

OSLER LIBRARY,
7 Dec., 1944.

Mrs. Thomas R. Boggs,
303 Amelia Street,
Fredericksburg,
Virginia, U. S. A.

Dear Mrs. Boggs,

Thanks for the charming Fredericksburg booklet. I hope "Kenmore" profits by ^{it} as it should. I like Grandma's retort to the bishop. It reminds me of the reversed story of the ritualistic parson who asked an old schoolboy chum, whom he had noticed in the congregation, how he liked the "high jinks." "I could stand everything except the stench." "Better get used to it, old boy; in the next world you'll have to choose between incense and brimstone."

Tell me some time what you want me to do about Fogy Welch's letters and the Charade books. I have a feeling that *(as I want you best month)* they should be offered to the Welch Library, which might be interested in his hobbies.

With Christmassy greetings to you and Fredericksburg and the spirits of Tom and Leonard who must be hovering there, and to dear Mrs. Melchers.

Yours sincerely,

G. W. F.

OSLER LIBRARY,
2 November, 1944.

Mrs. Thomas R. Boggs,
303 Amelia Street,
Fredericksburg,
Virginia, U. S. A.

Dear Mrs. Tom,

I wrote you a post card yesterday afternoon when the missing parcel at last reached me. How I wish I had warned you not to send it by express. Ever since you telephoned me on Oct. 8th we have been trying to cut red tape and get the parcel delivered!

As far as I can make out this is what happened: it arrived in Montreal in August, while I was away, and the University messenger took the first notice down to the Express Customs within a week. They couldn't find the parcel. It turned out later that it had been foolishly sent at once to the "Unclaimed" department. When they found it there early in Oct., they sent me a "second" notice, and notified you at the same time that the parcel would be sold!! They give the usual excuse - short-handed.

I am delighted with the contents: the Erasmus Colloquia, 1645; the two editions of the comical "Flornithology"; the Osler letters (which I haven't finished reading yet); those of Dr. Welch and the 4 vols. of "Charades".

Did you consider at all my suggestion that the Welch Library might be a more appropriate place for the last? I have an Oslerian feeling that Popay's letters should be there. So, meanwhile, I shall not "fix" them irrevocably in the Osler Library, like the other items, until I get your advice about this. I should of course be glad to keep anything of Popay's, as of Tom's.

With many thanks, and apologies for the annoyance you have been caused, and which you might have been spared if I had known about that "first notice" and followed it up.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

W. W. F.

OSLER LIBRARY,
10 October, 1944.

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Mrs. Thomas R. Boggs,
308 Amelia Street,
Fredericksburg,
Virginia, U. S. A.

Dear Mrs. Boggs,

I am very distressed that you should have got that harrowing message that your gift was unclaimed and about to be sold, and that you should have had to telephone me! I got a "second notice" from the customs on the 6th, at the end of last week, and passed it over at once to the University messenger to deal with. We have no record of having received a "first" notice.

It is being dealt with today (yesterday was a holiday, our Thanksgiving day), and I shall probably get the books tomorrow.

They tell me it is "routine" to send such a notice as you received to the shipper at the same time that a "second" notice is sent to the addressee.

As I told you on the telephone, we frequently have trouble with the express Customs people, so much so that we usually advise that things that have to cross the border be sent by mail, if possible. I'm sorry I forgot to warn you of this.

I'll write again when the books reach me.

Yours sincerely,

W.W.F.

WFF:CD

MRS. THOMAS R. BOGGS
303 AMELIA STREET
FREDERICKSBURG, VIRGINIA

August 7, 1944.

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

Dear Dr. Francis:

I am so glad that you can use the book covered in human skin which Dr. Osler gave to Tom. I have been slow in getting it off, as the weather here is so beastly hot that it is hard to do anything.

Dr. Osler had given Tom some of the books he had written and these Walter Baetjer wanted and, so, I gave them to him.

The letters from Dr. Osler, you will have to look over. There are one or two from Mrs. Osler in the lot and one or two from other Doctors, which, probably, you will want to tear up.

