

COLLEGE OF MEDICAL EVANGELISTS

Clinical Division

DEPARTMENT OF NERVOUS DISEASES
Offices and Library

May 19/1949

1801 New Jersey Street
Los Angeles 33, California

Mr W.W. Francis
Osler Library
McGill University
Montreal, Canada
Dear Doctor Francis

Please find herewith the first draft
of a paper on the "Portraits of Sir
William Osler." I am not sure that
you will want to risk your
reputation on it, but I do want
you to know that your help
and generosity are appreciated.
I shall be honored to have you
join me as co-authors.

I have quite a bit more to
add factually which will make
the presentation more complete, some
of the data being acquired only
today from Mr. Thomas.
Your "Demographic" should
still be published, for I do not

think that my paper displaces it.

In your notes under the
Homas portrait (Ms. Demography)
you refer to Clark, P. F., # 9755,
etc. So what does this refer to?

with a full milliegracia
human

Very sincerely yours

Cyril B. Cornille

OSLER LIBRARY,
27 May, 1949.

Dr. Cyril B. Courville,
1801 New Jersey St.,
Los Angeles 33,
Cal., U. S. A.

Dear Dr. Courville,

Thanks for sending me your "first draft", returned herewith, messed up with my marginal 'tain't-so-neithers. I've corrected some of your statements and you have corrected at least one of mine, the date of the Harris original.

But, please, as I think I wrote you in my last when I enclosed my notes, I must absolutely insist that you leave out my name, not only as a co-author of your paper, but also as author of a manuscript "iconography". I may be publishing my own notes later this year, and I cannot subscribe to many of the opinions you express. So a footnote, "Private communications from Dr. Francis" for any statement for which you need my authority, or a general acknowledgement expressing your thanks to the Librarian of the Osler Library for notes on the earlier portraits, will be quite enough.

I am very interested in all that you have to say about the Seymour portrait, most of which I didn't know before.

Please write and assure me that you will meet my wishes and drop any idea of co-authorship.

Yours sincerely,

W. L. H.

WWF:cd
Encl:-

air mail

Courville
COLLEGE OF MEDICAL EVANGELISTS
Clinical Division

DEPARTMENT OF NERVOUS DISEASES
Offices and Library

June 8, 1949

1801 New Jersey Street
Los Angeles 33, California

W. W. Francis, M. D.
Osler Library
McGill University
Montreal, Canada

Dear Doctor Francis:

Thank you for your letter of May 27 and also for the suggestions in the paper sent you. I regret that this had to be the first copy and no severe suggestions had already been made in subsequent copies. The finished manuscript has been sent in to the Editor of the Bulletin where it will appear in a special number, I believe, dedicated entirely to Osler. As you have requested, I have omitted your name, but I do wish once more to make clear my deep obligation to you for your courtesy in helping me out. I do not believe that this paper will replace the one which you propose and which from your position would be most authoritative. I do hope you will go through with this proposition.

Please accept once more my sincere thanks for your helpfulness to me.

Very sincerely yours,

Cyril B. Courville
Cyril B. Courville, M. D.

CBC/fn

COLLEGE OF MEDICAL EVANGELISTS

Clinical Division

DEPARTMENT OF NERVOUS DISEASES
Offices and Library

June 28, 1949

1801 New Jersey Street
Los Angeles 33, California

W. W. Francis, M. D.
Osler Library
McGill University
Montreal, Canada

Dear Doctor Francis:

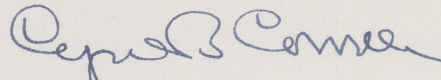
One last appeal regarding my paper on the Osler Portraits!

May I have your permission to reproduce the picture of the Tuke Portrait and the Harris Portrait in this article (to be published in the Bulletin of the History of Medicine)?

In your "iconography" in the item regarding the Thomas Portrait, what is the complete reference for "Clark, pf, No. 9755"? I suppose this Number refers to some bibliography of Osler and not cited in the portion of the manuscript copied for me.

