The "preserving food clip" mentioned in Nick.

DR. NORMAN B. GWYN
109 MADISON AVE.
TORONTO

CONSULTATION BY APPOINTMENT
2 TO 5 P.M.

January 23, 1951.

Dear Bill:

You may be hearing any time from Anne Wilkinson. Anne Wilkinson, you may remember, is Mary Boyd's daughter and married to Dr. Wilkinson who stands high as a surgeon at the Children's Hospital.

Anne is planning something on the four successful Osler men and naturally feels that you can give her some help and guidance.

She has considerable literary ability and is a very likeable and attractive woman. I know you will do anything for her that is in your power.

Hope all goes well with you and your family.

As ever,

Yours,

Norman

Anne Gibbons 1910, 21st St.

married

Robt. Wilkinson 1932

*Geo. Gibbons died 1919.
G.*

son Robt. J. born 1935.

d. Hutton C. 1938.

Mrs F.R.W

house. 267 Kewborough St. W.

Or was it right? The B. M. J. wants 1000 words from me about the family and 800 about his literary output, or vice versa, and I'm not at all sure that the question would be more interested in the unconventional Frank than in the exemplary and erudite Paul. I don't suppose it would pain anybody, if I said something of brother Frank's exploits? Did you know he was a strassen-beer in the Franco-Prussian war? Any other medical distinctions, besides an 84-year-ling from the effects of alcohol?

1 April, 1949.

Dr. Norman B. Gwyn,
109 Madison Ave.,
Toronto, Ont.

Dear Norman,

Sophie Rolph?!! She couldn't be very ^{much} younger than uncle Willie and must be nearly 100 and blonder than ever! If I come upon anything connecting W. O. with her grandpa I'll certainly let you have it.

I am being dummed also by Mrs. Trent (he was a real loss), as well as MacDermot, the B. M. J. and the McGill "News". Your "Archives" people gave me up as hopeless. I'll be glad when the Chief's 101st b'day comes round!

Yesterday I heard from a Mrs. Arthur Trigge, 118 College Hill, Richmond, P. Q., who was Mary Locke, offering photos of her father, C. F. A. L.'s, friends and classmates. I'll be glad to have them. There's one of Holford Walker among them, I see from her list. Please tell Nona. She'll doubtless remember walking the Burlington beach boardwalk with me at the advanced age of four, when that gushing Mrs. Locke suddenly jumped to her feet as we passed and rushed at us with both arms in the air, "Oh, what a beeyootiful Che-ild!" Poor little Nona fled, thoroughly scared.

We are all flourishing, especially the grandchild. But thanks to your friend Prinzmetal, I am dieting a bit painfully, trying to drop 20 lbs. I seem to lose more from my slim legs than from my pot belly. There is an article on Prinzmetal and his trouble with Hearst in "Time" of 28 March, pp. 46-7 - if you see that ragged rag.

Archie Malloch is better, getting about a bit again, but won't get back to work at the Academy, I fear. You knew that he had two coronary attacks last summer and autumn?

"Trigge" reminds me - - wasn't that the name of the sailor uncle Frank brought home to the Rectory after his whaling absence?

P. T. O.

Or was it Figg? The B. M. J. wants 1000 words from me about the family and 500 about his literary output, or vice versa, and I'm not at all sure that the profession wouldn't be more interested in the unconventional Frank than in the exemplary and erudite Fen! I don't suppose it would pain anybody, if I said something of Brother Frank's exploits? Did you know he was a stretcher-bearer in the Franco-Prussian war? Any other medical distinctions, besides an 84-year immunity from the effects of alcohol?

Dr. Norman B. Gwyn
108 Madison Ave.
Toronto, Ont.
Milt.

bc:FWW

Dear Norman,

Gophie Polph!! She couldn't be very younger than Uncle Willie and must be nearly 100 and blonder than ever! I come upon anything connecting W. O. with her, I'll certainly let you have it.

I am being dunned also by Mrs. Trent (he was a real loss), as well as McDermott, the B. M. J. and the McGill "News". Your "Archives" people gave me up as hopeless. I'll be glad when the Chief's latest "day" comes round!

Yesterday I heard from a Mrs. Arthur Triggs, 118 College Hill, Richmond, P. C., who was Mary Locke, offering photos of her father, O. F. A. L.'s friends and associates. I'll be glad to have them. There's one of Harford Walker among them, I see from her list. Please tell him. He'll doubtless remember walking the Burlington beach boardwalk with me at the advanced age of four, when that grinning Mrs. Locke suddenly jumped to her feet as we passed and rushed at us with both arms in the air, "Oh, what a beautiful one-liner!" Poor little home fled, thoroughly scared.

We are all flourishing, especially the grandchildren. But thanks to your friend Primmett, I am dieting a bit painfully, trying to drop 20 lbs. I seem to lose more from my arm legs than from my pot belly. There is an article on Primmett and his trouble with heart in "Time" of 28 March, pp. 46-7 - if you see that ragged rag.

Archie Malloch is better, getting about a bit again, but won't get back to work at the Academy, I fear. You know that he had two coronary attacks last summer and autumn?

