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Chapter XXXII

The knowledge soon spread that he was planning for a visit to America the ensuing October and he was bombarded with invitations to in the fishing Expressed by He must have shared with Weir Mitchell's feelings expressed in " It is an abanahable thing that one is not Twins - is fact Is hand a letter of this time - "I wish I was twins and could be in more than luis la bie mun erous. one place at the same time. He writes on January 4th to F. C. Shattuck that he is very doubtful as to whether he should give the 'Ether Day' address at the Massachusetts General Hospital on October 16th, and adds: "I have the Silliman course at Yale, for which I am taking as my subject the evolution of modern medicine. I shall have to do something at the Hopkins and at Montreal, so that I shall be pretty hard pressed. My old friends have been only too urgent in asking me to lecture at different places." As will be seen, he was already more deeply involved than he realized and, as he admits in a letters of the 5th to Mrs. Browster, he was procrastinating over the preparation of the fall lectures which, indeed, finally had to be postponed till the following spring. But hand If He wer forow dup in his text, book revision. Protting mentioning into the classical to the winter).

The work of the writist It or girl to year since how working of the funt Eastern that the been a feat flessure one for troops no hosis of Juins Known and workenum, that Julley new wire wolk and balles is along, a last. He a deficie job " Indeed

It was nice to have your Xmas letter & Uncle Ned's Dear Mabel [E. S. Martin] sermonette in Harpers. What a trump he is! I am sure Sylvia will like the 'All Hail' Bible which looked ideal for a child. Tell her I have not seen Wrimpsey Dimpsey Pimpsey for six weeks. She was offended with me because I scolded her for neglecting Sylvia Brewster, but she said she had 555 little girls to look after & it took a long time to visit each one. . \ . I am deep in my text book - such a job! the new wine into the old bottles is always a task. It is just 20 years ago since I was working at the 1st edition. It has been a great pleasure & has brought me hosts of friends known & unknown You must have the new edition next October, if you promise not to read it. I have not begun to think of my Yale lectures - you can criticize them in September - if I get them written in time! I am looking forward with such pleasure to a week at Avalon - sailing boats with Sylvia! We are having a winter-spring the pansies in bloom & the buds swelling. Thank R. B. for his letter. I am glad he liked the Pasteur - what a splendid picture of French life.

He has good reason to sympathize with his old pupil, W. G. MacCallum,

Lungaged in a Summan to whom he writes January 8th:

Dear Mac: It is very nice to have your long letter, and to hear such good news of you. Good luck with the Text-book, but what a job! . . I am glad you have worked up Cardan - a most representative old rascal of the Renaissance, nearly as much so as Benvenuto Cellini. I have always had a

great affection for him, and have a pretty good collection now of his original editions. By the way, Jack Mitchell in Philadelphia is reading a paper on him at the College of Physicians, and he borrowed from me the Metapotoscopie, which is a jewel. I was so glad to have good news of your good people from the Mallochs fof Hamilton, Ontariol. We enjoyed having the doctor here so much, and a little faith healing seems to have helped him immensely. I do hope you will be over at the Congress next year, and that we shall see something of you. Love to all your people.

Hard at work as he is, and continued to be for three months more, on these rebottling to desplay the formal familian ways. His are not the revision of his Text-book, he takes relaxation in other matters. And Just Shade y unsulighted in austy: Just now his attention is engaged with a medical writer of the Reformation who

had better fortune than Servetus, For a man who worked in 'day-tight compartments' he was looking farahead, as is evident in a note to J. Y. W.

MacAlister which shows that they are still soliciting funds and are preparing for a meeting nearly twelve months ahead:

No, I don't agree with you [he writes January 15th] about the formal deputation. I believe it would be very much better if Barlow and I attacked him alone or with you. The old man would do anything, I know, for Barlow. Would it not be better for me to find out if Barlow will do it?

We ought to make that syphilis discussion in December a great affair.

In connection with the historical introduction we should have an exhibit

of all the literature of the first twenty-five years, say up to Hutten's "De Guaiacini." I have some of the early pamphlets, and a committee of us could arrange a most interesting exhibit.

And this accounts for a letter a few days before, to A. C. Klebs in Ouchy:

. . I am so glad to hear from you, and it is satisfactory to know that you have got some local affliction, which I am sure will chasten you for your good! Of course it is gout! Tissot is well worth looking up. I have several editions of his famous "Avis," . . . Of course you will know that the house in which he lived had been occupied by Voltaire. He was not so big a man as Tronchin. Are you going to Rome? [Tuberculosis Congress]. I hope to spend the month of April, or part of it, in Italy. I have just been revising the section on tuberculosis in my Text-book, and have found your book of great help. I heard several of the London men speak of it with great praise. I want very much an old picture, engraving or anything would do, and a modern photograph of a little island, called Ufenau in Lake Zurich, on which Ulrich von Hutten died. There must be pictures of the old monastery - possibly too of Pastor Schnegg to whom Hutten went for treatment. Did you ever read Strauss' life of Ul. v. Hutten - splendid! . . Keep your eye on Conrad Gesner for me. He is a great friend. I am not sure whether he is not the only really respectable Swiss in history! Greet your father. . .

And later on he adds:

Are you sure there is not anywhere in Germany a national monument to
Ulrich von Hutten? There surely must be! I have always had the greatest

admiration for him, and as a factor in the Reformation he certainly comes next to Luther and Erasmus. . . I have been on the lookout for years [/s/q] for an original edition of the de Guaiaciái but have never met one. I have half a dozen of his other pamphlets & dialogues. He did a great work in the reformation & was the fons et origo of the national spirit of Germany. There should be a big national monument to him on the Island - which might be teutonized for the occasion. .

a 5 ft. Atlantic liner, engines and all, which is to be launched this week;"
and in a note of the 22nd to Jacobs: "You will have had the catalogue of the
remainder of Payne's library. The herbals & the Miltons will fetch big prices.

I have getten a few good items lately, a 1470 Ars Morrendi and an early Avicenna. I have a treasure of a new secretary. a Scotch girl who is going to
be a great help as she knows French, German & Russian well." And on February 5th:

The 1519 edition is not very rare, and the arrangement followed in the third and fourth editions, which I have, is not the same as that you gave. I have get the original MS. of the English translation, 1539. It appeared in English twice. At the sale of Payne's library last week I got Hutten's stirring appeal "Ad Principes Germanos ut Bellum Turcis inferant," 1518. I shall be glad to hear about the monuments. I do not think there

is any special evidence that von Hutten lived a more dissipated life than the average man of his period. I am just reading the "Epistolae obscurorum virorum" of which he wrote a great many, and if that gives a true picture of the times, it is not surprising that he dedicated his "De Guaici" to Archibishop Albert.

The latter part of January saw the disposal at Sotheby's of the second portion of Payne's library, an account of which is soon sent off with his monthly installment for Macphail's journal. * In this note he says in part:

*"Men and Books. VIII. Dr. Payne's Library." Canadian Medical Association Journal, March 1912, ii, 248.

The working library of a doctor is not, as a rule, worth much after his death; but when a man is interested in books, knows their value, and buys judiciously, the collection which heleaves may form a considerable part of his estate. I know an old doctor living not far from here whose hobby for forty years has been first editions, some half-dozen of which are worth his entire establishment.

A scholar and a book-lover of the best type, Dr. Joseph Frank Payne began to collect early, and had wide interests, both professional and literary. There was no one in England better versed in the history of medicine, to which he had made a number of contributions of the first rank, principally on Anglo-Saxon medicine, Shortly before his death he delivered in Oxford a most instructive course of lectures on Greek pre-Hippocratic [al Oxford a most instructive course of lectures on Greek pre-Hippocratic fal Oxford in Superficer in may be faid, for filter Themas, to medicine, which it is to be hoped he has left in a state for publication.

Part of his library was sold in July, and the remainder at the end of January. The first tolume consisted of between two thousand and three thou-

sand volumes, including many splendid incunabula, a number of choice MSS. ten or twelve old diplomas, many medical protraits, a special collection of works on the plague, and an extraordinary collection of nearly fifteen hundred medical tracts, chiefly English. I was anxious that the library should be kept together, [etc. as the reader her teamed]...

The second part of the library consisted of a special collection of about one hundred and sixteen Herbals, a few miscellaneous classical works, and a collection of first and other editions of Milton, and Miltoniana.

The Herbals were offered en bloc, but the reserve price was not reached.

Several of the fifteenth century Herbals brought a very good price; a 1488 Herbarium, the earliest with figures of plants, brought £96. For years Dr. Payne had been very much interested in Milton, and his collection contained a very large number of first editions. The highest price paid for a single item was for a quarto edition of the famous tract on "Education" one of the very few copies known in this form, and for which Mr. Quaritch paid £172. The library realized as a whole £4,353, a figure which is rarely reached by modern medical collections.

Osler's His letters of the time (those recovered) are pretty much devoted to

the thorough revision of the Text-book, which is the chief thing on his

mind; though McCrae is now sharing the burden, and pen, paste-pot and scissors

February 2nd], but I should be able to have it all within six weeks. I have cut out a great deal hereand there. I am afraid they have not begun printing and are waiting for the whole of the MS. If so they will never get it out by the first of October. I called them today: "Sections follow regularly, all in six weeks; if you cannot issue October first and have not begun to print return the manuscript to me and I will print here. Answer today." We could put the whole thing through here at the Press in four months...

And later on he says to his collaborator: "I wish you would give instructions to use the English spelling of 'centre', 'millimetre', etc. It makes no difference over in America but it does here. I expect you will have a devil of a job before you have finished with this and will be sorry you ever undertook it!"

On February 10th Lord Lister died suddenly in his eight-fifth year from pneumonia: and en the 16th a memorial service was held in the Abbey where a grateful nation would have interred him but for his express wish that he be buried at Hampstead beside his wife.

I have just come from the Abbey service, [Osler writes]* - the most

*"Men and Books." No. IX. Canadian Medical Association

Journal, 1912, ii, 343.

splendid tribute ever paid to our profession, and so richly deserved in the

person of Joseph Lister, one of the greatest benefactors of humanity. Voltaire saw Newton buried like a king in the same Abbey, and ever after esteemed it one of the glories of England that she was able to recognize the supreme merits of a king among men. Today's ceremony was England's tribute of heart and head. The nation's Valhalla was packed to the doors; nurses, students, doctors, and the general public crowded in the nave, while the reserved seats of choir and transepts were thronged with a gathering of representatives from all parts of Europe. As one of the delegates from the University of (ford, Mc gice I had a choir seat, which chanced to be next to our own Chancellor, Lord Strathcona. The recognition of the international character of Lord Lister's work was witnessed by the presence of nearly all the foreign ambassadors, and representatives of the Académies des Sciences of Russia, Sweden and Nowway, Spain and Rome. Among those who occupied seats were the Prime Minister and many of his colleagues, Lord Lansdowne and the Duke of Northumberland. Opposite to me was a group of Lister's old Glasgow and Edinburgh pupils - Macewen, Caird, Littlejohn, Bramwell, Balfour, Playfair, and others.

