

CUS417/52.35

11th 12th

(Letter to Dr. Cushing)
(handwriting)

HOTEL PAOLI
FLORENCE
LUNG 'ARNO ZECCA

Mon 7th ('09)

Dear Cushing

Yours came this morning - two days late for personal attention to your Lang commission. I was recalled to Rome (stranded American) and I sanctified my fee by buying three copies of Vesal. 2nd edition, fine one for myself, a first for McGill (300 fr. was stiff, but it goes for 500!) and another for the Frick Library. I was sorry to miss the Rhazes - the Brussels Library secured it. I have two copies also of the Venice Edition of the Vesal. Have you one? I will send your list to Lang. They are Germans & know their work. I bought one Imperialis for the sake of the Vesal picture - they have another which I will ask them to send. The Gilbert facsimile is good & the Berengarius Picture of Vesal is very fine. - I am looking for a photo - the beard is tinged with grey. If there is not one in the shops - & I have been unsuccessful so far - I will make the necessary application to have one of the photographers get a good one. Re Alcmeon, see Gomperz Greek Thinkers - he was the earliest & greatest of the Magna Graecianatomists.

Graecia ↑

We go from here to Bologna, Padua Venice &c & then I return with T.G. to Oxford for a few days before sailing. I had taken my passage on the Cammopic for the 21st. for Naples, but I wish to settle a few things in Oxford and see the boy & I shall sail from Southampton about the 14th. This will give me time for a visit to Boston & Phila. before going to Baltimore & I shall not be so rushed. Kate must come. Congratulations on the Banks Lectureship. No I had heard of it. Your stock is about 500 in Liverpool. I return June 18th from Montreal. Could you not get over in time for the Belfast meeting July 28th? I am going & there would be a good gathering.

[Mary Lind]

So glad to hear of the brain work - what a success you have made of it. I am delighted to hear that von Prigdet has gone out. Is the appointment made? I enclose Willie some post Italian stamps - give him my love. We can bring up the Cordell portrait next autumn. I have a set of Votives for the Faculty - terra-cotta arms, legs, breasts, ~~eyes~~, eyes, ears, fingers - which the votaries hung in the Aesculapian temples in gratitude to the God - the modern R. C. ones are wretched (tin) imitations.

I am in a state of acute mental indigestion from plethora - it is really bewildering - so much to see & to do. . . /end.

Love to Kate & the darlings. I have ordered the items from Lang. I saw them all - Berengarius?

Yours ever

W. O.

Did I tell you I got the original Gilbert at the Amherst sale? I got a beauty Aristotle 1476 de partibus animalium at Laschers. This place is of overwhelming interest - libraries, pictures &c. The Laurentian library is just too splendid for words 7000 chained MSS. all in the putei designed by Michael Angelo. I have a photo of the end of one for you. The book-shops are good. Olschki's one of the best in Europe. He has 500 incunabulae on the shelves, a Sylvaticus - a cuss of no moment - of 1476 a superb folio, one of the first printed in Bologna - fresh & clean as if printed yesterday & such a page! but the uncircumcised Jew - always a bad type - asks 1500 francs! His things are wonderful. But really auction sales (are) is the only economical way to get old books... The dealers have to put up their prices to pay interest on the stock I am sorry not to have seen the Junta Galen - there are 5 Venice editions of that firm! By the way the Pitti gallery

Mon 11-12/09

