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Public meeting in interest of Tuberculosis Commission W.O. ragging the Mayor 'Quarter Club' & other results of the meeting	3	Pointe-a-Pic Wright family 35 Tost reminiscences 36 Reading "St. Robt. Grosses Teste"; Green's "Letters" 39-40	32
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Book in the Museum

Chapter XXI.

Chauvin in the Museum
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A note to Ogden in January states that they are enjoying a quiet winter, that some cousins and nieces have been visiting them, and will he please find out something more about those cases of alkaptonuria because Garrod has been writing to him about them. Osler's day-book for the winter months, however, quite belies the epithet 'quiet', for he was evidently very much rushed and the Johns Hopkins Hospital Bulletin and the Maryland Medical Journal for the year repeatedly record his presence as a participant or activating agent at the meetings of the several local societies.* Indeed he was President of the Hopkins

*There were also the usual number of 'occasional' clinical papers contributed to various magazines - some of them not only of considerable importance but of interest biographically. One entitled "Intermittent Claudication" sent to the Montreal Medical Journal (February 1902, XXXI, p. 81) begins with a paragraph which harks back to his Montreal days. "In 1877 or 1878" he says, "when studying comparative pathology, I went one day to the country with some of the members of the Montreal Veterinary College to see an autopsy on a horse which had had a peculiar form of intermittent lameness. Dr. McEachran said the condition was well recognized, and had been described by the French writers, but it was very obscure. I have forgotten now the details of the autopsy, except that we found verminous aneurysms of many of the mesenteric vessels and of the iliac arteries. At the time I was much interested, and looked up Bouley's paper on Claudication Intermittente. He described an affection in the horse, in which, after being driven for fifteen or twenty minutes, the animal stopped, one or both of the hind legs got stiff, and soon it was unable to stir. In from half an hour to an hour it recovered and was able to go on comfortably for another fifteen minutes, when the attack recurred. In such cases, post-mortem, the artery of the affected limb was found blocked with a clot, or, when both hind legs have been involved, the abdominal aorta contained thrombi."

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Medical Society during this and the following year. He was often led away for short trips, and rarely did some local story or other fail to attach itself to his visit and become handed down, most often by the local practitioner on whose rounds he would insist on going while awaiting his departing train. One of these stories may be given, as related, of a visit made in Charlottesville Virginia, to see one of his students who was ill with typhoid. →

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"He found his way to a planter's house in Virginia. It was an old derelict shadow of its former splendour, with broken shutters and gates off their hinges. The grandfather (for the boy was an orphan) turned every convertible thing into drink. After seeing the lad Osler had to wait all day for the night train back to Baltimore. So he found his way to the library and browsed around the shelves. Presently the granddaughter, a charming, intelligent girl of eighteen, came in and said: 'if you're interested in old books, we've got some much older than these in the attics.' There he found stuffed into barrels priceless first editions including Byron, Shelley, and Keats (Endymion and Lamia 'in blue wrappers'). The volumes comprised practically the whole early history of the house of John Murray. These were the yearly consignments of books which wealthy planters were wont to order from England. Osler told the girl of their great value. She, with tears in her eyes, begged him to say nothing to the grandfather, as he would sell them for drink. Eventually, through Osler's good offices, Putnam's bought the books at so fair a price that the old home was restored and the family fortunes comfortably re-established."*

*British Medical Journal, Jan. 10, 1920, p. 66-7. (?)

During the year, the subject of tuberculosis continued, ~~as in 1901~~, to be very much to the fore and the community at large had begun to be sufficiently aroused to ~~at least~~ appreciate, the significance of ^{an} anti-spitting ordinance ^{if nothing more.} Nor was the community allowed any rest ^{at this stage of their recalcitrance.} On January 13th Osler wrote to the Dean, "I think a very good subject for an evening lecture would be Municipal

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Sanitaria in Tuberculosis; by Dr Warren Buckler. ~~He~~ has the whole matter in hand," etc. ^{The time had come} ~~The public,~~ ^{when} indeed, ~~had become sufficiently educated to justify~~ an assault on the state legislature, ^{was justified} and with this both Welch and Osler in their different spheres had much to do.

The local Board of Health of which Welch continued to be President, and which had a most active Secretary in the person of Dr. John S. Fulton, had recommended through the Governor to the legislature the appointment of a Tuberculosis Commission which though unsalaried and removed from politics was nevertheless to be granted certain powers. In order to secure for this recommendation some popular backing, it was decided that a public meeting should be held under the combined auspices of the Laennec Society, the Medical & Chirurgical Faculty, and the Maryland Public Health Association. This last-mentioned body, of whose origin mention has been made, had in the short four years of its existence come to play an increasingly important rôle in turning public attention toward matters of public health.

In these matters, particularly as regards tuberculosis, Massachusetts was far ahead of the other states, and Dr. Vincent Y. Bowditch had been asked

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to come from Boston to give the main address of the evening.* McCoy Hall was

["*The Care of Consumptives in State and Private Sanitaria in
Massachusetts."]

packed to the doors. John S. Fulton ^{described} ~~gave an admirable description~~ of the
status of the tuberculosis question so far as it concerned the welfare of
Baltimore and the State, and vividly laid bare the 'ignorance, vice and
greed which propogates ^{the disease} ~~consumption~~.' Bowditch followed with his address
which began with a quotation from Osler's "Practice" and ended with a plea
for a state sanitarium for Maryland. The Mayor of Baltimore made a few
feeble remarks. And then Osler was called on. The situation may well be con-
trasted with that of the summer before when royalty had aligned itself with
the crusade and he spoke in the presence of the old Duke of Cambridge on the
same subject. But the rather-more-than-usually apathetic Mayor found Osler
distinctly less 'jokey' than had the Duke - indeed Osler ^{publicly} ~~practically~~ shook
his finger in the Mayor's face, to the amazement of Baltimore - but ^{apparently} it turned
the trick. He was quoted, in a mild version*, as having ~~thus~~ spoken ^{in plain language} ~~in fullness~~

["*Maryland Medical Journal, 1902, xlv, 133-5.

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Mr. Chairman and my long-suffering, patient, inert fellow-citizens:
#/You have heard two aspects of the tuberculosis question - first, the interesting statement, with reference to the existing prevalence of the disease, from Dr. Fulton; and second, the modern means whereby the disease may be, in a very considerable number of cases, arrested. Now, what is our condition in this city, and what are we doing for the 10,000 consumptives who are living today in our midst? We are doing, Mr. Mayor and fellow-citizens, not one solitary thing that a modern civilized community should do.

Through the kindness of a couple of ladies - God bless them! - I have been enabled in the past three or four years to have two medical students of the Johns Hopkins University visit every case of pulmonary consumption that has applied for admission to the dispensary of our hospital, and I tell you now that the story those students brought back is a disgrace to us as a city of 500,000 inhabitants. It is a story of dire desolation, want, and helplessness, and of hopeless imbecility in everything that should be in our civic relation to the care of this disease. No instruction on the part of the State or city, none whatever. These people have had no instruction except what these two young women have given them. . . .

~~Now what is the remedy? It is simple. It is very easy. It is so simple and so easy that we won't get it for a good many years. It is a sad thing to think of, but it will be five years yet before we get a law compelling notification of cases of tuberculosis to the Health Board in this city.~~

. . . . Another thing that we should have is a hospital in which the

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advanced cases that cannot be taken care of at home can be treated, where there can be proper care of the sputum of the patients, which is at present a constant source of danger to the community.

This is the whole matter in a nutshell, Mr. Mayor and fellow-citizens. Now, what are you going to do about it? Nothing. It is not the fault of the Mayor and City Council, but of the citizens, and unless you get them awake nothing can be done. If you can once get the people awake it doesn't make any difference if the Mayor and City Council are asleep. It is you, fellow-citizens, that must wake up, and if you would get wide awake, and remain awake a short time, I would like to tell you what to do.

Mr. Mayor, you may close your ears, because I know you are a good hard-working fellow, and don't get your desserts. But . . . we want a new charter in this old town. We are sick to death of mayors, and first branches and second branches. In heaven's name, what have they done for us in the past? I can tell you what they have done for us in the thirteen years I have been here. To my positive knowledge they have paved two or three streets east and west, and two or three streets north and south, and by the Lord Harry! I could not point to a single other thing they have done. They haven't given us a municipal hospital, they haven't given us a sewerage system, and we are still begging for lots of other things. I would say to Mr. Carter: We want something new, and something good, and just you frame a charter without any of the ancient tomfoolery, old-time Mayor and City Council. Give us a couple or three good men and true who will run this city as a business corporation. It would not take us a year, then, Mr. Mayor, not a year, to get a start on a sewerage system and an infectious-disease hospital, and everything else that the pub-

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lic welfare demands. We would have a sanitarium system complete within a few years ^{undoubtedly more,} ~~And here is another matter of importance~~ your taxes would be reduced. . . .

Dr. Bowditch, the guest of the evening, recalls that this unlooked-for tirade made his very hair ^{to} stand on end and he fully expected that a southern duel would be precipitated, but to his ^{Surprise} amazement, later in the evening he saw the Mayor with his arm over Osler's shoulder talking to him in a most affectionate manner. "Osler was nothing if not frank," ^{He adds "and} "the curious thing about it is that no one ever seemed to take offence." It did not occur very often that Osler thus let himself out, but this sort of direct outspokenness was under the circumstances absolutely necessary to get action on the part of the people. There was one touch in his fiery speech to which attention may be drawn - his inevitable reaction of sympathy for the man whose civic apathy he was exposing - for after all he was probably 'a good hard-working fellow who doesn't get his desserts.'

Someone has expressed concern lest Osler in these pages be made out to be a 'plaster saint' because of the inherent kindness of heart which made him so greatly beloved, and because he would never permit anyone in his presence to speak ill of another. He adds, moreover, that 'what adverse opinions he had

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to give were handed to the man himself, full in the face' - as was true of this episode as well as that of the A. M. A. meeting in May of 1895.

