

The Osler Library
McGill University
Montreal, Canada
30 June, 1933

T. R. Brown, Esq., M.D.,
12 East Eager St.,
Baltimore, Md.

My dear Tom:

Glad to get your letter and to hear that Eleanor and Cam are coming. You don't say when, and I hope we are not going to miss them. We are at the old stand at Como, but only until July 13th. On the 15th we go down to the seaside to Hubbard's, N.S., for a month.

I have not been able to get the government topographical map of the district you want, but have ordered it through a local bookseller, Burton's Ltd., who will post it to you with my compliments.

We are all flourishing except for the heat. I have a suspicion that it may be no cooler in Baltimore.

We had a visit last week from Sir Humphry Rolleston and Professor (I think he used to be Colonel in our Geneva days) Lyle Cummins, who came out for the Canadian Medical Association meeting at St. John. They sailed home this morning. I have just had a hot wildgoose chase down to the steamer to see them off, but couldn't find them on the ship.

I hope you are keeping your temperature normal in spite of the weather man.

Love to you all,

W. W. F.

THOMAS R. BROWN, M. D.
12 EAST EAGER STREET
BALTIMORE, MD.

CONSULTATION BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

DECEMBER 12, 1933.

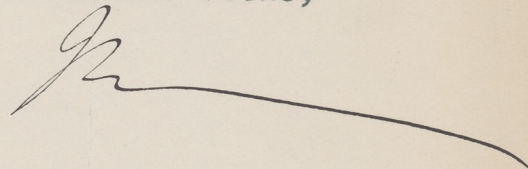
MY DEAR BILLY:

I AM AFRAID YOU THINK I AM VERY UNGRATEFUL IN NOT ANSWERING YOUR LETTER SOONER, BUT I DELAYED ANSWERING IT BECAUSE OF THE CONDITION OF MY EYES. THEY HAVE BEEN RATHER "BADDISH" AND DR. FRIEDENWALD, WHO LOOKS OUT FOR THEM, HAS REFUSED TO ALLOW ME TO TAKE ON ANY MORE PAPERS THIS YEAR. HE HAS ONLY ALLOWED ME ONE, WHICH I HAVE TENTATIVELY AGREED TO DO, AND I HAVE HAD TO TURN DOWN AT LEAST FOUR OR FIVE IN THE PAST MONTH.

THERE IS NOTHING I SHOULD HAVE LIKED TO DO MORE THAN TO COME ON AND GIVE A TALK TO THE OSLER SOCIETY ABOUT THE EARLY DAYS AT THE HOPKINS AND THE PLACE OSLER HAS ALWAYS HELD IN OUR HEARTS AND MINDS; BUT I HAVE JUST COME FROM DR. FRIEDENWALD'S OFFICE AND HE WON'T LET ME DO IT.

THANKING YOU EVER SO MUCH FOR ASKING ME, HOPING TO SEE YOU SOON AND WITH MUCH LOVE FROM OUR THREE GENERATIONS TO YOUR TWO, I AM

ALWAYS SINCERELY YOURS,



DR. W. W. FRACNIS,
OSLER LIBRARY,
MCGILL UNIVERSITY,
MONTREAL, CANADA.

30 Nov., 1933

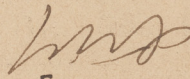
Dr. T. R. Brown,
12 East Eager St.,
Baltimore, Md.

My dear Tom:

We are looking for a guest speaker at the annual dinner of the local Osler Society, which takes place in March. The exact date is not yet decided. I have been asked by the Committee to see if there was any prospect of our being able to get you for the job. It is an undergraduate society and the audience would be about forty medical students and half as many graduates from the faculty. The subject need not be Osler but may be anything connected with medical history or literature. We would raise your expenses. Let me know if there would be any chance of your accepting and if so what date in March might suit you best.

Love to all three generations.

Yours ever,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'LMS' or similar, written in a cursive style.