Just before 2.30 p.m., after the organist had finished playing Chopin's "Funeral March," there was heard at intervals a distant voice, high above the silence. At first the impression was of someone singing outside. I was waiting for it, having had a few years ago, at the funeral of Lord Kelvin, the same experience. The choir coming through the cloisters sang the hymn, "Brief Life is here our Portion," and the high note at the end of the third line alone reached us in the clear liquid voice of one boy. For three or four verses this was heard without another note of the full choir (the sound of which was not audible until the last verse), which finished just as the procession entered the Abbey. Preceded by the canons, the coffin was borned

through the nave and choir covered with a purple pall and on it a magnificent wreath of orchids sent by the German Emperor. . . It was a noble and ever-to-be-remembered occasion. And was ever Handel's grand anthem sung more fittingly? 'When the ear heard him then it blessed him; and when the eye saw him, it gave witness of him. He delivered the poor that cried; the fatherless and him that had none to help him. Kindness, meekness and comfort were in his tongue. If there was any virtue and if there was any praise, he thought on these things. His body is buried in peace, but his name liveth evermore.'

Only those who have lived in the pre-Listerian days can appreciate the revolution which has taken place in surgery. In the seventies at the old Montreal General Hospital we passed through it, and it is pleasant to recall that when Dr. Roddick returned from Lister with the technique there was no opposition, but the surgeons patiently practised a laborious and unnecessary ritual for the sake of the better results. As with everything that is worth preserving in this life there has been evolution, but from the great underlying principle on which Lister acted there has been no departure.

I wonder how many surgeons have taken the trouble to work through the literature of the growth of the method as given in Lister's writing? It is now available, and no surgeon's library is complete without these splendid volumes, published a few years ago by the Oxford Press - a worthy monument for the greatest Englishman of his generation.

But the malady which so suddenly had carried off Lister in his old age may affect the young as well, and early in March some very anxious days were

passed by the Oslers in Winchester. In a letter to McCrae of March 11th walnum; 'newsian', dealing with the Text-book matters, Osler adds:

Revere has pneumonia, but is in very good condition. It started on Thursday morning with a chill and the temperature went up nearly to 1060. He has got involvement of the upper half of the right lower lobe, very little cough, no pain, and the respirations have not been above 32. I have just left him and this is the completion of his fourth day, so that he should be comfortable. I go back again this afternoon. He is in excellent quarters at the College Sanatorium and has two very good nurses.

And a few days later he writes to H. B. Jacobs, saying that Peru how behaved Eule a ferteman, has how his cus is a the swill day and was now my confestable; and to this he added

Revere gave us a fright last week with an attack of pneumonia, which started rather furiously, but he behaved like a gentleman, and had his crisis on the 6th day, and he is now very comfortable. The school sanatorium is first class, and he had a couple of good nurses while in Winchester I saw a case with a Dr. Boddington, who turned out to be a grand-son of George B., and I wheedled out of him the old man's original account of his tuberculosis treatment. I have been after it for years."

It's an ill wind that blows no good; and that Osler would not unnecessa-

rily worry over his boy's illness and would find some interests beyond the quite in hair week his elemete.

school sanatorium was perfectly characteristic. Equally consistent was it

that he should sit down and write for Macphail's journal an account of this historical pamphlet he had added to his library.*

*"Men and Books. XI. George Bodington." Canadian Medical Association Journal, 1912, ii, 526-7.

A generation - two indeed - in advance of his day, George Bodington has at last come to his own, and is everywhere recognized as the pioneer of the open-air treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis. Not that he was the first to send consumptives into the open: Celsus speaks of sea voyages and the advantages of the climate of Egypt, and the horseback cure of Sydenham meant fresh air and exercise. But Bodington recognized that 'to live in and breathe freely open air, without being deterred by the wind or weather, is one important and essential remedy in arresting tuberculosis.'...

I have been looking for his rare Essay on the Treatment and Cure of Pulmonary Consumption on Principles Natural, Rational and Successful,"

London, 1840. A few weeks ago at Winchester, I met in consultation Dr. Arthur E. Bodington, and immediately asked what relation he was to the well-known physician of the same name. He replied, "His grandson." Then I said, "Well, perhaps you are the man who can give me a copy of his essay," and to my delight he said he had one to spare; and he not only gave me the original but also the very interesting reprint, which he issued in 1906, with a portrait and a sketch of the author.

A country practitioner, at first at Erdington, Bod ington subsequently removed to Sutton Cooldfield, where he had a private asylum, and where he lived until his death in 1882, in his eighty-third year. The period at which he wrote was not a very comfortable one for the poor consumptive.

The prevalent method of treatment was to shut the patient up in a close room,

excluding as far as possible the access of air, and to drug him with tartarized antimony and digitalis, alternating with occasional doses of calomel, and now and then to take a little blood! For all this Bodington substituted 'fresh morning air, a good dinner to make him fat, an opium pill to make him sleep, and good wine to bring down his pulse. He had really the idea of sanatorium treatment. 'I have taken for the purpose a house in every respect adapted and near to my own residence for the reception of patients of this class, who may be desirous, or who are rocommended to remove from their homes for the benefit of a change of air.' He held that cold was never too severe for the consumptive patient: 'The cooler the air which passes into the lungs the greater will be the benefit the patient will receive. Sharp, frosty days in the winter season are the most favourable. The application of cold, pure air to the interior surface of the lungs is the most powerful sedative that can be applied. " He advocated riding or walking, according to the strength of the patient. cases are reported in the essay showing the very favourable results obtained by this treatment. As is often the case, his practice was better than his theory, for he had a belief that the disease was associated with impairment of the contractility of the lungs from loss of nervous power, consequent upon the presence of the tuberculous matter.

The house at Sutton Coldfield still stands, the prototype of the innumerable open-air sanatoria of today. A few years ago Dr. Lawrason Brown
of Saranac made a pious pilgrimage to the place, and I am indebted to him
for photographs of the house. Bodington was severely criticised by his
contemporaries, and he did not live to see the open-air method adopted, but
has the great merit of being the first, or at any rate among the very first,
to advocate rational and scientific treatment of pulmonary consumption.

The Phipps Psychiatric Clinic at the Johns Hopkins, as Director of which was Dr. Adolf Meyershad been called, was by this time nearing completion and plans were on foot to properly dedicate the building in which, for possibly for the first time, the mentally sick were to be accommodated in quarters equal, if not superior, to any that had previously been provided for patients with maladies of other kinds. On March 18th Osler writes Mr. Phipps.

Your idea of inviting some of the leading alienists to the opening is a good one, and I hope it can be carried out. It could be made the occasion of an interesting discussion on ways and methods of dealing with the insane, which would stimulate work enormously in America. When is the Clinic likely to be opened? I have the Silliman Lectures to give at Yale in October, so that I hope it may be during that month.

He also wrote him that he would be greatly pleased to know how enthusiastically the copies of his Pasteur edition had been received by all the medical schools to which it had been sent, and that he was keeping the letters for him, One of Osler's characteristic letters in reply was sent to one of the bis old pupils. Fr, Paul G. Woolfey, attitude Department of the University of Cincinnati; which chiefly concerns an old grievance he felt

against the city.

March 21, 1912.

Dear Woolley: So glad to have your letter, and to hear that the Pasteur book was appreciated. I am sure that you will be able to do splendid work where you are. They have always had a fine set of men there, and they only need a little stimulation and encouragement. I want to see a fine monument to Daniel Drake in Cincinnati, one really worthy of the man. He was a great character, and did a remarkable work for the profession in the West. I hope to see some rich Cincinnatian to put up a \$25,000 monument to him - he is worth it. He started nearly everything in Cincinnati that is good and has lasted. If anybody will give the amount I will come out and give a regular 'Mississippi Valley' oration. Sincerely yours,

Wm Osler.

The end of the month saw the completion of his burdensome winter's task, and on the 27th he writes W. S. Thayer: "Just sending off the last of the text-book revision - deuce of a job, but interesting. I have smashed up a good many of the old sections." Though a deal of proof reading was to follow, the responsibility of seeing the revision through the press was

delegated to McCrae, and he has time for other things. A note of the

grandam Baltimore

30th to one of his old "Latch-keyer" friends and neighbours says:

All well here again. R. had a sharp attack of pneumonia but had a good crisis on the 6th day & has done well. We are off to Italy next week where I hope to join McJacob [H. B. Jacobs] in Rome for the T.b. congress...

Run your eye and pen for five minutes over the hypophysis section which McCrae will show you. Rather thin, but it was difficult to boil down.

What a stirring at the J.H.H. . . Great thing to have an active circulation in an institution. You must come here on your way thro from Germany. I hope to join you but July is a bad month - so much on hand. Old Nicholson died last week. A new Bodley Librarian is to be appointed & [there is] much searching of hearts. Wonderful place. I am beginning to understand it. Ed. princips of Dioscorides last week at Sothebys. Love to the darlings - all. .

to be in Rome for the VIIth International Tuberculosis Congress to be held

the Second way in Afrit, the gave an opportunity to get Revere away

to the complete convalescence. So it came about that for the three weeks

from April 4th to the 25th the "Open Arms" was closed. Ten days were

passed in Northern Italy - at Venice and Padua, to the architectural

awakening of Revere who had already begun to show skill with his pencil

pholography and

and who as a pastime has taken up etching to his father's great delight,

for nothing could have been more remote from his own gifts. Other a sojourn of the

which must have been gifts own gifts. Other loft

which must have been to Rome for the Congress, not Italian lakes, while he went on to Rome for the Congress, not Italian with the went on alone

a particularly well organized affair he thought, though there were gath-

Rever to debook out

ered from all countries most of the old-time leaders still active in the great crusade; and many new ones besides. Since he had no formal paper to present, himself, it may be assumed that he continued with the corruption of his little friend Muriel-Marjorie-Maude's table manners, at teatime,

and that the old book-shops were thoroughly revisited. The trip ended had made a Golfale the medical incurabular he could find in the Mahan Chane's Ended with a few days at Cannes with their friends the Jacobs.

Some notes have already been given of Osler's relation to clubs of various kinds, and the ways in which he used them. However, since his marriage his home had taken the place of a club and he greatly preferred to have people gather about him at home than to search elsewhere for en-

and tells many things besides the figure of its master's income; and at his home and in his library Osler was at his best. Still, as has been seen, he dined with considerable regularity at Christ Church on Sunday evening, attended the monthly College Club dinners, those of the Royal Society and the Colophon Club, as well as the less frequent gatherings of such groups as comprised the Pepys Club. And from this time on there was to be another of these dinner clubs which he possibly enjoyed were many att; than any other, for it comprised a group of men who for learning combined with good-fellowship could hardly have been surpassed anywhere. The following letter from the Secretary of "The Club", Falconer Madan, will tell all that is necessary.

94 Banbury Road, Oxford, May 3, 1912.

Dear Sir William, I have the duty, honour and pleasure to inform you that at the meeting of 'The Club' last evening you were with all due ceremony and with entire unanimity on our part elected into the fraternity of the oldest senior Club at Oxford. The antiquity is only surpassed by the famous Phoenix Common Room at Brasenose.