Tom was usually an orderly person, but he had a very large closet under the steps in which he threw everything, doubtless meaning to go over it later on. There were receipts and a collection of junk for about twenty years or more.

I notice in one of Dr. Osler's letters, he tells Tom about an embarrassment of riches and I found with the other letters some invitations to Tom from such Universities as Yale and Harvard, asking Tom to be Professor of Medicine. Tom could never make up his mind to leave Baltimore, as he loved the Doctors there so much.

MRS. THOMAS R. BOGGS
303 AMELIA STREET
FREDERICKSBURG, VIRGINIA

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I do not know anyone at the Welch Library now. I have met Dr. Segrist (?) several times but, as he did not know Dr. Welch personally I imagine, I do not know that he would be interested in his letters to Tom. These are all about Belamy's Charades and Tom and Dr. Welch seemed to have had a field day over them.

As I am sending you the Welch letters, I am also sending you the books of Charades, to which references are made. Tom has a lot of initials in them of people who have worked them. If you would be kind enough to glance over the lot, I would greatly appreciate it and, if you think they ought to go anywhere, I would send them where you think best, if you do not want to keep them yourself. I do not know what to do with them.

I am also sending you two editions of "How to tell the Birds from the Flowers." If you want the book for lending purposes, I do not know which you would like to have, as they seem a little different.

When it is cooler, I will look over some of the other books.

I am sorry that you cannot get down here when, and if, you go to Washington; first, because I would like to see you again and, second, because there might be something here that you could use. Perhaps, when this War is over, I will be able to see you again, for I would certainly like to.

WRIGHTMAN F. BOGGS
273 ANGLIA STREET
FREDERICKSBURG VIRGINIA

-2-

With kindest regards for you and your family, I am,

In all sincerity,

Kate D. Boggs

Ans. (P.T.O.) ✓

(Apartment 264)

L. W. F.

303 Amelia Street,
Fredericksburg, Va.
July 8, 1944.

B. G. S. 'lms. Thank.

Dear Dr. Francis:

I was not only delighted but deeply touched to receive your letter. To know that you have even thought of me again is a great pleasure. I have a dicky heart, so stay put and am completely out of touch with all Tom's friends. I sit in Fredericksburg and live mostly in the past. Among the things I think upon with pleasure is your kindness to Tom and to me.

The famous name which you could not think of is Gari Melchers. Corinne, although not very well, seems to be trying to win the war all by herself. She endeavors to take in her stride selling bonds, Museum work, has just given up being head of the Office of Civilian Defense in Stafford County (or rather the O. C. D. went out of existence and gave her up) running the farm, getting along in that large house with a great scarcity of servants, etc. Added to this, selling pictures. I do not often see her, as, aside from the restriction of gas, the steering gear of my car is now out of order.

I have a few letters that Dr. Osler wrote to Tom from time to time, completely unimportant, just things that Dr. Osler wanted Tom to look up. I hate to tear them up but do not know what else to do with them. I also have a few letters from Dr. Welch, mostly about working charades, and do not know whether they should be kept or not.

I have what I think is a first edition of "How To Tell The Birds From The Flowers" by Dr. Robert Wood and also a later edition. I wonder if you would like to have the first. If so, it would give me great pleasure to send it to you. There are not many of Tom's valuable books left, as the Welch Library took what they wanted, his working library I gave to Bay View, and I gave his Great Oxford Dictionary and many of his biographies to McDonogh School. When it gets a little cooler here, if you would be interested, I will make a list of some of the books that are left and see if you would care to have any of them. I doubt if you would, but one never knows.

There is a book which Dr. Osler gave to Tom which is bound, so Tom told me, in tanned human skin. In the corner is stamped "Bibliotheca Liddelliana". On the title page is:---

26. vii. 44.