"Triggs" reminds me - wasn't that the name of the sister Uncle Frank brought home to the Rectory after his wedding absence?

P. T. O.

OSLER LIBRARY,
31 January, 1949.

Dr. Norman B. Gwyn,
109 Madison Ave.,
Toronto, Ont.

Dear Norman,

Thanks for yours of the 28th and the C. P. Express Bill for sending the billet to Gibson. I see it is receipted, so I enclose my cheque made out to you for \$13.48 at par. I'll collect from him. Many thanks for the trouble you have taken over this.

Young Palmer Howard is sitting beside me working at a paper for the Archives Osler number, particularly on the bedside teaching. The original R. P. H. ~~address~~ wrote in 1882 that it had been systematized here in 1843 and he thought it surpassed anything on this side and equalled the best in the Mother Country.

I hold no brief for Rolph - far from it, but I was surprised to read how gently W. O. treated him in those references I gave you.

that he had seen a
I had an enthusiastic visit from a fine Toronto dentist, Joseph H. Johnson, last week. I had just heard from "Rosie" that she had received a finely bound printed copy of the letters written to Grandmother Osler on her 100 birthday, and that the donor Dr. Elmer Belt of Los Angeles, had the original letters! I don't remember to have heard of them! And without any remark about them from me didn't Dr. Johnson casually mention ~~the~~ printed copy! Where was it done and who edited them? Surely W. O. or his library should have received a copy!

I wonder how the originals got on the market? I saww offered recently for \$100 W. O.'s first set of Jowett's Plato, the 1871 edition, with his inscription to uncle Fen, 1892, and F. O.'s inscription to his grandson, W. O. Abbott, 1922. Poor "Peter" Abbott's widow must have sold it - and perhaps other Osleriana. I hope she got a fair share of the \$100! The 3rd edition, 1892, which is here, was given to W. O. by aunt Grace on their wedding trip.

Do you know who bought the Ned Milburn letters? Are they still at Schuman's?

Yours ever,

WWF:ed
Encl:-

Bill

DR. NORMAN B. GWYN
109 MADISON AVE.
TORONTO

CONSULTATION BY APPOINTMENT
2 TO 5 P.M.

January 28th., 1949.

Dr. William Francis,
Osler Library,
McGill University,
Montreal, Quebec.

Dear Bill:-

Thank you for your letter of the 24th. of January. I won't touch on the matter of Rolph just now. Here is the Canadian Pacific Express Company charge, and we can only hope that the timber will arrive.

As regards Uncle Willie's leaving Toronto, my first suspicion came from one of Grandfather Osler's letters, in which he says, "Willie has gone to McGill. The Hospital facilities are better". Whatever the final reasons were, one thing would be very certain, and that is from 1868 when he entered the Toronto School of Medicine to 1870 when he left, he would have seen the active and malicious fighting that was going on. One notes in a good-bye address at a dinner in New York his kindly reference to McGill, Philadelphia and Baltimore, but nothing is said of Toronto. Yet, as we know, he was a student of the Toronto School of Medicine, and one of his early papers you may remember, appears in print with the note, William Osler, Toronto School of Medicine.

50
The Rolph history is long and remarkable. One of the rebels, he of course, offended all the stupid Loyalists. His appearance with Sir Francis Bond Head's hastily collected army the day after the rebellion broke, ~~so~~ bearing a white flag, made him at once suspect to his rebel companions, and for many a long year he was referred to as "our friend of the white flag". His stand on the question of the clergy reserves and the indictment of Bishop Strachan made him again the object of hatred of all the Anglicans. The accusation that as Minister of Crown Lands he promoted the abolition of the Kings College or University Medical School in order to help his own, is, of course, malicious to a degree, because the University got on without a Medical Faculty for thirty years. This abolition of the Faculty of the University resulted in new enemies for him in the persons of the discharged professors. You may have known the history of the secession of his associates in 1857, which really began a very active quarrel between what was left of his school and the men who now had control of the original Toronto School.,

About 1857 there was a public investigation of affairs in the old General Hospital, brought about by the complaints of the Rolph students. Nothing much seemed to have been done, but the interesting thing is that we find that the Trinity men seemed to have much to say in the managment of the Hospital, and gave Rolph's staff very little consideration. No doubt, as you say, Rolph was more sinned against than sinning.

-2-

I am sorry we cannot trace Shimei. I fancy it must have been one of those remarks that we heard him make from time to time, but it always made an impression upon me.

I leave the express charges to your tender mercy.

Shuman

Yours,

NBG.LL

OSLER LIBRARY,
7 July, 1948.

Dr. Norman B. Gwyn,
109 Madison Avenue,
Toronto, Ont.

Dear Norman,

It is good of you to write, especially as I don't think I wrote at the time of Gwen's death to thank you for all your good deeds to her and hers. I suppose it was a cerebral haemorrhage that took her off so peacefully compared with what she might have suffered if you hadn't led her to the surgeons some years ago. I had a nice letter from Bertram yesterday.

Sorry to miss Aylmer and Mildred when they were here. A friend of M's told me she had seen her. I hope they'll be coming back this way and let us have a glimpse of them.