Three toasts preceded the election: - "Father Banks", "The Lady Pat-

roness" and "To a happy Election." Then seven spills of paper of precisely equal length were given round, and after an interval collected.

Had any of them been dimidiated, tertiated or even decimated, the proposed election was void. As it was, they each exhibited their pristine Procrustean length. I understand from the Principal of Hertford that you already possess a printed list, brought up to date by manuscript entries, of all members of The Club.

It only remains that I should remind you that we meet on the 1st, 3rd, 5th and 7th Thursdays of term, that no reply is needed to the notes of invitation unless (absit omen!) you cannot come, that a new member is entertained by allthe other members before he himself is host, and that the hosts of the three remaining dinners this term are, in order and secundum Rotam, the rovost of Worcester, the Warden of All Souls, and Dr. Cowley. I am sure you will be interested some day in seeing the original green book of Records, containing all such rules, rotas and details as are lawful to be set forth in writing, from April 8, 1790 to the present time. With all due felicitations, I am, Sincerely yours,

F. Madan.

In addition to his usual fixed duties in connection with the Infirmary, the Press, the Bodleian and the Hebdomadal Council, he was obliged to be in London the second Friday in each month to preside at the Clinical Section of the Royal Society of Medicine, and at other times to attend the meetings of

Boot mote must fore

the Council. But in the intervals it may be presumed that he was, in all

*The new building had been formally opened by the King and Queen on May 21st, the Oslers being among the few invited to be present.

probability, making some sort of a preliminary draft of the Silliman Lectures to which he constantly refers in his characteristical big lesters

This does not mean that he had buried himself - his 'wee' not the spade

of unenlightened industry.' Still, his letters though on a multitude of

subjects, are characteristically brief. Thus, on May 18th to Dr. J. A.

Nixon: "What is the date of that Mesué of the Bristol Library? Have you any

other medical incunabulae before 1480? Sincerely yours, &c." And shortly

after, to the same: "Dear Nixon, that was a very interesting talk of yours.

What about the Dover tablet? What took the old reprobate to Stonway to die?

Did you get the estimate or was I to get one. I wish you would as I am aw
fully hard pressed with arrears. Sincerely yours, &c." That's the tablet in fuellation of the same of t

Stamon

is accounted for.

At this same time, too, he is in correspondence with Andrew G. Little

the historian, long interested in the Grey Friars of Oxford, and writes regarding some MSS. of RogerBacon which are full of good things - "That is a capital remark he quotes from Aristotle that medicine begins where natural philosophy ends - do come & see me about the proposed Bacon celebration."

On June 3rd he writes H. M. Thomas about their Italian trip, "which Revere enjoyed immensely. He is very keen about photography and begins to sketch nicely. He has gone back to school where his chief occupations are cricket and fishing. He has no affection for books. We are busy as usual.

a very busy term - so many people coming and going." And on the 4th to

Dear Blodgett Thank you so much for your Gui Patin. What an interesting old character he was! I do wish the new edition could be completed and that you could get out your translation. I have written a little note about him in the Journal of the Canadian Medical Association of last month. Give my love to Brigham when you see him.

Arand around almost any one

From this, as from most of Osler's brief letters, a long story might

worken

be told - stories which would link together many people, of many times, of

many places in the world. Thus in October, 1908, Osler has been seen in the Bibliothèque Nationale puzzling over and transcribing notes from the Gui Patin MSS. and letters there, with which as a basis he undoubtedly must have intended to write something. But he must have learned at the time that a Dr. Paul Triaire, a scholarly physician of Tours, was engaged in preparing a new and complete edition of Patin's Letters which was to supersede all others.

ten years before Osler saw the light in the backwoods of Upper Canada, the man to whom this last letter was sent. Dr. Blodgett had worked his way into medicine, and his abilities had come to the attention of Dr. G. B.

Shattuck the father of Osler's two Shattuck friends and contemporaries and temple his haming. Here he had sent young Blodgett abroad to work, where he became one of Virchow's early pupils and brought home with him a knowledge of the new pathology, long before Harvard was ready to receive these new doctrines. Finding no opportunity in Boston to use his new learning he had gone to Montreal to see Palmer Howard, and here the story may be taken up in Dr. Blodgett's cwn

words. It begins at the time when Osler and H. V. Ogden were living with Buller and were busy with their quest for the brains of criminals.

I had previously formed the acquaintance of the late Palmer Howard who told me that he had been attracted by the zeal of an exceptionally talented member of the senior class whose name was Osler, but my first interview with Osler was in the month of September, 1879. He was busy Some Sindia on with the preparation of his lectures and was engaged in the preservation of some specimens of discases of the nervous system, during which he was experimenting with the injection of various alloys of metals which would preserve the form of the cavities of the brain without disturbing the relations of the delicate tissues. I was interested in the attempted injection of the choroid plexus which was surprising to me in its completeness though it did not satisfy Dr. Osler himself.

I have no available data to fix the time when Osler delivered an address in Boston in which he alluded to the learned Gui Patin, but in his account of this versatile physician he spoke of the voluminous correspondence he had maintained with the most celebrated men of Europe in all branches of learning, and of his multifarious in all the departments of science of his day. During an interview which followed the address I mentioned the copies of his "Letters to M. Charles Spon" and asked Osler if they had been translated. He told me that they had been published in several editions in Europe but had not been translated into English at Cast, and challenged me to undertake that work; and this challenge I accepted.

He continued to ask from time to time of my progress, took a personal interest in the work, and whenat last I could inform him of its completion he was desirous that I should await the edition of M. Triaire.

he had written to Dr. Blodgett to let him know of M. Triaire's forthcoming publication. Meanwhile, as the second volume of the Letters failed to appear, as asking what had become of it - inquiries which were finally answered by a note in the British Medical Journal for February 24th, 1912, announcing the death of M. Triaire after a long illness and expressing a fear that the second volume of his work had been left unfinished. And this leads up to the May installment for the "Men and Books" series* that Osler sent off to Macphail at

*Cf. Canadian Medical Association Journal, 1912, ii, 429-30.
this time, which he begins as follows:

One physician we know thoroughly, and one only - Gui Patin, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Paris. His ways and works, his inmost thoughts, his children, his wife, his mother-in-law(!), his friends, his enemies - the latter very well - his books and pictures, his likes and dislikes, joys and sorrows, all the details of a long and busy life, are disclosed in a series of unique letters written to his intimates between 1630 and 1672. But this is not a biographical note - I wish only to lodge a protest and to express a hope.

He goes on to speak of the various editions and of the calamities which had befallen them, not the least being the illness which had overtaken Dr. Triaire and prevented the completion of his work. The 'protest' was against one Pierre Pic, 'whom I would like to shake for the disappointment caused by a wretched volume which has recently seen the light;' and he closes with this:

But the chief object of this note is to make an appeal, to express a hope, that the Paris Faculty will at once arrange for the completion of M. Triaire's edition. Much of the work has been done, and it should not be difficult to find someone with the necessary qualifications. They owe it to the memory of one of the greatest of their deans. When completed, an English edition should be forthcoming, From one of the old editions a translation has already been made by Dr. Blodgett, of Boston, who, at my request, has withheld it from the press awaiting the completion of Triaire's work.

*Dr. Blodgett meanwhile had published a paper in the Boston Medical & Surgical Journal for May 16th, giving an estimate of Gui Patin's life and character as displayed in his letters, an article which Osler reviewed for the Lancet, July 13, 1912, ii, 131.

But to leave In Blogger on jui Patin farment make aft to do worn.

On June the 5th he writes to H. B. Jacobs:

dolbB. Joeds Am Wid.

13 Norhan Jandons Sti June]

Dear Jacobs: Yes, my edition of the "De Trinitatis" [Servetus] has the single hyphen and the misspelt word. It is very interesting: I did not know that there had been another imprint. I will slip your letter into my copy. The Huth sale begins today. There are very few things of special interest to me, though there is a beautiful 1478 Celsus, which I wish I could have secured

for the library of the Royal Society of Medicine, but Quaritch tells me he has a very high bid for it. Love to you both, Sincerely yours, WM OSLER. I have been going over our Bodleian incunabula: extraordinary collection!

The length of a man's letters are usually in inverse proportion to the number of his correspondents and friends and, if he would hold on to them, old and new, as did Osler, there were no wasted words. On this same June 5th he writes to Miss Flumerfelt of Manchester, who is evidently planning to change her name and who has already been introduced during her preliminary medicial examination as 'Trotula'.

Dear Trotula 'Twas as I thought & hoped, & knew: Hearty congratulations - only having known me, to decide on a Surgeon is a bit hard. You must bring him ever here and talk about your plans. Would you not like to be married here? Why bother about that exam? Silly thing: Chuck your head - you will never need it again. I enclose you letters to the Lady Supts. of the two hospitals at Montreal Best wishes to you both.

And in this same month there are similarly picturesque and brief notes: to his boyhood friend Ned Milburn; to Adam H. Wright of Toronto his medical school-mate about a suitable candidate for the Chair of Medicine; to Shepherd in Montreal acknowledging a bundle of papers; to Casey Wood an early McGill pupil to whom he gives the first hint of what he plans to do with his library:

Our edition of Helmholtz' life had to be curtailed from the German to bring it into a single volume. I think all students and young doctors should read the lives of Pasteur and Helmholtz. I was glad to see a notice of your ophthalmic library in the last Report of the Librarian at McGill. I am adding treasures to my collection every few months, and it will finally be housed in Montreal. I am collecting on two lines - books that are of historical importance in the evolution of medicine, and books that have interest through the character or work of their authors. In that way I limit the field, which is large enough! Do let us see you here sometime. I am sending you with this a photograph - not so artistic as yours. My boy is at Winchester, doing very well.

To James Tyson of Philadelphia lamenting John Musser's death - "how sad to have him leave us so early"; to J. William White about Henry James getting the D. Litt. at the Encaenia; to Adolf Meyer about the coming opening of his clinic; and to others in Baltimore; to Dr. D. S. Lamb of the Surgeon General's Library in Washington:

Dear Lamb: I am awfully glad to have your two papers, particularly as somebody had the audacity to tell me that you were dead! and I have been worrying at the thought that I should not see you until we foregathered with some of our old friends on the other side of the river! I had a talk with Herdlicke about his South American specimens, and it was he who told me that your hat was still in the ring. With greetings and regards, and my love to old friends at the Museum and library.

It reappeared in 1683; I have both; then in 1688 a fine quarto edition of the work appeared, and it is this one I am looking for - the only edition of the to is said,

Religio needed to complete his collection; to Dr. Jesse Myer of St. Louis,

many letters about his forthcoming Life of Beaumont for which he has promised to write an introduction; and a Succession of letters to A. C. Klebs about the Beaumont for the Johns Hopkins of Professor (?) Pagel's library which they finally lost; thus on June 15th:

Your telegram came while I was away. I did not wire as I was doubtful how long you would be at Leipzig (expertunity to buy Pagel's library fer miss. 1600). Your letter has just come. I should like so much to see the catalogue of the books as I might induce Marburg to buy them for J.H.U. I could not afford it for myself and I daresay there would be many duplicates in my collection. I have written Sudhoff asking him to send me on the catalogue and if there was any hurry I would cable Marburg or cable Welch to see him. That Spanish item is most interesting but it is not the first by any means on Syphilis in Spain. There are several most important 15 century pamphlets. The figure given is ridiculous. I only paid \$\frac{1}{2}\$ for my 1497 Leonicenus, one of the first Italian descriptions of the disease. . .