Dear Mrs. Tom,

Don't tear up these letters, but send these
here. I collect every scrap of W.O.'s writing.
I should be glad to have Pape's labels too, but
I think this should be offered first to his library.
Even his ideas on clareses should be
interesting. We have an undated edition (probably
"907) of Wood's delightful "How to tell the
birds", but even if it is the same, we could
do with another copy, which would be
loanable (Sir Tom's books are not allowed
out). I should indeed be glad to see
a set of Tom's available books, if
you are willing to make it. As for
the Erasmus, "Colloquia", Sylvius, 1643,
W.O. collected him & there have only
the English version of that work. ~~The~~
~~shows how much W.O. loved Tom if~~
~~he parted with it for 50 in parting~~
~~with it shows how much he loved for~~
Tom. Also, someone recently dis-
covered a surprise that we had no
book bound in human leather.
I gratefully & greedily snatch at
all your kind offers.
~~It was good to get news of you~~
~~and~~ I was very glad that you
must lead such a retired &
contemplative life. I trust the
clerkiness of your heart and
get stronger if you can in
both temporary.
I might be in London in
early in Oct., but doubt if I can
make it, and even so, the extra

"Des
ERASMI
Roterod
COLLOQVIA
munc emenda
tiora

Vidit
Pervidit
Risit

Lvgd. Batavorvm

Ex Officina Elzeviriana. Anno 1643."

Would you care to have this book? I know nothing of its value. Dr. Osler gave it to Tom when Tom went to study in Germany at Dr. Osler's suggestion.

You will never know how pleased I was to hear from you and, if you ever come in our direction and could spare any time, do try to let me know.

With kindest regards to you and your family,
I am indeed,

Yours in all sincerity,

Kate D. Boggs

day to Fredericshagen & back it need not
be possible. I dread travelling these days, though
now we can cut across the border with out
having our fingers "printed" and without
making our hosts put up the U.S. funds for
us!

Very kind regards to Mrs. Melcher.
I'm glad to have her news and her
name. I know I ought to write to
you and I'm very glad I did.

Yours for you own sake as
well as Tom's,

W. L. F.

Yours in all sincerity,

Kate B. Rodd

Dr. Francis' reply to Mrs. Boggs' letter of July 8th, 1944

Dear Mrs. Tom,

Don't tear up those letters, but send those here. I collect every scrap of W. O.'s writing. I should be glad to have Popsy Welch's too, but I think they should be offered first to his Library. Even his ideas on charades should be interesting. We have an undated edition (probably 1907) of Wood's delightful "How to tell the birds", but even if it is the same, we could do with another copy, which would be loanable (Sir Wm.'s books are not allowed out). I should indeed be glad to see a list of Tom's available books, if you get round to making it. As for the Erasmus, "Colloguia", Elzevir, 1643, W. O. collected him and we have only the English version of that work, so his parting with it is another proof of his love for Tom. Also, someone recently expressed surprise that we had no book bound in human leather. I gratefully and greedily snatch at all your kind offers.

I was sorry to hear that you must lead such a retired and contemplative life. I trust the dicky-ness of your heart and of the steering gear of your car are both temporary.

I ought to be in Washington early in Oct., but doubt if I can make it, and even so, the extra day to Fredericksburg and back would not be possible. I dread travelling these days, though now we can get across the border without having our fingers "printed" and without making our hosts put up the U. S. funds for us!

My kind regards to Mrs. Melchers. I'm glad to have her news and her name. I knew I ought to write to you and I'm very glad I did.

Yours for your own sake as well as Tom's,

[signed] W. W. Francis, M.D.

Handwritten signature

DR. THOMAS R. BOGGS
1013 NORTH CALVERT STREET
BALTIMORE, MD.

TELEPHONE VERNON 1267

CONSULTATION 2.30-4.30 P. M.
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

BALTIMORE May 17, 1937

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

Dear Bill:

Leonard was moved down to the little Mary Washington Hospital in Fredericksburg early last week. He has since then, in the last forty-eight hours, apparently been worse, an attack of convulsions somewhat similar to the one he had a month ago, so that it is an open question as to whether he will be among those present on the twenty-second, but I shall try to keep you informed. After the end comes Mrs. Melchoirs will undoubtedly take his body down to Savannah and may be detained there possibly in settling some of his affairs. There is no doubt that the move was a good one as all that Leonard can profit by now is nursing care and it offered some salvage to her of a very tremendous strain.

I am temporarily house-bound with a bad leg but hope to be out in a few days' time.