THE PIERPONT MORGAN LIBRARY

33 East Thirty-sixth Street

New York City

12 August 1942

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

27 August, 1942.

Dear Dr. Francis:

C. F. Bühler, *Esq.*

The Pierpont Morgan Library, herewith my thanks
33 East Thirty-sixth Street,
New York City. kindness in showing me through the

Dear Mr. Bühler, really it was very good of you

to take many thanks for the interesting reprints and your
appreciative letter of 12 Aug. Osler used to take a special
delight in the old "Prognostications".

I'm in a bit of a quandary about your Dioscorides MS.
I see it can be bought unbound, for \$50 (evidently much less
than cost!), whereas it would cost us more than \$80 to photostat
the 282 large openings of our unique Al-Ghafiki MS. (no. 7508),
Baghdad, A. D. 1256, with paintings similar to those of the
Greek herbal. Economy compelled the University to shut down its
photo. department and our present arrangements are more expensive
and much less satisfactory.

The University of the Dioscorides MS. has

Would Miss Green be willing to refund us the difference?

perhaps you may be willing to do

By the way, was I to send you a memo of Osler's rude note
in the back of his Nicolaus, Antidotarium, Venice, 1471, H. 11764?
I see that I was discreet enough not to include it in our printed
catalogue. It was a question of the first medical book to be
printed. Osler says that the "Practica" of Ferrari da Grado was
also printed in 1471, apparently, it was not, and adds, "I missed
a copy at Rosenthal's, Sept. '09. That voracious monster Pierpont
Morgan had bought it!"

you are probably Peter of Abano, De venenis, Padua, 1473, H. 8, is
among your 1600(?) incunabula, though they telephone me from the
University Library that they don't find it in your 1939 check-list.
We have a disposable duplicate, which another N. Y. library was
angling for--before the depression.

With kind regards to you and Miss Greene, and to a nameless
lady on her staff who once kindly unlocked some of your fabulous treasure
for me and my lamented pal, Leonard Mackall.

Yours sincerely,

W. V. F.

THE PIERPONT MORGAN LIBRARY

33 East Thirty-sixth Street

New York City

12 August 1942

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

Dear Dr. Francis:

I should like to express herewith my thanks for your great kindness in showing me through the Osler Library recently. It was very good of you to take so much of your time and I appreciate your courtesy.

By separate post I am sending you a few medical and scientific reprints in which you may (or may not) be interested in and/or amused by.

I have spoken to Miss Greene about sending you our reproduction of the Dioscorides MS. She suggests that perhaps you may be willing to exchange photostats of your Arabic Herbal for a copy of our publication. For your guidance, I will send you a copy of our "sales list" where you will find our publication described under item 9. If you are willing to make such an exchange, will you be good enough to write directly to Miss Greene.

Thanking you again for your great kindness to me, I remain,

Faithfully yours,

Ernst Buhler

THE UNIVERSITY OF BUFFALO

MEDICAL - DENTAL LIBRARY

3435 MAIN STREET

November 5, 1957

BUFFALO 14, NEW YORK

OSLER LIBRARY,
8 Nov., 1957.

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

Dear Dr. Francis:

We have a request from one of our physicians for a quotation by Osler in which he mentioned that about six medicines were indispensable and that there were 18 to 20 he used from time to time.

We have correspondence from a doctor who says he was present when Osler made the statement in Philadelphia at the College of Pharmacy and Science in May 1907. The librarian at the College has searched their records and can find no indication that Osler made a speech there in May 1907.

Dr. W.B.McDaniel of the Philadelphia College of Physicians tells us that Osler addressed a semi-centennial meeting of the Philadelphia Pathological Society in 1907; however, there is no printed record of it. He has suggested that the statement, if correctly attributed to Osler, may not appear in his published works. Dr. McDaniel has further suggested that we ask your help in solving our reference problem.

Any assistance you may give us in this matter will be very much appreciated.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Sincerely,

Marie A. Wegman

(Miss) Marie Wegman
Assistant Librarian

OSLER LIBRARY,
8 Nov., 1957.