I am so glad you saw Sudhoff. I wish we had a few more like him - scholar as well as student. . . Just got a fine 1478 Celsus - ed. pr. - I have a copy but I could not resist this one - which I must hand over to one of the libraries.

And on the same day he writes again to Adolf Meyer:

Kut on by 24,

I feel that I am in your hands in the matter. The date you mention the second half of April - could be arranged. Mr. Phipps will be in London
at the end of this month and I could talk to him about it.

I am rather shocked at the thought of giving the general opening address; only I suppose it would please Mr. Phipps, for whom I have a warm affection, and then the word 'general' would let me out of any special psychiatric association. I will let you know his feelings.

This was all very peaceful and one wonders what Osler and Sudhoff

would have felt had they been present at All Souls College, Oxford, on the

filtenth of funce

evening of this day to hear Spencer Wilkinson, Professor of Military History,

give a public lecture on "The Next War" in which the conflict between the British and German naval policies was clearly pointed out, and the statement

made that the British Expeditionary Force would be a smaller army than Wellington's at Waterloo.*

to succeed Lord Haldane who had been made Lord Chancellor, and it was hoped he might be able 'to complete the work designed by his predecessor but dropped for notions of political expediency.' It was earlier in this year that Lord Haldane had gone to Berlin to engage in friendly and confidential communications with those responsible for the control and guidance of German policy. The countries, without question, were drifting into war, and despite a state of nervousness shared by both of them in official quarters over rival naval and military preparations, the British people closed their eyes to these warnings. They were busy with their own domestic troubles: the Home Rule Bill had come up in April; there had been a great demonstration in Belfast and the bitterness of feeling in regard to 'loyal Ulster' was brought home by Kipling's verses; there had been strikes, and the suffragettes had resorted

to the breaking of windows and the pillar-box outrages.

*A new Secretary for War, Colonel Seeley, had been appointed

many felt is shown by Bernhardi's book which appeared during the year; and later on the Balkan ferment broke out into actual war.

On the 21st he writes Dr. Charles Singer who later came to reside in Oxford, and whose historical genius he was quick to appreciate:

Dear Singer: Your paper is most interesting. I have never heard either of the book or the man. Do come down some day and have a chat, only bring Mrs. Singer as well. Next week we have the examiners here and the week after we go to Dublin, but some time in the second week in July we shall be delighted to see you. Come by an early train and you dould see anything you wished in the Bodleian first and then come to lunch.

As though the Silliman Lectures were not enough, he was beset by invitations to give other courses the coming year, on similar foundations - at Johannes burg under the analysis felt fruct Officer Comments and also by David Starr Forder to give the Lane Lectures at Leland Stanford University. This latter invitation which came in June must have had a particular appeal for Osler had never been to California and Sir Michael Foster, Allbutt, Welch and others of his

friends had already given the series - an ordeal, be it said, for both lectures and audience, of ten lectures twice daily for five days. In regretting, he writes to Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur the Dean and Professor of Medicine:

Dear Dr. Wilbur: It is very kind indeed of the Trustees to ask me to give the Lane Lectures next year, but I am afraid it is an impossibility. I have to go out to the opening of the new Phipps Institute at the Hopkins in the spring, and there is a big international Medical Congress here in August (at which I hope to see you) so that I could not possibly go out again in the autumn. I am particularly sorry, for I should have liked so much to have given the Lane Lectures - the old doctor was a warm personal friend with whom I had many conversations on the subject of medical education.

Psychiatric Clinic in Baltimore had been postponed till the spring of 1913, and Osler must have begun to realize that the Yale lectures had better be postponed also, though this was not decided upon till later. Meanwhile Mr. Phipps, his interest in Pasteur having been deeply aroused, has evidently prepared a trip to France in Pasteur's footsteps, as the following note to him of June 27th indicates:

So glad to hear from you. Unfortunately we cannot possibly leave during the first two weeks of July. We have to be at the Dublin celebration - 3rd to 7th - and the next week we have the Congress of the Colonial Universities coming to Oxford. It would have been such a pleasure to join you on an excursion to Dole and Lille.

The Dublin celebration to which he referred was the bicentenary of the medical school of Dublin University (July 4-6), more familiarly known as Trinity College, which proved to be a most successful occasion, equally fortunate in its skilful organizer Professor A. F. Dixon, and in its week of sunshine - both worth calling attention to. Among the delegates was a number of former Baltimore colleagues and pupils with whom Osler, and Lady Osler who accompanied him, chiefly foregathered. Evidently they had gone a day early for he was scheduled for a lecture before the Women's National Health Association - the same body he had so effectively addressed on the initiation of their tuberculosis campaign four years before, - his subject on this occasion being the dispensary treatment of the disease as illustrated by their experiences at the Radcliffe Infirmary.

The next evening as a part of the bicentenary festivities there was a large dinner for the delegates at the Mansion House, when Osler was called upon to answer to one of the toasts; and as his remarks, which were autobiographical, in spots were subsequently published they deserve to be reprinted

*"Men and Books. XIII. The School of Physic, Dublin." Canadian Medical Association Journal, Sept. 1912, 11, 133.

To have been selected to propose the toast of the evening I take as an honour to the university with which I am associated, Oxford, mater studiorum of these Isles in philosophy, theology, and medicine. In reality, the toast has already been proposed, and in fine form, by Dr. Kirkpatrick in the just issued "History of the School of Physic," which the Provost and Fellows have so kindly distributed to their guests; and to enable you to drink the toast with sympathetic intelligence I should have to read to you the four hundred pages of his work. While Trinity College itself has had close affiliations with Cambridge, those of the School of Physic have been rather with Oxford. Stearne, the founder, was a close friend of Seth Ward, of Wadham College, and may have been a member of Boyle's "Invisible College" in those brilliant days when Wallis and Wilkins, Ward and Willis, Wren, Locke, Petty and others, 'investigated nature by way of experiment.' John Locke, the most famous name in English philosophy, and the great glory of the college with which I am connected, Christ Church, was a warm friend of the men who began this school - particularly of the Molyneauxs, William and Thomas: William, a philosopher of distinction, and the first man in this country, I believe, to see the capillary circulation; and Thomas, a distinguished physician, the first Irish medical baronet, and an early president of the College of Physicians.

An interesting manuscript in the Bodleian, in Locke's handwriting, contains a correspondence on the subject of vital statistics with two well-known Dublin physicians, Willoughby, a Fellow of Merton College, and Patrick Dun, the moving spirit of his day in the profession of this city - a wise, farseeing man, whose name is perpetuated in the hospital of this School.

But Oxford's greatest gift to Ireland was her Professor of Anatomy and the Vice-Principal of Brasenose College, William Petty - philosopher, inventor, one of the founders of the Royal Society, promoter of this School of Physic, one of the founders of the science of political economy, author or "The Political Anatomy of Ireland," and of the "Political Arithmetic"; but best remembered in Ireland in connection with the famous Down Survey. Were there time I should have liked to have dwelt upon some of the achievements of this extraordinary man, who came here as physician-general to the army, and who completed in thirteen months a survey which others had estimated would take as many years, and which is today 'the legal record of the title on which half the land of Ireland is held. Last year chance threw in my way the manuscript letter-book of Petty from 1666 to 1686, and the other evening I found, bound with them, an interesting manuscript of Petty dealing with the famous survey - the agreement with Fleetwood, the names of the officers, and the sums received from them, and the names of the men engaged in the work. The true bibliophile has a keen pleasure in seeing an important document in its proper home, and I have great pleasure, Mr. Provost, in asking you to place this in the library of Trinity College as a slight token of my appreciation of your warm reception of us on this memorable occasion.

We may pass over the dark days of the eighteenth century, in which the school experienced the trials and tribulations so common in the history of all institutions - days brightened, indeed, by the devotion and brilliant work of such men as Barry, Bryan Robinson and Cleghorm. Then came the glorious period of the first half of the nineteenth century, when the Dublin School reached a zenith of world-wide fame in medicine, midwifery, and surgery. Medicine proper has passed through three phases of activity - the

recognition of disease and the means for its cure, the discovery of its causes, and the measures for its prevention. It is the great merit of the Irish school to have taken a first place in the clinical study of disease. You have had many men of the first rank as physicians - Barry, Cheyne, Adams, Whitley Stokes, Corrigan, Hudson, Lyons, Banks - to mention only those whose names I know best, but it is no disparagement to the memory of those distinguished men to say that the imperishable glory of your school is associated with the names of Robert James Graves and William Stokes. Both were men of exceptional culture and refinement, devoted students of the Art, bedside teachers whose influence is still potent, and authors who raised the fame of Irish medicine to a supreme height. I need say no more. Their works follow them, and are today full of lessons for those of us who realize that the best life of the teacher is in super vising the personal daily contact of patient with student in the wards.

This is a graduates' dinner, and at last I come to a part of the toast which I know at first hand. Graduates of this school have been much in my life. To usher me into this breathing world one of them came many weary miles through the backwoods of Canada. Across his tie, as he called it, John King, M.A., T.C.D., birched into me small Latin and less Greek. I owe my start in the profession to James Bovell, a kinsman and devoted pupil of Graves, while my teacher in Montreal, Palmer Howard, lived, moved and had his being in his old masters, Graves and Stokes.

From the days of Columba, the Irish of all classes have had a passion to perigrinate, and at every step in my career I have met your fellow graduates in Toronto, in Montreal, in many country districts of Canada, in the great cities of the United States, in lonely villages in Virginia and the Carolinas, and now in the very different surroundings of Harley Street and

the pleasant villages of the Thames Valley - and everywhere the same intelligent and highly trained men, ever working with the Hippocratic spirit, caute, caste et probe, and ever leaving their patients if not in better health, at least in better spirits.

The bicentenary festivities were spread over the three last days of

the week and on the Saturday afternoon in the Examination Hall of Trinity honorary degrees were bestowed upon many of the delegates and guests -

The D.Sc. upon twenty-five of them, Osler included.

must have been the final strow-

On July 10th he cabled President Hadley of Yale: "Could lectures be deferred till spring. Am feeling rather used up having just finished revision

of text-book. Would be difficult to get ready by October." And two days afficult to mrs. Brewstern fallow:

We have been in a perfect whirl for the past three months. I have been reading proofs & at last have seen the title page & index & have finished. There has been a steady stream of visitors - & many relatives. Both my brothers from Toronto have been withus, and this evening we expect my sister ['Chattie'] who has not been in England for 31 years. We go to Scotland August the 5th for a month, to Tongue, the most northerly point in Sutherlandshire. The fishing there is excellent & Revere is a devoted angler. He is very well, and such a dear good fellow - but 'book-learning' is not in his line. He sketches so well and with very good hands & a good

Sir William was fually

heart life should not worry him. We are very excited about Woodrow Wilson of whom I am very fond. He is such to catch many mugwumps. I am sorry for Taft, and still more sorry that Roosevelt should have treated him so badly. It was so nice to see Uncle Ned's boy. Unfortunately I was away & returned just as he was leaving. Our garden is splendid, such roses!

