To Dr. Geo. Dock - leaving J.H.H.

Aug. 10th, ('04)

S.S. "Cedric"

Dear Dock

You will be suprised, perhaps shocked, possibly pleased to hear that I have accepted the Chair of Medicine at Oxford - not to leave until next May or June. 'Tis naturally a retirement, as the place is a sinecure with only a few good senior students but I am tired of the sort of life I have been leading for the past few years, more & more of work for the public & less & less of scientific and clinical work. I have been sailing very close to the wind and it does not seem possible to reef in Baltimore & Oxford is really a snug harbor in which to refit for a few years. It will be a great wrench to leave all my good friends & the boys at the Hospital, but I have considered the whole question for the past three months and as Mrs. Osler is strongly in favor of it I accepted the day before I sailed. Sanderson, who is an old friend and teacher has been urging it strongly, and I looked over the ground during the Association week. I shall be able to work over a lot of my material -Typhoid, Aneurism, heart, &c - which has been accumulating hopelessly. I go through to Pointe a pic, Quebec from New York. Shall you to to St. Louis? Let me know, as we might go from Chicago together. Love to Mrs. Dock & the children.

Sincerely yours

wm Osler