Miss Marie Wegman,
Assistant Librarian,
Medical-Dental Library,
The University of Buffalo,
3435 Main Street,
Buffalo 14,
N. Y., U. S. A.

Dear Miss Wegman,

I can't give you the quotation you ask for, but must refer you to Osler's fine paper on "The Treatment of disease", Brit. M. J., 1909, ii, 185-9 (Also published separately by the Oxford Press). He there acknowledges that there is a grain of truth in a friend's jibe that his (O.'s) practice is a mixture of hope and nux vomica, and he prophesies that some may live to see an effective drug against pneumonia. The intern should leave hospital knowing thoroughly ether, chloroform and the various preparations of opium and should carry ten or twelve drugs. "Which are they? I am not going to give away my list." He defends himself well against the accusation of being a "therapeutic nihilist."

I hope this lead will be of use.

Yours sincerely,

W.W.F.

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

WWF:cd

DOCTOR BUFFAM
ROOM 420, 625 FORT STREET
VICTORIA, B.C.

June 4, 1958.

OSLER LIBRARY,
12 June, 1958.

The Curator,
Osler Library,
Medical Building,
McGill University,
Montreal, Rooms 420,
625 Fort Street,
Dear Sir: - Victoria, B.C.

This letter is written by a lady who is the widow of
a doctor and who wishes to dispose of her late husband's
affairs. She has asked me what is the value of three volumes
of John Fothergill's Works. I am sorry that I am
unable to make a rough estimate or could advise on these books.
Trying to sell deceased doctor's books is always
discouraging. Fothergill's Works were so much appreciated
in their day that copies are fairly common. We have two
sets of the 1783-4 edition, and I find it priced at \$7.00
or £2.10s. in a recently received bookseller's catalogue,
consequently a dealer would be sure to offer much less
than that for it. By John Lettice.
London: Printed for Charles Gilly, in Pall Mall. Volumes
One and Two show If the Vancouver Medical Library needs it, you
might ask them three or four dollars for it.

The books are in reasonably good shape, but the
leather covers are loose and the pages are yellowed.

I would imagine that this sort of thing is
evaluated at any time and that the interest in the books is
dependent upon the number of people who are interested
with a desire for them. However, I am sure that you
will have suggestions that you may care to make.

Yours sincerely,

W.W.F.

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

Yours sincerely,

WWF:ed

B. B. Bonar Buffam

Received

\$7.00

DOCTOR BUFFAM
ROOM 420, 625 FORT STREET
VICTORIA, B.C.

June 4, 1958.

The Curator,
Osler Library,
Medical Building,
McGill University,
Montreal, Quebec.

Dear Sir:-

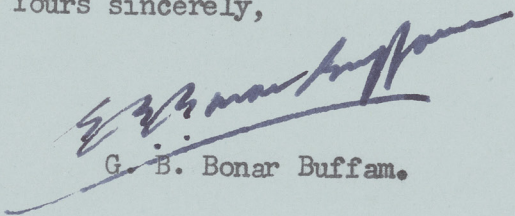
This letter is written for a lady who is the widow of a doctor and who wishes to dispose of her late husband's effects. She has asked me what is the value of three volumes and I have no idea what it might be. I am wondering if you could make a rough estimate or could advise me where such information may be found.

#2640
The title pages in these books read as follows:- "The Works of John Fothergill, M. D. Member of The Royal College of Physicians and Fellow of The Royal Society, of London; and of The Royal College of Physicians in Edinburgh; and Corresponding Member of The Royal Medical Society of Paris. By John Lettsom. London: Printed for Charles Dilly, in the Poultry". Volumes One and Two show the date 1783 and Volume Three the date 1784 in Roman numerals.

The books are in reasonably good condition and although the leather covers are loose the pages are all in good order.

I would imagine that this sort of thing is difficult to evaluate at any time and that the amount that could be obtained for the books is dependant upon the availability of a purchaser with a desire for them. However, we would appreciate any suggestions that you may care to make.