Some lad, that Prinzmetal evidently! I've been sending him some superfluous (triplicate, quadruplicate) Osleriana for which he pays us five times over. He hinted that he would also like any Osler furniture, so we had better leave his name and address with our possible survivors (no hurry, please), in case they move into smaller quarters.

W. O. hadn't that "Baconiana", 1679, which Prinzmetal sent you, but we have two copies in the University Library, otherwise I might try to beg it of you. It is probably worth \$5 to 10 now (\$2.50 at auction in 1910), and is of some medical interest, the third section containing papers on prolonging life and on medical recipes. The second section, "physiological" in the old sense of natural science, is chiefly on metals. I gather (for I've not seen the book) that the whole was rehashed by Archbishop Tenison from some posthumous papers of Bacon's.

Marian threatens to grandparentalize us in Oct. and internal expansion has now made her give up her interning at the Children's, where she has had a good year. We all go off to St. Jovite for two weeks on the 17th.

I was pleased to see Rachel's Osler Almon and his wife here a few weeks ago. I heard some good accounts of him from someone, I don't remember who. I got a few smiles out of him, which I never succeeded in doing when he was interning here some years ago.

(over)

enjoyin
Kentuck
Dr. Pri
of whic
I did n
at Ri

Hilda has quite recovered from her torturing, post-herpetic, facial neuralgia. She had three very bad months with it.

OSLER LIBRARY
1948

Love to you and Violet and friends and relatives.

Yours ever,
Dr. Norman B. Gay
103 Madison Avenue
Toronto, Ont.

Bill

WFF:CD

Dear Norman,

If it is good of you to write, especially as I don't think I wrote at the time of Owen's death to thank you for all your good deeds to her and hers. I suppose it was a cerebral hemorrhage that took her off so peacefully compared with what she might have suffered if you hadn't led her to the surgeons some years ago. I had a nice letter from Boston yesterday.

Sorry to miss Almer and Mildred when they were here. A friend of M's told me she had seen her. I hope they'll be coming back this way and let us have a glimpse of them.

Some day, that Princeton evidently I've been sending him some superfluous (trifling, quibbling) criticisms for which he pays us five times over. He hinted that he would like my Osler furniture, so we had better leave his name and address with our possible survivors (no hurry, please), in case they move into smaller quarters.

W. O. hadn't that "Bacchantes", 1879, which Princeton sent you, but we have two copies in the University Library, otherwise I might try to beg it of you. It is probably worth \$5 to \$10 now (\$2.50 at auction in 1910), and is of some medical interest, the third section containing papers on prolonging life and on medical recipes. The second section, "physiological" in the old sense of natural science, is chiefly on materia. I gather (for I've not seen the book) that the whole was reissued by Archbishop Tension from some posthumous papers of Bacon's.

Marion's interest in Grandparentalike as in Oct. and internal expansion has now made her give up her interest at the Children's, where she has had a good year. We all go off to St. Louis for two weeks on the 17th.

I was pleased to see Rachel's Osler Almon and his wife here a few weeks ago. I heard some good accounts of him from someone I don't remember who. I got a few miles out of him, which I never succeeded in doing when he was in town here some years ago.

(over)

NORMAN B. GWYN

109 MADISON AVENUE

TORONTO

June 30th., 1948.

Dr. W. W. Francis,
Osler Library,
McGill Medical Building,
McGill University, Montreal.

Dear Bill:-

I have been intending to write to you for some time, more particularly since Gwen died. Poor little soul, there had been no sign of any return of her malignant disease, but in recent months high blood pressure had begun to show it's evil face. Bertram seems to be pretty well laid out with continued heart weakness, although when I saw him yesterday he seemed in fair physical shape. Violet is with him, and we will hope for some slow improvement. Percy was at the funeral, looking much the same as ever. We are enjoying having Aylmer here, though at present he has gone to Kentucky.

Now may I impose on you. Esther Rosencranz' friend, Dr. Prinzmetal, sent me the other day an old book, the title page of which we put before you. Can you tell me anything about it? I did not see it in the Osler Catalogue, but incidentally, I saw that Richard Cheswell ~~has~~ given a review in the Dictionary of

NORMAN B. GWIN

108 MADISON AVENUE

TORONTO

National Biography.

I hope all goes well with you. We would always be glad to see you up here.

~~Very sincerely,~~

Norman

NBG.LL

*Saw a nice Dr. Hunt
in Port Hope yesterday.
He spoke of you*

Let's 1674 with you

B A C O N I A N A
Or Certain Genuine
R E M A I N S
OF
Sr. FRANCIS BACON
Baron of Verulam
AND

Vicount of St. Albans

In arguments civil and Moral, Natural,
Medical, Theological and Bibliographical
Now the First time faithfully Published.

An account of thefe Remains, and of all
his Lordship's and other Works, is given
by the Publifher, in a Difcourfe, by
way of Introduction.

L O N D O N ,

Printed by J. D. for Richard Chifwell,
at the Roſe and Crown in St. Paul's
Church-Yard, 1679.

2 copies in Redpath

NORMAN B. GWYN

109 MADISON AVENUE

TORONTO

Church-Yard, 1878.

at the Rote, and Crown in St. Paul's.