One of the steady streamof visitors recalls that he was very much interested at the time in a copy of the Tabulae Sex of Vesalius - one of the two known copies - which had belonged to Sir William Stirling-Maxwell and which in care of the Bodleran for Oder to See, ove Osters at his request had been sent by his son, in whose possession it was, to the Bodleian for study. This incident led to the disclosure that a number of reprints of these rare plates had been made by Stirling-Maxwell with proper home , " for the time biblio thile box a Keen pleasure in Seeing an important document and never distributed, and at Osler's suggestion Sir John Stirling-Maxwell sent copies to the Surgeon General's and a few other libraries. Sop further same visitor writes that he and W. O. had gone off somewhere in the country for tea with Dr. Ewwitt's a daughter who was living in a thatched working-man's cottage she had made into a charming abode, and on their return to 13 Norham Gardens dined on the terrace, in the open air, where it was light until 9,30 and still as a forest, the quiet only accentuated

Oxford gates are closed, and by the occasional note of a lark and by the two owls whose 'to whit' in a tree of the neighbouring park was followed by a fluttering flight through the trees to the boundary fence and back to their nest again. And then, before bed, an hour in the library looking at the books which are just beginning to be catalogued and have burst out of the library into the hall and will soon be in the dining-room. All of which shows that there may be peaceful moments at 13 Norham Gardens even with a houseful of guests.

Boot well

Osler had intended that the Press should reprint the six tables in connection with the quater-centenary of Vesalius's birth to be celebrated in Brussels, December 1914 - a celebration never held for reasons explained by the date. An edition was subsequently issued by Professor Sudhoff in 1920.

There are two allusions in this description which need pursuing. One is suggested by the Labulae Sex, which recalls the history of medicine; the

other by the library catalogue: These things can be picked up through
the following letters. The first, to Fielding H. Garrison of Washington
on July 13th indicates that Osler is concerned with plans for the suc-

Dear Garrison: As you perhaps have seen, there is to be a section on the History of Medicine at the International Congress next year. Dr. Raymond Crawfurd (of Tray's Hill, Hornsey Lane, London N.) is Secretary, and Norman Moore, Chariman. Would it be too much trouble for you to prepare for the former a list of the clubs and societies in America that are interested in the subject, and to whom special invitations could be sent? I do hope you will be able to come over. Give my love to the dear old man [Fletcher], and greetings to all your colleagues in the Library.

Butthe; un, and see for he had taunched a project for smaller, more the transmit, the industriance. This in turn must have led him to start something in London comparable.

who were historically minded. In an undated letter to Dr. Raymond Crawfurd he says; which is he would be a calalogue to the say;

We can 'pull it through' all right, and the scheme will stir men in all the sections. You must spend a week-end here after I return - any one in Sept. I have my bibliographical books concentrated and you will be interested to see how far I have got with my B.P. I picked up the Ed. Prin.

of Plato (who comes in as the <u>f</u> and <u>o</u> of modern psychology) and of Copernicus (1543). I enclose a review which may interest you.

It was not a light task, for he writes J. Y. W. MacAlister later in the steed under later we again later in the month: "I have sent out 168 private letters chiefly to Fellows of the Society & have enclosed with them a postcard addressed to you so that we should get back enough acceptances to give some idea of the number likely to join the new Section." And of this new organization which was to hold its first session the coming November, Dr. Crawfurd says:

I saw a great deal of Osler in connection with the Section of History of Medicine at the Royal Society of Medicine. He was its father, and I doubt if it would ever have come into existence but for his quickening influences he acted like a magnet in gathering together a company of original members. He was its first President: his own contributions were few and mainly biographical, and I do not think anyone could have discovered from them how fully he possessed the true historical sense, but his faculty of extracting contributions on every conceivable aspect of medicine from the most unproductive sources was invaluable to the Section; and that Osler was in the chair was a sure draw.

To William T. Hadley.

The Athenaeum, Pall Mall, London, July 15th.

Dear President Hadley: I cabled you last week, not knowing that we were to have the pleasure of seeing you. I asked to have my Silliman Lectures postponed until the spring. I have been hard pressed for the last six months by a revision of my Text-book, unexpectedly forced upon me by the publishers. This has left me rather used up mentally, and I would very much like to have the winter for the better preparation of the lectures. I had arranged the programme with Stokes: 1. Six lectures on the "Evolution of Modern Medicine." 2. A general address on "A Way of Life" to the student body. 3. A couple of bibliographical lectures on subjects in which I am interested. I hope to see you this evening at the Royal Society. Sincerely yours,

wm Osler.

after the Reformation the invisible philosophers of Oxford had assembled once more in London with the determination of forming a society. On this Monday evening there was an informal reception of delegates at which he must have with the formal to the form to the form the formal formal to the formal seen Mr. Hadley and made arrangements to postpone his lectures. The formal ceremonies of the celebration began the next day with a commemorative service in the Abbey - sufficient to show that the days of conflict between science

and theology were about over. Indeed a special Collect written for the occasion praised the Almighty for all those who in every age and clime have added to the sum of earthly knowledge by their discoveries in Natural Science. It was an occasion not merely of national but of world-wide importance, and it is probable that no building ever contained at any one time seeming the world's greatest men or seemany men representative of all the greatest institutions of learning in the world as gathered at the Guildhall the next evening for dinner, Sir archibald Getkie (Lister's successor) presiding, and to hear the Prime Minister Mr. Asquith at great length, on "The Royal Society", Viscount Merry on "Universities at Home and Abroad," the Archbishop of Canterbury on "The Learned Societies in the Old World and the New", and many more besides, with what time was left them.

Mr. Hadley, spent a day at Oxford after the celebration and must have told his host he could give the Silliman Lectures any time he wanted, even though October was the usual time. He could hardly have given any other answer in view of this picture which remains in his mind:

The place where he was at his best was in the little upstairs room of his own house, when he or Lady Osler, or both, talked freely and charmingly with those who were privileged to form part of their household. It was in that upper story that he kept his more precious medical books of bygone days; and if he happened to be alone with anyone who appreciated them the sight of the books opened a wondrous flow of talk. Well do I remember a couple of hours spent one morning in that study, when each of us ought to have been at work at something else, so that our conversation enjoyed the added flavour which goes with forbidden fruit. It began with Ulrich von Hutten; I have forgotten where it ended. In those two hours of conversation I learned more about mediaeval history and more about the persistence of certain queer traits in human nature than could be got from months of study by the most approved methods of research. What he said was like Smollett and Gibbon: Smollett's frankness without his coarseness, and Gibbon's erudition and lucidity without his conventionality. In talk of this kind I have never met the man who was Osler's equal.

To S. Weir Mitchell from W. O.

13, Norham Gardens, August 3rd.

Dear Dr Mitchell So delighted to have your nice long letter today. The American memoir will come in our absence, as we are just off to Sutherlandshire - to Tongue - for five weeks. My boy came back from Winchester yesterday & he hopes to get some good trout fishing, & possibly a salmon. He is a devoted Waltonian, and is already an expert dry-fly fisher. He has grown a fine lusty lad, not much given to books, but a good carpenter, and claver with his pencil. We have had a very busy summer. The Dublin bicen-

tenary was a great success - a large representation from abroad, and many men of mark. I had to propose the toast of the School and had the good fortune to be able to present their Library (T.C.D.) with the original draft of the agreement of Petty (who was Professor of Anatomy here in 1650) to make the famous Down survey, with a list of the officers who paid him the monies, and the names of the men composing the surveying parties. I found it by accident, bound at the back of a big volume of his letters that I got for a song at the Phillips sale last year. I am sorry you were unfortunate with the Burns letter, for which I suppose Roseberry or one of the other Scotch collectors sent an unlimited bid. Many thanks for trying to get the Browne Travels. I have a copy. I lack only one or two Browne items. I have been working at the earliest printed medical books up to 1480, which form a most interesting group. I will give you a lantern-slide lecture on them at the College when I come out. I have just heard that my Yale lectures are to be postponed until the Spring. I am glad in a way, as I have been hard driven for the past nine months revising that old Text-book - rewriting a great part of it & finding it not easy to get the new wine into the old bottle. I have just sent a nice group of folios to Fisher - Aldrovandus, the old Bologna physician-naturalist. We missed you at the Royal Society celebration I hope Harrison sent you all the cards &c. The foreign visitors came here after the London festivities and we had a great day at Wadham College - the birthplace in Oxford of the Society. I have sent you a little booklet giving a brief account of the local men of that date. The dinner at the guildhall was a most brilliant affair. - Asquith & the Archbishop made splendid speeches.

I have become more & more involved in the Bodleian, and begin to understand its workings. I am there every day, when possible. We have just completed an immense underground stack, between the Old Bodleian & the Radcliffe Camera, which will hold 1,300,000 books. This relieves the congestion, which has made the working of the library so difficult. You will be interested in the just printed catalogue of the Library of the Royal College of Physicians. I believe you are a good deal [interested] in incumabula and in Harvey items. Did you ever get those Harvey letters? de Schweinitz told me you had the money collected for them. We got a few months ago twenty five Erasmus letters for the Bodleian at \$25 apiece! A few of us took around the hat. We had not a letter of his in the library. I am afraid you will be bored with the length of this letter. . .

The Oslers seem to have picked the very jumping-off corners of Great

Britain for their holidays. Lands End one summer; Llanddulas another; and

now, Tongue in the very northernmost part of Sutherlandshire. But there was

said to be good fishing in Lochs Croggie and hoyal and as this was the

chief object for Revere as well as for [now Sir] George Parkin the head of

the Rhodes Scholars Trust and his daughter Alice, the families joined forces.

From there on August 6th he writes Mrs. Brewster.

I am desolated and very low in my mind, after sending Dear Mabel that cable from Inverness. After consultation with President Hadley last Friday we decided that it would be better to postpone the lectures until next spring. I need not go into the reasons, which were sufficient, but it is most disappointing. You cannot realize how much I have been looking forward to that week at Avalon, and have had my itinerary arranged for it. Perhaps the spring may be better but I hate to have a year go by without seeing you - and Sylvia will have grown away from remembrance of me: - but with a child this can easily be made up. We have had as I told you an unusually busy summer - so many people coming & going. One great delight has been a visit from my sister and her husband After 'raising' nine children all splendid - and a husband against heavy odds she has at last got into smooth waters - but as she says sadly, with the nest empty. Two other brothers have been with us, so we have had a family gathering. Revere got home on the 1st - so well & much grown. He is a darling, good heart & good hands but not much at his books. We have come here for the fishing - to the most northerly coast of the island - to the Kyle of Tongue where there are good lochs for trout and perhaps salmon. We have been out all day after sea trout - very few fish but plenty of rain. It is a lovely spot - beautiful hills - really mountains We have very comfortable rooms in an hotel not far from the sea. Grace will not have to speak to a soul - which is her idea of a blissful holiday, and if the fishing is good the boy will be happy. I enjoy the loaf & read & write. I have been deep in all sorts of d of

the way professional reading for these lectures trying to get in touch with men & times & places in our history. 'Tis not easy but the personal interest in the individuals helps over the dull periods. I had a nice letter from Uncle Ned last week, with a definite promise of a visit next year. That story in last months Scribner was so good. What a true touch he has. Perhaps you will plan a winter trip to Europe? My love to R B & a kiss to the lassie. .