With kindest regards to you and yours,

Sincerely,

T

DR. THOMAS R. BOGGS
1013 NORTH CALVERT STREET
BALTIMORE, MD.

TELEPHONE VERNON 1267

CONSULTATION 2.30 - 4.30 P. M.
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

BALTIMORE April 7, 1937

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

Dear Bill:

Many thanks for your note about the Chief's case records. I had little hope that the records had been kept but could not forbear asking you about them.

I hope I may have the pleasure of seeing you when you come south for the Richmond meeting.

With kindest regards,

Cordially yours,

TRB

DR. THOMAS R. BOGGS
1013 NORTH CALVERT STREET
BALTIMORE, MD.

TELEPHONE VERNON 1267

CONSULTATION 2.30-4.30 P. M.
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

BALTIMORE April 5, 1937

Dr. William Francis,
Osler Medical Library,
McGill University,
Montreal, Canada

Dear Bill:

It has doubtless occurred to you already that I must have been off the key in some way to have given Corinne's maiden name as Corinne Lawton when she is as you know a sister of Leonard's. It should have been Corinne Lawton Mackall. On the distant and unlikely chance that the record may be in your possession and available I am hastening to send this correction in case you may have taken my error at its face value.

Sincerely yours,

JRB

5 April, 1957

Dr. Thos. R. Boggs,
1018 North Calvert St.,
BALTIMORE, Md.

Dear Tom:

I wonder if there would be any use in my writing to poor old Leonard?

The Chief, in his little surreptitious bedside notes which he jotted down during his last illness when the nurse and Lady O. had their backs turned, left directions that all his ~~office records and case records~~ should be destroyed with the exception of about ten interesting cases from each year, as samples to be preserved in his library. Tom McCrae made the selection about 1924 and all the patients' names have been entirely erased. Before this letter goes off I shall look through them and see if I can find any likely mitral card. The 293 selected cards have been entered as no. 7669 in the Osler Catalogue.

I also am a deserted husband. My family is in New York on a spree.

Yours sincerely,

L.W.F.

P.S. No card suggesting little "Corvina's" from 1906 back to 1855 (the earliest preserved).

If L. is still there about May 22nd, I'll be in to see him on my way to Richmond for a meeting.

DR. THOMAS R. BOGGS
1013 NORTH CALVERT STREET
BALTIMORE, MD.

TELEPHONE VERNON 1267

CONSULTATION 2.30-4.30 P. M.
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

BALTIMORE April 3, 1937

Dr. William Francis, Librarian,
Osler Medical Library,
McGill University,
Montreal, Canada

Dear Bill:

Though I have nothing new and nothing comforting to say about poor Leonard I am sending you a line to let you know that he is no better, if anything a little more confused. He is not suffering and there isn't any prospect that I can see of improvement. Rotten business all around.

While I am writing, could you tell me what became of the Chief's notes on his office cases in Baltimore. He saw Leonard's sister who was then Corinne Lawton when she was about fourteen and as she has had a mitral disease since childhood it would be of great interest to me to see his note made so many years ago, about forty years. So if you have it available in the library I should very much prize a note of his physical examination some time when it would not burden you to give it.

With kindest regards to Mrs. Francis and your daughter in which my wife would join had she not left me for Fredericksburg,

Most cordially yours,

Thomas R. Boggs

DR. THOMAS R. BOGGS
1013 NORTH CALVERT STREET
BALTIMORE, MD.

TELEPHONE VERNON 1267

CONSULTATION 2.30-4.30 P. M.
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

BALTIMORE March 25, 1937

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

Dear Bill:

Thanks for your letter. The situation of poor Leonard is really tragic. At times he is himself and at others hopelessly dislocated in time and space, very easily exhausted by any mental effort and practically unable to make any physical effort. It is the old enemy of his particular tribe, cerebral arteriosclerosis, in a very bad form. We can only hope that something intercurrent and rapid may draw the curtain on the picture.

John Fulton was with us for a day and a night and we enjoyed so much having him. He is a most attractive person.

My wife joins me in the best of good wishes and greetings to Mrs. Francis, the daughter and yourself.

As ever yours,

T.R.B.