L O N D O N ,

way of Introduction.

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his Lordship, and other Works, is Given

An account of these Remains, and of all
the Fifth time faithfully Published.

Account of St. Albans

AND

Baron of Verulam

St. FRANCIS BACON

OF

REMAINS

Of Certain Genuine

BACONIANA

March 5 1950

NORMAN B. GWYN

109 MADISON AVENUE

TORONTO

Dear Bill - how goes the weary world ? Dr. Farrar had the feeling that you were laid up as he had not heard from you and he said some one in London had the same idea.

What do you know about Uncle Willies having taken the primary examination at the reorganized Trnity medical mchool 1871. If you have nothing I must send you something which will interest you. I have to describe the Trinity medical faculty for Trinity's centenary this year. Uncle is listed as having passed the primary exam . Hope all goes well with you as far as themyocardium is concerned

Norman

OSLER LIBRARY,
17 April, 1950.

Dr. Norman B. Gwyn,
109 Madison Avenue,
Toronto, Ont.

My dear Norman,

Father Johnson (backed by Bovell?) must have been exorcising the "godless" influence of McGill, and no wonder WO hated exams.

every
Evidently he took the U. of T. physiology exam in his first (and only) year at Trinity in Arts in April 1868 after "attending the medical school in the afternoons."; his primaries at U. of T. in 1870, and again at McGill in March 1871, after certainly attending the entire session here of 1870-1, and again the primaries at Trinity in April 1871, apparently before they had resumed teaching medicine at Trinity!! He spent the entire summer of 1871 working here for his thesis in pathology.

On p. 78 of the Life H.C. mentions the "T. C. Med. School just projected" early in 1871.

Comical idea of Trinity to begin with exams! H. Ross, if Henry of that ilk, who also took that 1871 primary at Trinity was a classmate of WO's at McGill. Two other classmates, H. P. Wright and Charly Locke passed the Ont. board exams on p. 374 of that same number of the Can. Lancet.

He immediately left in law

You must get dizzy trying to work out your Toronto medical jig-saw!

*God keep you sane and
sugar-free!*

Yours ever,

WFO

WFO: cd

✓
DR. NORMAN B. GWYN
109 MADISON AVE.
TORONTO

CONSULTATION BY APPOINTMENT
2 TO 5 P.M.

April 14, 1950.

Dr. W. Francis,
Osler Library,
McGill Medical Building,
McGill University, MONTREAL.

Dear Bill:

Glad to hear you are in fair shape. I have to give a history of the Trinity Medical Faculty and a couple of things have recently come to my notice. Under the heading of "A Long Life's Work in Medical Education in Ontario" there is an editorial reprinted from the Canadian Journal of Medicine and Surgery, Toronto, December 1907. In this editorial it is stated that Geikie had everything to do with the re-organization of the Trinity Medical Faculty. This re-organized faculty announced as soon as it was formed that in April 1871 primary and final examinations would be held. Large numbers of candidates had requested that this should be done.

These examinations, the first work of the faculty, were held; the graduating class alone numbering 30: the primary class was correspondingly large. The latter included Dr. William Osler, now the Regius Professor of Medicine at Oxford, England, etc. and etc. If you want further let me know but this is all that concerns W.O.

In the Canada Lancet, Vol. 3, 1870-71, I ran into the following - University of Trinity College Medical Examination, April 1871, the following candidates have successfully passed the primary and final examinations respectively in this University - Primary: a dozen different names and then William Osler, Toronto. There is no note of his having written the final M.B. degree. This I think would look like very definite proof that W.O. wrote on the Trinity primary examinations. *W.O. p. 354*

As you would remember, when Trinity re-opened they made a great point of saying that Bovell would be on the Faculty though as you know he never came back for any length of time. His name appears as one of the Faculty for several years. *W.O. p. 374.*

Jabez Elliott told us once that W.O. was an examiner in Medicine at the U. of T. You probably are familiar with the fact that though the University no longer taught Medicine yet they retained the power of setting the examination and granting the Medical Degree. Your note "phy. paper Tor. Univ." might possibly refer to this. Rather confusing, all these associations certainly, but Jabez Elliott seemed to be very sure of his statements. It would be likely of course that Uncle passed his primary at the Trinity School of Medicine in 1868, but the details I have given you

(over)

DR. NORMAN B. GWYN
109 MADISON AVE.
TORONTO
CONSULTATION BY APPOINTMENT
2 TO 5 P.M.

April 14, 1950.

Dr. W. Francis,
Cater Library,
McGill Medical Building,
McGill University, MONTREAL.

Dear Bill:

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All best wishes to you,

Norman B. Gwyn

These examinations, the first work of the faculty, were held; the graduating class alone numbering 30; the primary class was correspondingly large. The latter included Dr. William Osler, now the Regius Professor of Medicine at Oxford, England, etc. and etc. If you want further let me know but this is all that concerns W.O.

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(over)

OSLER LIBRARY.

11 April, 1950.

Dr. Norman B. Gwyn,
109 Madison Avenue,
Toronto, Ont.

A bit of 2-weeks' flu but nothing to justify me owing you and Farrar each a letter for so long.