I am most grateful, Doctor Francis, for your gracious patience with my many importunities regarding these portraits. I am indeed

Very sincerely yours,



Cyril B. Courville, M. D.

CBC/fn

P. S. Alas, a letter from Oswei Tempkin which arrived today states that he cannot reproduce my enlarged photograph of the Tuke picture copied from your article. He says there is too much "screen". Could I trouble you for a copy of the original photograph for publication? CBC

P. S. S. I am returning the picture of the Harris Portrait to you under separate cover. Needless to say I am most grateful to you for its loan. I am enclosing a couple of the original portraits I am using in this article for your Osler collection. These pictures are recent photographs of Mr. Thomas and his Osler Portrait. CBC

CD

we have
some
things
Cyril
I think.

INSTITUTE OF NERVOUS DISEASES

June 25, 1952

CLINICAL OFFICES AND LIBRARY

1801 NEW JERSEY STREET
LOS ANGELES 33, CALIFORNIA

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

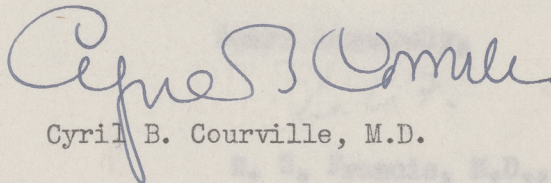
Dear Doctor Francis:

It was very gracious of you to remember me in my interest in the Thomas portrait. I rather doubt that Osler referred to the portrait itself as a "chromo". However, I strongly suspect that what he is referring to is perhaps a colored photograph of this portrait. Mr. Thomas has mentioned on several occasions that after the picture had been completed, photographs were taken of it at the request of Doctor Osler, who sent them to a number of his friends. I suspect that someone made an effort to color the picture, such as photographers are apt to do, and may have done a very poor job of it, or perhaps someone else made a reproduction of this photo, perhaps a little more in keeping with the sentiment of the letter. It seems as though someone must have used this portrait as a basis of a picture of Osler and the results did not please Osler very much.

I think this is a very interesting sequel to the study of the Osler portrait, which, as you may learn in the near future, has been willed to Oxford University. The friends of this portrait (and indeed it has many friends) are trying to work out an agreement with Oxford so that the picture will spend some time on this side of the Atlantic. If such is the case, I think it would be worthwhile for it to spend some time in your library, if this would meet your wish. The details have not been worked out yet, so I can give you nothing more definite.

With many thanks for thinking of me with this letter, I remain,

Very sincerely yours,


Cyril B. Courville, M.D.

CBC:y

OSLER LIBRARY,
19 June, 1952.

Dr. Cyril B. Courville,
Institute of Nervous Diseases,
1801 New Jersey St.,
Los Angeles 33,
Calif., U. S. A.

Dear Dr. Courville,

It distressed our late friend Esther Rosencrantz that Osler could ever have referred to a reproduction of the Thomas portrait as a "chromo". Here is proof, which I have just come across, that it was not an UNADULTERATED color print. It comes from a letter of Osler to Cushing, 10 Feb., 1912. I don't know who the "fool" was, but I should like to acquire a copy of his "chromo".

"I am so glad you turned over that chromo. It is not really a reproduction from the Seymour Thomas portrait, as the fool of a man made a sketch of me, but he had a photo of the portrait, with which I think, he tinkered. He had done Burdon Sanderson and several other doctors, and it was more out of pity than anything else that I gave him the job. But my friends have suffered; posterity will not know the difference!"

Yours sincerely,

L. L. F.

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

WFF:cd

7 November, 1938

Dr. L. Cowlshaw,
460 Pacific Highway,
Lindfield, N.S.W.

Dear Dr. Cowlshaw,

Thanks for your letter. That was a delightful book of Miss Doe's on Paré, and I hope it thoroughly healed your nasal septum.

