

Footing dinner

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1871

Archibald

52 WESTMOUNT BOULEVARD
MONTREAL

September 19, 1921

Dr. Harvey Cushing,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Harvey:

I have been so busy this summer that your letter inquiring about Osler's life in Montreal and especially about the "footing dinner" has remained lost on a corner of my desk. However, I remembered it the other day and asked two of the older men in town, and finally only Dr. Shepherd seemed to know what a footing dinner was. He says as follows: "In our student days every freshman paid \$1 to the seniors. With this money they bought beer and crackers and had a 'jamboree' in the dissecting room; afterwards the freshmen were admitted to a subscription footing supper or dinner at one of the restaurants and the footing money went to buy drinks." This represents all that I have been able to get so far concerning this interesting custom, but I have not yet seen Dr. Roddick who very possibly may be able to give me some more enlivening details.

I do hope you are keeping well, and also the family, and are feeling fit for the winter's work. I am feeling all right and looking forward to a visit to Boston before very long. Jones has been up here for a little while. We have had several pleasant and profitable talks together.

With all kind regards,

Yours always,

Archibald.