Look at no. 7659 in our Catalogue "Bibliotheca Oslariana". The first of the three exam papers is definitely dated in his early hand 1/4/68, which is something of a puzzle. It seems to indicate that he took physiology in his arts year at Trinity, 1867-8. In a letter to Aunt Jennette, "early" in 1868, quoted by Cushing on p. 51, he says, "I attend the Medical School every afternoon." The 2nd physiology paper preserved in no. 7659 bears no date, is on what looks exactly like the foolscap of the 5rd paper (which must be McGill), is endorsed in his later pencil "Phy. paper Tor. Univ." I always supposed this to be really his McGill primary of 1871. The 5rd paper is clinical and endorsed in his later pencil "Final paper." This is followed by the introduction to his 1872 thesis, 3 leaves, all that has survived of it.

Could the Trinity Med. Fac. have listed WO in 1871 as having passed the primary, without divulging that he did it at the Toronto School in the Spring of 1868? He did himself proud - the paper is endorsed in pencil on the back of p. 4, "Very good paper JB", which is evidently Bovell.

(P. T. O.)

Nona and particularly about the blonde at the left in front. I refuse to believe she is Joan Fiskin whom I have seen more than once in recent years. *Turn I'm looked up + thought I saw 154862 walking in the door.*

I am unconscious of the myocardium, thank you, except sometimes on the top stair, and Hilda and Marian, not to mention Mike and Charlotte Elizabeth, the second (& well behaved enough to deserve the name!) are all flourishing.

I've just had a newspaper clipping about a farce entitled "Osler slept here", put on by the nurses and interns of Blockley last month. The old place is getting gay!

Dear Norman,

Ever yours,

A bit of 2 weeks' in but nothing to justify me owing you and
farther each letter for so long.

McGill made Willie take his (Toronto) prizes over again
have in 1871. According to the Calendar he came 8th, last of the 6
honors mentioned after the 5 prize-men. It will take a lot to convince
me that he also took prizes that year at Trinity Medical School. *WWF:ed*
do send along your justificative pieces, as we say in Quebec.

Look at no. 7888 in our Catalogue "Bibliotheca Galvani". The
first of the three exam papers is definitely dated in his early hand
1/4/88, which is something of a puzzle. It seems to indicate that he took
physiology in his year at Trinity, 1887-8. In a letter to Aunt
Jennette, "early" in 1888, dated by Gushing on p. 51, he says, "I attend
the Medical School every afternoon." The 2nd physiology paper preserved
in no. 7888 bears no date, is on what looks exactly like the foolscap of
the 3rd paper (which must be McGill), is endorsed in his later pencil
"Phys. paper for Univ." I always supposed this to be really his McGill
primary of 1871. The 3rd paper is clinical and endorsed in his later
pencil "Final paper." This is followed by the introduction to his 1872
thesis, 2 leaves, all that has survived of it.

I have often wondered how he managed to keep these MSS., and where.
I don't think he had them in Baltimore or in the early Oxford days. Could
they have been with your mother at Staphelm? When was the dear old place
burned?

Could the Trinity Med. Fac. have listed WO in 1871 as having passed
the primary, without divulging that he did it at the Toronto School in the
Spring of 1868? He did himself proud - the paper is endorsed in pencil on
the back of p. 4, "Very good paper 1B", which is evidently Bovey's.

I don't believe I ever acknowledged the identification of the family
in the 2.0.8 photo. I'm still doubtful about the one I thought might be

OSLER LIBRARY,
22 August, 1949.

Dr. Norman B. Gwyn,
109 Madison Avenue,
Toronto, Ont.

Dear Norman,

Glad you liked my account of the family, including Herbert's "Mother of Nine" - have you a copy of that poem he wrote? I remember some amusement over it at Staplehurst in my teens. I hope it survived. The B. M. J. limited me to 1500 words - or I might have been tempted to tell more anecdotes of uncle Frank. They promised me reprints which haven't arrived. When they do I'll send some.

Yes, thanks, a kind nurse who was working here sent me the Hamilton items, including a picture of you wreathing the cairn.

Archie Malloch wrote me about Singer's Secret-Sorrow-Spish. My answer was that I could hear W. O. chuckle, "Of all silly old tom-cat fools!" I don't believe he was permanently scarred by either Sophie or Molly (Mary Osler Thorne - see his letter to your mother, 6 July, 1871, "Life", i, p. 80). There was also a Leach(?) girl at Ancaster, later Mrs. Wright of Hamilton, he had been in love with, so he told me jokingly when taking me to call on her sister in London in 1901. The trouble with all his portraits is that it took more than a Sargent to get the natural twinkle in his eyes. He wasn't at his best "sitting." See the savage snapshot in the July Archives of Internal Medicine (all Osler no.) taken while that Balto, artist was trying to paint him in 1905.

I've sent Prince-Middle, by air mail, "all the curses of the good Bishop Ermulphus" for re-circulating that group. Please destroy it or write a big NO across the back. It has bothered me for fifteen years, ever since some Californian got the idea that his grandfather was in it and had been a classmate of W. O.'s. It keeps coming to me for identification. The only fellow we've ever recognised is J. C. Cameron, seated on the floor on the right. He got his M.D. in 1874, two years after W. O., of whose class no known photo exists.

