

CVS 417/57.212

DR. H. A. HARE
N. W. COR. SPRUCE AND EIGHTEENTH STREETS
PHILADELPHIA
OFFICE HOURS:
9 TO 11 A. M.
AFTERNOON HOURS BY APPOINTMENT
LOCAL AND LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE

Philadelphia, June 29th, 1925.

Dr. Harvey Cushing,
Peter Bent Brigham Hospital,
Boston, Mass.,

My dear Cushing:-

Probably several of your friends have already called your attention to the long review of your "Osler" in the New York Evening Post of June 27th. In case they have not done so, I am sending it to you herewith, thinking you may be interested in seeing it.

I have been immersed in Cushing's "Osler" a large part of Sunday and having read Volume II some weeks ago when I first wrote you, *I may say* I don't think this review is a fair one to either you or Osler.

Apropos of Osler's practical jokes, in the spring of '85 he examined applicants for internships at the Philadelphia Hospital and created great anxiety by placing some carpet sweepings in some sputum that was to be examined under the microscope. None of the applicants, of course, made a correct diagnosis and many of their statements caused Osler huge amusement.

Just after the chloroform episode, I was stricken with a chill and temperature of 105 forty-eight hours after seeing some fulminant cases of cerebrospinal meningitis and the newspapers got hold of it. Osler was kind enough to telegraph Mrs. Hare asking how I was, and when he learned that it was a flash in the pan, wrote me, stating

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that I had suffered from the newspapers even as he had done.

May I call your attention to a very ~~minor~~ error on page 237 of Volume II, in which you state that Harrison Allen "Lectured in Physiology and practiced in Laryngology"? This is correct, but Harrison Allen was the Professor of Physiology, and Tyson was not the Professor of Physiology as you state, but the Professor of Pathology. I know, because I was a student under both of them. Some time during the 70's it is true that Tyson had lectured on physiology, but not at all during the 80's *when Allen did so.*

It may also interest you to know that in the spring of '91 J. M. DaCosta, having resigned the chair of Practice at the Jefferson College, a period of six months elapsed before the Trustees decided who would succeed him. They finally decided to offer the place to Osler, considering that as the chair had been occupied by DaCosta and that it presented an opportunity for him to return to Philadelphia, that there was a prospect that he might accept, they not knowing at that time the opportunities that Baltimore offered him. I know about this, because Osler did not decline the place by letter, but took the trouble to come to Philadelphia for a conference. I was at that conference in the library of the President of the Board of Trustees. I knew that the invitation represented a forlorn hope and I have never been able to explain why Osler took the trouble to reply in person rather than by mail, unless it was that he wished to tell the Trustees the type of man that he thought ought to occupy that chair, which he did.

Yours very truly,

H. A. Hare