The sequel may be briefly told. At the next meeting of the Maryland General Assembly a Tuberculosis Commission was created without opposition. Meanwhile a group of young society women called the 'Quarter Club' set out to raise, by small sums for which twenty-five-cent coupons were given, a fund for the care of early cases of tuberculosis. From this came the employment of a full-time tuberculosis nurse and, in due sequence, the Maryland Association for the Prevention and Care of Tuberculosis, a special department at the Johns Hopkins with a bequest from Mr. Phipps, the Baltimore Tuberculosis exhibit, the National Association, and much else beside. *on other expenses it is a contemporary letter,* In these and other ways they were, 'enjoying a quiet winter,' which, however, was soon to be interrupted by a university function which meant a houseful of guests, no uncommon thing, to be sure. ~~on~~

~~February 20th he writes Adami.~~

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So glad you are coming. I have a room for you at the Stafford, and you will come here for your meals. I hope you will be able to stay over for the dinner on Saturday evening. Do not make any engagement for Friday evening, as Welch and I have a dinner that night at which we should like to see you.

Meanwhile Revere and his little friend Doris had formed a secret society of two, and there were mysterious goings-on, only vague hints of which were permitted to leak out even to their especial playmate who to the outside world was a learned Professor of medicine. And one may imagine the bursts of joy and the swift and dire revenge when they discovered that he was the perpetrator of the note in a disguised hand sent to the female member of the society, and which read:

Officer of the Chief of Police,
Baltimore, Feb. 21st.

Ma'am

Your Club is illegal and must be disbanded. Report to me, with E R Ike O'Slur at 12 tomorrow or a policeman will come for you both.

John McAdoo,
Chief of Police.

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This threat of criminal proceedings did not interfere with the ceremonies attending the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the founding of the University, which was celebrated on this and the following day, Saturday February 22nd. The occasion marked the retirement of D. C. Gilman as President, for having reached the age of seventy, he wished to devote his remaining years to the ^{affairs} ~~development~~ of the Carnegie Institution.

The birthdays of the Johns Hopkins fall at a time of year when weather conditions are ^{unpropitious for the parading of} ~~far from propitious for the entertaining of large gatherings~~ often called upon to ~~parade the~~ streets in academic costume, and though on this particular occasion over head and under foot it was even worse than usual, the conditions, nevertheless, did not serve to dampen the interest of the group of representatives who had come from all the principal institutions of learning in the United States and Canada. Mr. Gilman's Valedictory; the congratulatory address to the retiring President delivered by Woodrow Wilson representing the alumni; the address by Principal Peterson of McGill who could not refrain from complaining that the University was keeping Dr. William Osler from his Alma Mater which wanted and needed him; the ^{inaugural} ~~inaugural~~ address of Ira Remsen the new President; - these nor the many other addresses need not detain us. Nor need

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the list of distinguished men whom Mr. Gilman then presented to his successor as recommended for various honorary degrees, among them Professor Wilson of Princeton University, ~~'writer and speaker of grace and force,~~
^c whose vision is so broad that it includes both North and South; a master of the principles which underly a free government, ~~whom we would gladly enroll among us as a professor of historical and political science.'~~

The ceremonies ended Saturday night with a large alumni dinner at which there were so many to be called upon that when it came the turn for President Alderman of the University of Virginia to speak, he glanced at the clock and ^{said} ~~began~~, "Last week then this banquet ^{began} ~~started~~, &c." It was two minutes past twelve, and though there were other speakers to follow, it is time to end this account of an important event in the history of the Hopkins when its leadership first changed hands.

Not many months before this event took place, announcements had gone forth in the daily press that the Harvard Medical School had been the recipient of a princely sum of money from ~~two wealthy New Yorkers~~. J. Pierpont

(Typewritten)

John (Mr. F. T. Gates to ^{W.D.} ~~Dr. Osler~~)

12 13

March 4, 1902.

Dr. Wm. Osler, M.D., LL.D.,
Baltimore, Md.

Dear Sir:-

May I say to you personally what I said to Dr. Gilman, in a recent delightful evening spent with him and other gentlemen at the house of Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., of this city?

May I introduce myself by saying that I am and have been for many years exclusively employed as Mr. John D. Rockefeller's representative in many of his business enterprises and philanthropies, beginning with the establishment of the University of Chicago?

Some years ago, in carrying out a determination to become more intelligent as a layman on the subject of the current and common diseases, I purchased a copy of your "Principles and Practice of Medicine," on the advice of a bright young medical friend. Happening to receive it just as I was about to start on a vacation, I took the book with me and read it from beginning to end, with absorbing interest, and with a medical dictionary at my side.

In reading it, I was impressed specially with the vast number of diseases that are certainly or probably originated by bacteria and with the success that has attended the efforts to isolate the germs of disease in so many instances, and equally with the fact that as yet only one specific seems certainly to have been found, in the antitoxin for diphtheria; and the vast possibilities for good lying in this field of research opened up before my imagination and fired my enthusiasm. I acquainted myself in a general way with what is being done in Paris and Berlin, and with the fact that with the exception of the work of Johns Hopkins, comparatively little seems to have been accomplished in the United States. I therefore laid the matter before Mr Rockefeller, and sought to impart to him my own interest, kindled by the reading of your book, in bacteriological research. His enthusiasm was easily kindled, and deeming the matter of vast importance, he immediately employed a special agent, well qualified for the work, to make exhaustive investigations as to what is being done and the best way of promoting research in this country. This gentleman came into relation with many eminent biologists, and the result was the Rockefeller Institute, of which you remember Dr. Welch is the Chairman, with an initial and tentative working fund of \$200,000.00 with which to experiment, - the final scope and character of the work to be determined by experience.

In the course of our study of the subject, we became acquainted with the very excellent work being done at Harvard, and while it was not thought best to connect the Institute with the Harvard Medical School, we were profoundly impressed with the very superior work done at that institution. Accordingly, after the establishment of the Institute in the tentative way above described, Mr. Rockefeller contributed a million dollars to the Harvard School.

Both of these gifts grew directly out of your book. The first, while not as yet large in money, has in it possibilities by no means circumscribed by the present gift. It has occurred to me that possibly you might be gratified to know of an incidental and perhaps to you quite unexpected good which your valuable work has wrought.

Yours very truly,

F. T. Gates.

11 Incorporated June 14, 1901

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From W.O. to Mr. F. T. Gates.

No. 1 W. Franklin Street,
Mar. 5, 1902.

Dear Sir: Your letter is, of course, very gratifying. I have been greatly interested in the Rockefeller Institute, and feel sure that good results will come of it. We are still far behind Germany in this question of the scientific investigations of disease. Even our best laboratories connected with the Universities are imperfectly equipped, the men in charge have too much teaching to do, there are not enough assistants, and there is an increasing difficulty in getting the best sort of men to devote themselves to scientific work. One serious difficulty is the limited number of positions with which living salaries are attached. For example, only last week a doctor connected with the leading school in St. Louis came to me wishing a pathologist and bacteriologist. They offered a salary of \$2000! and that is more than is paid by any of the other schools in the city.

Did you see the brief summary which I gave of the progress of bacteriological science in the New York Sun last year in the general reviews of the subject of science? If you did not, I can have a copy sent to you.

Sincerely yours,

W^m Osler

One can hardly believe from the character of Osler's reply that he could have fully grasped ^{all that} ~~what~~ Mr. Gates had in mind, for the comparatively small sum which, at the outset, had been placed in the hands of the seven Directors of the Institute was a mere feeler. ~~And~~ that Mr. Gates had chanced upon his "Practice of Medicine" rather than upon one of the many in which with therapeutic

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enthusiasm drugs were prescribed for every disease and every symptom, was 'of course very gratifying' but nothing more. The letter was tossed to Mrs. Osler, who fortunately preserved it and called it to his mind a year later when it stood the University in great stead.

There was another happening in this month of March which was followed by the bestowal of large funds for educational as well as other purposes, and which in an unexpected way was to touch Osler in his later years. The long-drawn out war in South Africa, though victory for the British was practically assured, was not yet over when on March 26th Cecil Rhodes died. He, too, though a very different person, was the youngest ^{of several} ~~son of many others~~ in a clergyman's family, ~~who~~ had expected to enter the church, and in the world of affairs had reached the top as had Osler at the same age in the world of medicine. With vision and idealism, Rhodes had left the bulk of his ^{large} ~~vast~~ fortune to found scholarships at Oxford to be held by picked men from each of the United States, from the British Dominions, and from Germany, with the object of fostering an understanding between the three great powers which would render future wars impossible. With these Oxford Rhodes Scholars, Osler will have much to do; ^{though the} ~~The~~ object, alas, for which Rhodes wished these representative

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young men to be brought together was not attained. Nor twenty years later

was the world ready to accept a still more ambitious programme to ensure ^{future} peace,

introduced by the young Princeton professor who has just played so prominent

a part in the Hopkins celebration a month ago.

Meanwhile ^{his collection of} ~~books~~ ^{was pouring and one ~~addition~~ ^{acquisition} he mentions in} were coming into his growing library, as he indicates in

a ^{note} ~~letter~~ of early March to C. N. B. Camac.

[No date]

Dear Camac So sorry to have missed you - will try to give you warning next time. When are you coming down? There are many things I wish to talk about with you and some of my new old treasures would delight you. Hunter McGuire left me* a set of Jenners Vaccination Monographs

Foot-note

*They were actually given him by Dr. Stuart McGuire who felt this would be the disposition which would have met with his father's wishes.

- all autograph copies to his friend [Henry] Shrapnell. It is really a great treasure. . . Mrs. O & Ike are well. So glad to hear you are getting consultations. Get out 2 or 3 good papers each year - they help. ~~Yours in haste~~

~~W Osler~~

^{own} ~~It was a characteristic ending and ^{a few} ~~gave~~ advice to which he set abundant example in his ^{own} bibliography~~ ^{continues to testify. The letter shows that he has dropped in on ^{one of his} ~~old~~ ^{while on a fleeting visit to their good.} ~~He rarely failed to drop in on his old house officers) when visiting~~ ^{was his invariable habit when chance ^{trou} ~~to~~ ^{led} him to} their place of residence, and if he failed in so doing, to send them a note}

~~It will be set in type for the year book this summer~~
~~Foot-note~~

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of explanation. ^{and some} Some incident of such an occasion rarely failed to stick in the memory of the person thus favoured. Thus, Dr. Camac relates that having ^{once} received a telegram stating that W.O. would be in town and ^{could they} would dine with him, a few ^{young men} friends were ^{gathered invited} gathered to meet him. After the dinner the talk ran to books and ^{on} Camac ^{producing} showed a copy of Brillat Savarin's "Physiologie de Gout"; ~~and~~ one of the party mistaking the French word "gout" for the English word, became somewhat involved, whereupon Osler to save him embarrassment and to put him right in a gentle way, quoted the well-known couplet:

The French have taste in all they do
While we are left without;
Nature to them has given gout,
To us has given gout.