Hilda and Marian are in fine form and I hope to survive

(over)

the (not my) 100th birthday, our official celebration on Oct. 6th.
Mike, aged ten months is a prize baby even your maternal connosieur
might have been proud of.

32 August, 1922.

Yours ever,

Butt

Dr. Norman B. Gwyn,
108 Madison Avenue,
Toronto, Ont.

Dear Norman,

cc:FWW

Glad you liked my account of the family, including
Herbert's "Mother of Mine" - have you a copy of that poem he wrote?
I remember some amusement over it at Staphen's in my teens. I
hope it survived. The B. M. J. limited me to 1500 words - or I
might have been tempted to tell more anecdotes of Uncle Frank. They
promised me reports which haven't arrived. When they do I'll send
some.

Yes, thanks, a kind nurse who was working here sent me
the Hamilton items, including a picture of you mending the ceiling.

Archibald MacIsaac wrote me about Stinger's Secret-Sources-Spish.
My answer was that I could hear W. O. Chumley, "of all silly old men-
eat fools!" I don't believe he was permanently scarred by either
Sophie or Molly (Mary Oaker Thorne - see his letter to your mother,
6 July, 1891, "Molly", p. 80). There was also a Leah(?) girl at
Anson's, later Mrs. Wright of Hamilton, he had been in love with
so he told me jokingly when taking me to call on her sister in London
in 1901. The trouble with all his portraits is that it took more
than a Sargent to get the patent tinkle in his eyes. He wasn't at
his best "sitting". See the survey made in the July Archives
of Internal Medicine (All Oaker no.) taken while that fellow, artist
was trying to paint him in 1908.

I've sent Wines-Middle by air mail, "All the curses
of the good Bishop Wines" for re-circulating that group. Please
destroy it or write a big NO across the back. It has bothered me
for fifteen years, ever since some Californian got the idea that his
grandfather was in it and had been a staminate of W. O. Ch. It keeps
coming to me for its enticement. The only fellow we've ever
recognized as J. C. Cameron, seated on the floor on the right. He
got his M.D. in 1874, two years after W. O. Ch. of whose class no known
photo exists.

Hilda and Marian are in fine form and I hope to survive

(over)

OSLER LIBRARY,
21 Nov., 1949.

Dr. Norman B. Gwyn,
109 Madison Avenue,
Toronto, Ont.

Dear Norman,

I am disappointed to find no clue about W. O.'s dwelling in the session of 1868-9 (his first in the Medical School); in that of 1869-70, as he tells in the Introduction to the catalogue, he lived in Bovell's house. Could he have lived there the previous year, too? It's on ~~the~~ record that Bovell said to him, after the first week of his second session at Trinity, viz., in the autumn of 1868, "Come along with me". I suppose Trinity had a residence in 1867-8 and he probably lived there until his "defection" to medicine. In a copy of a letter to him from Grandmother, here, dated 27 March, 1868, she says, "Nellie I dare say will let you know that she is in town by presenting herself at Trinity." *and last*

In the T. C. S. "Record" there's a picture of some twenty-five of the family at the Port Hope celebration. It distresses me that I can identify only three - Nona, Maggie, and Marion. Sorry you and I couldn't be there.

They kindly asked me to perform at your December Osler meeting. I've sworn off both travelling and Oslering.

Yours ever,

Till

WWF:cd

Kocher

DR. NORMAN B. GWYN
109 MADISON AVE.
TORONTO

CONSULTATION BY APPOINTMENT
2 TO 5 P.M.

November 16th, 1949.

Dr. W. W. Francis,
The Osler Library,
McGill Medical Buildings,
Montreal, Canada.

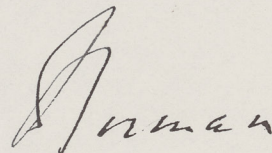
Dear Bill:

I hope you are holding along and not finding Montreal's winter months too much of a terror for you. I wonder if you could tell me anything about Uncle's life in Toronto after he left the school at Weston. I suppose he went into residence at Trinity, though even of that I am not sure, and I know in the Cushing Life that in one of his letters he says he had a room at Dr. Bovell's. I gathered from Aunt Nellie that he had lived with her for awhile in Toronto, but other than that and the residence with Bovell, it does not seem very clear as to where he roomed and boarded.

We are having our History of Medicine meeting for this month at my house and I am giving merely a re-hash of the two papers which have recently appeared, as well as showing them the pictures taken in Dundas and Hamilton. I am sorry to say that I also have to appear at an Osler meeting which will be staged at the Academy early in December. I don't think I would have ever, on my own, written anything about Uncle Willie, but in each case I have been asked to contribute something here and there. Farrar, Parfitt and myself will be the speakers at this meeting and I hope it will be my last appearance.

All best wishes,

Sincerely,



Letter of 27 March 1868 to W.O.