They probably visited the ruins of Castle Varrich, by tradition the residence of an eleventh-century Norseman; and heard the local tale of the great battle between the clans Murray and Mackay when the last men of the Murrays caught in ambush were killed on the slopes of Ben Loyal which rises in rugged cliffs at the head of the Kyle. But one thing more certain than this is that Osler promptly looked up the local doctor. He soon sends off a letter (undated) to H. M. Thomas in Baltimore.

Dear Harry T Alas! I am not coming out this fall... I saw President Hadley the other day who said it would be just as convenient if I gave the lectures in the spring. This would suit me much better and I have so decided. I am sorry in many ways. We have had a very busy summer - celebrations galore and visitors innumerable. We have come here to the very end of the Island for fishing. Revere is so enthusiastic about it. The trout are good but wiley. The place is enchanting, so quiet in the moors, on an inlet or kyle. The best doctor has a district 40 by 25 miles - a scattered

parish of 1600 people. I spent the day with him yesterday on the road.

How sad to hear of Miss Garrett's illness - and so serious. . . You will have a copy of the textbook before long. It is not all it should be, in parts, but in spots it is up to date. So glad Hal is now at the medical school. He should make a good student. I am enclosing him a letter and a billy-doo for luck! Love to the family. Yours ever, W. O.

And the 'billy-doo' to a young medical student, the only possible way his father could be remunerated for helping with the text-book, reads:

Dear Hal Tear off the over-leaf and shake it in the face of some banker and he will give you \$100.00 in cash - which is the face value of my signature. If he demurs tell him to go to #### - that I was 500 miles from home and had no cheque book. Buy with it your books and anything you need for your studies. I am sure you will do splendidly in the medical school; 5th, or is it the 6th generation? Good luck to you. Yours ever,

And on the 14th he writes to 'Trotula' who has just passed her first 'locum':

Dear Trotula Heavens! How sorry I am for you & your patients! and such a slump! after those happy weeks in Cornwall with the L of your L.

But it will be a happy - no I mean good - experience for you. Do let me help you about a Hospital appointment - let me know of anything likely & I will write one of my most mendacious letters. When are you to be married?

Do not wait too long - please. No man is worth waiting for more than six

months. I am writing to the dearest old fellow at Preston - Dr Brown whom you will be delighted to meet. We are here fishing - or R.is - & catching many trout. Come & see us soon. I am not going to Canada this autumn. Yours ever

Wm Osler.

No Englishman is without The Times even in places so remote as Tongue, N. B., and so it is not surprising to find in the issue of August 16th a long letter from Osler to the editor, inspired by an editorial of the week before propounding a scheme for tuberculosis sanatoria which Osler felt 'overreached the provisions of the special clauses of the insurance act.' It was a carefully written argument favouring the use of the dispensaries in connection with existing hospitals where doctors and students could be trained for this special work before there should be any great outlay on the part of the Government for sanatoria.

And this plan works well [he writes]. One of the most successful of existing tuberculosis dispensaries I was able to start, by the generosity of Mr. Henry Phipps, in connection with the Johns Hopkins Hospital. It now forms an important part of a great medical school, through which every student as a matter of routine passes as a clinical clerk. If for no other purpose than this, every general hospital with a medical school should have

branch of the National Association has centred about the Radcliffe Infirmary, the treasurer, committee, and staff of which, with a commendable liberality, have not only given the dispensary accommodation, but have for the past two years set aside from twelve to twenty beds on the balconies for tuberculosis. Doctors, nurses and patients are all the better for this association.

The fishing was good, as he said in all of his letters - 'but the rain it raineth every day.' On the 20th he writes W. S. Thayer:

Dear W.S. So sorry you have not taken in this far away place. You have been far enough! What a trip! We thought of Stornoway when at Kyleakin, but the stormy winds were blowing and the steamer did not look inviting. When do you sail? . . My lectures are postponed. To tell the truth I have been so busy this summer (with doing nothing!) that I have only three of them ready and to finish them before Sept. 15, when I had aranged to sail, would have cut into my holiday. I have taken a big subject - the Evolution of Modern Medicine - and the reading for it grows. Have you seen Osborn Taylor's Mediaeval Mind? Excellent! He is a New York man, I believe, not an academic, but a genuine student with a great grasp of the subject. If you ever come across him, say I am acting as an advertising agent in this country. Revere has had some very good fishing - hooked a nuge ferox this afternoon, but the monster made short work of his tackle. He has been out every day, from 9 to 6:30 - burns, lochs and the Kyle. It is a wonderful country, but moist. Such rain as we have had!

On August 24th he writes to A. C. Klebs who is in England.

I am still dickering with Fock for the Pagel Library, the price of which has gone up steadily. A friend [undoubtedly his brother, E.B.O.] offered me the sum which they first named & I hesitate to tax him for more. As an historical collection it is valuable but there are no special items of any great value & at auction it would not bring 1000 marks. The Van den Corput library went for ridiculous sams. If I can squeeze another friend I would give what they ask for the sake of the Pagel family. . . We are having a splendid holiday here - at the end of the Island. The weather has been awful, 14 days rain, but the fishers do not care. It has been a freat experience for Revere, as there are a number of crack sportsmen here. I loaf & read all day - and play a little golf. I will let you know of any change of plan in case I get to London before the 11th.

And in the following to H. B. Jacobs he gives a glimpse of the place and the life.

In spite of the rain we are having a very happy time here. Revere has caught some fine trout - a 3-lb. sea trout today. I wish Mrs. Jacobs could have it for breakfast - they are delicious. He has been out every day 9 to 6:30 often soaked. Three fine days at last. This is a great country - moors, grouse, sheep - & fish, nothing else. It is a splendid life for these men - out all day & good exercise, often indeed, hard work. I wish more would come over and settle down to this sort of summer. Such a nice group of men in the lodge attached to this hotel - fish & shoot all day; one

after his return he writes to Jacobs again about some Laennec books, and adds:

We had a week at Skibo with the Laird who is a great old boy, full of interest. The place is delightful - such moors! Revere had good fishing in his lochs. I went to Dundee to the B.A.Ad. Science & saw many old friends. A nice day at St. Andrews - the only British Univ. I had not seen. I wish

you would try a summer in Scotland. I never saw such blazes of colour as the heather about Skibo - some of the hills literally covered with purple. I spent a couple of hours in the Univ. Lib. Edinburgh yesterday going over their medical incunabula, not very many but some very good. I saw the 3rd copy of the original Restitutio Christianismi of Servetus - only the first 16 pages are missing. It was given to the Library in 1695 - where and how it got to Scotland no one knows & it has in MS the draft of a long letter wh. Servetus sent to Calvin.

Better weather now. The garden is lovely. Our old friends, the Mallochs came this afternoon & young Archie with them. Poor M. has angina & when he heard I was not coming over bucked up & said he must see me. Fortunately he stood the voyage well, but is badly knocked out in heart and arteries...

And the 'young Archie'now entering his last year at McGill, who keeps a journal, notes that Sir William, during their week's stay and until he saw them off at Waterloo Station on Wednesday the 13th, had had an extraordinarily cheering effect upon Papa, so humowous and full of fun; and they had been twice to Trilford Heath for golf and had been all over the Clarendon Press and the Bodleian, the Radcliffe Camera and the book-stacks below the grassplots - wonderful! and the museum and the laboratories. "He introduced me to Fuller's Worthies, showed me where to look up about the skull and

cross-bones symbol on poison bottles and when I went up to bed I found a huge old Materia Medica under my pillow - put there as I had told him of my distaste for therapeutics!"

In all probability he set himself to the preparation of lectures, but with many interruptions as his brief though innumerable letters indicate.

Thus, to his old friend, Dr. Duncan McEachran of the Veterinary School in Montreal:

Sept. 9, 1912.

Dear Mac: Do let me know when you reach England. I send this on the chance to the Bank of Montreal. We should be so glad to see you here. Come and spend a night and I will motor you to Banbury the next day. Sincerely yours, W^m OSLER.

To Dr. E. Libman a heart specialist in New York, with whom he is in frequent correspondence:

Dear Libman: It would be nice if your could give us a paper on Endocarditis at the Medical Section of the Congress next year. I am sure it would be of great interest. The grouping of your cases is admirable. I will look out for your young friend when he comes. • •

To Fielding H. Garrison, saying that he would like a photograph of Fletcher to

accompany the sketch of him which he had promised to give to Nixon for the medical Bristol journal; to appear in their December Number; and he asks; "Is there a separate copy of the medical incunabula in the Surgeon General's Library?

I have become interested in the earliest printed medical books. I will send out a list so you can tick off those you have."

To Dr. Jesse Myer, apologising for the brevity of his Introduction to

Myer's
his Life of Beaumont, "but perhaps it is none the worse for that,"; and and he
he adds the hopes that the family are still planning to put the Beaumont poper.

material in the Surgeon General's Library where they can be permanently

Secure. Commeller a few days to unter again to Say man down you worked turn your attention to Daniel Drake. It is farmer, to fur or records must be former ond thended be 6 extraorderaing which is connected with the Ris long of the profession is the Minisis spe valley."