[copied from W. O.'s note-book]

It was ~~a~~ trifling incident, of course, but, ~~as Camac says, is~~ a good example of the ^{Osler} kindly way ^{in which Osler would lead} Osler ^{of leading} was accustomed to lead one of his ^{class room} pupils aright without ^{permitting} causing the young man to blush before his fellows.

~~On March 26th and again on April 2nd, Osler was in Philadelphia reading papers, the first occasion before the County Medical Society when, with~~

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The English without doubt
Suffer from gout;
Au contraire, the French 'tis true
Enjoy their gout. [Dr. Camac's version - from memory]

It was ~~a~~ trifling incident, ^{to be sure} of course, but ^{but} ~~as Camac says,~~ is a good example of the ^{in which Osler would lead} kindly way ^{of leading} Osler was accustomed to lead one of his ^{classroom} pupils aright without ^{permitting} causing the young man to blush before his fellows.

~~On March 26th and again on April 2nd, Osler was in Philadelphia reading papers, the first occasion before the County Medical Society when, with~~

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~~Flexner and others, he took part in a symposium on Dysentery which had been made a subject of special study by the Philippines commission.~~ On April 2nd the ^{Philadelphia} College of Physicians held a memorial meeting for Alfred Stillé, who at eighty-seven ~~years of age~~ had died, the last survivor of the group of Louis's pupils. Osler gave the chief address*, and largely

*Reprinted in "The Alabama Student and Other Biographical Essays", 1906.

in the words of his old friend recounted anew the story of the differentiation of the two fevers, typhoid and typhus, which had been worked out in the old Blockley Hospital during the epidemic of 1836 by Gerhard and Pennock and their junior ^{Cowdler} Stillé. The address ended with the line, borrowed from Stillé, that 'only two things are essential, to live uprightly and to be wisely industrious' a line which might be made the text of this present biography.

~~On the 19th he was again away, as one of the University representatives at the instalation of Nicholas Murray Butler as President of Columbia.~~

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for these were cases which might be mentioned
 But ~~lest~~ with all these absences, his local routine activities ^{might not} be overlooked.

~~a brief letter to the Dean of the Medical School may be given to recall them.~~

He wrote the Dean on April 22, 1902.

Dear Howell: "No, I cannot possibly take more than twenty-five men" "All through May we have the undergraduates as well, which makes too great a crowd altogether in the wards." ^{It} I was very sorry that I could not get over to Gaule's lecture, but there was a meeting of the Executive Committee of the State Faculty at that time, and as I am Chairman I was obliged to be present." Sincerely yours,

W^m Osler

~~As this letter shows, he was still Chairman of the most important committee of the Maryland 'Faculty' and, as may be added, still a member of~~

~~the Library Committee which held a meeting every week. The annual gathering of the 'Faculty' came this year~~ ^{Included the} ~~on April 22nd to 24th, and Osler gave a~~ ^{being at the time and to the program which he contributed} ~~timely lecture for the members on the "Diagnosis of Smallpox,"~~ ^{was held on April 22nd and when} ~~There had~~ ^{the}

~~been many increasingly severe outbreaks of the disease not only in Maryland~~

~~but in other parts of the country, due to the neglect of vaccination which~~

~~had got a bad name because of impure lymph~~ ^{which had been just as the market,} ~~put out by some of the larger~~ ^{one}

~~manufacturers. It was~~ ^{the} ~~a subject with which Osler was all too familiar.~~

~~These forewarn the usual disastrous succession of Spring meetings. On
May 1st under~~

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~~Under the presidency of his old friend and neighbour J. C. Wilson of Phila-
delphia, the "American Physicians" ^{Saltwater} held their 17th annual meeting in Washington,
as usual the first of ~~May~~ ^{June}, and Osler ~~read~~ his second paper on Splenic Anaemia
which called forth an abundant discussion not entirely favourable ^{to his own}
conclusions regarding the disease. The A. M. A. meeting was the next in order,
and to this large body the ^{Association of Medical} Librarians had by now attached themselves. ^{He had written a}~~

To Miss M. R. Charlton from W. O.

No. 1 W. Franklin Street.
May 6, 1902.

written by 24

Dear Miss Charlton: I think we ought to get out a little programme for
the meeting at Saratogo. It will be held on the evening of the 10th of
June at the United States Hotel. I think a circular should be sent to all
the librarians and members of the Association. It might, perhaps, go on a
postal card, and ask for communications. I shall read a brief paper on some
aspects of medical bibliography, and I should think the discussion on clas-
sification, with one or two other short papers would be sufficient. Send
me a little proof of the circular, and then I could add the note about the
exact place of meeting. Sincerely yours,

W Osler

~~In spite of the usual disastrous succession of Spring meetings he~~

~~He was at work meanwhile on an unexpected revision of his Text-book, a~~

~~This is evident from a paragraph in the following letter to Joseph H. Pratt~~

~~one of the Hopkins students, who since his graduation in 1898 had been in~~

~~the pathological department of Harvard and was now abroad.~~

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1902

May 9, 1902.

Dear Pratt: It was very nice to get your letter of the 25th, and to find that you are in good hands. I am sure you will find Krehl a most satisfactory man. Please give him my regards. I will have a copy of my Text-book sent to him, and a volume of our Studies in Typhoid Fever. I will send you this week the list of books for the tuberculosis library. I haven't had them copied, so please take good care of this list which is in Dr. Welch's handwriting. I will enclose a memorandum with reference to certain ones which we have. Keep a close eye on some corrections for the Text-book like a good fellow. Use your pencil freely. Suggestions for rearrangement will be in order. ~~We shall probably sail on the 25th of June for England. Our address there will be Brown, Shipley & Co. If you return through London there are some men I want you to meet.~~ Take good care of yourself and do not work too hard, and sample a fair amount of beer in the course of a week.

Sincerely yours,

Wm Osler

Though only a year had elapsed since the ^{last revision} ~~Text-book~~ had been revised, a new edition ~~or reprint~~ was necessitated by the fact that ~~the English~~ ^{an unauthorised edition} ~~copyright had lapsed~~ ^{had been taken out in Great Britain & an unauthorised edition had previously been issued} for to his amazement Osler, the summer before (?) had ~~seen a surreptitious English edition being sold in the shops.~~ ^{had been printed and was} ~~The brief~~ ^{Great Britain.} preface to the new edition which was issued later in the year reads as follows:

was greatly reduced price which had just interfered with the legitimate book sale in the book in Great Britain and Canada. As Osler said in a later letter of explanation

cf. *The Lancet* Lond. April 11, 1903, 1058

"The circumstances justified what Robelin called 'the pretty prerequisite of a superfection'."

May
1902

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A word of explanation on the appearance so soon of a new edition, breaking the orderly triennial sequence of previous editions. Through an oversight, the fourth edition was not copyrighted in Great Britain, and an unauthorized edition was promptly issued at a greatly reduced price, which has interfered with the legitimate sale of the book in Great Britain and Canada. In no other way than by the issue of this, a new edition, could copyright be obtained. I have taken the opportunity to make a number of additions and alterations. A great many corrections have been made at the suggestions of friends and correspondents, to whom I am much indebted. W.O.

He was laid up with one of his periodical attacks the latter part of the month, and from his bed sends ^{Letters which show that he is enjoying say that} ~~this to Franklin P. Mall his anatomical~~

~~colleague in Anatomy.~~

I had a set-back on Friday night & have been in bed Saturday & most of yesterday - very glad to be so as I have ^{had the} not for years enjoyed a book so much as Kussmaul's ^{recount} reminiscences. [~~Jugenderinnerungen 1902~~]. It is perfectly delightful. There has been nothing so good that I know of in the way of Medical autobiography." I am much indebted to you for it With kind regards Sincerely yours

Wm Oeler

In his engagement-book opposite the dates May 18-23 where entries for his afternoon consultations usually would occur, there is written, "Influenza: frontal sinus," and opposite May 24-31, "Atlantic City." This was

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the occasion when he impishly signed the name of Egerton Y. Davis under that of Mrs. Osler on the hotel register, and some Philadelphian who had pursued him to this lair with the object of consulting the celebrated doctor professionally, failing to find him registered, returned home and asked ^{inquired} ~~Cadwallader Biddle~~ 'who was that fellow Davis all the time with Mrs. Osler.'

^{written}
Amoyathi letter from the Hotel Chelsea in this
The following letter written during this sojourn indicates that H. B. Jacobs their long-time neighbour, who with Fatcher had been occupying 3 West Franklin Street, had recently been married.

Hotel Chelsea, Atlantic City, N.J.
Sunday 24th

Dear Mrs Jacobs It was very sweet and kind of you to remember ^[Jacobs] our Library. We all appreciate it very much. Your good father has really 'set us up' by his generosity and the phenomenal growth of the Library in usefulness should be very gratifying to him. It helps the young fellows so much - and it is to them that we must look for the progressive elevation of the profession. I hope by this time you are in Italy away from the bleak spring of London & Paris. We have already had a hot spell. I have been used up for a week with a feverish cold in my head and we have come here for a rest. Love to Henry B. Do not spoil him too much. Yours sincerely

W^m Osler.

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A few days later he sends word to H. V. Ogden, who has evidently been concerned about him.

VI. 1. 02.

Dear O. I am all right. I had a Schnupfen which rose into my sinuses & used me up for a week. They telephoned me one night to come & see L P*but as it was 1 a m and I had had a hot bath I declined

*"L P" was Lord Paunceforte, the first British Ambassador who with John Hay during his long period of service in Washington, had been quietly clearing away the many disputed problems which had long been sources of misunderstanding between the two countries.

& sent Thayer. I had seen the old boy the day before & there was nothing to do. Mrs O is well & Morris is back from the hospital so the family is again 'gesund'. Thanks for the memo - about Ex Opth G. We go to Murray Bay. We had our passage for the 25th, but as we would have to return early - I give the address in Med. - Can Med in Montreal - we decided to give it up. I wish to get over early next year and have a 6 weeks period of study in Paris. - Come. Love to all of you. Am rejoicing in a sumptuous copy of Fuller's Worthies, 1662, from B. Q. Yours,

W. O.

July ~~June~~
1902 ~~1903~~

There had been a good deal of discussion in the pages of the Journals about the teaching of medical history, which was no new thing be it said, for in Vienna, Berlin, and in most of the Italian medical schools there had actually been Chairs given over to the subject. Osler, though he did not believe, in the present crowded state of the curriculum that a full course could be offered, was aroused by an editorial in the British Medical Journal to send a description of what was being done in Baltimore in this direction.*

*"A Note on the Teaching of the History of Medicine," British Medical Journal, 1902, July 12, p. 93.