Yours sincerely,


G. B. Bonar Buffam.

Received

\$7.00 £2.10

DR. FRANK E. BURCH
SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA

75-4 Linwood ST.

July 18, 1931

Dr. C. C. Francis,
Medical Library,
McGill University,
Montreal, Canada

My dear Doctor Francis:

Just a word to again thank you for your courtesy to me while in Montreal. I would love to have remained much longer to browse around in the Ophthalmological Library and Dr. Wood's collection, also to have spent much more time with you in the Osler collection.

I hope on my next visit that I may have a much longer time to look over the good things you have.

With my kindest regards, I remain,

Most sincerely yours,

Frank E. Burch
Frank E. Burch M. D.

feb/gz

Burch

MAYO CLINIC
ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA

CLINICAL SECTION
OF
HOWARD M. ODEL, M.D.
HOWARD B. BURCHELL, M.D.
RAYMOND D. FRUITT, M.D.
GUY W. DAUGHERTY, M.D.
THOMAS W. PARKIN, M.D.
JAMES C. BROADBENT, M.D.
HAROLD T. MANKIN, M.D.

*Card per 27th
enclosed clipping
(from M.L.) , just
as well as about in
E. M.S. + , 15' left
'98. Maritime*

*February 24, 1959
+ no connection with
H.O.'s Palmer Howard.*

William W. Francis, M. D.
McGill University
Montreal, Quebec
Canada

Dear Doctor Francis:

I am presuming on a slight acquaintance with you to ask to ask if you could give me any references regarding the family of John Palmer. I have been asked to give the first annual John Palmer Lecture in Montreal this June at the time of the meeting of the Canadian Heart Association, and I should like to know something about the man for whom the lecture is named. I know there must be a very large family of Palmers dating from the time of Osler or before in Montreal and I am not sure from my general reading where John Palmer fits into this illustrious group.

We had a Christmas card from the Kelen's and apparently Andy's work is going satisfactorily. I hope that the boy's arm has been stablized, but I understand there was no chance of recovery taking place in its function.

Sincerely yours,

Howard Burchell

H. B. Burchell, M. D.

HBB/ds

29 June, 1935

Dr. W. C. Burket,
636 Church St.,
EVANSTON, Ill.

Dear Dr. Burket:

I have just come across a Welch item which is not in your bibliography, 1917: "Pathology in its relation to general biology", Canadian Practitioner, January, 1890, vol. 15, pp. 38-43. It follows a paper by Osler on "The etiology of malaris" which has escaped his bibliographers. The name of neither author appears in the index to the volume, only the titles of their papers. Both these papers, and others by Minot, Vaughan and Ramsay Wright, were issued the same year as a separate pamphlet, "University of Toronto. Formal Opening of the New Building of the Biological Department. December 19, 1889 ...". Toronto, J. E. Bryant Co., 1890. 23 pp. Q. In this reprint Welch's paper occupies pp. 10-15.

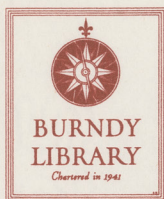
I enclose an extra copy of this letter in case you should like to send it on to the Welch Library.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

L. W. F.

BURNDY LIBRARY



NORWALK, CONNECTICUT

March 2, 1953

Dr. W. W. Francis, Librarian
Osler Library
McGill University
Montreal, Quebec
CANADA

Dear Dr. Francis:

We thank you for your letter and pamphlet on Leo Pariseau. I sincerely regret that fate has arranged it for me not to have met him in his lifetime, but then, as you point out in your tribute, his interest and work lives on in his library.

Oddly enough one of my very strong interests is in the Martyrs of Science. Dr. Percy Brown's "American Martyrs to Science Through the Roentgen Rays" was published in 1936, and therefore does not have Pariseau's name. Your booklet and letter join the Martyr materials we have gathered.

Thanks again and I look forward to our meeting in the not too distant future.

Sincerely,

BURNDY LIBRARY

Bern Dibner
Director

BD:KK