"I am I am say will let you know that
this is to be done by presenting herself at Trinity"

1869-70. with Rachel

I fancy

Letter of 1868 - can also be found

Dear Bill:

I hope you are holding along and not finding Montreal's
winter months too much of a terror for you. I wonder if you
could tell me anything about Uncle's life in Toronto after he
left the school at Weston. I suppose he went into residence at
Trinity, though even of that I am not sure, and I know in the
Cushing life that in one of his letters he says he had a room at
Dr. Bovey's. I gathered from Aunt Nellie that he had lived
with her for awhile in Toronto, but other than that and the resi-
dence with Bovey, it does not seem very clear as to where he
roomed and boarded.

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on my own, written anything about Uncle Willie, but in each case
I have been asked to contribute something here and there.
Tartar, Palfitt and myself will be the speakers at this meeting
and I hope it will be my last appearance.

All best wishes,

Sincerely,

OSLER LIBRARY,
8 July, 1949.

Dr. Norman B. Gwyn,
109 Madison Avenue,
Toronto, Ont.

Dear Norman,

I inherited from Maude Abbott a lot of "pulls" of that 1854 photo offprints from her book, with faulty legend. I'll enclose one, if they are findable. But I fancy that yours are shiny prints, more presentable, especially for reproduction. In that case I should be glad to have about six. Some descendants here of the Perrams are interested particularly. Mr. P. was evidently a remarkable early amateur and these reproductions represent his one and only surviving picture! The child on the right, holding Mrs. P.'s hand, was a boy, Walter P., a famous athlete. He died here in his 80's some years ago.

It is to appear in the July Archives of Int. Med. from a copy sent by Rosie. I corrected the legend on the proofs. Your mother was among the "neighbours"!

No, I hadn't forgotten about grandmother's whisky, or how she used to keep asking if it wasn't five o'clock. And I remember uncle W. saying to her, after he'd got her "enslaved" to the bottle, "Now, Mither, if you'd only take to a pipe, you'd live to 100."

Glyn has moved on to Metis. He was a good and patient patient in the Victoria. A mild coronary, I believe.

I sent the ~~manu~~ back to Rosie with a few pencilled corrections.

Yours ever,

Bill

WWF:cd

DR. NORMAN B. GWYN
109 MADISON AVE.
TORONTO

CONSULTATION BY APPOINTMENT
2 TO 5 P.M.

July 7th., 1949.

Dr. William Francis,
The Osler Library,
McGill University,
Montreal, Que.

Dear Bill:-

I have your letter of the 4th. of July. There are many things in it to be thought about. You will return Rosie's menu.

I don't know after all if I am particularly interested in seeing Uncle Willie's letters to May, so put that out of your mind. Next, I have no idea who got out the hundred copies of Grandmother Osler's Anniversary letters. I will inquire however, and see what we can do. I have sent Rosie twenty-five copies of the print of the Osler family group from the photograph taken up at Bond Head showing Uncle Willie as a small boy to the left. She is having twenty-four for her buffet supper, and I thought she might use them as little place mats. If you think you could make use of any in the same way, let me know and I will send you as many as you need. I have a large number of them which I got from Uncle Edmund years ago. I go to Hamilton next Tuesday to lay the wreath on the cairn near Dundas. There is also a meeting of the Hamilton Academy of Medicine, but interestingly enough one hears no word of any celebration in Toronto.

Your last paragraph is amusing. I would never have thought of grandfather and grandmother Osler as being moderate drinkers. You must have forgotten that she was in her nineties when Uncle suggested to her that a little whiskey and milk might be a good tonic. Grandfather very rarely took anything but an occasional glass of wine. I know nothing of Grandmother's remarks more than that she said she would not like to become an habitué.

With all best wishes,

Yours,

Norman

*Violet Pearl in 455
for day - looking very well.*

OSLER LIBRARY,
4 July, 1949.

Dr. Norman B. Gwyn,
109 Madison Avenue,
Toronto, Ont.

Dear Norman,

Thanks for forwarding Rosie's remarkable menu. Lucky for John Fulton that it had to be reduced to a slice of beef!

Gay (who also told us about the new Andras baby) sent me Uncle Willie's letters to Maysie, with a hint that you would like to see them. They are not very exciting, mostly urging her to finish her novel (which she never did) and making arrangements for the publication of her poems, also about her heart attacks; and making appointments to lunch with her when she was in London. They are all of late years. Mariam wants to read them, but if you are in any hurry, let me know, and I'll send them to you first.

*Grandmother's
100th b'day*

Have you any idea who got out the one hundred copies of the 100th anniversary letters? Wouldn't there be a copy somewhere in the family that I could have for the Library. I don't remember one in W. O.'s possession!

We are getting up an informal dinner here for the 12th, about forty, in a frat. house near by, whence we'll adjourn to the Library afterwards. The University celebration will be on Founder's Day, Oct. 6th.

Someone has sent me a typewritten letter of W. O. to Dr. Schofield of Guelph, 12 May, 1919, as follows: "Dear Dr. Schofield, Yes, that is a true statement and based on an interesting family experience as my father lived till 92 and my mother to her 101st year, both moderate drinkers. I have forgotten where there statement came from, but I am reminded of it every few months by some newspaper quotation or its use as an advertisement by the liquor people! Like tea, coffee and tobacco, alcohol in moderate quantities is one of the indifferentia, but there is always to be considered the grave danger of enslavement." Can you throw any light on "there is statement", which suggests that Grandfather and Grandmother said something for an occasional nip. When I remember her admonitions to me while I watched her drink her 5 p.m. thimbleful of "medicine", the old dear!

