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DR. JOHN W. DEWIS
270 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE
BOSTON

January 11, 1926.

Doctor Harvey Cushing,
Boston, Mass.

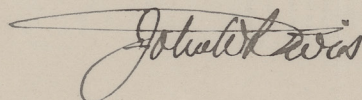
Dear Doctor Cushing:

I am presuming to take this opportunity to tell you how much I admire the enduring monument you have builded to yourself in "Cushing's Life of Sir William Osler." I had a Christmas present of it (the volumes handsomely rebound, which was hardly needed,) and I have already made considerable progress in its delightful company: it is a great inspiration to be allowed the privilege of such fellowship. The book, for generations, must remain an elevating influence to students of medicine, old and young,--everywhere established as an honored, silent guest, answering eloquently whenever addressed.

Thring, speaking of cathedrals, tells of "the glorious poem language in the stone," and it seems to me that here, in a similar way, you, too, have wrought beautiful things into this structure. There comes to view,--you have caused it to appear,--as I turn the pages, an unusually well-balanced personality seeming to combine in perfection the "what is, what knows, what does." * And I am sure that Osler's friend--the friend of us all--"The Autocrat" would delight, were he here, to observe how well you have expressed his conception, too, of the three Johns and the three Thomases. You have shown, I am sure, in this marvellous collection of facts relating to Osler's life, how environment and early training exert a vast influence in the course the individual may take--the occupation he chooses and the other things: Good ancestry may be shipwrecked at the very start in a fog. But, as you have told us so well, such a vessel as he was master of, properly out to sea, would never flounder. He made such fine use of his life, all through, that its story reveals to the most of us that our own have been paved with meanness and wasted opportunities. What a good it would be if this splendid story were placed before all students early in their medical course!

I did not intend to say so much and so little, and please do not trouble to acknowledge it.

Sincerely yours,



Dictated

P.S. The data concerning Frank Perry is to be sent under separate cover.

* R. Browning's "A Death in the Desert."