In this he spoke of John S. Billings's lectures, of the work of the Historical Club, of the effort even in the everyday ward work to make the student get in the habit of going to original sources, of his Saturday evenings with the students when, over a little 'beer and baccy' he was apt to give a short talk on one of the 'masters of medicine'; and he ended with this quotation from Fuller, *the Sumptuous Copy of whose Worthies had so recently come from Bernard Quaritch:*

History maketh a young man to be old, without either wrinkles or grey hairs; privileging him with the experience of age, without either the infirmities or inconveniences thereof. Yea, it not onely maketh things past present, but inableth one to make a rationall conjecture of things to

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come. For this world affordeth no new accidents, but in the same sense wherein we call it a new Moon, which is the old one in another shape, and yet no other than what had been formerly. Old actions return again, furnished over with some new and different circumstances.

Not only in medical history was he beginning to be thoroughly steeped, but his infection with the bibliomania was becoming chronic. Among his posthumous papers were a number of stray leaves, representing the portion of rough draft of an article, which may ^{have been written at this time of ~~convalescent~~ idleness at the sea shore when} well be rescued and inserted here, as he speaks feelingly in them regarding Thomas Fuller ^{was in his mind and E. D. in his reaction.} and his 'Worthies.'

Burrowings of a Book-worm

by
Egerton Yorrick Davis, Jr.

1. Apologia. In the final stage of the malady, sung of so sweetly by John Ferrier, and described so minutely by Dibdin, the bibliomaniac haunts the auction rooms and notes with envious eyes the precious volumes as they are handed about for inspection, or chortles with joy as he hears the bids rise higher and higher for some precious treasure already in his possession. Of this final enthralldom the chief symptom, not mentioned indeed by Dibdin, is the daily perusal of the catalogue of auction sales. . . . Caring nothing for the new announcements of Mr. Murray or of Houghton Mifflin, he skips the advertising pages of the Spectator, of the Athenaeum,

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and of the Nation, and having long since abandoned the Book Lovers Library and scoffing at the Times Book Club all his spare moments are devoted to the pernicious literature spread broadcast during the season by Sotheby, Wilkinson and Hodge, Hodgson & Co., Christie & Co., Anderson, W. Müller, ~~and~~ Burgersdijk and Niermans, and others. No longer a frequenter of stalls and of book shops and eschewing as evil all dealings with the trade, nothing will tempt him into Dodd, Mead & Co. or Scribner's or McLean's, or into his former London haunts - Ellis, Maggs, or even into that paradise, 15 Piccadilly over the door of which is the magic name Quaritch. He will stroll along the Quai Mazarin and gaze lovingly and longingly in the windows but resists and I have even known him go on three days in succession to [] in the rue [] and not venture inside that fascinating shop. Like the secret drinker with a full bottle by his side and the kettle on the trivet the victim in this last stage indulges his passion alone and is never so happy as with a Sotheby catalogue and the help of Livingston (1) or Karlake (2) as he prepares to send his bids to the auction firm. Though the spirit of the gambler is upon him there is method in his mania for he makes his calculations with shrewdness and knows the prices which his favourite books have brought. He is never disappointed, for he has a strong conviction that the world is one big auction room in which the gods sell everything to the man who can work or to the man who can wait. If he loses today tomorrow may bring luck and this element of uncertainty gives zest to the dispute. Into this final stage I confess to have lapsed, gradually and insensibly, and without the loss of my self-respect. Nor is he an indiscriminate buyer, seeking incunabula and editions de luxe with equal avidity, but one guiding principle, deep interest

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in an author limits the range of his desires and keeps his library within the compass of his house and purse. The great difficulty is to keep the passion within bounds, so fascinating and so numerous is the company into which it brings him! Any one of the elect may absorb his energies for a month. Charles Lamb says that he lived on Landor's little poem Rose Aylmer for a week. After first finding Fuller I lived on him for six months; and when hungry or thirsty after the mental labours of the day, I find refreshment in the Worthies or in any page of the Holy and Profane State. Before this happy stage is reached you must know the man - not that biography should precede, rather indeed it should follow, the systematic study of a man's work, but to get on terms of refreshing intimacy you must love the man as a friend and know the phases of his mind as expressed in his writing. To be supremely happy, to the instinct of the collector must be added the mental attitude of the student. Either alone lacks completeness; the one supplements the other. I can read with pleasure a classic such as Rasselas though issued in 'penny dreadful' form by Mr. Stead, ~~I prefer the~~ ^(but) ~~and~~ feel nearer to the immortal Samuel when I hold the original in my hand. It is all a matter of sentiment - so it is, but the very marrow of my bones is full of sentiment and as I feel towards my blood relations - or some of them! - and to my intimate friends in the flesh so I feel to these friends in the spirit with whom I am in communion through the medium of the printed word. . . .

~~June Sunday~~
1902 June

The Association of Medical Librarians, with sixteen members present! and Osler in the chair, met in Saratoga on June 10th, the day before the ~~A. M. A.~~ ^{Sections of the American Medical Association,} meeting opened. Osler had 'packed' the meeting by bringing in a few of his

assistants, and they were well repaid for he read a delightful address on

"Some Aspects of American Medical Bibliography"* ^{- an address} ~~in which he spoke of himself~~

^{as No. XV}
*Reprinted in "Aequanimitas and Other Addresses."

~~as 'a man who had been helped much by libraries, and who knew their value,' and stated that a practical and busy physician might at the same time be a book-lover, even a book-worm.~~

~~It well deserves quoting in full - this address, prepared with no less care for this small group of people than it would have been for a larger audience. A single example of what he called his 'splintery' and rambling remarks regarding 'that aspect of medical bibliography which relates to writings which have a value to us from our interest in the authors.'~~ may be given.

There are many single volumes for which you will be on the lookout. Caldwell's "Autobiography" is a storehouse of facts (and fancies!) relating to the University of Pennsylvania, to Rush and to the early days of the Transylvania University and the Cincinnati schools. Pickled, as it is, in vinegar, the work is sure to survive.

~~June 3rd~~
1902 June

Have carefully rebound James Jackson's Memoir of his son (1835), and put it in the way of the young men among your readers. Few biographies will do them more good.

For the curious, pick up the literature on the Chapman-Pattison quarrel, and anything, in fact, relating to that vivacious and pugnacious Scot, Granville Sharpe Pattison.

There are a few full-blown medical biographies of special interest to us: The life and writings of that remarkable philosopher and physician, Wells, of Charleston. The life of John C. Warren (1860) is full of interest, and in the "Essays" of David Hossack you will get the inner history of the profession in New York in the early years of the last century. In many ways Daniel Drake is the most unique figure in the history of American medicine. Get his "Life" by Mansfield, and his "Pioneer Life in Kentucky." He literally made Cincinnati, having 'boomed' it in the early days in his celebrated "Picture of Cincinnati," 1815. He founded nearly everything that is old and good in that city. His monumental work on "The Diseases of the Mississippi Valley" is in every library; pick out from the catalogues every scrap of his writings.

And he concluded with this paragraph:

What should attract us all is a study of the growth of the American mind in medicine since the starting of the colonies. As in a mirror this story is reflected in the literature of which you are the guardians and collectors - in letters, in manuscripts, in pamphlets, in books and journals. In the eight generations which have passed, the men who have striven and struggled - men whose lives are best described in the words of St. Paul, in

~~June 13th,~~
1902 June

journeyings often, in perils of water, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils of the sea, in weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst and fastings - these men, of some of whom I have told you somewhat, have made us what we are. With the irrevocable past into which they have gone lies our future, since our condition is the resultant of forces which, in these generations, have molded the profession of a new and mighty empire. From the vantage ground of a young century we can trace in the literature how three great streams of influence - English, French and German - have blended into the broad current of American medicine on which we are afloat. Adaptiveness, lucidity and thoroughness may be said to be the characteristics of these Anglican, Gallic and Teutonic influences, the combination of which gives to medicine on this continent its distinctive eclectic quality, are maintained and extended.

Immediately after the A. M. A. meeting there was a large subscription dinner given on June 13th at Delmonico's in New York in honour of Surgeon General Sternberg, whose retirement had just taken place. There had been some idle claims put forth by partisans rather than principals as to who deserved chief credit for the yellow fever discoveries in Cuba, the only thing about the Spanish War and its aftermath from which any special credit was to be drawn. Well-deserved tributes for his pioneer work on this sub-

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ject were paid to Sternberg by the speakers at the dinner, among whom were E. G. Janeway, Welch, Gorgas, Osler and others. And it was Gorgas, ere long to be Sternberg's successor, who put his finger on the point at issue, by his statement that had the work of the Commission been less fortunate in its outcome General Sternberg would have received the entire blame, and consequently the success should be his also.

As stated in his cryptic letter to H. V. Ogden of June 1st, the Oslers had decided not to go to England for the summer but to Murray Bay on the St. Lawrence. They had been influenced by several things. His mother, who was ninety-six, seemed less vigorous than usual; moreover he had (~~pre~~promised) two addresses to prepare, one for the Canada Medical Association which was to meet in Montreal under F. J. Shepherd's presidency, the other to be given later on in St. Louis. "We have taken a house," he wrote, "and I doubt if I shall be bothered much with patients. It will give me a good fourteen weeks' rest."

June
1902To Henry M. Hurd from W. O.1 West Franklin Street,
June 21st, 1902.

Dear Hurd: So sorry to go off before your return. I hope you had a good meeting in Montreal. I am terribly distressed to hear of the death there of poor Wyatt Johnston. He was a nice, good fellow and a very dear friend of mine. I am going to Toronto to the Celebration at Trinity, and then on to Murray Bay, where I hope to remain peacefully and quietly for the summer.

One point about the new buildings rather distressed me. I wrote to Mr. Archer about it, but have had no reply. I understand from a conversation with Emerson that they will cut off four of the rooms of the Clinical Laboratory, which is a very serious loss, considering how cramped we are there at present, and as the classes increase it will be a very serious matter. Would it not be possible to arrange that on the upper floor, at any rate, the same space as at present could be utilized. The rooms for preparations and for special workers of course ought to be close at hand. Emerson is really getting out some first-class work from his department, and we should encourage him as much as possible. It is the sort of work that has not been done here before and I think will tell.