Yours ever,

W.F:red

encl:- (Florence's "Little Lila E." letter 130 lines to Big Brother).

OSLER LIBRARY,
24 January, 1949.

Dr. Norman B. Gwyn,
109 Madison Ave.,
Toronto, Ont.

Dear Norman,

I'm more than doubtful about the Chief calling Rolph "Shimei". R. was a fighter and a stormy petrel, but not a mean traitorous croaker. And there can be no doubt that W. O. admired him as an energetic organizer and teacher.

In the 2nd par. of yours of the 21st you say "Uncle and others left Toronto in spite of Bovell's being here, because the General Hospital closed its doors for 18 months" and lower down, "In 1868 the General Hospital closed its doors."

I tell Toronto visitors that W. O. left because the General closed, BUT he himself said it was because Bovell wrote him from the W. I. in 1870 that he was not returning. Absence of clinical facilities would not have separated those two. I wonder if you have your dates mixed. It is very easy. W. O. came to McGill in the autumn of 1870 AFTER Bovell's final departure from Toronto, and when (it would seem) the T. G. H. had re-opened with twenty-five beds.

I went systematically through the Bibliography and looked up every item that might possibly contain Shimei, but no luck.

Let me know about the cost of the parcel, so that I can write to Gibson.

Nice visit yesterday from Harry Osborne, chirpy as ever.

Ever thine,

Bill

WWF:cd

M. Gladstone & Riefing

DR. NORMAN B. GWYN
109 MADISON AVE.
TORONTO

CONSULTATION BY APPOINTMENT
2 TO 5 P.M.

January 21st., 1949.

Dr. W. Francis,
1620 Cedar Avenue,
Montreal, Quebec.

Dear Bill:-

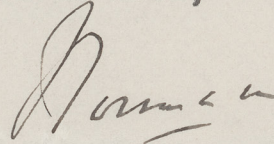
Thank you for your reply to my letter. I am rather anxious to get the detail of Shimei placed. As you mention, it sounds like something we have read, but so far I cannot place it. I have offered to give something for the Archives of Internal Medicine, and am taking the medical scene in Osler's early days in Toronto. There is a remarkable history in the background.

Uncle and others left Toronto in spite of Bovell's being here, because the General Hospital closed its doors for eighteen months. When the Hospital re-opened there were only twenty-five beds and the authorities criticized the attending Staff very sharply, while at the same time they complimented the students on showing the common sense to pick up and go elsewhere. I cannot help feeling that the Hon. John Rolfe was the chief Shimei. His hand lay heavy on Medicine for nearly fifty years. As a rebel in 1837 he incurred the hostility of all the Loyalists, lay and Medical. When Kings College Medical Faculty was dissolved by the Government Rolfe, back from his exile, had re-entered politics, and was Minister of Crown Lands while still conducting his Toronto School of Medicine. He was accused of favouring the abolition of the Kings College University Medical Faculty in the so-called Hincks Bill in order that his own Medical School should get all the medical students in Upper Canada. Later the Trinity Medical Faculty appeared, and apparently with very little trouble the Trinity Faculty got control of the General Hospital. All the good Anglicans promptly began to do what they could to discredit Rolfe and the members of his School. Things got very bad, and in 1857 two interesting instances are recorded. One was that Rolfe's associates seceded from him, taking the title of the Toronto School of Medicine, and were able to get the courts to confirm their claim, since the majority in the incorporated body were included in their group. Rolfe associated himself with Victoria about this time, and re-made his school. Knowing the attitude of the Anglicans and the Methodists, this probably did not help his reputation among the pious Church of England people. In 1857 things got so bad that a public investigation of affairs at the General Hospital was begun. Little took place. In 1868, The General Hospital closed its doors. The interesting thing about Rolfe and his associates is that men like Richardson and Aikens, his former pupils, became his bitterest enemies, and let no chance go by to smear Rolfe's name. After the secession from Rolfe's original Toronto school, the fighting which took place between his school and the new Toronto school was crude and brutal to a degree.

A little matter which might interest you in connection with the chloroform business is this. After Uncle died, looking up some of his early writings, I found in one of the Canadian Journals somewhere around 1870-2, that his paper had been printed vis-a-vis to an article by one of the American Insurance Companies, on the age at which major accomplishments had been made. I fancy, knowing his habits, that checking up on his own paper in print, he must have been struck by the article in question. Just exactly where it was I don't know, but it was in one of the Canadian Journals.

I was glad to get your note about yourself. Incidentally, I ran into Brefney O'reilly yesterday, and heard him say that he had overlooked your letter. I wonder if this is in connection with one of his great-uncles, Sir Something O'Reilly, who wrote an extremely interesting little book on Georgraphy or Zoology or Biology, which was shown to me in Dundas a couple of years ago, with a note on it's front page that W.O. had presented it to the Dundas Library.

Yours as ever,



NBG.LL