Then a series of notes to accompany presentation copies of the eighth

edition of the Text-book, like this to Dr. Hamburger of Baltimore, of the first Johns Hopkins class:

Dear Louis P. H. Greetings to you & Mrs H - & the 3 kiddies. I suppose by this time there are three! It is high time you quit practice for a year & came over for a brain dusting. I have asked A & Co to send you Ed. 8th of my text-book Same old friend, I trust, tho the face is much changed Yours, W.O.

more closely to action their Ever through

Dr. T. R. Boggs: "You will have Ed. 8th shortly - much changed, not always for the better. Revere is 2 inches taller than his dad & still devoted to fish. He will never be a student, but he has good hands and a good heart - two out of three essentials so we are satisfied." The a mana " faci, the other him fathers, was developing in forthe destines

On September 12th to Professor Karl Sudhoff:

Noch bin ich sehr in Zweifel, ob es mir möglich sein wird, in diesem Oktober nach Leipzig zu fahren, wie ich gohofft hatte. Es ist mir aber sehr gewünscht, Ihre Institut zu sehen, und so verschiebe ich noch die Entscheidung und schreibe Ihnen später. Mir scheint, dass die Organisation der historischen Abteilung des Kongresses recht gut fortgeht, und ich freue mich darüber. Ihre "Graphische und Typographische Erstlinge der Syphilisliteratur" ist angekommen - ein ausgezeichneter Beitrag. Ich gratuliere Siz herzlich darüber. Mit bestem Grusse, Ihr OSLER

To H. B. Jacobs: he writes: "I am doubtful about the French meeting as I It ma Eslie I las line to 14.3. Jucata & Osle Jags) really ought to stay at home & work. We are in a terrible mess here trying to get the Tuberculosis problem settled. The difficulty is to get any central control." A few days earlier, on September 10, he had written to Mr. Phippsa: "I will come up tomorrow about 5 o'clock and have a cup of tea & a chat I may possibly bring Revere as I would like you to see him. with you. I hear from Meyer that the clinic is getting along rapidly." Over this cup of tea he must have told Mr. Phipps something about the excellent work that was

being done in Oxfordshire in the fight against tuberculesis; how dispensaries, in addition to that at the Radcliffe Infirmary, had been opened at Witney, Thame and Banbury, to which specially-trained staff nurses and a tuberculosis officer, debarred from practice, had been attached; and where tuberculosis classes were being held, outdoor shelters being provided, and so on. All of which explains not only a note of September 19th to Mr.

Phipps saying: "Your generous gift will delight the committee which meets today." It is most kind and considerate of you to help us in this way. We are gradually getting the work in the town and country very well organized and I hope it may serve as a model to other place." - but it also explains the following mote in the Annual Report of the Oxfordshire Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis:

Early in December Sir William Osler asked that a sum of \$50, the gift of Mr. Phipps of New York, should be divided among the nurses of the Association and the many District Nurses in the county who had cooperated with them in the care of consumptives, any balance there might be to be given to the almoners of the dispensaries to purchase blankets or clothing for patients in special need.

And it is not at all impossible that Sir William whose own subscription the year before had been \$10, and whose name does not appear this year on the list of donors, may have merged his own annual subscription with that of the friend, though Mr. Phipps it must be said had given very generously the year before to the general fund. All of which may serve as an introduction to the following note by Miss Price, the Secretary of the Association, written after the death of the man who for ten years, as President of this small Oxfordshire Association, had given it unsparingly of his time as the America was his main interest in life.

It is difficult for members who have worked for many years on the Executive Committee of the Association with Sir William Osler to face the future without him. It was at his desire that the Association was formed in Oxford ten years ago - a branch of the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, of which he was a moving spirit. The nature and extent of the consumption problem was then only guessed at. No reliable facts and figures were available. Notification was not compulsory, and was strongly opposed: the Insurance Act did not come into force for some years later; no public funds were assigned to the treatment or relief of consumption. Voluntary Hospitals and Sanatoria were springing up all over the country, but the number of beds was totally inadequate and the finance precarious.

Sir William was among the foremost to urge the Government to take the matter up. On the Astor Commission he was a guiding force in establishing

the principles on which a public campaign against consumption should be based - principles which have since been embodied in the Insurance act and in all Public Health Acts relating to consumption. It is difficult to estimate the country's debt to him.

With all his public work he nevertheless found time to devote to the Oxford fordshire Association, to its fortnightly committee meetings, to the Oxford Dispensary, then held at Bath Court, where he often saw patients himself one morning or evening in the week, and where he was always ready to act in consultation with the Tuberculosis Officer in any difficult case.

Many times he went far into the country to see these people in their own homes, and got to know the hard conditions of poverty and had housing many of them had to contend with.

Invariably he took the wide view: for him obstacles and difficulties were only made to overcome. He realized the far-reaching network of consumption, the very life and habits of the country caught in its toils, and while urging on medical research he never forgot that the problem was a social one as well, and in all he wrote and said he appealed to the general public to do their share towards the regeneration that must come before the plague could be stamped out.)

It is for us especially who have worked in close cooperation with him to carry on in his honour and to his memory the campaign for the cause he had at heart to the victory he predicted.

That a man of Osler's training should have felt impelled to engage in this sort of a public crusade perhaps explains the feeling he expresses

in a note of this time to Dr. George Dock who had accepted a 'full-time' position under the Rockefeller programme, at St. Louis.

It would be a very good thing to have a few men at Research Institutes, Cole at the Rockefeller for example, devoting all their time to the work, but what I dread is to have a class of clinicians growing up out of touch, and necessarily out of sympathy with the profession and with the public. This would be nothing short of a calamity. There are always men of the quiet type like Halsted, who practically live the secluded life; to have a whole Faculty made up of Halsteds would be a very good thing for science, but a very bad thing for the profession.

Bradfield College, Berkshire, a public school founded in 1850 had always kept abreast of modern educational progress. Mr. Edward Armstrong, Fellow of Queen's College, Oxford, had recently been appointed Warden, and it was probably at his solicitation that Osler on October 9th opened the new science laboratory and subsequently addressed the boys and a large gathering of parents in the Big School.' Though he appears to have talked on preliminary specialization in science, particularly as a preparation for medicine, he nevertheless recommended to the boys that they stick to their Greek, "because, after all, the Greek outlook on life was the outlook of

And though the editors of the daily papers might be pessimists there was no cause for pessimism, for 'there never was a period in history when young men and boys should be so optimistic; when the poor were better off, and there were fewer poor, and the rich were doing more for them; and when the outlook if they would look with Grecian eyes, was better for the country and for the Empire.'

Those, however, who were present at this ceremony, will remember rather than the <u>ipsissima verba</u>, the mingled fire and kindliness of the speaker, and his thrilling influence upon boyhood. Nor will they ever forget the scene which followed, when boys, masters and parents, clustered in the quiet, leafy Berkshire lane, watched the great physician turn the key which was to open to Bradfieldians, present and future, a more highly perfected home for science than the school had as yet possessed.

to must fine.

('Founders' Exhibition' foot-note)

? Houlding it in XXXII, 52, Breakfield 3 beach?

*It had been Osler's wish to have a really well equipped science laboratory established in Father Johnson's memory, in connection with Trinity College School at Port Hope, and the present Headmaster states that had he lived longer he would have seen this project through. In 1918 he established a Founders' Exhibition in memory of the Rev. W. A. Johnson, 'to be awarded to the boy taking the highest place in honour science at the University examinations.'

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On October 14th he writes Dr. John Collins Warren of Boston, evidently in reply to a letter of inquiry about & supposed protrait of Harvey.

Dear Warren: If that is a picture marked in the lower right-hand corner "William Harvey" and signed somewhat indistinctly, I think by Jansen, with the date 1656 higher up, I know all about it, - and the story is interesting. Eight or nine years ago, lunching in Paris with Rupert Norton, he said, "You must come and see an interesting Harvey picture at Stegelmeyer's." Sure enough, there was a very fine Jansen, marked as I have described and looking like Harvey. The only suspicion was that it was a very young man for that date. I asked for the refusal of the picture for ten days, for a photograph and for the pedigree. These were sent to me in London. The picture was stated to have come from Colonel Harvey Branscombe, a collateral descendant of Harvey, through one of the Colnaghis, who had purchased it in 1895. I showed the photograph to D'Arcy Power and to Payne, the two men who knew most about Harvey, and to Lionel Cust, the expert at the National Gallery, all of whom decided it was impossible that it could represent Harvey who at that date was stricken in years and nearing his end. Moreover it was totally unlike the National Gallery picture taken of him as an old man. Meanwhile I had written to Colonel Harvey Branscombe, who replied that he hadnever owned such a picture, and that if he had it was the last thing with which he would have parted. He was, of course, furious, and wrote to the old Colnaghi in Pall Mall, on whom I also called, but neither of us could get any satisfaction, and a year or so later the old man died. It is a good picture, a Jansen, and Cust said that it was worth the money-4300. For 'ways that are dark and tricks that are vain, ' picture-dealers can give points to the Heathen Chinee! | My love to John and to Sturgis Bigelow. Sincerely yours, Wm Osler

He writes Jacobs early in November: "I am busy - still deep in this [National] Tuberculosis question so hard to settle here;" and on the 4th to A.C. Klebs:

Should you by any chance reach Almond's Hotel before Wednesday evening, do come to the Athenaeum Club, where I am giving a dinner to the officers and some of the staff of the Pathological Society of Gt. Britain to meet Flexner. That is No. 1. No. 2 is - if you get to Almond's before 4.30 on Thursday and you would like to hear me discourse mellifluously on 'acute pneumonic phthisis' and see some superb specimens, come to Brompton Hospital. And No. 3 is that if you get to London before one o'clock on Thursday bring the 'light of your life' to lunch with me at the Royal Automobile Club, Pall Mall. I hope you will have had a good voyage.

A letter goes also to Weir Mitchell about the spurious Harvey portrait,

and it adds: "All goes well here. This is a busy term - so many things on

hand, and I have to be in London a great deal." Of the 'many things on

hand,' in addition to the fixed obligations which week, month, and year on

end are cheerfully met, some traces are to be found. A new department of

Pharmacology for the Oxford School was opened on November 9th when Dr. J. A.

Gunn the new incumbent gave an address; and the Regius, who presided, sketched

the history of pharmacology in the University on introducing the speaker, and

at the close of his address reminded the V. C. (The Principal of Brasenose) that Withering's monograph on the use of digitalis was inspired by the results of its use on a previous holder of his office. Then tea was served in an adjoining department, 'where editions of Dioscorides on Materia Medica were displayed' - a characteristic Oslerian touch.

lished at Oxford! That Osler was greatly interested in human speech and its dialects has been already pointed out in connection with his unfinished essay, "The Transatlantic Voice" which he always carried with him on his crossings: And one may imagine that it became a topic of conversation some Sunday evening at Christ Church. At all events, to bring the importance of the subject before the public, a conference was finally held at the House at which the Regius Professor of Divinity presided and at which the Master of Pembroke, the Rector of Exeter, Sir William Osler and the adaptate Rev. P. N. Waggett all speke - the latter remarking that the affected intonation and bad speech of the clergy was really a matter for tears.' Osler

must have spoken very mildly in view of an editorial on the subject which says:

*"Voice Training for the Clergy." British Medical Journal, Nov. 16, 1912, ii, 1412.

Osler's description of the English voice. It is pleasant to know that it sounds sweet and soft to his ears, and this makes it all the more deplorable that it should so often be marred in the utterance. We mumble and swallow our words and distort our vowels in a manner which makes our splendid language sound to the foreigner like a jargon. The reason was long ago given by John Milton in his "Tract on Education" (1644), where he says: "For we Englishmen being farre northerly doe not open our mouthes in the cold air, wide enough to grace a southern tongue, but are observed by all other nations to speak exceeding close and inward; so that to smatter Latin with an English mouth is as ill a hearing as law French."