I am having one of my young protégés, a very bright fellow, a senior student at Toronto University, come down for the months of July and August to work in the wards and dispensary. His name is Locke, and he is the son of a very old and dear chum of mine. I told McCrae to look after him, and have asked him to call upon you. Another point - Do you not think it would be well to put Cordell's picture in the front of that volume? Ask Ashby and Preston what they think about it. He has done so much work that there ought to be some recognition. I hope in October to get up a little fund for him and hold a reception. I have arranged with Thayer about the

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private ward, and he and Fatcher will be on hand to help McCrae with anything special in the public wards. Sincerely yours,

W Osler

'He has done so much work that there ought to be some recognition' - this is a characteristic phrase in Osler's letters, and he was forever getting up funds for deserving people. Dr. Weir Mitchell was once heard to say that the first thing to be done by a biographer in estimating character is to examine the stubs of his victim's cheque-books. Osler's expenditures, however, can be traced between the lines of his brief letters, and just at this time he is paying the expenses of 'the son of the old and very dear chum' mentioned in this letter; there is a distant cousin of a younger generation, whom he has never seen, with consumption, for whom a twelve-months' sojourn in Saranac has been made possible; a monthly cheque goes to his nieces; the assistants he takes with him to Saratoga, as well as the librarians, have their passages paid; and Morris, meanwhile, gives out something to everyone who knocks at the door. One need not examine the stubs of Osler's cheque-book.

The 'celebration at Trinity' which preceded ^{the} Murray Bay ^{Sojourn} was the occasion of his receiving a D.C.L. (honoris causa) at the hands of his first Alma Mater. Since 1874 there had been sporadic efforts to amalgamate Trinity College with the University of Toronto. Not without some heart-burning, this union was about to be accomplished, for the old mischievous cry of a 'Godless College' which would have been raised in Father Johnson's time was by now represented by a very feeble voice. It was the last convocation held separately by Trinity, and degrees were bestowed on a number of distinguished Canadians. One of them, in all probability, as he sat on the platform in his old college, was engaged, with thoughts far away, in writing on his programme "James Bovell M.D. — James Bovell M.D., M.R.C.P."

On the Saguenay boat from Quebec they encountered, in addition to a pair of rabbits and a ^{pet} billy-goat, seven children to whom they belonged, and whose mother proved to be the widow of his old Montreal schoolmate Harry Wright - a family, from this time on, who like the Howard children

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were practically adopted as members of the Osler fraternity. With them and with the children of the Tafts, the Blakes, the Wrongs and other neighbours at Pointe-à-Pic, P.Q., there were many games played and dams constructed and picnics held during the summer which, with golf and fishing and reading between-times, was most happily passed. He was much sought after, not only by the children but by their elders. As ^{Charlie}~~the~~/Justice Taft recalls: "We had cottages which were not very far apart and I used to see a good deal of him on picnics as well as informal gatherings in that very delightful community. Revere was just about the age of my son Charlie and all the children were in and out of the Osler house. He had a love of humour and a disposition to joke others in a playful way. The wonder that came over me was at the universal knowledge of the man. He was not only most learned but applied that learning with a keen common sense and a sense of proportion that must have been the basis of the influence he wielded not only in his profession but in the community at large."

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1902

*This kind of 'epidemics and informal gatherings' is not the kind of thing
the way notes which issued*

during the summer

Early in July notes began to issue from Pointe-à-Pic to his librarian
friends at McGill and Toronto, asking for ^{Some} journals ^{or other or for information!}

Could you find and send me that recent no. of the Journal of Research
- the one with Steiners article on Myositis.

"Send me please the American Jour. of Med. Sciences, of last year or
the year before, I think, with Lyon's paper on Echinococcus disease - may be
able to get a single no.

"Do you know if the complete typhoid figures of the S. A. war are at
hand, i.e. the total cases & the total deaths up to say May 1st. Look,
like an angel, in the Lancet index, for the last half year & the B.M.J. &
let me know: ~~how~~

See if you have and send me the loose no. of the B.M.J. of last year
with a long article on Hodgkins Disease by Bruce Clarke - I think. It was
in Vo. 2, I think of the journal. The paper was read before the British As-
sociation last year.

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And to Miss Frieda C. Thies, who is looking out for his young protégé in
Baltimore:

Pointe-à-Pic, P.Q.
21st

Dear Miss Thesis: How many have subscribed to the volume which Dr.
Cordell is preparing? Did you and Miss Noyes send out postal cards
to all the members of the Faculty who had not yet subscribed. I hope
you are not over-worked. You must get a good holiday when your
'chiefess' comes back. Mr. Locke writes that you are all very kind to
him - many thanks.

Nor did he entirely escape from patients. One of his little companions
of the dam-making ^{Colene} ~~fraternity~~ must have an operation for blood-poisoning
and he insisted on coming every day to dress the wound himself. Then a
Bishop was taken ill, so a microscope must be procured from Montreal; and
there followed a shower of postcards like this to W. S. Thayer.

Pointe-à-Pic, P.Q.
VII. 27. 02

I am sending cover slips - bad ones too - of case - fever 9 w. dura-
tion - B. of Can. Diagnosis of malaria aestivo-autum. in N.Y. Parasites
in blood. Slides sent to Martin in Montreal, report negative Report
from relative of patient in Chicago positive - Martin sent microscope to-
day & I have gone over 4 specimens without finding ring-bodies pigment or
crescents. No spleen WVVW this T. 100-103. Old Corrigan's disease; no

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signs sub. or obj. of fresh endocarditis save the fever. Please go over the slides with the greatest care & telegraph me. Put down his name on your visiting list for consultation &c. Love to S. S. so glad to hear she is better

W.O.

Meanwhile Mrs. Osler writes to the 'latch-keyers' at 3 West Franklin Street that they are very comfortable, with plenty of room (for guests) and a lovely view; that W.O. is enjoying every moment, with 'good golf and nice men to play with'; for there are many old friends from Montreal and other parts of Canada.

His much-worn ^{encyclopaedia} ~~pocket note~~-book records that during July he read F. S. Stevenson's "Life of Saint Robert Grossetest," from which many quotations are taken,

like the following samples:

Humility he defines as 'the virtue which enables a man to know himself', but that 'the more it is consciously sought the less it is likely to be obtained.'

His noble 'sermon' before Innocent IV (at Lyons, May 13, 1250) and the College of Cardinals - one of the strongest denunciations of ecclestical abuses ever penned.

Three things, he once said, to a Dominican are necessary for temporal salvation - food, sleep, and a good humour.

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And from this outstanding person of the thirteenth century he slides the next month into John Richard Green's "Letters" edited by Leslie Stephen, from which also he makes many excerpts, one of which, the following, creeps out in an address he is preparing.

It is the ^{single} ~~one~~ advantage of being a skeptic that one is never very surprised or angry to find that one's opponents are in the right."

He had been persuaded by
Early in September he writes Francis J. Shepherd, ~~who was President of~~
the Canadian Medical Association for the year, ~~and at whose insistence he had~~
~~agreed to give the annual oration:~~ *before and that*

Pointe-à-Pic P Q
3rd.

Dear Shepherd It will be better that I go with the family to the Windsor. We could not possibly invade your house at such a time. Let me have a programme as I am uncertain on which day I read my address. Evidently you are going to have a big meeting. I wish you could have come down here. We have enjoyed the summer so much.

That he was having a little trouble with the title of the address is apparent from ^{this} ~~a~~ note on the following day sent to H. A. Lafleur.

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Pointe-à-Pic, P.Q.
Sept. 4/02

Dear Laffie "La Cocarde Tricolore" 1831 by Cogniard, the play in which Chauvin flourished is not in the McGill library - is it likely to be in any other collection in Montreal? I should like to read what he says about the old Soldier. Ask one of your literary friends please. I have been struggling with the subject of Nationalism & provincialism in Medicine - too wide a swath I fear for my scythe. Yours

W.O.

There is a stage in the preparation of an address when even such as Osler has misgivings, but he need have had no fear for the swath of his scythe, for in many respects it was one of his best pieces of writing and, contrasted with some other addresses written hurriedly and piecemeal, it showed the effects of his comparatively quiet and uninterrupted summer.

On the last day of the vacation he writes (Sir) Humphrey D. Rolleston of London:

Pointe-à-Pic P Q
14th

Dear Rolleston I have had a delightful summer and leave tomorrow for Montreal to attend the meeting of the Canada Medical Association.

I had no word from Milroy [?] - he may be dead or may have flown. So sorry Jones did not meet you, 'tis his loss. Stengel is a good fellow but you must not believe everything that Philadelphians tell you about Eger-ton Yorrick Davis who is an old friend of mine but a man without much repu-

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~~esler~~ ^{He} had taken as his subject "Chauvinism in Medicine," and gives as his definition of the word, 'a narrow, illiberal spirit in matters national, provincial, collegiate or personal.' He spoke first of the FOUR GREAT FEATURES OF THE GUILD, its noble ancestry, its remarkable solidarity, its progressive character and, as distinguished from all others, its singular beneficence. He then took up NATIONALISM IN MEDICINE - 'the great curse of humanity.' "There is room" he said, "plenty of room, for proper pride of land and birth. What I inveigh against is a cursed spirit of intolerance, conceived in distrust and bred in ignorance, that makes the mental attitude perennially antagonistic to everything foreign, that subordinates everywhere the race to the nation, forgetting the higher claims to human brotherhood." There followed the last section, on PROVINCIALISM IN MEDICINE - 'a very unpleasant sub-variety of nationalism.' "After all these years" he said, "that a young man, a graduate of Toronto and a registered practitioner in Ontario, cannot practise in the Province of Quebec, his own country, without submitting to vexatious penalties of mind and pocket, or that a graduate from Montreal and a registered practitioner of this province cannot go to Manitoba, his own country again, and take up his

Footnote to top line

[~~Montreal Medical Journal, Sept. 1902, xxxi, 684-99.~~Reprinted as No. IV in *Aggravation and Other Addresses*.

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life's work without additional payments and penalties is, I maintain, an outrage; it is provincialism run riot. That this pestiferous condition should exist through the various provinces of this Dominion and so many States of the Union, illustrates what I have said of the tyranny of democracy and how great enslavers of liberty its chief proclaimers may be."