I was interested to hear about your Australasian College of Physicians and the proposal to build up its library. I enclose a leaflet of our Medical Library Association. Your college will be eligible for membership. Several libraries in Europe and, I think, one in South Africa, have joined. The library dues are only \$10 (£2) a year. For that you will get not only the bulletin, but privileges of the exchange, which are well worth while for any growing library. The exchange sends out two or more lists each year of available material, any of which is to be had for the asking and for payment of the carriage. The largest libraries, which need the least, have first choice because they contribute most to the exchange, but there is always plenty left over for the smaller libraries. The material they get each year is usually worth several times the annual subscription.

I heard from Mrs. Chapin the other day. She seems to be distinctly better. Yes, those war clouds were very depressing. Fortunately they seem to have rolled by for the time being.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

WWT

460 Pacific Highway.

LINDFIELD. N.S.W.

(Rec'd Oct. 1938)
W.H.J.

Dear Dr Francis,

Many thanks for your reprint of your address at the Meeting of the Medical Librarians. I always value anything about Sir William Osler. I was sorry to hear that Mrs Chapin was not very well and by this mail I am writing to her.

I have just received Miss Doe's Bibliography of Ambroise Paré. It is most interesting and as it came just as I was laid low with an abscess in my nasal septum which kept me in bed for two weeks, it proved a great comfort. The newly founded Australasian College of Physicians proposes making a special feature of its Library and has asked me to act as honorary Librarian. We sadly need a good medical library in Sydney and as they seem to have plenty of money, it may prove possible to build up something worth while. At present everything here is over-shadowed by the threat of war. It is very strange that civilized nations so called, would even think of blowing one another to pieces.

I hope I will hear from you again before long - it is always a redletter day when I get a letter from McGill University.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

L. C. C. Shaw

COWLISHAW

13 November, 1936

Dr. L. Cowlshaw,
460 Pacific Highway,
Lindfield,
New South Wales

N.S.W.

9th October 1935

Dear Dr. Cowlshaw:

Many thanks for your Syme oration. It is a fine story of your pioneers. That they had to put up with! I have also just been reading a paper about the early barber surgeons of Delaware, of a hundred years earlier, which is the same tale of shocking hardships and epidemics.

I am also glad to see your Oslerian propaganda for ~~in the tale of the~~ medical libraries.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

My excuse last year was W.W.F. have been

COWLISHAW

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1 Nov.
nting
mer #, 1253
8 arrivals
2 str. fossils.
W. L. F.

LINDFIELD.

N. P. W.

9th October 1935.

Dear D. Francis,

I am almost ashamed to write to you after my delay in writing to thank you for the Reprint + post cards of the Osler Library.

My excuse last year would have been the constant interruptions + worries of general practice combined with an ~~amateurish~~ unborn tendency to put off letter writing. This year I am sorry to say has brought us much sorrow first my only son aged 21 was killed in a motor accident, then my wife's sister died suddenly within a month to be followed in a few months by my wife's mother. My

(2)

Our lad was doing very well & had a
flair for literature. Since his death I
have read many times the chapters
in Cushing's Life of Osler which tell
of the death of Revere & I treasure a
letter Sir William wrote to me at the
time. I have not heard from Mrs. Chopin
for some months & have feared that
she too has passed on. The death of
Fielding Garrison was a great loss.
We are gradually getting the men out
here interested in Medical History
& lately three ^{annual} lectures on historical
topics have been endowed. Next March
I have been asked to give the ^{Sir George} Dymie
Memorial Lecture to the Royal Australasian
College of Surgeons on the Pioneer
Days of Medicine in Australia. At
the recent BMA Meeting held in Melbourne

I was asked to give an address
on a medico-historical subject
& chose "Guy de Chauliac & Ambroise
Paré". This was broadcast & aroused
considerable interest. I find that
the younger men are becoming
interested & my lectures to the 6th
year, while attendance is voluntary,
are well attended. Our great
need in Sydney is a good medical
library & I am looking around
for some rich squatter or business
man to endow one. I shall be
very pleased to hear from you
at any time as I look back on my
brief time with the Orlers at Oxford
with the greatest pride.

With kind regards

Very sincerely yours

L. Bowdler.