On November 20th he writes Jacobs: "We have the first meeting of our new hearts faces on maritum with historical section this afternoon, About 160 have joined so that I hope it may be a success." It is difficult to see how there is opportunity for the preparation of his Yale lectures out Osler had ways of his own. The way for meeting I the thistory I the decime "the must proof the way of his own." The way of his own. The way of his own. The way of his own. I have the many of the man market way of his own. I have the mark the second of the state of the state of the second of the secon

what was bes busine of the confintion confinition of his Gale lectures dury all there

where, at this manque meeting the acception the presiding of the section:

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Section on the History of Medicine of the R. S. M. In preparation

for which he had expended so much time, Osler was formally elected

President, Raymond Crawfurd and D'Arcy Power Secretaries; and among the

list of Vice-Presidents and members of the Council were Allbutt, Ronald

Ross, Rolleston, E. M. Little, J. A. Nixon, F. M. Sandwith and others

who were certain to give the movement support. The introductory remarks

of the newly installed President are given in the Transactions, as fol
lows:

In thanking the members of the Section for the honour of election as their first Chairman, Sir William Osler remarked that he had at least two qualifications - a keen interest in the subject, and a certain academic first:

leisure, which would enable him to attend to the duties of the position.

Physicians held very different views on the subject of the history of medicine. A majority were indifferent - too busy to pay any attention to it; a considerable number were interested enough to read articles or to listen to papers; then there were the amateur students, like himself, who dabbled in history as a pastime; and, lastly, there was a select group of real scholars, men like Adams, Greenhill and Payne. It was to be hoped that this

Section would form a meeting-ground for the scholars, the students, and for all those who felt that the study of the history of medicine had a value in education.

He felt sure, from the number of men who had sent in their names, that it would prove to be a useful working section. There was much to be done, for example, in British medicine in continuation of the good work of Payne, Norman Moore and D'arcy Power. The Section might encourage educational work, and it would be easy to arrange courses of lectures by experts in Egyption, Babylonian, Greek and Roman medicine, which would prove very attractive to senior students, and to young practitioners. At each meeting demonstrations of books, &c., could be arranged to illustrate some special phase in the evolution of medicine.

He would ask the members of the Section to take a special interest in the Library of the Society. Though large, and rapidly growing, there were many lacunae, particularly in the choice editions of the works of the great masters of the profession, and he would suggest that by special subscriptions among the members and Fellows, as occasion offered, such books might be bought.

And, lastly, the members were reminded of the Historical Section of the International Medical Congress next year, and urged to help to make it a great success.

I The Chairman has how Sufficient academic kisure to hope a. Pelly

This was followed by Osler's paper on "A Down Survey Manuscript of William

Petty's Letters purchased at the sale of the Phillips MS3. in 1912 and to

which allusion has already been made. He said that 'in reading Petty's life and works one gets the impression of a man born out of due time; His ideas and the practical capacity and energy with which he carried them into execution suggest the twentieth rather than the seventeenth century.' And permaps one paragraph may be given, to recall the beginning of Ireland's grievances, which in a very short time, were culminated in a threat of civil war - a threat so serious indeed that it was misjudged by the nation that twenting wanted 'a place in the sun.'

But Petty [he said] has a third claim to remembrance as the author of the famous Down Survey of Ireland - which 'stands today, with the accompanying books of distribution, the legal record of the title on which half the land of Ireland is held' (Larcom). The text of my few remarks is an interesting manuscript relating to this work which chance threw in my way.

In 1649 Petty had been named Deputy to Dr. Clayton, the then Regius Professor of Medicine at Oxford, and in 1651 succeeded him in the Chair of Anatomy. At Oxford he became an active member of the Club or Society, out of which originated the Royal Society. In 1652 he was appointed Physician-General to the Forces in Ireland, with which country the remainder of a stormy life was to be associated. A masterful, energetic, resourceful man, the first thing he did was to reorganize the medical service. Energy in action was, he said, the great requisite of life, and soon an opportunity offered which called forth all his powers. In 1652 the Irish were conquered - the Eng-

lish won, and as Petty says, 'had amongst other pretences a Gamester's right at least to their estates.' The claimants were (1): The adventurers in England to whom 2,500,000 acres of Irish land had been pledged for money advanced to raise an army; (2) the soldiers of the New Model Army of Cromwell and Fairfax, who had really done the fighting; and (3) the Commonwealth, which had reserved the Crown and Church, and certain other lands. There were, it is said, 35,000 claimants ofland in all. Lots were drawn, and attempts were made at the distribution, but it was found impossible to identify the lot drawn with any particular parcel of land. There was no survey, and matters were soon in a hopeless muddle. The Surveyor-General, also a doctor, a visionary, unpractical man, insisted that a survey could not be made in less than thirteen years. Petty, a strong critic of this scheme, undertook to finish the job in thirteen months, if given a free hand. Registers and valuation lists existed in places, but no maps; Petty agreed to 'survey, admeasure and to map,' and so his work came to be known as the 'Down' survey, because it was surveyed down on a map. The date fixed was February 1, 1655, and the rate of payment agreed upon was \$7. 3s. 4d. per 1,000 acres of forfeited profitable land, and the Church and Crown Lands at \$3 per acre. It was a vast undertaking, but Petty had a genius for organization, and was himself a practical surveyor as well as a mathematician and physicist of the first rank. . .

There followed papers by the new Secretaries, Raymond Crawfurd and D'Arcy

Power, and the new Section, which was henceforth to hold monthly meetings, had

been successfully launched.

At the Royal Society of Medicine Innovations were more easily introduced than at the conservative old College of Physicians, which held its second winter meeting a few days later. As usual the select College Club dined beforehand - and as usual 'Polonius' was present, which fact moved Osler to unaccustomed profanity when he made the following note in

Payne's volume on his return to Oxford.

Nov. 26, 1912. Election. 20 men present. We all thought B-was sure of election and his name came in first. All the same when I saw that damned old Polonius I knew there would be one black-ball - there were two! There was some hitch about the box and the voting had to be repeated, - there were 3! Then F- and K- were voted for - both had 2 black-balls - so no one was elected. The club felt sore!

*The month had seen another somewhat more important election in the United States - influenced by another 'Polonius' and which resulted in the nomination, to succeed William H. Taft, of Dr. Woodrow Wilson, Osler's old Johns Hopkins colleague, to the Presidency.

The following day, November 27th, Bodley's underground bookstore in which he had been so greatly interested, was formally opened, and before a large gathering of members of Congregation, Falconer Madan told the story of the problems with which Nicholson, his predecessor, had been faced, and which had led to this subterranean chamber, where such gigantic series as The Times from 1808 'and some 100 yards of bound ordinance maps'

Quadrangle, where 'there now were about 1,700,000 separate works, with a daily increase of 200 from one year's end to the other.' And he prophetimy sied that within fifty years every college and institution would come to have a similar underground receptacle for its stores, Though the Curators of the Bodleian and the Radcliffe Trustees, 'had spent a vast amount of time and trouble in solving the knotty problems, both of rights in the site, and details of the construction', 14 was to Lord Hythefthe second Earl Brassey! that the University was indebted, not only for this underground bookstore but for the revision of the catalogue of printed books.'

On December 9th be writes to Klebsraying:

many editions of his translations from Galen. I have the originals, all except the "De Temperamentis" one of the earliest books printed at Cambridge, where there is a copy waiting for anybody who wishes to pay 45 pounds. I will look up the Goulston, whose books I am always interested in, as he was the founder of the Goulstonian lecture at the Royal College of Physicians, and he left some beautiful old books to Merton, which I must show you some

day. We made an excellent start with our historical section at the Royal Society of Medicine. We have nearly 150 members, and there were between two and three hundred at the first meeting.

I am so glad you got in train with Sudhoff. Stir up the men for historical section of the Congress next year. There is a very good list of papers, but not enough men from the continent. . . Quaritch, the angel! secured for me at the Hoe sale a superb copy of von Hutten's "De Guaici", the original edition. Like a fool I missed the other day, by not telegraphing, the De Curatione Pestiferorum one of the earliest incunabula printed and for 3 or 4 pounds!

*Not satisfied with his own collection of early printed medical would he stirs up other libraries and librarians in the same direction. Early in this December he sent a been catalogue to Weir Mitchell in which a copy of CELSUS. De Medicina 1478, was affected, and on the margin he wrote: "This is a superb copy. Why not bleed the Fellows of the College. I will go \$25 W.O." His offer was taken up and J. C. Wilson the President of the College made this volume and the story of its purchase the text of his address the following May 5th, 1913, at the meeting of the Medical Library Association. Osler at this same meeting spoke on the "Proposed General Catalogue of Incunabula" (cf. Bulletin of the Association, for April 1914), and gave an account of the copies of this particular edition of Celsus which he had encountered. (Cf. alw memodula Medica Catalogue 1923 for meter. 7)

washington

And soon there issued from 13 Norham Gardens a bushel of letters saying: "Dear Doctor: Have you anything for the Medical Section (of which I
am President) of the International Medical Congress to be held in London
next August, etc." This is a long way ahead, but plans which concern the

whole household must be made and Lady Osler writes some Boston friends: "We are taking either a house or rooms in the Hotel - a suite and you must be with us - we shall have the Müllers, the Pierre Maries, and I don't know how many more - it seems a hopeless job altogether and will be hot and muggy I'm sure."

On the 15th he writes a Christmas letter to Mrs. Brewster, saying:

I had hoped to get an Xmas letter off yesterday by the Lusitania but I had a worrying week, first with a succession of examiners from outside who have to be looked after, but more particularly with Whitelaw Reid's illness. I had to go to town every evening as I seemed to be of greater comfort to him than his London Doctors. He passed away peacefully this morning. He had a long & a useful innings & will be much missed here. I hope the little book Being & Doing has reached you by this time. - very scrappy, but such nice extracts. I am sure you will like it. I wish I could see that angel Sylvia. Please when you write say how you are. Do give my love to Uncle Ned - Is he coming over this year? My lectures are fixed for April 20th, so expect me a few days before. I will go direct to the club, unless you are in N. Y. & have a spare room. We are to have a very busy Xmas - the house begins to fill this week. Revere comes home for a month.

On December 17th he was given a degree at the University of Durham, but what apparently interested him more than this addition to his academic de Richard At Bury honours was a search while there for some records of the author of the

mearly six centuries before. In the Grolier Club edition of The Philobiblon

he made this note on his return: "Dec. 17th, 1912. At Durham to get a D.C.L.

de Bung

Nothing of believe but an MS. of the Philobiblon in the Bishop Cosin Lib. In

the Cathedral is the slab on the grave erected by the Grolier Club;" and

he goes on to give the inscription and the Latin quotation, which, how-

That they had a festive Christmas is evident from a note to his never-forgotten boyhood friend, Edward Milburn:

Dear Ned Thanks for the Rabbi Ben Ezra - a favourite poem of mine, the best of Brownings, I think. I hope you have had a good Kmas. We had a house full - a daughter of E. B. & her three, H. S. Osler & his son from Toronto & a sister-in-law & two nieces from Boston. My boy was 17 last week - growing a big fellow, not much at his books but a very good sort. Thank the lassie for her photograph, very good. She must keep the house lively I hope to be out in April & should be able to stop over at Belleville on my way from Toronto some time in May Love to you all Ever yours,

wm Osler.