From this he went on to PAROCHIALISM IN MEDICINE, in other words, to the personal aspects of Chauvinism which applies to all individuals.

There are shades and varieties which are by no means offensive. Many excellent features in a man's character may partake of its nature. What, for example, is more proper than the pride which we feel in our teachers, in the university from which we have graduated, in the hospital at which we have been trained? He is a 'poor sort' who is free from such feelings, which only manifest a proper loyalty. But it easily degenerates into a base intolerance which looks with disdain on men of other schools and other ways. The pride, too, may be in inverse proportion to the justness of the claims. There is plenty of room for honest and friendly rivalry between schools and hospitals, only a blind Chauvinism puts a man into a hostile and intolerant attitude of mind at the mention of a name. Alumni and friends should remember that indiscriminate praise of institutions or men is apt to rouse the frame of mind illustrated by the ignorant Athenian who, so weary of hearing Aristides always called the Just, very gladly took up the oyster shell for his ostracism, and even asked Aristides himself, whom he did not know, to mark it.

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A common type of collegiate Chauvinism is manifest in the narrow spirit too often displayed in filling appointments. The professoriate of the profession, the most mobile column of its great army, should be recruited with a most zealous regard to fitness, irrespective of local conditions that are apt to influence the selection. Inbreeding is as hurtful to colleges as to cattle. The interchange of men, particularly of young men, is most stimulating, and the complete emancipation of the chairs which has taken place in most of our universities should extend to the medical schools. Nothing, perhaps, has done more to place German medicine in the forefront today than a peripatetic professoriate, owing allegiance only to the profession at large, regardless of civic, sometimes, indeed, of national limitations and restrictions. # We acknowledge the principle in the case of the scientific chairs, and with increasing frequency act upon it, but an attempt to extend it to other chairs may be the signal for display of rank parochialism.

Another unpleasant manifestation of collegiate Chauvinism is the outcome, perhaps, of the very keen competition which at present exists in scientific circles. Instead of a generous appreciation of the work done in other places, there is a settled hostility and a narrowness of judgment but little in keeping with the true spirit of science. Worse still is the 'lock and key' laboratory in which suspicion and distrust reign, and everyone is jealous and fearful lest the other should know of or find out about his work. Thank God! this base and bastard spirit is not much seen, but it is about, and I would earnestly entreat any young man who unwittingly finds himself in a laboratory pervaded with this atmosphere, to get out ere the contagion sinks into his soul.

He may have had Virchow in mind for Virchow had died just seven days before the address was given.
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Chauvinism in the unit, in the general practitioner, is of much more interest and importance. It is amusing to read and hear of the passing of the family physician. There never was a time in our history in which he was so much in evidence, in which he was so prosperous, in which his prospects were so good or his power in the community more potent. The public has even begun to get sentimental over him! He still does the work; the consultants and the specialists do the talking and the writing - and take the fees! By the work, I mean that great mass of routine practice which brings the doctor into every household in the land and makes him, not alone the adviser, but the valued friend. He is the standard by which we are measured. What he is we are; and the estimate of the profession in the eyes of the public is their estimate of him. A well-trained sensible family doctor is one of the most valuable assets in a community, worth today, as in Homer's time, many another man. To make him efficient is our highest ambition as teachers, to save him from evil should be our constant care as a guild. . . .

It is a remarkable address which could be reread with profit each year by every student and doctor of medicine; unusual not less from its contents than from its style. There is one paragraph which shows his masterful skill in utilizing the ideas of others without getting too far involved in the pitfalls of over-quotation. It reads:

Few men live lives of more devoted self-sacrifice than the family physician but he may become so completely absorbed in work that leisure is unknown; he has scarce time to eat or to sleep, and, as Dr. Drummond remarks

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in one of his poems, "He's the only man, I know mem, don't get no holiday." There is danger in this treadmill life lest he lose more than health and time and rest - his intellectual independence. More than most men he feels the tragedy of isolation - that inner isolation, so well expressed in Matthew Arnold's line - "We mortal millions live alone." Even in populous districts the practice of medicine is a lonely road which winds up-hill all the way and a man may easily go astray and never reach the Delectable mountains unless he early finds those shepherd guides of which Bunyan tells, Knowledge, Experience, Watchful and Sincere. The circumstances of life mould him into a masterful, self-confident, self-centred man, whose worst faults often partake of his best qualities. The peril is that should he cease to think for himself he becomes a mere automaton, doing a penny-in-the-slot business which places him on a level with the chemist's clerk who can hand out specifics for every ill, from the 'pip' to the pox. The salt of life for him is a judicious skepticism, not the coarse crude form, but the sober sense of honest doubt expressed in the maxim of the sly old Sicilian Epicharmus, "Be sober and distrustful; these are the sinews of the understanding." A great advantage, too, of a skeptical attitude of mind is, as Green the historian remarks, 'one is never very surprised or angry to find that one's opponents are in the right.' It may keep him from self-deception and from falling into that medical slumber into which so many drop, deep as the theological slumber so lashed by Erasmus, in which a man may write letters, debauch himself, get drunk, and even make money - a slumber so deep at times that no torpedo-touch can waken him.

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The address, which ended with the following paragraph, would almost stand as a fit biography of William Osler, could one read sufficiently *widely and far* and ~~and~~ between the lines.

I began by speaking of the art of detachment as that rare and precious quality demanded of one who wished to take a philosophic view of the profession as a whole. In another way and in another sense this art may be still more precious. There is possible to each one of us a higher type of intellectual detachment a sort of separation from the vegetative life of the work-a-day world - always too much with us - which may enable a man to gain a true knowledge of himself and of his relations to his fellows. Once attained, self-deception is impossible, and he may see himself even as he is seen - not always as he would like to be seen - and his own deeds and the deeds of others stand out in their true light. In such an atmosphere pity for himself is so commingled with sympathy and love for others that there is no place left for criticism or for a harsh judgment of his brother. "But these are Thoughts of things which Thoughts but tenderly touch," as that most liberal of men and most distinguished of general practitioners, Sir Thomas Browne, so beautifully remarks; and it may be sufficient to remind this audience, made up of practical men, that the word of action is stronger than the word of speech.

Needless to say there were more people to see and visits to make in Montreal than he could encompass, and notes had to be sent late at night from

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Dr. Shepherd's where he was staying - "So sorry to miss you today, but I was hard pushed & had some 10 calls to make & the new M. G. H. plans to look over, etc." At the end of the three days' visit he disappeared, leaving Mrs. Osler to get his nephew settled as a house officer in the Royal Victoria Hospital, and from From Toronto a few days later she writes ^{Saying:} to C. W. B. Gamac ~~to Jay~~

. . . I have been doing up Dr. Osler's relatives ever since I arrived and am nearly used up. The roses came with me to Toronto and were on Mrs. Osler's table two days for her enjoyment. I hope you are feeling the benefits of your holiday. It was a pleasure having you with us and I hope you will forgive the inconvenience of being turned out of sheets & towels so early. "I sunned myself in my husband's glory in Montreal & as he departed at dawn Thursday not waiting to hear what was said of his address, I was inflated with pride and left very humble minded and impressed with my utter inability to cope with my position as spouse to such an admired object."

The 'admired object' had escaped to Saranac Lake to see a distant cousin who had been there for a few months, concerning whom he had written to Lawrason Brown the month before. - "Do all you can for the poor chap & if there is anything extra needed let me know. I have not met him but his father & mine were first cousins & I would not wish him to lack anything." Two days were spent

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with Trudeau; and Brown who was then in the Sanatorium recalls an incident of the visit, for on Osler's being shown the ^{clinical} records he tapped them and said, "A man who speaks of his experience and has it recorded in this way knows whereof he is talking." Up to this time Trudeau, trusting to his unusual memory, had never kept written records of his private patients, but this episode started him doing so.

To John H. Musser from W.O.

1 West Franklin Street,
[undated]

Dear J. H. Glad to see that you are back! Thanks for the description of the Rylands Library. I am most anxious to see it. I have heard from one or two men in Manchester since the meeting - all seem to have been delighted with you. We had a charming summer. Mrs O & Ike enjoyed it so much. The place is ideal in many ways. I have my neck in the yoke again. Am very busy with an address on Beaumont. The family put his papers in my hands some years ago. I hope to see you before long. I shall be in Phila the week after next. Glad to have a note from Hare about the Wood-Keen dinner.

Yours W.O. Love to all at home.

Evidently he was no sooner off with the C. M. A. address than he was on with the preparation of another, concerning which, among other things, he soon dictates a letter to George Dock in Ann Arbor.

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Sept. 24, 1902.

Dear Dock: I think that the figures given in the Physician and Surgeon, published at the time of the Memorial Exercises at Mackinac are sufficient. The old officers' quarters are given and one or two of the old block-houses. I wish I could go out by way of Michigan, but I shall go through Pittsburgh and Columbus. I saw the letters of Shrapnell, particularly about that interesting shipwreck. He was a gentleman at any rate to bind all the [Jenner] pamphlets together. It seems a pity to break them up, but I think they are worth while binding separately in good style, and I shall probably deposit them in one of the libraries. *

I got back on Sunday. We had a very good meeting in Montreal. You will see my Chauvinistic address in American Medicine and the Philadelphia Medical Journal this week. I believe I have been curiously led astray by two distinguished professors as to the origin of the word chauvinism. I give it quite different from that given by Brewer who is likely to be right.

Sincerely yours,

W^m Osler

Enough has been said already in these pages, of Osler's interest in the story of Beaumont and Alexis St. Martin - an interest which goes back to his Montreal days when he was frustrated in his efforts to secure St. Martin's stomach for the Surgeon General's Museum. That he should have gone so far afield as to St. Louis to give an address on Beaumont, as the 'pioneer American physio-

① We had loaned the papers to Dock who made their study the basis for address New York Med. Journal Nov. 24 1902 et seq.

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logist* is accounted for by the fact that after his resignation from the army

[*Cf. "An Alabama Student and Other Biographical Essays." 1906.

St. Louis had been Beaumont's place of residence, and, besides, Osler's friend Baumgarten, and Fischel, intimates in the Association of American Physicians were both members of the local medical society before whom on October 4th the address was given. He introduced the story as follows.*

[*He had used the same story eight years before at the close of his address on "The Army Surgeon."

*Have something in back of cover
w.s.*

Come with me for a few moments on a lovely June day in 1822, to what were then far-off northern wilds, to the Island of Michilimacinac, where the waters of Lake Michigan and Lake Huron unite and where stands Fort Mackinac, rich in the memories of Indian and voyageur, one of the four important posts on the upper lakes in the days when the rose and the fleur-de-lys strove for the mastery of the western world. Here the noble Marquette laboured for his Lord, and here beneath the chapel of St. Ignace they laid his bones to rest. Here the intrepid LaSalle, the brave Tonty and the resolute Du Luht had halted in their wild wanderings. Its palisades and block-houses had echoed the war-whoops of Ojibwas and Ottawas, of Hurons and Iroquois, and the old fort had been the scene of bloody massacres and hard-fought fights, but at the conclusion of the War of 1812, after two centuries of struggle, peace settled at last on the island. The fort was occupied by United States troops, who kept the Indians in check and did general police duty on the frontier, and the place had become a rendezvous for Indians and voyageurs in the employ of the American Fur Company. On this bright spring morning the village presented an animated scene. The annual return tide to

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the trading post was in full course, and the beach was thronged with canoes and bateaux laden with the pelts of the winter's hunt. Voyageurs and Indians, men, women and children, with here and there a few soldiers, made up a motley crowd. Suddenly from the company's store there is a loud report of a gun, and amid the confusion and excitement the rumour spreads of an accident, and there is a hurrying of messengers to the barracks for a doctor. In a few minutes (~~Beaumont says twenty five or thirty, an eye-witness says three~~) an alert-looking young man in the uniform of a U. S. Army surgeon made his way through the crowd and was at the side of a young French Canadian who had been wounded by the discharge of a gun, and with a composure bred of an exceptional experience of such injuries. prepared to make the examination. Though youthful in appearance, Surgeon Beaumont had seen much service, and at the capture of York and at the investment of Plattsburgh he had shown a coolness and bravery under fire which had won high praise from his superior officers. The man and the opportunity had met - the outcome is my story of this evening.

Osler went on to tell in the address of Beaumont's relations to the young French Canadian whom he took into his own house and nursed to health, and of his trials in regard to the experiments on digestion which were subsequently undertaken with the wayward and stubborn fellow 'that old fistulous Alexis' who for so many years survived the man who made him famous. Even as it was, with far less accomplished than Beaumont could have wished, many of the phenomena

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occurring during the process of ordinary digestion, the nature and mode of ac-
tion by the gastric juice whose acid component was shown to be hydrochloric
acid by Benjamin Silliman at Yale, was studied for the first time and made clear.

Osler's appearance in St Louis to give this address, has the usual stimulating effect
~~Osler's appearance for the first time in St. Louis had the usual conse-~~

~~quences. One of those who heard the address writes that it had a most remark-~~

~~able effect on the ^{Local} profession throughout the city, for it was their first~~

~~real introduction to this historical side of medicine and, due solely to this~~

~~visit, a local society for the study of the ^{Medical} history of medicine was ^{inaugurated} started.*~~

books are tools, and it is quite consistent to find him ten years later presiding at a

*One of its most active members, the late Dr. Jesse S. Myer, ten years later published a complete and copiously illustrated biography of Beaumont for which Osler wrote an introduction. Therein is given the full story of the man who in Osler's words 'recognized, grasped and improved the opportunity which fell in his path, with a zeal and an unselfishness not excelled in the annals of medical sciences.' ("Life and Letters of William Beaumont." St. Louis, 1912).

To Francis R. Packard from W. O.

No. 1 W. Franklin Street,
Oct. 15, 1902.

~~Dear Packard: On Saturday evening, October 18th, at seven o'clock at the
University Club, Philadelphia, Mr. Huntington and Mr. Browne the Librarians
of the Medical Society of the County of Kings and of the New York Academy
of Medicine are to meet the Executive Committee of the Association of Medi-
cal Librarians to discuss the future relationship of the Association to their
new Medical Library Journal soon to be issued. It would be a great pleasure
if you could join us at dinner at seven. Sincerely yours,~~

W^m Osler

*Executive Committee of the Association of
dinner in Philadelphia at which the medical librarians and several others interested
in the history of medicine ^{met} were invited to meet*

At this meeting it was proposed that the former Bulletin of the struggling Association be merged with the Medical Library and Historical Journal, the first issue of which under the editorship of Albert Tracy Huntington appeared the following January; and during its all too short five years of life this excellent journal continued as the official organ of the Association to print its transactions and book-exchange lists. With the death of Huntington the journal came to its end and after Osler's departure from America, though the Association lost his guiding hand it resumed the publication of an independent Bulletin, restored its Exchange with the headquarters in Baltimore, and has ^{since} continued as an active and most useful organization. [#]

not note,

A new journal started, or an old journal revived, was almost sure to have Osler's name as a collaborator or a contributor, or often as both. Thus the first volume of a new series of the International Clinics ^{since about this time} under the editorship of A. O. J. Kelly begins with a paper ^{from his pen} ~~by Osler~~ in which the fourteen cases of a particular form of aneurysm which had been observed in his clinic, ^{It was subject to} were fully described.* ~~Osler's interest in aneurysm, as may be recalled,~~

*"Aneurysm of the Descending Thoracic Aorta." International Clinics, Philadelphia, 1903. 13th s., i, 1-40.

One may easily trace the sources of this paper which must have been solicited by Dr. Kelly at about this time, for one of the cases Osler describes (No. XIII) as having been under observation nearly two years, had recently died, and he had reported upon it at the October 20th meeting of the Johns Hopkins Medical Society.

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which had interested him since the days when he had visited,
 was a long-standing one, and was the source of many of his Montreal papers,
 and indeed even antedated Montreal as may be recalled by the story of his
 visiting the jail in Toronto with his teacher of anatomy.

To John H. Musser from W. O.

Oct. 22, 1902.

Dear Musser: I like your scheme very much for the library. It would really be unique in a way. The next time you come down I would like you to see the list of books we have been gradually collecting at the Medical and Chirurgical Library relating to biography and history. I have just received a superb copy of the first edition of Locke's Essay, which I have been after for a good many years. Some years ago I made a list of the most important literary works by physicians. I will try to find it and let you have a copy. Sincerely yours,

W^m Osier

Shortly before this, on October 7th to be exact, he had been elected to membership in the Grolier Club of New York ~~and shortly after had to be there for~~
but the fact of his being ^{any way} more interested in
~~some days - the one and only time in his life he was prevailed upon to give medico-legal testimony in court. Despite the fact that his two brothers had been~~
General in February the building up of Libanus' estate than in general rather than in the case the making
~~some days - the one and only time in his life he was prevailed upon to give medico-legal testimony in court. Despite the fact that his two brothers had been~~
for personal collection ^{has been} in grade sufficient clear.
~~leaders of the bar in Canada, he had no great patience with the law and its delays, and on the last day of the month he wrote to Dr. H. C. Yarrow:~~

I. Follow the Mueser letter.) It has all this about 'boasts and the man' Osler maybe picked up again in the
hospital ward ^{for} ~~where~~ ~~the~~ ~~all~~ ~~he~~ ~~was~~ ~~off~~ ~~at~~ ~~his~~ ~~bedside~~ it was at the bed side ⁵⁶
with his students - about him that he was at his very best. So picturesque ⁵²

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1 West Franklin Street,
Friday eve.

Dear Yarrow I have been in N.Y. since Wednesday morning kicking my heels over a miserable Railway case in which - much against my will - I got entangled. I am so sorry that I had not an opportunity to pay my 'last respect' to our poor friend Merrill. I will write to Mrs. Merrill at once. It is sad to think that so good a fellow and so valuable a man should have to go so prematurely.

~~One of Osler's sayings, jotted down by one of his students at the bedside at this time, was to this effect:~~ "There are incurable diseases in medicine, incorrigible vices in the ministry, indissoluble cases in law." ~~So picturesque~~ indeed, were many of his spontaneous bedside epigrams that they have been preserved in many a student's note-book.*

*Two of the students, indeed, thinking to turn an honest penny, gathered a sufficient number of what they called 'Oslerisms' to make a small volume, for which they found a ready publisher who issued an announcement of the book, but Osler promptly 'sat' upon it.

There are

Probability is the rule of life - especially under the skin. Never make a positive diagnosis.

Raynaud's disease and chilblains are Tweedledum and Tweedledee.

Who serves the gods dies young - Venus, Bacchus and Vulcan send in no bills in the seventh decade.

Common-sense nerve fibres are seldom medullated before forty - they are never seen even with the microscope before twenty.

The mental kidney more often than the abdominal is the one that floats.

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Although one swallow does not make a summer, one tophus makes gout and one crescent malaria.

Believe nothing that you see in the newspapers - they have done more to create dissatisfaction than all other agencies. If you see anything in them that you know is true, begin to doubt it at once.

Up to this time the Hopkins, as is the way with new and privately endowed foundations, had been obliged to shift for itself, and gifts were hardly to be expected from outside sources until a generation had passed. It consequently must have been heartening in the face of the unexpected poverty of the institution, to have the ice broken through the establishment of a lectureship by a New Yorker, Dr. Christian A. Herter, who had been one of the early group of workers in Welch's laboratory.* Hence the following letter.

*The first lecturer on the foundation was Welch's old friend Paul Ehrlich of Frankfort a. M., and there followed, A. E. Schäfer, ~~Dr.~~ Almroth Wright and others.

Hana Meyer Vienna

1 West Franklin Street,
XI. 3. 02.

Dear Herter The splendid gift which you & Mrs Herter have so generously given has stirred us to a high pitch of enthusiasm It would have rejoiced you both to have seen Welch's delight as he read your letter. It really means a great deal to the School, and it is so nice to think that our first outside gift came from friends whom we love & appreciate as much as we do you & Mrs Herter. The minute of the Faculty which you have re-

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ceived by this time does not half express the warmth of our feeling -
certainly not of those of us who are your friends. With much love to
you both Sincerely yours

W^m Osler

~~On November he writes to Musser "I did not get over until late last
night so that I could not see you. I was at poor Fred Packards funeral this
morning but had to hurry back. I shall be on hand Thursday." This refers
to the Keen-Wood subscription dinner, held November 6th, as mentioned in an
earlier letter - a dinner planned for by a committee headed with Osler's name,
to celebrate the return to Philadelphia of his two old friends, one of whom
had been around the world.~~

Only a few things relating to his professional activity during the re-
mainder of the fall need detain us. At a meeting of the Hopkins Medical So-
ciety, November 17th, he showed an example of the condition - 'cyanosis with
polycythaemia' - in which he had come to take especial interest and which has
since become coupled with his name as "Osler's disease," for though Vacquez
had first described 'a case of polycythaemia rubra, it was Osler who recog-
nized it as a definite clinical entity!*

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"An hereditary malady, characterized by multiple telangiectases associated with haemorrhages may rightly be styled Osler's disease." A. E. Garrod, in Proceedings of the Royal Society, B. Vol. 92, 1921.

But does this
cover it? : MC.

On November 20th he was in New York again, and the next day writes to

C. N. B. Camac.

Dear Camac: Find out ^{how} ~~for how~~ much Doring would ^{cost to} paint a good portrait of Welch. I was in New York yesterday, only for two hours, a hurried consultation. Sorry I could not see you. I had to come back at once, as poor Ochsner, one of my internes, is desperately ill with typhoid.

Tuberculosis was bad enough - but typhoid - how he hated it! Until it disappeared there were to be plenty of sacrifices on the part of those endeavouring to check its ravages.* These were days when the wards were full

*By this time, one epidemic disease at least had been conquered, for yellow fever had disappeared from Cuba never to return, unless people forget and grow careless as they have done with vaccination. On the 22nd of this November, 1902, Walter Reed died of appendicitis, and shortly after, the U. S. Senate after much debate provided the meagre pension of \$200 a month for his widow. Whereas in one year of yellow fever it was estimated that the epidemic had cost the State of Louisiana alone \$15,000,000 and 4056 lives.

of it, and nurses, house staff and students were all more or less exposed to chance infection despite the utmost care; and when after three ^{more} anxious days poor Ochsner died, it is evident from the ^{following} note ~~Osler~~ jotted down in his commonplace-book after returning home, that night, how deeply ^{Osler} ~~he~~ was moved.

Have written
Gretche Malloch
about this: MC.

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Death (Poor Ochsner) The oppressive stillness of the chamber in which he lay dying was made more oppressive by the soft but hurried and just audible respiration. I sat by the bed holding the poor chaps hand & beside me were my two assistants & at the foot of the bed an angel in white, one of the two who had shared the fight with us. For three weeks we had worked in hope but in vain. ~~The [] was in the room and~~ We silently waited the end with sad hearts & brimming eyes. The young life so full of promise & only just equipped for the race, was dear to us by the association in work of four years, and the thought that those to whom the dear man was vital, were far away - intensified the tragedy of the moment. A strange half frightened look lightened the apathy of his countenance. Far from his home - far from the loved one who had watched with pride his career - and -

This was all. It is curiously reminiscent of the reaction he felt after leaving the deathbed of Miss Fisher, the Blockley nurse when he was similarly impelled to write a few unfinished lines - far different from the few lines of sympathy subsequently sent to the boy's parents when he was under control.

But he cannot be left long in this mood. And that 'symptom of the bibliomania not mentioned by Dibdin' provides a diversion for at this very time there appeared among other catalogues one from George P. Johnson of Edinburgh listing 'a series of medical theses by students from America at Edinburgh Uni-

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Did you like yours?

versity" for which he promptly cabled, Johnson replying to ask if he meant all *which indeed he did and they were an treasure in the library of the Maryland Academy.* of them, Books indeed were a great solace. ~~But he could get amusement out of~~ the most serious of them. On December 2nd he writes to G. Alden Blumer:

Dear Trousers In Fox-Bourne's Life of Locke you will find a great deal with reference to Mrs Blumer with whom Locke was very intimate. If the work is not in the library at Providence I shall be glad to send you my copy, and I envy you the pleasure you will have in reading such a delightful story. I send you a few reprints which may amuse you.

And a few days later - 'XII. 5. 02' - to the same.

Your Jenner pamphlet is a great prize - it is even more rare than the 'Original' paper in 1799. It is very kind indeed of you to send it. The signature of old L. Wheaton is of interest. Let me know if you cannot find the Locke life, as I could send my volumes which are idle on the shelves. You will have a great treat. Dr. Locke was a great man. I have just got his great essay in the original edition. Did I send you my paper on him?

And again a little later:

Dear Blumer There was no difference in the seventeenth century between a u and an o, and it must have been just the same family. I send you the Locke paper at once. I knew you would be delighted with the Fox-Bourne's Life.

On December 4th before the New York Academy of Medicine, he gave an address* for which he took as his motto a quotation from Abernathy, "The Hospital

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"On the Need of a Radical Reform in our Method of Teaching Senior Students." Medical News, N.Y., Jan. 10, 1903.

is the only proper college in which to rear a true disciple of Aesculapius."

It was a most timely and important topic, ^{and of particular significance} ~~and of importance~~ as coming from one who expressed the desire that his epitaph should read, "Here lies the man who admitted students to the wards." Though he does not say so, his remarks were really aimed at the conditions then existing in most of the New York hospitals into whose amphitheatres students ^{entered} ~~were admitted~~ by side entrances but from whose wards they were barred, 'as hurtful to the best interests of the patients' - a fanciful objection, as he clearly pointed out, provided one uses ordinary discretion and is actuated by kindly feelings. It is hardly necessary today, when much that Osler pleaded for in these respects has come to pass, to do more than point out how great was his influence in bringing about the transformation, and he makes this prophecy, that 'within the next quarter of a century the larger universities of this country will have their own hospitals in which the problems of nature known as disease will be studied as thoroughly as are those of Geology or Sanscrit.'

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In what may be called the natural method of teaching [he said] the student begins with the patient, continues with the patient, and ends his studies with the patient, using books and lectures as tools, as means to an end. The student starts, in fact, as a practitioner, as an observer of disordered machines, with the structure and orderly functions of which he is perfectly familiar. Teach him how to observe, give him plenty of facts to observe and the lessons will come out of the facts themselves. For the junior student in medicine and surgery it is a safe rule to have no teaching without a patient for a text, and the best teaching is that taught by the patient himself. The whole art of medicine is in observation, as the old motto goes, but to educate the eye to see, the ear to hear and the finger to feel takes time, and to make a beginning, to start a man on the right path, is all that we can do. We expect too much of the student and we try to teach him too much. Give him good methods and a proper point of view, and all other things will be added, as his experience grows.

In his concluding paragraph he summed it up as follows:

The old method and the true method - the method of Boerhaave, of the elder Rutherford of the Edinburgh School, and of the older men of this city and of Boston and of Philadelphia, the men who had been pupils of John Hunter and of Rutherford and Saunders - is to make of the hospital a college, in which as clinical clerks and surgical dressers the students slowly learn for themselves, under skilled direction, the phenomena of disease. It is the true method because it is the natural one, the one by which each physician grows in clinical wisdom after he leaves the school - all others are bastard substitutes.

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Little realizing what complications were in store for him ~~the spring of~~
1905, Osler had accepted, during this month, with some misgivings and reluc-
tance, an invitation to give one of the series of Lectures on Immortality, at
Harvard University. President Eliot had long wished that a physician might
participate on this Ingersoll Foundation, and ~~in 1900(?)~~ ^{two years before} had approached William
H. Welch on the subject, when an exchange of letters to this effect took place:
from Dr. Welch: - 'that so far as he could see Science had nothing to say upon
the subject of Immortality,' - from Mr. Eliot: 'that was just what he wanted
him to say' - from Dr. Welch: 'that it would not be possible to fill an hour in
saying so.'

Whether or not Mr. Eliot had forgotten this correspondence does not ap-
pear, but the next summer at Seal Harbour he approached Dr. Welch again with no
better result. Mr. Eliot then threatened to persist until Dr. Welch gave in,
unless he would get someone else to give the lecture in his place, whereupon
Welch suggested Osler. Osler was written to, and 'refused energetically' as
Mr. Eliot recalls. A conspiracy was then entered upon, so it is said, and Mr.
Eliot was to write again and was to advise Dr. Welch of the time he had done so.
A day or two after this second invitation had been sent from Cambridge Dr. Welch

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dropped in at 1 West Franklin Street, and the following conversation took place.

W.O.: "Welch, what do you think? They have asked me to give the Ingersoll Lecture."

W.H.W.: "How splendid; you're going to accept of course."

W.O.: "Splendid? I wouldn't think of talking before a Boston audience on such an impossible subject as Immortality. I have already refused once."

W.H.W.: "Why you're a perfect coward. You must do it of course; no one could do it better. No one ever refuses an invitation to give an Ingersoll Lecture."

W.O.: "Do you really mean it?" - and the long and short of it was, the following equivocal letter was dispatched, and ultimately he was persuaded to accept.

1 West Franklin Street,
Dec. 19, 1902.

Dear President Eliot: I regret exceedingly that I have again to decline your kind invitation to deliver the Ingersoll Lecture. The temptation to accept was very strong, particularly as I have been collecting data for some years on 'this business of death', as Milton terms it, but the winter's work is now so exacting that I could not possibly find the necessary time for preparation. If you could give me a year's notice on some other occasion, so that I could have my free summer for the work, I should be only too glad to deliver the lecture. Sincerely yours,

W^m Osler.

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It had been an eventful year. Mendel's law, after forty years of oblivion, had been rediscovered. The passing of Virchow in his eighty-first year^f was the last connecting link between the old régime in pathology and a new one of which Paul Ehrlich, to be the first Herter Lecturer, was the chief exponent. Such benefactions as the Carnegie Institution and the Rockefeller Institute were calling attention to the needs of the profession and the directions which should be followed to control disease. Sanitoria for consumptives were springing up in all communities and Mr. Phipps's donations had helped greatly to focus attention upon this crusade in which the public was becoming interested. But on the whole, people were indifferent to the possibilities which had inspired Mr. Bates, and their public representatives, in consequence, were utterly deaf.

There had been two striking object lessons, one in Cleveland where a bigoted though influential Mayor had opposed vaccination and insisted that disinfection with formaldehyd could stem a serious outbreak of smallpox which had occurred there; another in San Francisco where for political reasons all mention of the existence of plague had been suppressed to such an extent that it might have come to menace the entire country. Then, too, during the year the widespread extent of infection from uncinariasis or 'hook-worm' through-

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out the South first came to be appreciated as the chief cause for the filth and squalor among the poor whites in the Southern States.

But if legislatures were indifferent, the greater was the need for private enterprise, and the field was prepared for the opportunity soon to be grasped by the International Health Board of the Rockefeller Foundation. In all of these things, as has been seen, Osler indirectly had no little part.